

Campus Times

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Students and workers march from UR in ‘Fight for \$15’



AARON SCHAEFFER / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Protesters marched from UR’s Eastman Quad on Wednesday afternoon as part of a national movement to raise the minimum wage.

BY ANGELA LAI
NEWS EDITOR

As part of the national “Fight for \$15” campaign for a higher minimum wage and the right to unionize without repercussions, a large crowd of protesters organized near the steps of UR’s Eastman Quad at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15. Speakers addressed the protesters before they began their march toward College Town.

Marchers included Metro Justice organizers, fast food workers, members of local unions, churches and activist groups and UR students from Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), as well as Douglass

Leadership House, Black Students’ Union, Pride Network and College Feminists.

Dawn Marshall-Hosier, the Service Employees International United (SEIU) Local 200 United Executive Vice President and Organizer and Danforth Dining Hall worker, said that she and other UR workers were there “in solidarity with fast food workers fighting for \$15 an hour.” She also credits her union membership for helping her earn \$15 an hour, a “living wage,” highlighting the importance of the rights of workers to unionize.

Dan Lombardo, a shift manager at the McDonald’s across from Marketplace Mall, said that he sees

people who “don’t get enough to survive. They deserve more. They deserve better. They have families; they have kids.”

“If I’m not fighting,” Lombardo said, “I’m saying that the treatment my coworkers and I get, the wages we get, is acceptable. So being here is saying the opposite—it’s unacceptable.”

SDS External Communications Chair and sophomore Jordan Polcyn-Evans introduced each speaker and was the first to address the crowd on the Eastman Quad, saying that students often “don’t realize” that the issue of a living wage is so “close to home.”

SEE **PROTEST** PAGE 4

SPARK Entrepreneurs host conference

BY SAM PASSANISI
NEWS EDITOR

SPARK Entrepreneurs, an undergraduate club focused on promoting creative business ideas among UR undergraduates, held their first annual conference on Saturday, April 11. The Greater Rochester Entrepreneurship Conference, held in Simon Business School from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., attracted undergraduates from UR as well as RIT, Roberts Wesleyan College, St. John Fisher’s College, Finger Lakes Community College and Alfred University.

SPARK Entrepreneurs is a newly rebranded student organization, club president Jesse Reichenstein said. Formerly, the group was known as UR Entrepreneurs, but they renamed their organization last year. UR Consulting Group split from the club at that time

to become its own organization.

Saturday’s conference featured a morning keynote speech from Wegmans Chief Information Officer (CIO) Dave DeLaus, who spoke about entrepreneurship in the context of his own employer. Wegmans was one of the conference’s main sponsors, along with UR’s Center for Entrepreneurship, UR Admissions and Sealing Devices, Inc., a corporation headquartered in Western New York that manufactures gaskets and sealants.

“[The Center for Entrepreneurship] provided a lot of help just with booking, event support, and then we had Admissions financially supporting us, along with Wegmans and Sealing Devices,” Reichenstein said.

Sharon Napier, CEO of Rochester-based advertising agency Partners and Napier, SEE **SPARK** PAGE 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPARK ENTREPRENEURS

The Greater Rochester Entrepreneurship Conference featured guest speakers and a business idea competition sponsored by Wegmans.

ResLife announces HBO GO access for students

BY JAMIE RUDD
SENIOR STAFF

On Friday, April 10, the Office of Residential Life & Housing Services announced that all students with an on-campus housing contract now have access to an HBO GO account.

HBO GO is the online counterpart to the HBO television network that gives users access to a variety of HBO programming. This includes HBO original series, movies, sports, documentaries and comedy specials, as well as bonus

features and behind-the-scenes extras. HBO GO can be viewed on a range of devices including computers and smart phones.

Over winter break, the University made the switch to a new cable TV provider, Campus Televideo. This gave students living on campus access to eleven HBO channels and seven other new networks.

“Access to HBO GO came with the Campus Televideo provider,” Residential Network Coordinator for University Information Technology Justin Turner said. It is HBO’s policy that anyone with

an HBO subscription is given an HBO GO account—this includes anyone with a housing contract at UR.

“Eligible participants of the HBO GO service must be undergraduate students, enrolled in classes, with a housing contract,” Turner noted. Students living on campus during the academic year will have access to HBO GO during winter break and spring break. However, only students who live on campus over the summer will have access to their accounts during summer break.

While Campus Televideo has

been the University’s cable provider since the end of December, it took some time to set up the HBO GO student accounts. “Infrastructure and integration assessments and testing needed to take place prior to the introduction of the HBO Go service on campus,” Turner explained.

In addition to bringing HBO GO to the students, the University’s new HBO subscription has resulted in a partnership with the HBO College program. Sophomore Nicholas Wachter has served as an HBO Campus Agent this semester to

promote the network at UR.

“We plan different events on campus,” Wachter explained. “We planned a ‘Girls’ event with College Feminists earlier in the semester; we planned the big ‘Game of Thrones’ event two weeks ago.” On Wednesday, April 1, Wachter and his fellow Campus Agent, freshman Maria Sepulveda, organized an early screening of the ‘Game of Thrones’ season five premiere, partnering with Campus Activities Board and UR Cinema Group.

Before the end of the semester, SEE **HBO** PAGE 4

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EMMA GUILFOYLE / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

WHERE DIDN'T THAT COME FROM?

Wondering about the origins of campus landmarks? So is the humor section, apparently.

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Features highlights some of the student petitions currently under SA review.

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COLLEGE RECRUITMENT

The sports section looks at the process of college varsity athlete recruitment.

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PARSA LOTFI / PHOTO EDITOR

HOLI FESTIVAL COLORS WILSON QUAD

The Hindu Students' Association hosted the annual festival of Holi on the Wilson Quadrangle on Saturday, April 11, celebrating the transition from winter to spring with powdered colors and dancing.

WEATHER FORECAST

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FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
AM Showers High 67, Low 46 Chance of rain: 50%	Sunny High 64, Low 40 Chance of rain: 0%	Mostly Cloudy High 59, Low 47 Chance of rain: 10%
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Showers/Wind High 58, Low 47 Chance of rain: 60%	Partly Cloudy High 57, Low 39 Chance of rain: 10%	Showers High 53, Low 38 Chance of rain: 40%

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY

APRIL 16

UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

1111 JEFFERSON ROAD, 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

The showcase provides University researchers the opportunity to present their work to the regional industrial community. The goal of the showcase is to stimulate industry-University collaboration. This event is free and open to the public.

SAGEFEST 9

SAGE ART CENTER, 4:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

The ninth annual event will focus on “paint by numbers” art work, and will also include an arts showcase by students of area colleges, works by Introductory and Advanced Painting classes and T-shirt screen printing.

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

TODD THEATRE, 8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

The UR International Theatre Program presents Shakespeare’s “The Taming of the Shrew” with director Matthew Earnest. Tickets are sold at the Common Market and Todd Theatre.

FRIDAY

APRIL 17

PHOTON CUP

FAUVER STADIUM, NOON - 2:00 P.M.

The Photon Cup is an annual soccer game between the students, staff and faculty of the optics and physics departments at UR. This event is sponsored by Thorlabs.

CONDUCT THE BRASS CHOIR

WILSON COMMONS HIRST LOUNGE, 3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Members of the UR community can choose from a curated sampling of songs (ranging from “The Genesee” to the theme from Pokemon), step onto the podium, and lead the UR Brass Choir. This event is free and open to the public.

TREBELLIOUS SPRING SHOW

INTERFAITH CHAPEL, 8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Trebellious’ first show as an SA-recognized club will feature songs by Lady Gaga, Fall Out Boy and more, in addition to guest performances by Vocal Point. This show is free.

SATURDAY

APRIL 18

EARTHVEST

WILSON COMMONS HIRST LOUNGE, NOON - 5:00 P.M.

The event will feature tie dying, crafts, local food vendors and performances by Midnight Ramblers, Vocal Point, UR Celtic and Mariachi Meliora.

WORDS TO ACTION

INTERFAITH CHAPEL RIVER LEVEL, 2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Come and participate in the Anti-Defamation League’s “Words to Action” Workshop - Understanding Anti-Semitism vs. Anti-Israel vs Anti-Zionism & legitimate Israel critiques. This event is hosted by UR Hillel.

SELIGMANS OF THE GALAXY

STRONG AUDITORIUM, 8:00 P.M.

After Hours’ spring semester concert features songs by Ariana Grande, Katy Perry, OneRepublic, Miley Cyrus and more. Tickets are \$8 for students and \$10 for all others.

SUNDAY

APRIL 19

INDULGENCE SPRING SHOW

SPURRIER DANCE STUDIO, 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Indulgence presents “Deja Vu.” Tickets are \$5 for UR students and \$7 for all others. For more information, contact the Common Connection at 275-5911 or e-mail connect@sao.rochester.edu.

ROCK REPERTORY ENSEMBLE CONCERT

LOWER STRONG AUDITORIUM, 7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Come see UR’s Rock Repertory Ensemble perform. This concert is free and open to the public.

FILM MUSIC ENSEMBLE WITH JEFF BEAL

EASTMAN KODAK HALL, 8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Come enjoy an evening of film and film music with composer and Eastman alumnus Jeff Beal. Beal has received thirteen Primetime Emmy nominations for his music. This event is free and open to the public.

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 and cost of admission.

Campus Times

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CAMPUSTIMES.ORG / EDITOR@CAMPUSTIMES.ORG

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AARON SCHAFER

MANAGING EDITOR ADAM KADIR

NEWS EDITORS

ANGELA LAI
SAM PASSANISI

FEATURES EDITORS

RAAGA KANAKAM
TANIMA PODDAR

OPINIONS EDITOR

JUSTIN TROMBLY

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ILLUSTRATOR

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PUBLISHER ANGELA REMUS

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Visiting speakers address Tibet issue

BY ADAM KADIR
MANAGING EDITOR

A panel of three politicians representing the Tibetan government-in-exile and one Chinese-American scholar came to the University on Saturday, April 11 to discuss the current situation in Tibet and the “Middle Way” approach proposed by the Dalai Lama. The “Future of Tibet Dialogue” was the final event of a day of Tibetan cultural activities coinciding with the Association for the Development of Interest in the Indian Subcontinent’s (ADITI) celebration of Holi.

The cultural event in the morning, “Tashi Delek!: Tibetan Cultural Entertainment,” featured Tibetan performers from New York and New Jersey, the Rochester Nepali/Bhutanese community and Rochester Raas. All groups performed traditional dances meant to represent unity among South Asian communities. Junior Se Hoon Kim, who organized the event, introduced the speakers, who then delivered prepared speeches about the situation in Tibet and the Middle Way. The Middle Way approach is the official position of the

Central Tibetan Authority (CTA) for a resolution to the crisis in Tibet. The approach does not ask for the separation of the Tibet Autonomous Region nor Greater Tibet from the People’s Republic of China (PRC). The Middle Way asks for greater autonomy within Tibet and respect for Tibetan culture.

Office of Tibet representative Dechin Tenzin spoke first. The Office of Tibet represents the Dalai Lama and the Central Tibetan Administration in Washington, DC. Tenzin proposed solutions between the Tibetan government-

in-exile and the government of the PRC. He said that the Middle Way approach was “envisioned” by the Dalai Lama and first given a name in 1974, though the Dalai Lama had come up with it before. The CTA was in talks with the government of the PRC from 1974-1990, but those talks paused until 2002.

In 2002, the CTA’s negotiators issued the Memorandum on Genuine Autonomy for the Tibetan People, which the Chinese rebuked, calling it, in Tenzin’s words, “a stepping stone

SEE **TIBET** PAGE 4



RACHEL HAMMELMAN / PHOTO EDITOR

A panel of Tibetan politicians spoke in the Hawkins-Carlson room on Saturday, April 11 on Tibetan and Chinese policies, as well as the future of the region.

UR Hillel workshop to discuss Israel, anti-semitism

BY SAM PASSANISI
NEWS EDITOR

UR Hillel will host an Interfaith workshop on Saturday, April 18 to discuss means of differentiating between anti-Israel and anti-Semitic sentiment. The event was organized in response to a March 31 incident on campus, in which an unknown person or persons taped a pro-Palestine flyer onto a flyer that had been posted by UR’s Israel Council.

Israel Council had posted flyers around campus advertising a vigil, held March 30 at 9:00 p.m. in front of Wilson Commons, to memorialize and raise awareness for victims of recent anti-Semitic attacks in Europe. The flyers each featured a description of a recent anti-Semitic event in Europe.

On March 31, the day after the vigil, an undergraduate student contacted Hillel to express concern about another flyer

that had been posted under the Israel Council flyer. The original flyer read “February 14, 2015 – Copenhagen: A gunman opened fire at the Great Synagogue, killing a member of the Copenhagen Jewish community and wounding two police officers.” Underneath, another flyer had been posted which read “On December 30th 2014, Israeli border police made an incursion into the Qitoun neighborhood. Having arrested one 12-year-old boy, Israeli border police fired over 30 tear gas canisters into the area, into a crowd of predominantly teenage boys, engulfing the area in teargas. During the month of December, 170 teargas canisters and 19 stun grenades have been fired by Israeli forces at school time on 14 of the 20 days children have gone to school.”

President of UR Hillel Rebecca Royzer said, “What disturbed

us most was the placement” of the flyer, which could have been interpreted as an anti-Semitic statement rather than a purely political comment on Israel. She added that the anonymity of the poster was unfortunate because “we can’t have a conversation with this student and find out what’s really troubling them.”

In hopes of defusing possible tensions on campus, Hillel arranged to host the interfaith workshop “Words to Action: Empowering Jewish Students to Address Bias on Campus.” The workshop will be led by Anti-Defamation League facilitator Kathy Hershfield. It will be held on the river level of the Interfaith Chapel on April 18 from 2:00-3:30pm, and is open to all students.

Passanisi is a member of the class of 2017.

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URMC tests oral vaccine for HIV

BY ALLIE KONZEL
STAFF WRITER

A new oral vaccine against HIV is being tested by researchers at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). Unlike other HIV vaccines, traditionally given in the form of a shot, this vaccine is a tablet taken orally by the patient.

Leading the study is John Treanor, M.D., professor of Medicine and chief of infectious diseases at UR Medicine’s Strong Memorial Hospital. Treanor said in an interview with Vaccine News Daily, “The biggest advantage a tablet has over a needle is needle disposal ... the risk of a health care professional being infected by the HIV virus is eliminated.”

Michael C. Keefer, M.D., professor of Medicine and director of the University’s National Institutes of Health-supported HIV Vaccine Trials Unit, elaborated on the advantages of an oral vaccine.

“For HIV, it is all the more important because [of] that target cell being right there where the virus comes in. You need the immune response there,” said Keefer. He explained that yet

another advantage is that it would be one less shot for patients to receive.

The oral vaccine is made from live, weakened adenovirus rather than from actual HIV. However, exposing the immune system to adenovirus helps it to create antibodies that work against HIV infection. URMC is currently the only facility in the world testing this particular vaccine, through a partnership with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, a teaching hospital of Harvard University located in Boston, MA.

The research is still in Phase I, the earliest stage of a clinical trial, and it is too early to tell whether the vaccine creates an effective immune response. In the current stage of the testing, participants who have taken the pill stay in a contained room for 12 days. The primary purpose of this trial is to ensure that there are no negative gastrointestinal effects from the pill such as vomiting or stomach pain.

Keeping the virus contained is another concern that is being monitored during the research. The doses are low at this point in the research, but researchers expect

SEE **VACCINE** PAGE 4

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New HIV vaccine in trials

VACCINE FROM PAGE 3

to find more results as dosages are increased. After an appropriate dosage is determined, researchers will move to Phase II trials, in which they will monitor patients for side effects and an immune response. Much more testing is needed before the vaccine could be made available to the public, or even before researchers are certain that it will be effective. “This is not a product that will be used in the real world for a long time,” Treanor said. However, researchers are optimistic about the outcomes of the study, with Keefer saying they may help develop a better vaccine against HIV.

Konzel is a member of the class of 2018.

HBO GO available to students

HBO FROM PAGE 1

Wachter and Sepulveda will put on two additional events, including one on April 22 with Students for Liberty and College Democrats. “We’re thinking about doing a ‘Last Week Tonight with John Oliver’ screening,” Wachter said. “It seems to have a pretty good following on campus. So we’re going to probably do that with a bunch of free stuff.” Now that the HBO GO account access has been organized, it will remain a staple of on-campus housing for the foreseeable future. “Access to HBO GO ... will continue as our partnership with Campus Televideo continues,” Turner said.

Rudd is a member of the class of 2017.

Tibetan officials visit UR for discussion

TIBET FROM PAGE 3

to independence.” In 2005, the CTA’s negotiators issued the Note on the Memorandum on Genuine Autonomy for the Tibetan People, which served to remind the PRC government that everything proposed in the 2002 memorandum was within the constitution of the PRC. The negotiations ended in 2010 and have not been resumed. Tenzin argued in favor of the Middle Way proposal, saying that it was a “win-win” for both Tibet and the PRC because it would restore worldwide prestige to the PRC for ending a humanitarian crisis. Tenzin ended his speech by saying that “when the Dalai Lama is offering a solution, you want to take advantage of it.” The next speaker was Member of Parliament Dhardon Sharling. Sharling, who had spoken to a UR audience via Google Hangout at another event in November, serves in the parliament of the government-in-exile, which is housed in Dharamsala, India.

Sharling opened her speech with a quote from the Dalai Lama: “I remain convinced that most human conflicts can be solved by dialogue.” Sharling said that “the Middle Way is all about trust” and that “trust is the core component of any dialogue,” but she asked “How much do [the Tibetans] trust the Chinese government?” She referred to the 1.2 million Tibetans killed since 1959 and the 137 who have self-immolated in the past five years.

Vice President of the International Campaign for Tibet Bhuchung Tsering, a member of the task force sent to Beijing for official negotiations from 2002 to 2011, spoke next. He spoke on the PRC-CTA negotiations from his personal experience.

Tsering said that at first, the talks were secret, but in 2008 the then-President of the PRC Hu Jintao acknowledged that his government was in talks with Tibetan leaders. Tsering mentioned former leader of the PRC Deng Xiaoping, who tried to restart communication with Tibet in 1979 and said “If something happens to Tibet, it will affect all of China.”

Professor Ming Xia of the City University of New York-Staten

Island spoke on the implications of the Tibet situation for international relations. Xia was raised in Sichuan province, which borders the Tibet Autonomous Region. He described his personal journey and how he had opened up his mind about Tibet after he left mainland China for a position at an American university. He said that going abroad “made [him] take a second look” at the situation and recognize that “Tibetan Buddhism can offer a lot to some problems.”

Before the speakers took questions from the audience, Kim asked them to talk about what might happen after the Dalai Lama dies, a topic that had come up several times in their speeches. Sharling said that the Dalai Lama, 79, is a “moral authority to guarantee peace” for Tibet. She noted that the Dalai Lama, having ceded political leadership to the Tibetan parliament-in-exile, “no longer talks about political authority.”

After this, the speakers answered questions from the audience. Several audience members asked for clarification on the Middle Way approach and the role of the Dalai Lama. Some students who identified themselves as being from mainland China questioned the veracity of some of the speakers’ claims, including one student who said that “Professor Xia has been lying” about the rights of minorities in the PRC. Several of these students also expressed concern that, should Tibet be granted independence, it could turn into a North Korea-like autocracy under the Dalai Lama. All of the speakers said that this was not the nature of the Dalai Lama, as his life’s work attests.

Some audience members also questioned how the 120,000 Tibetans abroad could claim to represent the 6 million Tibetans in the PRC; Xia responded by asking how 80 million members of the Communist Party could claim to represent 1.3 billion people in the PRC.

Kim said he thought that the event “went really well” and that he was “personally grateful that everyone could contribute their personal opinions.”

Kadir is a member of the class of 2017.

Wegmans sponsors business conference

SPARK FROM PAGE 1

delivered a keynote speech in the afternoon. One of the highlights of the conference was the Wegmans Challenge, a competition for undergraduate students. Competitors were asked to invent a method for a company like Wegmans to “leverage technology to either enhance communication with employees or with their customers on the other side,” Reichenstein said. He added that the club had been in contact with DeLaus and other Wegmans executives since February, and that the company had been extremely helpful in organizing and sponsoring the conference.

A team of students from UR took first place in the competition. Senior Nicholas Falcone, juniors Harshita Venkatesh and Ervis Vukaj and sophomores Jason Altabet and Connor O’Brien each won a GoPro camera for their winning proposal, an idea for a better way to coordinate employee shifts at Wegmans.

One of SPARK Entrepreneurs’ goals for the conference was to keep it accessible to undergraduate students. Saturday’s conference was free to undergraduates from any college, and although the speeches and networking events were open to the public, only undergraduates could compete in the Wegmans Challenge.

Reichenstein noted that SPARK Entrepreneurship has seen a lot of growth since 2013, both in activity and in membership. “[Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jonathan Burdick] is all about entrepreneurship, and we saw a big boost in the freshman class this year,” he explained. Reichenstein said that SPARK hopes to make the entrepreneurship conference an annual event, although it might be moved to the fall semester in coming years.

Passanisi is a member of the class of 2017.

‘Fight for \$15’ comes to UR campus

PROTEST FROM PAGE 1

The demonstrators marched from the Eastman Quad, past Wallis Hall and Hutchison Hall and under the Intercampus Drive bridge. A passing Gold Line shuttle and many other cars honked in support as they proceeded toward College Town. They then spread out across two lanes of Elmwood Ave. as they chanted, “Whose streets? Our streets!,” marching behind a Teamsters trailer truck which intermittently blared its horn. After passing College Town and nearing the intersection of Mt. Hope Ave. and Crittenden Dr., they returned to the sidewalk. The protesters paused once they were across the street from the McDonald’s on Mt. Hope Ave. Organizers rallied the crowd as they hung a pinata of Ronald McDonald from the Mt. Hope sign. To chants of “break that clown,” the pinata was broken open to reveal a flurry of fake dollar bills and pieces of candy. Protesters noted

that the McDonald’s had locked its doors, preventing them from going inside and encouraging workers to join the strike.

After gathering at the intersection of Mt. Hope Ave. and Crittenden Dr. for more speeches, protesters dispersed and divided into smaller groups to protest at Wendy’s, Tim Hortons and Burger King.

The group that marched to Burger King chanted inside the store before being asked to leave. They then stayed on the sidewalk outside of the store and continued protesting until a Rochester Police Department car drove up.

Protesters at Wendy’s circled around the store as the doors were being locked, but they were able to enter the store and protest briefly.

Earlier, McDonald’s worker Alexandra Candelaria had told the crowd, “We will not stop until we get what we want and need.”

Lai is a member of the class of 2018.

Office of Admissions Continuing Student Scholarships

The Office of Admissions is proud to announce its annual scholarships for returning undergraduate students.

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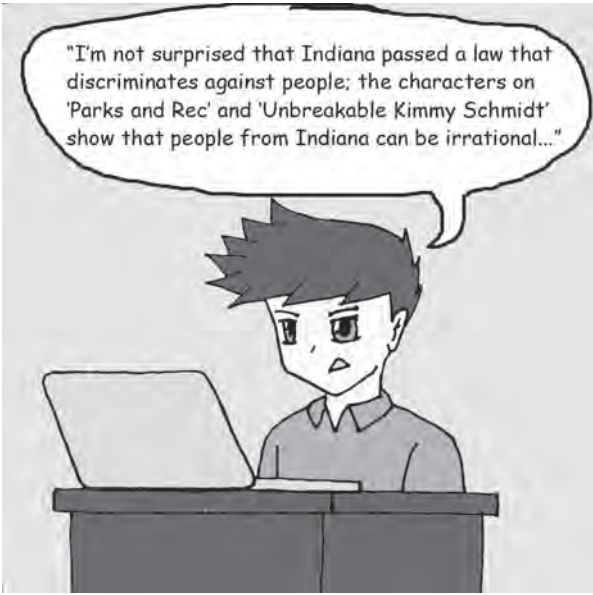
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OPINIONS

EDITORIAL CARTOON



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Some things are worse than death



BY RAAGA KANAKAM
FEATURES EDITOR

“Look! It’s moving. It’s alive. It’s alive...IT’S ALIVE!” screamed Dr. Sergio Canavero as he saw his creation move its body on its own. Or was that Dr. Frankenstein?

Two years ago, Canavero said that the possibility of a body transplant surgery happening in two years time was incredibly likely and said the procedure would need 150 doctors to perform a 36 hour surgery. He was scoffed at and ridiculed; people couldn’t believe that such a procedure could possibly produce a living creature. Even if it did, Canavero said, the person would be paralyzed and would die quickly, citing the famous monkey head transplants of the 1960s.

Yet here we are, with Dr. Canavero making rounds in the news again, this time to announce that a volunteer stepped forward for the surgery. 30-year-old Valery Spiridonov, a Russian man with Werdnig-Hoffman disease, stated that because his health was already in decline, he might as well try as there’s nothing worse than death. Many doctors stepped up to be part of the 150 he needs, and the surgery is slated to be completed before 2017.

And, by the way, this is a body transplant, not a head transplant. It’s a head getting a new body, not a body getting a new head.

On paper, I find this surgery very interesting. If we can figure out a way to practically reattach nerves and the spinal cord, which Canavero claims he did, it’d be a great step forward in the medical community, and we could heal a lot of people who were before resigned to a life of constantly needing help to function. It would also be cool to understand how the body would react to the head if immuno-rejection didn’t occur. How would the person’s quality of life be? Would there be any

psychological effects?

But, now that it’s a real possibility, I’m not so sure. There are many things worse than death. Imagine being Spiridonov, waking up after the month long coma required to reattach all the nerves and looking down at a body that’s not yours. Imagine waking up in pain, not being able to say anything. Imagine being told that you’re going to die in a week because the procedure was not successful, and all you can do is lay there for that week, alone with your thoughts.

Let’s not look at this ethically or morally, but technically. The nerve and spinal cord reattachment process by the use of cell-cell fusogens sounds a bit like a pitch by a snake oil salesman. Nerve cells are not like regular cells in that we can just superglue them together and they’re nice as new. The reattachment of the spinal cord is basically the biggest obstacle in neurology because it is not possible in any way. Slapping on some fusogens will not cause it to magically reattach. Sure, it may be possible for Spiridonov to wake up alive and able to breathe. But, it’s very unlikely he’d stay alive for very long. And, it seems that the psychological effects are being ignored.

How can we forget the implications of this becoming a cosmetic surgery? Sure, even if this surgery was successful, the possibility of it being another category under augmentation is very low, but what about a couple hundred years in the future?

If Spiridonov truly understands every risk of the surgery, then sure go through with it. This surgery would try out a lot techniques that, if successful, would change the field of medicine forever. But, this can in no way become the norm unless the surgery was the last resort. This procedure can only be looked at as a way to test his theory of reattaching nerves and the spinal cord, not as a new type of surgery. Basically, as a one-time experiment.

I don’t know what it’s like to suffer from Werdnig-Hoffman disease, but I do know that there are very many things a lot worse than death.

Kanakam is a member of the class of 2018.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Financial aid moves forward

Financial aid is a concern for many UR families. Indeed, this is one of the most difficult times in UR history for families who want to send children to college. We’ve reached a critical point, and University administration and students are seizing the opportunity to improve the current system.

Families often do not know how they will be able to pay for college, and many students see changes in their financial aid packages that affect their ability to remain at the University. Students and families have difficulty contacting and meeting with their assigned Financial Aid (FA) office counselors and subsequently are unable to discuss any changes to their aid.

These problems are being addressed through discussions between Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jonathan Burdick, a few Students’ Association (SA) senators and representatives from the leadership of “The Peaceful Protest of U of R’s FA System,” a student-organized Facebook group. Senate and “Peaceful Protest” representatives met with Burdick on Friday, April 3, and the outcome of the meeting appears to be positive.

Substantive changes that have been agreed upon by Dean Burdick and the students include additional communication in students’ aid appeals processes, an increased social media presence by the FA office, a way for students to reflect upon their experiences with their counselors, a scholarship for students who receive cuts in their financial aid, relocation of the financial aid desk in Wallis Hall to the same floor as admissions and a Financial Aid College Committee (FACC), which, according to sophomore Senator Adrian Petrou, would be “the place for discussion about problems that come up throughout the year, and a way for student concerns to be directly addressed, and consequently [for] correct information to be relayed back to students.”

We would like to comment on these many changes and how they affect the student body.

First, we’d like to applaud the student body, SA Senate and Dean Burdick for understanding that these are problems that need addressing. Communication breakdowns are infuriating, especially when they affect a student’s ability to continue attending UR, and it is commendable that many of the approved changes directly address communication. According to Petrou, the reason communication between the FA office and SA is so important is “...because we can learn why certain things haven’t happened, and there is usually good

reason for [them not happening].” It seems like both parties recognize that lack of communication was impeding progress; now, there is movement forward.

Dean Burdick supported a few laudable suggestions at the meeting that cannot, for various reasons, be implemented next year. These include a tracking system for the progress of aid appeals as they move through the review process, four-year aid planning for students to more prepare for changes in aid and an early-spring notification system for those who have received cuts in their package, allowing for more time to plan. We share Petrou’s and others’ hope that these changes can be made in the future.

One positive adjustment is slated to take place this fall: a new director will be appointed within the FA office, along with a performance management consultant. The hope is that these administrators will deal effectively with internal FA office issues that have been ongoing problems and have, as a result, affected the office’s work.

The FACC will be a crucial liaison between the FA office and the student body. With that comes a responsibility to students and families. We look forward to seeing what changes they effect, and we wholeheartedly support their efforts to improve the current FA system.

SA voter turnout must improve

This year’s Students’ Association (SA) election took place amid a season of changes to SA. Just shy of the campaign period, our student government adopted a new set of bylaws, fundamentally altering its structure. But, even though this addressed many of SA’s ailments, much was overlooked, including the most important part of our representative government—voting.

Fundamental to our system of government, both on- and beyond campus, is the idea of voting. In order for our governments to function, voters must not only be able to make their voices heard, but they must also be interested in doing so. It is this—voter turnout—that has consistently been an issue in SA’s election cycles.

Historically, SA elections have had low turnout rates. The SA Vote website states that “1,511 students voted in the Spring 2015 Elections” out of a student body of 5,942, or 25.43%. SA Elections Committee Chair Paul Jaquish said that this count was down a few hundred from last year.

According to the SA Vote website, the winning presidential and vice-presidential team of Grant Dever and Melissa Holloway received 933 votes to Ethan Bidna and Erinmarie Byrnes’ 386. This means that next year’s SA president was voted in by less than 16% of the student population. Less than one-sixth of students chose the two most influential students on campus next year. This begs the question: is our student government truly representative of our student body?

That SA has not made an effort to improve turnout despite years of dismal numbers is troubling. Jaquish told us in an interview that increasing voter turnout “was never an explicit goal” of the SA going into this year’s election, though he said that he “want[s] to prioritize getting more votes.” In the future, we hope that the Elections Committee addresses this issue.

We would like to propose a few options for SA to consider. To find out more about how SA can address this issue, we sat down with Assistant Professor of Political Science Bonnie Meguid, who studies voting patterns.

The strategy that would guarantee the highest voter turnout would be to impose mandatory voting—students must vote or face sanctions. Though this would probably result in a 100% turnout rate, it would also face resistance from students and would never be passed.

The next most effective option would likely be an incentive-based

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

An eye for an eye shouldn't be our solution

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN

On April 8, a federal jury found Dzhokhar Tsarnaev guilty on 30 charges related to his role in the bombing of the 2013 Boston Marathon, an event in which three people were killed and over 250 others were injured. Of those charges, 17 carry the possibility of the death penalty.

There's really no surprise here. From the beginning, the mountain of evidence tying Tsarnaev to the attack has been indisputable. For 15 days, the prosecution showed the jury an array of disturbing images from the day of the attack

[...] to pretend that the only way to deliver justice for murder is with state-sanctioned murder [...] ignores the basis of this country's most defining document.

and successfully convinced the jurors that Dzhokhar was equally as complicit in the crime as his older brother,

Tamerlan. Throw in the facts that Tsarnaev is reported to have confessed soon after his arrest and that his defense team conceded his guilt during the trial's opening statements, and one wonders whether a trial was even necessary.

It's no secret that the Department of Justice is pursuing the death penalty for Tsarnaev. United States Attorney General Eric Holder, usually a strong opponent of capital punishment, signed off on the possibility of the death penalty for this trial. His authorization speaks to the still-fresh wounds of the attack, which occurred in such a public setting in America's most historic city. Massachusetts hasn't executed a prisoner since 1947 and effectively outlawed the practice in 1984, and yet, the death penalty is very much in play today.

What are the advantages of the death penalty? For many, it's as simple as an eye for an eye. For others, the death penalty serves as a deterrent for would-be Tsarnaevs, a message that taking American lives will not be tolerated. Finally, many argue that those affected by the trial deserve that level of closure.

I'm not here to argue with those of you who already

support the death penalty, because that's not really going to advance the conversation

If the death penalty is pursued, this horrible ordeal would continue to be dragged out for years to come [...] what good would years of appeals do [...]?

any further. Personally, I wholeheartedly oppose it, and I'm probably just as stubborn as you are about the issue.

But, to those of you on the fence, please consider the following.

As far as an eye for an eye, the United States justice system is emphatically not based on the ideology. The Constitution and all subsequent laws are far more advanced and thoughtful than this line of thinking, and to pretend that the only way to deliver justice for murder is with state-sanctioned murder—no matter how much more “humane” it is—ignores the basis of this

country's defining document.

As a deterrent, ask Iran, Iraq and Pakistan how effective a policy of executing terrorists has been in discouraging terrorism.

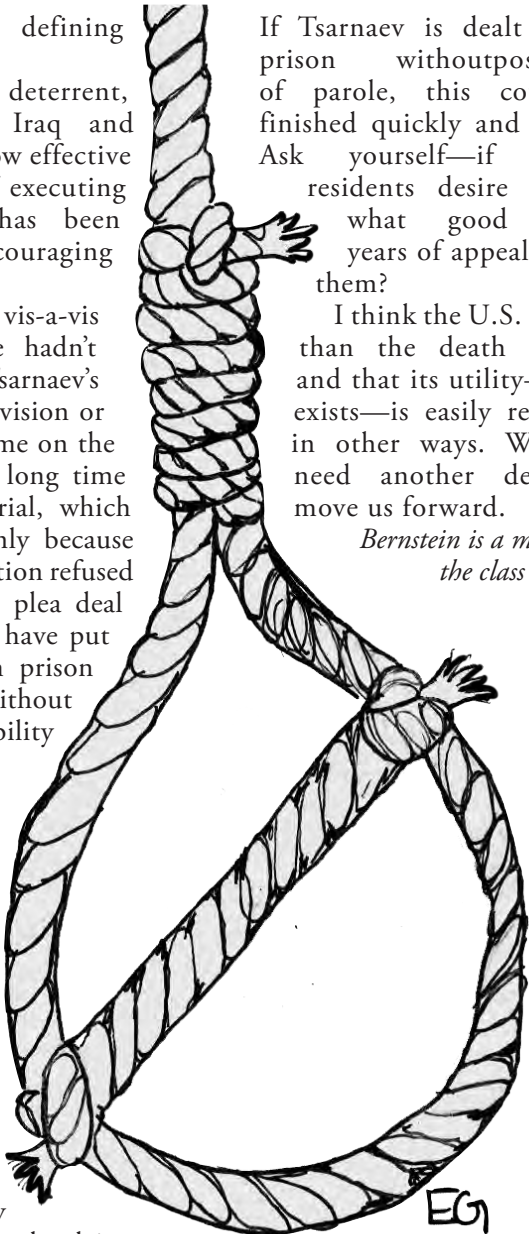
Finally, vis-a-vis closure: we hadn't had to see Tsarnaev's face on television or hear his name on the news for a long time until the trial, which went on only because the prosecution refused to accept a plea deal that would have put Tsarnaev in prison for life without the possibility of parole.

Now, he's become a celebrity again, debated about on the news and written about at length. If the death penalty were pursued, this horrible ordeal would continue to drag on for years.

If Tsarnaev is dealt life in prison without possibility of parole, this could be finished quickly and quietly. Ask yourself—if Boston residents desire closure, what good would years of appeals do for them?

I think the U.S. is better than the death penalty, and that its utility—if any exists—is easily replicable in other ways. We don't need another death to move us forward.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.



EMMA GUILFOYLE / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

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FEATURES

SA petition site promises change for the better

BY ALYSSA ARRE
SENIOR STAFF

What do the Kosher Corner, Hillside receipts, the Gold Line and the course registration website all have in common? All of them were the subjects of recent petitions submitted on the UR Students' Association's (SA) new website, "IMPACT," an online platform for UR students to submit petitions and help improve campus.

The website was devised in part to create a space for students to voice their concerns. "While [junior]David [Stark] and I were thinking about our platform we focused a lot on ways to connect with the student body and let them connect with each other over thoughts and ideas," SA President and [senior] Antoinette Esce said. "How could we create a better solution than the 'Overheard at Rochester' page?"

The result is a delightfully easy-to-use page. To access the site, all students need to do is log in with their NetID. From there, they can create their own petition, browse and comment on other petitions and sign petitions that they agree with. So far, over 80 petitions have been submitted by students ranging in subject from dining to residential life to student life and wellness. Most petitions stem from student frustrations with current problems in the

forementioned categories.

"I was looking at the housing and meal plan forms that we got a couple of weeks ago and was frustrated to find that, living in Brooks Crossing, I would still be required to pay roughly a thousand dollars for a declining plan that I did not

over 250 signatures, it is marked as "In progress," which means Esce or another SA Government member will post updates and address the problem. Not all petitions that are submitted and receive the allotted amount of signatures will actually be brought to action, though. "Some

As part of this process, incoming SA Vice President Melissa Holloway recently polled students on their thoughts about the current on campus smoking policy: smoking must take place at least 30 feet from the nearest building. Anyone who has used the doors at the front of

gotten more involved in the implementation of their petitions. Freshman Zoe James submitted the petition "Waste Less, Douglass," asking Douglass to compost the food waste produced in the dining hall on a daily basis. "If no change is made... I will gladly take it on as a project next semester as a newly elected senator on SA Government," said James. "I won't give up until this is implemented."

Overall, the site has seen a lot of great submissions and will only continue to improve with the help of student feedback, both in the form of petitions and beta feedback. "We greatly appreciate it when people submit feedback to us through the Beta Feedback page," Ryan Puffer, one of IMPACT's co-creators, said. "The feedback goes straight to the IMPACT team, helping us prioritize which features we're going to introduce next... We're always looking for ways to make the site even more useful to the student body."

If you haven't yet checked out IMPACT, consider this an open invitation. Skim through the current petitions, share your thoughts and, if you're feeling especially bold, submit your own petition. Who knows—perhaps your idea will inspire the next big change on campus.

Arre is a member of the class of 2015.



SA's IMPACT is a petition website for students to voice any issues or projects they'd like addressed. PHOTO COURTESY OF SA

intend on using," junior Thomas Lindstrom-Vautrin said. "To me, this seems like the University taking advantage of the fact that as students we don't have a lot of leverage for negotiations about what we pay for and how much we pay." Lindstrom-Vautrin's petition, "Remove the Minimum Dining Requirement: Stop forcing students to pay for a service they may not use," acquired over 300 signatures in 20 days and is denoted as "In progress."

The "In progress" status is a marker to bring particularly popular petitions to the attention of the SA. Once a petition gains

things are just not feasible," Esce said, noting bringing declining to College Town is a petition that, despite being popular, is impossible due to the fact that declining is untaxed.

"A number of things are currently in the works, but since we're currently in the beta launch of the site, and since the semester is winding down, a lot of stuff will happen over the summer," Esce said. "Internally, next year's leadership is working with me to create the best work flow to ensure not only that nothing falls through the cracks, but to ensure we're communicating our progress to the student body."

Rush Rhees knows that many people do not abide by this rule. Freshman Jacob Niebloom took to IMPACT to voice his concerns in a petition titled, "Enforce the 'No Smoking' policy at entrances to buildings," which now has almost 300 signatures. Many students commented, voicing their support for better policing or banning it from campus altogether. "It should not be necessary for people to tell smokers to please go somewhere else to smoke," junior Emily Lewis commented. "They should be considerate enough to follow the rules."

Other students have

Club Spotlight: UR Rock Climbing Club

BY TANIMA PODDAR
FEATURES EDITOR

Founded in 2011, the UR Rock Climbing Club promotes the sport of rock climbing and establishes a community of people who engage in and appreciate the sport.

While reasons for joining the club might vary among the members, they do admit sharing a similar love and enthusiasm for this unconventional sport.

"I got really into rock climbing before coming to college, and was looking for a way to get connected to the student body through my greatest passion," sophomore and current Rock Climbing Club President Miriam Grigsby said.

However Sophomore Keith Wiley, had different reasons for joining—"I joined the Rock Climbing Club because I have a good friend in the club who got me into rock climbing last year," Wiley said. "Climbing is also a very social activity, so a club setting allows me to get to know people at school who I can climb with."

The club welcomes everyone who has an interest for the sport, even if they don't have previous background in rock climbing.

According to freshman and current business manager of the club Talia Jaffe, who has been climbing for the past eight years, "It was really important for me to find a school that had a climbing

club or was involved in climbing in some capacity." She added that "the University of Rochester is registered through U.S Climbing, so it technically has a collegiate climbing

team."

There are many in the club who tried the sport for the first time



Club members climb at RIT's Red Barn. PHOTO COURTESY OF ADAM FENSTER

Freshman Cory Kim said that he initially joined the Rock Climbing Club because of two reasons. "I had injured myself and was not able to continue playing water polo, so I was looking for another hobby to pick up, and because my friend [Freshman Thomas Pinella] sounded very enthusiastic about climbing, so much that I had to try it."

The club does not have normal weekly meetings, but instead just an initial meeting to get members signed up to Red Barn at RIT. After that, members are free to go climbing whenever they want. Even though the club works more in an individual fashion, the members are still very connected.

SEE **ROCK CLIMBING** PAGE 10

UR OPINION

BY TANIMA PODDAR & PARSA LOTFI
FEATURES EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR

"IF YOU COULD CHOOSE TO LIVE IN ONE ACADEMIC BUILDING, WHICH ONE WOULD IT BE?"



BOWEN XIA '16
"Carlson."



AISYAH ZULKARNAIN '17
"Sage."



IRENE FARINAS '18
"Goergen."



JASON MARSHY '17
"Hoyt."



NEALANISH GUPTA '15
"Hutch."



MIRIAM KOHN '17
"Morey."

Crossword

BY JOSEPH LINDEN '17
DIFFICULTY MEDIUM

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48				49				50				
51				52				53				

- Across**
- 1 Starting Japanese verse
 - 6 God of the day in Norse mythology
 - 9 Computer language for programming circuits
 - 12 Intensely stirred up
 - 13 Most populous order of British chivalry
 - 14 Attempt
 - 15 In a tainted way
 - 17 In medias ____
 - 18 Video based social networking site
 - 19 State school in the Lone Star State
 - 20 What vegetarians don't eat
 - 21 Outermost layer of the endosperm grain seeds.
 - 23 Enjoyment
 - 26 Colored page border
 - 29 Housing for mammalian babies pre-birth.
 - 31 ____ glycerin
 - 32 Short-legged, long bodied dog breed
 - 36 Mean old woman
 - 37 compound with the structure RC(=O)R'
 - 38 Ball, sp.
 - 40 Gamble
 - 41 You, archaic
 - 45 ____-Wan Kenobi
 - 46 What the people who caught Ron in HP7 are called
 - 48 Day of the week often considered the worst
 - 49 The way for boxing matches to end
 - 50 What brides walk down
 - 51 Buzzer
 - 52 Lehigh's airport code
 - 53 If you've ____ your i's and crossed your t's...

- Down**
- 1 Hastily put together program
 - 2 Woodwind instrument
 - 3 Greek sculpture of a young woman
 - 4 James Tiberius ____
 - 5 Woman's knife for the Inuit
 - 6 Tobacco left in the pipe
 - 7 Vowel change that accompanies a change in grammatical meaning
 - 8 Scottish amplifier
 - 9 Power
 - 10 Location
 - 11 A closed sac
 - 16 Guard dog known for its long, corded coat
 - 20 Current prime minister of India
 - 21 A person who is biased based on how long ago you were born
 - 22 Tears
 - 23 Marketing strategy based on negativity
 - 24 ____ of Naumburg
 - 25 Where your collar is at
 - 27 Baseball pitching statistic
 - 28 "Hello, this is ____" (from meme)
 - 30 Mother of Zeus
 - 33 Type of biscuit
 - 34 Anxious
 - 35 Aggregate accounting for losses
 - 38 The US is in negotiations with Iran to make sure they do not get the ____
 - 39 What a hautboist plays
 - 41 Preface for a molecule with a Sulfur instead of an Oxygen
 - 42 One's commands
 - 43 The shape of a shield painted onto a shield
 - 44 Not new
 - 46 Jamaican musical Genre
 - 47 3 dimensional building tool

Jodi Says: Getting it on when you can't get it up

BY JODI ARMSTRONG
STAFF WRITER

So you're getting sexy with someone, and things are getting heated, but, er, certain body parts are not responding, if you know what I mean. Definitely the right thing to do is to panic. Just kidding. Honestly, there's no reason to freak out. Play it cool, and you'll start to realize it's not such a big deal.

Things happen; people get nervous. There doesn't even need to be a reason. It's an unexpected thing that more people than you'd think run into. While not ideal, it is okay. Here's what you can do:

Boys:
Try taking a step back. In a way, hit the "reset" button on the moment. Sex feels good, but foreplay is what gets you hot, so slow things down. You can even literally take a step back, look at your partner, admire their body, take a breath and start again. If that doesn't help you get up and running, use your other tools! Get it? Tool? Seriously though, you have hands and lips and a tongue and, of course, your imagination. You absolutely are capable of

pleasing your partner in other ways, so focus on those. Turning your attention to your partner will allow you to stop worrying about yourself. Maybe your situation will fix itself. In the meantime, get off by seeing your partner's pleasure as you spoil them. Plus, if you manage to give your partner a good enough time, they will absolutely not care about whatever snag you

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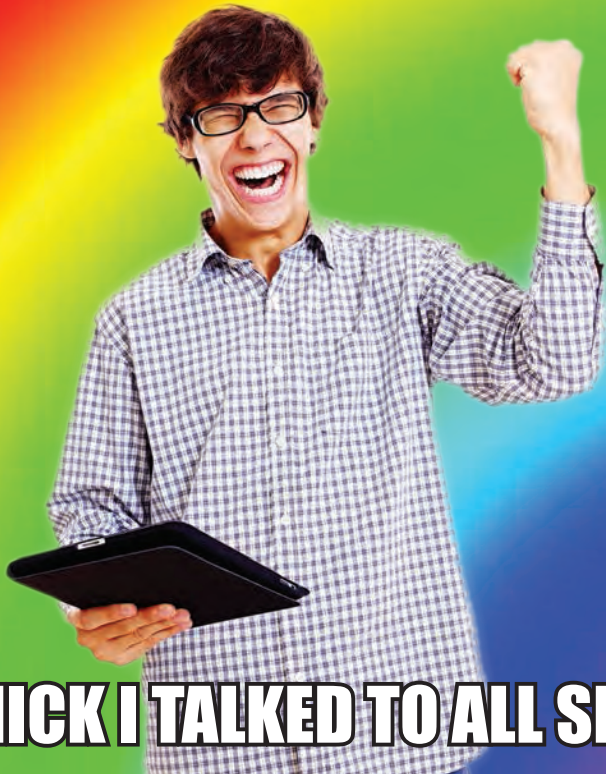
hit beforehand. All they'll remember is how enthusiastic you were to give them head. The goal is to give your partner such a good time that they lose all sense of reality. And remember, struggling to get or keep an erection happens. It could be caused by nervousness, the overuse of porn, masturbating with a death grip or, most importantly, it could be for no reason at all. Blaming yourself will not help your situation, and neither will embarrassment. It happens; just try to play it

cool. Partners:
It's really important for you to remember that this just happens sometimes. Do not assume that it's your fault. It's not. Do, however, realize how difficult a situation this is for your penis-possessing partner, and help them through it. Tell them it's okay. And after that, convince them that you mean it. Smile and kiss them and prove to them that you don't think it's a big deal. Doing so will show them that they shouldn't think it's a big deal either. Because it isn't.

If you recognize that they're struggling, suggest to them another way to please you. Literally bail them out of the situation. You can eliminate whatever misguided guilt they inevitably feel by requesting that they pleasure you in a way that does not require their penis. Ask them to give you a back massage or go down on you. They get to stop thinking about their penis and you get spoiled; it's a win-win. In the end, you only have control over so much. Make the best of what you can, and everything will be fine.

Armstrong is a member of the class of 2016.

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Award for Excellence in Programming



Sigma Delta Tau
Award for Excellence in Creative Co-Sponsorship



Students' Association for Interfaith Cooperation (SAIC)
Communal Principles Award

Climbing to the next level

ROCK CLIMBING FROM PAGE 7

“The club is really cool because it is a small group of people who are really interested in the same thing, the sport,” he said.

The club has also been trying to get a rock climbing wall at UR, as it is really hard for someone who doesn’t have a car to go over to RIT. “The only way I can go climbing is if someone else happens to go at a time that works with my schedule,” Jaffe said.

Jaffe has been working at getting a wall at the University for quite a while now.

“I actually started working on getting a climbing wall built before the Impact site even was a thing.” With the SA finally passing the resolution for a rock climbing wall this Monday, there seems to be hope for a wall in the near future.

“I hope that the University sponsor[s] our club for outdoor activities so that we can have club gear for outdoor trips so that individual members don’t always have to buy it, and it’s not lost when those members graduate,” Wiley said.

The club also has plans to have club-sponsored outdoor trips.

“It’s a long, arduous process, but hopefully it will happen by the end of this next year,” Grigsby said. Jaffe added, “My goal for the future is that

there will be regular practices, and a wall would enable us to build a climbing team that can compete instead of being a group of people that go recreationally.”

For this passionate group of individuals, rock climbing is a lot more than a sport.

“The best thing about rock climbing is the opportunity to move in ways that aren’t possible in other activities,” Wiley said.

For Pinella, rock climbing is the process of trying to figure out how to solve a problem, or “the feeling of finally finishing a problem after spending weeks working on it.” His favorite thing about rock climbing is introducing new climbers to climbing “because everyone ends up loving it.”

To Jaffe, “Climbing is a really unique sport because it’s competitive only with yourself. Even in competitions, the only other person you are really trying to beat is your previous best.”

She added, “the least outdoorsy person can be transformed into the wildlife enthusiast simply by growing [an] interest in climbing. It takes you to extraordinary places and introduces you to unforgettable people. Climbing isn’t a sport or a hobby; it’s a way of life.”

Poddar is a member of the class of 2018.

UR Tech: Crystal Knows

BY LUCIAN COPELAND
STAFF WRITER

It was like reading through a performance review that a teacher or boss had written about me. My goals. My communication traits. “Pursues goals aggressively and methodically,” or “can come across as abrupt.” An image, laid out in words, of an entire personality. If it’d been handed to me by a friend, I might have pegged it as a recommendation written by a professor I’d worked with personally, or maybe a colleague at my workplace.

And in a way, I wish it had been.

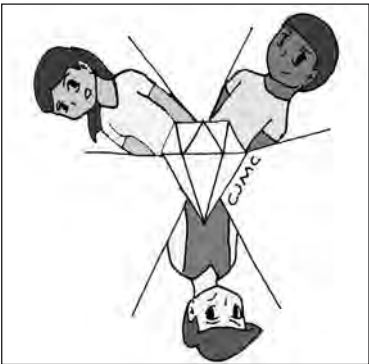
Our first reaction in the laboratory where I work, when we found the website Crystal Knows, was like a couple of elementary schoolchildren giggling over a gimmick website that invents a horoscope for you. Crystal claims to be able to describe your personality, and like anything that has something to say about you or your habits, it’s innately fascinating to discern what it thinks. So, we gathered around it, giggling as we typed in each others’ names and read the profiles it gave us, and then laughing and cursing as it nailed trait after trait with unerring accuracy.

See, the gimmick with Crystal is that it can be really, really good. This isn’t some JavaScript ouija board predicting your future, it’s a big data trawler hidden behind your browser, dragging out every little online detail it can find in order to build your profile. Your public posts. Your LinkedIn page. Your blog. Positive or negative, it’ll call out the ways you act and communicate, and even provide a paid service for drafting emails to

people you’ve never met based on their online profile.

It’s not perfect, of course. If you don’t give it things to work with, Crystal will be more strained in its estimates. One of my professors took great joy in pointing out everything it got wrong. (Though, to be fair, we felt it was a bit more accurate than he did.) But for many people who rely on the Internet for work or social engagement, leaving little pieces of yourself on the web is inevitable. Over time, they build up.

After you get over the entertainment of a computer roasting your friends—“Creative and driven,” says Crystal about one of my lab mates, “but don’t expect him to speak with tact or reservation”—the program can start to seem a lot less amusing. I’m not actually comfortable with just anyone being able to look me



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

up to “95%” accuracy without needing so much as a confirmation of consent. And while it might seem useful to look up whether an ornery professor will be more comfortable with longform formality or an emoticon, do you think they would be comfortable with your conclusions if they knew how you were getting them?

To be fair, it’s not like people didn’t have access to something

like this before. Amazon recently released their AI for recommendation software, and cruder alternatives have existed for decades. Frankly, with the pervasiveness of social media, you could probably figure out someone’s personality just by checking their profiles. But, few things do it as bluntly as Crystal, and for so little work up front.

In a way, Crystal is just an exposure of algorithms that have long been in place with the major commercial advertisers and data trawlers, created to form the perfect assemblage of ads to entice your online purchase habits. But those systems are comfortable in their anonymity. So what if Google has some robot looking at my information as 1s and 0s in the dark corner of some server farm in California? Ads or no, privacy just doesn’t seem so personal when it’s exposed to nothing but machines and bureaucrats.

It may sound weird, but I’m less comfortable with my neighbor down the street knowing my personality than some colossal megacorporation. After all, being manipulated by my browser is something I put up with every day.

But being manipulated not by something, but by someone—an actual person, looking at you through the one-way mirror of their computer screen; a person who cares about more than just their millionth-user sales data; a person with the Cliff’s Notes of your psyche, using them to twist their words into something you’ll prefer?

At least Big Brother knows how to keep his distance.

Copeland is a member of the class of 2016.

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HUMOR

Where things around UR don't come from

BY CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR EDITOR

George Eastman Statue

The fossil, famously known for resembling the physical appearance of George Eastman, was dug up from Earth's mantle by three undergraduate geologists. The metal was one of the densest discoveries in recent history, just behind an interview with Kim Kardashian.

The Genesee River

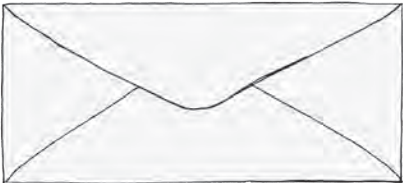
An age-old questions asks, "which came first, the river or the bridge?" The answer is neither, surprisingly. It is, in fact, Riverview. After naming the apartments Riverview in 1908, housing officials at UR were pressured into building a river, as the name was perceived as misleading. This leads to another common question still up for debate here at UR, "which came first, the bridge or the building of the bridge?"

The River Campus

In 1850, the city decided to coordinate its efforts toward a solution to the weather. So much snow fell on the city of Rochester, but where was anyone to put it? After facing what seemed to be an unsolvable plight, the obvious solution became the construction of the River Campus.

The banner in Wilson Commons with the quote by Howard Garnish '27 that says "Go You Yellow Jackets!"

You may recognize his less famous quotes, such as "Hello," or the more original, "Hi." At first, it sounds like an encouraging line, but a little research uncovered this plea for mercy and its first utterance. Howard Garnish was sitting on the steps at Rush Rhees and was being violently stung by hundreds of yellow jackets. While Garnish was screaming, "Go you yellow jackets!" two quote-thirsty news editors came flying by and



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

immediately concluded that they had "found quotation gold."

Computer Studies Building

In an effort to match the building's grandeur, the naming attempted to emulate the creative and original names given to iconic places or structures, such as the Rain Forest, the leaning "Tower of Pisa" and the White House. The same individuals went on to name the Flag Lounge.

The clock tower

Before the clock tower was created, UR students had no excuse not to graduate within four years.

Todd Union

Todd Union was formed after multiple post offices on campus allegedly attempted to secede from the University. Years later, it was found that the statement of secession was just a joke, fatefully mailed with an unstamped letter. Which is probably why no one got it.

College Town Bookstore

The College Town Barnes & Noble was founded and placed with the assumption that humans would develop teleportation as a means of traveling.

Rush Rhees Library

Commonly referred to as one of the greatest collections in the United States, the library itself was a transcendent establishment. Before the library, wild books used to roam the campus freely, wreaking havoc on innocent students. After multiple incident reports regarding paper cuts, one adventurous lad named Benjamin Rush Rhees went on a quest to capture and tame all of Rochester's roaming books. He then created the library, free to the public. However, as of late, the ethics of keeping these books has been called into question. But instead of releasing the books back into their native land, humans are uploading the books online and burning the physical copies.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

An update on life

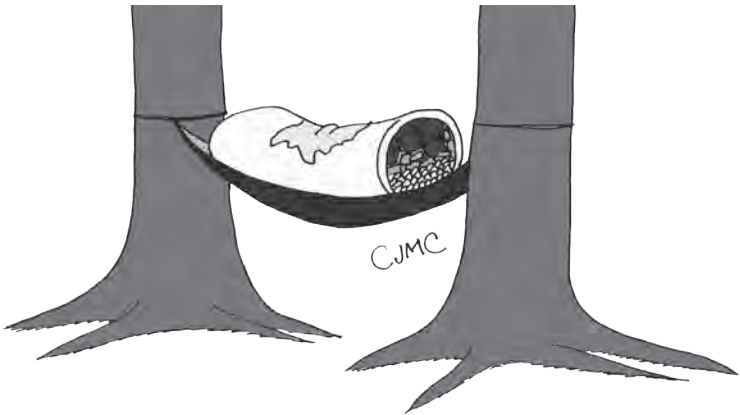
BY ERIK CHIDO
HUMOR EDITOR

This article contains recent events in my life that I find amusing. For starters, has anyone noticed the lack of snow outside? I'm sure this is not unique to my life because many people are lying around on the Quad enjoying sunshine and temperature that can best be described as "not freezing." Also, have you seen those burritos hanging from the trees on the Quad? Oh wait, I've just been informed that those are not burritos... they're hammocks. It makes sense now. That is why all of those people sitting on the Quad were giving me weird looks when I started to pour Tabasco sauce all over the hammocks. Had I taken a bite out of one of the hammocks, police may very well have arrested me.

Registration for housing happened recently. I'm a rising junior, so my chances for Brooks Crossing were roughly zero. My time was horrendous. I swear the University has it out for me because I've gotten the worst time for two years now. However, I happen to luck out with my living arrangements. Freshman year, I had a single; sophomore year, I lived in Phase in a single—and the whole time, I was single.

convenient way to let off some steam. When some people are stressed out, they may exercise, meditate or read a good book. On the contrary, I relieve stress by eating copious amounts of ice cream and crying to a beloved Disney song. As a naturally anxious and detail-oriented person, this way of relieving stress has become one of my main hobbies.

Yesterday was the Major Declaration Celebration for sophomores in the May Room from 3:45-5:15. Usually, when there are events held on campus, they are held at the beginning of the hour or on the half hour, but for some reason they picked this really specific time to hold the ceremony. I'm not knocking them for holding the event; the food and company was appreciated. But why that time? Another minor criticism I had about the event was the amount of booths and lines. I swear that if I closed my eyes, I would have thought I was at the DMV. First, there was the line to get your ticket for the picture. Then, you had to wait in another line to get your photo taken, which was then followed by a line to make your nametag and receive your ribbons for your majors. Afterward, when you thought it was over, the fun really began



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

I've always been a skeptic of astronomy, prophecy, fate, etc., but with my relationship status and living situation lining up perfectly, I'm starting to become a believer. Is it fate or just probability? I'm not sure, but there does appear to be a strong correlation between my living situation and my relationship status.

Sometimes, I eat a whole pint of Half-Baked whilst fully sober as I watch "Half-Baked." That isn't funny, but it is an interesting coincidence that all of those applied to one situation. But now that I'm on the topic of ice cream, I would like to say that, on occasion, I get into my favorite reindeer-printed pajamas, my favorite slippers, sit down with a quart of vanilla ice cream and listen to "Reflection" from Mulan on repeat while bawling my eyes out. That isn't a joke, either, but it is something that I felt like I needed to get off my chest. Once in a while, everyone needs a good cry. Whether you're a man or a woman, crying is a

when you waited in the huge line for food. It's not that I don't appreciate the volunteers for all the thought they put into the event to make it memorable and special, but seriously, when there is food that doesn't have a cost, I'm going to exploit it for everything it is worth.

I'm proposing a solution to my problems. Why doesn't the school host two separate Major Declaration Celebrations? One for the people who love to socialize and listen to the band, and another one where it is just an empty room with just a table full of food. I'm sure SA Government or another noteworthy fiduciary could pitch in for this worthwhile cause. Students with a low declining balance beg of you!

For those of you who still have at least \$600 declining remaining, it shouldn't matter because odds are, you will blow it all on \$16-a-bag reserve coffee and will want to take advantage of free food.

Chiodo is a member of the class of 2017.

Student profile: What it's like to chill with Alphonse Mugisha

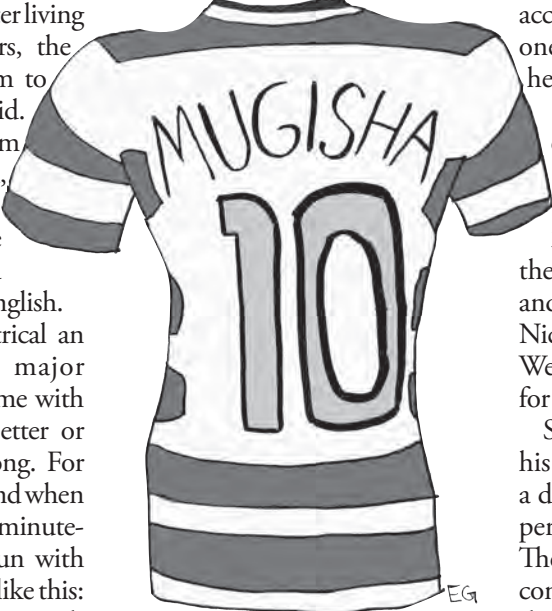
BY CHRIS HORGAN
HUMOR EDITOR

Alphonse Mugisha is a sophomore at UR, and I'd like to tell you a little bit about him. A couple of weeks ago, he officially became a citizen of the United States. He was born in Murongo, Tanzania. After living in Africa for twelve years, the opportunity arose for him to move to the US, and he did. If you had gone up to him seven years ago and said, "You will be an American within the next decade," he wouldn't have responded because he didn't speak English.

Currently, he is an electrical and computer engineering major and likes to fill his free time with multiple activities. For better or for best, I usually tag along. For example, he likes to run. And when I say run, I mean sub-five-minute-mile pace. Going on a run with him can best be explained like this: imagine a "Just Married" car with dangling cans attached to strings on the back. He's the car, and those running with him are the cans. He also plays soccer extremely well. Last year, he entered himself in a 3 v. 3 soccer tournament as the only player on his team, and won. The guy is competitive, in the sense that

he would play just as hard against four-year-olds as he would against people his own age. But he is most importantly a good sport, even-keeled and always smiling.

While hanging out with Alphonse, it doesn't take long to notice his grin. While he has a



EMMA GUILFOYLE / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

variety of stylish clothing, he is always wearing a smile. And he laughs a lot too, specifically at puns. Just as air is to humans, Alphonse is to cheesy one liners. He keeps them alive.

A romantic at heart, Alphonse is always socializing with the

ladies. For example, we were walking to a table in Danforth and Alphonse saw a girl, and then said despairingly, "She probably doesn't even know I exist." As it turns out, he hadn't ever spoken with her; this probably reduced the chance that she knew he existed. One time, he accidentally invited me to a one-on-one dinner date with a girl whom he was trying to get dinner with.

One of my favorite experiences ever with Alphonse was when I introduced him to the Beach Boys. It was like giving a 20-year-old rabbit a carrot for the first time. We sat in my room and listened to "Wouldn't It Be Nice" for three hours, non-stop. We listened to "Little Saint Nick" for another hour after that.

Since he spent more than half of his life outside of the US, he offers a different and usually humorous perspective on life in America. The other day, some friends were complaining about losing power in their homes for a couple of days during a snowstorm, and Alphonse countered by saying, "I spent the first twelve years of my life without power." What's even worse is that we all spent the first 18 years of our lives without Alphonse.

Horgan is a member of the class of 2017.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

‘Radiance Dance Theatre’ delivers thrills and chills

BY SAM PASSANISI
NEWS EDITOR

Radiance Dance Theatre hosted their spring show “Dancing Thru Life” last Thursday. The show got off to a gradual and somewhat disjointed start, but Radiance was soon captivating the audience with dance after original dance. Guest performances by the Midnight Ramblers, UR Stylez and Strong Jugglers did nothing to dull the mood over the course of the hour-and-a-half show.

Radiance president and senior Brittany Sherman welcomed the audience before cutting to a slideshow that featured past and present photos of Radiance members. This part of the show was probably more poignant to those audience members who had a friend or friends in the club. If you knew the members of Radiance, then seeing their baby pictures was pretty funny. If you didn’t know them, it was like looking through a stranger’s family photo albums: cute, but a little baffling.

Radiance tied the show together with an underarching narrative told in a series of skits



CHI HUANG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Midnight Ramblers a cappella group were guest performers at Radiance Dance Theatre’s show. Above, the Midnight Ramblers perform at their own show, “Ramblerbusters,” Saturday at 8 p.m. in Strong Auditorium.

between the dance numbers. The story followed a girl’s life from infancy to college, playing on the recurring theme of childhood memories. Radiance member and sophomore Zoya Ramzan played

the main character, while junior Stephen Powell and Sherman as her parents.

The first number featured the Radiance performers as horror movie doll-monsters in a

nightmare-themed dance, with club members dressed as demonic marionettes and puppet masters. The nightmare concluded with a chilling scream from Ramzan, and then the mood changed

completely with the introduction of the night’s first guest performers.

Five members of campus breakdancing crew UR Stylez dropped some sick moves on the dance floor, drawing a steady stream of cheers from the audience as the dancers demonstrated “whacking” and other breakdancing styles. Following UR Stylez’s performance, Radiance member and sophomore Alex White took the stage to perform a solo breakdancing act of his own.

Following White’s dance, Radiance threw the May Room into darkness. When the lights came back on, the Midnight Ramblers rushed the stage to applause from the audience. The Ramblers performed a short set, singing two songs and publicizing their upcoming show.

The Ramblers concluded their piece and departed the room with the same boisterous energy with which they had entered: it was time for Radiance to return to the stage. Radiance cranked up the energy in the room with a slick Cuban Cha-Cha then bumped the base and broke it down for their fans on Olly Murs & Flo Rida’s

SEE **RADIANCE** PAGE 13

Adapting a classic

BY DAVID LIBBEY
STAFF WRITER

Nearly every theatrical production must find a balance between its history and the current trends. Few works have as substantial a history as those by William Shakespeare. Produced time and again the world over, Shakespeare plays have much to say about the human condition, wherein lies their inherent interest. With their production of “The Taming of the Shrew,” the UR International Theatre Program finds new points to highlight in the frequently told tale.

The show centers on Kate, an aggressive and generally spiteful young woman, who is the eldest daughter of a man named Baptista. The young man Hortensio loves the younger daughter Bianca, but she cannot be married before Kate, so he sets about finding a suitor for the elder. Hortensio’s friend Petruchio happens to be in town and, when he hears that Baptista is rich, eagerly agrees to marry Kate. Of course, Kate is not too keen on the idea and fights back. In the mean time, another man named Lucentio falls in love with Bianca and conspires with his manservant Tranio to become her language tutor.

Despite the barrier caused by four centuries of language change, the actors kept their audience engaged the entire length of the show. Sophomore Ian Von Fange, in the role of Kate, deftly expressed her development from malicious woman to obedient wife, savoring those moments when she started to lose her identity. As Petruchio, freshman Ron Aulakh matches Kate’s hostility, pushing it to the

point that Petruchio’s true nature could not be discerned.

In the subplot, Jonathan Wetherbee, ’08 made Hortensio the comic foil to Petruchio, becoming increasingly feeble throughout the show. On the other side, senior Devin Goodman brought authentic emotions to Lucentio, making him into one of the most relatable characters, in spite of his actions. Alberto Carrillo Casas, a sophomore, played Bianca with an enjoyable, but surprisingly duplicitous, personality.

Director Matthew Earnest made several distinct choices in the production. Disregarding the gender of actors not only evoked the original casting but also portrayed the themes of the show in a different light. Including Sly’s framing story, despite its incompleteness, made sense of the many comedic devices that followed. But there was a poor decision was casting one person in the roles of Lucentio and Tranio. Notwithstanding the actor’s prowess, the characters were easily confused and at times hampered the audience’s grasp of the plot.

“The Taming of the Shrew” is a comedy, no doubt, but this production delves into other realms by the end. The plot is entirely misogynistic, but what first appears to be a hyperbolic, outdated lifestyle, slowly becomes believable, a commentary on a still living, contemporary view of women and marriage. Laughs abound throughout the play, but they hide an ethical dilemma that has only grown more poignant in the intervening years.

Libbey is a member of the class of 2016.

Midnight Ramblers show explosive energy and brotherly love

BY MEGAN KIBLER
STAFF WRITER

Being new to the art of a cappella, I’ve found that there are a lot of essential skills required in order to have a successful group. There are the musical aspects, involving a rich blend, contrasting dynamics and an overall sense of direction in each piece. These tools help create compelling music worth listening to, but that’s not the only reason Strong Auditorium was packed on Saturday night: the audience not only wants to experience the sound but also to be able to join in on the fun.

That said, the Midnight Ramblers are masters of infectious energy. The show began with the group running up onstage, hitting the audience with an intense jolt of sound, energy and awesomeness. It opened as an instant dance party with “Uptown Funk,” infused with charisma from every single member of the group, especially junior Tom Downey, who did an equal amount of dancing and singing that was hilarious to watch. It even inspired rhythmically-challenged people, such as myself, to go and dance with them.

Ten minutes later, the audience was captivated with the soulful ballad, “Take Me to Church,” featuring a powerhouse solo from freshman Charlie Aldrich. His vocal presence had an authenticity that reminded me of Billy Joel. The soulful theme continued with impressive vocal percussion in “Superstitious,” featuring a solo

from senior Joe Thimbodeau, who sounded exactly like Stevie Wonder. Throughout the night, the group’s solid blend successfully supported every soloist in reaching their best vocal potential.

The guest, all-female a cappella group, SUNY Fredonia’s Some Like It Hot, offered a quietly compelling contrast to the Ramblers’ mostly upbeat set list. Their rendition of “All of Me” had a fantastic blend and chilling dynamic contrasts. The soloist sang with utter conviction, and the musical and emotional connection between the group and soloist was very apparent.

But then there was a quick return to the climactic high-energy. The Ramblers began a traditional Hindi song, and then UR Bhangra burst out onto the stage, smiling, dancing and providing an amazing surprise. It was one of the smartest collaborations I have seen yet.

And although the night was undoubtedly fun, there were a few heartfelt goodbyes that needed to be said to the group’s seniors. Senior David Keener, who has, according to junior Ben Icenogle, “[o]ne of the strongest falsettos we’ve ever had in 17 years,” undoubtedly proved this. His solo work in “Something” from a Beatles’ medley was a beautiful tribute to his eight semesters in the group. It was a very moving moment that was genuinely experienced by every single audience member. Senior Andrew Melchionna’s solo work on an arrangement of Maroon 5’s “Sugar” showcased his amazing falsetto and stage presence. Key

scholar Cody Civileto’s solo work, in a great, energetic arrangement by sophomore Ben Hall, of “Let’s See How Far We’ve Come,” showed his impressive vocal range that will undoubtedly be missed by the group.

But one of the best team efforts of the night was featured in Thibodeau’s solo work in an arrangement of Styx’s power rock ballad, “Come Sail Away.” It not only showcased Thibodeau’s vocal power, but also had strong support from the group. The piece began serenely and majestically, and then evolved into a powerful, all-encompassing sound with great blend and dynamic contrasts.

At the conclusion of each goodbye, each senior Rambler was enveloped in a huge group hug, and then I realized something:

The Ramblers are so much more than their amazing sound. They are an invaluable support system to one another: they are brothers.

Their group emphasizes what a cappella should be. It’s a selfless team effort where each member puts their heart and soul into every song, but never forgets to engage the audience, support their fellow members and, of course, have fun. And even when Rambler alumni staged a mock battle of the alumni song, “Kiss Him Goodbye,” at the conclusion of the show, their connection to the group still remains. They never seem to forget what it means to be a Rambler: to just be yourself.

Kibler is a member of the class of 2017.

In darkness, Earl Sweatshirt lights up

BY JUSTIN TROMBLY
OPINIONS EDITOR

Earl Sweatshirt used to go outside. In the video for his 2010 song, ‘Earl,’ the then-16-year-old and his cohorts—fellow members of the hip-hop collective Odd Future—guzzle down drug cocktails and hit the streets for a day of debauchery. Wild-eyed, Earl and his friends skate, mob and tramp their way across Los Angeles until each of them begins to literally deteriorate. Blood trickles from eyes, mouths foam and teeth and fingernails are ripped free in a flurry of youthful chaos.

‘I Don’t Like Shit,’ which clocks in at a concise 29 minutes and 56 seconds, is an intimate look at Earl’s journey into adulthood. No longer is he the teen wordsmith rapping about rape and bodies in plastic bags [...].

While his days of horrorcore rhymes and shock value are long gone, Earl’s music hasn’t necessarily lightened up. And, on his new album, ‘I Don’t Like Shit, I Don’t Go Outside,’ Earl is darker than ever before. This time, he’s inside.

‘I Don’t Like Shit’s’ soundscape reflects this reality. The production is handled almost exclusively by Earl himself, under the pseudonym randomblackdude, and the beats are lo-fi, murky affairs. Lead single ‘Grief’ begins with a groggy sample reminiscent of a quartet of toads croaking in slow motion. Punctuated by dissonant snares, its bassy synths are overwhelming and sound like what I imagine drowning at the bottom of a well sounds like. On a sonic level, the song is representative of the album as whole: the instrumentals all evoke the same shades-drawn, holed-up-in-a-room vibe.

Earl’s lyrics and delivery amplify his album’s dim production, and it’s easy to see how—his emotional range is limited to bouts of anger amid long stretches of sadness, while his flow, intricately woven as ever, varies accordingly from aggressive spitting to drawled musing.

‘I Don’t Like Shit,’ which clocks in at a concise 29 minutes and 56 seconds, is an intimate look at Earl’s journey into adulthood. No longer is he the teen wordsmith rapping about rape and bodies in plastic bags, and there is a newfound focus here that was absent at times on his last album, ‘Doris.’

‘Huey,’ a prelude, kicks off the ten-track project. With the click of a tape deck, a set of blunted keys comes in, combining with muted drums to form some kind of warped carnival music. The song starts off as a fairly upbeat boast-fest, but soon spirals downward. “I spent the day drinking and missing my grandmother,” Earl admits toward its end.

Drugs and mourning are

present throughout the album. On ‘Grief,’ he ends his last verse with: “Thinking ‘bout my grandmama, find a bottle / I’mma wallow when I lie in that / I just want my time and my mind intact / When they both gone, you can’t buy ‘em back.” He identifies himself as a “face-drinking smoker” on ‘Inside,’ explaining that drugs “help [him] duck when emotion jab[s].” On ‘DNA,’ which features a heart-wrenching verse from skateboarder and sometimes rapper Na’kel, Earl reveals the depth of his substance abuse: “Stomach full of drugs and shit / My niggas on some other / Cleanse Sunday, binge Monday / Then another six days / Back to Sunday when it’s done again.” It’s a concerning confession.

‘I Don’t Like Shit’ also finds Earl struggling with relationship woes. “And the last couple months was the worst / Cause I smashed all the trust / That I earned in the past couple months / That we had as a couple,” he raps on ‘Mantra,’ venting. His relentless internal rhyme schemes in this song are dotted with lines like, “You used to say you like violins,” adding a human element to the otherwise aggressive breakup poetics.

But, his problems haven’t just revolved around drugs and girls: many of the album’s songs find Earl reflecting on friends and family, too. Backed by a sparse beat, Earl tries to sort out his inner conflicts with fame and family on ‘Faucet.’ “Ain’t step foot up in my momma place for a minute,” he says in the first verse, followed by “I don’t know who house to call home lately.” You can feel the despair in his voice, especially when the beat cuts out as he reaches the word “home,”

leaving him alone and echoing— orphaned.

Earl’s isolation is seen in other telling lines—“can’t even trust my friends,” on ‘Grown Up’ and “all I see is snakes in the eyes of these niggas,” on ‘Grief.’ He is constantly questioning, often paranoid and always conflicted: “Now you

He certainly comes off as a more confident and capable emcee than his past-self, but it seems Earl hasn’t quite adjusted to the complications fame entails.

surrounded with a gaggle of 100 fucking thousand kids / Who you can’t get mad at, when they want a pound and pic / Cause they the reason that the traffic on the browser quick / And they the reason that the paper in your trousers thick,” he barks on ‘Mantra.’ He certainly comes off as a more confident and capable emcee than his past-self, but it seems Earl hasn’t quite adjusted to the complications fame entails.

Earl Sweatshirt’s ‘I Don’t Like Shit, I Don’t Go Outside’ is another solid addition to a discography that has already cemented its author as one of the best emcees in modern hip-hop. There’s no filler on this project: it is lean and hard-hitting. While at first I was disappointed with the album’s brevity, I now think it works perfectly. Its scope is small but has everything you could want from an Earl Sweatshirt tape: clever wordplay (“Call me Lou, if I’m on the track, these niggas skip to me” gets me every time), mind-bending rhymes and an uncanny ability to stitch together words in a unique and refreshing way.

With this release, Earl shows us that he can still think outside the box, even when he’s trapped inside it.

Trombly is a member of the class of 2018.

‘Dancing Thru Life’

FROM RADIANCE PAGE 12
“Troublemaker.” These dances were followed by Radiance’s standard Bollywood number “Club Awesome,” a short medley of Bollywood music familiar to any previous attendee of a Radiance show. Next, Radiance reached back even further into their club’s history when they danced to the freedom-loving Sara Bareilles pop song “King of

Radiance tied the show together together with an underarching narrative told in a series of skits between the dance numbers

Anything,” in a number that they noted had been choreographed two years ago by the 2013 members of Radiance.

The third and final guest performers of the night were the Strong Jugglers, who also announced their weekend show. “Uptown Funk” played alongside near-constant applause from the audience, as senior Rachel Milner and junior Julia Spriggens did trick juggling and even some acrobatics.

By this point in the show, there were only two Radiance dances remaining. Ramzan and the other characters kept up their skits in between dance numbers, now conveying an attitude of nostalgia and quasi-regret. They performed “Wings,” a subdued number that made use of modern and interpretive-style dancing, and then did a complete reverse, turning the energy all the way up with the closer “Channeling Your Inner Beyonce.”

Passanisi is a member of the class of 2017.



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Track sets records in weekend meet

BY NATE KUHRT
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend, both the UR Men's and Women's Track and Field teams sent squads to compete in the ROC City Classic at Nazareth College and the Bison Classic at Bucknell University. At both meets, the Yellowjackets had strong showings and took great strides forward as a team towards end-of-season goals, finishing with the highest possible standings at the NYSCTC Outdoor Track and Field Conference Meet.

At this point in the year, championship season is quickly approaching, and the competition is in full swing. The highlights from this past weekend include the stellar races in the relay events, in addition to strong individual performances.

In the relay events, for both the men and women, the 4x400 teams raced their fastest times of the season thus far, running 3:21.44 and 3:58.72, respectively. Both of these marks are ECAC qualifying times and stand as very strong mid-season marks.

In addition, the men's 4x800 ran a very brisk 7:51.33, which would also qualify for ECAC. The women did not run a 4x800 at the Bison Classic, but they showed great depth in the 800m with strong races from junior Alyssa Arre and sophomores Gabby Hernandez and Samantha Kitchen.

An additional relay performance deserving recognition is the race run by the women's 4x100. The team of



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Junior Emily VanDenburgh leaps forward during the long jump.

for the first time in his UR Track career, broke the 4-minute mark in the 1500m, after running 4:00.0 three times in the past.

The performance from the Women's team was no less impressive. Both Edwards and Galasso earned ECAC qualifying marks in the 400m hurdles, as did sophomore Alexandra Goldman and junior Amanda Hall in the shot put. Sophomore Annie Peterson had a personal best.

Overall, the teams definitely went up against strong competition in every division of the NCAA and did not back down.

"Although some may not have been as fast as individuals had been hoping, it was great to see people come back for second or third races of the weekend and not only give it their all, but also post very fast times," senior Brad Kowalczyk said. "These past [few] meets are definitely great stepping stones, and it's exciting to see both the Men's and Women's

Flashback: Bulls of the future?

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

In the 1995-1996 season, the Chicago Bulls went 72-10 in the regular season before going 12-3 in the playoffs, on their way to winning the first championship of their second three-peat. They only lost two games at home the entire season, both in April and both by one point. Michael Jordan won MVP, Finals MVP, All-Star Game MVP and made All-NBA First Team while leading the league in scoring. Jordan, Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman made the All-Defensive First Team. (Pippen made the All-NBA team as well.) Toni Kukoc won Sixth Man of the Year. Phil Jackson won Coach of the Year.

That team is considered by many to be the best team of all time, and though there are valid arguments for some early-'70s Knicks teams, mid-'80s Celtics teams and early-aughts Lakers teams, you'd be hard-pressed to argue against the '95-'96 Bulls. Part of their mystique was the ease with which they won, and by the time they reached the

Finals, the outcome seemed as if it had already been determined.

Now let's look at the Warriors.

If Steph Curry and company win their next two games, they'll finish the year 67-15, which would tie them for the fourth-best record in regular season history. Curry is the current MVP favorite, Draymond Green is probably in line for the Defensive Player of the Year and Steve Kerr is the favorite for Coach of the Year.

The Warriors have the second-highest offensive rating and the highest defensive rating in the league and are outscoring their opponents by an average of 10.4 points per game, all while playing at the fastest pace in the NBA. They've been the best team from the first day of the season.

Do you see where I'm going with this? Is it possible that this year's Warriors are as good as those Bulls? Let's take a look at the numbers.

At the roster level, it'd be tough to make an argument against the Bulls. Jordan, Pippen and Rodman at or near the height of their powers, clearly at an advantage over Curry, Klay Thompson and Green. Though Curry has had an otherworldly season

(perhaps the best shooting season in NBA history), Jordan's '95-'96 was easily the best in the league, and it wasn't even among his five best.

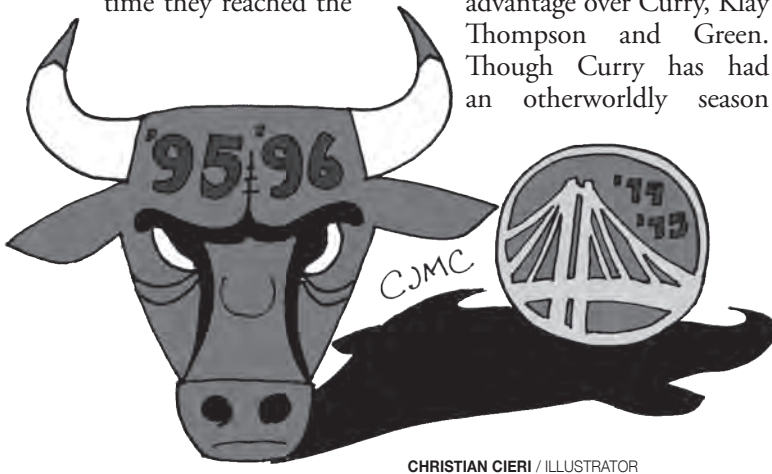
In addition, the Warriors' role players—Andrew Bogut, Harrison Barnes and Andre Iguodala—are, at best, almost as good as the Bulls' role players—Kukoc, Luc Longley, Ron Harper and Steve Kerr. Additionally, Kerr is a rookie head coach, so comparing him to Phil Jackson would be a little silly.

As teams, both dominated their respective leagues. However, the Bulls' net rating was nearly twice that of the second place team. Though the Warriors will finish comfortably in first, even they can't lay claim to that level of dominance.

The Warriors have won their conference games at an .800 clip while feasting on a weak Eastern Conference, but that doesn't quite reach the Bulls either, who spanked their Eastern Conference opponents to the tune of an .870 winning percentage. If you're of the mind that any modern NBA player would get sent sprawling to the floor if they tried to finish at the rim in the '90s, those numbers probably seem even more distant.

So to answer our own question: no, the Warriors are not quite the Bulls. We haven't even gotten to the fact that the Bulls won a championship, and the Warriors haven't even played a first-round game yet. However, with a dominant playoff run, the Warriors could make this a much more interesting season.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.



Jordan Spieth conquers Masters

BY RUAIRI CONWAY
STAFF WRITER

He may not yet be the next Tiger Woods, but Jordan Spieth laid down the gauntlet in the golfing world the moment he walked up to that first tee. The 21-year-old became the second-youngest player to win at Augusta and only the fifth man to lead from start to finish, an open-and-shut first-class performance with a record-breaking four rounds.

Unlike last year, when he threw away the lead just before the ninth-hole turn on the last day, there was nothing but time between him and that prestigious green jacket this year.

A birdie on the 15th hole made him the first player to reach 19-under-par at the Masters, totaling 28 birdies in tournament. An unfortunate but forgivable bogey at the last meant he finished even with the champions mark at 18-under, and four shots clear of his closest competitors, Phil Mickelson and Justin Rose.

Weary after two months of reviving his fading game, Woods was wayward from the tee and injured his wrist playing from the rough in the trees. Despite an eagle at the par-five 13th

hole, ending the week with a bogey left Woods outside the top 100 for the first time in around 17 years. Rory McIlroy ended with an impeccable 66 to finish fourth with 12-under, a personal best for the world's number one still seeking the elusive Masters title. Mickelson had high hopes after eagling the 15th, but shuffled home with pars on the last three holes to finish at 14 under with Rose.

If you knew anything about golf

before last weekend, you'd know that Spieth was a favorite coming into it. He rose to the occasion and surpassed even the greatest of expectations, proof that last year was no fluke. Not only is he good: he's humble too, crediting much of his success to his sister. His father, Shawn Spieth, told Golf Digest, "If Jordan doesn't ever become number one, he'll know that's only a piece of life, not all of life."

Conway is a member of the class of 2017.



EMMA GUILFOYLE / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Junior Jeremy Hasset focuses as he pulls ahead of the pack.

sophomore Brittany Schutrum, juniors Emily VanDenburgh and Cameron Edwards and T5 Becky Galasso qualified for the ECAC meet as well.

The meet was filled with exemplary performances on the men's side. Sophomore Dan Nolte and senior Mark Rolfs had impressive 10,000m season debuts, and sophomore Brant Crouse and senior Max Sims had great 400m races. Sophomore Wilfed Wallis and freshman Cory Peruffo marked season bests in the 800m. Senior Clayton Stumpf had a season best in pole vault, and junior Jeremy Hasset had a personal record in the 1500m. Hasset,

teams' potential entering the upcoming championship meets." Both the Women's and Men's team have immense potential and strong tune-up performances are anticipated at Cortland this upcoming weekend and at St. John Fisher the following weekend. Numerous individuals have qualified for the NYSCTC meet, ECAC meet and the national meet. Both teams have the depth across the board to place very highly at their respective team conference meets, and the upcoming weeks will be used to work towards realizing this potential.

Kuhrt is a member of the class of 2017.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Weschler winds up for a pitch.

Eleni Weschler - Softball

BY DANI DOUGLAS
SPORTS EDITOR

1. How did you first get involved in softball?

My parents had me hitting off of a tee as soon as I could stand up on my own. When I was five, I started playing in a tee ball league and haven't stopped playing since.

2. What do you consider to be your greatest strength as a player?

I think my greatest strength as a player is my ability to see softball for what it really is: a game. A lot of players take it way too seriously, don't have fun and eventually lose their love for the game. I appreciate the skill and dedication that it requires to do well but also make sure to enjoy every step of the way. When you're having fun and can be relaxed and confident at all points of the game, it's hard to lose.

3. How do you stay calm on the mound?

I used to be a nervous wreck on the mound earlier in my pitching career, but I came to realize that the batter is the player that has all the pressure. They don't know the location, movement or speed of the ball until mere milliseconds before they have to swing. As a pitcher, you have all the control, and that power is what allows me to stay relaxed on the mound. Every pitch is my battle to win, and knowing that, even if they do hit the ball, I have a very strong defense behind me that makes it that much easier to remain cool and collected.

4. How has the team progressed throughout the season?

At this point in the season, we are finally getting to a point where we are becoming comfortable with each other as players, both defensively

and offensively, and we are finally gaining confidence in the players behind us. At the beginning of the season, we knew we had one of the most talented teams in the country and that our success would all depend on our ability to work together and use each others' strengths. We have finally begun to play as a team with everyone contributing, and I think that our team has been stronger now than it has been all year, and that we can only get better.

5. What is the best advice that you have been given by a coach?

The best advice I have been given by a coach was never to say, "I know." You always have something to learn, and you can always get better. Let people help you.

6. What do you most hope to accomplish by the end of the

season?

Last season was one of the best seasons our program has ever had, and experiencing that as a freshman really set the bar high for my next three years. I saw what it took to go that far into the postseason, and every part of me believes that this team can do just as well, if not better. We practice hard all year round because we know we can make it to nationals. Going to nationals again is what I hope to accomplish most.

7. Would you rather be a co-pilot with Teddy Roosevelt or Kendrick Lamar?

I guess I would just choose Kendrick Lamar because he has had such an influence on the current music industry, and I have always really admired those who can understand and create music.

Douglas is a member of the class of 2017.

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

- Women's Lacrosse vs Bard College - W 11-2

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

- Softball vs Union College - W 16-8
- Baseball vs Skidmore College - W 4-2
- Women's Lacrosse vs Vassar College - W 10-6
 - Softball vs Union College - W 9-1
- Baseball vs Skidmore College - W 13-3

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

- Baseball vs Skidmore College - W 4-3
- Softball vs Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - W 4-0
 - Baseball vs Skidmore College - W 13-7
- Softball vs Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - W 4-2

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

- Softball vs Nazareth College - W 4-0
- Softball vs Nazareth College - W 9-0

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

- Softball vs Utica College - W 4-0
- Softball vs Nazareth College - W 9-5

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

- Men's Golf at University of Rochester Fred Kavetz Invitational - Day 1 - Pittsford, NY - 9:30 A.M.*
 - Men's Track at SUNY Cordland Classic - Day 1 - Cordland, NY - 3:00 P.M.
- Women's Track at SUNY Cordland Classic - Day 1 - Cordland, NY - 3:00 P.M.
 - Women's Tennis vs Rochester Institute of Technology - 4:00 P.M.*
- Women's Lacrosse vs Rensselaer Polytechnic Institue - 4:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

- Women's Rowing at Kerr Cup - Philadelphia, PA - 9:30 A.M.
- Men's Track at SUNY Cordland Classic - Day 2 - Cordland, NY - 3:00 P.M.
- Women's Track at SUNY Cordland Classic - Day 2 - Cordland, NY - 3:00 P.M.
- Men's Golf at University of Rochester Fred Kavetz Invitational - Day 2 - Pittsford, NY - 11:00 A.M.*
 - Baseball vs Vassar College (DH) - Poughkeepsie, NY - 1:00 P.M., 3:30 P.M.
 - Softball vs Clarkson University (DH) - Potsdam, NY - 1:00 P.M., 3:30 P.M.
- Women's Lacrosse vs Skidmore College - Saratoga Springs, NY - 3:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

- Baseball vs Vassar College (DH) - Poughkeepsie, NY - 12:00 P.M., 2:30 P.M.
- Softball vs Skidmore College (DH) - 1:00 P.M., 3:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

- Softball vs Ithaca College (DH) - 3:00 P.M.*, 5:00 P.M.*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

- Softball vs Buffalo State (DH) - Buffalo, NY - 3:30 P.M., 5:30 P.M.

*DENOTES HOME GAME

(DH) DENOTES DOUBLEHEADER

Men's Tennis has hard-fought weekend



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

Clockwise from top left: Freshman Andrew Nunno, sophomore Jonny Baker, senior Julian Danko, junior Ian Baranowski, freshman Aaron Mevorach and junior Ben Shapiro.

BY EMILY LEWIS
STAFF WRITER

The University of Rochester men's tennis team took on St. Lawrence University (SLU) and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) this past weekend. The Yellowjackets, who are now ranked 40th overall, move to 8-8 on the season after this weekend.

Against the Saints, Julian Danko, Ben Shapiro and Jonny Baker each won two matches. These doubles victories created a 2-1 lead for the 'Jackets. Danko went on to compete with Sam Leeman and defeat Rhonny Rosario and Paul Barret of SLU. Baker and Shapiro then took down Tom Luchars and Elliot Solandt with a score of 8-5. Rochester's Ian Baranowski and Aaron Mevorach then fell 8-3 in the next round of doubles.

After doubles, the 'Jackets won five consecutive singles matches with Mevorach, Shapiro, Danko, Baranowski and Baker all picking up wins.

Rochester fell to RPI the following day at the Lyman Tennis Center in Albany, NY.

The 'Jackets had a tough start to the match, finishing 0-3 at the end of the doubles round. However, they were able to fight their way back to a 4-4 score once singles began with wins coming from Baker, Shapiro, Mevorach and Danko. Baranowski then fell to RPI's McKinley Grimes with a score of 7-5 after a tie-breaking round.

UAA Championships will take place in Florida later this month, and Rochester will look to secure the title.

Lewis is a member of the class of 2016.

SPORTS

Discovering UR sports: A look into recruitment

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

The recruiting process for collegiate athletes has been mythologized, debated and challenged so many times in recent years that it can be tough to separate fact from fiction. Whether or not you've been heavily exposed to the lurid tales of ill-gotten Hummers, one too many text messages or the high drama of fax machine malfunctions, what you've heard has been almost exclusively about the recruiting process of Division I schools. But what about the little guys?

The University of Rochester plays, almost exclusively, at the Division III level (the men's squash team is in Division I). There are enormous differences between the recruiting process bandied about in the news and the one here at the U of R, the biggest being obvious: money. Last year, Rochester spent \$143,234 on recruiting, while University of Alabama, for example, spent \$2,193,655 during the same period. Nick Saban, Alabama's head football coach, is paid \$7 million per year, the highest annual salary of any public employee in the country. Meanwhile, the average salary for a head coach at UR is about \$46,000. So, it should be pretty clear that the recruitment process

in Division III is a far, far different animal than it is in Division I.

The following description of the process is based on interviews with Rochester athletes and administrators. We were unable to get in touch with coaches concerning this topic.

Recruits start to be contacted by

put together by the recruits themselves. This is more common today, according to George VanderZwaag, head of the UR Athletic Department, as recruiting has increasingly become a more national endeavor (though some sports, like softball and soccer, have summer showcases that are vital to a coach's perception of an athlete). If a school decides to pursue a recruit, they'll contact them in the form of

relationship with a coach is a huge factor in deciding which schools are real options. "Sometimes it's a school," he says, "but usually, you get attached to a coach." It should be noted that this athletic courtship isn't extended to all recruits—some, like a freshman softball player who spoke to the *CT*, said that she sent out recruiting videos to schools that she had already applied to, but the response was, "Yeah, if you get into the school, we'll start talking".

Once a mutual interest has been established, an invitation will be extended to a recruit to make an official visit to campus. During this time, a recruit will receive a tour of the campus and the athletic facilities from either the head coach or an assistant and possibly meet the Athletic Director as well. Later, a recruit will be assigned to a current player on the relevant team and stay for a night or two in order to get a gauge on the culture of the team and the school. If the visit is successful and the interest is still high between the recruit and the coach, the recruit will be encouraged to apply Early Decision to the school. Though this doesn't guarantee anything, as many athletes made clear in interviews with the *CT*, it's usually a good sign that admission will be granted.

Unlike Division I schools, Division III schools can't hand out full scholarships in return for committing to a team. Though a strong and well-established athletic department can have sway in admissions

when it comes to an athlete's application, this varies school-to-school and player-to-player. A freshman swimmer told *CT* that his coach let him know he'd been admitted three days before official acceptance letters came out, but that he believed that his team has "very little sway" within the admissions department. A freshman soccer player noted that at the Division III level, the question of academics is far more important than at a Division I school. He said that, "[i]f you're not even within a certain range, even at a low-ball range, it's just not even gonna work, even if you're the best player."

He believes that a coach's influence within admissions processes has a lot to do with the sport and the skill of the player. He also noted that, while schools can't offer athletic scholarships, they do offer academic grants to players who otherwise wouldn't be able to attend the University.

VanderZwaag said that UR seeks to "identify students who will make a positive impact on our teams," and that he hopes "athletics will be a small, significant difference for some...in the recruiting process." Several players disputed this, sharing that they felt that they had teammates who fell far short of the academic prowess required by UR, and that athletics had been the only reason, or the most significant reason, that a recruit had been admitted to the school.

Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.



CHRISTIAN CIERI / ILLUSTRATOR

emails, letters, packages or text messages.

coaches who have either seen them play or have heard about them on the recommendation of another coach during their junior year of high school. If the coaches haven't seen the recruit play in person, they can turn to highlight videos, usually

Athletes soon find themselves bombarded with communication, though, as a freshman swimmer told the *CT*, the schools that are serious about recruiting the athlete will send more personal mail. According to a freshman football player, the recruit's

As weather heats up, so does UR Baseball

BY JACKIE POWELL
STAFF WRITER

After starting their season 4-6, the frozen rope-hitting Yellowjackets have turned around their season and are continuing their season with a comfortable overall record of 18-7 and a conference record of 11-1, which puts them at the top of the Liberty League. This recent dominance put itself on full display this past weekend during a pair of doubleheaders against division rival Skidmore College.

On Saturday April 11, during game one of the first doubleheader, the 'Jackets proved their fundamentally efficient and aggressive play style by posting no errors and racking up six stolen bases throughout the nine-inning contest. Difference-makers for UR in the first contest on Saturday included senior Brendan Garry and junior Evan Janifer. Garry, usually positioned at first base or catching behind the batter's box, was put into the lineup as UR baseball's designated hitter.

He went 2-2, and one of those hits drove in one of the four Rochester runs scored. Janifer was the game's starting pitcher for the Yellowjackets, pitching six and one-third innings, striking out seven, allowing nine hits and surrendering two earned runs. Janifer was pretty evenly matched, as his opponent, Skidmore starter Nick Petrella, surrendered two earned runs, allowed four hits and struck out six Yellowjackets while pitching for a full six innings. What broke the even pitching match up, of course, was the less efficient defensive play from the Skidmore Thoroughbreds; there was an error from second baseman Matt Barra and a wild pitch from Janifer.

A couple of hours later, the 'Jackets sent junior Dan Warren to the bump to take on opposing starter Joe Warner. Rochester's Warren pitched seven innings, allowing three hits and two unearned runs while striking out six Thoroughbreds.

In contrast to the earlier contest, the Yellowjackets were victorious

this time with an offensive surge as they came on top 13-3. The offensive effort of the 'Jackets was evenly distributed as junior catcher Nolan Schultz, center fielder Lance Hamilton, junior shortstop Tyler Schmidt and junior right fielder Jake Meyerson had two RBIs apiece. UR's offensive splurge overshadowed the fact that UR's defensive squad committed three errors during game two of the first doubleheader.

The second doubleheader

began with the 'Jackets putting together four runs off of a home run by Garry and a 2-2 hitting performance by senior left fielder Sam Slutsky. Junior Josh Schulman pitched five and two-thirds innings, gave up three earned runs and struck out five, proving to be enough as the Yellowjackets walked away with the 4-3 victory.

The last competition against the Thoroughbreds was parallel to the last game in the first doubleheader. Another offensive surge ensued

as the 'Jackets won the game by a score of 13-7. Schultz hit a three-run jack, and Schmidt went 4-5.

"It's good to start off like we have, but we need to focus on staying consistent and improving throughout the second half of the year," Garry said after sweeping Skidmore. "We have some good opponents coming up, and we'll have to play our best if we want to continue our success."

Powell is a member of the class of 2018.



UR Baseball put out a terrific showing in Saturday's doubleheader against Skidmore College.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS