

Campus Times

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Students Slam Anti-Racism Campaign Event



LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

Molly Jolliff, Director for International Student Engagement, helps celebrate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

University Bumps Up Tuition

BY JASON ALTABET
SENIOR STAFF

The University announced an increase in tuition of over \$1,800, or 3.8 percent, compared to the 2015-16 academic year, alongside a \$530 increase in room and board costs. The combined total is an estimated \$64,000 for students attending during the 2016-17 season, offset by a \$122.2 million financial aid budget.

In a statement released alongside the updated tuition figures, University President Joel Seligman said the school takes into account accessibility and affordability when deciding on new tuition and financial aid figures.

The final budget was approved at the Board of Trustees' meeting in March and reflects the culmination of a more than yearlong discussion process.

"It's based on the expenses, related to the degree that they've increased, and to some extent on the plans and ambitions they have for growth in various areas," explained Dean Burdick, head of Financial Aid and Admissions.

Tuition represents roughly 60 percent of the total College of Arts, Sciences, & Engineering budget.

Kevin Connell, a Rochester alumni and author of a book on financial aid, argues that tuition increases of this size are a systemic problem.

"The University of Rochester is only a single actor within a national higher education network driven by prestige maximization [and] the perpetual amenities war [...] engrossed in the country-club culture of building more, offering more, and spending more."

In explaining the new tuition, Rochester released a list of institutions that it considers peers with similar increases, including Mt. Holyoke, Princeton, Stanford, and MIT.

Along with the tuition increase, the University's plan projects a 13.5 percent increase in total financial aid awards, comprising a combination of traditional financial aid and scholarships.

"Looking ahead to next year, we wanted to be more secure in our planning," Burdick said. "We would need more financial aid in order to continue to

SEE TUITION PAGE 3

BY CALEB KRIEG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students took aim at the University's "We're Better Than THAT" campaign's Monday giveaway event this week, deriding the celebration as impersonal and ignorant of the issues that sparked the movement in the first place.

The event was held to celebrate the United Nation's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

"It was just a mechanical act of grabbing a shirt and leaving," said sophomore Jacob Tyson, an All-Campus Judicial Council Associate Justice. "That was it no conversation."

The "We're Better Than THAT" campaign's goal throughout this semester and in

the future is to educate students, faculty, and staff on ways to stop hate speech and racism in our community. The campaign also aims to educate these groups on how to approach discussing divisive topics.

Students in Wilson Commons on Monday were approached by representatives of the campaign and instructed to go to Hirst Lounge to receive a free t-shirt in support of the anti-racism movement. Attendees were asked to swipe their IDs and sign a large poster in support.

Other students expressed a lackluster reaction to the campaign's event. Sophomore Katy Hasselwander, when asked about the campaign, said she hadn't heard anything about the event from the campaign itself. "I know the idea behind of it,

but that's only from word of mouth," she said.

"I swiped my ID and got a shirt," she continued. "That's it."

Associate Dean of Diversity of Arts Beth Olivares, who is a member of the commission that created the campaign, acknowledged that student criticisms were expected and, in some regards, correct.

"Giving away t-shirts is cute, but what's the point?" she said via email. "If all we did, or were planning to do, is give out shirts, then yes, please call bullshit on that, and I'll be right there with you. But this is just the beginning."

She said that the goal of Monday's event was to get as many students talking as possible, and that many students engaged in "meaningful conversations dur-

ing the event." The campaign's next goal is to host educational events and workshops geared toward teaching people about racism.

"We are not interested in quick fixes or ready-made solutions," Olivares said. "They just don't work."

Some students felt apprehensive about participating in the event.

Jessica Shang, a freshman, chose not to participate. She did, however, come to observe.

"I walked over to Hirst Lounge after someone from ResLife told me that the event was happening," she said, recounting. "I was motioned over to the table, but I chose not to go after seeing that each person spent no more than maybe five minutes there."

SEE RACE PAGE 3

Fringe Fest Exec to Headline Commencement

BY MADELINE BLACKBURN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Erica Fee '99, Producer and Board President of the First Niagara Rochester Fringe Festival, will be the 2016 Commencement Speaker, the University announced Wednesday.

Commencement will take place on Sunday, May 15.

The University has been a sponsor of the Fringe Festival since 2008, and has co-sponsored 500 of the festival's productions since its founding.

The response of the graduating class so far has been mixed. Senior Alex Barr expressed

frustration over the University's choice to select a speaker with ties to the University and who is mostly regionally well-known.

"Back home in Oregon, no one knows what Rochester is, and I think Rochester has the tendency to remain regional," she said.

University Spokesperson Sara Miller said Commencement speakers are chosen by University President Joel

Seligman in consultation with senior-class leaders, their advisor, and University deans.

"This process considers potential speakers—from all over the world—who have something to offer the graduating class and their families based on their life and/or professional experiences," she said. "From among the candidates considered, a speaker who is both available and interested in delivering the Commencement

keynote address is selected."

While some students were underwhelmed by the University's choice, others took it as a nod toward the humanities department.

"As an English major, I sometimes feel overwhelmed by the number of natural science majors at this University," senior Rachael Crowe said. "I'm curious to hear what she has to say. I think it will have a different focus from previous years, and I really appreciate that."

Nigel Maister, the artistic director of the UR's International Theatre Program who formerly

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT DETURCK

Erica Fee, 2016 Commencement Speaker.

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BO PENG / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

STUDENTS SHINE A LIGHT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

UR students and the Astronomy Club celebrated Earth Hour 2016 by turning off all the lights on Wilson Quad.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Deer Runs into Parked Car

MAR. 10—A student walking through Park Lot reported seeing three deer run through Lot 1, one of which ran into a parked car. DPS officers found a portion of the car damaged, as well as deer hair and hoof prints on the vehicle. The owner was contacted.

Flooding in Wilder (1)

MAR. 12—DPS officers responded to a flood that occurred in Wilder 630. The student whose room it was told Public Safety that, when she returned from break, she found water on the ground and the bathroom faucet running. Several rooms on the fifth and sixth floors of Wilder were affected. ResLife staff and Facilities responded.

Student's Keys and ID Stolen (2)

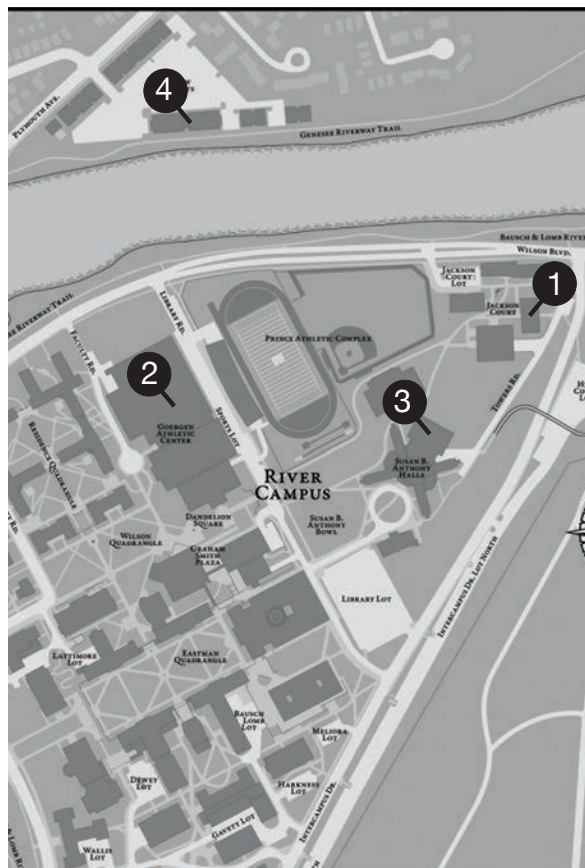
MAR. 14 —An unidentified suspect stole a student's keys and ID card from a bag that was left unattended in one of the locker rooms in Goergen Athletic Center. The student later discovered that the ID card had been used to make three purchases on campus that day.

Student's Wallet Stolen (3)

MAR. 19—A student reported her wallet stolen from Danforth Dining Center. Her wallet was later found in Goergen Athletic Center and turned in to DPS. All of the wallet's contents were intact.

Students Struck by Paintballs (4)

MAR. 19—Two students reported that they were struck by paintballs fired from a passing vehicle while walking on the South Plymouth side of the Riverview Apartments. Neither of the two students were injured.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY | MARCH 24

VARSITY MEN'S TENNIS VS. NAZARETH

ZORNOW COURTS, 4 P.M.-9 P.M.
Watch the 'Jackets take on the Golden Flyers in Tennis.

STUDENT DEGREE RECITAL

EASTMAN HATCH RECITAL HALL, 3:30 P.M.-5:00 P.M.
The Eastman School of Music will be showcasing the musical talents of Matt Zucker, who will be performing on the cello.

FRIDAY | MARCH 25

CINEMA GROUP FILM: CAROL

HOYT AUDITORIUM, 7 P.M.-9 P.M.
The Rochester Cinema Group will be hosting two showings of Carol. Tickets are being sold at the Common Market and at the door for \$3.

SPECIAL HOURS

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 10 P.M.-5 P.M.
The Memorial Art Gallery will be hosting special hours during Inspiring Beauty: 50 Years of Ebony Fashion Fair.

SATURDAY | MARCH 26

KOREA NIGHT 2016

STRONG AUDITORIUM, 7:30 P.M.-9:15 P.M.
Korea Night will showcase a variety of performing groups, such as RICE Crew, Midnight Ramblers, Korean Percussion Group Hon, Agape Black Belt Center, LLC, and many more. Tickets are \$7 for UR students and \$10 general admission, and are being sold at the Common Market and at the door.

VARSITY SOFTBALL VS. GENESOO

RUSH RHEES LIBRARY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.
Watch the 'Jackets take on the Knights in softball.

SUNDAY | MARCH 27

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH FILM

OFF CAMPUS, 3 P.M.-5 P.M.
The Little Theatre, WXXI, and the Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies at the University are hosting a viewing of Grab a Hunk of Lightning. Tickets are free for University students and \$5 general admission.

NON-DEGREE

ROBBINS LIBRARY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.
The Medieval Studies Council and the Robbins Library will be hosting an exhibit on language architects through the ages.

Snow Day Controversy Leads to New Plans

BY AMANDA MARQUEZ
NEWS EDITOR

University Facilities and Services has revised its snow plans to better address excessive snowfall, in a move seen as a response to student outrage regarding the school's decision not to cancel undergraduate classes on Feb. 16. Students' Association Government (SA) President Grant Dever announced UR's revision in an email sent to students last Wednesday.

This updated snow removal plan serves as the first formal response from University administrators to the "Snow Days" IMPACT petition. The petition, which garnered over 700 signatures, called on the University to cancel classes in the event of a snowstorm as severe as the one that occurred in February.

The upgraded 2016 Snow Plan outlines how the University plans on fostering better communication within its community; how snow removal will take place more efficiently, emphasizing the safety of those who commute and those with disabilities; and the establishment of a "pre-storm planning process" that mandates a meeting 12 hours prior to the arrival of a storm with the goal of assessing how to appropriately respond to heavy snow fall. The Snow Plan did not elaborate on the criteria for classes to be cancelled in the event of a snow day.

Junior Kyle Stolove, who created the petition, is glad that the University responded to the concerns students had following

the snowstorm. He is, however, dissatisfied that the policy of formally canceling class on days with heavy snowfall has yet to be addressed.

"The problems that occurred when I made the petition will happen again if a similar level of snowfall occurs," he said.

Associate Vice President of University Facilities and Services, Bruce Bashwiner, said that neither he nor his office is in a position to make a decision about class cancellation. They are strictly in charge of snow removal, and the decision to cancel classes is one related to University policy.

While there has been no word on whether this is being reconsidered, Dean of the College Richard Feldman did acknowledge that communication between students and administration needs to and will improve.

"A new University policy regarding communications during snow emergencies is being developed," he said.

Bashwiner also plans on continually improving the University's snow removal services.

"We will be introducing additional program enhancements next season as part of our snow removal contract renewal/upgrade process that is currently underway," he said. "We also evaluate operations and each storm response to determine if additional adjustments need to be made after each storm."

Marquez is a member of the Class of 2017.

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Annual Tuition Hikes Spur Student Financial Aid Advocates

TUITION FROM PAGE 1
attract the best students and help them be able to stay.”

Currently, students receive an average of \$28,344 in grant aid, with 86 percent of the student population qualifying. The recently-hired Director of Financial Aid, Samantha Veeder, explained her reasoning on the double-digit jump by saying that much of the increase for next year is related to larger incoming classes in recent years, combined with increased financial aid awards, and our commitment to renewing assistance based on our merit and need-based institutional policies.”

“I think that’s the difference between me staying another two years and me leaving.”

The increase in Rochester’s financial aid budget comes after last year’s protests over what many students saw as unfair practices by the Financial Aid department. Among their concerns were unexpected decreases in packages, a lack of financial aid counselor stability, and an insufficient quantity of funds going toward financial aid.

One of the main responses to these protests involved the creation of a student financial aid committee, staffed by over a dozen paid student ambassadors to help explain practices

to students and synthesize feedback for the financial aid office.

Niru Murali, a sophomore and SA Executive Director of Student Life, led the creation of this school-funded organization.

“The way I envision it,” she said, “the ambassadors will be in charge of planning three or four programs throughout the year. One would be collaborative, the other two would be forums or a roundtable and they would then present that information to Dean Burdick or a Financial Aid staff member.”

Additionally, Murali is one of the 65 percent of students borrowing to pay for tuition and one of the 25 percent of the student population that borrows with parental-backed loans.

Her feelings on the tuition increase are blunt. “I think that’s the difference between me staying another two years and me leaving,” she said.

She pays for college by herself and thinks of tuition in very real terms. “That’s three weeks of work and I work 20 to 30 hours a week, so that hurts me.”

Despite her worries about tuition, Murali feels Financial Aid is on the side of students, especially with the increase. “I know if Dean Burdick is going to be at the table,” she said, “my voice will be represented.”

Altabet is a member of the Class of 2017.

Students Question Value of Anti-Racism Campaign

RACE FROM PAGE 1

Fellow freshman Eleanor Haase also chose not to participate in this event.

“While I agree with the objective of the campaign,” she said of her decision. “I don’t think giving everyone free t-shirts unified the school in any way especially if there’s no attempt to educate people while giving out these free things.”

Tyson pointed his critiques at the administration itself, saying, “Holding events like the one in Hirst Lounge without actually educating people on key issues like what racism is, how it affects our campus community, and, more importantly, how it im-

pacts the lives of students shows that the university administration is outdated in its mindset.”

“If all we did, or were planning to do, is give out shirts, then yes, please call bullshit on that, and I’ll be right there with you. But this is just the beginning.”

Frankly, he thought the event displayed “the administration’s ignorance of how this directly affects students and their lives.”

In terms of increasing aware-

ness, Olivares believes the campaign met its goal with its event on Monday.

“People are talking about the campaign, and arguing its relative merit, which is terrific,” she said. “In fact, I’ve been at UR for a long time, and I can honestly say that more people, and different kinds of people, are talking about race and racism and oppression, and ways to end them, than I have witnessed at any other time.

That, she said, was in itself progress.

“Insufficient, of course, but a step in the right direction.”

Krieg is a member of the Class of 2018.

UR Chooses Graduation Speaker

SPEAKER FROM PAGE 1

taught Fee, spoke positively of her achievements, as well as the economic benefits of the Fringe Festival.

“Members of the Rochester community come to the Festival to enjoy themselves—they drink, they buy tee shirts, they learn about other artistic environments that they may not have been familiar with before,” Maister said. “It gives Rochester a focal communal sense of self as a place where exciting work can happen.”

After Fee graduated from UR in 1999, she studied the economic impact of festivals at the University of Minnesota, and oversaw the production of theatrical festivals in London and Edinburgh. When she returned to her hometown of Rochester, she functioned as a catalyst for the renowned success of the Fringe Festival.

Maister referenced Fee’s ingenuity and commitment to the arts as reasons why she would be a fitting speaker for Commencement.

“What I think Erica represents is someone who saw an opportunity, and through hard work, determination, and vision, managed to make good on that opportunity that benefited not only an immediate small circle of artists, but a community, and a city, and a region” he said. If every undergraduate managed to do that shortly after they graduate, I think that would truly be extraordinary.”

Blackburn is a member of the Class of 2018.

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OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Bearers of Bad News



BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
OPINIONS EDITOR

On the “About” page for The Rival, beneath a quick history of the company and some tongue-in-cheek quotes attributed to “moms” and “corporations,” there’s a solicitation. “ATTENTION ADVERTISERS: Geotarget one campus or reach hundreds of thousands of the prized 18-24 demographic. And do it affordably.”

The Rival is one of a few online publications that use similar models. Like The Odyssey and Elite Daily, The Rival is concerned with what it calls “content creation,” a term used pretty consistently across all three websites. Utilizing unpaid student writers from across the country, these sites set up de facto franchises on different campuses. The type of writing found there is a little different than what you might find at, say, the *Campus Times*. Rather than act as news sites, they’re more like campus culture blogs, emphasizing quick, easily-digestible opinion pieces, or listicles that concern everything from “11 Reasons To Love Prince George” to “Our Skewed Perception of Happiness” (from Rochester’s Odyssey page). The mission statements all emphasize the outsider nature of their respective voices; like a certain Republican presidential candidate, they seem to couch much of their appeal in their anti-establishment tone and status.

Giving students the chance for exposure without being beholden to the more stringent journalistic standards of a campus newspaper provides a space where students can write pieces like the widely-circulated article on the recent queer space debate mentioned by the Editorial Board this week. That’s not to say that such an article couldn’t find a home at the *Campus Times*, but there is a certain value to having more than one forum for students to voice their opinions.

That being said, the vitality of the forum doesn’t really excuse the reality of how it operates. Writing purely for exposure is a good exercise, but the lack of a true editorial process ends up allowing bad habits to persist. Students writing for these publications are largely left out to dry, editorially speaking, so these websites, rather than functioning as quasi-incubators for young writers looking to gain a modicum of exposure, instead become content factories where the few actual employees of these sites only need to concern themselves with page views, rather than quality.

It’s similar to the Herbalife or Veema pyramid schemes that so many of my high school friends

fell for, wherein they were told that if they sold enough cases of some dubiously healthy energy drinks, they’d be able to make serious money. Rather than get a start in sales, they found themselves selling memberships in the company more than they sold the actual energy drinks, and today, both of those companies are under investigation for operating what were essentially pyramid schemes. While The Rival and The Odyssey don’t require a financial investment, it does ask for an investment of time and talent that they have little interest in repaying.

There’s also the tag of “journalism” that many of these sites attach to themselves. Claiming to be journalistic without reporting any actual news is an issue, and it’s compounded by the fact that, again, with no significant editorial process, there’s not really a stringent fact-checking process, either. Because of this, news and opinion get melded in such a way that articles like the now-famous (at least on campus) “Three Fifths of a Student” come to be perceived by the community as journalism. The article is interesting and well-thought out, but journalism is necessarily fact-checked and objective; with The Rival, The Odyssey, and so many of these sites, the onus of fact-checking, fairly or not, is put on the writer, which throws the objectivity into question.

As for that advertisement solicitation, it’s important to remember that with these sites, like Facebook, the site remains free precisely because the users are what’s being sold. Eighteen to 24-year-olds are a prime demographic because of their buying power, but also because of their willingness to share information about themselves online. The content is ostensibly what the sites are about, but they’re not making money from good writing—they’re making money on advertising dollars. This isn’t exactly news—the newspaper industry has relied on advertising since the middle of the nineteenth century—but these sites market themselves as platforms for young writers to practice and gain exposure. Where is the investment in the writers?

I think the campus community would be better served by an alternative news site that was run independently of any outside influence. WordPress, Tumblr, and a slew of other websites offer platforms where writers, editors, and artists can remain autonomous and not have to worry about page views. Several UR students have started a sports, politics, and culture blog called Full Court Trap that produces well-written, thoughtful articles without having to be beholden to anyone but themselves. That’s the way to do alternative news.

Bernstein is a member of the Class of 2018.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Club Deliberations Dissonance

We support the Policy & Review Committee’s decision to not confer Students’ Association (SA) recognition upon the newest campus musical theater group, Roc Players. We do not, however, support every reason that the Committee used to support their decision.

One of the so-called “Ten SA Principles of Student Organizations,” to which all SA-recognized groups must adhere to be recognized, is that of uniqueness. The Committee determined that the mission of Roc Players—to stage student-run, full-length musicals on campus—was too similar to that of another musical theater group, Off-Broadway On Campus (OBOC).

The glaring issue with this—which many students were keen to point out—is that OBOC, despite being constitutionally obliged to “perform musical theater” and “bring musical theater shows to life,” does not perform full-length musicals. Roc Players’ mission, then, is substantively different than what OBOC does in practice.

The Committee, per its Policy and Procedure Manual

(PPM), will not recognize groups whose mission is either “partially encompassed by another student organization” or else “too limited to warrant the creation of an independent organization.” We agree that these groups’ missions, in print, are too similar to warrant recognition of Roc Players—but that point is moot.

We do not agree with the Committee’s judgment based on the de jure missions of these groups, when the de facto situation is quite different. The type of entertainment that OBOC provides—musical revue—is not full-length musical theater, and for the Committee to make a decision based purely what an entirely different group’s constitution says *should* happen—instead of what actually does—makes no sense in a discussion about what is tangibly being contributed to campus.

We do, however, agree with the Committee’s other major concerns.

The Committee—with the support of the professional SA advisors, whose experience, per the PPM, should carry much weight in present decisions—raised issue with

Roc Players’ “unsustainable” fundraising efforts. Though the group had raised considerable funds through friends and family—certainly a laudable effort—the Committee and its advisors aptly pointed out that this has proven to be unsuccessful in the long run.

Further, the Committee indicated that the Roc Players, during their Preliminary Status period, had contracted music and the corresponding rights to perform, but had not done so through the appropriate avenues of the SA and the SA Appropriations Committee. This was irresponsible because breaching the contract, especially with the University’s name attached, can mire more than just the Players in legal conflicts.

Many students have raised concerns about what recognizing this group would mean for the campus theater community, but the Editorial Board finds these concerns immaterial to the process of recognition. Based on the principles outlined by the Policy & Review Committee, we agree with the ends of their decision—but not necessarily the means.

A Different Tilt in UR Discourse

Important questions about how to deal with an inherently-heteronormative Greek system arose in response to an article by sophomore Rachel Casper, which has made the rounds in the Rochester Facebook community. Casper wrote an article that was constructively critical of Phi Sigma

Sigma, who had chosen to host a bar party at a bar known traditionally for its hospitality to queer patrons. The Editorial Board commends Casper on many of her points, as the discussion of gendered spaces is one that hasn’t really taken place on this campus.

However, we do wish to

stress that Phi Sig was more the unwitting recipient of an indictment that could be given to all of Greek life, rather than having acted out of malice. We believe their actions came as an oversight, as Phi Sig has a strong record of promoting inclusion both internally and externally.

The above editorials are published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Aurek Ransom (Editor-in-Chief), Justin Trombly (Managing Editor), Jesse Bernstein (Opinions Editor), Angela Lai (Publisher), and Jackie Powell (Sports Editor). The Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board make themselves available to the UR community’s ideas and concerns. Email editor@campustimes.org.

Campus Times

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OP-ED

Why We're Bringing Ben Shapiro to Campus

BY ANNA GARVEY

Rochester's College Republicans will host conservative political commentator Ben Shapiro on April 5 to speak on the threats to the freedom of speech currently permeating college campuses. Mr. Shapiro has a lengthy and impressive resume of conservative activism,

Both sides of this debate deserve to be considered and taken seriously.

making him a voice that is not heard often on campus.

He has sparked notable controversy on his speaking tour of universities. Recently, the administration of California State University, Los Angeles went so far as to attempt to ban him from speaking on their campus,

much to the chagrin of free expression advocates nationwide. While Ben Shapiro's style may spark a degree of resistance, his arguments are always built upon facts, and, more importantly, he has shown himself to be open to discussing dissenting opinions. It is for this reason and due to our resounding belief in the protection of the fundamental right of free speech that Ben Shapiro will be joining us in April.

At UR, the discussion regarding free speech has centered on the controversy regarding the use of Yik Yak. This has concerned a series of egregious and condemnable messages posted on the social media site by anonymous users. Both sides of this debate deserve to be considered and taken seriously. From the perspective of free speech, preventing people from writing terrible things does not prevent people

from having terrible thoughts, and even terrible people have the right to express themselves.

While this is important, the pervasive disagreements regarding the freedom of speech extends far beyond Yik Yak. The implications of censoring free speech should not be underestimated, which makes it all the more important that this issue is discussed in depth.

On a wide scale, the crux of the free speech issue lies within our sudden refusal to consider dissenting opinions. Political argument, thoughtful discussion and the right to voice opinions are the cornerstones of a free and progressive society. However, there is declining interest today in objectively considering opposing opinions, choosing instead to write them off as purely wrong, ill-intentioned, or misguided.

The prioritization of group

agendas over individual liberties is partially to blame. It has become unacceptable to stray in individual opinion from that of one's socially assigned group, lest the individual be ostracized. Conversely, an outside criticism of a policy is implied to be an insult against an entire group. This is both unfair and unproductive, creating divisions among people where none should exist, and stifling the potential for positive discussion amongst peers who ultimately share the same goals.

The habit of demonizing the other side in an attempt to silence dissenting opinions has grown in national politics and on campus. Attempts to silence the other side often disguise themselves as well-intentioned efforts to provide safety. The notion of "microaggression" has overtaken us, giving credence to the idea that even a statement made

without the intention of being hurtful is indicative of ill-intent.

This is an affront to the values of a free society.

Taken a step further, the offenders are therefore supposedly not to be respected or heard. The culture of moral superiority and insistence on prioritizing feelings over facts is leading to an embarrassing stalemate of valuable intellectual dialogue.

When differences in ideology devolve into character assassinations, this is an affront to the values of a free society. Suppressing intellectual diversity is akin to rejecting diversity of all kinds, and we're better than that.

Garvey is the president of College Republicans and a member of the Class of 2016.

OP-ED

Double, Double, Toil and Trouble

What Created Donald Trump?

BY JAKE SEHNERT

Donald Trump has taken the nation by storm with his crass, apolitical style. Despite all of his racist and ignorant statements, he is continually gaining support. Why is this happening?

The Republican Party is broken. Donald Trump and Ted Cruz are both the most popular and the anti-establishment presidential candidates in the Republican Party. Trump has founded his campaign on his ability to "make America great again" because, he claims, "We will have so much winning if I get elected that you may get

The Republican Party is broken.

bored with winning." He and Ted Cruz demonstrate the conservative backlash to President Obama's socially liberal agenda, including the Supreme Court's ruling in favor of gay marriage. The problem here is that it is nearly impossible to undo liberal social reform. In the most recent polls, Cruz and Trump

both are projected to lose to Clinton and Sanders in a general election because the American people, for the most part, are moving on. A minority of the population is supporting social conservatives, and Republicans are losing most independents as a result.

There are some plausible explanations as to why Trump has gained so much support. Trump may truly represent the voices of many Republicans, even considering his constant personal attacks and racist comments. However, it is hard to imagine why people are willing to support him during a time of socially liberal changes.

There is another possibility. Despite all of the negative aspects of Donald Trump, he may be supported because he hates the establishment and harvests hatred to generate more support. Washington has been ineffective, largely due to stubborn Republicans, which is ironic since they are the ones upset about this issue. If this is the problem, it is the responsibility of the citizens to hold their representatives more accountable for certain issues and become more

actively engaged with current events. Even if this is not the reason Trump has received so much support, it is important for U.S. citizens to hold their representatives accountable by going to the polls and actively participating in political events. I tend to subscribe

Washington has been ineffective, largely due to stubborn Republicans.

to this explanation because it captures his campaign slogan well and makes intuitive sense. Everyone should participate in political events from all points of view and register to vote so representatives can more effectively represent the American people's points of view and work more efficiently. We hold the politicians accountable, so it is our fault if Washington is not working efficiently for an extended period of time. The next time you think twice about voting, remember: it may lead to another Donald Trump.

Sehnert is a member of the Class of 2019.



MORGAN MEHRING / ILLUSTRATION STAFF

UR OPINION

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN & LEAH NASON
OPINIONS EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR

"WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THIS SUMMER?"



GARRETT GAY, '18

"Working and hopefully birthing more baby goats"



TALIA JAFFE, '18

"Working at my summer camp"



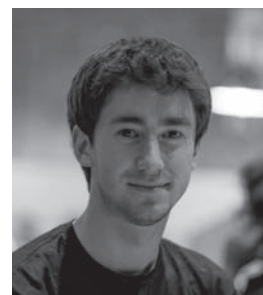
SHELBY CORNING, '17

"Get paid to hike and babysit"



MEGHAN PATRICK, '18

"Going to McKinney, Texas, to work at Raytheon"



CONOR MASTERSON, '19

"Going to Cape Cod"



SEAN CORCORAN, '18

"Get an internship"

FEATURES

When Rush Rhees' Son Dropped Out

BY ANDREW LUCCHESI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Presidential pedigree, anarchist leanings, and the type of intellect that breeds classroom insolence hallmarked an abbreviated stint at UR for one undergraduate in the early 1920s. This undergraduate was the younger son and middle child (of three) to one of Rochester's greatest heroes, and perhaps the university's greatest ambassador—(Benjamin) Rush Rhees, University President for thirty-six years, from 1900 to 1935.

All three of Rhees' children passed through the University under his administration, but neither the oldest nor the

"An Anarchist does not believe in law. Neither do I."

youngest managed to make a splash like Rush Rhees, Jr. did—in manner or magnitude.

Rush Rhees, Jr.'s notoriety even rose beyond that of his father, in some academic circles. Indeed, Rhees, Jr. never had a library erected in his name, nor is he buried in the University plot in Mount Hope Cemetery with his father, brother, and others who held a name so consecrated in Rochester history. He has a story that has been mostly ignored and largely forgotten, and his legend most prominently lives on half a world away, in largely inaccessible texts.

From the time he committed to UR, in 1922 at only 16 years of age, Rush Rhees, Jr. had a philosopher's temperament. And so, philosophy he studied. Philosophers ask paradigm-challenging questions, and this brainy son of a university president asked his stubborn philosophy professor perhaps one too

many questions in the spring of his sophomore year, 1924. Rhees was barred from his ethics course and became the focus of a New York Times front page story: "Radicalism of Rochester President's Son Causes Professor to Bar Youth From Class."

The man in charge of Rhees, Jr.'s ethics course was Dr. G. M. Forbes, tenured professor, head of the department, and second only to Rush Rhees himself on the faculty totem pole. Dr. Forbes made an announcement to his class of 75 students, in which he referred to Rhees' homework as the "most unsatisfactory notebook for the year's work I have ever had turned in to me." Forbes elaborated, saying, "It attempted refutation of everything I had taught during the year."

University culture today is certainly more liberal—with regard to tolerance of counter-curricular beliefs—than it was in the 1920s. It is possible that an act by a student analogous to Rhees' bold journal entry would be hailed by a professor in Dr. Forbes' position today. But perhaps the decision to bar Rhees, Jr. from class by this university mainstay and close colleague of the President was not so one-dimensional.

President Rush Rhees' biographer, John Rothwell Slater, wrote of Rhees, "He was not a relic but a force—the force of religion in higher education. If that is a losing cause, he did what he could to save it." After spending six years at Amherst College in his twenties, Rush Rhees spent the next four years of his life studying theology, and ultimately became an ordained minister. He then worked as a pastor and later taught theology.

Rhees was a passionate Christian. When offered the

Presidency at Rochester by the board of education in 1899, he accepted only under the condition that he could finish out one more year at the Newton Theological Institution. Even after becoming President of the University, Rhees taught a college course on the New Testament. He knew the Bible front to back,

philosophy was assisted in every possible way by his father." Whatever the case, Rhees, Jr. withdrew from the University shortly after this incident, and he left for Scotland prior to his father's return home.

Rhees, Jr. completed his undergraduate education at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, and soon thereafter

that somebody with such personal ties to the University could just get up, sail across the Atlantic, and—spare a possible visit to the family cottage in Maine—never come home.

There is a bit of untold mystery that likely lives only in personal letters, forever lost in time. Still, what is more mysterious and more interesting yet is the

Radicalism of Rochester President's Son Causes Professor to Bar Youth From Class

Special to The New York Times.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW LUCCHESI

Headline of a 1924 article in the New York Times about Rush Rhees, Jr.

and believed in its word.

Though Rhees and his wife were abroad in Europe at the time of their son's expulsion from class, at some point, before or after their return to the states, the devout Christian and Bible authoritarian likely went berserk when he read his son's nationally publicized rebuttal following his denouncement

He referred to Rhees' homework as the "most unsatisfactory notebook for the year's work I have ever had turned into me."

by Dr. Forbes. Said Rhees, Jr.: "There can be no 'moral law.'...From a Puritan I have revolted into an atheist."

The elder Rhees' biographer is wholly silent on the President's reaction to the nationally publicized controversy stirred up by his son back in Rochester. He does write, however, that Rhees, Jr.'s "desire to study

was granted a research fellowship at Cambridge. He married a Scottish woman and settled down for good when he began teaching philosophy at Swansea University in Wales, where he was a fixture for 26 years.

Rhees, Jr. seemingly did not feel at home in Rochester. D. Z. Phillips, a former student and literary executor of Rhees, Jr., provides a short biographical sketch of the internationally renowned philosopher. In this biography he writes, "Rhees expressed a desire that his papers be kept at Swansea, the one place he said he regarded as home." While Rhees was too bashful to publish as frequently as most, he was among the most respected in his field at the time, and his works as a philosopher and literary executor of the infamous Ludwig Wittgenstein can be found all over the world, even deep in the stacks of Rush Rhees Library, here in Rochester.

Evidence suggests that Rhees, Jr. himself never made it back to Rochester. He was considered for a faculty position under a later president, but the offer was never extended. It is unusual

reverberation of Rhees, Jr.'s declaration of atheism among UR undergrads in the years to follow. Rhees, Jr. left Rochester in 1924, and, less than two years later, there was a diverse group of students recognized as "The Damned Souls," whose mission it was to discuss and represent an atheist's imposition.

In the years of 1926 and 1927, The Damned Souls caused more controversy and found themselves more greatly disparaged than Rhees, Jr. ever was. Among the controversies were kidnappings, beatings, calls for expulsion; alumni and faculty outrage; nationally-publicized, student-driven lawsuits; the mysterious disappearance of a well-known student; and, finally, a string of suicides, for which the The Damned Souls were arraigned in the court of public opinion.

Though Rhees, Jr. was half a world away, the liberty he took in denouncing his father's religion had likely opened this door. Though his name is carved on our campus Acropolis, his legend is simply that—legend.

Lucchesi is a member of the Class of 2016.

Dead or Alive? A Recap of Living Alumni Ratio

BY SAM PASSANISI
COPY EDITOR

I wrote an article in the February 25 issue of the Campus Times regarding the question of whether the University has more living or deceased alumni. Thanks to the assistance of University Archivist Melissa Mead and Director of Institutional Research Vini Falciano—with information provided by the Office of Advancement—the question has been answered.

In the 166-year history of the University, the College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering has produced roughly 65,000 alumni. Of those, less than one quarter are deceased, while over three-quarters of all College alumni remain living. Mead noted that all alumni



LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

Two gravestones from nearby Mt. Hope Cemetery.

from classes earlier than 1936 can be safely assumed to be dead, given that a surviving UR alumnus from this era would be over 100 years old. The same

can't be said of more recent years, though, since alumni from 1936 onward could be either dead or alive. At first glance, this appears to tip the balance

in favor of deceased alumni.

The answer to this paradox lies in the College's growing class sizes. The first classes to graduate from UR were tiny by today's standards. In 1875, the first year that the Commencement Program listed the names of graduating students, the College awarded just 24 degrees. Class sizes remained small through the turn of the twentieth century, with only about 30 students graduating in 1900. So even though the first 76 years of UR history contribute only dead alumni to the total, the large and rapidly-growing classes of the intervening years have come to outweigh them.

It's important to note that this data only includes alumni from the College. Eastman School students, as well as

those from the School of Medicine and Dentistry, School of Nursing, Simon Business School, and the Warner School

Over three-quarters of all College alumni remain living.

of Education were left out of the data for simplicity's sake. But given that these graduate programs started later in the University's history (the schools of Medicine and Nursing were founded in the 1920s, while the Simon and Warner Schools were not founded until the 1950s), it's safe to assume that their inclusion would not significantly change the estimate.

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

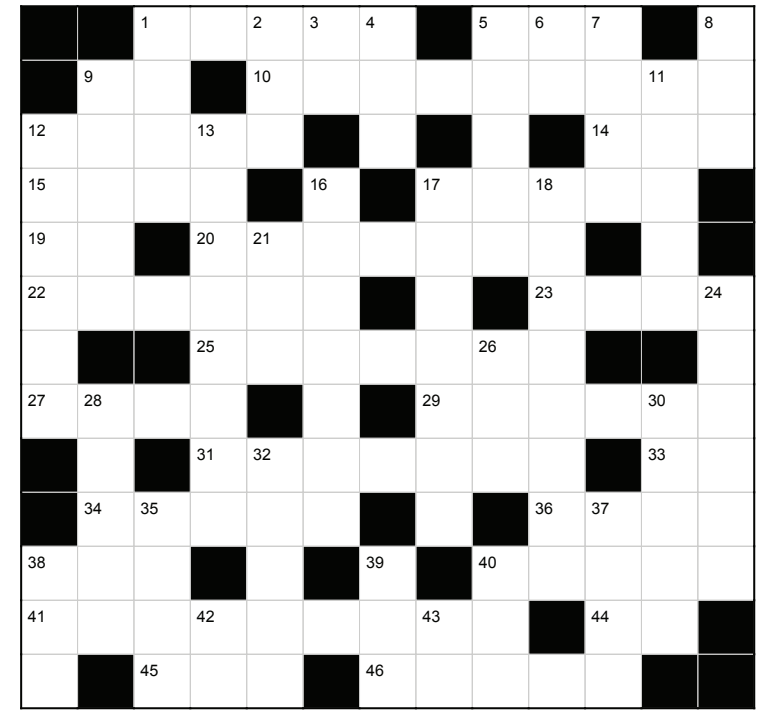
PUZZLE

Crossword Puzzle

BY **SAM PASSANISI '17** DIFFICULTY **HARD**

- ACROSS:**
- Pertaining to a duke
 - Sweat lodge, for relaxation
 - Spanish "of"
 - Long socks (hang by chimney)
 - "Has good intentions;" or, "_____ well"
 - Summit, in general
 - Adolescent skin problem
 - Hold on tightly
 - Sun god of Tutankhamun, Ramses, etc.
 - Words describing more than one
 - Half man, half machine
 - Sack, pillage, and this
 - "T.I." in Greek
 - Muslim mystic
 - Kleenex, generically speaking
 - Anti-England armada
 - Rochester student government
 - Simpson patriarch
 - Arab royal (Qatar has one)
 - Toothed component
 - Practical joker's stock in trade
 - Extended
 - Cell phone manufacturer
 - Anti-pollution laws
 - Hindu mystic
- DOWN:**
- University administrator (e.g. Burgett, Culver, Feldman)
 - Cascading style sheets (web design)
 - Man-__-arms
 - Fishy bagel topping
 - Head bone
 - Private (or principle) investigator, abbr.
 - Underground colonial insects
 - Very venomous African snake
 - Fall apart, perhaps due to decomposition
 - Helmet-mounted camera
 - Roman emperor Aurelius
 - If his uncle got him the job, call it this
 - Drains blood from the head
 - Supplies blood to the head
 - A cheap, blood-soaked horror flick (two words)
 - Joseph Kony org.
 - Noah's boat (two words)
 - "It is" for Shakespeare
 - Cold (in Orwell's double-speak)
 - Not sober
 - "Five" prefix, Greek
 - Has layers, like an onion
 - West African home of Timbuktu
 - American Civil War losers, abbr.
 - UR student's medical option
 - Kissing in public, abbr.
 - The Marshall Mathers ____
 - Disgusted reaction

- DOWN:**
- University administrator (e.g. Burgett, Culver, Feldman)
 - Cascading style sheets (web design)



Last Week's Answers

A	L	O	U	D		D	O	C	E	N	T	S		
R	A		P	O	L	E	N	T	A		A			
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E			Y			W		E	L	L	A		S	
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M	O	N	O	C	L	E		D	A	M	M	E		

SEX & THE CT

Circumcision? Make Your Decision

BY **SIMRANJIT GREWAL**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Male circumcision, the surgical removal of foreskin from the penis, is falling out of practice in the United States. It's usually conducted within 10 days of a newborn's birth, and is usually done for religious and traditional reasons. It may also be done for medical reasons during adulthood.

According to The National Hospital Discharge Survey, 65 percent of male babies went under the knife in 1999, while only 55 percent did so in 2007. This procedure isn't common in other countries around the world. Throughout Europe, circumcision rates are less than 5 percent, while rates are higher in Jewish and Muslim nations.

Throughout America, the instances of circumcision vary. The CDC has found an overall decrease in the practice in the West and Midwest. The Western United States sees the lowest instances of neonatal circumcision at a little less than 45 percent, while the Midwest boasts the highest rate, at around 70 percent.

What might be the reason for this decline? Turns out that insurance coverage for the procedure has decreased. In western states—namely Washington, California, Oregon, and Arizona—Medicaid doesn't cover the procedure, despite

the American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP) insistence that the benefits outweigh the costs. They cite decreased STI transmission, decreased UTIs, and increased hygiene as compelling reasons for the surgery. The AAP, though, doesn't suggest routine newborn circumcision. They ask that parents weigh cultural reasons, the pros, and the cons, prior to making a de-



cision. The cons include pain, chances of botched surgery, and regret in the male's life later on.

In Europe, where there are low rate of circumcision, doctors claim that the AAP's stance on neonatal circumcision is culturally biased. Europeans countered that the research on the correlation between sexual transmission and circumcision is weak and doesn't "represent compelling reasons for surgery before boys are old enough to decide for themselves." In Scandinavian nations, political parties decry circumcision as child abuse.

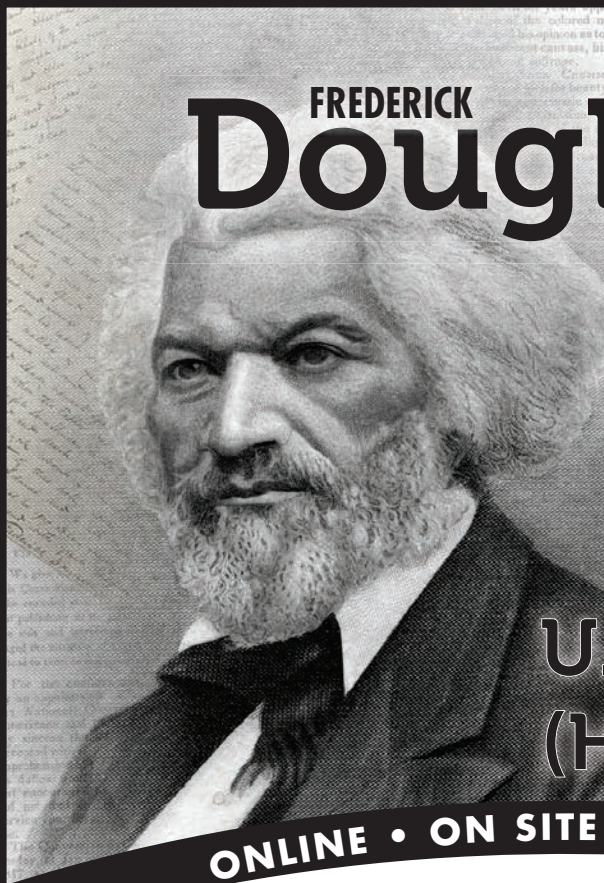
In the U.S., there is a growing population of people against neonatal circumcision. One such group is Intact America. They argue that it's fundamentally wrong to remove a part

of a newborn's body that cannot—and will not—grow back in adulthood, thus taking away the person's right to their own body.

Despite the procedure's waning popularity, it does appear to have some real benefits. This procedure has been used on adult male volunteers in African nations to deter HIV transmission. The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief has enacted a policy of volunteer circumcision on male adolescents and adults in nations with high rates of HIV and low rates of circumcision. Studies have shown that circumcision decreases the risk of heterosexual HIV transmission by 60 percent. Unfortunately, there was an unforeseen negative consequence. Patients in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda had contracted tetanus as a result of the procedure, with some of the cases being fatal.

While it's true that tetanus wouldn't be a health consequence for most Americans, circumcision as a primary means of STI protection is a poor choice. Despite the U.S.'s relatively high rates of circumcision, HIV/AIDS are still prevalent. Condoms, on the other hand, are effective at reducing STIs, whether one is circumcised or not.

Grewal is a member of the Class of 2017.




FREDERICK Douglass at dawn

U.S. History 2 (HIS 204)

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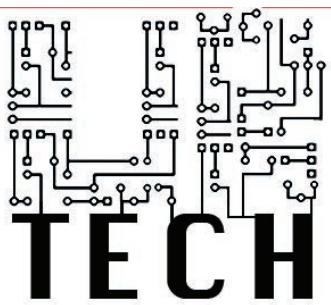
UR TECH

Calling All Geeks: 'Dandyhacks' Is Back

BY AARON LIM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The word of the week is "hackathon"—a gathering of thinkers, geeks, and artists for a jam-packed weekend of making dreams a reality.

The University will host its third annual hackathon, called "Dandyhacks," on the weekend of Friday, April 1. Over the course of 36 hours, registered participants will form teams and congregate in Rettner Hall to start bringing their ideas to life. At the end of the three days, a panel of judges will decide on winning ideas, and win-



ning teams will receive prizes. In addition to all of the tinkering and hacking, the event will have a few sponsored meals, as well as some fun activities and games.

At hackathons, people hack, which may sound off-putting without knowing what hacking entails. Simply put, hacking involves taking existing technology and finding creative ways to use it for whatever it is you wish to accomplish.

The registration period for this particular hackathon is now closed. But, those who are interested in engineering and technology are encouraged to visit, if only to just pass through. There will be lots of creative and exciting projects to see, as well as a series of tech talks from some of Dandyhacks' big name sponsors, including, but not limited to, 1010data, Factset, UR Data Science, UR Robotics, IEEE, Society of Women Engineers, and Engineers Without Borders.

If you have never been to a hackathon before and are attending Dandyhacks, here are

a few helpful hints. The only costs you need to cover are for transportation and food (some meals and snacks will be provided). The hackathon itself is completely free. You should also bring a laptop and any equipment you may need to construct your project. If you are traveling from out of town, bring a sleeping bag—at some point you will need to sleep. Lastly, the only rules for this event are outlined in the Major League Hacking (MLH) Code of Conduct, which basically states that everyone should be respectful of everybody else. Other than that, you are limited only by your imagination.

"I signed up for Dandyhacks," you might say, "but I don't really have an idea for a project. What can I do?" Well, you have a couple of options. You can partner up with a team that already has an idea, or you can put a twist on one of the plethora of ideas found online.

The types of ideas that come out of hackathons at the University stretch far and wide. They are typically software-based; however, judges love seeing hardware projects, as well. Teams from years past have come up with ideas including a light-up LED staircase, a Reddit notification plugin for Chrome, and Internet chat services. The winners of last year's RocHack built a social media website called Message in a Bottle (mibNote.com), which allows users to leave notes for each other to find based on GPS location.

Dandyhacks is the biggest and most eventful hackathon to come out of the UR. There will be 300 participants hailing from UR, RIT, universities in NYC, and even Canada. If you are a veteran hackathon-er or have never written a program in your life, join the event in Rettner Hall from April 1 through 3 to see what creative contraptions these teams will come up with. Visit www.dandyhacks.org for a complete schedule and additional information.

Lim is a member of the Class of 2017.

UR Summer Can Be Ever Better than the Rest

How to Best Enjoy the Brief Summer Sun



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAE RHINEHART

Sophomore Maria Yidi enjoys a stress-free summer day on the River Campus.

BY SOPHIE ZHANG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Summers are critical times for college students to develop professional interests and skills outside the classroom. It is also the time to relax and recharge after an intense aca-

Despite Rochester's harsh winters, summers in Rochester are rather warm and eventful.

demic year.

Despite Rochester's harsh winters, summers in Rochester are rather warm and eventful. There are lots of opportunities offered by the University, and also many fun events that happen in the Rochester city area.

Summer is the best time for students who are interested in research to devote themselves completely to it. As a top-tier research university, UR offers lots of summer research programs. A popular one is the Xerox Engineering Research

Fellows program, in which students can do independent research with professors and prepare for Graduate Record Examinations—with a stipend. URCM provides a similar Summer Scholar program, which offers an opportunity for students who are interested in a Ph.D. degree in biological or biomedical sciences to pursue their interests in academic research. Many students also choose to stay here over the summer to continue their lab work that they do over the academic year.

There are other job opportunities on campus besides doing research. I worked as a Pre-College Counselor for the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid during the summer after my freshman year. The Office also hires Summer Meridians and Summer Senior Interviewers. Similarly, other school departments, such as Facilities and Services, and various academic administrative offices, all need student employees over the summer to prepare for the upcoming school year.

Downtown Rochester is a fun place to be over the summer. If you live in UR summer housing, summer RAs organize fun hall programs every week. Among these hall programs, are the city's popular summer festivals. There's the

There are lots of opportunities offered by the University, and also many fun events that happen in the Rochester city area.

Park Ave. Festival, where you can stroll around for free food samples; the Rochester Lilac Festival in Highland Park, in which you can watch kids' magic shows; the Corn Hill Arts Festival for crafts; the Roc City Rib Fest; and the Xerox Rochester International Jazz Festival, where you can jam to good music. Summer is the best time to explore the city of Rochester and get off campus.

Zhang is a member of the Class of 2017.



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HUMOR

The End of the World as We Know It

BY CHRIS D'ANTONA
HUMOR STAFF

I've written a handful of articles in my time as a humor writer about a number of topics—from politics, to Greek life, to women in sports, and other things that can, when discussed improperly, become controversial. This is all fun and great, but I intend to get very serious with this next piece. I intend now to write a piece that hits close to home for all of us. UR community, something has happened.

Can someone explain to me what in God's name Macaroni and Cheese Soup is? I went to The Pit a few weeks ago to buy what I considered to be the best deal on campus: a 16 oz. helping of some pretty average mac and cheese, priced somewhere in the four-dollar range (I would look it up, but I'm ranting right now and don't have the time for specifics). Much to my dismay, what I saw was something much different in place. "Macaroni and Cheese Soup," the sign read.

At first I'm thinking, "Ha-ha. Dining says the darnedest things. Let's scoop up some of that liquid gold." But no, what I see in the metal serving container is not the macaroni and cheese I've grown to love, but some sinister concoction of floppy noodles in a gross-looking cheese-broth-thing with some silly, sad spice-things sprinkled in. I'm immediately turned off by the sight of this fake item of food. This is mac and cheese soup. This is the end of the world as we know it.

I feel like screaming and storming out of the pit, but I pull it together. I have to try this item—I'm a journalist—and I

must report. The world (or at least my single-digit number of readers) must truly understand the injustice and gravity of this situation. I buy it, settling for the 12 oz. option just in case toxicity occurs at 16 oz.

I'm sure you must realize at this point that I didn't like the "soup," or my narrative thus far would have been much different. But I want you to understand just how much I didn't like it. This "piece of food" didn't make sense. The cheese was watery and mixed with something tomato-y, from what I could tell. It seemed like they just dropped a block of provolone into tomato broth and continued making other food. The noodles were overcooked and breaking apart from my plastic spoon. How does that happen? The soup wasn't even that warm. In what manner were they cooked that allowed this terrible monstrosity to happen? Who signed this order? Who let mac and cheese soup slip through the cracks?

Of course, this bothers me like no other thing could, but what concerns me even more is the implications this might hold. What food is changed next? Just how vast is the scope of dining's creative license? On days like this I'm so glad to be a senior. I wouldn't be able to deal with eating Mel Burger Soups; Bacon, Egg, and Cheese Soups; or Panda Bowl Soups. It's coming, kids. Perfectly fine and adequate foods are going to succumb to Dining's reign and become soups. The world is hard—and mac and cheese is no longer something you can buy at The Pit. Brace yourself. Change is coming.

D'Antona is a member of the Class of 2016.

An Open Letter That Should Be Closed

BY CHRIS D'ANTONA
HUMOR STAFF

Dear Joe,

I don't have a really good understanding of what an open letter is or anything, but I figured it would be nice to reach out to you. Apparently, open letters are all the craze at the moment. It's nice to know that people will read the stupid things that I think are important if I write them in an open letter.

Can we go back to The Distillery for half-priced appetizers soon? I had a great time last time we did that, and I think it would be a lot of fun again sometime this week. I know this won't get published until Thursday, so how does Sunday sound? If not, maybe we can go Tuesday? I don't know, man—it's really hard to plan this far in advance. I know I always get the buffalo chicken tenders,

but I think the loaded fries might be my go-to if we get this chance. Hopefully they have a nice beer on special, too.

Also, how do you feel about going back to Taco Bell at some point? It was great eating all those Quesaritos with you last time, and, with the savings from the mobile app, it was a really affordable treat. Maybe we can get Aaron to come, too, if he doesn't have too much homework. Let's try to get ahold of him and figure out what works best for everybody. Maybe we can go for Taco Bell breakfast! They have such silly breakfast items there.

Wow. I've never written an open letter before, but now I feel really good about myself. It's like I made a big difference today.

Let me know, man,
Chris

D'Antona is a member of the Class of 2016.

Former Humor Editors Chris Horgan and Erik Chiodo are Reconsidering a Run for SA Office



LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

"Look. There's not going to be a problem. Seriously, this department is huge. I can guarantee that it's big enough. I guarantee it."

BY CHRIS HORGAN
SENIOR STAFF

Former Humor Editors Chris Horgan and Erik Chiodo are reconsidering a run for SA Government.

Last year, the pair considered entering the race, but decided that a position in office wouldn't be beneficial to anyone. Annie Wahn, a sophomore at the University, confirmed that it wouldn't benefit her, but that it could possibly benefit senior Avery Wahn, her older sister. At the very least, it could benefit Sam Wahn, their younger brother, who plans on attending the school next year.

"Our focus this year will be on proving people wrong," Chiodo said. "Last year, we were told that we could win if we entered. We didn't enter, and we didn't win. And more importantly, this year we will focus on making different locations on campus great again."

"One thing we wanted to get fixed was Fauver," Horgan added. "If you look at the field, there's a gigantic yellow 'R' in the middle of the turf.

You're telling me that a school with a \$2 billion endowment can't afford the rest of the letters in Rochester? As far as we know, that 'R' could stand for 'Really big R.'"

"We have every quality that a politician needs to succeed," Chiodo continued. "For example, we can breathe. And we're thick skinned, you know—we're not afraid of scandal. To prove it, we watched the first season, and it was fantastic." As it currently stands, Chiodo and Horgan are at the top of the polls, but that may change due to some past comments by Horgan currently resurfacing in the news realm.

A video depicting a one-month-old Horgan clearly shows him saying, "Daaaaa DaDa."

Junior Michael Kiplanoff questioned, "Is this really someone we want to lead us? I don't care if he was a baby when he said that. Do we really want a leader who, at one point in their life, couldn't form a sentence?"

Alphonse Majeeta, a Take Fifteen Scholar, pointed to Chiodo's past history of flip-flopping.

"I saw him yesterday and he said it was raining. Today, I saw him again, and he said it wasn't raining. This guy is like opinion roulette."

Horgan addressed these comments directly with agreeableness, saying, "If there's one thing I hate, it's when someone says something and then changes their mind. Have some consistency, for heaven's sake. Actually, I take that back. I think people should be able to change their minds."

Chiodo ended the interview by comparing their never-say-die campaign to a spot on campus familiar to those who attend the school.

"This school never gives up. That's why you don't see any white flags waving in the flag lounge. I will say this, though: we won't be underestimated."

Horgan concluded by explaining his distaste for "poorly written news articles that are quote heavy, and/or written by people with conflicting interests, and/or news stories that use the first sentence as the title."

Horgan is a member of the Class of 2017.

Toddler Detective, Chapter Six

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
OPINIONS EDITOR

With the loose price tag in hand, I finally had myself a case. I dropped the price tag off with my forensics guy, Calvin. He does a thorough analysis, and he's contributed mightily to a few successful investigations for me. I'll never forget being stuck on the Uthoff stolen homework case where he was able to get me the exact brand of chocolate smudge left on the paper to figure out that Uthoff had simply lost that multiplication table.

After that, I made a beeline for the only place in town where you could find every shady character from A-Q. As the last sentence should make obvious, we've only gotten up to Q in class. Very excited to see what comes next week.

The juice bar is called The Dirty Diaper. I tried to kick in the door like an old Western movie, but I ended up just kicking through

the door and getting stuck for, like, ten minutes. After I stopped crying and someone helped me out of the door, I sat down at the bar—inconspicuously, of course. I ordered a Dor's Delight, which is a few ounces of Capri Sun mixed with a shot of salsa. It's disgusting, but this is a bar full of kids from the wrong side of the tracks, and I

down the drink in one fell swoop. The bartender walks over, clearly impressed. "Round here," he says, "that's a sign of disrespect."

"What?"
"Is the drink not good enough to sip or something? We don't take too kindly to that kind of drinking in these parts."

"Kind sir, we are but compatriots in the arena of sleaze. You have no reason to suspect that I am anything but a denizen of the depraved, a cretin of the highest order. Why do you interrogate me so?" Sometimes, you have to lay it on thick.

"...What?"
"Let him be, Ronnie. Kid didn't know." I recognized that mysterious voice. I turned around to be face-to-face with Big Luke.

"Nice to meet you, stranger. The name's Luke. Mind if I take a seat?"

And just like that, I was sitting with the biggest, baddest mother-flipper in town.

Bernstein is a member of the Class of 2018.



MORGAN MEHRING / ILLUSTRATION STAFF

had to show them that I belonged. Gaining Trust 101. Learn about it. With They Might Be Giants playing from the speakers, I take

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Fuller House: Just the Same, but Brand New

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
OPINIONS EDITOR

The new Netflix comedy “Fuller House,” a reboot of the original series that aired from 1987-95, has been described as a “porn parody without the porn.” While potentially a little harsh, it’s hard not to see the similarities: the wooden performances, the painfully awkward shoe-horned references to pop culture (D.J. Tanner, on changing in an Uber: “What if Uber sees my boobers?”), and the “sexualized adult version of characters,” as the A.V. Club refers to them, all point to the exploitation and brainless cash-grabs of pornography. After all, just as baffling as the demand for more porn is the demand for another season with the Tanners.

Was there clamoring for “Fuller House”? The question almost doesn’t matter. Were viewers demanding more Lorelai Gilmore, Laura Palmer mysteries, or Mulder and Scully? The Internet has done its part to help foster nostalgia for users who either romanticize cultural artifacts that they either weren’t around to see the first time or went off the air for a good reason. This goes for successful reboots, too. Was there a need for “Bob and David,” or “Wet Hot American Summer: First Day of Camp”?

Necessity means f***-all in the age of online fandom, where catering to niches is not only profitable, it’s increasingly becoming the only way to ensure that a show develops a following. “Fuller House” was a forgettable multicam sitcom with canned laughter and, as the theme song reminded you, an air of predictability. Now, it’s not a show, but an avalanche of reaction gifs, memes, and fan

theories that have turned it into something very different. The reason networks go back to successes is because they are inherently conservative bodies that are looking to turn a profit—nothing new there. But why do viewers crave these reheated versions?

There are a few different versions of the modern reheating. There’s the “Fuller House” model, where the characters are simply transported chronologically in their own universe. This also includes “Star Wars,” “Jurassic Park,” and, if it goes according to plan, “Beetlejuice 2” (say ‘Beetlejuice’ six times, and Tim Burton will appear). Those are sequels, in a sense—but, as the refrain goes, they introduce new characters along with an old story to a younger audience. Then there’s the reboot. That’s the “Fantastic 4” model, where previous canonical versions of films are scrapped in favor of a newly fantastic four-some, or perhaps a meeting between a Gothamite and a son of Krypton. Finally, there are television spin-offs of movies, perhaps the least successful of the bunch. This gave us the “Limitless” and “Rush Hour” television shows.

Nostalgia is a powerful drug, especially if it’s synthetic. The un-deadness of every movie and television show creates a time-warp wherein an added weight is given to every character. When John Stamos comes through the door for the first time in episode two of “Fuller House,” there’s an almost ten-second round of canned cheering. That’s a cue to

cynicism of feeding audiences reheated mediocrity that convinces them of their own hunger for new content is laughable, and done only in the name of consumption; after all, why else would every episode be put online at the same time? When you can watch all of, say, “Master of None” in a night, television has ceased to be entertainment or even art: it’s become a game you have to

beat as quickly as possible, or perhaps a drug that you need of as much of as you can get. And in that example, even a smartly-written show with challenging ideas and characters is reduced to a race against your own internal clock.

What’s bizarre about this new round of unoriginality is that we’re in an incredible age of television. With so much major film studio

money tied up in superhero movies or adaptations of popular YA literature, the place to go for storytelling has been the small screen. Though the halcyon days of “Breaking Bad,” “Mad Men,” and “The Sopranos” seem to be behind us, there are still numerous shows that break the mold and provide more than entertainment. Great original shows like “The Americans,”

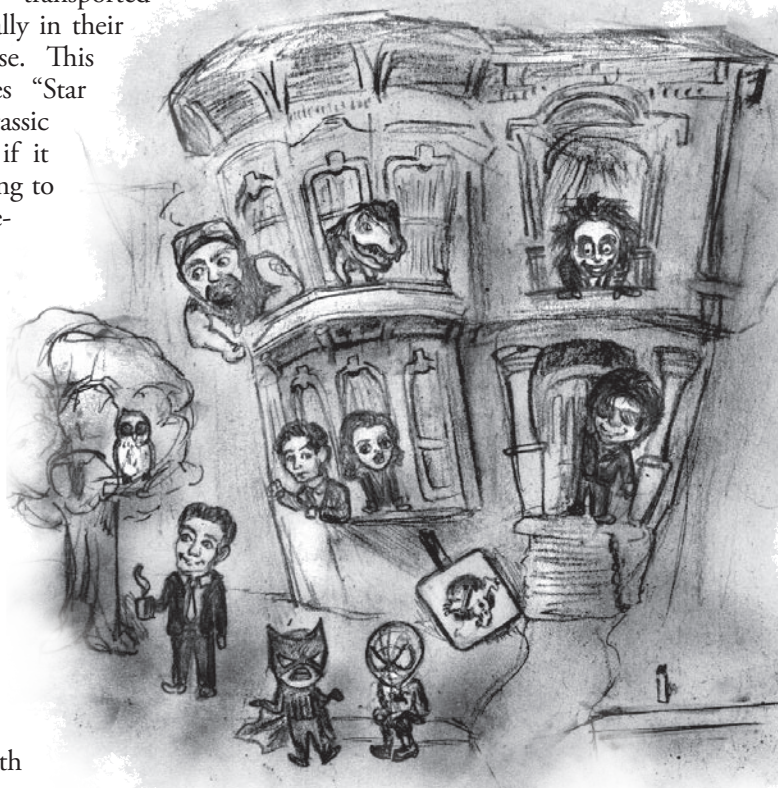
“Transparent,” and “Mr. Robot” can still be found, but there’s a catch. The distinguishing trait of modern television is that it asks more of you than it used to.

Whereas there was a time when television was a passive medium where essentially the same channels were beamed into every home in America, modern television demands that you must seek out new shows. The ecstasy of happening upon a new show can lead to the binge watching that has come to be expected of viewers. A certain commercial ironically laments falling into a “#SHOWHOLE,” gently mocking over the end of a favorite series. However, the voiceover comforts the woman—she need not fear, for new shows await with just the click of the button. Smiling again, the woman sits back on the couch, face illuminated in blue light.

Consumption is the name of the game. The fear and anxiety of missing a reference to “Orange Is The New Black” can overcome people, or, as a recent commercial described it to me, give them “#FOMO” (fear of missing out). These reheated shows and movies rely on your “#FOMO” for sustenance; they are a tapeworm, convincing you that you’re still hungry as they eat up your time. “Fuller House” is what happens when advertising methods are applied to television. When you’re convinced that you’re lacking something, you need to fill that space as quickly as possible.

Defying reviews, good taste, and common sense, “Fuller House” has been renewed for a second season.

Bernstein is a member of the Class of 2018.



MORGAN MEHRING / ILLUSTRATION STAFF

the viewer: this has weight. Uncle Jesse is back at it with the leather jacket and aviators, and you’re going to feel a twinge of something. At the end of the episode, everyone smiles and hugs as the credits roll.

This isn’t a screed against sincerity, because, for that to be true, that moment couldn’t have been so violently insincere. The

apparent panhandling, and false recognition. I empathized with the stranger sitting near a loud and oblivious chip-eater and recognized the awkward avoidance of a solicitation for money. Splitting this play into three meant that there was little time for more than an unfriendly stranger turning sympathetic or the revelation that a supposed panhandler was trying to give money away, meaning that the plots and characters stayed simple. “Strangers,” which won “Best Production” at the end of the festival, used sound and the same faded looking bus sign to create three distinct and lonely settings.

4. “Sonia and the Birds”

The inherent originality and absurdity of the play’s premise garnered laughs, with two of the actors “transforming” into birds so that one waddled like a penguin while gazing fixedly ahead and

the other hunched over and delivered comically human-sounding tweets. The characters often felt like caricatures—eccentricity defined the Birdkeeper and, for the most part, boorish behavior defined the men who were transformed. Their energetic interactions entertained and drew laughs from the audience. Ultimately, though, I was unsure whether the ending, in which the patriarchy collapsed because all men had transformed into birds, was meant to be cautionary or idealistic.

3. “In Deep Shtick”

The female doctor’s fluffy black mustache and the hockey stick protruding from the nonchalant patient’s stomach foreshadowed the nonsensical hilarity of the rest of “In Deep Shtick.” The play’s continual stream of gags, like a doctor’s white coat becoming increasingly bloodier and asking if the patient’s stomach pain was

a “gut feeling,” consistently provoked laughs from the audience. Its overall comedic and light-hearted tone contrasted with the more serious and emotional plays directly before and after it. The play felt propelled, never losing its energy, and the characters and unfolding events seemed to constantly be in motion.

2. “Tinder is the Night”

The innuendo and coincidences in “Night” engaged the audience and balanced out the main character’s emotional struggle with coming out as a lesbian to her devoutly Catholic parents. Unexpected turns like Samuel interning at Mr. Nelson’s company and the innuendo stemming from a discussion about “praying” seemed perfectly set up to create a hilariously ridiculous combination of events. Though these entertained, Bailey’s conflict with her girlfriend lent a deeper emotional weight to the play.

1. “Missed Communications”

Starting out with the metallic, screeching cacophony of a car crash, the play’s first quiet moments made me wonder about the stories of the slumped man and put-together woman sitting next to him. “Missed Communications” effectively used the small stage to create the starkly contrasting worlds of the happy young girl and the man sitting alone in a car crash. The audience gasped as the hopelessness of the man’s situation became clearer, and audibly reacted to the reveals of the man being on his way to his neglected daughter’s wedding. “Missed Communications,” which invested me in the man’s well-being and his relationship with his daughter through his conversations with Siri and the little girl, won “Best Play” in the festival.

Lai is a member of the Class of 2018.

A Subjective(?) Ranking of the One Act Play Festival

BY ANGELA LAI
PUBLISHER

The unfolding plays in the International Theatre Program’s 18th Annual One Act Play Festival caught my attention with the mystery of what was yet to come, and then held that attention with twists and turns packed into the short time allotted to them. The creativity and energy of the students involved with the One Acts was striking, and each play had its own distinct voice.

Below, I have listed and reviewed the one act plays in ascending order of how much I personally enjoyed them:

5. “A few interactions between strangers—three short plays”

The three short plays, each featuring a different set of two strangers, played off of conventional ideas of stranger danger—specifically, excessive friendliness,

Friday Night Live



AYUMI YUASA / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER



AYUMI YUASA / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Students perform at Starbucks for a Friday Night Live open mic night, hosted by MIF and No Jackets Required.

CT RECOMMENDS

'THE HANGING GARDENS OF BEATENBERG'

BY AARON SCHAFFER
SENIOR STAFF

Nowadays, we're awash with information. It comes from every which way, altering our everyday routines. In such an age, it's nice to not have to put thought into things. Along the same lines, it is satisfying to find works of art that you can simultaneously enjoy and not think about.

"The Hanging Gardens of Beatenberg," the first proper album from South African pop group Beatenberg, is an album that furthers this idea. Released in 2014, the album is a compilation of stories—of youth, of bittersweet happiness, of nostalgia—and is one of the most innovative pop albums released in recent memory. It's equally evocative and disruptive, hypnotically blending elements of Afropop and indie heartbreak, all while subtly applying layers of endearing naivete. It'll make you smile without thinking; when it concludes, you'll want to listen again and attempt to understand how you could be so easily hypnotized by something that seems, on its face, so banal.

The band acknowledges the ghosts of twenty-first-century love on songs like "Facebook Apologia"; recalls a fantasy on "Ithaca" in which, after going to upstate New York, a lost love is found in the library; and, on "Pluto," nostalgizes about a girl meant to be forgotten and a planet that begs not to be. Lost love is the most predominant theme on the album; the sadness that features in the album comes largely as a result of the combination of songs. Together, it's as if the band has projected their feelings on the world around them—the flowers, rivers, and planets—and the only thing to be asked is what such a world would look like if things went differently.

On "Scorpionfish," for example, lyrics like "Nothing helps / Months and years / Nothing earthly / Will allay my fears" have a sort of bittersweet melancholy attached to them. We get the sense that the situation is hopeless; but, finally, there is some closure in actually making sure the world knows that.

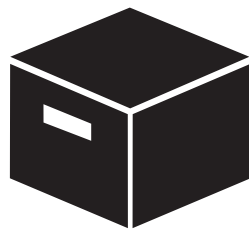
There's something to be said for listenability on an album like this. Every song has the potential to stand out, with sweeping, simple instrumentation a constant. The band's sound is similar to what Vampire Weekend sounded like circa 2008, before they got famous, refined their sound, and, well, grew up. "The Hanging Gardens of Beatenberg" has an air of youthful, loose exuberance; when we peel that—and the album's sound instrumentation and lyricism—away, we're left listening to a raw type of innocence that only young adults know.

Schaffer is a member of the Class of 2016.

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New 'Cloverfield' Redefines the Sequel

BY JESSE BERNSTEIN
OPINIONS EDITOR

Michelle wakes up on a mattress on a concrete floor, chipped pink paint on the walls, an IV in her arm, and her leg chained to a metal bar. Injured and terrified, she tries to free herself, but to no avail. Suddenly, Howard walks into the room. Michelle begs him to let her go, but Howard insists she should be grateful for her current predicament; after all, what's going on outside is far worse.

This is how we are introduced to "10 Cloverfield Lane," a thriller directed by Dan Trachtenberg. Michelle and her self-styled savior, Howard Stambler, played by Mary Elizabeth Winstead and John Goodman, respectively, engage in a game of deception and secrecy with deadly consequences. Stambler, a former member of the Navy, has built an underground bunker in anticipation of any doomsday scenario he has deemed plausible. They're joined by another man, Emmet, who has come to the bunker of his own volition—having helped Howard build the bunker, he became convinced of his prescience. When Howard and Emmet see an enormous light in the sky, they descended to the bunker with Michelle in tow after Howard accidentally ran her off the road. Or was it an accident?

Nobody quite knows what's true in the bunker. Howard and Emmet seem very convinced of the destruction of the out-

side world, but it's unclear for most of the movie whether or not they're right. Meanwhile, Michelle, running away from a man she didn't love and memories of an abusive father, finds herself in the hands of a man who infantilizes her and seems to harbor a healthy dislike for any woman he can't control. He laments his wife leaving him with their daughter, whom he enshrines all over the bunker. Howard remains protective of Michelle throughout, even as she remains openly skeptical of him. Meanwhile, Emmet is given precious little rope from Howard, and when he tugs, the consequences are dire.

When Michelle finds an ominous message scratched into a window, Howard's intentions are thrown even further into doubt. Howard seems to want to make another daughter out of Michelle, but rather than passively accept his false protection, Michelle begins to live

her life in the way she wanted to: without regrets. Her final decision of the film signals a new beginning.

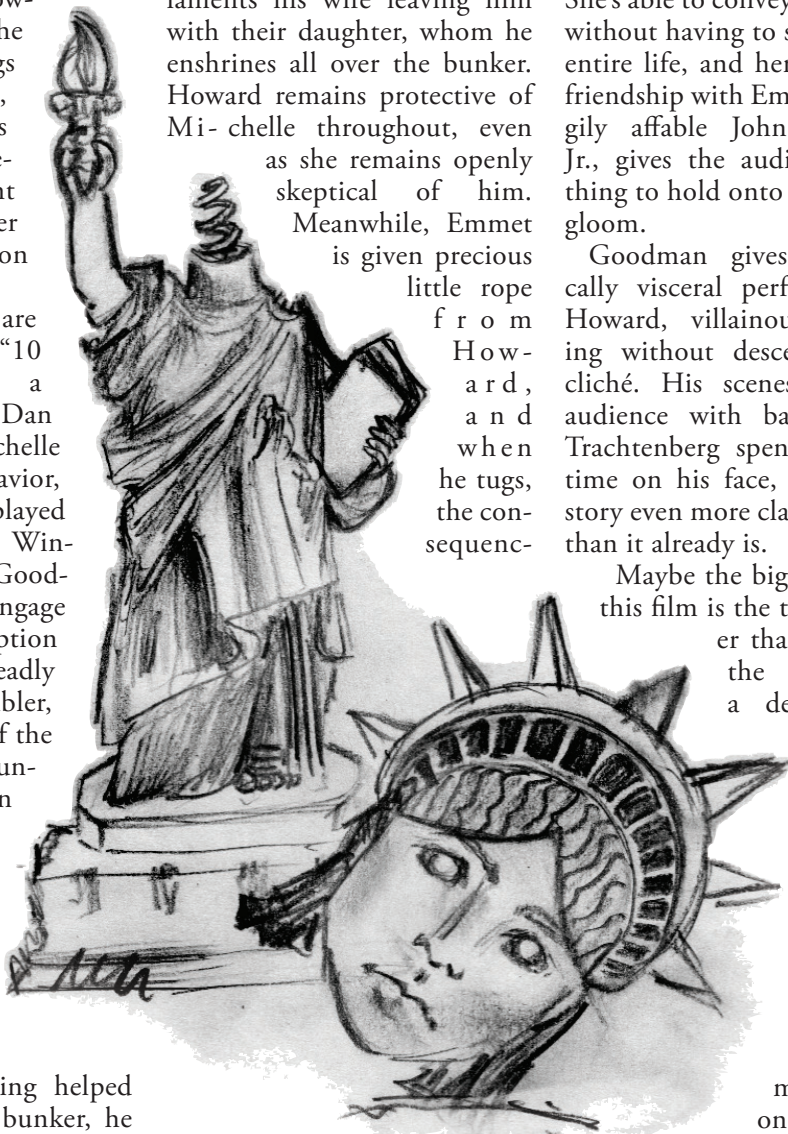
Winstead does an excellent job taking Michelle on a real arc throughout the entire ordeal, something typically missing from the female-infantilizing world of horror movies. She's able to convey a backstory without having to spell out her entire life, and her short-lived friendship with Emmet, a shaggy affable John Gallagher, Jr., gives the audience something to hold onto through the gloom.

Goodman gives a horrifically visceral performance as Howard, villainously terrifying without descending into cliché. His scenes leave the audience with bated breath. Trachtenberg spends a lot of time on his face, making the story even more claustrophobic than it already is.

Maybe the biggest asset to this film is the trailer. Rather than give away the store with a detailed plot

breakdown, it's a simple clip that shows almost nothing after the first 30 minutes of the movie, the only sounds a chillingly upbeat Tommy James and the Shondells tune and Howard's pleading to keep the bunker closed. More studios should follow that model, because when the chips come down in "10 Cloverfield Lane," no one in the theater can say, "I told you so."

Bernstein is a member of the Class of 2017.



MORGAN MEHRING / ILLUSTRATION STAFF

'CHANNEL SURFING'

VIMTV: Friends, or Something More?



BY JEFF HOWARD
COLUMNIST

VIMTV, or "Velocities in Music," is a hidden gem of a YouTube channel. The channel features two friends, Jake and Tom, who sit at a table in front of a camera and talk about albums. They haven't been as active the past few years as they were when I discovered them in 2010. They used to mainly cover popular indie releases from this era—think

Nothing captures the feeling of a music-nerd-dom... like VIMTV.

Black Keys "Brothers," James Blake's self-titled album. They would review Top 40 pop albums, too, like Britney Spears' "Femme Fatale" and Justin Bieber's second album. Jake and Tom had a really chummy rapport, which was fun to watch. I didn't always agree with their viewpoints, but I could always respect them because they were so well-backed. Also, it was really funny to see these two dig into mainstream pop albums. Even compared to music-review channel "theneedledrop," nothing captures the feeling of music-nerd-dom—particularly that between two friends—like VIMTV.

One of the funniest VIMTV reviews was one of Lupe Fiasco's mainstream-sounding "Lasers" album. Lupe Fiasco abandoned a lot of fans on

this album, and Jake and Tom did not give the guy a break in their review. I love how earnestly baffled Jake or Tom (I can't remember who) is at the fact that the track "State Run Radio," which protests the homogeneity of radio, is literally the most radio-ready-sounding song on the album. I can also remember Tom using the phrase "nail in the coffin" in an outraged and humorous way to describe the album's closing track, which features John Legend. Whether they love, hate, or are completely ambivalent about an album, Jake and Tom defend their viewpoints with passion. It's enough to have you believe that these two could spend every hour of their friendship discussing music and they would never get bored.

VIMTV got me into some cool albums—in particular, the Lost in the Trees release, "A Church that Fits Our Needs." This is a stirring indie release centered around the band's singer's mother's suicide. The instrumentation, songwriting, and emotional power of the album is extraordinary. On the other end of the spectrum, VIMTV got me into "Femme Fatale." This is another one of their funny reviews, in which Jake and Tom express bewilderment at how stupid the lyrics were, yet how brilliant the production quality is. I've been listening to Femme Fa-

VIMTV gets at the magic of a music-centered conversation.

tale on and off for a few years now, culminating in a period earlier this semester in which I listened to tracks one through seven of the album every day. I appreciate the production style on the album just like VIMTV does. However, I also appreciate the lyrical genius of the album, which they don't understand.

Talking about music can get stale sometimes, even between the best of friends. But VIMTV gets at the magic of a music-centered conversation. With their animated demeanor, thorough style of reviewing an album, and ability to connect the feelings from a song to some humorous life experience, VIMTV is one of the few YouTube channels that I consistently return to, even after six years. You can visit their channel at www.youtube.com/user/velocitiesinmusic/ featured. After you watch a few of their videos, you might find yourself calling up your buddy just to talk about how awesome the new Porches album is, and what the best tracks on it are.

Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.

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Djokovic and Moore's Comments Represent a Deeper Issue

BY JACKIE POWELL
SPORTS EDITOR

According to Raymond Moore, women "are lucky" and building on Moore's sentiments, Novak Djokovic believes men "should fight more" for the pay he thinks men "deserve." Both statements not only belittle the female experience, but also minimize the progression of the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) and women striving for change within the realm of sports.

Moore, until resigning on Monday evening, was the tournament director of the BNP Paribas Open (also known as the Indian Wells Masters). This isn't the first time the Indian Wells tourney has been plagued with scandal. In 2001, Serena Williams endured racial slurs and cacophonous booing after her father Richard was accused of deciding matches between her and her older sister Venus. For 14 years, the Williams sisters had taken a boycott against the California tournament until the younger Williams reentered in 2015.

When approached by the press on Sunday, Moore addressed questions about the state of the WTA. The South African former professional tennis player sneeringly chuckled and wished that in a future life he would return to the game as a woman within the WTA. He explained that his

reasoning was due to his ideology that women "ride on coattails of the men" and that women "don't make any decisions" and, in turn, are "lucky" because of this.

Let me get one thing straight—women, especially within the sport of tennis, haven't steered clear of making decisions for themselves and for the social advancement of game, and are far from "lucky" human beings.

It seems as if Moore, who never won a grand slam in his professional career, has forgotten about the extreme service women within the WTA have paid to their cause and profession. For starters, women's sports juggernaut Billie Jean King was the martyr to establish the WTA in the first place, enduring tremendous sexism, and it should be known that the complex home to the U.S. Open is not named after anyone within the Association for Tennis Professional (ATP), but is rightfully named in King's honor. Also, let us not downplay one of Venus Williams's most glorious accomplishments within the WTA. It was in 2005 when Williams marched into the boardroom at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club a day before the Wimbledon final to Larry Scott and the entire grand slam committee. Williams asserted how the unequal pay yielded thoughts similar to being

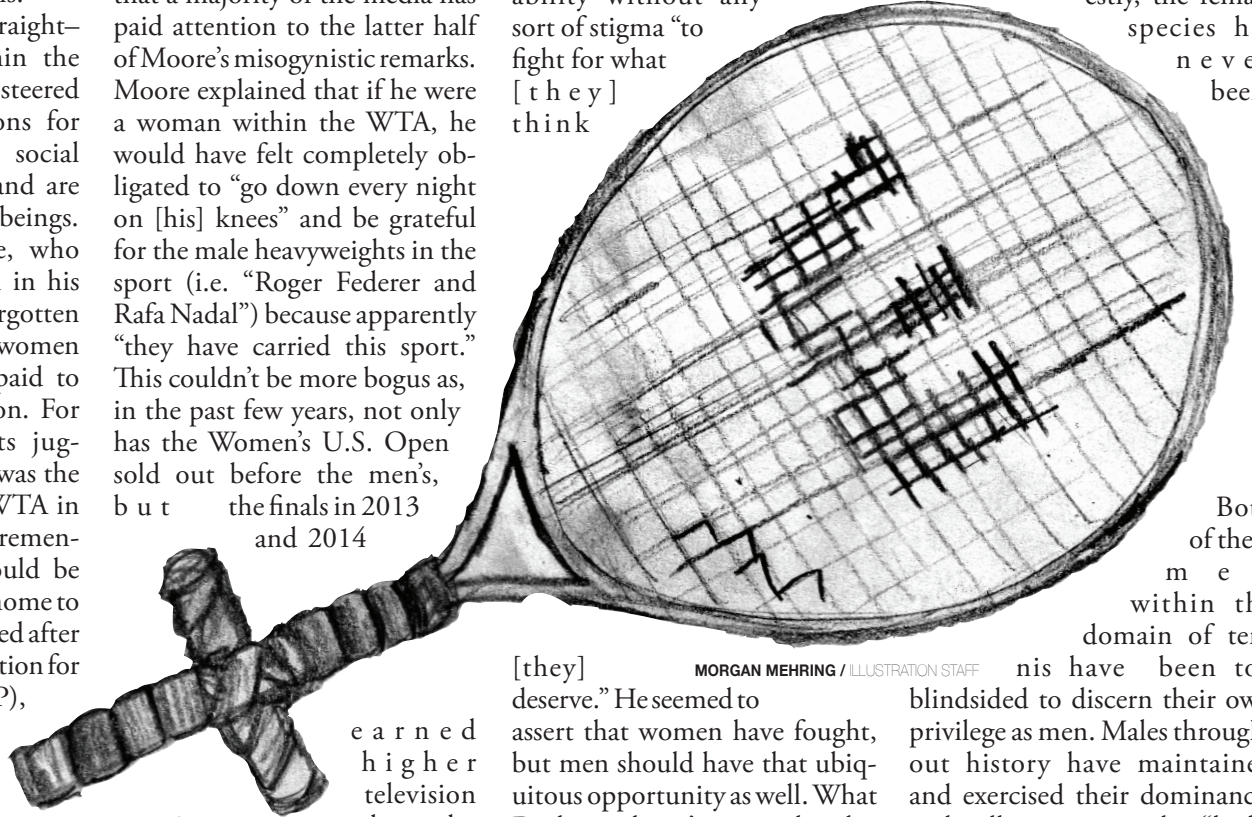
deemed "almost as good" when compared to her male counterparts within the sport.

What I find most interesting is that a majority of the media has paid attention to the latter half of Moore's misogynistic remarks. Moore explained that if he were a woman within the WTA, he would have felt completely obligated to "go down every night on [his] knees" and be grateful for the male heavyweights in the sport (i.e. "Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal") because apparently "they have carried this sport." This couldn't be more bogus as, in the past few years, not only has the Women's U.S. Open sold out before the men's, but the finals in 2013 and 2014

one-ranked men's tennis player in the world, apparently believes that men should be "awarded more" and should have the ability without any sort of stigma "to fight for what [they] think

with unaware misogynists.

We need to acknowledge what is wrong with saying that women "are lucky" because, honestly, the female species has never been.



MORGAN MEHRING / ILLUSTRATION STAFF

earned higher television ratings than the men's finals. And, when asking the general American public who isn't very knowledgeable of the sphere of tennis, most can recognize the name Serena Williams, who has established herself as a phenomenon for not only women, but for the entire sport of professional tennis. Djokovic, the current number-

[they] deserve." He seemed to assert that women have fought, but men should have that ubiquitous opportunity as well. What Djokovic doesn't comprehend is that men have almost never had to "fight" for equal pay. The current number-one treats the notion of being a revolutionary like to a delicacy rather than a necessity. His discussion regarding women's biology and our "hormones and different stuff" wasn't just uncalled for—it reinforced how our patriarchal society is filled

Both of these men within the domain of tennis have been too blindsided to discern their own privilege as men. Males throughout history have maintained and exercised their dominance, and calling women the "lucky ones" completely disregards this concept.

Although Moore has resigned and Djokovic has apologized for his patronizing comments, Billie Jean King's statement from 2014 still stands: "Sports are a microcosm of society."

Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.



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The Mind in March Madness

BY JAKE SEHNERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's that time of year again. Brackets are busted, fans are left heartbroken, and basketball followers are thoroughly entertained. March Madness never fails to toy with our hearts, as legacy teams like Michigan State lose in the first round, or Northern Iowa blows a 12-point lead with 30 seconds left in the game. On the women's side, all eyes are on Breanna Stewart and whether she can finish her momentous college career with another championship.

The sporadic nature of "March Madness" might fit the men's bracket, as there were 13 first-round upsets, including wins by both a 14 and a 15 seed.

But in the women's tournament, there were only eight upsets, and the highest seed to go through was 12-seeded South Dakota State. The UConn Huskies entered the tournament undefeated for the second time in the past three years, and they are looking to win their fourth straight tournament. A win this year would be their sixth national championship since 2009. Connecticut, South Carolina, Baylor, and Notre Dame experienced a combined total of three losses during the regular season, so look for those teams to make a push to the Final Four. History tends to repeat itself, so my guess is that the Huskies will beat Notre Dame in the finals for the third straight year.

Here is a recap of three standout games during the round of 32: Sixth-seeded Notre Dame advanced to the Sweet 16 over

14-seeded Stephen F. Austin State University when Rex Pflueger tipped in a basket with less than two seconds to go, scoring for the first time since March 3;

Northern Iowa, an 11 seed, completely choked against the third seeded Texas A&M Aggies, blowing a 12-point lead with less than 40 seconds left in the game, eventually losing in overtime. Wisconsin's Bronson Koenig scored his twentieth point with a step back triple as the game clock expired, toppling two-seeded Xavier.

The most intriguing game to watch for in the Sweet 16 is the tenth-seeded Syracuse Orange versus eleventh-seeded Gonzaga Bulldogs. Gonzaga has played its way to a second straight Sweet 16 appearance, and Syracuse's place in this tournament was hotly debated. The Orange went 19-13 in the season, splitting their conference games 9-9, losing their last three. They were chosen over Southern Methodist University (SMU), who went 25-5 in the regular season, but left out of the tournament. This was controversial, as Cincinnati and Connecticut, who both earned nine seeds, finished below SMU in the American Athletic Conference (AAC), but made the tournament. It is fair to say that the Bulldogs, led by big man Domantas Sabonis, following a dominant win over Utah, will beat the Orange in this one, advancing to their second straight Elite Eight.

Thus far, the ACC has been the strongest conference in the tournament. Atlantic teams such as Syracuse, UNC, Duke, Miami, Virginia, and Notre Dame are all in the Sweet 16. On the

other hand, the Big Ten has been the most disappointing conference, despite having three teams still alive. This was highlighted in Michigan State's loss to fifteenth-seeded Middle Tennessee State University (who?), one of the most surprising upsets in recent history. In addition, Purdue, and Iowa, once considered a favorite to win it all, have failed to get past the round of 32. The Big 12 has performed well, despite Baylor's shocking loss to twelfth-seeded Yale in the first round. Conference heavyweights Kansas, Oklahoma, and Iowa State are all still in the chase for the coveted championship.

So far, the most impressive player has been Oklahoma's shooting guard Buddy Hield, who scored 21 of Oklahoma's final 26 points against VCU. Hield is an absolute scoring machine, and it seems likely he will lead Oklahoma to a Final Four appearance.

Kansas should also advance to the Final Four because they are more talented than any team currently, and play with such a degree of passion. Additionally, Notre Dame has a good chance of halting Wisconsin's run and beating UNC, as they have been shooting nearly 60 percent from the floor in the tournament. In the Midwest Region, it is going to be tough to get past Virginia, as the Cavaliers are too talented for a team like Gonzaga or Syracuse to outscore. The fourth-ranked Iowa State Cyclones, playing behind senior forward Georges Niang, have the most potential to beat the Cavs', but the upset is unlikely.

Sehnert is a member of the Class of 2019.

Women's Lacrosse Heats Up



LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

The Women's Lacrosse team has gathered strong momentum.

BY SEAN CORCORAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The UR Women's Lacrosse team is riding a three-game win streak after two hard-fought, one-goal losses to open their season.

In their March 5 season opener vs. St. Joseph's College (of Long Island) (SJC), UR was led by mid-fielders junior Jamie Wallisch and sophomore Madeline Levy, who scored two goals each. The 'Jackets fought hard, with two shots in the final minute, but SJC came out on top in a close contest.

Three days later, the squad took their talents to Clearwater, FL, for a matchup against Wittenberg College Tigers. Led by Wallisch, who scored four times, and Junior Cassie Mahar, who scored one goal and racked up two assists. Wittenberg forced overtime and after a scoreless first OT period, the Tigers overcame UR by a score of 8-7 (2OT). Senior goalkeeper Marie Prosak had an impressive 12 saves during the contest.

In their last game of their stint in Florida, UR came out victorious over Swarthmore College. In a Thursday night matchup, the 'Jackets picked up their first win. Paced by Levy, who had four goals on six shots, the 'Jackets stormed to a 6-2 halftime lead and never looked back. The 'Jackets left their spring break road trip with a record of 1-2.

At their home opener vs. Elmira College last Tuesday, the team emerged victorious by a score of 13-5. Led again by Wallisch, who scored six times, and junior Breanna Taylor, who scored four times, the

'Jackets won handily in front of the Fauver Stadium crowd. This win moved their record to .500, at 2-2.

On Saturday, March 19, the 'Jackets hosted cross-town rival Nazareth College in an afternoon contest. UR remained unbeaten at home thanks to the stellar play of Prosak, who made seven saves. The 'Jackets won by a score of 8-5, dropping Naz to a 4-1 record and elevating themselves to a record of 3-2.

Reflecting upon the team's progress this season, junior Wallisch has credited the 'Jackets' most recent successes with emphasis to "communication and focus."

"With each game, we apply these factors and play the game we know we can," the midfielder and 'Jackets leading scorer said.

After strong performances from both Wallisch and Prosak against Nazareth, the junior and senior were recognized by the Liberty League. Midfielder Wallisch was named to the Liberty League Honor Roll, while goaltender Prosak was awarded Liberty League Defensive Player of the week.

The 'Jackets are looking to extend their momentum into their next contest this Friday against Oswego State on the road. "Our coach consistently says 'play to win, don't play not to lose,'" Wallisch recalled. "We have taken that quote in full and focused to play our best, not worrying about the opponent."

UR is looking to maintain this momentum heading into Liberty League play, which begins April 1 vs. Saint Lawrence University.

Corcoran is a member of the Class of 2018.



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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

For Maire Prosak, Lacrosse is Life

BY EMILY LEWIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Senior women's lacrosse goalkeeper Maire Prosak completed one of the best games of her career last Saturday against crosstown rival Nazareth College as the Jackets won with a score of 8-5. The senior captain grabbed seven saves and allowed five goals to lead her team to victory. Prosak played all 60 minutes in goal and was named Liberty League Defensive Player of the Week.

When did you start playing lacrosse? What got you motivated to start playing and keep playing all these years?

I started playing lacrosse at the end of second grade. My parents wanted me to start a year earlier with my older sister, but I didn't want to because I wasn't really sure what lacrosse was, and I was afraid to get hit by the ball. Ironically, by the end of fourth grade, I decided I wanted to be a goalie.

Who has been the biggest influence in your lacrosse career?

From a young age, I always wanted to be just like my older sister, Tara. A year after she began playing lacrosse, I wanted to play. She then became a goalie, so I

became a goalie. It's a typical story of a younger sister looking up to her older sister, but I don't mind admitting it. I never really looked up to any collegiate players when I was younger, or was majorly influenced by them, besides their skill levels. Instead, since Tara is only two years older, that was old enough to have her as a great role model, but also as a close competitor to always motivate me.

How big of a role does your sport play in your life, and how important is it to you?

I don't think I realized when I began playing lacrosse how big of a role it would have in my life. Besides my older sister, I have three younger sisters, and our lives have always revolved around sports. Since there are five of us, we are all competitive with each other (in a good way), and lacrosse has been a good way to filter that. Additionally, not only has lacrosse been a great connection between me and my sisters, it also has helped me in terms of building my leadership and teamwork skills. Coach Behme has always stressed the importance of having good character both on and off the field. Both she and lacrosse have helped me in developing this, and I know that all of these skills

will help me in the future. Lastly, and most importantly, lacrosse has provided me with great friendships, which will remain with me beyond graduation.

What did it mean to you to have such a great game and be such a contributor to a big victory over Nazareth?

The game against Naz meant a lot to me not just because that is the one game that is still ingrained in my mind from last year (losing by one goal in the final seconds), but because Naz is where Tara played lacrosse in college. Even though she graduated two years ago, the UR v. Naz game has always been a big one for my family, ever since I decided to come here four years ago. I also still know a lot of the girls on their team, so I always place a lot of personal pressure on this game, more than most of the others. Even though we did beat Naz once, when Tara was on the team, I was really hoping to beat them one last time in my final season.

How will this win give the team momentum going into the rest of the season?

I believe that this win will give us a lot of confidence as we move forward in the season. Naz is a very



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

Senior and goalkeeper Maire Prosak prepares to launch the lacrosse ball.

skilled team, and beating them was a big obstacle that we knew we were going to face. Going into this game, we knew that last year's outcome was something that we didn't want to relive and knew that we could play at a higher level than them if we set our minds to it. This win shows us how we have the necessary tools and talent to be a great team as long as we play together and stay focused. It also proves to

us as a team that, as long as we stay motivated, the only direction we have to go from here is up.

Would you rather have an ice cream sandwich or frozen yogurt?

I can't have ice cream because I'm lactose intolerant, but I really like chocolate, especially M&Ms.

Lewis is a member of the Class of 2016.

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Men's Tennis at Brandeis University - L 2-7
Women's Tennis at Brandeis University - L 1-5
Women's Lax vs. Nazareth College - W 8-5

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Softball at St. John Fisher (DH) - L 0-1
Softball at St. John Fisher (DH) - W 6-4
Baseball vs. The College at Brockport - W 3-2

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Women's Tennis at William Smith College - W 5-4

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Men's Tennis vs. Nazareth College - 4:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Baseball vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (DH) - 1:00 P.M.
Softball vs. SUNY Geneseo (DH) - 1:00 P.M.
Softball vs. SUNY Geneseo (DH) - 3:00 P.M.
Baseball vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (DH) - 3:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Baseball vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (DH) - 12:00 P.M.
Baseball vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (DH) - 2:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Women's Rowing at William Smith College - 4:00 P.M.
Baseball vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - 2:30 P.M.

*DENOTES HOME GAME
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Quidditch Makes Fantasy Reality



PHOTO COURTESY OF LISLE COLEMAN

The UR Thestrals stand together at gametime.

BY ANDREW LUCCHESI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Quidditch is speed, endurance, toughness, and tactical savvy. It is a pitch full of unrelenting brutes, who are unafraid to take a blow from the adversary in the name of the sport. Its athletes are unabashed and untethered by any outsider's hollow presuppositions of Harry Potter reenactment or magical brooms.

In fact, their brooms are not magical, and not even brooms at all. Now just vestiges of quidditch origins, these wooden shafts are being phased out by more durable and less splinter-prone Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) cuts. This trade of aestheticism and authenticity for competitive integrity and utility is one example of this sport's already staggering progressive movement, and likely product of its impressive growth.

The growing popularity of quidditch is tremendous. UR's quidditch club, The Thestrals, has over 50 active members, with an abundance of underclassmen who will likely continue the growth of quidditch at UR in the years to come.

The Thestrals have two teams, a travel team and a regional conference team, just to keep everyone playing. UR isn't an exception—this movement is happening at universities all

over the country. Some larger state schools have seen hundreds and even thousands of students show up for open tryouts.

But why quidditch? The reason for the popularity and success of the Thestrals and quidditch in general is multi-faceted.

"We're tackle, full-on contact. People don't expect that," said four-year Thestral player and current Thestral President senior Anna Parker. "I came for the whimsy and stayed for the athleticism."

"It's quirky enough to draw in spectators and newcomers who just want to give it a try, then once you're invested, there is every reason to stay," she added.

Thestral executive board member and senior Eugene Rohrer explained his experience as a freshman at his first quidditch practices.

Since nobody comes to college with quidditch experience, the rookies are more or less on par with one another. According to Rohrer, learning the game together gives each new class a strong "sense of camaraderie."

There's no doubt quidditch is a learning experience. Parker described it as a mix between "rugby, soccer, and basketball," but with "more strategy." There are three different types of balls, including bludgers, which exist solely

for the purpose of being thrown at your opponents. Quidditch also has a gamut of different positions, such as the seeker, who tries to steal from the referee who can legally tackle and toss them in their defense.

The people who play quidditch are as varied as the style of gameplay. Parker explained how the non-gender-specific nature of quidditch cultivates an accepting environment. Athletes that identify as men, women, transgender, and non-binary are all welcome. Not only do the Thestrals accept every possible gender, but newcomers to competitive sports and everyone in between all fit their bill.

Though they struggled in competition this past weekend, the Thestrals are coming off of a season in which they were ranked tenth nationally. Evidence of their younger players developing suggests they'll be right back on top come next fall.

In the meantime, there is no sign of them slowing down. They'll be in Geneseo for a tournament next weekend and the following week, they will be hosting their largest fundraiser to date, in the form of an open tournament. Current members will act as coaches, and any student is welcome to form a team and take the pitch.

Lucchesi is a member of the Class of 2016.

SPORTS

Veech Swims to Personal Swimming Best, Despite Loss

BY RASHAD MOORE
SENIOR STAFF

Alexandra Veech is an accomplished swimmer at UR and the current 100-yard breaststroke school record holder. She has been honing her swimming skills since she was introduced to the sport years ago.

But her accolades and training were not enough to propel Veech past the top-16 cutoff for All-Americans Honors on March 18, as she posted a time of 1:04.55 in the 100-yard breaststroke event at the NCAA Division III championship and missed the mark by just half a second.

Despite placing nineteenth out of 31, Veech was pleased with her accomplishments. "I was pretty excited about my swims at nationals," Veech said. "I swam my third-fastest time ever in the 100 breaststroke."

Veech showed her versatility at the competition by also swimming the 200-yard breaststroke, in which she swam her fastest-ever time in that event.

The junior swimmer understood the level of completion and took pride in being one of the select few swimmers in the tournament. "Honestly," she said, "just qualifying to be there was a huge honor and having the opportunity to



PHOTO COURTESY OF AARON RAYMOND

Alex Veech, accomplished UR swimmer, makes a splash in her race.

watch the fastest swimmers in the nation compete was awesome."

Also, being in North Carolina didn't hurt.

"I had never traveled to Greensboro, NC. It was a blast," Veech said. "The weather was warm and sunny, my coaches and I ate some authentic southern food—it was a great trip."

For Veech, swimming and academics are not mutually exclusive.

The breaststroke record-holder is a majoring in Environmental Health, which is a new—one year old—subset of the Public Health major. She has taken lessons from swimming and applied them to the classroom. "Through swimming I've learned to persevere," she said. "That has shown in my studies, as well."

Swimming has also taught her

other invaluable lessons, including balancing different facets of her life.

"Being a student athlete on campus isn't easy," Veech said. "Between the rigorous course work, practice, meet schedules, and extracurriculars, getting everything done really requires perseverance."

While academics and swimming are both important aspects of her life, Veech's family remains an integral support system and influence.

Veech, who is from Binghamton, NY, cites her family as the reason why she got involved in swimming.

For her, swimming was essentially a family affair before it became a sport.

"My younger brother got me into swimming," Veech said. "After I left the sport of gymnastics, I had way too much energy, so my mom had



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHI HUANG

The 'Jackets rally before a swimming meet.

me go to my brother's swim practices to get it all out before bedtime."

Veech considers her teammates as a family as well.

"Our team really has a family dynamic to it," Veech added. "I love my teammates. Before I left [to go to Greensboro] a group of [my teammates] surprised me at my door with signs, letters and food. It was so sweet."

On an average day, Veech is with her teammates, whether it's in class, during practice, or weekend adven-

tures. "You can typically find a few tables of swimmers in upper ITS," Veech said. "On a casual day outside of the pool we study together, have team meals, plan ski trips, go to concerts—the works."

Veech loves all that she calls her family, from her immediate relatives to all of her teammates on the UR Swimming and Diving team.

"URSD is truly my family, and I am so grateful for that."

Moore is a member of the Class of 2017.

Baseball and Softball Teams Start Season Strong



RUARI CONWAY / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

A Rochester baseball player beats the ball to first base.

BY RAHUL UPADHYA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

UR Baseball hopefully found some much-needed momentum after an exciting 3–2 win at home against the Brockport Golden Eagles on Tuesday. This is coming off a long nine-day break in the season. Additionally, after a slow start in Florida, UR Softball

(URSB) is regaining its own footing after splitting a doubleheader against St. John Fisher.

Sophomore reliever Luke Meyerson netted the win for the baseball team after a solid 3.0 IP with 1 ER and only 2 H allowed. This brings his record to 2–0 with a 3.75 ERA. Igniting the 'Jackets offense was senior right fielder Jake Meyerson, who went one-

for-four with 1 RBI in the fifth inning.

The senior spoke about the team at large, saying, "We have overcome a lot of adversity since the beginning of the season in terms of injuries to key players. It now opens up opportunities for underclassmen to step up."

Injured starting pitchers and infielders can hurt a team's morale, but that is not the case with UR. Underclassmen like sophomore starting right-handed hurler John Ghysel and freshman catcher Aiden Finch stepped up big time on Tuesday. Ghysel, as starting pitcher, pitched 4.0 innings with only 69 pitches, giving up 2 H and 1 ER. This brings his season ERA down to 1.17. Finch had a stellar offensive performance, while supporting solid pitching performances from behind the plate. He went 2-for-4 to set up some key opportunities for the 'Jackets

However, it was senior center fielder Matt Todd who cashed it in. Todd went a fantastic 3-for-4 at the plate. His speed allowed him to be one home run shy of the cycle, as he had a sacrifice hit, double, and triple, while driving in two runs in. Todd's go-ahead RBI double in the sixth inning ended up being the difference-maker in the game, with senior closer Evan Janifer nailing down his second save of the year.

"The goal for us is to win a Liberty League Championship on our own home field during graduation weekend," Meyerson said con-

cerning future prospects.

The 'Jackets are now (5–4)—the game scheduled for Wednesday against SUNY Cortland was postponed. UR will take on RPI on Saturday in Troy.

URSB played a doubleheader at St. John Fisher on Tuesday, splitting the two games. In the first game, the 'Jackets lost 1–0, after an amazing performance by junior starting pitcher Eleni Weschler, who went six innings pitched (IP) with zero earned runs (ER) and six hits. On the offensive side, Rochester's only offense came from none other than Weschler, who went one-for-three.

The second game ended up with a better result for UR, as the women won 6–4 to improve their record to (5–11). Weschler went on to turn in another long pitching performance, going 7 IP with 4 ER. Despite improving her record to (3–8), Weschler has an outstanding 2.83 ERA. Once again, Weschler proved to be a star on the offensive end, boosting the team with 2 RBI's in the fourth inning to put the 'Jackets ahead 5–0. Overall, she went one-for-three in this game (or two-for-six for the day). Despite the impressive showing, her average went down to .373, proving that she has been a dominant force this season.

"I think we have really grown as a team in the past few weeks," Weschler said. "We have a lot of new, young, and talented players on the team, and I believe that we

are finally discovering and thriving. [...] With 3 of our wins coming against top 20 teams, I only see us going up from here."

This type of optimism coming from a leader of the team can only be positive, as URSB seems to be finding a rhythm after a rough start.

Freshman Catcher Harleigh Kaczegowicz had a dominant day on the diamond, both working closely with Weschler on the mound and going three-for-four with 1 RBI. She improved her season BA to an unreal .351. Another Freshman, Rachel Pletz added to the attack, going two-for-three with 1 RBI. Even though a home run by St. John Fisher's Kristina Balsano made the game close in the seventh inning, UR held on for the win, bringing the URSB to (5–11) on the year.

On the future, senior Kayla Kibling declares, "We've had a slow start but those games down in Florida have given us experience against some extremely competitive teams," she said. "Our goal is to win the Liberty League and gain a bid into the NCAA tournament again, and we are working hard every day and just focusing on one game at a time until we reach that goal."

So, while Kibling acknowledges the slow start, she is helping set the tone for the team and stressing to look at the big picture of making the NCAA tournament.

Upadhyaya is a member of the Class of 2017.