

Campus Times

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Burgett Center Talk Tackles PC Culture

BY SAM PASSANISI
OPINIONS EDITOR

Students gathered in the living room of the Paul J. Burgett Intercultural Center, a newly-furnished space on the third floor of the Frederick Douglass Building, on Wednesday afternoon to discuss political correctness, free speech, and identity politics.

The event, a dialogue hosted by the Intercultural Center's One Community program, was a low-profile and lightly-promoted chat among students. Senior Michael Hellman, who works for the Intercultural Center, facilitated the discussion.

Hellman opened the talk with a question to the participants: could they give an example of a time when someone's words had made them uncomfortable? Could they give an example of a time when their words had made someone else uncomfortable?

Students chimed in with their examples, and the discussion quickly segued into a conversation about Facebook arguments.

Is it reasonable, one student asked, to "unfriend" people on Facebook who express opinions you disagree with? Or, as a number of people at the dialogue argued, is it better to stay in contact with those people, and to try to bring them around to your way of thinking?

Most everyone agreed that it was better to engage with people of the opposite political viewpoint than to try to break off contact with them—although a few pointed out the tendency for Facebook arguments and other internet debates to quickly turn nasty.

"I'm too old to keep spending time trying to educate people," Jay Strobeck, one of the graduate assistants for the center, said, saying they sometimes disconnect with people who post pro-Donald Trump material.

The next question on Hellman's list was about the meaning of identity politics. He defined this as the tendency for people to cluster based on their religious or social identities, rather than according to more traditional party lines.

In the conversation that fol-

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CHI HUANG / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

'90s Kids Do More Than Remember

Senior Allison Froio rocks out at No Jackets Required's "The Totally 90s Show" concert last Friday night. Read more on p. 11.

Pumpkins Rain on Wilson Quad

BY AMANDA MARQUEZ
NEWS EDITOR

Pumpkins descended from the sky and onto the Wilson Quadrangle last Friday afternoon as the UR chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) hosted its 15th Annual Pumpkin Launch.

Eight teams—one of which was from Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)—competed for 3-D-printed pumpkin and trebuchet figurines, though

the real incentive was bragging rights, a desire stemming from intergroup rivalries, over who had the best trebuchet or air cannon.

"We compete for respect," said Solar Splash President and senior Edward Ruppel.

"Robotics and Physics are our main rivals," he added, "mainly because Robotics took our cannon design two years, and Physics copied our design last year, so it was a good feeling when theirs blew up this year. But it's all in good fun."



ALEC KAUFMAN / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Eight teams competed to see who could launch pumpkins the furthest last Friday.

Senior and ASME member Michael Kaplan agreed that prizes were the least of each team's concerns.

"It's really about who's the biggest nerd and who can make the best machine," he said.

Many teams began working on their contraptions months prior to the pumpkin launch, though a few inherited theirs from previous competitors within their organizations.

This year was UR Makers' first time competing, so they began planning in early September and built their trebuchet over fall break. Solar Splash has been competing since 2010 and modifies their cannon shortly before the date of the launch.

"We tend to start about a week before the competition updating what we see fit, and then a few nights before the competition, we go out and test it with an assortment of fruits, vegetables, and gourds," Ruppel said.

This year the judging criteria was based on the cumulative distance of each team's best two-out-of-four throws. The two pumpkins that traveled the farthest were the trials

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The Dead Come Alive at MAG Event

BY ISABEL DRUKKER
A&E EDITOR

Spirits were high, in more ways than one.

The Memorial Art Gallery (MAG) held its most successful social of the year last Friday, as nearly one thousand people—including a few paranormal investigators—turned out for its "Museum of the Dead: Alive Again" event.

"It's a fantastic way to get people into the museum that wouldn't normally come," Meg Colombo, a MAG spokesperson, said. "It's about getting people to engage with the art, feeling comfortable here, and wanting to come back [...] We want people to love it here."

"Alive Again" offered its guests a walking tour with selected art, a crafts table, gin and vodka tasting from Buffalo distillery Tommy Rotter, food from local venues, and a dance floor manned by DJ Ally Khan.

"We didn't know there were going to be that many people at the party," Indulgence dance group co-captain and junior Kavon Wallace said.

Indulgence had been requested by Alive Again organizers to dance in a flash mob in the center of the dance floor to Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

"The MAG is one of the great gateways for the UR to the city of Rochester," MAG Director Jonathan Binstock said in a phone interview. "UR owns the MAG—all of it, the building, the land, its art, all the assets. [But] the museum is primarily a community art museum. What you saw last night was just the public."

Binstock was thrilled with how many people came out to the MAG event.

"I loved all the great art costumes, I just loved the spirit," he said.

In addition to guests, who dressed in an array of costumes from minimal effort ears and party clothing to a full out replication of iconic pieces from the museum, "Alive Again" was attended by members the Monroe County Paranormal Investigators (MCPI).

Due to growing rumors of hauntings at the 103 year-old building, MCPI will be doing an investigation of the MAG on Nov. 5.

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LEAH NASON / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

SCARE FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Junior Nick Ventura (standing) and sophomore Conor Shanahan participate in Sigma Chi and Habitat for Humanity's haunted house, The Brick Asylum. All proceeds go towards Sigma Chi's annual Dominican Republic Service Trip and to help sponsor a Habitat for Humanity house in the Rochester community.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Person Enters Student's Car

OCT. 23—A student reported that someone entered her car in the Rainbow Lot and took \$20.

Student Robbed at Park Lot (1)

OCT. 24—A graduate student was the victim of a robbery in Park Lot.

Student Victim of Off Campus Robbery

OCT. 27—An Eastman student was the victim of a robbery while walking in the area of 67 Gardiner Park. The student was approached from behind by an unknown person who placed what was believed to be a handgun against her head and demanded her property. The student complied with the suspect's demands and handed over the property. There were no reported injuries.

Student Struck by BBs (2)

OCT. 30—An undergraduate student reported being struck by BBs that had been fired from a dark colored vehicle as he and a group of friends walked on Barton Street near the Riverview complex early this morning around 1:00 a.m. The student sustained minor injuries to his back and was treated at the scene. DPS and RPD are investigating this incident.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 1

TOWN HALL MEETING

HAWKINS-CARLSON ROOM, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
All members of the University community are welcome to participate in a town hall meeting on the Commission on Race and Diversity.

NON-DEGREE RECITAL

CIMINELLI LOUNGE, 6:30-8 P.M.
The Eastman School of Music will be showcasing the musical talents of Abran Orlando Madrid, who will be performing on the saxophone.

WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 2

TOURNEES FILM FESTIVAL: FRANCOFONIA

HOYT HALL, 6:45-8:30 P.M.
The Tournees Film Festival presents ABCDs in Contemporary French and Francophone Cinema: Action, Biopic, Comedy, Documentary and Drama. This event is free and open to the public.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

WILSON COMMONS HIRST LOUNGE, 11 A.M.-2 P.M.
Representatives from community organizations will provide information for survivors and volunteer opportunities to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault.

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 3

MAGTHURSDAYS

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 5-8 P.M.
Visit the museum for half price admission from 5 to 9 p.m. and listen to live music, and wine, beer, and food for purchase.

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

WELLES-BROWN ROOM, 8-9:30 P.M.
Speaker Zoe Ridolfi-Starr and an open-mic portion for survivors of sexual assault who would like to share their stories.

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 4

CLUB ROCHESTER

DOUGLASS BALLROOM, 4-5:30 P.M.
Join the University community in celebrating Native America Heritage. Hosted by NASA and the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, enjoy free appetizers and low cost beverages at our campus happy hour.

PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM

DEWEY 2110E, 3:30-5 P.M.
Peter van Inwagen of Notre Dame will give a talk, followed by a reception in Lattimore Hall 501.

Lam Square Lauded, But Adjustments Still Coming

BY DAVID SCHILDKRAUT
NEWS STAFF

River Campus Libraries is looking to replace the booth tables in Evans Lam Square, just one of a suite of changes to the recently renovated space in response to mixed, but generally positive, student reactions.

In addition to swapping the tables—which students had complained were too small for the booths—Assistant Dean of Academic Engagement Rochelle Mazar said River Campus Libraries (RCL) is planning to add more digital and physical signage to the area, display student artwork in the space's instructional suites, and address table placement relative to power outlets.

Lam Square, renovated over the summer, reopened on Aug. 24. Some of the most major changes were a tripling of the amount of seating and the installation of different seating areas. All-gender restrooms were also installed in the hallway between Lam Square and Gleason Library.

Many of the changes were made in response to student feedback on the popular study space.

Some, though, had concerns after the remodeling about the “Apple Store”-feel of certain parts of the space.

The project is still considered to

have been a success by RCL.

RCL staff noted that there is a general evolution of the people present in Lam Square throughout the day. In the mornings, it is a popular spot for individual workers and studiers. By the mid-to-late afternoon, Lam Square is busy with students working on assignments and studying in groups.

One of the biggest changes both library staff and students noticed was that Lam Square felt like a more inclusive environment. Previously, groups would seem to claim tables as their own space. Several students noted how this trend has virtually disappeared since the new Lam Square opened.

Students with feedback are encouraged to attend the monthly Library Student Forum meetings to make their voices heard about programming at and changes to the libraries on campus.

“We believe that Lam Square has been a success evidenced by the many positive comments we are receiving and the amount of use it is getting,” Dean of River Campus Libraries Mary Ann Mavrinac said. “Evans Lam Square evolved from student feedback, and we continue to address issues expressed by students that are typical of a large project such as this.”

Schildkraut is a member of the Class of 2020.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RIVER CAMPUS LIBRARIES

SCARE FAIR TAKES CUE FROM TV HIT

A photo of Rush Rhees Library's annual Scare Fair, “StrangUR Things,” set to the theme of Stranger Things.

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Burgett Center Talks Speech

DIALOGUE FROM PAGE 1

lowed, students discussed the strengths and weaknesses of identity politics.

“Groupthink is dangerous,” Elizana-Marie Joseph said.

“Can we only be one thing?” Joseph asked later. The discussion turned to the danger of putting people into boxes—a box of LGBT individuals, perhaps, or a basket of Trump supporters.

The discussion wrapped up with a point about how to address people with racist or sexist attitudes.

Rather than starting by saying “you’re wrong,” Hellman suggested starting with a question: “Why do you feel that way?”

It might lead to more productive conversations, he said.

The employees of the Intercultural Center—who include two undergraduates, two graduate students, and Director Jessica Guzman-Rea—are relishing the new office space, Hellman said. Previously, he added, the Center occupied a tiny office on the fifth floor of Wilson Commons, where it was difficult even to fit everyone inside. So, moving into the new space in the Douglass, which features a study lounge and larger offices, was a relief.

One Community Dialogues are hosted in the living room of the Intercultural Center on a monthly basis, and are advertised on Facebook.

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

ASME Launches Pumpkins

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that counted, and the sum of the distance each one traveled resulted in the score.

Awards were also given to the teams with the best design, tightest grouping of throws, and most team spirit.

Though they tied in total feet, UR Robotics came in first place, while Solar Splash came in second. Ruppel blames this on Solar Splash’s two-year winning streak.

“Professor Muir likes to give us a hard time because we are

in the department,” he said.

In third place came RIT, which was also awarded for being most consistent with their trebuchet.

“For us, the pumpkin launch is about fun, but also about learning,” said UR Makers President and junior Chris Smith. “It’s not just an engineering project so much as it is a learning experience and a way to get the community excited.”

Marquez is a member of the Class of 2017.

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OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

How to Beat Trump



BY SAM PASSANISI
OPINIONS EDITOR

America’s liberals and Democrats have succeeded in laughing themselves to the brink of Armageddon. It began with Jon Stewart’s light-hearted treatment of Trump’s candidacy announcement and continued on through such milestones as John Oliver’s “Make Donald Drumpf Again” segment. Now, with eight days left until election day, the orange buffoon who entertained us throughout 2016 is no longer funny. We could have stopped him before, at a dozen different junctures. The media could have stopped giving him the coverage he craved. We, the people, could have stopped indulging in snide laughter at our right-wing neighbors in their sticky situation, and instead chosen to reach across the aisle and help them see an alternative. But no matter. We are all in the trenches together, now. The time has come to stop laughing, and to do something about it. What do we lose, exactly, if Donald Trump is elected president? What has he promised? It turns out that he’s promised very little, except for his nebulous vow to Make America Great Again. That’s the real rhetorical genius of Trump: his ability to make horrendous threats and promises without ever actually saying so, in so many words. Trump never actually says “We’ll lock up all the brown-colored folks and foreigners.” Not in so many words. Instead, he waits for the CNN anchor to ask him, outraged, “Do you mean to say you’re going to lock up all the brown-colored folks and foreigners?” Trump can then reply, with a wink and a smile, “Oh, now, I never said that.” In the third debate, Trump didn’t actually say that he’d make a grab for power by force, if Clinton were elected. He merely said that he’d leave us in suspense. Everyone knew what he meant, of course—supporters and denigrators alike—but his supporters are free to brush it off as Trump’s blustery, macho manner. Still, and in spite of his playground-bully’s manner of speaking, we know what Trump stands for. He stands for White, male America taking back what it used to have. He stands for getting those Black neighbor

kids off your uncle’s lawn, and for kicking the dirty Mexicans out of your grandfather’s sandwich shop. He stands for putting those nasty women back in their kitchens, and for making sure those jabbering Chinese tourists don’t clutter up Disneyland. After all, asks a nagging voice in the back of reader’s head, isn’t there something to that line about Making America Great Again? What if we did just roll back the clock to a simpler, more racially homogeneous time? Look, a racially homogenous society might well be easier to run—that’s the hidden strength of Bernie Sanders’ much-vaunted Scandinavian socialist democracies, and the not-so-hidden strength of the 1950s America to which Trump’s supporters would like to return. But we don’t want to go backwards. We want to face the challenges of the world’s most diverse, cosmopolitan society and invent new, better ways for humans to live in harmony. We are going to go out to the polls this November in great numbers, and we are going to say so. We are going to do this not just because we like having taco trucks and kebab stands on our street corners, but because we believe what every real American believes, what has made us the greatest country on Earth for 240 years, and what makes us Earth’s brightest hope for the future: that every man, woman, and gender-nonconforming person is created equal under the sky. Donald Trump does not believe this, but by going to the polls next month and voting against him, we will affirm that we do. Donald Trump’s particular brand of evil is the kind that cannot be beat by force. For Trump, might makes right—in his mind he doesn’t just want to win, he deserves to win, because he has the most money, the best words, the most famous face, and the loudest voice. You can hear it in the way he interrupts Clinton at the debates. Wrong! It’s why he can’t be beat by laughing at him or belittling him—by doing so, Jon Stewart and John Oliver and all the rest of the cheap, smarmy late-night show hosts are engaging Trump on his own terms. They’re admitting to him that the way to defeat your opponent is to laugh at him and belittle him, to mock his appearance or his disability or the way he talks. Wrong! Trump is the master of that game, the ultimate schoolyard bully, and we can’t beat him that way. But we can beat him by voting. We have to. And we will. *Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.*

EDITORIAL BOARD

To Rock the Boat, Rock the Vote

Whether you’re a UR student, faculty member, employee, or none of the above, you should vote in the general election on Nov. 8. That ought to go without saying. College students, who are among the brightest and most culturally aware people in the nation, ought to know the importance of voting better than most. But a quick survey of students will reveal a disheartening tendency toward political apathy. Why not vote, after all? It involves very little cost to the voter. It could almost be called lazy not to do it. This is especially true for today’s voters. Compared to the women who fought for the right to vote in the early 20th century, or the African-Americans who braved Jim Crow laws and lynchings to come out to the polls in the late 1800s, the modern voter’s path to the polls is remarkably smooth. The modern reluctant voter can’t help but compare him or herself to voters of a bygone era, who might have been willing to die for that right. We’re aware, of course, that this sounds like the same tone-deaf argument used by those who think Colin Kaepernick has no right to kneel during the national anthem. We’re also aware just how well this kind of guilt tripping tends to work. The modern reluctant voter is smart enough to realize that voting is a right and a privilege, but not a duty. Much like reciting the Pledge of Allegiance or standing for the national an-

them, voting is something that no one ought to be coerced into doing. Nevertheless, it’s hard not to feel that the issue of voting is different, somehow. Protesting the Pledge or the anthem is a form of speech, a form of protest. But throwing away the right to vote says, “I choose to stay silent and let others make my decisions for me.” For a person living in a representative democracy, refusing to vote is the wrong decision. Even to the most ardent Bernie Sanders or Ted Cruz supporter, to whom all of the presidential candidates might seem anathema, it should be apparent that, in not voting, something is lost. For those who truly can’t bring themselves to vote for any of the candidates for president, we urge them not to lose sight of the importance of “down-ballot” races. Elections for Senator, House Representative, and any number of local offices don’t get the same publicity as the presidential race, but they’re arguably just as important, and are often decided by fewer votes. Throwing away the opportunity to vote is a manifestation of the bystander effect by which people slow down to rubberneck at car accidents but don’t pull over to help. It’s the same quirk in our psychology that tells us, “Don’t worry, someone else will take care of it.” And it’s the same error in judgement that causes us to throw a small piece of litter on the ground, telling ourselves, “It’s just one candy wrapper; no one will notice.” But it’s not just a single candy

wrapper—it’s several million, because many others have the same thought. That’s the fundamental failure in the logic of those who tell themselves, “I live in a solidly red (or blue) state. My vote won’t make a difference either way.” For proof of this, look to Texas, the famously red bastion that’s been reclassified as a swing state in this year’s watershed election. In the United Kingdom, there’s the example of a referendum that many voters didn’t take seriously, resulting in the startling Brexit decision. If you’re a U.S. citizen and registered to vote, there’s no good excuse not to—no matter how far you are from home, no matter how uneducated you think you are, and no matter how inconsequential you feel your vote may be. If you don’t live locally, then we encourage you to vote by mail. If you live in Rochester, we encourage you go to your polling place and vote. You can check your registration status online at vote.org, regardless of where you call home. If you’re a student, the Rochester Center for Community Leadership (RCCL) makes things easier for you by providing a number of resources. The Blue Line shuttle will provide transportation on Election Day to the Saunders Research Building, which is the designated polling place for River Campus residents. RCCL and the Department of Political Science will also host a pizza party in Rettner Hall from 8 to 11 p.m. on election day for students who wish to watch the returns.

This editorial is published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Aurek Ransom (Editor-in-Chief), Justin Trombly (Managing Editor), Sam Passanisi (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-EDS

Why Not More Faculty Diversity at UR?

BY SARMISHTHA PRATHIVADHI-BHAYANKARAM

One of the factors that drew me to attend UR was its promotion of a diverse and inclusive community. According to Forbes, the enrolled student population is approximately 51 percent Caucasian, ten percent Asian, five percent African-American, six percent Hispanic and Latino, and 16 percent international students. In comparison with the state school I considered—the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, whose student population is 85 percent Caucasian—UR seemed to fit my needs well.

Soon after arriving on campus, however, I noticed that the advertised diversity did not seem to be reflected in the faculty. My professors, and those of my peers, were predominately Caucasian, regardless of the subject area. In contrast to this, I observed that the Environmental Services Workers (ESWs) and dining workers were predominantly African-American.

This clear segregation among the different types of staff (faculty versus other employees) was rather uncomfortable, and hard to overlook. When I brought up the topic with my friends, I found I was not alone in having made this observation.

Although I could not find any statistics regarding the dining workers and ESWs, I did find information regarding the ethnicity of professors. The ethnic makeup of UR faculty is, alarmingly, mostly white, with a mere 6.6 percent drawn from minority groups.

After speaking with Associate professor of Anthropology Daniel Reichman, I learned that this racial segregation stems from a combination of the economic and educational segregation in the Rochester area.

The Rochester area has long been known for its history as an epicenter of both the civil rights and women’s rights movements. Yet what is often overlooked in Rochester is the city’s years of racial tension—most notably the 1964 race riot.

The riot began with the attempted arrest of a 19-year-old black man by the Rochester Police Department after a phone call was made by the Mothers Improvement Association of the Eighth Ward. The arrest ended in brutal violence by the police, and a riot broke out at the intersection of Nassau and Joseph Avenues.

Riots like this one led to

“white flight” from the area, as Caucasians migrated in large numbers from urban to suburban areas. This kind of mobility was difficult for minority groups, especially black people, to access, because the city’s large corporations—specifically Kodak and Xerox—were blatantly racist. Both companies refused to hire black workers, under the impression that they were taking spots away from potential white workers. As this discrimination continued into the ’60s, ’70s, ’80s, and ’90s, black people made up a disproportionate amount of the inner city population, while whites made up the majority of upper-middle class suburbia.

This is further correlated with education level. Lower income might mean inability to afford a college education. Scholarships often impose a minimum GPA requirement; however, if a person is working one, two, or three jobs, keeping a high GPA is much more difficult. Moreover, kids whose parents are not educated beyond a high school level often place less emphasis on the necessity of higher education.

When the University goes about hiring dining workers and ESWs, the jobs tend to go to people who reside in the predominantly black inner-city areas. Knowing the history of white flight, race riots, and employment discrimination, it’s no surprise that such a racial difference continues to exist between faculty and other employees.

The question then becomes what to make of the situation. In the past, there have been events to improve worker conditions such as wages and hours, but seemingly little has been done to address the faculty segregation. It’s difficult to solve the underlying issue of segregation, as it stems from a complex mixture of class, race, educational, and economic matters.

Awareness of this issue in the student body—but also, more importantly, in the administration—needs to be the first step. The administration should be more proactive in recruiting and hiring a diverse faculty. There should also be more accessibility to programs such as can drives or clothing donations for lower-income employees.

Without a call to action, the issue will not be solved, and the cycle will simply start over. It is only through an active attempt to deconstruct segregation patterns that things will change.

Prathivadhi-Bhayankaram is a member of the Class of 2020.

Palestinian Awareness Month is One-Sided, Misguided

BY Yael Schiller

I am a progressive Zionist Jewish woman. I hold dual American and Israeli citizenship. I am an avid supporter of social justice movements. I have volunteered in Israel and in the Palestinian Territories. I have spent months in dialogue with experts on both sides of the political divide and care deeply about a just and peaceful solution to the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

By all accounts, I should be an avid supporter of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), but I am anything but. Here’s why.

As a student at UR, I have

By all accounts, I should be an avid supporter of Students for a Democratic Society, but I am anything but.

experienced too many ignorant, anti-Israel encounters, many of them masked by pro-Palestinian agendas. Mostly, I have let them pass. But now, with the latest insult from SDS, in the form of “Palestinian Awareness Month,” I must speak up.

SDS, you claim you are “not affiliated with any political party and welcome people with political views across the spectrum.”

But this is not true. You have a clear anti-Israel political agenda.

Here are two examples. First, your “State Oppression”

committee focuses solely on the State of Israel. Are there no other states in the world worthy of the “oppression” title? What about neighboring Syria, where the government has murdered over 200,000 of their own citizens in the last few years and makes daily headlines with new atrocities?

Second, your Palestinian Awareness month project does very little to increase knowledge about the Palestinian culture and history, but rather focuses solely on anti-Israel propaganda. Shameful.

And yet, it would be unfair to assume the plight of the Palestinians isn’t bound up tightly with Israel. Israel’s imperfections are many, and worthy of coverage. But to avoid producing one-sided propaganda, you ought to fairly address other key contributors of the Palestinian situation.

Consider the Palestinian Authority’s “problematic” leadership, who have taken very large sums of money from their own treasury, robbing the Palestinians of badly-needed resources. And what of Hamas’ violent and theocratic police state, where children, schools, and hospitals are routinely used for military purposes?

If you really cared about Palestinians (and were focused on a true pro-Palestinian agenda, rather than an anti-Israel one), you would fight to improve their education, health, and economic opportunities by advocating for their statehood and voting against the U.N. agency that prevents Palestinian resettlement.

If you really cared about Palestinian awareness, you would also fight for the rights of Palestinian minorities, like LGBTQI people and non-Muslim religious minorities, all of whom suffer tremendously in the Palestinian territories.

And in case you weren’t aware, here a few facts about the reality of Palestinians living in the state of Israel.

All Palestinians living in the state of Israel are full Israeli citizens with full equal rights. In fact, there are three Arab political parties in the government, and over 17 Arab members of parliament.

Salim Joubran is a distinguished Arab-Israeli Justice of the Israeli Supreme Court, and has served since 2003. Thousands of Israeli Arabs serve in the Israel Defense Forces, attend universities, work as doctors and lawyers, and serve as police officers

So, no, I’m afraid that your characterization of Israel as “State Oppression” hardly comports with the facts, and is inherently anti-Israel.

As a Jew, I treasure and aspire to the value of “tikun olam,” to repair the world as best I can. But to lend support to SDS hardly seems like a “tikun”—a repair—at all.

It is nothing more than shouting and blaming, and I simply do not feel comfortable supporting you and your efforts.

I want to be an ally. Please, SDS, reconsider your positions and give me an opportunity to rejoin you.

Schiller is a member of the Class of 2017.

‘Saturday Night Live’: Sin or Salvation for this Year’s Election?

BY VENNELA PANDARABOYINA

There were few things I was more excited to watch on TV this fall than Saturday Night Live’s spoofs of the presidential debates.

Kate McKinnon’s performance of an unbalanced and slightly manic Hillary Clinton and Alec Baldwin’s exaggerated Donald Trump not only made me laugh—they also portrayed so clearly the issues most people have with the two candidates.

But when I scrolled through the comments on each video, I saw SNL garnering typical YouTube hate.

Instead of ragging on SNL for not being funny, the comments mostly criticized the show for being “too liberal,” for lowering the public respect of both candidates, and for acting irresponsibly overall.

Is SNL’s satire good for the general public because it makes light of the election, or does it make the candidates seem less qualified and decrease the perceived importance of the election?

Before this fall, many comedians and news outlets started to impose their own expectations on the

show.

In an article from Politico titled “Will ‘Saturday Night Live’ Take Down Trump?,” several comedians, including Dean Obeidallah and Samantha Bee, pushed for SNL to cover the ground that the general media hasn’t in exposing Trump’s

To be fair, people had been lacking in respect for both Clinton and Trump since long before SNL cranked up its satire.

toxicity. Bee, in particular, criticizes shows for smoothing over Trump’s vitriol and inviting him on their shows for ratings.

SNL has also fallen victim to this criticism, with people angry at the show for essentially being neutral on both candidates up until this fall. When SNL satirizes the debates, instead of seeing this as a way for the country to work out their frustrations at the whole election, some people are assigning a political agenda to the skits.

And maybe SNL does lean liberal. But it could also seem to

be leaning that way because the ridiculousness of Trump in real life is so absurd that to create a caricature, the show has to turn him into a walking hate-machine.

To be fair, people had been lacking in respect for both Clinton and Trump since long before SNL cranked up its satire. The insanity of Trump’s comments and actions over the past year, and the seemingly endless supply of road blocks for Clinton, have already made this election cycle seem surreal, so much so that people need an outlet like SNL to laugh at the state of the country without compromising their respect for the institution of the presidential election.

SNL is how a lot of people, particularly young ones, get their impressions of the candidates, but its primary objective is to be funny. The show has been influencing the country’s perception of candidates since 1975, and it doesn’t seem likely to stop anytime soon.

SNL lays all of the flaws and faults of the candidates out, and it’s up to us to decide what we want to do with that information, laughing all along the way.

Pandaraboyina is a member of the Class of 2020.

FEATURES

To Niagara Falls: A Neverending Bike Ride



VADA COE / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomores Abe Bonilla and Petar Dinev, and juniors Greg Marshall, Vada Coe, Mattison Flakus, and Rebecca Fuchs pose by Niagara Falls, having just completed the 85 mile bike ride to get there.

BY SHAE RHINEHART
FEATURES EDITOR

On a chilly October morning, six ambitious rowers set off on a rather unconventional and strenuous Fall Break adventure: biking to Niagara Falls.

The Erie Canal Heritage trail is a 500-mile trail that runs East to West from Albany to Buffalo. It was created as a means of goods transportation before cars were readily available in New York.

The portion of the trail that these six students biked was 85 miles from UR to

Niagara Falls, one way. Round-trip, it reached a total of about 160 miles.

"We planned to leave right after crew practice, having assumed it would be a normal

'You may be bleeding, but we're 10 miles from Canada.'

work-out. It wasn't until we got to practice that we realized we would be doing a 28,000m row—not an ideal 'warm-up' for the trip we had in mind,"

junior Greg Marshall said.

All six students biked the entire 85 miles up to Niagara Falls in a single day. "It was an adventure that never ended," junior Vada Coe said.

Marshall suggested that the trip could be broken down into three "stages": "Beginner's Enthusiasm," "Middle-Mile Slump," and "Final Desperation."

Spirits were high for the first stage. The students stopped for a few minutes at each town they passed through on the trail to stretch and grab some much-needed food.

"I remember us stopping in Brockport about 17 miles in, thinking that it wasn't so bad, and that we should be there in the next few hours," Marshall said. "But the 'next few hours' ended up being about eight."

The Middle-Mile Slump was surprisingly difficult.

"There was a constant little voice in my head telling me to stop and that I was ridiculous for putting myself through this," sophomore Abe Bonilla said. "I kept going, because I knew that the feeling of accomplishment would be so much greater than the relief I'd feel in giving up."

"At first we started by counting down the miles we'd traveled at each break," junior Mattison Flakus said. "But by about half-way through, when

people asked 'How far have we gone?' the only way to answer was 'Too far to turn around.'"

The last phase, "Final Desperation," was undoubtedly the hardest for the students.

"We almost died two different times," sophomore Abe Bonilla said, referring to the wipeouts three members of their group experienced once the sun had set and the trail became more difficult to see.

"You may be bleeding, but we're 10 miles from Canada," junior Rebecca Fuchs said, after the second wipeout.

Coe said darkness came with about 15 miles to go. "People started falling," he said, "and it took forever to get into Niagara."

Once they reached their destination, the students split up into separate Air-

'There was a constant little voice in my head telling me to stop and that I was ridiculous for putting myself through this.'

nbs and saved the tourist attractions for the morning.

"The next morning we got up and went on the Maid of the Mist to see the falls,"

Flakus said. "Only two of us ended up making the bike trip back that day; the other four took a bus from Buffalo."

The portion of the trail that these six students biked was 85 miles away from UR to Niagara Falls, one way.

When asked whether they would ever make the trip again, responses were mixed.

"I absolutely would," Marshall said. "It was just a super, awesome, difficult adventure."

Sophomore Petar Dinev agreed, saying he'd made the trip once before and he'd "gladly do it again."

Others matched their enthusiasm for the trip, but emphasized the importance of mapping out travel time correctly.

"I would make sure to leave earlier in the day, if I ever went again. It's important to avoid biking in the dark," Fuchs said.

They also emphasized the importance of fitness.

"Don't do it if you're not ready," Bonilla said. "Be prepared, be fit, and train before you go."

"Or really, you could just wing it," Marshall added.

Rhinehart is a member of the Class of 2018.

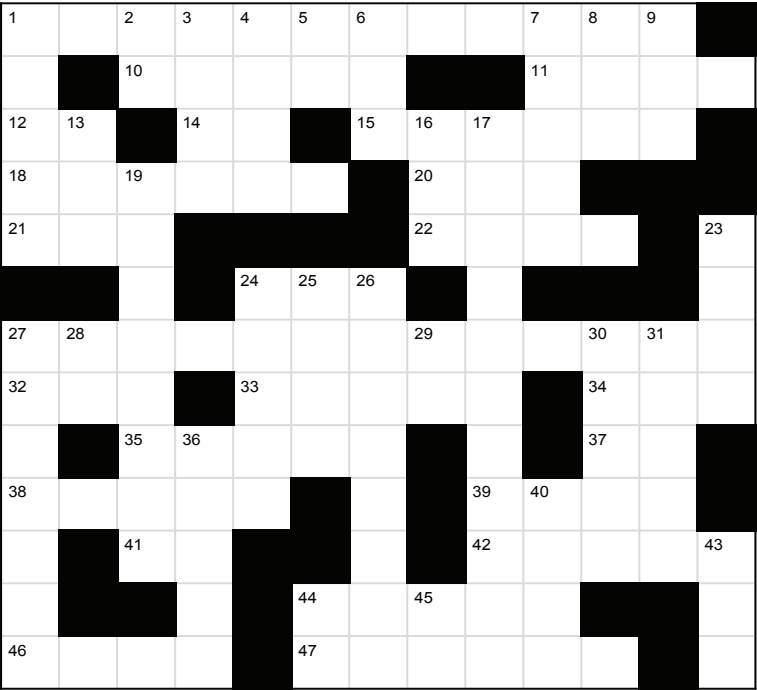


VADA COE / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The group took breaks off-trail for sight-seeing opportunities and rest stops.

PUZZLES

Crossword Puzzle



BY SAM PASSANISI '17 & DAVID SCHILDKRAUT '20
DIFFICULTY MEDIUM

ACROSS:

- 1. Apocalyptic blizzard (if we're being tongue-in-cheek)
- 10. Give it a chance, according to the Fab Four
- 11. American makeup manufacturer
- 12. Superman's family name
- 14. British novelist __ Travers
- 15. Sheriff in a Western movie
- 18. Pollux's twin
- 20. Millennial's term of endearment
- 21. Second-string messaging app
- 22. Popular "chilly" Disney character
- 24. Johnny ____ (i.e. one of General Lee's men)
- 27. Old-school name for Halloween
- 32. Watch me whip, watch me do this (2x)
- 33. Top-hatted guitarist for Guns 'n' Roses
- 34. A ditty, for example
- 35. Biggie's rival
- 37. __ Stine, author of Goosebumps
- 38. 20th century LSD popularizer Timothy ____
- 39. Pants, for short
- 41. South Korean tech conglomerate
- 42. XY individuals
- 44. Host of the 2020 Summer Olympics
- 46. Biceps, colloquially speaking
- 47. Not composed in any key

DOWN:

- 1. Dust particle
- 2. Dashiell Hammett's character, the Continental ____
- 3. Cried
- 4. Hombre ____, as Trump might've said

- 5. A hot summer indoor essential
- 6. Semi-solid matter
- 7. Love interests for film noir detectives
- 8. Eggs, to Caesar
- 9. French "no"
- 13. Campus Times publisher Angela ____
- 16. The "honest" 16th US President
- 17. A "sweaty-toothed madman," according to the Dead Poets Society
- 19. Thin and bony (extremely so)
- 23. Digital image format
- 24. Like sandpaper, for instance
- 25. Cinder-, Barbar-, umbr-
- 26. It's an unlucky omen if one of these crosses your path
- 27. Gone fishing, a.k.a. this
- 28. A note to follow "so"
- 29. A frequently updated computer software package
- 30. Swashbuckling Hollywood star ____ Flynn
- 31. To appreciate properly
- 36. Base desires
- 40. Spanish frog
- 43. Jazzy instrument, for short
- 44. "Yes," in German
- 45. Kung-Fu Panda's Dragon Warrior

Last Week's Solution

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 E | 2 V | 3 A | 4 N | 5 S | 6 K | 7 E | 8 N | 9 E | 10 L | 11 S |
| 12 C | A | C | A | O | 13 I | R | E | 14 P | E | P |
| 15 U | N | C | H | A | 16 R | T | E | D | 17 M | A |
| 18 A | C | E | 19 P | O | E | 20 C | R | O | C | |
| 21 D | O | N | T | 22 S | 23 I | 24 O | N | E | | |
| 25 O | U | T | 26 S | 27 K | I | R | T | S | 28 T | A |
| 29 R | V | 30 P | O | 31 T | O | S | T | A | D | A |
| 32 E | P | I | N | 33 T | E | M | | | | |
| 34 E | R | 35 R | 36 A | 37 P | E | 38 P | I | | | |
| M | | 39 I | B | 40 I | S | U | 41 O | 42 A | 43 K | |
| 44 B | A | T | T | E | R | L | N | B | H | |
| 45 E | N | T | E | R | P | I | S | E | 46 L | A |
| 47 R | A | N | D | 48 A | L | L | E | R | G | E |

SEX & CT

Costume-Inspired Sex Tips

BY AMANDA MARQUEZ
NEWS EDITOR

'Tis the season of PSLs, sugar rushes, and playing dress-up. In the spirit of Halloween, I've conjured up five tried-and-true sex tips inspired by some of the most interesting costumes I've seen this year. These iconic couples have been together for ages now, so they have to be doing something right, right? Here's what these costumes tell me about these characters' sex lives:

Bugs and Lola - Foreplay
Want to know what keeps Bugs and Lola doing it like rabbits? Foreplay, foreplay, foreplay.

Foreplay is an essential part of the lovemaking experience. It's defined as any act that creates and enhances sexual desire in a sexual partner—including kissing, touching, embracing, talking, and teasing.

Areas known as erogenous zones, or e-zones, are particularly sensitive to this type of stimulation. The 11 most sensitive e-zones are the inner thighs, nose, nipples, navel, toes, back, ears, nape of neck, back of knees, lower abs, and the mind (intellectual stimulation counts too).

According to Men's Health, foreplay is to sex what stretching is to a workout: "easy to skip, but essential for great results." You wouldn't put jam on bread without toasting it first, right?

Shrek and Fiona - Chocolate Massage

Who can forget the lust in Shrek and Fiona's eyes when they were soaking in the swamp mud bath together under the moonlight? Take a page out of their fairy tale

book and get dirty with your partner—literally.

Put that leftover or half-priced candy to good use and give your partner a luscious chocolate massage. Melt your chocolate of choice to a temperature that softens it enough to lather with, but does not make it hot enough to burn.

Nothing is a bigger turn on than the sensation of warm chocolate dripping down your chest or back. For increased pleasure, gently lick the chocolate off your partner's body.

The Flintstones - Roleplay

For many, role-playing is one of those things that you've thought about trying, but never actually have for fear of being weird or scaring your partner away. If you have sex on Halloween, though, you're basically halfway there. All you need to do next is act the part.

According to Ian Kerner, author of "She Comes First," role-playing "has a built-in element of silliness to it, and in the end, it's supposed to be fun."

Who knows, if your partner gets really into it and they wore the right costume, maybe they'll throw you a bone(r).

Woody and Jessie - Morning Sex

If you've ever had a sleepover with a guy before, then you've woken up to something a little harder than the piercing sound of your alarm clock (think lasso, but shorter, I would hope)—morning wood.

That's really what Woody meant when he said, "There's a snake in my boot!"

Morning wood usually leads to morning sex, which, in my personal opinion, is the best type of sex. Who needs coffee when you can feel revitalized without having to leave bed?

Debby Herbenick, author of "Because It Feels Good," says "Having sex in the morning releases the feel-good chemical oxytocin, which makes couples feel loving and bonded all day."

Morning sex has also been proven to strengthen your immune system, prompt the production of antibodies that fight against infection, and boost levels of estrogen.

Save a horse and ride a cowboy, y'all.

Mrs. Puff and Mr. Krabs - Motorboating

I'm not sure Mrs. Puff teaches this one in boating school, but for your edification, I'll let you in on the dirty little secret that made Mr. Krabs momentarily forget about money (gasp): motorboating.

Motorboating is formally defined as the act of placing your head between a woman's breasts and making the sound of a motorboat with your lips while moving the head from side to side.

In the spirit of Halloween why not try something out of character—hell, you're already dressed up.

Ken Bone - Transparency

If you haven't decided on what you want your Halloween M.O. to be yet, don't worry! If you dress up as Ken Bone, you're intentions are clear.

Marquez is a member of the Class of 2018.

Open for Comments:
Race and Diversity
Commission Report

All staff, faculty, and students are invited to comment on the recommendations made by the Presidential Commission on Race and Diversity. The report is available online at www.rochester.edu/race-diversity-report.

There will be three town hall meetings to discuss this report:

Tuesday, November 1

4:30–5:30 p.m. River Campus, Hawkins-Carlson Room

Wednesday, November 2

Noon–1 p.m. Eastman School of Music, Dean's Dining Room, Student Living Center
3–4 p.m. University of Rochester Medical Center, Lower Adolph Auditorium #1-7619

Please send input via email to president@rochester.edu by 5 p.m., November 10.



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CAMPUS ODDITY

UR Guide to Lost & Found

BY SHARON LEE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Each year, around 3,500 lost items are filed by the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

DPS' lost and found reserve is responsible for any items lost on the River Campus, at the Eastman School of Music, and at Strong Memorial Hospital, as well as Strong West and Strong Ties mental health clinic. The system is run based on the guidelines of New York Personal Property Law 252, which requires that found personal property be either "returned to its owner or turned over to the local police."

After retracing their steps numerous times and turning dorm rooms upside down to no avail, the next step most students take is calling DPS at its lost

Once, like a scene in an espionage movie, a suitcase carrying \$2,300 was found.

and found number, 275-2552.

But the process of retrieving any lost items from DPS is different than the stereotypical image

of a student rummaging through
an overflowing cardboard box.

"There is a common misconception that someone can just walk in and ask to look over the lost and found property to determine if anything belongs to them," Lead Security Officer Brian Rushford, who oversees the lost and found, said.

campus oddsities

At UR, lost property is secured by DPS in a locked area. The procedure for retrieving it places heavy emphasis on proper identification before anything can be returned.

Asking for positive identification, verification passwords, serial code numbers, or an object's specific characteristics that only its owner would know are among some of the methods officers use to ensure that everything is returned to its rightful owners.

Items commonly found include UR IDs, credit cards, wallets, purses, cellphones, keys, and driver's licenses.

But sometimes, much more bizarre items—including pros-

thetic medical devices, car hubcaps, dentures, and even local town welcome signs—have found their way into the lost and found reserve.

Once, like a scene out of an espionage movie, a suitcase carrying \$2,300 was found.

Although only about 25 percent of all lost property is eventually claimed, Rushford said "Public Safety officers will do their best to notify a known property owner by use of the University employee or student data bases, parking data base, Strong Hospital patient resources, multimedia resources, or Internet searches."

Lost objects remain in the reserve for a specified length of time (depending on condition and price value), ranging from two weeks for anything under \$20 to five years for anything valued at \$5,000 or more.

If still left unclaimed, objects such as textbooks, supplies, and other school-related items are given to the University, while others are donated to various local charities. Unclaimed glasses are typically donated to the Eye Clinic at Strong Memorial Hospital.

In certain circumstances, common law dictates that an item may be given back to the



LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

A property custody report must be filled out for reclamation of any lost items.

person who originally found the lost property, provided that there is no breach of personal or medical information.

"We have turned over \$600 to a finder once the retention time frame was met," Rushford said.

To improve the system, Rushford said DPS needs students' help.

He recommended that students take safety precautions, such as photographing any expensive property ahead of time, keeping records of receipts and

serial numbers, registering bikes with the Department of Transportation and Parking Management, and labeling and password-protecting any valuables.

Even if you do end up losing something, and the situation seems helpless, don't despair: A woman who thought she would never see her wallet again was contacted by DPS after someone found her wallet—35 years after she'd lost it.

*Seremetis is a member of
the Class of 2020.*

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HUMOR

Eastman Statue Comes to Life

BY JOSH OSTROFF
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“MUST. DESTROY,” George Eastman’s statute bellowed as he awoke from his 84-year slumber. Wandering off to the statue of Ed Hajim ’58, still intact and unmoving, an angry Eastman knocked it down, stating, “I REAL DONOR. YOU JUST COPY.” The Eastman statue then went off to destroy all the other statues at the school, presumably for not donating nearly as much as him, but still getting a statue dedicated. Upon ending his triumphant return to life at the University by smashing everything he saw, Eastman then decided to go over to the Fraternity Quad to see how much the beer had changed since he had last

But Eastman was having none of this. Pounding his chest, Eastman picked up the brother, carried him all the way over to the Genesee River, and threw him in, roaring, “I DONATE. YOU MOVE.” When other students angrily called Public Safety on the menacing statue for destruction of property and posing a threat to other students, an officer asked, “Was he drinking?” After the students replied that he was not, the officer stated, “Sorry, but there’s nothing we can really do.” Continuing on his violent rampage, the Eastman statue turned over cars, broke water fountains, and smashed computers, yelling, “WHY SO HOT? WHY WEATHER DIFFERENT?” But as the night came to an end and the sun rose over the cower-

Humor Section Scratch n’ Sniff *Give it a try!*



SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON / HUMOR EDITOR
CHRIS HORGAN / SENIOR STAFF

Substitutions for 2016 Election

BY ERIC FRANKLIN
HUMOR STAFF

A few weeks ago, the first presidential debate between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump drew 84 million television viewers, the most in the history of televised debates. Most of the voters the *Campus Times* spoke to had already decided which candidate they preferred. But we were able to find tens of people nationwide who were truly unsure of which candidate they preferred. One such voter was Kyle Smith, from New York. Asked about the election and his opinions of Clinton and Trump, he replied, “Who? What election? Wait, what year is it? Why am I in the hospital?” Doctors later informed us that Kyle had just woken up from a coma he had been in since 1967 and had never heard of either candidate. Other voters we talked to had heard of both candidates and still somehow hadn’t chosen one before the debates. Doug Berg, a registered Republican from a deeply religious Ohio family, was conflicted because Clinton is pro-choice, but Trump is publicly known to have broken at least seven of the 10 Commandments. He described his breaking

point. “I had read about all of Donald Trump’s patently false, violence-promoting, crime-admitting, uniquely-bigoted, and democracy-poisoning mouth spewage in the papers, but seeing him say it out loud in the hallowed halls of Hofstra University?” Berg asked. “That was the straw that broke the camel’s back.” “I’ve always believed that whoever pretends to be the most religious person must be the best candidate, but I think I might have to vote for Clinton this year,” he added. Antonio Lorimel, a first-time voter from Whitesboro, CA, viewed the race from a different perspective. “Ever since I became a democratic socialist six months ago, I was fully convinced that there are only two kinds of politicians,” he said. “On one hand there’s Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren. This category is called ‘Good People,’ and they are the only two members of it. All other politicians belong to the other category, namely ‘Satan and All His Minions.’” But the debates gave him a new perspective. “As I listened to Hillary talk about policy while Trump lied about whether he had committed misdemeanor sexual assault, I realized that maybe some people who

aren’t Bernie Sanders can plausibly be better than other people who also aren’t Bernie Sanders,” Lorimel said. “If that’s the case—and this is still only a theory I’m working on—I think Hillary would be immeasurably better than Trump on every metric. I’m starting to think that life under a Clinton presidency could be bearable. Maybe it would even be mildly pleasant!” Mike, a registered Republican from Indiana, said the debates clarified what he had been worrying about since July. “I had faith that Trump was just playing the primary crowd,” he said. “I thought his knack for changing positions without consequence would suit him ideally when pivoting to the general election to defeat the she-devil who FOX News has convinced me resides within Hillary’s soul.” “But based on the debates, it turns out he really is just a poorly-wrought clay sculpture inhabited by pure narcissism. I think I have to vote for the she-devil.” Asked if such comments were appropriate from the current Republican nominee for Vice President, Pence replied, “What? I thought this was off the record! Don’t you dare print that!” *Franklin is a member of the Class of 2017.*



LUIS NOVA / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

been there. Shoving other students out of the way to get to the entrance of one frat house, Eastman shouted simply, “LET. IN.” “Sorry, man,” a fraternity brother stationed at the entrance said. “You got to wait outside like everyone else. Maybe you’d have better luck if you’d brought Mrs. Eastman or something.”

ing, frightened UR students, the statue turned to take one last look at the grand Rush Rhees library, a tear slowly forming in his eye. “WILL MEET AGAIN,” he said. And, once more, the cold, brown statue returned to its frozen state, ready to awaken years later. *Ostroff is a member of the Class of 2018.*

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AUREK RANSOM / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
SAM PASSANISI / OPINIONS EDITOR

Rebranding UR

BY SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON
HUMOR EDITOR

I believe, above all else, in re-inventing oneself in an instant. I think it's important to constantly change your look, signifiers, personality, etc. This importance only increases as you look at people, groups, or institutions with room to improve. Therefore, I would like to submit a brief set of ideas for redefining the UR brand.

The new and improved "Meliora":

1. "Abandon hope": borrowing from Dante's Inferno would serve well to help incoming freshman to set their expectations low.
2. "In Starbucks, we trust": Our school motto should reflect our values and ideals above all else.
3. "Punish. Your. Bank Account": If you say it like it's a challenge maybe people won't complain as much.
4. "Winter is Coming": You're goddamn right it is.
5. "Wit beyond measure is man's greatest treasure": I don't think anyone would argue with me that the University is the Ravenclaw of J.K. Rowling's magical world.
6. "Everybody makes mistakes": Hannah Montana's genius is relevant in every facet of our lives as college students.

The new and improved Rochester Blue and Dandelion Yellow:

1. Black and yellow. We need to pay better homage to our school mascot.
2. A conglomerate of every Ivy League school's colors: If we want to stop being a "little ivy," we better start acting like one of the big kids.
3. Gold and gold. Because we are number one in every way.
4. Silver and bronze. Okay, fine, maybe we're not number one—but we're up there.
5. Every color of the rainbow. In this way, we assert our dominance as the most diverse school in the world.
6. Red, white, and blue: These colors don't run.

The new and improved Rocky the Yellowjacket:

1. The Genessee: A picturesque visual of the river from centuries ago when it didn't look like slow-moving mud.
2. Eddie: The overworked, malnourished, fatigued Take Five student.
3. Joel the Groundhog: If you catch him, you get an extra year of NCAA eligibility!
4. Grimace from McDonald's: Nothing says perfect branding strategy like the world's second largest fast food chain. They'd probably give us free Big Macs for it.
5. An iron fist: Because at this institution, we respect power above all else.

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

Bad Advice from Brian

BY BRIAN LEONARD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Dear Brian,

Climate change has me worried about my personal impact on the environment. I try to do what I can, but sometimes I feel like it's not enough. What are some ways I can be more eco-friendly?

—Dan Edwards

Okay, Dan. Normally, I wouldn't reply to the same person two weeks in a row, but you're the only one sending me questions, so I guess I don't have a choice.

So you want to know how to be more eco-friendly. Okay, seems easy enough. But you know what's easier: doing

nothing. Two important things to remember about climate change are that it's not your fault and that there's nothing you can do to help.

Just as it could in the past, contemporary global warming can be explained by large-scale changes in our environment. For one, there are the rising sea levels worldwide. Statistical analysis shows a strong correlation between this trend and rising yearly temperatures. The connection is obvious, but I'll spell it out. As the amount of water increases yearly, so, too, does the number of boats. These, as we all know, run on coal, which releases harmful CO2 into the atmosphere upon combustion.

Another possible cause would be the recent decline

in Antarctic penguin populations. With this one, the connection is even clearer. As more and more penguins die, animal heaven becomes increasingly crowded. As we all know, PV = nRT. In other words, crowded things are hotter than less crowded things, and I don't think it's that much of a stretch to suggest that some of the resulting excess heat from animal heaven is somehow "leaking" into our world. These are the kind of self-evident truths your corporate overlords don't want you to hear, Dan.

Of all the possible causes of climate change, one sticks out to me as both under-discussed and largely misunderstood: the international refugee crisis. As more and more people flee from drought- and war-

stricken nations such as Syria, Afghanistan, and Somalia, the European countries that they flee to become, as we say in America, "melting pots." Earth hears this, and since it knows that things have to be hot in order to melt, it decides to get hotter. You don't have to be a scientist to make these sorts of connections.

You see, Dan, climate change is perfectly natural. It's driven entirely by changes that would have happened on their own, regardless of human interference. We have no reason to feel responsible for this disaster. Since I have to end this with a piece of advice, I'll say this: try blaming it on immigrants. It'll make you feel a lot better.

Leonard is a member of
the Class of 2017.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

No Jackets Required Takes UR Back With '90s Tunes

BY BEN SCHMITZ
A&E STAFF

UR's premiere student-run cover band club No Jackets Required turned back the clock this past Friday in the May room with their Fall concert, "The Totally 90's Show."

The theme of this show was all things musical from the 1990's—from the familiar theme songs of iconic TV shows like "Friends," "Fresh Prince of Bel Air," and "That 70's Show," to the hard-hitting aggression of Nirvana and Rage Against the Machine.

The format of NJR's shows in the past few years has been to focus on a unique theme each concert, with past themes including the Grammys and even a Rainforest show.

Performances within a single concert vary significantly, with vocalists and auxiliary instrumentalists switching out for almost every performance and the core instrumental backing band changing a handful of times throughout the show.

This constant shifting gives NJR shows a certain lack of cohesion, but it tends to serve as part of the appeal, not a detriment.

The sheer variety that found in 90's music exacerbated this incongruousness somewhat, but NJR did a good job of laying out their set list in a way that kept the energy flowing throughout without any dips longer than a song or two.

Another positive of the varied set list was the number of different genres and types of performers they were able to incorporate. In the first portion of the show alone, listeners heard everything from a soulful performance of feel-good slow rocker "To Be With You" to a punishingly intense and high energy rendition of Rage Against the Machine's "Bulls on Parade," both of which were highlights of the first of the three sections in the performance.

Due to the size of NJR's performer list and the sheer number of songs performed (26 in total), the quality of the performances did vary. Despite some occasional stumbles and foibles, it was still abundantly apparent that NJR put a lot of time and effort into arranging and rehearsing these songs.

The variety of auxiliary instrumentation was especially impressive, with some songs including full blown string or horn sections and others featuring impressive solos on everything from melodica to saxophone. A cover of Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You" showcased this prowess with a string section providing a soft sonic bed for the song's absolutely killer vocal performance to soar over.

The rendition of ska hit "The Impression That I Get" was another highlight, showcasing a bombastic horn section.

One thing that did put a stain on some of these highlights was technical problems (no fault of NJR's) that distracted and detracted from several performances. At some moments there were several minute gaps between songs while sound problems were worked out or mics faded in and out sporadically.

During a cover of "Iris" by the Goo Goo Dolls, the mics covering the string section were either muted or turned down so low that the strings were entirely inaudible, failing to showcase the effort put into arranging and rehearsing those parts.

Overall, NJR was as fun to see as ever. The variety of songs presented in this show provided everyone with something to enjoy. The constant changes of lineup, while at times jarring, allowed prevented the show from growing stale despite its runtime of over two hours.

NJR shows aren't really about cohesion or consistently perfect performances—they're about seeing your friends and peers perform some fun and classic songs. In that regard, NJR delivered as always.

Schmitz is a member of the Class of 2018.



CHI HUANG / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

KEY student Tom Howard and seniors John Gacita and Alex White sing at Friday's concert.



CHI HUANG / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Freshman Madison Zaelit brought back the grunge look for NJR's Totally '90s show.

Indulgence Resurrects MJ’s Classic ‘Thriller’

BY DAVID SCHILDKRAUT
NEWS STAFF

In the wake of its Thriller flash mob Friday at the Memorial Art Gallery’s Museum of the Dead: Alive Again social, the Indulgence Dance Crew brought the spirit of Halloween to campus Saturday by hosting a Thriller dance workshop.

Students learned the moves to the dance of Michael Jackson’s iconic song, considered the best-selling album of all time in the U.S. by the Recording Industry Association of America.

After a series of brief warmups, Indulgence member and freshman Jerrod O’Baya and sophomore Jordan Leonard taught attendees how to move and groove like the zombies in Jackson’s music video. By the end of the two-hour workshop, those present were dancing it out undead-style, at the end taking a new, creative twist to the traditional dance from the music video.

“We’re trying to be more open and invite people on-campus and off-campus” Indulgence advisor and UR sophomore Elana Antoine said. “Part of that involves the workshops and having high school students come into our practices and learn the dances with us and get inspired.”

Indulgence plans to expand its on and off-campus presence.

The workshop was not simply a learning experience; Indulgence plans on another Thriller flash mob in the coming days, this time involving workshop participants in addition to members of the dance crew.

Indulgence was founded in 2001 as part of the Black Students’ Union (BSU) to represent the interests of involved students. Members choreograph their own hip-hop and hip-hop fusion dances and perform throughout the semester.

While doing its own choreography is a critical part to the success of Indulgence, it has also let to past disagreements between members on what choreography should be included.

“Since we are so diverse and we have diverse dance moves, sometimes a lot of people don’t feel comfortable doing certain dances,” Indulgence co-captain and junior Kavon Holley said. “A lot of people on the team don’t always feel comfortable doing certain choreo. Some people would bring forward choreo and other people wouldn’t want to do it.”

Holley noted, however, that due to the wide diversity of the group, experimentation with new moves and techniques was common.

“It’s our diversity, not just our ethnicity, but also our dance

styles,” Indulgence adviser and sophomore Elana Antoine said. “All our dance styles are unique and you can see that in our performances, in our choreos. We can learn from each other and grow.”

While Indulgence does not currently participate in any

“It’s our diversity, not just our ethnicity, but also our dance styles... All our dance styles are unique and you can see that in our performance, in our choreos. We can learn from each other and grow.”

competitions, it strives to be active on campus. This year, it plans to hold another workshop during the spring semester.

In the past, Indulgence has held an annual spring show, which it plans to continue holding. Last February, it also sold dance-o-grams for Valentine’s Day.

Indulgence also performs at the BSU Stepshow, a competition where “hardcore” teams from the Rochester area compete in their stepdance routines. The show is a clear favorite of the Indulgence leadership.

“We love seeing them perform,” Holley said, “And they love seeing us perform.”

While its primary focus is on performances at UR, Indulgence has taken its groove to a variety of off-campus locations. In 2014, the group participated in a flash mob marriage proposal at Eastview Mall with the YouTube’s Breaking Normal Productions, bringing its own original choreography to a special day. The video of the occasion has over 250,000 views on YouTube.

Additionally, Indulgence recently held a practice with youth from the Teen Health and Success Partnership to help bring a little bit of the UR to local youth. On Oct. 1, Indulgence performed at the Rochester Institute of Technology’s Stand Strong and United event.

Looking to the future, Indulgence plans to expand its on and off-campus presence by getting both UR students and youth from the Rochester community coming together through dance.

“I definitely think first of all that we are the best at what we’re doing on campus,” co-captain and senior Jie Deng said. “[We are] the best at promoting hip-hop culture. What we are trying to be involved with, community service, by working with the Boys and Girls Club, [brings] people not officially on the team together.”

Schildkraut is a member of the Class of 2020.

CT RECOMMENDS

‘THE BABADOOK’

BY ISABEL DRUKKER
A&E EDITOR

There’s some disagreement about what actually led to the musical concoction “City Club” by the Growlers, but there’s no argument that I’m glad it happened.

With the Strokes’ lead singer Julian Casablancas’ blessing (he dubbed them the “most interesting band in the world” to Rolling Stone magazine), “City Club,” released earlier this year, has been making a definite statement.

The Growlers are truly a band that draws from the decades. Their original style is clearly a ’60s pop sound. At the same time, though, you hear hints of influences from the Strokes, the Killers, and, dare I say, “When You Were Made” reminds me of “Florida Kilos” by Lana Del Rey. Their self-described “Beach Goth” umbrellas the fact that the Growlers are some sort of mixture of flower children meets disco night club culture meets “Perks of Being a Wallflower.”

Earlier albums like “Hung at Heart” stay true to its ’60s pop song sound, light-heartedly telling its listeners “One day you’re going to be my wife... Someday, when tall boys turn into champagne.”

“City Club” makes a definite turn, maturing in both sound and concept.

Their newest video release, “I’ll Be Around,” which they collaborated with the Strokes to make, takes place in a ’70s-styled hospital run entirely by an inebriated staff. In it, lead singer Brooks Nielson dies and comes back to join a ghostly party with back-up singers in hospital gowns. The ’70s styled dress and setting juxtaposes with their previous clear ’60s sound, recognizing that the band as a whole is moving forward.

Songs such as “When You Were Made” ask the listeners to look back and realize “You were the reason they stuck around, But you’re old enough now, Don’t worry babe.” “The Daisy Chain” retains the Growler’s original sound best, with a quietly harmonized chorus, upbeat keys, and a patient drumbeat. The lyrics “Weakest link in the daisy chain, This is just a powerless pain, And I’m bursting out of my veins” continue the theme that there was something better before, and that something is over.

Still, this lyrical content is paired with music that undeniably makes you feel optimistic. Musical repetitions, such as those in “Night Ride,” are comforting, and the album only requires one listen to feel familiar and at home with each individual song. As a whole, the album is recognizing that music doesn’t have to be either side of an emotional spectrum—rather, work can be both happy and sad at the same time.

And people can be too. If the Growlers’ earlier work was describing how happy and light life is, “City Club” is realizing that life can be dark—but it’s still okay.

Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.

KNOW SOMETHING WE DON’T?

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Spirit in Art Moves MAG

ALIVE AGAIN FROM PAGE 1

“It’s been a theory of mine for a long time that artists, performers, actors, that kind of thing, when they do whatever it is they do, they put so much of themselves into whatever it is they’re doing,” MCPI founder Rob Pistilli said. “When an artist sculpts something or paints something, a lot of them gets transferred into that. I want to find out if there’s any kind of truth to that, if there’s any kind of residual that comes off of that.”

The investigation will mostly focus on the building that was formerly a woman’s college. But activity inside the case covering the coffins of Pa-debehu-Aset in the Helen H. Berkeley Gallery of Ancient Art has also drawn the MCPI’s attention.

“The glass somehow moved, which is impossible,” Membership Manager and “Alive Again” organizer Jessica Gasbarre said. “You can’t get to it. Even the light bulbs are changed from the top. You can’t get air around a mummy because it’ll start to disintegrate.”

A security guard noted one day that rings had appeared on the glass, as if the beam supporting the coffin had been moved.

“I brought it to the attention of one of our curators [thinking] this is something that maybe someone didn’t notice like

years ago when this was placed here,” Gasbarre said. “And she said, ‘Absolutely not. That’s not something that we would let fly.’”

According to ancient Egyptian culture, the anthropoid coffin will serve as Pa-debehu-Aset’s body in the afterlife if the actual mummy is destroyed.

Though the coffin is on display, the body of Pa-debehu-

Aset himself was lost long ago.

Pistilli adds that though rumored noises and strange occurrences have been noted most often in the woman’s college, he is mostly intrigued by the physical evidence of movement inside the Pa-debehu-Aset’s case. They hope to find an explanation for whatever is happening inside the MAG.

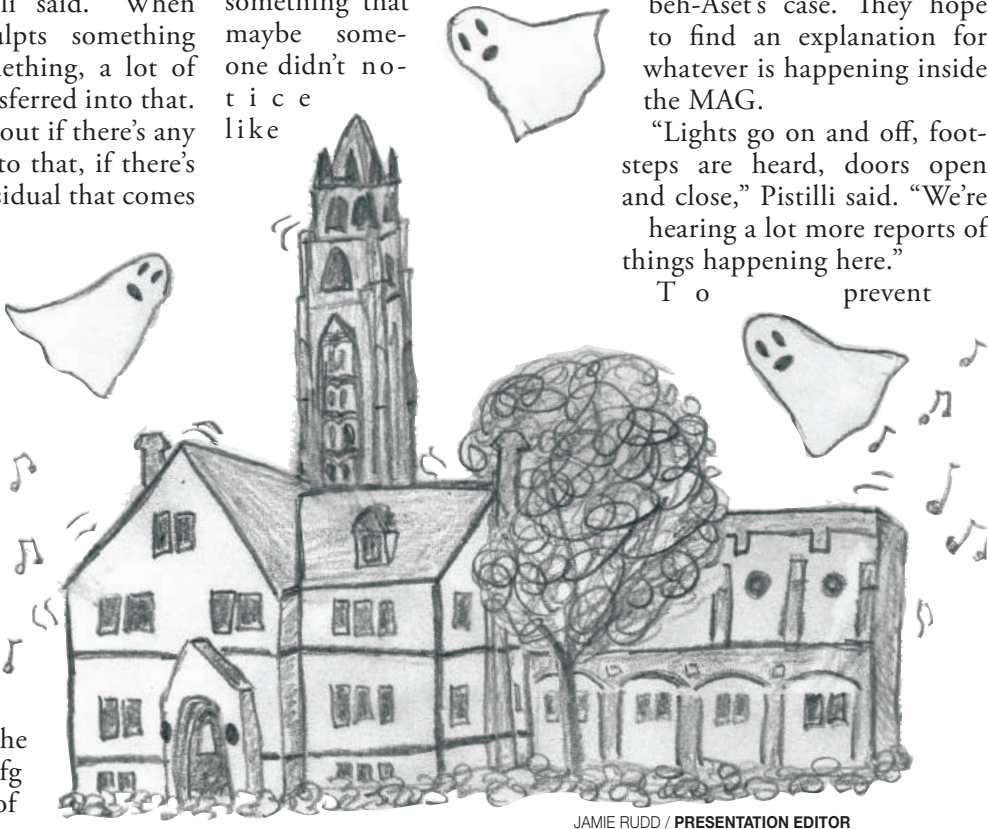
“Lights go on and off, footsteps are heard, doors open and close,” Pistilli said. “We’re hearing a lot more reports of things happening here.”

To prevent any damage to the art, MAG staff will be present with each team MCPI sends.

As far as Pa-debehu-Aset’s case, it should technically protect anything inside (or outside) from harm.

“It’s in this hermetically sealed case,” Gasbarre said. “Nothing can come in, nothing can come out.”

Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.



JAMIE RUDD / PRESENTATION EDITOR

MEDIA MATRIX

Artist Raps Feminism



BY JEFF HOWARD
COLUMNIST

Editor’s note: The “Channel Surfing” column has been renamed to “Media Matrix.”

I’m proud to promote a super talented artist today! Her name is Princess Vitarah and she’s a badass who’s music is on Soundcloud and Spotify. I was so happy when I opened up SoundCloud on my browser this afternoon and find that Princess Vitarah released a new EP of raps! The EP is called “Project V” and it lives up to the expectations created by her two excellent singles, “Nigerian [P---y]” and “Tell Your Husband.”

Vitarah’s two lead singles before the release of “Project V” featured tight, simple, trendy-sounding trap beats. They might not have been “game changing” beats, but they went hard (the claps and snaps on the beat to “Nigerian [P---y]” were ear candy). However, it wasn’t just the beats that carry Princess Vitarah through her songs. Vitarah’s technical skill, attitude, feminist message, and sense of humor on these two singles set her apart from a sea of “trendy” rappers in the internet underground today.

On “Project V,” Princess Vitarah delivers the same empowering attitude as on her lead singles, over sophisticated beats that channel modern day underground trap as well as throwback Dr Dre/So-Cal vibes (think Chronic 2001). The

EP’s opening track, “You Text Back Slow” feels like Vitarah is starting where her last single “Tell Your Husband” left off. On “Tell Your Husband,” Vitarah vents about married men who blow up her phone. On “You Text Back Slow,” Vitarah laments the opposite: a man who takes too long to respond to her messages and leaves her hanging. While Vitarah’s raps stay focused on similar material as her past singles—female empowerment, men being crazy—her tone feels more urgent on Project V, making the EP a very fitting place to leave off after her two singles gave us a taste of her fire.

The second track off of the EP, “Money on my Mind,” is where Princess Vitarah delves into uncharted sonic territory. The track has hot synths that evoke a Lil Wayne type beat, with futuristic filters and sound effects to give the track an exciting sheen. It explores Vitarah’s determination to be at the top of the game, and, in general, it’s a very fulfilling listen. Other highlight tracks include “Diamonds,” which has beautiful funk guitars and a super groovy vibe, and “Everything I Want” has Drake-esuqe bubbly synths and an EDM-type modernity.

Princess Vitarah is the kind of low-key, up-and-coming star that I love discovering in 2016. I would venture to say that her beats and vocal tracks aren’t mastered. As of right now, her tape has four likes. However, in this day and age, that don’t mean a thing. Princess Vitarah is in it to win it with her attitude, and I think that’s enough to make her a star.

Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.

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