

Campus Times

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At Town Hall, Students Say OMSA Needs Own Space

BY ANGELA LAI
PUBLISHER

The Office of Minority Student Affairs (OMSA) should have its own office space, UR students and staff stressed at a River Campus town hall meeting last Monday discussing the Presidential Commission on Race and Diversity's recent report.

At a sparsely attended meeting in the Hawkins-Carlson Room the afternoon of Nov. 1, audience members addressed that and other concerns to President Joel Seligman, University Dean Paul Burgett, and Dean of the College Richard Feldman.

"I strongly encourage us to work together and find a space our students will be able to call their home again," OMSA Academic Programming Coordinator Claudia De Leon said.

OMSA currently shares an office with the Center for Education Abroad in Dewey 2-161.

De Leon, the first to speak once the floor opened, said that OMSA has repeatedly been pushed aside.

While the Education Abroad office had been given an opportunity to move into a nicer space, she said, the decision to move had been made for OMSA.

She added that students did not request additional meeting spaces for OMSA, as stated on page nine of the report. Rather, those students had demanded a separate office space.

"We as students do not have adequate space to receive the proper resources, support, and open environment that we need," she read from the report's appendices.

When discussing her own experience with the disadvantages of a shared space, she cited an incident when a colleague asked a student about their involvement in a protest and whether they had been arrested.

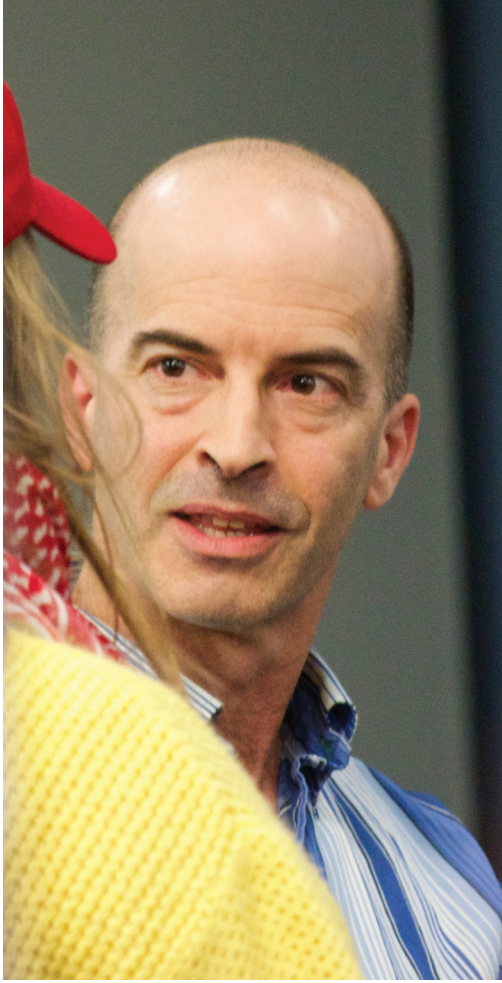
Her colleague's good intentions were lost, she said, when it came to OMSA's students and how they enter safe spaces.

Others wondered about the overlaps and distinctions between the David T. Kearns Center, the Paul J. Burgett Intercultural Center (ICC), and OMSA.

Black Students' Union president and junior Caryl English

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Tensions Flare at Palestine Awareness Event



JUSTIN TROMBLY / MANAGING EDITOR

Sophomore Elie Cohen (left), a pro-Israel community member (center), and sophomore Farida Ibrahim (right) speak at the Nov. 2 Palestine Awareness Month event.

BY JUSTIN TROMBLY
MANAGING EDITOR

It seemed bound to happen.

Tensions flared Wednesday night during a Q&A session following the screening of a documentary critical of Israel, as audience questioners at the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) event clashed with panelists and moderators amid complaints and cheers from the crowd.

And the conflict continued after the event—when its panelists and SDS members allege that an audience member came uncomfortably close to one panelist and berated her with questions, while others surrounded them.

"Is this for education purposes?" the first man to the audience microphone asked, after identifying himself as a Jewish refugee forced from Libya in 1967 who is not popularly considered a refugee because he is not Palestinian.

"What point are you trying to make?" called out an attendee, one of a string of frustrations people aired with the questioner.

"You want to ask me a question about my experiences, or his experience, or her experience?" asked Fawzi Ali, a junior panelist and American-Palestinian dual citizen who earlier had described visiting family in Palestine.

Co-panelists freshman Ariel Adelman, who was born in Israel, and senior Ibrahim Mohammad, a Palestinian refugee from Leba-

non who said he is "technically stateless," had done the same, each discussing travel and other restrictions in their homelands for Palestinians and refugees.

"I'm not here to argue, I'm not here to convince you," the questioner said, raising his voice, be-

has a "clear anti-Israel agenda."

The documentary, "The Occupation of the American Mind: Israel's Public Relations War in the United States," argued that Israel and its allies have shaped American media coverage of its policies in the Gaza Strip and other dis-

ident, acknowledged the group's "defensiveness by having Public Safety police the event" in a later email, but said it "had to be defensive against an offensive and potentially violent force" for the safety of the event's attendees.

Nhan also said that Dean of College Admission Jonathan Burdick had advised the group to contact Public Safety, but Burdick told the *Campus Times* that he had only suggested a member of the group be ready to call in case "someone decides to act inappropriately."

"During the event I briefly saw a Facebook Live recording, and I was surprised to see that Public Safety was there," he said. "If the group had been following my advice [...] that would only have been true if something disruptive had already occurred."

His advice, sent verbatim to the *Campus Times*, included phrases like "don't try to exclude anyone" and "SDS isn't having this event just to talk to themselves, right? Make this an opportunity to invite others to listen and learn."

Interruption, Shouts

The recent controversy seemed to hang in the air.

Organizers opened with remarks about the criticism. During one scene in the film featuring a strong pro-Israel address, scant applause came from the back of the auditorium. It was met with

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JUSTIN TROMBLY / MANAGING EDITOR

Public Safety officers monitor traffic into and out of Wednesday's event.

fore asking, "Are the people who organized this intending to present the other side?"

He was promptly shouted away from the microphone.

Surrounding Criticism

The days leading up to the screening had been filled with criticism, and defense, of SDS and its Palestinian Awareness Month encouraged by a widely-shared opinion piece written in the *Campus Times* by senior Yael Schiller that claimed the group

puted territories to reflect positively on it and negatively on Palestinians.

At least 100 people attended the screening, including four Department of Public Safety officers, whose presence SDS' advisor had requested.

Throughout the event, officers let people waiting outside the Morey Hall auditorium through the doors whenever someone left, despite objections from viewers who were saving seats.

Senior Nhan Le, SDS co-pres-

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LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

2016 SOUTH ASIAN EXPO REPS SEVEN COUNTRIES

Junior Adil Ali and friends enjoy interactive games, cultural performances, and a fashion show at this year's South Asian Expo.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Student's Wallet Taken From Rush Rhees (1)

OCT. 29—A student's wallet was taken from Rush Rhees Library.

Bike Stolen from CSB (2)

OCT. 31—A bicycle was reported stolen from the Computer Science Building.

Vehicle Broken Into in Park Lot (3)

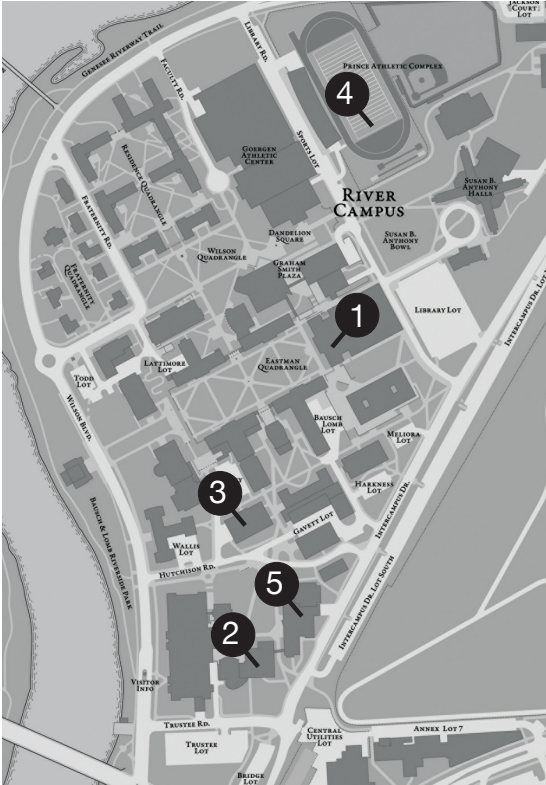
NOV. 2—A student's headphones were taken from Hopeman Hall.

Fauver Play Clock Damaged (4)

NOV. 2—An unknown person damaged the play clock on Fauver Field.

Intruder Found in Goergen Dumpster (5)

NOV. 3—An unauthorized person was found in the dumpster at the Goergen Hall dock.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 8

GRAND ROUNDS

RUSH RHEES LIBRARY, 7 P.M.-9 P.M.
Paul Dougherty, DC at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center will present "Overview of Chronic Lower Back Pain Research at the Canandaigua VAMC." Lunch will be served.

FLAMENCO DANCE WORKSHOP

SPURRIER DANCE STUDIO, 12:30 P.M.-1:45 P.M.
Rebeca Tomas, artistic director of A Palo Seco, will give a lecture and repertory dance class. This event is free and open to the University community.

WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 9

STEFANIE BAUTISTA

HOYT HALL, 6:45 P.M.-8:30 P.M.
The Program of Archaeology, Technology, and Historical Structures presents Stefanie L. Baustisa, who will speak on Resilience and Opportunism in Dynamic Landscapes: Evidence of Prehispanic Runoff Irrigation in Nasca, Peru.

COURTLY PLEASURES

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, ALL DAY
Courtly Pleasures: Indian Miniature Paintings from the Permanent Collection, will showcase over 30 Indian miniature paintings from MAG's permanent collection.

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 10

MAGTHURSDAYS

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

ART SOCIAL

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY, 6:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.
Enjoy wine, beer, and food for purchase while taking quick shot art classes led by Sara Blake and Casey Cardillo. Each session is \$15, and all tools will be supplied.

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 11

VETERANS DAY CARILLON CONCERT

EASTMAN QUADRANGLE, 5 P.M.-5:30 P.M.
The concert will be live streamed online and is free and open to all.

STUDENT DEGREE RECITAL

EASTMAN EAST WING RECITAL HALL, 7 P.M.-8:30 P.M.
The Eastman School of Music will be showcasing the musical talents of Adam Cordle, who will be performing on the viola.

Diwali Lights Up May Room

BY ALLISON RECHT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The graduate Rochester Indian Association celebrated its flagship event, Diwali, in the May Room of Wilson Commons on Saturday night.

Arnab Kar, a research associate who celebrated his eighth Diwali at the University this year, explained that Diwali is "a festival of lights."

"It's celebrated in India," he said. "In a way, it's a celebration of the victory of good against evil."

Adil Khan, a fourth-year graduate student and president of the organization, said that his favorite thing about the holiday is the camaraderie.

"People are so busy that they don't get time to mingle with each other very much," he explained. "But during festive times, you get together with friends [...] it's an easier time to relax and have some fun."

Outside the event was a Rangoli, or sand painting, depicting a Diya, an oil lamp. Inside, the May Room was filled with lights, and the Indian Association sold samosas and a drink called mango lassi, a type of a mango smoothie.

There were a series of per-

formances celebrating Diwali, beginning with two soloists singing traditional Indian songs. Then, the six-piece band "Hazaaron Khwahishein" (which roughly translates to "A Thousand Dreams") performed four Indian songs—a mix of traditional and modern Indian music.

Later, a seven-person dance troupe called "Saptak" took the stage, beginning with a solo breakdance before moving to a Bollywood-themed number. The six-piece acoustic band "Saras" followed, until, finally, the two-person dance group "Titli" ended the dance sequence an energetic, modern piece.

The last performance of the night was a comedic play titled "The Mistake," which featured the misadventures of a pair of graduate students involving a Viking-themed underworld, thinly-veiled parodies of this year's presidential debates, and the untold power of fortune cookies.

The night ended with a dance party, with the music provided by DJs Sayak and Karan. For its attendees, this was a Diwali to remember.

Recht is a member of the Class of 2018.

Sexual Assault Victims Take Back the Night

BY LUCY WU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Over 100 members of the UR community gathered in the Welles-Brown Room last Thursday evening for Take Back the Night, the capstone event of Domestic Violence Awareness Week on campus.

It was a night of solidarity and reflection, as Zoe Ridolfi-Starr, a Title IX activist, spoke to students about sexual assault.

Recounting her personal experience with sexual assault, Ridolfi-Starr touched on the inadequacy of resources available to victims on college campuses and the flaws of the U.S. legal system.

"No one represents the victim, and their needs and goals are considered secondary," she said of the criminal justice system.

Conversely, she suggested that for many victims, school is their only option if they don't want the police to handle their cases.

"Schools are focused on the victim and are required to ensure that students have what they need to continue their education," she said.

Ridolfi-Starr also highlighted recent policy changes regarding sexual assault practices at colleges.

"The Department of Education has issued clarified guidelines that provide a baseline for how schools are supposed to practice, and report on sexual and dating violence," she said. "Student activism led to the court decision that required schools to address it, and it has

led to the flesh and teeth of what schools are required to do."

In the candlelight march that followed, students walked around the Eastman Quadrangle holding candles as a gesture of solidarity.

Victims were encouraged to share their stories, and those who came forward spoke of the common mental effects associated with sexual assault and rape, such as depression, PTSD, the tendency to be in abusive relationships, and multiple victimizations.

One student shared a spoken-word poem, titled "Twitch," about the emotional, psychological, and physical effects of sexual assault on a victim's day-to-day life.

"It takes a lot of courage, and sometimes the courage you have doesn't even feel like courage," Ridolfi-Starr said after hearing students share their stories. "Sometimes the courage is just in the everyday act of staying alive, and keeping things going."

Senior Hannah Greenwald praised Take Back the Night's supportive environment, describing it as "an amazing and comfortable space where people feel comfortable talking about it and speaking up."

Senior Vanessa Sanchez agreed. "It's a space that they will be heard and not be judged," she said. "That's why it's such an important event—just giving people the opportunity that they will be heard."

Wu is a member of the Class of 2017.

Week of Controversy Bookends Palestine Event

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turned heads and glares from many in the crowd.

Later in the Q&A session, sophomore Elie Cohen was interrupted when he began speaking about education in Palestine on the kidnapping and murder of 11 Israeli athletes during the 1972 Munich Olympics by a Palestinian terrorist group.

“If you’re going to ask a question, you are not going to make a statement,” sophomore Farida Ibrahim, one of the moderators, said.

When Cohen replied that he wanted to express an opinion, the other moderator, sophomore Yoenia Krokova, interjected: “Is the opinion a question?”

Cohen said yes, but when he resumed speaking he was quickly cut short by an SDS organizer and engaged by Ibrahim.

“You are not going to talk to them about statistics,” she said. “They don’t have anything to say to that. It’s none of their business—you can go read about it on Google.”

She added, to applause, “These panelists are here to talk about their lives. They have nothing to say to you about what the Palestinian Authority or the government has put in the textbook of Palestinians.”

As complaints from the audience grew and a Public Safety officer walked his way, Cohen left

the mic.

A few questions later, a similar scene ended in shouts when an older attendee asked Ali, “Do you recognize the right of the Jewish people to have their own state and their land?”

Ali answered, “Of course,” but when he paused and the attendee repeated his question, the moderators ended the exchange and the event.

It was then that Adelman, the Israeli-American panelist, said she was confronted by an “Orthodox [Jewish] person” and several Jewish students.

“He physically came very close to me and started asking me a lot of loaded questions,” Adelman said in an email. “At one point he implied (definitely didn’t outright say, it was just a very clear implication) that only Palestinians are violent and Israeli Jews never are.”

She is afraid she will be harassed in the future.

“And I definitely don’t want to try to go to any Jewish events,” she said. “They clearly don’t want a dissenter anywhere near them.”

Her account was supported by SDS leadership, a moderator, and another panelist.

Junior Jacob Niebloom, who Adelman said was part of the group of students who approached her, refuted her claim in a later email.

“[He] was never physically close to Ariel,” he said. “It was quite

civil from my point of view, even though she was clearly emotional about the topic.”

Bashing Israel or Uplifting Palestine?

Asked in an email for comment, Cohen called the event uncoordinated and said it did not achieve its goals.

“I thought it was more of an Israel-bashing ‘documentary,’ opposed to one that, ‘explains the Palestinian voice,’” he said. “I hoped that after such a video, that there would be some political discussion about the claims made (since the video was purely political propaganda), but none of that was allowed. Public Safety nearly escorted me out of the event for questioning the legitimacy of the panelist’s claim that the Palestinian schools are not forcing an anti-Israel ideology.”

He said the movie and panel discussion should have been separate events.

“Bottom line, what frustrated me and many others in the room, was not only the anti-Israel rhetoric, but that they refused to back up any of the claims being made,” he said. “They thought that the correct way to respond to a video that supposedly expresses the Palestinian suffering, that made bold claims with little to no background context, was to host a panel that spoke only about their experiences and nothing else.”

Ibrahim, for her part as a moderator, didn’t think the questioners learned much from what the panelists had said about their personal lives.

“The panelists are literally students and yet these adults (most were not even students) went up

to berate them with questions about terrorism,” she said in an email. “It’s like they had earplugs in the entire time and were waiting nonetheless just to provoke us. We even cut them off and kindly asked that they stop making statements and instead actually ask a question, but they were persistent and offensive and so the officer had to interfere.”

She continued, “It was disgusting because the only thing they had to say was about terrorism which clearly implies that this is the only thing they have to ask Palestinians or Arabs or Muslims.”

The older, non-student questioners there were not interested in listening, she said, but only in speaking their mind.

“And that of course has to be at our Palestine events and over the voices of Palestinian and Arab students,” she said.

Parallel Calls to Action

Le said in his email interview that Public Safety had been asked to attend out of concerns stemming from a UR student reaching out to a “radical right-wing non-student group (Roc4Israel) prompting locals to attend (read: heckle) our event to ‘balance out the hate’ so that Jewish students can ‘feel safe.’”

“We do not know what his intentions behind the email were, but we know that the end result was clear hate—in the form of threats of violence, accusations of anti-Semitism and pro-terrorism, public attacks on Facebook, and a hit piece in the *Campus Times* (which we easily debunked),” he said, referring not to physical violence but loaded language directed

toward Ibrahim.

The *Campus Times* obtained the email sent to Roc4Israel, which was written by Niebloom.

“I am asking the Jewish (and Christian, Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim) community of the greater Rochester area to show your support by alerting more members of our community in order to unite together and attend this event,” Niebloom said in the Oct. 30 letter. “I hope that with enough of our community in the audience we will have people to stand up against any potential injustice and unfair treatment towards Israel or the Jewish people at this event.”

Niebloom said his motivation behind the invitation was “to make the community aware of the anti-Israel and anti-Semitic agenda that many students are attempting to spread on this campus.”

He added that it’s important to “show people what’s happening on this campus” because families are considering this school for their children.

The *Campus Times* also obtained an email from sophomore Maggie Liu, SDS’ State Oppression and Palestine Awareness Committee Chair, sent to student groups and titled “*URGENT Call to Action - Students for a Democratic Society*,” in which she says Roc4Israel is “trying to silence us.”

“We need your support,” she said. “We need to do exactly what they’re doing: rallying together but standing up for human injustice.”

She closed, in italics, “This is not a religious issue; this is a human rights issue.”

Trombly is a member of the Class of 2018.

Town Hall Takes on Diversity

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noted that the Kearns Center serves first-generation college students—a subset of minority students, English said—and has its own space. She was unsure about who the ICC was meant to serve and felt that it may not have needed its newly-granted space in the Frederick Douglass Building.

“We have two computers, we have one printer,” she said of OMSA. “It’s like we’re fighting for resources all the time.”

Like De Leon, she felt that OMSA, despite its long-standing status, was constantly getting pushed to the back burner.

Students also expressed more general concerns about support.

Junior Daniel Southwell said that some students, such as those who grew up in poverty, may avoid services they need because they don’t trust them. More outreach, he said, might be required.

Later, Junior Aleem Griffiths said he wanted to see tangible change and support for students, especially those struggling to pay their tuition, to the detriment of

their academic performance.

He felt that allocating more resources, such as computers, to OMSA could help show that the University was taking student voices into account.

Resources, Feldman said, were a separate problem from space. He said he would speak with OMSA Director Norman Burnett about what they could do.

Earlier, in response to De Leon, Feldman said that a study of spaces in certain UR buildings was being undertaken with the hope of identifying ways to free up space.

He added that he, Burnett, and Director of Education Abroad Tynelle Stewart aim to come up with a plan within the academic year.

He did not want to create false hope, though, saying that space moves are extremely challenging.

Seligman promised that he would look seriously at the space considerations for OMSA.

“Unto itself, OMSA deserves respect,” he said.

Lai is a member of the Class of 2018.

Town Hall Meeting Sexual Misconduct

President and CEO Joel Seligman would like to hear from University community members on their thoughts and suggestions to help continue the essential work of creating a safe, respectful campus.

Morgan Levy, Title IX coordinator, will also speak at the event.

**Wednesday, November 9
3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Hawkins-Carlson Room,
Rush Rhees Library**

All faculty, staff and students are invited.
No RSVP is needed.



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OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Reconciling Feminism with Sports is Tough, But Worth It



BY JACKIE POWELL
SPORTS EDITOR

I will be frank: Due to obvious gender stereotypes, I’m by no means expected to be a fan of, have a passion for, or even have an emotional connection to sports.

When I explain to my peers that I work for the Campus Times, the section people least expect me to work for is the one that I’ve spent the last two years cherishing.

Growing up, I wasn’t the most athletic. I never oozed with talent. In fact, my athletic mediocrity makes me question why I feel a connection to sports.

After putting together where my allegiance lies in the sporting world (the Boston Red Sox), I now understand this affinity. Not only do athletes contribute some of the hardest work to the most pristine craft in the world, but the world of sports contains some of the most heartbreaking narratives I’ve ever known. For ten years, the artistry, true grit, and enticing stories have had me keeping tabs—eagerly, religiously—on the realm of sports.

Lately, though, my womanhood has made it difficult to maintain this unconditional love.

In the past month, the political notion of “locker room talk,” which many male athletes condone, has been highlighted by Harvard Men’s Soccer (HMS) and their contemptible scouting reports of their female counterparts.

In the past month, a World Series trophy has been awarded to a man who refers to his domestic violence incident as a “small thing.”

And, in the past month, it was revealed that an NFL owner with a history of intolerance for player scandals allowed one player to resign before his domestic violence cases could be brought to the eyes of the press.

In one month, each of these isolated events could easily influence a woman like myself to believe that in 2016, a year when we have the opportunity to elect the first female President of the United States, the female experience continues to be excluded and nullified. These occurrences also have women accepting the ideology that athletics are exclusively a male space and that “boys

will be boys.”

These pronouncements about the female experience and its neglect might sound melodramatic, but all three cases stated above induce such frustration and ire.

HMS’ lewd 2012 recruitment documents gave incoming freshmen on the Women’s Soccer team number rankings in attractiveness, “hypothetical sexual position” nicknames, and assessments of their sexual experiences.

The Harvard situation reinforces the notion that females are objects who aren’t regarded for success in their craft, but rather ranked for purely aesthetic purposes. It proves that sexism in athletics is prevalent and possible at any scholastic institution, and, unfortunately, shows that the gender defines the athlete.

Aroldis Chapman—there, I said his name—is the main reason I cannot fully applaud the Chicago Cubs for snapping their 108-year championship drought.

The most pernicious aspect of this situation is that a sexual offender was awarded a championship a full year after allegations against him were originally filed. If you are a dominant athlete, regardless of your unacceptable treatment toward women, you can still play on a competent team and even win a championship.

But the account that really tests my personal dedication as a lover of sports is the NY Giants’ handling of the entire Josh Brown situation. Not only am I disgusted with John Mara’s decision to keep quiet, I am—even more—ashamed of the organization’s treatment of Sports Illustrated columnist and mother of cornerback Eli Apple, Annie Apple.

The story came out this week that the Giants “were leaning heavily on a 21-year-old kid [Apple]” in order to “control what his mother says.” I understand that Ms. Apple’s columns had been contributing to the negative press, but shutting her out from her son and creating familial tensions is straight-up disrespectful.

In lieu of all this, why do I persist? Why do I maintain my interest in a field that constantly rejects my half of the human race?

The truth of the matter is that the work of the Harvard Crimson, and the fight that all females put up in this world, makes it all worth it. I’ve realized that the field of sports is the exact place where my voice can be used to speak out, and aid a community I’ve admired for so long.

Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.

EDITORIAL BOARD

SA Transparency is a Good Start

In a push for transparency and publicity from inside the Students’ Association (SA) Government, some SA senators have begun making official Facebook pages to publicize SA events and make the inner workings of the SA Senate more apparent to students on campus.

Sophomore senators Nick Foti, Mira Bodek, Gabi Lipschitz, and Beatriz Gil are among the senators who have taken part.

We commend them for this move, although it is a little disappointing that senators had to take matters into their own hands.

The issue of transparency in the SA government is something we’ve commented on before. That’s not to say that senators are trying to hide the inner workings of SA from students—for the most part, they’re very proud of the work they

do, and they’d like students to be more involved.

But SA’s public relations team has left a lot to be desired in the past year—there’s an eight-month backlog for Senate meeting minutes on the SA website, with none uploaded since Feb. 29.

So we congratulate Foti, Bodek, Lipschitz, and Gil for making an effort to publicize SA events on their own time. We hope to see other SA senators follow suit.

We hope, as well, the senators are successful in growing student interest. Senators and other members of SA have long been vocal about their desire to engage with students, many of whom may not even know about SA’s work.

Take the sharing of SA polls on Facebook. Senators often depend on student polls to gauge students’

interest in initiatives and programs, but those polls aren’t always well-publicized and don’t end up being a good representation of the student body.

Although the idea is admirable, we do notice that there hasn’t yet been much to publicize. The Facebook pages have mostly been used to publicize co-sponsorships and club events, in the absence of actual SA programming this semester. The SA initiative to make tampons and pads available for free in campus bathrooms is awaiting the results of student surveys, and the initiative to paint wholesome messages on campus sidewalks seems to be stuck in a holding pattern after health concerns were raised.

SA’s new transparency efforts are encouraging, and we look forward to reading about their work as the semester progresses.

Registration Date Sprung on Seniors

Spring course registration is this week, but many students didn’t know it until Sunday night.

Sure, the University’s engineering students knew about it earlier. They are contacted by their individual departments, which need to rubber-stamp all of their students’ schedule change-related actions. Some Arts & Sciences departments extend the offer of registration advising hours to their students—if not by requirement, as a courtesy.

And sure, the University sent a brief reminder to students on Sunday night in their weekly “Read This” missive.

But what of the seniors—whose ability to take certain courses affects their ability to graduate—

who have to register at 8 a.m. on Monday morning? The juniors on Tuesday?

Another set of emails, sent to students around 10 p.m. on Sunday night, wants for timeliness, especially if the recipients sought advice on what, exactly, they needed to register for.

To assume that students read every email their department(s) send out is folly. Most departments send out a barrage of emails daily, and many students are inclined to ignore them.

Most years, students are given adequate time to prepare. This time, the University dropped the ball.

It’s true that most professors would necessarily be forgiving of a student who needed to take their

course, but missed the chance to register for it.

But to force students and faculty through the usual rigamarole of asking for course codes is, in a word, inconsiderate.

To be clear, it’s not that UR didn’t communicate with its students. It’s that it did so about half a day before registration. Students’ primary source of registration news should not be hearsay or a particularly ambitious department.

The University should make the effort to email students about important campus dates—and, in particular, registration—multiple times, starting a few weeks in advance. This not only inoculates UR against complaints, but ensures a smoother registration week for all.

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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Right to privacy? Or right to know?

BY JAMES GUNN

Individual rights and security have forever been the greatest concerns of any state ruled by a constitution: such that the people shall be spared from tyranny or oppression, and such that people do not live in fear of the majority, or the government. It saddens me that it has become so difficult to maintain privacy in a technological age, especially when we have so many values that come into conflict.

Maintaining privacy in communication technology is now being constantly discussed, thanks to several events, one of the most memorable of which was Edward Snowden’s leaking of information from the NSA. Snowden revealed that the NSA was collecting “metadata” on the American people, on foreign governments, and on citizens of other nations by spying on the e-mails, telephone calls, and text messages of all of those parties.

This, of course, caused outrage throughout the world. It is tyranny—but why? The NSA collected the information in the name of national security. Isn’t this important to the American people, and all other people in the world?

Yet, I still think this type of spying is a problem. First, it is a violation of the sovereignty of other nations and their peoples, and their complaints are fair. Second, it was hidden from the American people. Who is our enemy? If a government must hide from the people, is it the enemy of the people? This is the real injustice of the NSA. The people should have a choice. Do they want to give up some individual freedoms for the protection of their community? Any intrusions should be known and limited by the people.

The injustice of the NSA did not warrant the response that Snowden gave. The leaks were simply irresponsible. Although he revealed tyrannies against the people, he also placed them in grave danger.

The FBI’s recent declarations about Hillary Clinton are similarly irresponsible. Clinton is

innocent until proven guilty. However, by the FBI directly declaring their intention—an unusual act—makes her seem slightly more suspect and is bound to tarnish her presidential campaign shortly before the election.

Although such an inquiry should be public knowledge, the way it was presented to the public was blunt and unsavory. Accusing a person of a crime affects their image, regardless of their culpability. It is hard to determine if the FBI was really being apolitical in this situation.

And what of those famous few, whose privacy we violate so frequently? Are they not entitled to the same rights as us? Our obsession with famous people’s lives has always irritated me, and that extends even to Kim Kardashian, Prince Harry, and Donald Trump.

There’s an expectation that Trump should release his tax records, as all candidates have for the past few decades. But why? Would any other person be required—through coercion, or public shame, as he is—to release such private information, simply because others have?

What precedent does this set for our politicians? Should we ask if Trump voted Republican in order for him to be the Republican candidate? That would be illegal. Why isn’t it also illegal to demand other private information? When the people become a horde, we must protect the individual, lest the people extend their demands to anyone they feel is worthy of their arbitration.

A constitutional government limits the will of the majority to protect the minority. We may become too lax, insofar as the majority demands the exposure and crucifixion of whomever they wish. It all comes down to how much we value the individual: how much do you value your own rights? We must protect the individual—from government agencies like the NSA, and from ourselves. It is an injustice and a corruption of democracy if we do anything less.

Gunn is a member of the Class of 2020.

BY YOENIA KROKOVA

I am not Israeli, Palestinian, Jewish, or Muslim. I have no personal stake in the Israel-Palestine conflict. I did not get involved with the State Oppression Awareness committee in Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) until I had done extensive research on both sides. In the end, I picked a side: the side of the oppressed.

SDS has hosted Palestine Awareness Month for the past seven years. From cultural expos to Noam Chomsky’s Q&A session, members of the club consistently try their best to balance events focused on the historical background of Palestine with the ever-so-controversial conflict. Despite the backlash from many Zionists across campus who suggest that we focus solely on Palestinian culture, Israel cannot be left out of the conversation. Without Israel, Palestine Awareness Month would not have to exist.

Our effort to address the injustice occurring in Palestine periodically results in accusations of anti-Semitism and one-sidedness, and this year was no different.

Two days before our film screening of “The Occupation of the American Mind” and Q&A session with Israeli and Palestinian panelists, a self-described “progressive Zionist Jewish woman” wrote a purely speculative op-ed for the Campus Times, in which she characterized our event as “anti-Israel” and full

Our effort to address the injustice occurring in Palestine periodically results in accusations of anti-Semitism and one-sidedness.

of “shouting and blaming.” The author of that piece has never been a member of SDS. Through misinformation, she has created an uncomfortable, tense environment that spiraled out of control and fueled the hate that she so ardently hoped to avoid.

We faced criticism for focusing on the lives of our panelists rather than accepting questions regarding the conflict, so let me address those

SDS Is Unapologetic About Palestine Awareness Month

questions—and some points made in last week’s op-ed.

“All Palestinians living in the state of Israel are full Israeli citizens with full equal rights.”

According to the 50 discriminatory laws against Palestinians—which any person with Internet access can find, in both Hebrew and English—the equality that you speak of does not exist. Legally, four distinctions are made: Palestinians with Israeli citizenship, Palestinians living in Israeli territory with no Israeli citizenship, Palestinians in Gaza, and Palestinians in the West Bank. Yet even if the laws were equitable, would that guarantee equal treatment? Even in the U.S., such institutional racism exists.

Why highlight Israeli oppression and not Hamas?

Bringing up Hamas to downplay the role of the Israeli government in Palestinian genocide and oppression does no good for either side. Equating a supposedly democratic government with a terrorist organization—one that arose as a counter-revolutionary movement under Israeli oppression—and mentioning them in the same sentence as if they were supposed to be held to equal standards is absolutely outrageous and illogical. Hamas rockets in Israel have killed fewer than 50 people since 2001, compared to Israeli rockets killing roughly 2,100 Palestinians within a month in the Gaza Strip.

“And what of Hamas’ violent and theocratic police state?”

The Israelis voted for Benjamin Netanyahu four separate times. They voted for Ariel Sharon even after he was found personally responsible for the massacre of civilians in Sabra and Shatila and was forced to resign from his position as minister of defense (on top of his role in the Qibya massacre). They voted for Menachim Begin, a notorious terrorist who slaughtered Palestinian civilians in the ethnic cleansing operation carried out to found the Israeli state; for Yitzhak Rabin, who ordered massacres of entire villages; and for numerous other Israeli leaders involved in massacres against Palestinians.

Between them, they have

murdered more innocent civilians than Hamas could ever hope to. And yet, they have gone on to become lauded and esteemed leaders of Israel, loved around the world, in some cases serving multiple terms. The authoritarian leadership of Hamas is undoubtedly problematic, but does not detract from the oppression committed by the Israelis.

SDS does care about other war-torn countries, as we have demonstrated with previous events

A reasonable critique of the Israeli government and its actions is as anti-Semitic as dissatisfaction with the U.S. government is anti-American.

and co-sponsorships, but why should that prompt us to exclude this one? Why is your first response to Palestinian suffering “Yes, that’s horrible, but what about Syria?” Ask the members of our club that participate in Education for a Peaceful Syria.

A reasonable critique of the Israeli government and its actions is as anti-Semitic as dissatisfaction with the U.S. government is anti-American. We are allowed—obligated, even—to hold governments, especially “the only democracy in the Middle East,” to high standards.

SDS is not sorry if acknowledging genocide makes you uncomfortable. SDS is not sorry if discussing the suffering of others makes you feel attacked. SDS is not sorry if these events make close-minded people angry. They should be angry. They should feel wrath. They should be burning with rage toward the Israeli government, the government that they consider theirs, for thinking it can manipulate them into believing lies and half-truths.

In the words of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu: “I know what America is. America is a thing you can move very easily—move it in the right direction.”

Do you want to be moved like a chess piece in a game of injustice, or make up your own mind?

Krokovia is a member of the Class of 2019.

UR OPINION

BY SAM PASSANISI & LEAH NASON
OPINIONS EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR

“HOW ARE YOU PLANNING TO SPEND YOUR EXTRA HOUR FROM DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME?”



JACKSON ABASCAL, '19
“Practicing for a programming competition.”



LAUREN ABBUHL, '20
“I was reading for fun.”



PHYLLIS IMADE, '17
“Catching up on sleep.”



DANIEL ALIBER, '17
“Studying for a finance test.”



CHRISTIAN RIVERA, '18
“Tabling for Sig Ep’s spelling bee.”



EMILY TRONSON, '18
“I was definitely unconscious.”

FEATURES

Food Recovery Network Fights Hunger

BY NINA LISTRO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's raining. Hard. Junior Hannah Chartrand waits in the doorway of the IT center, staring nervously at her phone.

"Eleni and Daniel are supposed to be here," she says. The bus for Whipple Park leaves in five minutes, a full half hour after everyone was supposed to meet in front of IT. Out of the four members who signed up to volunteer at the Swaraj Project community garden today, only two have shown.

There's a hint of annoyance in Chartrand's eyes, but two will make more of a difference than no one at all.

A small turnout is not out of the norm, however, as the Food Recovery Network (FRN) has only about ten active members, six of which are on the executive board.

Although the group is small, they are committed to tackling some big problems.

A national entity, FRN is the largest student movement working to combat food waste and hunger in the country. The UR chapter collects leftover food from the dining centers on campus and redistributes it to local food banks and soup kitchens.

According to Feeding America, a nationwide network of member food banks, food insecurity refers to the "USDA's measure of lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods."

In Monroe County alone, over 100,000 people are food insecure. That's more than an eighth of the population.

"I don't think a lot of students realize how much of a problem this really is," Chartrand, president of the University's FRN chapter, said. "On campus, we're in our own little world and are shielded from what's going on in the city."

FRN is the largest student movement working to combat food waste and hunger in the country.

The goal of the Food Recovery Network at UR is to bridge this divide and bring about a greater awareness of food insecurity on campus.

This morning, the group—

or, more accurately, Chartrand and general member Selena Angel—are headed to the Swaraj Project as part of Be The Change Day, a national day of service to foster strong community relationships.

The rain fortunately ceases as the bus pulls up to the apartments. A few other volunteers from Sigma Beta Rho emerge from the laundry room, where they had taken shelter.

"I started the Swaraj Project because I wanted to have access to fresh, local produce, something I believe [UR Dining Services] could use more of," she explains.

Although the project is just starting out, Chillara hopes the garden will expand enough to provide local pro-

RIT's chapter of FRN about how to attract more members.

"The RIT chapter has around 25 to 30 active members," Chartrand says. "This enables them to do so much more."

Recover Rochester, the RIT chapter, collects food from the campus's three main cafeterias, averaging around 250 pounds of donations per week. UR's chap-

the West Side and South Wedge markets and have FRN members gather and deliver the donations to St. Peter's soup kitchen, an entity with which the club already has a sound affiliation.

FRN currently donates 100 percent of the food it collects to St. Peter's, and, at least once a semester, sends members to help serve lunch to the 150 plus guests who come on a daily basis.

"I absolutely love volunteering at the soup kitchen," senior and general member Eva Reynolds says. "The people who come in are so grateful for the opportunity to get a free meal. I don't think I've ever heard such genuine thank-yous or seen such joyful smiles."

Even though the group is small, its members know that every little bit of their effort makes a difference.

Back at the Swaraj Project, Chartrand and Angel help to plant over 300 square feet of cover crops, which will deposit nitrogen into the soil over the winter.

The annoyance in Chartrand's eyes has long disappeared, replaced instead with the squint of delight only laughter brings. The students crack gangster jokes about "making it rain" seeds as they toss them frivolously about the garden. They smear dirt on their faces and take many selfies. They're having fun, despite the damp weather.

They're making a difference. And Chillara could not be more excited.

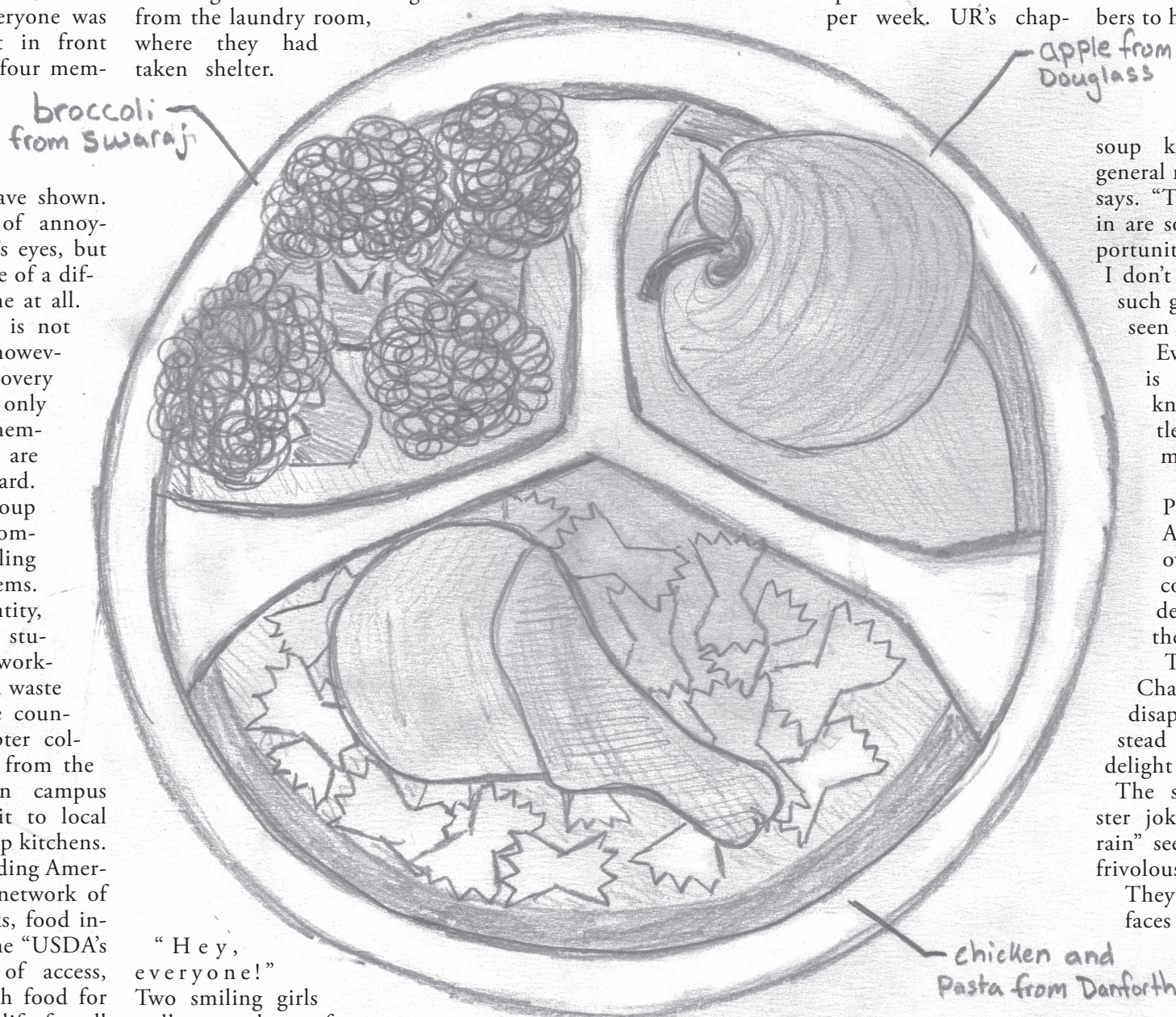
"You guys have no idea how much we appreciate this," she says. "Thanks to you, this garden is becoming a reality."

Many colleges have community garden these days, and it is really surprising Rochester hasn't followed suit.

As they walk back to the bus, Chartrand and Chillara talk future collaboration between FRN and Swaraj.

"If you need help building the shed, let me know," Chartrand says to Chillara. "FRN would be more than happy to help. Our numbers might not be the greatest, but we work hard for the things we believe in."

Listro is a member of the Class of 2017.



JAMIE RUDD / PRESENTATION EDITOR

"Hey, everyone!"

Two smiling girls walk towards us from the parking lot. They're fully equipped for a day of digging in the dirt. One carries a shoebox full of Johnny's organic seeds and trowels. The other cradles a plastic bag overflowing with gardening gloves every color of the rainbow. She struggles to clasp her hands around the bag, which could probably supply 10 times the number of volunteers who actually showed up.

"I'm Siri," she says, extending her hand. Gloves drop here and there as she goes around to greet everyone. "We're so excited you all could make it."

Siri Chillara, a junior chemical engineering major, started the Swaraj Project through a fellowship with the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence last year. After spending her first two years reveling in the fact that she could eat whatever she wanted, as most college students do, Chillara came to the realization that this diet wasn't sustainable, for herself or for the environment.

duce to the University's dining halls as well as Rochester's food-insecure households.

Many colleges have community gardens these days, and it is surprising Rochester hasn't really followed suit.

Chartrand said that FRN used to have one by the Medical Center when the group first started in 2012, but it was hard to maintain with the constant flux of members and changes in the executive board.

"I was really excited when [Chillara] reached out to me and asked if FRN would like to help with this project," Chartrand says. "I've wanted to get the community garden started back up, but it's so hard with everything else we're doing and with the small amount of members we currently have."

Chartrand hopes this will be a year of successful recruiting, as it is apparent more members are needed in order to make a bigger impact. She has been in contact with the president of

ter, on the other hand, tallies only about 50 to 75 pounds.

That Recover Rochester has two years of experience over UR's chapter of FRN offers hope that UR may rise to a similar level of achievement.

Chartrand's main goal this year is to boost the number of active participants by making the group more recognizable on campus. Some of the ways she plans on doing so include hosting a speaker on campus next semester, ordering FRN stickers for more prominent branding, and hosting a sustainable dinner.

If the club starts to expand, there are some bigger projects it would like to tackle.

One is to partner with Flower City Pickers, a volunteer organization that collects leftover produce from vendors at the Public Market and redistributes it to homeless shelters, soup kitchens, and food pantries around the area.

Chartrand would like to set up similar programs at

CAMPUS ODDITY

Spurrier’s Eerie Abandoned Pool



ANGELA LAI / PUBLISHER

BY VICTORIA SEREMETIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With its twists and never-ending turns, Spurrier Hall always has something new to show a student passing through. Dance studios, music practice rooms, and a gymnasium are tucked away within its dimly-lit halls. While most students could confidently name Spurrier as the center for the Dance & Movement Program, only a handful know its previous function. Even fewer, presumably those new to campus, are aware of the abandoned pool hidden in the bowels of Spurrier Hall. The empty pool area in the Merle Spurrier Gymnasium was originally a feature of the women’s gym facilities built in 1955. Spurrier’s pool was 25 yards, with six lanes. The building is connected by way of tunnels to Susan B. Anthony hall, which once was

Ghost rumors are scattered throughout the pool’s history.

an all-women’s dormitory. In 1982, the female sports facilities were moved to the GAC, and so the Spurrier

pool, along with the rest of the building, was closed. For a time, Spurrier was simply left in repose, and then it was used as a space for exams. During the vacation months, extra desks from exams were stored in the drained pool, along with many other odds and ends, such as props from Strong Auditorium and technology equipment from the on-campus tech store. Ghost rumors are scattered throughout the pool’s history, but there isn’t much evidence to support these stories. “I’ve never personally seen any ‘pool poltergeist,’ as

campus oddities

you say, they are probably just urban legend,” Director of River Campus Facilities Jeff Foster explained. Director of the Dance & Movement Program Missy Smith would say otherwise: “It was rather bright and had colorful painted footprints going up one wall as a result of some graffiti,” referring to the student-painted blood red footprints around the pool deck and up the wall. According to Foster, the

Spurrier pool is presently clean of the spare parts it once held (including the

[There are] blood red footprints around the pool deck and up the wall.

creepy desk-chairs), but there have been no plans made to refurbish the space. The painted footprints remain, but the room looks well lit and a little more inviting. Nevertheless, much of the building has decayed cosmetically, despite its strong foundation, and reconstruction of the pool would be costly. If UR does find the funds to renovate the Spurrier pool, what should it be transformed into? “It would be nice if they possibly made it an open space for performance groups, or just a nice lounge for people to enjoy” sophomore Carley Haft said. Senior Sunny Hutson had a different idea: “I think it’d be cool if we maybe had an indoor ice rink or something like that.” Pictures of the abandoned pool can be found on rochestersubway.com. *Seremetis is a member of the Class of 2020.*

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Decorating George Eastman

BY MADELEINE GRAHAM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It stands between Morey and Lattimore Halls, with a stance suggesting strength and confidence.

campus oddities

Since it was erected during 2009's Meliora Weekend, George Eastman's statue has donned many hats, often placed on his signature hat by students in support of various causes.

But, throughout his life in Rochester, he donned plenty more.

Born in 1854 in Waterville, New York, Eastman and his family relocated to Rochester when he was five.

Shortly after, tragedy struck with the death of his father in 1862 and his sister in 1870. To support his family after these losses, Eastman dropped out of school and started working various jobs to help pay expenses.

After working as a messenger boy and, later, as an office boy, he earned the title of junior clerk at

and started experimenting at night with different types of photographic plates. With the help of businessman Henry A. Strong's investments, George Eastman founded the Eastman Kodak Company, the originator of such cultural gemstones as the "Kodak Moment."

During his lifetime, Eastman also founded the eponymous school of music downtown, helped start UR's School of Medicine and Dentistry, and donated over \$100 million to various causes.

And it shows. At the inauguration of Eastman's statue in 2009, President Joel Seligman said, "George East-

'My favorite was a few years ago when he was dressed in a leopard print bikini.'

man's legacy—the Eastman School, Eastman Theatre, the School of Medicine and Dentistry—played a major role in shaping the University of Rochester."

His legacy continues not only through the statue, but also through George Eastman Day, started a year after the statue was erected. Similar to Wilson Day at the University of Rochester, George Eastman Day is a day of service for incoming Eastman students.

Many alumni of the University are part of the George Eastman Circle, which was established in 2007. It was a member of this circle who decided that the University was



LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

The George Eastman statue celebrates fall with some pumpkin decoration.

missing a statue of George Eastman on its campus.

Laurence Bloch '75, a trustee since 1998, and his wife, Cindy, gave this statue as a gift to the University. They enlisted the help of sculptor Marc Mellon, once a student at the University, to create the statue.

The duo has also donated to the University in the form of the Larry & Cindy Bloch Fitness Center in the Goergen Athletic Center.

After talking to Director of Facilities Jeff Foster, it's clear that the decoration of the statue is completely up to the students. There is no process that Facilities takes part in with "dressing" or "undressing" Eastman,

though twice a year, Eastman does get washed and waxed.

Despite Facilities' hands-off approach to Eastman's garb, Foster remembers the outfit he liked the most.

"My favorite was a few years ago when he was dressed in a leopard print bikini," he said. "Even at his age, he still rocks swimwear."

Graham is a member of the Class of 2018.

It's clear that the decoration of the statue is completely up to the students.

Rochester Savings Bank. It was there that he became interested in photography

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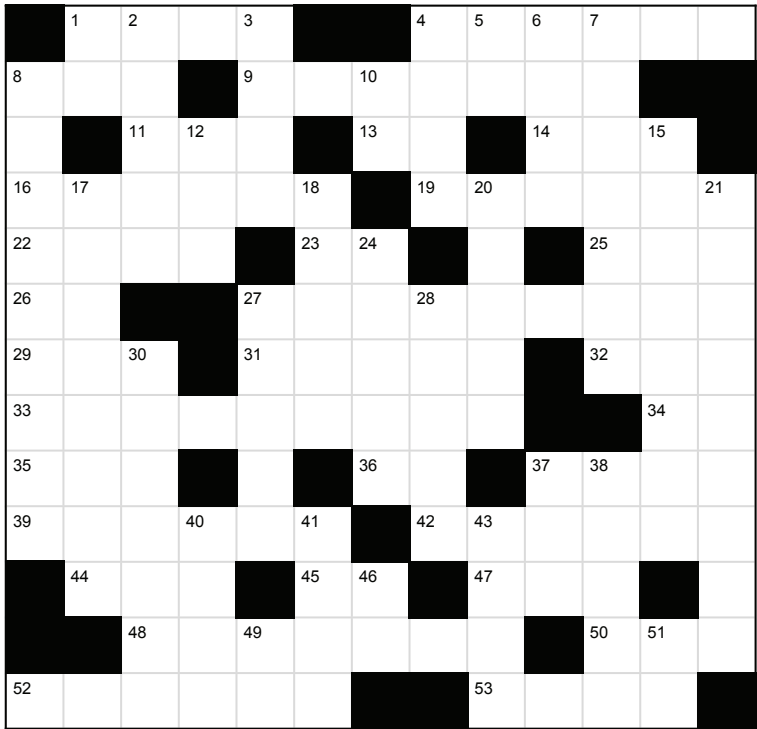
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PUZZLE

Crossword Puzzle

BY SAM PASSANISI '18 DIFFICULTY **HARD**



Interested in making Puzzles for the *Campus Times*?
E-mail us at features@campustimes.org

- ACROSS:
1. The original Impaler

4. Feudal lord's subordinate

8. Communist cat noise?

9. Origin of Sherman's March to the Sea

11. ____-Wan Kenobi

13. Evening (i.e. "post-meridian")

14. Colony-building insect

16. State of mind while waiting for the Jabberwock?

19. The mind; the spirit

22. Come up to the lab, and see what's on this

23. Outkast hit "Hey ____"

25. Mazel ____!

26. Workshop or recitation leader, usually

27. Tyler, the Creator's rap

- collective
29. "Very dangerous" variety of snake
31. Green shampoo brand
32. Domain of el marinero
33. Metamorphosis vessel for moth or butterfly
34. Pixar's mode of animation
35. Part of a giggle, perhaps
36. Short exclamation of surprise
37. Qatar's ruler (as of Kuwait and UAE)
39. Hospital's 1st responders
42. Alpine conifer
44. Vegetable "blood"
45. "That is," abbr.
47. Rowboat propulsion
48. Holy halls
50. Conservative pundit Coulter
52. African scavengers
53. Mosaic medium

- DOWN:
1. Ret. soldiers' department

2. Washcloth alternative

3. Raised platform

4. Namesake of 1 Across?

5. Indefinite article

6. Don't leave

7. Safe haven

8. Unshaven upper lip

10. Record album, abbr.

12. Shirt protector

15. Of the upper torso

17. Put these on when idling

18. Many-headed Greek beastie (the original "kill it with fire")

20. Multiple of 19 Across

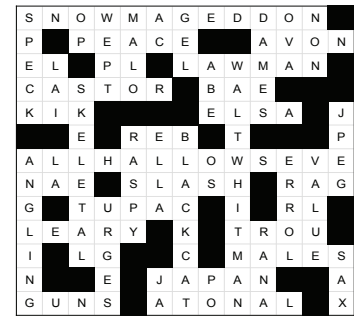
21. Doesn't drop leaves in winter

24. "Hello, it's me," _____

27. Operational security, for

- short
30. Come before, chronologically
37. Long time period
38. Wall painting
40. ____ Sesame!
41. Units of imbibing?
43. Saturday Evening mag.?
46. "Mixed-Up Files..." author ____ Konigsburg
49. Matron's informal title
51. Neon gas, abbr.

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HUMOR

Benefits of Douglass Labeling

BY ERIC FRANKLIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The opening of the newly-renovated Douglass Dining Center this semester has brought many improvements to the school—from a new late-night dining option to an allergen-free station to a décor worthy of only the best student tour groups.

But as I joined a group of UR students on their long walk to Barnes & Noble, we had a lot of time to discuss some of the less-expected benefits of the new dining hall.

“I never expected them to lock the gluten free food away for only legitimately gluten-free students to access,” Ariane Pain, a gluten-tolerant student who nonetheless suffers from debilitating glutenophobia, said. “I was really surprised that they needed a signed form from my psychic—I mean psychologist—to grant access to the room, but now I never have to worry about other people

taking my food from me or calling my condition ‘made up’ or ‘a media-inflated fad diet taken to a weird extreme.’”

Most of the students I spoke with commented on how much they liked the new “guessing game” style of Douglass. “Some days, the food is all labelled and we just get our food and eat in bored silence,” junior Lilo Pelekai said. “But then there are the exciting days when the food isn’t individually labelled. The TVs have a list of food items on them, but if you’ve never heard of the food before, there’s no way of telling which is which.”

“We’ve worked out a fun way to play,” explained her friend sophomore Andrew Faulstich. “Every day, we each study different Thai, Vietnamese, Chinese, and Japanese dishes before we go to the dining hall together. Whoever can match the dishes at the Street Food Station with the names on the TV first wins. Sometimes, we even hold a challenge round for

the times when the TVs are off.”

For their other friend, a senior who would only speak on condition of partial anonymity, the game is fraught with an exciting degree of danger, due to his nut allergy.

“When the ‘contains nuts’ sign at the dessert station gets knocked around by people and sits ambiguously in front of two different plates, or when they switch to a seemingly nut-free dessert later in the night but don’t move the sign, so the TV just says, ‘Assorted Pastries,’ the game for me changes from ‘What Am I Eating?’ to ‘Will This Cookie Kill Me?’,” he said. “I hoped the allergen-free station might serve desserts, but I know how rare it is for someone to have allergies and a sweet tooth, so I’m probably the only one who’s affected.”

“Besides,” he added, “what fun is the Dougie Guessing Game without a little danger?”

Franklin is a member of the Class of 2017.

Phone Call from Home

BY SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON
HUMOR EDITOR

Hello? Hello? Is it on?

Yes? Oh hi, sweetie, you’re here! You can hear us, right? Sorry, you’re going to need to turn your computer up. Your father’s hearing is shot, you know.

Phil! Phil, get in here, your son’s on the computer! Yeah, right now. I’m calling him on the line. Sorry, I know, I know. He’s on the Facechat, honey!

Sweetie, you look so tired. Are you getting sick? How many times a day are you eating? You know, I read that if you don’t get at least three meals a day, you’ll start experiencing a receding hairline. You don’t want to be bald now, do you?

No, I know you’re eating plenty of food, but you sound so tired and groggy. You’re sleeping nine to 10 hours a night, right?

Don’t answer that. I don’t want to know.

Anyways, we’ve got big news here! The family of rabbits that was living in the garden is growing bigger and bigger every day. I think the ones you saw this summer all have kids now! Yeah, you probably haven’t seen them since the summer, since that’s the last time you came home. Maybe you can make it out next weekend?

Yes, of course I know you’re busy, but how busy? Too busy to see your old Mommy and Daddy, who miss their baby so, so much?

Alright, Phil, I’ll leave him alone. He’s just looking so old

and different every time we see him. I mean, look at that beard! How are you growing beards so fast? Are you running out of shaving cream? Razors? Do you need more toiletries?

I’m sending you a box right now. No, no, it’s no problem. We have that Amazon Premium—sorry Prime—now. I’ll just send it to you right after our call.

Phil, stop! Don’t open another app, or we’ll lose him! No, Mrs. Darren said you can’t have more than three apps going on the computer, or the internets will freeze up, and you’ll lose your call. That’s why her son John always loses her on Skip. Skype—sorry, I know.

Don’t worry, sweetie. We’re going to send the box right after this chat. What’s new with you, anyway? Aunt Claire said she saw a picture of you on Facebook at some house, and it looked like a party! Are you being careful?

Remember, if you didn’t pour something yourself, anybody could put something in it. Oh God, now I’m all worried again.

You’re not walking around campus at night, right? You are? Well, how many people are you with? That’s good, you should never be walking with fewer than six people in a group.

What’s that? You have to get to class? I thought you didn’t have classes on Fridays.

Oh, no problem, we’ll talk to you really soon, hopefully. We love you! Bye, honey!

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

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Bad Advice from Brian

BY BRIAN LEONARD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Dear Brian,

There’s a boy in my calc class who’s SO cute, but he never seems to notice me! How can I get him to like me?

—Edgar Yau

Hey there, Edgar! Thanks so much for writing in. I’m so happy you’re not Dan Edwards. I guess I could have kept going with his questions forever (he handed me a friggin shoebox full of them), but it wouldn’t have been pretty; after the first two, the rest all had to do with something called “claymation porn.”

So, you’re looking to snatch the eye of a fresh young hunkaroonie, eh? Well, then, I have plenty of advice for you! Keep in mind, though: All of this applies universally. Whether your quarry is bably or boyish, the fundamentals are the same.

You might think the first step in

winning your crush’s heart would be, necessarily, to meet them. Not true, actually! The first step is research. We’ve all left our slimy slug-trails on this great big web we call the World Wide one. Whether it was on Facebook, Twitter, or your favorite Wallace and Gromit Rule 34 thread, we’ve all peppered the Internet with posts. These nuggets of selfdom are delicious morsels for any hungry lover. By constructing a cyber-facsimile of your crush’s identity beforehand, you’ll be way more prepared for a healthy, natural dialogue when you actually meet them!

“Of course,” you might say, “this all makes sense, but how do I actually go about introducing myself? By the way, Brian, your big handsome muscles are extremely strong.” Well, thank you, but I was getting there.

The key to a sly approach is a good opening line. Something that feels natural and lets that special someone know what you’re all about. For instance, I might hold my head and go for something like this: “Ow ow ow! My head hurts so much from all these

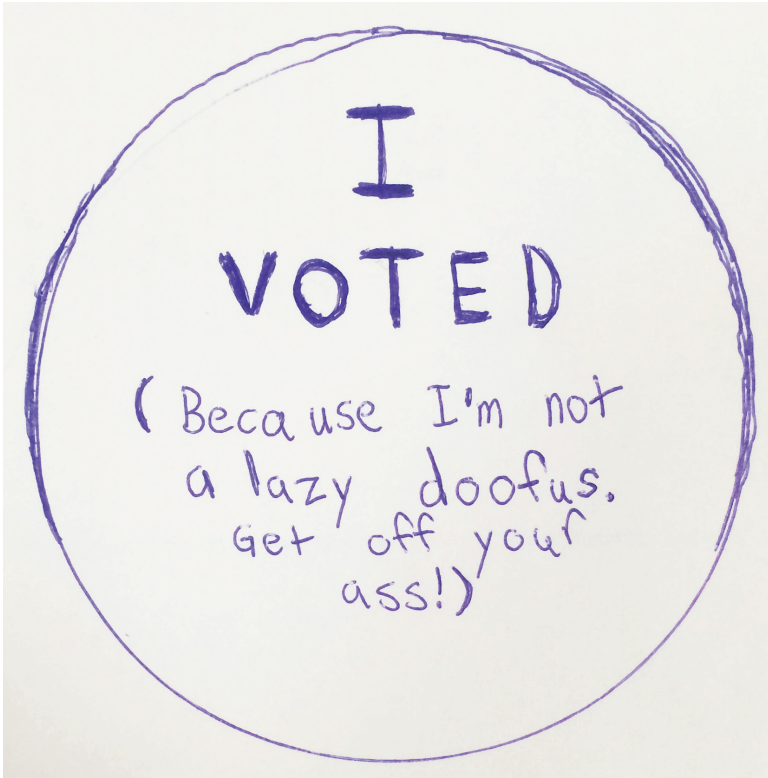
extremely good opinions I’m having. I hope the pain doesn’t distract me while I’m driving my very expensive and fast car later today with sunglasses on. By the way, what is your cup size?” Do you see how I made it about her at the end? It’s always important to ask questions.

Once you’ve employed your killer line, the first date will come naturally. You should take them somewhere fancy, like a graveyard. Show them you’re a sensitive intellectual by starting a conversation on some deep topic, like gamers’ rights or reverse racism. If they try to change the subject, keep in mind that this is just a test of your resolve. Stick to your guns; they’ll respect you for it. And, above all, remember the three C’s of conversation: Charisma, Cussing, and Criticism.

Well, I think that’s all I’ve got for you, Edgar. I hope it helps you win the heart of your QT. If anyone else would like to submit a question, feel free to send it to me at bleonar5@u.rochester.edu.

Leonard is a member of the Class of 2017.

Wear This On Nov. 8



SCOTT MISTLER-FERGUSON / HUMOR EDITOR

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Pixies Shake Off Dust with Recent Release of ‘Head Carrier’

BY ISABEL DRUKKER
A&E EDITOR

The Pixies are perhaps the most influential bands of the late ‘80s. Their sound can be found in the most alternative groups known today, including Nirvana and the Strokes. Since their success with the album, “Surfer Rosa,” which included the track “Where Is My Mind,” notably showing up in the film “Fight Club,” the original band members—and sound—has changed. Due to tensions within the band, bassist Kim Deal has since been replaced with Paz Lenchantin. “Head Carrier,” the Pixies’ newest album released on Sep. 30, was Lenchantin’s first album debut as a Pixie. Because the Pixies’ were trending on WRUR FM radio, the band reached out for an interview with their original and current drummer David Lovering.

Isabel Drukker: How is it going with Paz as the new bassist?
David Lovering: It’s fantastic. We’re very fortunate to have the audience—they like her, they like Paz, they do. It couldn’t be better. The crazy thing about it is that she’s been with us for three years, she’s been a Pixie. And to Joe, to myself, and to Charles, she’s still the new woman— And because of that, we’re still behaving extra well. You know what, you mind yourself around her because she’s a lady. And because of that, we’re getting along fantastic, and for years now. It’s great.
ID: Since she’s already on the subject, I know that the beginning of “All I Think About Now” opens up with pretty much the same chords as “Where Is My Mind?” I was wondering what the group’s intention was with doing that, and also what the intention of having her [Paz] sing that was.
DL: It’s funny, because we have an issue with “All I Think About Now” and “Where’s My Mind?” on the last four shows we were at, which we had last week. And the thing was that we had to be a little thoughtful with where we placed “Where Is My Mind?” As you say, it sounds like the same chords. But when you listen to it, it is reminiscent of “Where Is My Mind” and how it plays, but it’s not it—it’s a different kind of pattern, and things like that. But there’s a lot of speculation. We always do it near the end, because once it’s out of the way, we can play “All I Think About Now” and no one’s going to think it’s “Where Is My Mind?”
ID: There has been some speculation—I’ve heard a few people saying they consider it a thank-you letter to Kim Deal. Black was quoted saying, though, that he hoped the lyrics

were different enough to kind-of take out of that context, and not make it strictly about the band history. Do you have any opinions on that?
DL: I know it’s a thank-you letter, I don’t know—It’s an interesting concept people have been talking about. We had a list of songs for Head Carrier, we rehearsed them. And we had three weeks to do it. We had two weeks left in the studio and get down all the songs. Paz said “I have an idea for something.” We worked on this and Joe said “You sing it, I’ll write the lyrics.” The next day, we recorded. And the crazy thing about it: it’s my favorite song on the album and it’s very Pixies-sounding, especially with Joe’s riff on the guitar. But we recorded the next day, and Paz wrote it! That’s what’s crazy to me, it’s really good, and as far as the letter part to me, I don’t know—I don’t read into it.
ID: As a whole, about “Head Carrier,” which came out just a little over a month ago, what were the ambitions of the album, would you say?
DL: I don’t think there was any formula with it. When we did “Head Carrier,” we had the luxury of all that pre-production, it was the one difference that I think affected it. Other albums, we might have had less time to really work on the song or more time in the studio. Because of that, we recently did everything. Again, there’s no formula. It’s hard to compare the styles because it’s another album, I couldn’t compare “Head Carrier” to “Bossanova,” or “Surfer Rosa.” They’re very different. It’s just whatever that song is now. Some of them are a little bit bolder or a little more perky, and that’s really fun. They seem to be going over well live, and I’m sure they’re only going to get better.
ID: We spoke a little about this earlier: reviewers are saying that the newest album has a new sound, which, of course, a new bassist, time has passed, and everything. Did you have any comments on that?
DL: I think it’s such a great experience recording and everything and working on the album, and playing it live, and it’s completely fun to play.
ID: I know that y’all are touring in March—beginning in South Africa, correct? Any thoughts on that, or thoughts on the future for the Pixies?
DL: We’re going to a place where we’ve never been—we’ve never been to South Africa. From what I understand there, they want to see us there, that’ll be fantastic, it’ll be such a trip. It’s interesting when we get to go to new places because it happens,

Louvre Advocates Empowerment



ALIYE GALLAGHER / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Louvre’s “EmpowerHer” was centered around the theme of feminism and a community of women coming together.

BY RAFA SANCHEZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Saturday night, in the intimate setting of Spurrier’s dance studio, Louvre performed its fall production “EmpowerHER.” The performance itself was an exercise of feminism at its best: political, artistic, necessary, and liberating.

Overall, the performance defined, redefined, and ultimately took control of the feminine.

After a sensitive and sensible trigger warning for the audience, the lights were turned off, a voiceover began reading a quote taken from an article in the Columbia Spectator advocating for the “equality of women across the board,” and the dancers began.

The production consisted of two acts, each containing four dances based on the themes of independence, ambition, passivity, unity, worth, speak, recovery, and women.

Between the dances, they played pre-recorded quotes that

enriched the experience, varying from poetry to statistics, and even included a quote from Audre Lorde, an African-American writer and feminist civil rights activist. The choreographies themselves were composed by the members of the ensemble, which had a natural progression from start to finish.

All the dances were credibly part of the same story. A few moves were repeated throughout, allowing each dance to be part of the broader statement while also embodying its individual theme. It is important to note that, save for those few moments where one or two dancers were on stage alone, none of them would monopolize the viewer’s eye because they all excelled cohesively.

Overall, the performances defined, redefined, and ultimately took control of the feminine.

The performers raised the question of what womanhood is, only to respond with their energy and the shared experience they claim as own.

The peak of the production was reached during the “Recovery” dance, choreographed by junior Vivy Ngo. A victim blaming voice-over was mixed with a standalone dancer sitting on

the ground who was helped by another dancer. As they moved together, it looked like one girl was reteaching the other how to walk and keep her balance. The rest of the ensemble then joined them in what was a powerful and terrifying highlight of the act’s mixture of feminism, literature, and dance.

There were few issues, some of which were at no fault of the production. Once or twice, there were bizarre lighting mistakes that did not match the music or enhance viewership of the dancers in an otherwise well-produced performance in terms of light and sound.

In the broad feeling of feminism and diversity, it would have been better if Louvre had a more racially diverse ensemble to captivate and carry their message.

The biggest complaint anyone should have is that there weren’t nearly as many men in the audience as there should have been. This celebration and empowerment of women is something that male students, beyond the members of MOVE, should view for their own enrichment and the ongoing improvement of our culture.

Sanchez is a member of the Class of 2019.

once in a while... Then after that, I think Australia, Japan, New Zealand, South America, the States, New York again. I don’t know where after that, but I think it’ll be wash, rinse, repeat.
ID: I think we’re about out of time, so do you have any other comments?
DL: Just it was a pleasure speaking with you and thank you. I think if the band plays, especially with all these shows we have coming, by the time we get to Rochester, I think we’ll be very good.

Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.

Please recycle
this paper when
done reading.

Paranormal Investigators Search MAG, Find the Unexplainable

BY ISABEL DRUKKER
A&E EDITOR

The Monroe County Paranormal Investigators (MCPI) met in the parking lot of the Memorial Art Gallery on Nov. 5, checking their batteries and devices one last time before entering the museum.

“Remember your basics,” MCPI founder Rob Pistilli said over the phone to his team. “It’s a big building. Make sure you’re verifying everything you can.”

The Memorial Art Gallery (MAG) reached out to the MCPI due to a growing number of stories and strange sightings taking place throughout the 103-year-old building.

MAG Facilities manager Deborah Foster says that one recurring story includes a ghostly woman walking around the Lockhart gallery. Others have heard rumors of a man wearing a Facilities uniform walking around at night. The twist: these stories began years before Facilities workers actually had a uniform.

Each group of paranormal investigators was joined by a member of the MAG faculty and a member of security staff.

MCPI case manager Brian Cardilli, a self-described skeptic, explained to the curators that the real goal of the night

was “to not break anything” while asking questions out loud in rooms that demonstrated any activity.

“It seems silly,” Cardilli said to the MAG representatives. “[But] every once in a while, you get an answer back.”

Investigators brought flash-

The team felt a noticeable chill besides the compressor. Gottschalks measured that it was nearly three degrees Fahrenheit colder than the rest of the room.

lights, voice recorders, and thermometers.

“One of the ways that we can see what’s going on around us is through temperature, whether it spikes or drops significantly,” Tom Gottschalk, one of the MCPI investigators, said. “If it happens, you want to be able to document it.”

Their toolkits also included K-II meters, known as “Safe Range EMFs”—small devices with multiple lights on them, indicating different strength levels of surrounding electromagnetic radiation sources.

K-II meters are sensitive.

Each team member turned their phone on airplane mode to avoid confounding the data.

While climbing through the rafters of the MAG attic, K-II levels were low, due to our distance from anything electronic. In the basement, there was an instant spike in levels due to the power generators.

Other than one particular occurrence within my team, the K-II meters’ reactions all had logical explanations.

“Is anybody here with us tonight?” Brian asked, placing his K-II meter on the ground as investigators circled the Fountain Court on the MAG’s second floor.

Security had turned off the lights on the floor, except for one main spotlight off to the side, giving the team only enough light to avoid harming the art.

“A lot of what we do is just standing around,” Gottschalk said. “And waiting.” He had left his voice recorder on in the Welt gallery.

The group moved to the far opposite corner next to the 18th century Italian baroque organ, which the MAG has on loan from the Eastman School of Music. Students often visit and practice on the organ during museum hours.

After a few moments of asking questions, including “How

old are you?” and “Did you used to work here?,” all 30 lights in the Adams Gallery turned on for a moment. Then they shut off.

Some lights in the MAG are motion-sensitive.

The lights in the Adams Gallery, however, require a key for the switch to turn on. The security member in possession of that key was on the opposite side of the gallery at the moment the lights went on.

Gottschalk examined the lighting and the switch. Security claims to have never experienced faulty lighting with this particular system. They additionally comment that had one bulb been malfunctioning, it would have flickered alone.

Moving into the fountain court, two members of the team heard a loud sliding noise in the Welt Gallery. No one answered Gottschalks’ call and nothing was found upon examination, but Gottschalks’ recorder should have captured the noise.

Exploring the downstairs storage rooms, Gottschalks heard a strange voice down the hall.

Cardilli began asking questions.

At first, there was no response.

“Can you give me a hand?” Cardilli asked. The air com-

pressor in the room next him then turned itself on.

Security explained that the compressor does not normally activate itself, but if it had, then there would have been a sound of releasing air first, due to the size of the compressor.

Inside the room, Cardilli continued to ask questions.

The team felt a noticeable chill besides the compressor. Gottschalks measured that it was nearly three degrees Fahrenheit colder than the rest of the room.

The storage room has no vents or air conditioning. Gottschalks checked for any other sources of air, but found none.

Security turned the machine off. Gottschalks waited a moment, then waived his K-II meter around where the temperature had dropped. The device’s lights flickered on and off in response.

“Part of what we’re doing here is proving something unprovable,” Gottschalk said.

At the end of the investigation, members of each team took their cameras and recording devices back, and checked to make sure they had not been turned off.

MCPI will reveal all of their findings in the MAG auditorium on Dec. 8.

Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.



Sophomore Jane Huffer, senior Sabrina Parry, and junior Becca Galer take center stage.



VOCAL POINT ON POINT

UR’s all-woman group Vocal Point performed in Strong Auditorium for the first time on Nov. 4. The show was titled “1969,” after their newest album release and their founding year. “1969” showcased four new members in Vocal Point.

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‘HERE’ Album Reaches Too Far

BY BEN SCHMITZ
A&E STAFF

2016 has brought us a slew of artistic reinventions. From Beyoncé to Lady Gaga, some of music’s biggest artists have been pushing their art towards the more personal and more conscious. This change has largely been a welcome one, with albums like “Lemonade” and “Joanne,” receiving high praise for their themes of empowerment and their relevance regarding the current social and political climate.

In alignment with this trend of more personal songwriting within the pop sphere, Alicia Keys has returned with her first new music in four years with “HERE.” Keys has described this album as “me being my most truthful,” and it showcases her at her most raw and honest yet.

The album cover, featuring a simple black and white photo of Keys wearing no makeup and with her natural hair, encapsulates what this album is about quite well: exposing your true self and identity confidently, without any hesitation imposed by societal expectations or norms.

Keys writes about these themes through the lens of her own identity as a woman of color, as well as through her life and experiences in New York City.

Opening up the album with a spoken-word interlude, Keys begins by proclaiming herself “Nina Simone in the park,” “Harlem in the dark,” and “the erratic energy that gets in your skin,” among other images. Lines like these might come off as hubris in a context outside that of the album, but they make sense considering the strong theme of self-acceptance and identity on the album.

If the opening interlude is a prologue, “The Gospel” is the beginning of this album’s story, setting the scene in rough-and-tumble New York before devolving into myriad “yeah”s and “oh”s. The instrumental here is strong, however, with its off-kilter, piano-based beat pairing well with the imagery of

the song.

“Pawn it All” brings a harder-hitting groove and a bluesy vibe that suites Keys well, evoking more of her early material than many other tracks on the album. Lyrically, the song deals with desperation and the yearning for second chances in a city like New York,



LUIS NOVA / ILLUSTRATION EDITOR

where they aren’t easy to come by.

Keys expands the conscientiousness of the record with “Kill Your Mama,” which features Keys describing the wrongs we have committed against Mother Nature. The instrumental on this song is rather boring, however, featuring just a simply-strummed and poorly-recorded acoustic guitar that doesn’t quite sit well with Keys’ polished vocals.

Keys refocuses on “She Don’t Really Care_1 Luv,” returning to the album’s greater message. The first portion of the track describes a sort of archetype for the type of self-confident identity Keys is trying to push on the album, perhaps modeled, to some degree, off herself.

In the second portion we see Keys seeming to check her own privilege (“All along I’ve ignored what I’ve always known/That the chair I’ve been sitting on is a throne”), a concept that would be welcome and interesting to see her tackle if the rest of the song didn’t drift away from that idea, leaving a lot to be desired.

“Illusion of Bliss” is another New York story about a young woman struggling on her own. Keys delivers her most impassioned vocal on the record here, reaching the point of sounding unpolished and raw. This serves to heighten the track’s emotional impact, but it is questionable as to why Keys chose this song in particular to have such a vocal.

The overall issue with this album, though, is best

encapsulated by “Girl Can’t Be Herself.” This song, which is the most shallow description of the album’s themes, slaps you in the face with its message, which, while incredibly valid and important, could be delivered in a better way. It seems like to tackle every big social issue in the books, but her broad, all-reaching approach leaves listeners with many mediocre tracks that only scratch the surface of big problems without tackling them completely.

The album does, of course, have its good musical moments. Songs like “Where Do We Begin Now” have striking production but again deal with yet another social issue (here being same-sex relationship acceptance) in a surface-level way.

It’s wonderful that artists in the mainstream care about these issues and include them in their work, but doing them more justice with better songwriting focus would help a lot in not making albums seem like an attempt to pander.

Keys is moving with the tide, but just because the tide has been responsible for a lot of good music as of late doesn’t mean that every record that subscribes to its trends will be a home run.

Shmitz is a member of the Class of 2019.

MEDIA MATRIX Future Mixes with Feminsim



BY JEFF HOWARD
COLUMNIST

For today’s episode of “Media Matrix,” I will be reviewing yet another badass woman rapper.

She goes by “Yung Gemmy,” her aesthetic is futuristic and neon-colored with Hello Kitty merch, emojis, and Nintendo references.

Yung Gemmy’s music video “CUTEST IN THE GAME” sums up her vibe succinctly. The beat to the song, produced by Yung Gemmy herself, has Kyoto-style harp synths and bumping 808s. The production on the song has that made-on-a-laptop kind of homemade allure which made Designer’s “Panda” a radio hit.

Gemmy really shines in the endearing, cute, and imaginative vibe she creates as a rapper. In the chorus of the song she chants lackadaisically, “Yeah, I already told you I’m the cutest in the game / I got Hello Kitty rugs and a Hello Kitty chain.” Perhaps the best line in the song, though, is “I am not a rapper, I’m a cutie from the star fields / In abandoned malls, playing Tetris doing cartwheels.”

The music video for “CUTEST IN THE GAME” is a pastel-colored kaleidoscope of arcade games, jewelry, internet references, and candy, and it complements Gemmy’s character perfectly.

As one YouTuber commented, the video is “Germany’s ‘Hurt’” (in reference to Swedish rapper Yung

Lean’s pinpointing the Sadboy aesthetic with his hyper-cyber “Hurt” music video). Looking at it from this perspective, “CUTEST GIRL IN THE WORLD” is a tad derivative, or certainly not as game-changing as Yung Lean.

Gemmy’s appeal comes in the way her lackadaisical persona carries over into her approach to producing. While “CUTEST GIRL IN THE WORLD” has top notch video production, the beat production is not the same level of cleanliness. The 808 sub, for example, is tuned a semitone too low. This is an amateur-to-intermediate kind of mistake, because 808 sub frequencies are typically so low it’s difficult to detect what pitch they are really producing.

The detuned bass is somewhat aggressive and her beats might not be perfect, but her sincerity is there, and that’s what makes her shine.

One might say that in an age where anyone can become a music star, the supposed “sacredness” of musical conventions for being an “artist” are now becoming totally debased.

I believe though, that this is actually a really inspiring message for bedroom producers and artists who might not be so “musically trained.” We’re in the wild west all over again, the rules are gone, sincerity is all you need.

Spacegirl Gemmy can be found on her YouTube channel “SPACE-GIRL GEMMY.” You can also find her on Soundcloud under the same name. If she keeps on producing music and making dope art, I think she could go places.

Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.

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UR Club Hockey Takes on New Player

BIDSTRUP FROM PAGE 16

to it by its more “relaxed” nature in comparison to the commitments associated with Division I. She worried, though, about sports controlling her college life, and so decided to give up varsity sports and take up club athletics.

At the start of her sophomore year at UR, Bidstrup began playing with the men’s hockey team.

“The guys are really nice,” she said. “They all know my name, and they kind of see me as a little sister, which isn’t bad.”

When asked about how she would like to be seen by her teammates, Bidstrup added, “I would like to be seen as their equal.”

Bidstrup cites her size disadvantage as the biggest challenge she faces in a male sport.

Heavier body contact and aggres-

tuned skills of its players. It would seem that others would agree, with the recent establishment of the National Women’s Ice Hockey League last March.

“When it happened last year, I was like, ‘this is huge, this is a big step,” she said.

She admits, however, that there is room for improvement due to a lack of interest outside of the sports community, and the general population’s unawareness of the significant milestone. She also feels the recent improvements in safety regulations, as a whole, are up to par.

“In high school, if you hit someone from behind you are immediately kicked out,” she said. In my high school, that was a rule.”

This passion for growing the game has led Bidstrup to pursue



Sophomore Anna Bidstrup pictured above in full ice hockey attire.

sion are notoriously more common in men’s hockey than in women’s. The conflicting styles of play have often left her struggling to decide which she should act on, especially in an environment where she feels pressure to “act like the guys.”

“Hockey logic tells me to play the puck, but in one-on-one situations I’ll play the body because I know that’s what guys like to see,” she said. “Guys are all about the hitting.”

While it is possible for men to be unpenalized for a career-ending hit to an opponent, women’s hockey remains a non-contact sport.

“They know they can’t hit me,” she said. “They’re aggressive, but they never lay me out. While I prefer to not be hit, I know that part of being treated equally is being hit [...] I guess men are just made to sustain more hit and power.”

Despite these challenges, Bidstrup’s love of the sport has prevailed.

“It’s nice to have an activity to do,” she said. “You can run, you can bike, but ice hockey is a really fun workout and it’s exhilarating [...] you get to go fast.”

To her surprise, Bidstrup’s teammates have told her that they enjoy watching women’s college hockey due to the sharper, more fined-

Physical Play Looms for URBB

BY JAKE SEHNERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With less than two weeks until their first game, the UR Men’s Basketball (URBB) is practicing in full swing to prepare themselves for the season.

The team has a scrimmage at SUNY Oswego on Saturday. The Oswego Lakers are led by senior Brian Sortino, who averaged over 20 points per game and was named to the Third All-American Team last year.

“I’ll guard him for 40 minutes,” senior shooting guard Mack Montague said, determined to shut the point guard down. Montague is a captain and has been a key vocal leader for this team through his work ethic and ability to motivate teammates.

The ‘Jackets have focused on playing defensively. The team has put tall and lanky players on the perimeter to give it a significant height advantage. Sophomore Ryan Clamage and junior Ray Pelka, both guards, stand at 6’4” and 6’5,” respectively.

In addition, the YellowJackets have two stretch-fours: freshman Jacob Urban (6’8”) and junior Tucker Knox (6’7”). Their wingspan and versatility will help spread defenses on the offensive end.

As a team, the guards are tall and lanky as well. As a result, with good ball pressure, the team should be able to generate many turnovers throughout the season via tipping passes and getting steals from ball-handlers.

Similar to last year, senior Zack Ayers is the only traditional center on the team, standing at 6’10.” After forwards Jared Seltzer and Dylan Peretz graduated in April, freshman



Senior Zack Ayers and freshmen Chase Twine and Nick Reed engage in drills.

forwards Patrick Benka (6’8”) and Erik Braaten (6’9”) look to have significant roles on the team.

With the team’s overall size, the guards should be able to help grab boards and move out in transition after getting defensive stops.

The Yellowjackets have also focused on toughness, which incorporates both physical and mental aspects of the game. Setting a good screen embodies toughness. It is an effort play, and it gets both the screener and other players open. Often times, players do not take the time and effort to set good screens, stifling the offensive flow.

“A lazy or bad screen is a waste of everyone’s time and energy,” Coach Luke Flockerzi said. Flockerzi has emphasized this, among other things,

as a way to define toughness for the team. In order to compete at a high level and do well in conference play, the team will have to be disciplined in all facets of the game.

The UR Men’s Basketball team will open up their season against the Ithaca Bombers at Ithaca College on November 15. They then come back to the Louis Alexander Palestra for the Chuck Resler Tournament on Friday, Nov. 18, where they will play the Alfred University Saxons at 6 p.m. UR Women’s Basketball is also playing in the tournament on Friday, facing off at 8 p.m. against SUNY New Paltz.

Both tournament championships will take place on Saturday.

Sehnert is a member of the Class of 2019.

Low Ratings Point out NFL’s Issues

BY SAM CALLIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The four major American sports leagues—NHL, NBA, NFL, and MLB—are in constant competition when their games are on simultaneously. In terms of ratings, market share, and sheer media presence, the NFL reigns supreme by an enormous margin. The recent numbers, however, suggest that this stranglehold may be loosening somewhat.

Game Five of the World Series on Oct. 30 beat Sunday Night Football’s (SNF) Cowboys-Eagles game in viewership by 32 percent. This hasn’t happened since 2011, and is only the second time since SNF debuted in 2006.

There are some qualifications to this statement. This was one of the most exciting World Series matchups in living memory, which pitted against one another the two longest championship droughts in the MLB: the Chicago Cubs and the Cleveland Indians.

But the SNF game was not, as many primetime games were this year, a boring one. Two exciting rookie quarterbacks led the division rivals. This is representative of a larger trend: the continued decline of NFL ratings this season.

This has been a tumultuous first half of the season for the NFL, between the Colin Kaepernick-led National Anthem protests, continued concussion controversy, and issues with the broadcasts themselves. As a result of these phenomena, viewership

is down a massive 12 percent. According to a recent Seton Hall University survey that polled around 800 people in the U.S. about their NFL viewership, the anthem protests were the leading cause of declining numbers.

There is little that the NFL could do about these protests without stirring even more controversy. Instead, it is the other factors the NFL seems to be mishandling.

The NFL has had much-publicized issues with its handling of concussion protocols, an issue which has been at the forefront of this season. In the first game of the season, the concussion protocol of reigning MVP Cam Newton was mishandled when Newton took hard hits to his head and was taken out of the game far later than seemed appropriate. This, coupled with the retirement of former star running back Arian Foster, whose career ended due to injuries, has put forth the image that football is far too dangerous a game to play.

Roger Goodell, the commissioner of the NFL, has also seemed arbitrary in his disciplinary decisions. Goodell has handed down extremely harsh suspensions for players who fail drug tests for marijuana. For example, Marcell Dareus of the Buffalo Bills was suspended for four games this way. Goodell has also imposed large fines on players for celebrating touchdowns, such as star wide receiver Antonio Brown, who was fined \$24,000 for twerking after a touchdown.

These immense punishments stand in stark contrast to the NFL’s lax pol-

icy on domestic violence, best exemplified by the one-game suspension given to former New York Giant Josh Brown after his arrest for domestic violence in 2015. Such an immense disparity between the severity of the act and NFL sanctions has rankled fans, and has cast doubt on the impartiality of Goodell.

Finally, there has simply been some bad football. The number of prime-time games put on by the league has thrust mediocre or bad matchups into the spotlight, especially on Thursday nights.

NFL referees have come under significant fire this season for their inconsistencies on ruling catches, overzealousness on pass interference calls, and broad incompetence, such as forcing a phantom turnover in Cleveland-Washington in week four. The Oakland Raiders set the NFL record in flags thrown in a single game during week eight. Poor officiating and matchups have been compounded by the omnipresence of commercials during every part of the broadcast, especially with the particularly maddening formula of touchdown, commercial, kickoff, commercial, ad infinitum.

When taken collectively, these problems make it clear that the NFL’s leadership is tone deaf to the wants and expectations of its fans. Perhaps this loss in viewership will serve as a wakeup call to the league offices and force a change for the better.

Callis is a member of the Class of 2017.

AOW , also, I love you Audrey -MB

BY AUDREY GOLDFARB
SPORTS EDITOR

The Men’s Swimming and Diving team recently defeated Hartwick College by a 10-point margin on Oct. 29. Freshman diver Stephen Savchik placed first on the 1-meter board, posting an NCAA zone qualifying score, and second on the 3-meter board. The week before, he was named University Athletic Association Diver of the Week for winning dives on both boards against Brandeis. The team will face Fredonia State and Alfred University this weekend.

How long have you been diving competitively?
Since my sophomore year in high school, so this season will be my fourth year as a competitive athlete.

What made you decide to compete in college, specifically at UR?
I enjoy seeing myself improve at something I work hard at, and I wanted to continue one of my passions. UR is a great school academically, and being able to dive here was a considerable factor in deciding to come here. I was particularly drawn to UR’s separate diving well, which is a great asset when trying to schedule practice times around already busy schedules, in addition to a great head diving coach, Greg Brandes.

What do you love about diving?

I have a love-hate relationship with diving. There are many times during practice when I question why I continue to do the sport because of how mentally taxing it can be. However, the feeling of perfectly entering the water after focusing on executing every aspect of the dive to the best of my ability is incredibly rewarding. I also love the added pressure of competition because it pushes me do better than I could in practice.

What would life be like without diving?
I’ve been doing acrobatic sports/activities for most of my life, so life without diving would feel like a part of me is missing. I would also definitely not be as flexible as I am now and, as much as I hate to say it, I would miss the smell of chlorine and being in a pool every day.

What are some common misconceptions about your sport, and how would/do you address them?
Many people consider diving to be an art rather than a sport, but it requires a surprising amount of mental and physical strength as well as balance, control, and flexibility. Every time you do a dive, you meticulously think about every little aspect of the dive while simultaneously trying to convince yourself that you won’t either land on your stomach or on your back in the water and that you won’t hit the board during your dive.

What are your practices and

workouts like?
We typically stretch for about 20 minutes before heading to the water for practice. Our water practice, however, varies depending on what [Coach Brandes] wants us to do. Sometimes we have ‘voluntary’ practices where we practice only the least difficult dives in each of the five categories of dives on both boards, focusing on form and precision (1-meter and 3-meter). Other times, we have ‘optional’ practices, where we practice our more difficult dives, typically with more rotations and a higher degree of difficulty than that of our voluntary dives.

What is the most challenging part of being on the varsity team?
Waking up for morning practice is by far the most challenging part of being on the team. I typically set my alarm for 6:37 a.m. to make it to the pool area by 7 a.m. For me, morning practices are hard at first because I’m still groggy from being asleep less than 20 minutes before I arrive. However, once I get in the water for the first time, I wake up and practice feels just the same.

Being with my teammates definitely helps because we’re all feeling tired and unmotivated when we arrive, and being with others who all feel similarly makes the inevitability of getting into the pool just a little bit better. And yes, the water always feels colder in the morning.
What has been your best experience this season?
My best personal experience this season was getting my NCAA zone

qualifying score on the 1-meter board. However, I think meeting and getting to know everyone on the team has been an even more rewarding experience.
What is the best piece of advice you have gotten from a teammate?
To stay focused on what’s important. My choice to be a student athlete has its commitments, meaning that I have to use my time wisely because I have less of

it, and that I have to make smart choices on the weekends. Having good grades and doing well during the season are important to me, and this advice has made think of these things first.
What motivates you?
What motivates me personally is the idea that there is always room for improvement, no matter how well executed my dive may be.
Goldfarb is a member of the Class of 2019.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

Freshman Stephen Savchik is in mid-air after taking a dive off of the board.

LAST WEEK’S SCORES

OCT. 31
SQUASH @ PRICE-BULLINGTON INVITATIONAL–FIRST INDIVIDUALLY

NOV. 2
FIELD HOCKEY VS. WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE–W(2–1)

NOV. 4
WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL VS CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY–L(0–3)

NOV. 5
WOMEN’S SOCCER VS EMORY UNIVERSITY–T(2–2)
MEN’S SOCCER VS EMORY UNIVERSITY–W(1–0)
FOOTBALL VS WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE–L(34–37)
FIELD HOCKEY @ SKIDMORE COLLEGE–L(2–1)

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

NOV. 12
FOOTBALL @ HOBART COLLEGE–12 P.M.
MEN’S SWIMMING @ ALFRED UNIVERSITY–1 P.M.
WOMEN’S SWIMMING @ ALFRED UNIVERSITY–1 P.M.
MEN’S CROSS COUNTRY @ NCAA ATLANTIC REGIONAL–12 A.M.
WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY @ NCAA ATLANTIC REGIONAL–11 A.M.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY AT NCAA ATLANTIC REGIONAL
Both cross country teams will travel to Glassboro, New Jersey to compete in the NCAA Atlantic Regional Championship on Saturday Nov. 12 starting at 11 a.m.

Thestrals Reach Nationals

BY MADDIE GRAHAM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University’s Quidditch team, the Thestrals, qualified for the National Quidditch Tournament in Florida after the second day of play in a tournament a week ago, in which the team defeated RIT, Harvard, Brandeis, and Stony Brook. The Thestrals entered the tournament as the number-five seed on the first day, hearing the good news about Nationals shortly thereafter.
This achievement was not without setbacks throughout the season. With a team largely comprised

of freshman and sophomores, there was a lack of experience on the team that could have significantly impacted their success.
“The average time spent playing Quidditch for our team is approximately 1.5 years, as a very large amount of our players are freshman and sophomores,” Captain Paul Nassif said. “We wanted to develop our players quickly so that we could win games and make it to Nationals. I think it’s safe to say that we have met these goals.”
With practices four times a week and having played four tournaments over the past six weekends, newcomers on the team had plenty

of time to gain experience over the course of the fall season.
And after the loss of last year’s seniors, the Thestrals had to change their style of play to one that was more patient and controlled.
“This allows us to be more efficient on both sides of the pitch and prevents us from letting chaotic games from slipping out of control,” said junior Perry Wangid, another captain on the team.
After some much needed rest, the Thestrals will get back on the field to prepare for Nationals in April.
Graham a member of the Class of 2018.

LAST WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS

SQUASH– 2016 PRICE BULLINGTON INVITATIONAL

Senior Ryosei Kobayashi became the first UR athlete to win the Price-Bullington. Invitational individual tournament last weekend. Junior Tomotaka Endo also participated.

LIBERTY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME: FIELD HOCKEY @ SKIDMORE COLLEGE

Field Hockey faced Skidmore College for the Liberty League Field Hockey Championship on Saturday, losing by one goal. Seniors Alexis Wood and Sayaka Abe, along with freshman Maya Haigis were selected to the All-Tournament Team. Read more on page 16.

SENIOR DAY: MEN’S SOCCER VS. EMORY

Men’s Soccer defeated Emory on Saturday (1–0) with the ‘Jacket’s lone goal coming from a throw-in in the first quarter that slipped through Emory’s goalie’s hands. UR sophomore goalkeeper Patrick Conway made five saves to keep the Yellowjackets on top for the remainder of the game. Ben Swanger, Alessandro Incerto, Zachary Kanaley, Mario Yanez Tapia, Jeff Greblich and Tanner Chester were all honored.

SENIOR DAY: WOMEN’S SOCCER VS. EMORY

Women’s Soccer tied Emory in double overtime, with each team scoring twice. UR scored early on a self goal by an Emory player. The Yellowjackets’ second goal came from Sophomore McKenzie Runyan, assisted by senior Jean Chakmakas. Lee and Kim Stagg, Alyssa Raskind, Hannah Geitner and Jean Chakmakas were all honored.

SPORTS

URFH Earns Bid Amid LL Title Loss



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

Senior midfielder Sayaka Abe scored URFH's lone goal against the Skidmore Thoroughbreds on saturday afternoon.

BY JACKIE POWELL
SPORTS EDITOR

UR Field Hockey (URFH) came up short in a nail-biting Liberty League (LL) championship game by a score of 2–1 on Saturday afternoon against the Skidmore Thoroughbreds in Saratoga Springs.

Both squads came out to fight in an evenly matched title game, with the winner automatically receiving a bid into the NCAA Division III tournament.

Despite the loss, URFH did, in fact, receive one of five at-large bids late Sunday night to the tournament.

It was a sloppy defensive start that ended up plaguing the 'Jackets in their attempt to win the league title, as UR had just displayed a very strong defensive performance against William Smith, ranked #1 in the league tournament.

“During that semi-final game at William Smith on Wednesday, we knew we may not have as many chances to score as we have in previous games, so we focused on earning as many scoring opportunities as we could, and executing those well,” Head Coach Wendy Andreatta said. “I was so proud of the team for shutting down the league’s top scorers and playing a great game to keep our season alive.”

Going into this contest against Skidmore, UR was set to avenge their previous defeat against the Thoroughbreds, in which the 'Jackets fell 2–1.

“We had a close game against [them] a few weeks ago but we’ve adjusted the things we need to work on and are ready for a chance to beat them on their own field,” senior midfielder Sayaka Abe said.

In the first half, URFH could only rack up one shot attempt—a wide one by Abe, leading into the 13th minute. But it was a few defensive mistakes for

the Yellowjackets that broke an initially-deadlocked championship game.

“We just broke down a couple times and Skidmore was able to capitalize on those moments,” freshman midfielder Maya Haigis said.

Thoroughbred junior forward Kayla Rose scored her fifth goal of the season right before halftime on a pass from senior midfielder Kelsey Denby. Junior goaltender Gabrielle Cantley remained in-goal for the first half, allowing one goal while saving one as well.

At the top of the second half, junior Kiran Sundaram stepped in for Cantley and allowed one goal on a high shot from sophomore forward Gabby Hyman, after receiving the pass from freshman forward Miranda Davenport.

After a relatively dormant first half and a 2–0 hole, the Yellowjackets went on to outshoot their LL rivals 8–7 overall, while keeping the Thoroughbreds to three shots-on-goal. UR was patient and waited for an opportunity. In the 60th minute, Abe dodged two defenders and scored on a penalty corner, cutting Skidmore’s lead down to one with fewer than ten minutes remaining.

Leading up to Abe’s score, URFH pressured sophomore goaltender Elizabeth Coughlin. Senior attack Callie Fisher and sophomore midfielder Miranda Lakis fired shots off Coughlin, but the sophomore came up in the clutch, making three key saves.

The defensive play of the game came in the last four minutes of regulation, when senior Becca Halter blocked a shot off a penalty corner from Haigis.

“When [Abe] scored to make it 2–1, we got our momentum back and had a few scoring opportunities that were so close to tying the game,” Haigis said.

The Thoroughbreds (15–5), ranked #17 in the country, won their third LL

title in the past four years, while capturing the championship for the tenth time in the program’s history.

On the other side, URFH (17–4), ranked 15th overall, had three players selected to the all-tournament team, as Abe, Haigis, and senior defender Alexis Wood all received these honors.

“Although we dominated the game and played the best we have all season, it was not enough,” Fisher said. “I am so proud of this team and all we have accomplished, everyone truly played their hearts out.”

Although the 2016 'Jackets were unsuccessful in capturing the LL title, and had the potential to be the first team in school history to do so, this is still a momentous season for UR.

“We were honored and privileged to make it as far as we did,” Fisher said. “Our team has this saying, ‘It’s us versus history,’ and we have made history this season. We have created the best record in school history for field hockey.”

And it’s true: No team in UR Field Hockey’s 41-year history has had a record with as few losses as this year’s squad. They went 18–6, one more win than this year’s 17–4, in 2015.

Coach Andreatta is hopeful for a future URFH squad to capture the University’s first LL title.

“We know we can compete with anyone in our league and the loss will have to serve as motivation for us in [Liberty] League play next season,” Andreatta said. “Historically, no team but William Smith or Skidmore has ever won the LL title, but our team is ready to change that statistic.”

UR’s first game in the NCAA Division III tournament is at home against Shenandoah University on Wednesday, Nov. 9, time still to be determined.

Powell a member of
the Class of 2018.

Rugby Dips After Rank

BY MADDIE GRAHAM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The UR Women’s Rugby team boasted an undefeated record this season, a light spot despite being routed by SUNY Cortland on Saturday in their first game of postseason play.

The UR Sledgehammers faced Cortland on Saturday at Aardvark Park, losing 0–53. The two teams played together just last spring at RIT’s Prom Dress Tournament, where UR lost to Cortland by a score of 0–20.

Hoping to upend that score, the Sledgehammers were ready for Saturday after a team dinner Friday night. Unfortunately, SUNY Cortland proved again to be the stronger team that day, effectively ending the Sledgehammers’ season.

Women’s Rugby President Catherine Yip said before the game that SUNY Cortland would be the toughest opponent the Sledgehammers have played yet, but remained confident in her team.

“I would definitely say that our

back line is stronger and more together than I can remember it ever being,” Yip said, adding, “I think something we really should focus on [...] is coming out strong right from the beginning.”

While other teams played in the quarterfinals last weekend, the Sledgehammers were able to rest because of their placement as the number-one seed in the league. With a win on Saturday, the women would have advanced to Sunday’s league final, and, regardless of that game’s outcome, would have automatically advanced to Regionals.

Senior Jaede Carney, Match Secretary for the team, cited “a strong team, great coaches, and a positive attitude” as assets going into Saturday’s game, as well as highlights of the season.

Though the team may not be competing in postseason play, there are still titles to uphold. With three first-place finishes in tournaments last spring, the Sledgehammers have their work cut out for them.

Graham a member of
the Class of 2018.



LEAH NASON / PHOTO EDITOR

A Sledgehammer reaches for the ball while being hoisted in the air.

Hockey is ‘Eternal,’ Transcends Gender for Bidstrup

BY LAUREN SHARPE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Despite playing a sport dominated by the opposite gender, sophomore Anna Bidstrup has carved a striking path through ice hockey: She’s the sole female member of the UR Men’s Club Hockey team this year.

After the collapse of the women’s team, the longtime player was finally granted permission to join the men after being denied a spot on the roster last season.

From her earliest exposure, to her most recent endeavors in the sport, Bidstrup has always been outnumbered (and outsized) by her male counterparts. At the age of seven, the D.C. native was attracted to the sport’s fast-paced and competitive nature. She expressed interest in playing alongside two of her friends, whose

mother played Division I hockey for St. Lawrence University and would coach the girls for the majority of their career.

“I never saw a girl play hockey before I started playing,” Bidstrup said.

She would continue to play all the way into ninth grade, when she joined the boy’s team at her high school and picked up a new sport: field hockey.

Upon the discovery that she was a natural at it, she decided to focus on pursuing a potential college field hockey career. Unfortunately, her advances in Division I recruiting would come to an abrupt halt due to a labral tear of her hip, an injury sustained in her junior year of high school.

As the injury improved, she began to consider playing Division III field hockey in college, drawn

SEE BIDSTRUP PAGE 14