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Trump Order Spurs Protest, Unity



Students protest President Donald Trump's executive order in front of the Interfaith Chapel on Feb. 2.

YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

#NoBanNoWall Protest Draws Students, Faculty, Admins

By **JESSE BERNSTEIN**
MANAGING EDITOR

About 150 students, faculty, and administrators braved flurries and frigid weather Wednesday afternoon to protest President Donald Trump's executive order banning immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries, as well as his plan to build a wall along the Mexican border. Holding a banner that read "#NoBanNoWall" in English, Spanish, Somali, Farsi, and Arabic, student organizers took turns denouncing the ban and the proposed wall, leading the assembled crowds in chants of "No hate, no fear, immigrants are

welcome here" as Department of Public Safety officers looked on. Mustapha Ibrahim, a freshman from Somalia, held a sign that read "I Just Got Banned!" Wiping tears from his eyes as he spoke to the crowd, Ibrahim said to cheers that he was "proud to be Somali [...] and proud to be an immigrant." "I want to bring what makes America great back home," he said, adding that he may now be prevented from doing so. Sophomore Haydi Torres shared her family's immigrant story, announcing that she was "undocumented and unafraid." Torres, who came to the U.S. from Honduras when she was

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University Info Panel Seeks to Calm Student Fears

By **AMANDA MARQUEZ**
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Humanities Talks Teach Importance of Academia in 'Post-Truth' World

By **CHRIS LANGFIELD**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Humanities professors on Friday sought to respond to the election of President Donald Trump through a series of talks and presentations about academics in a "post-truth" world. Around 100 people crowded into the Humanities Center Lounge in Rush Rhees Library morning for the opening remarks of the Knowledge and Citizenship Teach-in. Over a dozen faculty members—mostly from the Department of Anthropology, but also including faculty from the de-

partments of History, English, and others—gave talks on topics ranging from law in post-genocide Rwanda, forcible mass-eviction in India, and the role of the press in a democracy. Each lecture lasted around 15 minutes, during and after which attendees were encouraged to ask questions or present their own viewpoint. People dropped in and out throughout the day, but the crowd filled the room for the entirety of the event, which lasted until 5 p.m. The Teach-In was the brainchild of Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Art and Art History Dr. A. Joan Saab.

In an interview with the *Campus Times*, Saab said that the event was conceived by humanities faculty wondering how to respond to



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Saab said that the time slots filled up "within 24 hours" and that several speakers chose to give joint presentations to allow more participants. Teach-ins, usually held at universities, are often focused on social justice or environmental issues. They originated with the anti-war movement in the United States during the 1960s, and have been a common format since. Saab said that this was the first teach-in at UR in recent memory, and expressed enthusiasm for the idea of having more in the future. The idea of the Knowledge and Citizenship Teach-in was to emphasize that "the work that we

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The Faces of Dining Services

By **NINA LISTRO**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Editor's Note: This is part one of two articles about Dining Services workers.

It's 12:20 p.m. Students stream into Douglass Dining Center hastily; discussions of modern poetry, physics examinations, and everyday drama fill the room. Life is busy and the social stimuli of the lunch break serves as a good distraction. The students pause their conversations for a moment as they hand over their ID card to the smiling woman behind the register. She swipes the cards with precision and grace, arms swaying from left to right, from student to cash register, in perfect rhythmic motion.

Even her voice is aligned with the tempo in which she conducts the ebb and flow of students into the newly renovated Douglass Dining Center. "Hey, baby. How are you doing today?"

It's her signature refrain, with which she serenades each person who walks up to the register.

Occasionally, if a student chooses to engage, her simple chorus extends into a sweet ditty: "Oh, don't worry, honey. Only three more weeks until break. Hang in there, you've got this."

This is the tune of Dawn Marshall-Hosier, one of the 16 Dining Services cashiers at the University. Out of the 186 employees within the department, cashiers are the most familiar to students. Unlike the cooks, who stand behind barriers of glass and a butcher block, cashiers sit unconcealed at the dining hall entrance, greeting students as they walk in. A simple transfer of a card is, for some students, the most personal connection made with Dining Services employees.

But despite Dawn's recognizable dark brown freckles and tightly-bound top bun, most students would not be able to address her by name. It would take only a second to glance at the red embroidered letters upon her chest, but most eyes are locked on the bustling frenzy beyond the register.

When hiring cashiers, Dining Services seeks candidates who are outwardly enthusiastic. Cameron

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STUDENTS CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR'S

Sophomores Richard Kao and Kelvin Valdes and freshman Angellica Lara participate in the Chinese Students' Association's Chinese New Year's Expo.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Suspicious Person at Wilson Commons (1)

JAN. 17—A Wilson Commons staff member reported a person acting in a suspicious manner.

Burton Hall Door Damaged (2)

JAN. 18—An exterior door of Burton Hall was damaged by unknown suspects.

People Treated for Heat Exhaustion (3)

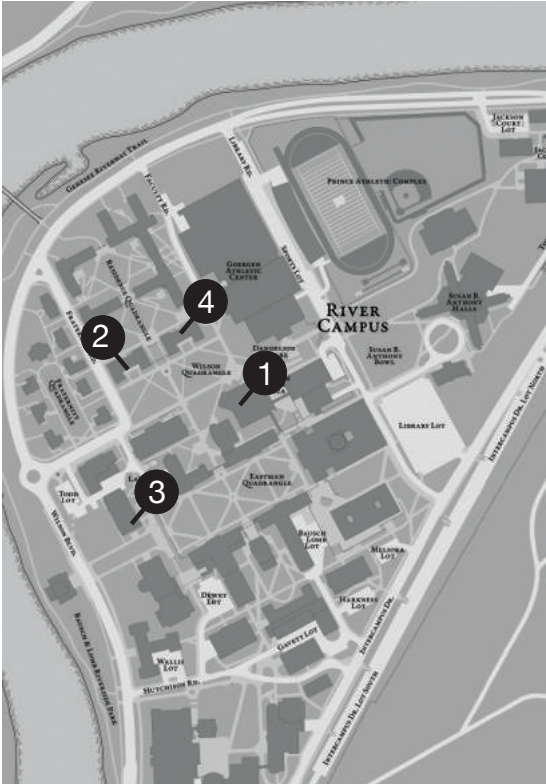
JAN. 28—Several people were treated for heat exhaustion following an event held at Strong Auditorium.

UR Fire Policy Violated (4)

JAN. 31—Students in Crosby Hall were caught violating the UR Fire Policy.

Eastman Student's Wallet Missing (5)

FEB. 2—An Eastman Student reported losing their wallet.



Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

TUESDAY | FEBRUARY 7

EXHIBIT: ELEVEN LOVE SONGS

HARTNETT GALLERY 11 A.M.-7 P.M.
The Hartnett Gallery presents the artistic works of Michael Hubbard's multimedia collection "Eleven Love Songs."

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

KILBOURN HALL, 8 P.M.-10 P.M.
The Eastman School of Music will be showcasing the musical talents of Steven Doane and Barry Snyder, who will be performing on the cello and piano, respectively.

WEDNESDAY | FEBRUARY 8

ROCHESTER SUMMER FAIR

DOUGLASS BALLROOM, 11 A.M.-2 P.M.
Learn about what the UR summer session has to offer, including summer courses, events, study abroad, and more.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

KODAK HALL, 8 P.M.-10 P.M.
Enjoy a free concert featuring the music of Barber, Britten and Beethoven, conducted by Neil Varon and Michael Wheatley.

THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 9

A SUBLIME MADNESS OF THE SOUL

HUMANITIES CENTER, 12:00 P.M.-2 P.M.
Vanderbilt University Professor Juan Floyd-Thomas will give the talk, "A Sublime Madness of the Soul: Black Lives Matter, Protest Movements, and the Struggle for Social Justice in America."

U OF R UNDERGRADUATE NIGHT

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 7:00 P.M.
The MAG will showcase the creative lives of four UR undergraduate students.

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 10

FREDERICK DOUGLASS SYMPOSIUM

HAWKINS-CARLSON ROOM 10 A.M.-1 P.M.
Join the University of Connecticut's Manisha Sinha and the University of Maryland's Robert Levine for a talk on the Black Lives Matter movement hosted by the Frederick Douglass Institute.

THE W. KAMAU BELL CURVE:

DOUGLASS COMMONS, 7:30 P.M.-9:30 P.M.
The Student Programming Board presents "The W. Kamau Bell Curve: Ending Racism in About an Hour," featuring acclaimed comedian W. Kamau Bell.

Film Showing Pushes Racial Questions

By SAM PASSANISI
SENIOR STAFF

Two facilitators from the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence hosted a screening and film discussion of the 2014 documentary "I'm Not Racist ... Am I?" in a Dewey lecture hall last Wednesday evening.

For many members of the audience—to their dismay—the answer was yes.

The film focuses on a group of 12 New York City high school students, following them as they participate in a series of workshops and discussions of racism.

Offering a single-word thought after the film finished, fault lines emerged from the viewers.

"Enlightened," one audience member said.

"Frustrated," offered another.

A third person asked, "What to do now?"

The racially-diverse group in the film includes Kahleek, an African-American high school senior who doesn't consider himself "stereotypically black;" Martha, whose family are the only white people living in their housing project; Anna, a Chinese girl with white adoptive parents; and Abby, a biracial girl with a white mother and an African-American father.

Most of them attend different high schools, and they range in age from 14 to 17, but their interactions are open and honest.

The facilitators from the Gandhi Institute, Chiamaka Ikpeze and David Sanchez, began the event with a few disclaimers about the nature of the film.

"This film is not an indictment of all white people, but it is an opportunity for white people to look at their privilege," Sanchez said.

"Everyone has something to gain from this," Ikpeze agreed, adding that the film discussion would be both a "safe space" and a "brave space," in which everyone in the audience should strive to be open and honest.

The pair laid out ground rules and guidelines for the discussion.

Among them: "be fully present," "lean into discomfort," and "suspend judgement of self and others."

They also asked the audience to "speak from the 'I' perspective" during the discussion. This, they explained, would help people avoid speaking on behalf of others, and would help them be more honest about their reactions to the film.

The film opens by introducing the students, and then by showing highlights from their first series of discussions.

In one of these, a moderator

challenges the common-sense definition of racism, positing two separate definitions. First, racism as "individual meanness"—discriminatory acts, racist jokes, or name-calling. Second, racism as "the use of power to help white people."

In the second sense of racism, the film argued, all white Americans are complicit and, in fact, racist.

Ikpeze and Sanchez paused the film at this point, perhaps knowing that that statement would need some discussion. Audience members offered up their reactions to the thesis: variously uncomfortable, doubtful, or wishing to clarify the definition. The bulk of the first discussion segment centered around this idea.

Ikpeze expressed how important it was to her and Sanchez that the audience not leave with unspoken concerns or confusion. She offered to meet separately with any of the attendees, should they need to further discuss the information presented in the film. She also announced a scheduled follow-up discussion, to be held on February 16th, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., at the Gandhi Institute.

The documentary continued with a workshop in which the students discussed the history and impact of the N-word, as well as segments in which they spoke in earnest about the impact of each other's language.

The discussion turned to the demographics of the audience. One audience member lamented the relative lack of UR undergraduates in the audience, while another noted that the majority of the audience was female.

One person observed that, outside of special discussion groups like the one shown in the film, or the one hosted by the Gandhi Institute, many Americans are scared to have honest discussions of race, for fear that they might say the wrong thing or offend someone.

The audience, inspired after the film they had just watched, gave their opinion—people should speak up, and they have to take a stand against racism.

The film screening and discussion was co-sponsored by the Rochester Center for Community Leadership, the Burgett Intercultural Center, the Interfaith Chapel, the Program of Dance and Movement, and UR's anti-racism campaign, "We're Better Than That."

The Gandhi Institute's follow-up discussion on Feb. 16 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. will be held at their headquarters at 929 South Plymouth Ave.

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

UR ANNOUNCEMENT

The spring semester test of the AlertUR, the University's emergency notification system, will occur on Thursday, Feb. 9 at 6 p.m. It will not disrupt scheduled activities. AlertUR tests are scheduled twice a year.

The goal of AlertUR is to quickly transmit news and instructions to students, faculty, and staff throughout the University—including the Medical Center—in the event of an emergency.

Students are automatically enrolled via their Rochester e-mail. At any time, students are encouraged to update their preferences and contact information at www.rochester.edu/alertur.

Winterfest Weekend



PHOTOS BY
YIYUN HUANG
PHOTO EDITOR
AARON RAYMOND
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER



By **DAVID SCHILDKRAUT**
NEWS EDITOR

Students embraced the winter season at the annual Winterfest celebration this weekend.

The three-day celebration, which ran from Friday to Sunday, presented students with smores, huskies, and cotton candy. The build-a-bear workshop and the Rochester scarf giveaway were big hits among the student body.

Other activities included laser tag, a special dinner at Douglass Dining Hall, and a performance by comedian Tig Notaro.

Several special events were offered to students, such as a trip to the Corning Museum of Glass and the Chinese New Year Expo on Sunday.

Schildkraut is a member of the Class of 2020.



Rally Boosts Voices of Affected Students



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

Students conclude the #NoBanNoWall demonstration outside of wthe Interfaith Chapel.

PROTEST FROM PAGE 1

16, is a part of UR DREAMers, a group on campus that seeks to educate other students on the realities of undocumented life and immigration law. Anis Kallel, a senior from Tunisia, walked up the stairs outside Wilson Commons as one of several speakers from the crowd. “My country, Tunisia, isn’t yet on the list, but this ban definitely made me consider all possible outcomes,” he said during a later interview. “I constantly check the news and

expect the worst.” Though he says he “feels targeted” by the executive order, Kallel thinks that it’s “refreshing to see people united behind a good cause and willing to fight for what’s right.” Following a move into Hirst Lounge to continue the rally, the crowd walked through Wallis Hall, where, according to Melissa Holloway, an organizer and Take 5 student, “staff members were actually chanting with us and taking videos of us.” Though “there are currently

no plans for future rallies,” Holloway, said, “we are working on putting together UndocuAlly trainings and events of the like” (referring to an educational program that teaches students how to advocate for undocumented classmates). The rally finished inside the Interfaith Chapel, where a University panel fielded questions from students, faculty, and Rochester residents on how the ban will affect the campus international community. *Berstein is a member of the Class of 2018.*

‘Not a Racist’ Film Asks Viewers to Examine Themselves

do as historians, as critics, as scholars, is still important,” in a period of perceived attacks on academia and uncertainty about truth in public discourse, Saab said. “This is not a propaganda thing,” Saab said, or a “protest,” though she noted that “we wouldn’t have had it if we felt like we didn’t have to have it.” Some speakers based their presentations on their aca-

demic work, such as Assistant Professor of Anthropology Kristin Doughty, who said she “distilled one or two of the key takeaways” from a course on legal anthropology that she teaches. Other talks were explicitly about current events in national politics, which came up during almost every presentation. *Langfield is a member of the Class of 2018.*

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Administrators Emphasize Message of Solidarity to International Students

FORUM FROM PAGE 1

“I’ve experienced a range of emotions, including fear, that I’m not use to feeling, quite frankly,” said Jensen. In her speech following Jensen’s introduction, Gatewood praised UR’s diverse nature. She said UR has welcomed international students since the mid-1850s, and that cross-border relationships have enhanced the University and expanded its global connections. “The world of internationalized research and learning is fostered by mobility and transfer, not by bars and barriers,” said Gatewood. In specific reference to the executive order, Gatewood announced that UR has yet to have any students, faculty, or staff turned away at international borders, but that there are a number

of affiliated individuals who are on visas from the seven affected countries of Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. Gatewood said that the University is still determining the impact of the order and will continue to provide updates as needed. In cases where students have unanswered questions, she said the University will work with them to find solutions. “We are here to emphasize to everyone at the University of Rochester that you belong here,” said Gatewood. “You are part of us, we are family, and we will support you and do everything that we can in our power to protect you.” In her concluding remarks, Gatewood also announced that University President Joel Seligman signed his name to a letter developed by the American Council on Education addressed to the Secretary of Homeland Security John F. Kelly,

offering “assistance with challenges that the Department faces in connection with international students, faculty, and scholars at U.S. institutions of higher education.” Additionally, she mentioned that UR’s Office for Global Engagement added a section to their website entitled, “Updates and Information on the Federal Immigration Executive Order,” to further assist in answering questions related to the order. Subsequently, Dean of College Admission and Vice-Provost for Enrollment Initiatives Jonathan Burdick said that any student who finds themselves unable to return home for fear of not being able to re-enter the country will find a “meaningful opportunity” and be allowed to stay in Rochester over the summer. After select panelists spoke, the floor was opened up to

questions from the audience. Those who felt uncomfortable speaking out were allowed to write their questions on an index card and have Director of International Student Engagement and Associate Director of Advising Services Molly Jolliff read them aloud. The first to address the panelists was a UR graduate student, who was unsatisfied with how the University addressed the order. “If we are addressing racism then it’s racism, if we are addressing sexism, then it’s sexism and if we are addressing Islamophobia, then we should address it as Islamophobia,” she said. “I’m honestly very frustrated with how the school is portraying this as an international issue and not as a Muslim ban.” Senior Antonio Cardenas asked if the University has declared itself a sanctuary campus and if it will in the future.

“Given the current climate in the US, raising your hand as a sanctuary campus makes you a target,” responded Gatewood. “I know that this is upsetting from a political standpoint to some people, but know that it comes from a place where we are trying to maneuver in protective ways.” Sophomore Haydi Torres-Garcia, an undocumented student on campus, urged other affected students to know their rights. “I’ve been in a situation where I’ve been asked about my immigration status, and I’m telling you that immigration officers are not very nice,” said Torres. The ISO and Legal Aid Society will be hosting a “Know Your Rights” session for students on Monday, Feb. 13 at 12 p.m. in Dewey 1-1101. *Marquez is a member of the Class of 2017.*

OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Obama and the Left



By JESSE BERNSTEIN
MANAGING EDITOR

The optimism that arose from Barack Obama’s ‘08 campaign, an optimism that stemmed from his magnetism, youth, and the chance to propel a person of color to the nation’s highest office, was remarkable. It was the first time I’d ever seen people I knew genuinely excited by politics; I hope we see something like that again in our lifetimes.

That optimism has, unfortunately, insulated the former president from well-deserved criticism from the left. Understanding his failures as president is critical to understanding Hillary Clinton’s failed campaign and, ultimately, central to creating the new leftist movement that employs real political resistance, not #resistance.

Look no further than Obama’s use of executive orders. Much has been made of President Donald Trump’s dictatorial desires, but the precedent for exercising the power of the executive branch was Obama’s. Now that the orders are ones we disagree with, we seem to have a newfound respect for checks and balances.

As for the recent military strike that killed an 8 year-old in Yemen, we can’t forget that it was an Obama drone strike that killed her brother just a few years ago, nor can we forget the infamous double-tap strike by U.S.-armed Saudi forces that killed over 140 people a month before the election.

What about his expansion of the NSA, which now wields even more power to spy on American citizens than it did under George Bush? What about the Obama administration treating whistleblowers more harshly than any American government in modern history? He pardoned Chelsea Manning, but what about prosecuting her and throwing her in a men’s prison? What about the fact that income inequality grew significantly under his watch? Whose economy did he save, exactly? What about his severe mismanagement of diplomacy in Syria, which led to today’s refugee crisis? What about his failure to close Guantanamo Bay?

Spare me the obstruction argument: he had a similarly-sized majority when he was first elected to one the Republicans’ currently hold, and they’ve done plenty in Trump’s first two weeks.

We’re so quick to brand Trump the reality-star president, his supporters blinded by his fame, but what about us? When

Obama slow-jammed the news, were we decrying the normalization of drone strikes? When he dazzled at the White House Correspondent’s Dinner, were we #resisting U.S. support of the Wahhabist government in Saudi Arabia, one of the most oppressive regimes in the world, which is currently engaged in a U.S.-supported, sustained bombing campaign against the Houthis, an oppressed ethnic minority in northern Yemen?

We’re as susceptible to deception as anyone, and to explain away Clinton’s loss as a consequence of dumb hicks who couldn’t tell fact from fiction is embarrassing and untrue, not to mention a polite way to call poor people dumb.

Unfortunately, the centrist liberalism that Obama represents seems content with winning, yes, deeply important social wars—fighting repugnant -isms of all stripes—but has punted on the areas on which leftist politics used to focus.

During Obama’s presidency, where were our leftist voices on our abhorrent foreign policy, or our financial system that helped create the modern racial resentment Trump rode to power? Those issues are far more complex than anything that can be summarized in a Colbert monologue and, consequently, have faded from our consciousness. Those are the fields we need to reinsert ourselves into.

Clinton’s legacy as a politician—helping institute her husband’s mass incarceration program, sponsoring bills to make burning the flag a jailable offense, voting for the Iraq War, resorting to thinly-veiled racial attacks on Obama during the ‘07-‘08 primary, and weak Wall Street policy—was somehow overlooked because she called herself a progressive and wanly stumped for a \$12.50 minimum wage.

Our inability to separate the repulsiveness of her worst critics on the right, who hate her because she’s a woman in power, stopped us from scrutinizing Clinton’s career. Ditto with Obama. But rather than realize that people were clamoring for an inspiring vision of the future, one where their jobs would come back and they could take part in this supposed economic recovery, the Clinton campaign tried to stage a moral referendum, and failed.

Obama’s personal magnetism, grace, and real, emotional attachment to public service won’t be forgotten anytime soon, nor should they. But rather than reaction-GIF him into oblivion, we need to avoid what’s happening to Bush now, this revisionism wherein a war criminal is becoming the old guy who paints dogs sometimes.

Bernstein is a member of the Class of 2018.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Falling Behind Our Peers

Two universities. Both private, lavishly endowed institutions, located in upstate New York. They both proudly boast of their international stu-

For a university that seems to make so many decisions based on the policies of their peer institutions, you’d think they’d have taken the hint on this one.

dent population. And yet, only of them found it necessary to publicize a strongly-worded statement in support of their students affected by President

Trump’s immigration ban. That university is Cornell, and their interim president, Hunter Rawlings, released an emotional, supportive statement to his students condemning the ban just three days after the ban was instituted. And yet here we are, almost two weeks after the ban was put into effect, and our own president, Joel Seligman, has yet to say anything as impactful in support of UR students.

For a university that seems to make so many decisions based on the policies of their peer institutions, you’d think they’d have taken the hint on this one. Take this, from Cornell:

“President Donald Trump’s executive order...is deeply troubling and has serious and chill-

ing implications for a number of our students and scholars. It is fundamentally antithetical to Cornell University’s principles.”

And then this, from UR: “Some of the provisions of these orders have the potential to adversely affect our students, staff, faculty, graduates, and patients.”

Come on. We understand that the University may have taken some flak for supporting the Not My America rally following the election, and perhaps that has contributed to the lackluster response thus far. To that we say this:

You’re a private institution, and you’re allowed be political. Take a real stance.

The Next Move

These times of political discontent have left many feeling hopeless, afraid, and alone among all the madness going on. This is as true at UR as at countless other places around the country in these early days of Donald Trump’s presidency. Fortunately, the student body hasn’t missed an opportunity to demonstrate their distaste, the first step toward effective political action. Beginning with the “Not My America” protest in November and continued by recent demonstrations like #NoBanNoWall, there has been no shortage of student gatherings in the name of dissatisfaction. Common to all of these events is a great sense of solidarity and strength in numbers.

While these events have all been great successes in peaceful protest with healthy turnouts and serve as an excellent first step, it’s time to take the

Fortunately, the student body hasn’t missed an opportunity to demonstrate their distaste, the first step toward effective political action.

next step, one that goes beyond the confines of our campus.

The Rochester community has had its own share of protests lately, including the hosting of its own “Women’s

March” in January and more recent protests at city hall regarding Trump’s immigration executive order. These events have also boasted a diverse turnout, but have lacked a significant UR student turnout compared to protests on our own campus. Of course, the convenience and importance of campus solidarity rallies are deeply important, but they are, ultimately, preaching to the choir, far from the halls of power.

At “Not My America,” Rochester community members from a wide range of generations and beliefs dotted the crowd. It is time for UR students to return the favor and let the outside world hear our words.

The above editorials are published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Justin Trombly (Editor-in-Chief), Jesse Bernstein (Managing Editor), Vennela Pamdaraboyina (Opinions Editor), Angela Lai (Publisher), and Ben Schmitz (A&E 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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UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, ROCHESTER, NY 14627
OFFICE: (585) 275-5942 / FAX: (585) 273-5303
CAMPUSTIMES.ORG / EDITOR@CAMPUSTIMES.ORG

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF JUSTIN TROMBLY
MANAGING EDITOR JESSE BERNSTEIN

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OP-ED

In Response to Student Activism: You Are Heard

By NICK FOTI

In case you haven't heard, Monday's Senate meeting is sparking some controversy among the student body. I'm here to quell some of that while also giving you my take.

A group of student activists appeared before the Senate during the "Open Forum" section of the meeting, demanding that we review 55 student organizations in violation of Article V, Section 2 of the Students' Association (SA) Constitution.

In essence, the SA Constitution prohibits discrimination based on a variety of factors, notably, in this conversation, gender identity and gender expression.

For transparency's sake, the groups specifically mentioned by the activists that will be looked at or are rumored to be in violation can be found here as well as the direct quote from the SA Constitution found here.

Their concerns are valid. Their concerns are heard. Their concerns have been acted upon, and

Senate will be conducting further investigation on the issue and on the severity of the issues in question.

The Senate responded with the only possible course of action: "MOTION TO assemble a group of Senators with consent of the Speaker to create a statement of support for club inclusivity in our organizations, and to review the constitutions of the 55 student groups mentioned in the concern, and convene a meeting with FSA with the students who came with the concerns."

This passing motion is the best and only possible way the Students' Association Government could have appropriately responded to these claims. To further this, I would like to make some points that factored into my decision to vote with the majority.

Fraternity and Sorority Affairs (FSA), not Students' Association Government, is the administrative bureau in charge of fraternities and sororities. So 40 of the 55 groups in question are not

necessarily under any legislative committee's jurisdiction.

While Panhellenic Association, Interfraternity Council, and Multicultural Greek Council have access to resources—such as the CCC page and mailboxes in Wilson Commons—to my knowledge they do not receive any further SA support for their many vast and impressive contributions to our campus. For further clarification and concern-

These organizations are our lifeblood.

airing (again), the students will receive a meeting organized with FSA.

The 15 other organizations specifically mentioned are officially recognized and fall under the jurisdiction of the Students' Association. Each one of their constitutions are mandated to include the following anti-discriminatory policy, which verbatim is Article V Section 2 of the

SA Constitution. In this case, I'll use the YellowJackets', as they were one of the groups specifically mentioned: "The University of Rochester YellowJackets does not discriminate against any individual or organization of individuals on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or political affiliation."

While the student activists raise extremely valid arguments with precedent, there is nothing more that we as the Senate can do besides what we voted to do Monday night—support them as best we can.

Regardless of my own personal biases and affiliation with an organization in question, I find that the Senate acted in a just and well-mannered way to address these students' concerns, and I look forward to more students bringing their concerns to the Senate table.

Last, but not least: The contributions and incredible people that

belong to the 55 organizations in question are immeasurable. The heart and soul of our campus are found in those involved in Greek life, club sports, and our beloved cappella groups.

I want to assure you that if there is any assault on these groups that is completely unreasonable and unsubstantiated, I will not tolerate it.

These organizations are our lifeblood.

We become ever better with them, and without them, we would be doing an absolute disservice to the student body of today and tomorrow. Without our Greek, athletic, and musical organizations, our beloved home by the Genesee would fall cold and dark, even colder and darker than it is on a January evening at 1 a.m..

If any unsanctioned and aggressive action is taken on any of these organizations, I will defend them and support them to the fullest of my ability.

Foti is a member of the Class of 2019.

A Shocking but Expected Week With President Trump

By RUKI PRATHIVADHI-BHAYANKARAM

President Donald Trump's first week in office was both shocking yet simultaneously expected.

It's clear that there isn't really a difference between candidate Trump and 45th President of the United States Trump. He came through on several of his campaign promises in symbolic, but not practical, ways. But that didn't dissuade his largely white nationalist and/or xenophobic base from feeling elated at his flurry of executive orders. Let's take a step-by-step look at what our great President has accomplished in his first seven days in office.

Day One:

We begin with Donald's inaugural address. The address had poor inauguration turnout. Prior to the event, Trump told CIA employees, "You're going to get so much backing, you're going to say, 'Please don't give us so much backing. Mr. President, please don't give us so much backing.'"

However, based on of the aerial shots taken by NPR, compared

to Obama's crowd, Trump's didn't stand a chance.

Moreover, the White House website removed all pages concerning climate change, health care, civil rights and LGBT sections.

Aren't we off to a great start?

Day Two:

A petty war on media is launched. In response to portrayal of the inauguration turnout—which Trump stated to be "like a million, million and a half people"—and questions of his relation with Russia, Trump responded, "I have a running war with the media. They are the most dishonest human beings on Earth." As Mark Mazzetti, an editor at the New York Times, put it best: "The president just tried to rally CIA workforce around the idea that media is the enemy. Let that sink in."

Day Three:

Trump's administration lies about an issue. Was it an affair? Or a secret money trail? Nope, it was lying about how many people attended the inauguration (don't worry, I'm thinking the same

thing—are you serious America?). Sean Spicer, the White House Press Secretary, said, "This was the largest audience to ever witness an inauguration. Period. Both in person and around the globe." Within hours, the media fired back, using aerial photos to estimate attendance to be a mere 250,000 compared to the 2 million of Obama's 2009 inauguration.

Day Four:

The administration states that 3 million illegals voted in the election. This is dead wrong.. The only evidence presented to back this claim is a 2012 Pew study, which said "about 24 million voter registrations are no longer valid or significantly inaccurate." However, not only is the study long out of date, but the primary author tweeted: "We found millions of out of date registration records due to people moving or dying, but found no evidence that voter fraud resulted."

Day Five:

Now we have begun to talk about the poorly-invested wall.

Financially speaking, the expected expense of the wall is said to be around \$14 billion. Given a situation where it is plausible to build a wall (which, given the terrain of the southern border, there is blatantly not), there is no coherent plan for where this money would come from. From a March ninth article in Forbes: "Existing duties on Mexican goods would have to be quadrupled to pay for the whole of the wall, even if its cost were spread over 10 years. U.S. companies would also almost certainly source products from elsewhere, reducing the revenue. The Mexican government could respond by removing tax benefits for U.S. foreign investment. The investment totalled \$101 billion in 2013."

Second, no one is stealing your job, especially if you come from a middle class or beyond household. To cite from "The Economics and Policy of Illegal Immigration in the United States," a book by Gordon Hanson's, "the underlying economic reality that despite its faults, illegal immigration has been hugely beneficial [...]un-

authorized immigrants provide a ready source of manpower [...] at a time when the share of low-skilled native-born[...] has fallen dramatically."

Day Six:

Uh, same ole crap today. Voter fraud, and the President of Mexico announced he would no longer come to Washington to Meet Trump. RIP.

Day Seven:

After the election, several high-level officials resigned from the State Department. This is customary, and the incoming president is supposed to decide whether to accept the resignation or keep the officials on board. Trump didn't keep them. This becomes especially dangerous given their areas of work within diplomatic security and consular affairs—matters that involved life and death. David Wade, the State Department Chief, said, "These retirements are a big loss. They leave a void. These are very difficult people to replace."

Prathivadhi-Bhayankaram is a member of the Class of 2019.

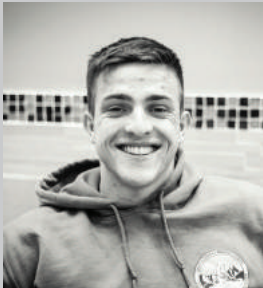
UR OPINION

BY VENNELA PANDARABOYINA & YIYUN HUANG
OPINIONS EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR

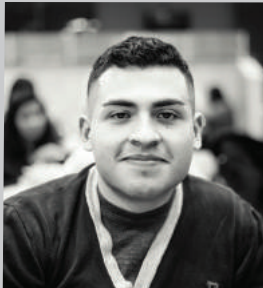
"WHAT DO YOU THINK BEYONCE AND JAY Z SHOULD NAME THEIR TWINS?"



LAUREN WINSCHER, '18
"Willow and Purple Rain."



JOEY RUTLEDGE, '18
"Ying and Yang."



STEVEN MARTINEZ, '18
"Mercedes Benz."



THOMAS BAZANT, '20
"Number 1 and Number 2."



KELVIN FERREIRAS, '20
"Jay X and Jay Y."



AMBER WILLIAMS, '19
"Jade and Buea."

FEATURES

Community Kitchen Offers Cooking Space for Student Groups



PHOTO TAKEN FROM THE UNIVERSITY CALENDAR WEB-PAGE

Community kitchen facilities located on the fourth floor of the Frederick Douglass Building

By **MELANIE DEJONG**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On the fourth floor of Frederick Douglass Commons is a mysterious space unknown to many students. It contains wonders never before available to students: gleaming white surfaces polished to perfection, shiny steel appliances glinting in the light streaming through glass-paneled walls, cabinet space beyond imagination.

It's the Douglass Community Kitchen.

The sight of it leaves, in the minds of many, only one ques-

tion: can I use it?

The answer is yes, yes you can. If you follow the proper procedure, that is.

The purpose of the kitchen is to provide a space for clubs and organizations to host events that require a kitchen. If your organization would like to host an event there, you are more than welcome to. All you need to do is follow these five simple steps.

Step One: Get Certified

To use the kitchen, at least one member of your group must complete a special

kitchen training. The training takes place in the community kitchen and usually lasts about an hour. You can sign up for it on a Google form found on the "Forms" page of the Wilson Commons Student Activities website. At least one certified member must be present in the kitchen throughout your entire function, so it is recommended you have more than one certified member to avoid grounding some poor soul in the kitchen for hours on end.

Step Two: Set Up Your Event

Once you have a group member who is certified, you can begin setting up your event. Room reservation works like it does with any other space—simply log into your club's Virtual EMS account and find an available time and date. In addition, you must register your event on the university's Campus Community Connection website (CCC), which you can do by clicking on the "Events" tab on your club's CCC page and selecting the "Create Event" option.

Step Three: Bring Your Own Supplies

The kitchen is not stocked with cooking supplies, so you need to bring your own. If you need to drop off/pick up supplies, coordinate with the Assistant Director of Student Life Operations, David Graupman.

Step Four: Make and Eat Your Food

Now you can finally feast on the fruits your labors. Huzzah! And yes, you must feast on them in the kitchen, since that's sort of the point of the space. It is, after all, a community kitchen, not a prep kitchen. The food that you make must be served and consumed in the kitchen during your event.

Step Five: Clean Up

Cleaning supplies will be provided, but your club or organization is responsible for the actual cleaning. You must leave the kitchen as clean or cleaner than it was when you got there—if you don't, you will be charged a cleaning fee of \$300. As for leftovers, if they are clearly labeled, they can be stored in the kitchen for the duration of the day of the event, but you must remove them before the building closes. You can leave non-perishable items in the shared dry storage cupboard for other groups to use, provided that they are clearly labeled with the date of your event so that the assistant director can know when to discard them.

And there you are, dear student: your five steps for using the Community Kitchen.

DeJong is a member of the class of 2019.

SEX & CT

Valentine's Day Means Love Over Lust

By **MARCO RAMOS**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Oh, Saint Valentine's Day—it's the day when you pretend to be romantic, ignoring the fact that you were everything but monogamous a few months, or weeks, ago. But that's fine, because every now and then we need to make love instead of just having crazy monkey sex. Everyone knows that being consistently romantic is very important in a relationship, but some forget to set up a romantic mood when have sex.

Hence, I'm writing this to make sure that you show that V some love on V-Day, or charm that D on this day.

It's St. Valentine's Day, after all. You might just focus on making the night special,

but if you don't ensure that your partner has been having an enjoyable day, then odds are you won't be able to have any fun that

Have sex for the experience and connection with your special other.

night. Treat your partner with some unexpected gifts or little things, like morning breakfast or a rose on their desk. There's no better way to let your partner know how big your love is than by showing it. Remember: there's no climax without build up.

Pump up that jam. It's not too late to find out what your partner's favorite romantic

music is. Background music can make or break the night, and you probably wouldn't want to blast "Closer" to set up the mood. If your special one doesn't have favorite romantic music, you can always just use their favorite songs. In case you're so horrible that you

Sex the CT

don't even know their favorite music, you can always fall back to the artists everyone likes, such as Bob Marley, The Beatles, or Justin Bieber. Set the music volume just right as

well. You wouldn't want it to be distracting or unnoticeable.

The devil is in the details. And your chances of having a successful night are, too. Can-

Show that V some love on V-Day, or charm that D on this day.

dles, balloons, cards, confetti—there are never too many details to make the environment more romantic. What the heck, you can even trim a condom wrapper into a heart for surprise effect (please don't do this). You probably want to clean your room as well, and if you live with someone else, clean their side as well. A nice

scent can also be very useful for your foul-smelling room, and your partner will appreciate it.

Most of all, don't have sex for the sex. If you just want to climax, you might as well masturbate alone. Have sex for the experience and connection with your special other, for the reaffirmation of love between the two (or more, I don't judge) of you. And If you are cringing while reading this, trust me, I was too while typing this. But I truly believe that it is necessary to be romantic, not only on a daily basis, but in bed as well. So go ahead, prove that you can be Romeo/Juliet (without the killing yourself part).

Ramos is a member of the class of 2020.

Lonely on Valentines Day?

Write for the Campus Times!

Aleem Griffiths: Student, Leader, DJ



By **ETHAN BIDNA**
COLUMNIST



By **MELISSA HOLLOWAY**
COLUMNIST

Editor's Note: "Campus Underdogs" is a new feature column written by former Students' Association (SA) Vice President Melissa Holloway and former Speaker of the SA Senate Ethan Bidna. Each week, they will spotlight student leaders who might otherwise go unnoticed. If you know a student you'd like to see profiled, email features@campus-times.org.

If you don't already know Aleem Griffiths, you probably at least know him as the junior with the awesome headband and

huge smile who you've seen DJ a few parties. Next time you see him, introduce yourself and ask for his card—he's too cool to explain on paper.

What is most impressive about Griffiths, however, is that he juggles many different commitments, has inspirational goals for the future, and is simultaneously unaware of just how much of an impact he makes on everyone around him, especially on campus.

So where did this all start? Griffiths was raised in the South Bronx, noting that one of the biggest parts of his life growing up was his and his brothers' passion for chess. He says that playing chess "[kept him] around the right people" and, in some ways, saved him.

As Griffiths got older, his plans for his own future were further shaped by his experiences. Between his sophomore and junior years of high school, he participated in a program called BuildOn, in which he traveled to small, underdeveloped villages in Mali and Nicaragua to assist in building schools. Here, Griffiths gained a ton of perspective, noting to us that "no matter how bad it gets, there's always someone who has it worse," leading to his personal life goal: to become a billionaire philanthropist, and give back to

communities in need.

So then what? Griffiths ended up at the University without even a visit to campus, but it didn't take long for Griffiths to build himself an identity at Rochester, then as a prominent member of Douglass Leadership House (DLH), a dedicated member of Event Support, a Digital Media Studies major, a photographer, a YouTuber, and, most notably, as a DJ.

At the end of his freshman fall semester, Griffiths met a graduating senior DJ looking for a replacement.

"I never even thought about being a DJ. I came to campus broke, and didn't have the tech," Griffiths said.

But Griffiths never let this get in the way of putting in the hard work.

"I learned from everyone. I watched others. I went to parties and made lists on the songs that others put out. While everyone was partying, I was learning."

His hard work would soon become his passion.

"I take my DJ-ing very seriously," Griffiths said. "These are people's moments that I'm making, and I have a responsibility to make those moments incredible."

He also joined the DLH. Griffiths first encountered the organization during a demon-

stration organized by DLH and Black Student Union (BSU) in Wilson Commons in 2013, following racially-charged incidents on campus. He was inspired by the amount of power and passion these students displayed, remarking that he hadn't seen that type of power on campus until then.

With this, Griffiths decided to become a general member of DLH and move into the house. Quickly, he became a leader, first serving as the organization's historian, where he both grew as a member of DLH grew his passion for photography.

It didn't take long before former DLH President Charlisa Goodlet asked him at the end of his sophomore year to run for vice president. As a leader in the house and around campus, he shared what he called "the rollercoaster" of emotional experiences he went through as a member of the organization.

"The campus reaction to our organization living in that house was harsh. I remember, my sophomore year, I felt like I was a walking target. If you're black and you're on the frat quad, people assume you're headed to DLH," he said.

However, he's found solace in the many positive moments and the realization that DLH is a place which truly brings people

together.

"What has happened on campus has made the bond between our members stronger," he said, also noting that multiple students from different corners of campus recently used the space to plan a peaceful demonstration.

As he looks toward the rest of college and graduation, Griffiths keeps his main goal in mind: to become a millionaire by age 27, and a billionaire by age 35. With this, he plans to give back to his community and other communities in need.

"My elementary school no longer has a chess program," he said. "I believe this needs to exist, and that art needs to exist in schools. So I want to go back, give back, and maybe also beautify my old neighborhood."

Lastly, Griffiths notes that the best piece of advice he's ever received was from Office of Minority Student Affairs' own Thomas Crews: "A bird in the hand is better than two in the bush."

We will leave it there, and as Griffiths would say, "Decipher this as you may."

You can request Aleem's DJ services by emailing him at alegriffiths@gmail.com and can check out his YouTube channel.

Bidna and Holloway are both Take Five scholars.

THE W. KAMAU BELL CURVE: ENDING RACISM IN ABOUT AN HOUR

**FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 10, 2017**
DOUGLASS BALLROOM @ 7:30pm
DOUGLASS COMMONS • UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER • Doors Open @ 7pm

TICKETS
\$5 UR Undergrads
\$10 UR Grads/Faculty/Staff
\$15 General Public

@ The Common Market in Wilson Commons
Tickets On Sale Jan. 30th

W. Kamau Bell is a critically acclaimed sociopolitical comedian. Host of the Emmy Award nominated, hit CNN docu-series United Shades of America. Host of the public radio show Kamau Right Now! on KALW in San Francisco. Co-host of two podcasts: Denzel Washington is The Greatest Actor of All Time Period and Politically Re-Active. The New York Times called Kamau "the most promising new talent in political comedy in many years."

STUDENT PROGRAMMING BOARD
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SPB is SA funded.

Anyone requiring disability accommodations should contact the University Intercor at 585.275.9125 at least five business days in advance of the event. For more info visit the Common Connection @ 201 Wilson Commons 585.275.5911 or wcsa@rochester.edu.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP *Appreciation Dinner*

TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS WHO ARE ADVISED
BY WILSON COMMONS STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND
ROCHESTER CENTER FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We want to thank you for all of your contributions you make to the campus community. This evening was a way to show you our appreciation.



Alice DeSimone Winners (left to right) – Isabel Miller, Md. Tanveer Karim, Kathryn Labine, Margaret Curtis, Kylie Sargeant, Sarah Bjornland, and Vivian Li.

Alice DeSimone Award

Given each year in memory of Alice DeSimone, who served for seventeen years as an Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Dean of Students. This award is presented to students who contributions to co-curricular life at the University have strengthened community spirit and involvement. Nominees need not be in high profile or formal positions of leadership to be considered. Instead, this award recognizes dedication, enthusiasm, collaboration, and positive role modeling as leadership traits that help promote and maintain a strong quality of life for all.



Ana Hubbard Winner – Aurek Ransom



Outstanding New Student Organization Award – SEGway (Survivor Empowerment Group)

Outstanding New Student Organization Award

Awarded to an undergraduate, University-recognized student organization that has been around between 1-4 years and is advised by the Rochester Center for Community Leadership or Wilson Commons Student Activities. This student organization is moving beyond the expectations of a startup organization. They demonstrate a long-lasting impact on the campus environment for all students.

Ana Hubbard Award

Established in 2009 by friends and family in memory of Ana Hubbard, class of 1999. Wilson Commons Student Activities presents the Ana Hubbard Award in recognition of a student whose participation in a student organization has improved their life, provided valuable skills and contributed to the vitality of their student organization and campus community.

Student Organization Photo Contest Winners



Best CCC Page – Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

This prize is given to the organization that best utilizes the options on CCC to visually showcase their organization.



Best Creative Group – Korean Percussion Group

The selected photo captures the vision and spirit of an organization in an inspired way.



Best Group Portrait – Chinese Students' Association

The selected photo best captures an organization's members in a thoughtful reflective moment.

Congratulations!

WILSON COMMONS
STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Office of the Dean of Students
.....
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

Dining Workers Serve With Smiles



University Dining Services worker, Dawn Marshall-Hosier, swipes ID card of a student entering Douglass Dining Hall.

DINING FROM PAGE 1

Schauf, director of Dining Services and auxiliary operations, goes by the motto, “hire the smile—you can teach everything else.”

It was those exact qualities that made Dawn and co-workers Leslie McKnight and Shamika Williams stick out.

Dawn and Leslie wound up working for Dining Services in a similar, though accidental manner. Dawn came to the department 23 years ago. At the time, she was working in one of the Medical Center’s research facilities. Having just given birth to her first child, the demanding hours required by the position were no longer feasible for her. Her supervisor recommended looking for positions on campus, as they only took place nine months out of the year.

As for Leslie, her sister recruited her as a University bus driver back in 2001. She transferred to Dining Services eight years later. Although she hasn’t been in the department

as long as Dawn, Leslie is one of oldest cashiers; her silver speckled hair gives away her age despite the secrecy with which she keeps its exact number.

Shamika Wilson is the youngest of the three and the newest to the job. Arguably, she is also the busiest. At 34, she is a single mother of four, works 40 hours a week at the University and is a full-time student at Monroe Community College, where she studies graphic design. Shamika was drawn to the job 5 years ago when she realized she was unable to support her family with the wages she was receiving at Wegmans.

Beside the liveable wages Dining Service employees earn (after five years, most are making at least \$15/hour), Dawn, Leslie, and Shamika rave about the benefits that come with the job. Health insurance is just one of them. Not only are hospital visits, checkups, and prescriptions covered, but the plan also includes dental and

optical services. Overall, it’s a better deal per month than Dawn’s daughter gets at Blue Cross Blue Shield. Dawn also gets more sick days than her daughter.

“She only gets 7 sick days a year,” says Dawn. “I’m like, girl, I’ve got 12!”

She breaks out her jazz hands in celebration.

Shamika, on the other hand, is using a training fund provided by her employment to help pay for her college education.

“My kids and I made a pact,” says Shamika. “If Mommy gets her college degree, so do they.”

And if Shamika’s children choose to attend the University, they would not have to pay full tuition due to the University’s Dependent Child Tuition Waiver. So far, her eldest son and daughter have no interest in attending UR; they have their eyes set on someplace warm, like the University of Florida. Shamika hopes her two younger kids will show more interest when the time comes.

“I pray all the time,” she laughs. “Like, please, save mommy some money!”

Although Dining Services is one of the largest employers on campus, it is a relatively close knit community. During transition periods or slow points throughout the day, employees gather around the register and kitchen stations to catch up. Their vivacious laughter can be heard from all corners of the empty dining hall.

Dawn serves as the matriarchal figure: she knows exactly what is being prepared at each station, who should be manning it, and what needs to be done behind the scenes to make sure everything runs smoothly. This can be attributed to her role as Executive Vice President and Organizer of New York State’s division of Service Employees International Union (SEIU).

Listro is a member of the Class of 2017.

Crossword Puzzle

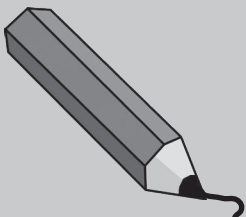
BY **SAM PASSANISI** ‘17 DIFFICULTY **EASY**

- ACROSS:**
- 1) Gauge for measuring RPMs
 - 9) UR’s student govt.
 - 11) Foo Fighters frontman
 - 13) Malaria treatment (and tonic ingredient)
 - 16) Nintendo’s 2006 gaming console
 - 17) Of a metropolitan character
 - 18) On the cusp
 - 20) Simplest English verb
 - 22) WWII-era German air force
 - 25) Simile word, along with “like”
 - 26) “Cheap Thrills” artist
 - 28) Greater metropolitan area for Hollywood, Compton, etc.
 - 31) “Parental guidance suggested” according to the MPAA
 - 32) Weapon of the future? Or, subject of research at UR
 - 34) Marital partner
 - 38) Cattleman’s rope
 - 39) Saint’s job, in Roman Catholicism especially
 - 41) English & Language Arts, for short
 - 42) Bast, Hera, or Kali, for example
 - 44) George Eastman’s camera company
 - 46) Nebraska postal abbr.
 - 47) 1982 Spielberg film
 - 48) U.S. penny, for one example
- DOWN:**
- 8) Railroad, abbr.
 - 9) SHIN
 - 10) Supreme Court Justice Samuel _____
 - 12) Luke’s uncle, in “Star Wars”
 - 14) Genus for U.S. Forest Service’s Smokey?
 - 15) Trump’s epithet for women (among others)
 - 19) Sports car maker _____ Romeo
 - 21) Reddish gemstone
 - 23) _____ Newton cookies
 - 24) May be innocent or guilty
 - 27) Suicide Squad’s Joker _____ Leto
 - 29) Craftsman, esp. of art
 - 30) Genital, in a general sense
 - 32) Fireman’s equipment, for one
 - 33) Metric system’s proper name, abbr.
 - 35) Airplane operator
 - 36) Utah postal abbr.
 - 37) Japanese watchmaker
 - 38) West African nation Sierra _____
 - 40) Computer generated, briefly
 - 41) Just barely make it
 - 43) Latin “I”
 - 45) Summertime essential, for many

Last Week’s Solution

A	P	E	N	W	O	L	F	R	V
E	L	I	X	I	R	D	Y	L	A
R	A	N	C	H	L	O	R	A	X
A	U	T	O	C	E	M	E	T	E
T	R	O	M	B	O	N	E	W	A
E	E	M	A	E	S	T	R	O	B
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44			45			46						
47			48									



P U Z Z L E S ?

Make crosswords for the Campus Times!

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HUMOR

Bad Advice Brian: How Do I Lose Weight?

By BRIAN LEONARD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Dear Brian,

I want to lose some weight and get in shape, but I never have time to go to the gym. What should I do?

- Dane Dwards

Hey, Dane, thanks so much for your question. What to do indeed. Well, before I respond, let me just say how happy I am to hear from someone who isn't Dan Edwards, that putrid, lecherous leper whom I hate the most. If it weren't for your aptly-timed inquiry, I may have drowned in a sea of Dan-submitted questions, each regarding the practical and ethical difficulties of melon-based self-pleasure (which evokes images of specially carved cantaloupes, but remember that cucumbers, too,

are technically melons). Anyway, to the question at hand—So you want to look more like ol' Strong Brian, huh? Pectorals ballooning, hips curvaceous, a thin layer of mucus enveloping your face to protect its pristine complexion from the numerous harshnesses of a warrior's life? Well, fat chance, bozo. I suspect you have neither the grit, the gusto, nor the glands to emulate my distinctly Adonic anatomy. You see, Dane, I wasn't always a two-ton towering slab of tough, tough stuff. In fact, in high school, I used to be a malformed dipshit just like anyone else, but with one key difference—I was extremely cool and funny. This confused my good-

looking classmates to no end. They would spot my shitty body in the hall and immediately, as a group, pick me

to realize upon my uttering some perfectly apt quip such as, "Damn...get trashed, me," that I was actually cool as hell.

At this point, they begrudgingly accepted me into their clique, but I still had a long way to go. Even though the popular girls adored my witticisms and showered me with platononic love, I remained eternally uninvited to their weekend parties, those vaporous staging points for teenage petting of which I had only

who was me would do: I began to surgically transform myself into a perfect creature by swapping my ugly, misshapen body parts with those of my beautiful peers. Luckily, they all got their wisdom teeth removed at around the same time, so all I had to do was sneak into their rooms post-operation and perform a procedure of my own.

From each of them, I took their most precious feature: from Ryan, his bulky quarterback's arms; from Trina, her bulbous posterior, with cheeks like twin housing markets; and from Long Hog Harry, I took what was only natural, given his name—a full head of hair.

So you see, Dane, that is the tale of how I came to appear this way. My advice is to do all of that.

Leonard is a member of the Class of 2017.



MORGAN MEHRING / ILLUSTRATION STAFF

up and deposit my poor ass in the nearest dumpster, only heard whispered tales. So, I did what any person

Unfortunate Circumstances

By ERIK CHIODO
SENIOR STAFF

There are unique people everywhere. If you've ever seen someone before, odds are they are unique. Even more unique than people's attributes are the situations they may find themselves in. Since I was a child, I've always thought of myself as different from others, so I have a great appreciation for others who have odd quirks of their own. When I was in nursery school, the teacher asked everyone what they wanted to be when they grew up and when my turn came, I said that I would like to be a dinosaur (specifically a T-Rex). Despite my teacher's incredulity, becoming a dinosaur is still a dream that I'm trying to keep alive. After graduation, I intend on working a few jobs to help fund this pursuit, which I've been setting money aside for ever since nursery school. It's called the "Erik Chiodo Dinosaur Fund" if anyone was curious or wanted to donate. (I take both cash and check.) 1. Anyways, without digressing too much, I've always prided myself on trying to discover and understand incomprehensible and in many cases useless things. So in keeping with tradition, I've compiled a list of people who have found themselves entangled in unique conundrums: 2. A hyperpolyglot, who can speak thirty languages, but who has a major speech impediment so bad that anything he says is incoherent. 3. Someone stranded on a desert island with a phone booth, but who doesn't have a quarter to phone home. And even if he did, how would he tell anyone where he was? 4. ADMV worker who can only

speak in riddles. So every encounter you have with him leads you more confused and uninformed then when you started the conversation. Oh, wait, that's just a normal DMV worker. 5. Someone who dedicated her life to reaching the end of a rainbow where he would be awarded a pot of gold from a leprechaun, but who realized once she got there that she had gone to the wrong end. 6. Someone who is informed by God that she can be privy to the secrets of the world and that they were sent to her AOL account. They haven't used that email for years and have forgotten the password. 7. Someone without any political experience becomes the President of the United States. 8. Someone who walks on his hands instead of on his feet accidentally walks into a foot fetish convention where he is greeted by everyone with a firm foot shake. 9. Someone who can turn water into wine, but only into Franzia. 10. Someone who is an incredibly talented singer, but only when underwater. 11. An identical twin looking in the mirror has an existential crisis, asking themselves the same question: "Who am I?" 12. Someone working from home wishes that they could get out more. His parents wish he would just get out of their house. The following list is the start of a new series of articles that I'll be publishing. I would write more for this article, but unfortunately I'm in quite the conundrum myself. I'm a writer with many ideas, but not enough newspaper space to accommodate them all. Chiodo is a member of the Class of 2017.

Noisy Neighbors

By SARAH JONES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hello, everybody! My name is Sarah Jones, and I am the host of today's very special game show, "Guess What My Upstairs Neighbors Are Doing!" In this segment of the show, I will provide you with various scenarios that you must put together to make sense of what the hell is going on in the lives of my upstairs neighbors. Now, before we begin, I'm sure I know what you're thinking—"Is this some sort of passive aggressive way of telling your upstairs neighbors to stop being so loud and annoying?" And my answer to that is, of course not! After all, who doesn't love getting woken up multiple times a week at 3:30 a.m. by mysterious, unrelenting sounds? Not me, that's for sure! Alrighty, let's begin! Scenario One : You and your friends are sitting out on your balcony, enjoying the fresh air, when all of a sudden a mysterious stream of liquid comes pouring down from the balcony above you, followed by some clapping and a weird sexist chant that you can't quite make out all of the words to. Did someone just shout about a "big booty hoe?" Probably. Scenario Two: You're sitting in your room, peacefully enjoying a nice bowl of Cheerios, when all of a sudden you hear something that could literally only be the sound of someone sawing down a tree in the room above you. What do you

make of this? Scenario Three: It's Monday morning, you're up and ready for your 9:00 a.m., and you step out the front door right into a giant puddle of mystery liquid soaking into the carpet. Is it soup someone spilled on their way up the stairs? Is it an exploded container of hummus? Vomit? I will provide you with various scenarios that you must put together to make sense of what the hell is going on in the lives of my upstairs neighbors. Who knows, just make sure you wipe your feet extra well on the way back into the suite! Scenario Four: There is a trail of half-eaten chicken wings from the parking lot all the way up to their door, because apparently garbage cans are just too hard to come by these days. I mean, really, what's up with that? Want to know how you did? I know I sure would. However, the world may never know, as any attempt to knock on the door to find out what's actually going on up there is met by an initial abrupt silence, some whispering, and finally some skittering and rustling in a sad attempt to pretend no one is home. Very clever, you guys! Alrighty, that's all I have for today folks! Be sure to tune in next week for, "What's That Smell in the Laundry Room?" Jones is a member of the Class of 2019.

HEY,
WHY
NOT
TRY
THE
CT
OUT
?

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

MAG Invites Guests to Be Heard

By ISABEL DRUKKER
A&E EDITOR

Ascending the stairs during the Memorial Art Gallery’s event Friday night, you might have noticed an odd juxtaposition between the DJ’s beats being left behind and the sound of harps and soft conversation replacing them ahead.

“Valentine’s Schmalentine’s,” the MAG’S anti-Valentine event included music by DJ ALYKHAN, samples from Hedonist Artisan Chocolates, music upstairs by Roxanne Ziegler and her Melody of harpists, a 10 cent storyteller, and a scavenger hunt throughout the gallery with giveaways for winners provided by the Little Theatre, Urban Decay Cosmetics, Salena’s Mexican Restaurant, and Nox.

“We are proudly serving Rochester’s reasonably attractive lovers of art,” MAG Director Jonathan Bimstock said. “And we have been doing so since 2013.”

The downstairs acted as dance floor and bar area. Inside the gallery, guests were welcome to admire the art, complete the heart themed scavenger hunt, or to play board games like “Clue” that had been placed on benches.

In addition, MAG provided a themed “compassionate listener” in different wings in the gallery.

“I believe in giving a person that shoulder to cry on and that ear to listen to,” listener Tina Star said. “I should have been a therapist in another life, but instead I went into art.”

Star is also a photographer, visual artist, and performance artist. She and the rest of the compassionate listeners were drawn to the position through their desire to help others.

“[My friend] thought it would be a great idea for me to get out of a different scene as a drag mother, drag persona,” listener Vivian Darling said. “I have a lot of people asking me for advice and things, so just to expand upon that, just, you know, sit around, listen. I like to make



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MEMORIAL ART GALLERY
Stroyteller Karl J.P. Smith types out a story at “Valentine’s Schmalentine’s.”

light of sometimes bad situations; I think everyone needs a good dose of laughter. If you can bring a little levity to a compassionate situation I think that’s a very strong ability.”

Darling was dressed in a queen’s ball gown, complete with a corseted waist, and dramatic turquoise makeup to go with the blank gallery she was stationed in.

Upstairs in the Welt Gallery, compassionate listener Derrick Grant wore a red, see-through shirt made by designer friend Benji Zhen Wang Wong to embrace his character “Mr. Transparent.”

Grant works in the Buffalo Federal Detention Facility for Immigration Customs Enforcement.

“In prison, it’s not like ‘Orange is the New Black,’” Grant said. “Being a translator, you’re listening and interpreting [...] I’ve developed a very long fuse in prison. In prison, you want to defuse a situation, you don’t want to inflate it or beat anyone. You want to do whatever it takes to lessen the heart-rate, not increase the heart-rate. So I have a long fuse, I enjoy listening.”

Also present was Karl J. P.

Smith, who provided his services as a 10-cent storyteller. His typewriter was set up in the Watson Foyer, and a line gathered to give him a prompt and then wait a few minutes while he wrote a story for them.

“I get a lot of requests for heartbreak or meet-cute stories,” Smith said.

Smith has been a 10-cent storyteller for more than 3 years. He can be found with his typewriter at various locales in Rochester, such as its museums, the pier, or the farmer’s market, practicing his trade.

Star noted that she moved to Rochester from the Midwest and enjoys the opportunity to work at places like the MAG to spread her beliefs about true compassion.

“My goal in general is to always be cognitive and aware of what people are telling you,” she said. “Like people listen, but they don’t really listen, it goes in one ear, out the other. And what people truly need in this life is a best friend, somebody who is going to remember to what they say [...] Something as simple as that.”

Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR
IBTL BRINGS COMIC RELIEF TO UR WINTER
Freshman Devin Hott performs in her debut In Between the Lines show.



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR
STUDENT COMEDY GROUP IMPROVISES
Freshman Haitham Abdel Hakim and senior Ben Hall were both a part of IBTL’s main performance this past weekend. IBTL is the only comedy improv group on UR’s campus.

UR Music Maker Brings Local Touch to Global Sound

By ASHLEY BARDHAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Rick Carl (who creates music under the moniker Deaf Wasp) is a second-year student and musician at UR. Fun, poppy synths and staccato drums make up his homegrown EDM, always accompanied by hazy imagery and titles reminiscent of snapshot photography. The Campus Times sat down with Rick (virtually) to discuss his musical process, and the merits of wasps over bees.

Campus Times: When did you first start writing music?

Rick Carl: I started writing music when I was in middle school. I started by playing keyboard in a few bands and writing some parts. Around 2012, I

started making electronic music on my own, and I’ve been work-

Feelings are definitely easier to write songs about, but I’m mostly focused on capturing a mood in a specific atmosphere.

ing on improving ever since.

CT: A lot of your song titles relate to locations or weather. Would you say it’s easier writing about internal or external states? To what extent do they relate?

RC: A lot of my songs are inspired by little snapshots of things that have happened to me,

so I’d say they’re a combination of internal and external things. Like, for example, ‘Mount Hope’ was inspired by a night that I was walking alone in Mount hope Cemetery. So it’s inspired by that place, the walk I took, how I felt, what I was thinking, etc. Feelings are definitely easier to write songs about, but I’m mostly focused on capturing a mood in a specific atmosphere.

CT: Do you notice a difference in the sound you produce while you’re in your hometown versus in Rochester?

RC: Well, I think my friendships and interests that I’ve developed since being in Rochester have definitely affected the kind of music I make. My new album, “Evening Comes,” is

my first release in several years because I’ve been changing my sound from my older experimental music to a new dance-oriented EDM sound.

CT: What about making EDM
EDM also leaves a lot of room for creativity, and it’s a lot of fun getting a tiny little second of music just perfect.

appeals to you?

RC: I like making EDM because I have a lot of opinions about what makes a good EDM song. Most of those factors are things that I’ve only heard one or two artists use well, so I like

trying to make EDM that I enjoy. EDM also leaves a lot of room for creativity, and it’s a lot of fun spending hours getting a tiny little second of music just perfect. And at the end I’ve got a fun track I can dance to, and that’s always really rewarding.

CT: Now, the most important question: If you were in a fight and could only pick between a bee and a wasp to back you up, which would you choose?

RC: [Laughs] I’d definitely pick a wasp. Bees just sting once and they’re done, a wasp can just keep on fighting!

Deaf Wasp’s newest release “Evening Comes” can be found on Spotify.

Bardhan is a member of the Class of 2020.

‘Riverdale’ Reinvents, Falls Flat

By SREYOSHI SUR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“Riverdale” premiered last week on The CW, and no, it’s not comical or goofy or anything else that “Archie” comic readers think of when they think of the series.

Although the show is written by “Archie” comics creative officer Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa and produced by Greg Berlanti (acclaimed for “Arrow” and “Flash”), it is nothing like the original comics, lacking the cookie-cutter story plots and saccharine moral backbone.

The show derived its name from the town on which the “Archie” universe is based — Riverdale, a nondescript American small town.

The story starts when Jason and Cheryl Blossom, the town’s rich twins, go for a boat ride on the morning of the Fourth of July. An “accident” strikes, their boat capsizes, and Jason dies. This incident starts to unravel the town’s long-tucked-away secrets.

The show retains the original comic series’ classic characters: red-head and freckled Archie; doe-eyed, girl-next-door Betty Cooper; rich and classy Veronica; and gluttony geek Jughead. The sexy, confident brat Cheryl Blossom is there, along with some of the

The story starts when Jason and Cheryl Blossom, the town’s rich twins, go for a boat ride [...] an ‘accident’ strikes, their boat capsizes, and Jason dies.

side characters: Mr. Weatherbee, the principal of Riverdale High;

Miss Grundy, the music teacher; and Kevin, the only gay character introduced in the comics.

But it seems only the nomenclature remains.

In the comics, Archie is an average American teenager, trying to get through high school but constantly finding ways to mess up. But here in “Riverdale,” he is the perfect guy, a

about the events that happen in

There are some catching moments, but if you grew up reading ‘Archie’ comics, this is not for you.

Riverdale.

The show’s writer has introduced numerous shades of gray in Betty’s character, too.

There is a scene with Cheryl Blossom in which sweet Betty says, “Get the hell of my house before I kill you.”

The way the color of her eyes changes emphasizes that Betty Cooper had a dark side all along—something the show promises to explore.

“Riverdale” has the melodrama of a classic high school series, but with the dark mysteries of a drama. There are some catching moments, but if you grew up reading “Archie” comics, this is not for you.

That’s partly because “Riverdale” conflicts with the time in which the comics were originally set.

Kevin refers to Archie as the “millennial straight guy,” and the presence of smartphones and laptops indicates that the show is set in modern times. But the ambiance in Pop Tate’s Shop, Cheryl and Jason’s vintage car, the glove etiquettes by Cheryl and Hermione (Veronica’s mom), all imply that it is in the 1950s. These signs are subtly put in the background, and one can clearly see that “Riverdale” is struggling to find its place in history.

The suspense and thrills are intriguing but at times predictable. As a whole, “Riverdale” is trying hard to be something more than just another young adult drama—but it doesn’t quite cut it.

Sur is a graduate student in the College of Arts & Sciences.



ASHLEY BARDHAN / CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

‘Riverdale’ has the melodrama of a classic high school series, but with the dark mysteries of a drama.

nabe musician, a popular football player, the handsome hunk with a string of girls trailing him. Jughead, who’s a glutton in the comic, appears in the show as the narrator writing a novel

‘CHANNEL SURFING’

Jeff Finds the Future of Punk, Maybe?



By JEFF HOWARD
COLUMNIST

Two years ago, I wrote a piece on producer/songwriter Nok From the Future’s debut EP, “A+.” The EP had tight trap production, slick robotic-style vocals and sharp lyrics. The album could have been released today and it would be “straight fire.” However, in August of last year, Nok From the Future gifted us with “BOMBS 1,” an EP where he flexes his status as a genuine musical visionary. In this 5-song EP, Nok combines his signature trap sound with punk rock and folk sensibilities. The resulting sound is bold, endearing, and more skillfully executed than anything Kanye West has produced since 2010.

Admittedly, “BOMBS 1”
The resulting sound is bold, endearin, and more skillfully executed than anything Kankye West has produced since 2010.

comes out of the gate with an undeniable Kanye influence on the track “Real Friends.” The song has a heart-stirring chord progression, aquatic pitch-shifted vocal harmonies, and a very loud kick sample. It’s laden with rich instrumentation, from the power chord guitar chugs (presumably played by the song’s guest artist, Dylan Brady) to Nintendo-style 8-bit synth bleeps. Though experimental, the song has an undeniable pop appeal, so much that the hook sounds like something you could have sworn you’ve heard before.

Nok continues to riff on the listener’s expectation of a “banger mixtape” with the second track, “Road.” The track has all the elements of a 2016 trap banger, with one curious modification—the snare hit is on beat three. The beat takes a hot second to get used to in this sense, but the risk is worth it. Not only does “Road” stand out from all the other codeine-laced bangers produced by Metro Boomin that you hear these days, it also prepares the listener for the paradigm shift that occurs in the album’s next track, “Things Never Got Better.”

Nok’s choice of synths for the track is the first sign that “Things Never Got Better” is a game-changer. The song opens with a sound we’ve all heard before but never thought of as artistically viable—the GarageBand acoustic guitar VST. From this curiously cheesy opening the song blossoms into a heart-breaking folk-punk anthem engineered for year 2199.

After the next track, “Do,” a slow-burning, ruthless heavy hitter, Nok finishes the EP with his most immaculate track to date, “Wocky Wocky.” This song also starts with a similar GarageBand guitar VST as “Things Never got Better.” However, as opposed to the moody pop-funk fusion that occurred on that track, “Wocky Wocky” sounds like it’s backed by a cyborg version of Jimmy Buffet’s touring band. On the track organs, glockenspiels, Fender Rhodes VSTs and bongo samples fuse into a sensational rubbery texture that’s incredibly exciting. There’s something about “Wocky Wocky” that makes me feel like I’m walking down the street on a sunny day with my head down like George Michael from “Arrested Development” when he walked with his head down in that way that obviously was a reference to Charlie Brown. Yet, in this feeling of dejection there’s some sort of whimsical glee mixed in that makes the feeling enjoyable. In this sense, on “Wocky Wocky,” Nok has achieved the most profound purpose that mu-

In this sense, on ‘Wocky Wocky,’ Nok has achieved the most profound purpose that music can serve: remind us what it feels like to be human.

sic can serve: remind us what it feels like to be human.

The difference between Nok from the Future and Kanye West is that Nok doesn’t get caught up in his own self hype. While Kanye’s creativity is unparalleled, Nok takes that level of creativity and reigns it in with better mixing and more intricate and developed song structures. In this sense, Nok isn’t just from the Future, he is the Future and I have no qualms calling him the best artist alive right now.

While he has the epic level of creativity that Kanye West does, he goes an extra step in fusing together everything that is music and culture today — cheap VSTs, actual physical instruments that don’t just exist on a screen, the need for quick pop song structures to cater to an increasingly short human attention span—with a completeness that had not yet been achieved before this release. In these trying times, that completeness equates to the feeling of being able to breathe again. That’s why Nok doesn’t need to put himself on a pedestal—he’s simply giving us what’s been there the whole time, waiting to be constructed into the truth of today.

So take a load off, turn off the social media, and listen to “BOMBS1.” You might be able to breathe again after a couple of listens.

Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.

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