

Campus Times

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DLH Event Offers Lesson in Protesters' Rights

By SAM PASSANISI
SENIOR STAFF

Now is more important than ever to exercise your rights, sophomore Justin Delinois told the assembled students, an audience that included members of the Douglass Leadership House (DLH) and a bevy of visitors.

Delinois was referring to DLH's "Lounge Lesson" for the month of February: "Black Activism: Know Your Rights."

Delinois, who led the event, explained that the evening would address the topic of black activism in a broad sense, with a focus on the legal rights of protesters and other activists.

He introduced Iman Abid, a representative from the New York branch of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), who spoke for the better part of an hour on the legal rights and restrictions activists might face when attending rallies and marches.

"You can speak to anything [on public land] as long as it doesn't condone any violence," she told the audience.

She noted that the protection of free speech extends to the distribution of leaflets and literature as well, with the same caveats.

The summer of 2016 saw some of the largest #BlackLivesMatter rallies ever organized in Rochester, Abid noted, but those rallies also saw the arrests of 74 people.

So what rights does one have when encountering police?

Abid explained that the ACLU endorses civil disobedience, and that it's better to walk away unharmed from an interaction and take legal action later.

With that said, Abid explained how to exercise one's Fifth Amendment right to remain silent (by announcing it), and that citizens may legally refuse to comply with a search of their belongings—although the officer may legally (or not) search you regardless. It's also legal to calmly leave, if you aren't actually under arrest.

Abid urged activists to have the name of an attorney at hand when protesting, and to consult the ACLU's online pamphlets on encounters with FBI agents, immigration officers, and law enforcement personnel.

SEE **LOUNGE LESSON** PAGE 2

Mr. Carmack Signals Shift in Scene



TIANYI MA / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Mr. Carmack performs his set in the Douglass Ballroom last Saturday night.

By ISABEL DRUKKER
A&E EDITOR

It's not rare to see Mr. Carmack's smile while onstage. At least, that was the case when he performed at the Spring Performance in the Douglass Ballroom on Saturday night.

Aaron Carmack is a music maker who hails from Honolulu. His style is a mix of EDM/synth which his personal website describes as the "hinge to the doorway between dance

music and hip hop."

The audience was filled with a combination of students from RIT, UR, and groups of Rochester locals. Members of the crowd brought glow sticks, light-up hula-hoops, and LED light gloves.

"This year we've been trying especially hard to get diverse events," senior and SPB co-president Lauren Birnbaum said. "We had an alternative act come during the fall and we have a specific genre in

mind for Dandelion Day so we thought that this would be a popular and fun genre for the semester."

Carmack used his time onstage to promote his upcoming album with new music, as well as announcing that the night marked a month of being sober, to which the audience cheered.

The show was opened by the DJ Dopamine, UR's own junior Amine Rouchdi who played "hype-electronic type" music for the show. Rouchdi refrained

from playing his own music, claiming it was "not ready for the world yet."

Rouchdi has been a DJ for roughly seven years. He originates from Atlanta, Georgia, where he was inspired early in high school to seek out dance music.

Rouchdi began producing his own music two years ago, along with junior Nick Henrichs, who performs under the name Szoul. Together, they use the software Ableton.

SEE **CARMACK** PAGE 3

URWB Scoring More Efficiently Than Since 2003

UR Women's Basketball stats underlie strong season

By TREVOR WHITESTONE
SPORTS EDITOR

UR Women's Basketball (URWB) is in the midst of another strong season. The program has had winning records in 15 of the past 16 seasons, and has clinched another such record this season, sitting at 17–8.

It's difficult for a team to distinguish itself with such a prestigious history, but this year's Yellowjackets are doing something more efficiently than any URWB team since at least 2003—scoring the ball.

They are scoring at a rate of 100.6 points per 100 possessions, a five point increase from last season, and the second time they've exceed 100 in this figure, which is also known as ORtg, in the studied timespan.

At the same time, their defense has allowed an adjusted ORtg of 84.5 points per 100 possessions,



TREVOR WHITESTONE / SPORTS EDITOR

Junior forward Al Leslie dishes a ball to a teammate.

which is more than the typical URWB team but still a strong figure in Division III. It is also, however, nine points worse than that of last year's squad.

Previously, we looked at how URBB fared versus its program history in Dean Oliver's Four Factors. The same can be done for URWB. Instead of using Z-scores as done previously, the estimated percentile within program history will be estimated (using a normal distribution).

So, for example, if a statistic is in the 80th percentile, this is equivalent to that team would outperform 80 percent of URWB in that statistic (even though only 14 seasons were sampled, one can scale up to 100).

The rows of the table contain an offensive, defensive, and net version of each statistic. Defensive statistics pertain to what the team allowed opponents to do in that area, and the net statistic is the difference between the of-

SEE **STATS** PAGE 15

Students Question Planned iZone

By AMANDA MARQUEZ
NEWS EDITOR

With the construction of the Barbara J. Burger iZone slated for May, students who attended last Tuesday's River Campus Libraries (RCL) Forum questioned the new space's practicality.

"I'm just a little bit confused with some of the purposes of it," one attendee said. "The booths are something that just got put into Rush Rhees, the collaborative rooms are something that we just put into Douglass, and just last week a bunch of us were looking around in the library and could not find a seat to sit down and study at."

The iZone, a planned workspace rehaul that will focus on collaborative work, will essentially replace what is currently Information Tech-

SEE **RCL FORUM** PAGE 3

INSIDE
THIS CT

**TRUMP AND
TWITTER**
PAGE 6 OPINIONS

**CHI RHO: TERROR
OR TRADITION**
PAGE 7 FEATURES

**BALLET BOUNCES
AT B&N**
PAGE 11 A&E

**RUGBY MIXES GRIT
WITH SMARTS**
PAGE 16 SPORTS



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

AIDS REMEMBRANCE QUILT ON DISPLAY AFTER 23 YEARS

The Aids Remembrance Quilt, signed in 1994 by UR students and community members who had friends or family affected by AIDS, was on display in Lam Square and accompanied by a reception last Thursday.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Fraternity Houses Damaged (1) & (2)

FEB. 18—The front door to Theta Chi and a railing inside Sigma Chi were damaged.

Suspicious People at Zornow Courts

FEB. 21—Two non-University-affiliated people were observed entering an unsecured door in the Zornow Athletic Center. They were warned and advised.

Headphones Stolen from Pit (4)

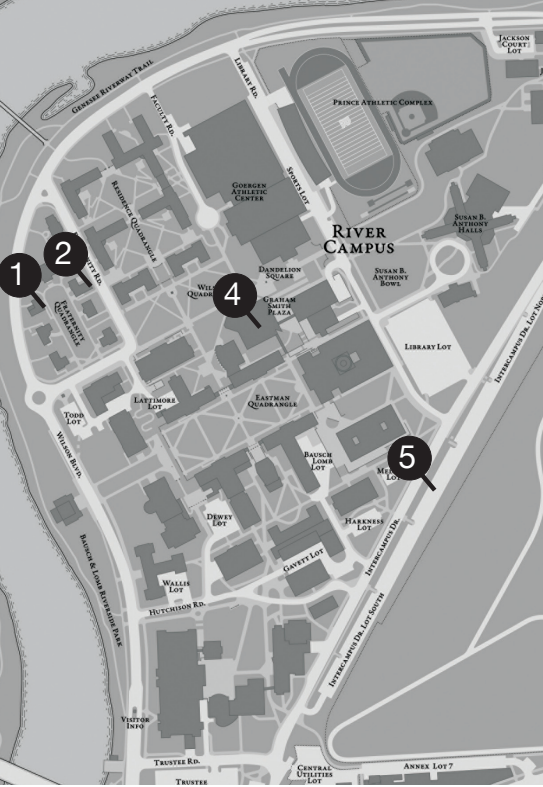
FEB. 21—A student reported that their headphones were taken from the Pit.

Car Parked in Intercampus Dr. Lot Hit (5)

FEB. 22—A vehicle parked in the Intercampus Drive Lot was struck by another vehicle that fled the area.

Car Parked in Kendrick Lot Hit

FEB. 22—A vehicle in Kendrick Lot was struck by another vehicle that fled the area.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

TUESDAY | FEBRUARY 28

LOVE YOUR BODY SCREENING
GOERGEN ATHLETIC CENTER, 5:00 P.M.-6:30 P.M.
UHS will be providing free screening for eating disorders as part of National Eating Disorder Awareness Week.

NEILLY SERIES LECTURE: JENNY NORDBERG
HAWKINS-CARLSON ROOM, 7:00 P.M.-8:30 P.M.
Swedish Journalist Jenny Nordberg will be talking about her book The Underground Girls of Kabul.

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 1

HUMANITIES CENTER TALK
RUSH RHEES LIBRARY HUMANITIES CENTER, 7 P.M.-9 P.M.
English professor Bette London will discuss issues surrounding artwork made in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of World War I in her talk “Imagining the Great War in the Age of Post-Memory.”

FACULTY RECITAL
HATCH RECITAL HALL, 8 P.M.-10 P.M.
The Eastman School of Music and Zhejiang Conservancy will showcase the musical talents of Jim Thompson and Liu Yi on the trumpet and Chiano-Wen Cheng on the piano.

THURSDAY | MARCH 2

INTERNATIONAL THEATRE PROGRAM
TODD THEATRE, 7 P.M.-9 P.M.
This is the opening night of International Theatre Program’s performance of “That Poor Girl and How He Killed Her,” a dark comedy containing themes relating to social media and social justice.

EASTMAN CHORALE
KILBOURN HALL, 8 P.M.
The Eastman School of Music presents the Eastman Chorale, led by conductors Craig Arnold and Miles Canaday.

FRIDAY | MARCH 3

HPV VACCINE CLINIC
UHS, 1:30 P.M.-4:30 P.M.
UHS will be offering the HPV vaccine for free. You do not need to have an appointment to receive the vaccine.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES PRESENTS
RETTNER ATRIUM, 2:00 P.M.-3:30 P.M.
Duke University Associate Research Professor of Visual and Media Studies Victoria Szabo will have a live game demo and conversation on Psychasthenia 3, a game-based art piece that explores themes of identity, culture, and technology.

ACLU Rep Seeks to Inform Activists of Their Rights

LOUNGE LESSON FROM PAGE 1

Activists should also take care to remember care to remember that their rights on private property—which includes campus and other private universities such as RIT—may differ from those on public property.

Abid explained, in response to a student question, that the Department of Public Safety officers wouldn’t need a warrant to enter and search a dorm room or a car.

After speaking and answering questions for the better part of an hour, Abid turned the floor back over to Delinois, who wrapped up the event with

a discussion of activism in general, covering topics such as criminal justice, LGBT rights, racial equality, and animal rights, among numerous others.

He gave a brief lecture on a number of black activists, including Mary McLeod Bethune, a 20th-century educator who sought to improve education for African-Americans; Wangari Maathai, one of Kenya’s first environmental activists; Marvelyn Brown, an actress and AIDS activist; and Jimmie Briggs, an investigative journalist whose focus is on human rights.

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

CORRECTIONS

A news article in the Feb. 20 issue about the Dandyhacks hackathon incorrectly listed senior Anis Kalle’s last name as “Kalleo.” It has been corrected in the online version of the story.

The Feb. 8 entry in the SA Senate Summary online incorrectly listed Rebecca Mooney and Jordan Smith as senators. They are former senators. It has been corrected.

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SA Constitution Rewrite Underway

By DAVID SCHILDKRAUT
NEWS EDITOR

The Students' Association (SA) Government has been rewriting its constitution since December, a move that ultimately must be voted on and approved by the student body.

But the effort is, according to SA members on the task force undertaking it, behind schedule. And, some of the proposed changes to the structure of SA have met opposition from within the government.

"We started this process a little later than anticipated," Elections and Rules Committee Chair Jake Braniecki said. "Nothing is set in stone. We are still in the basic talks of structure."

SA is aiming to have the document ready for ratification by the mid-April elections. At least a third of the student body must vote in favor of the new constitution for it to be ratified.

At a Constitution Task Force (CTF) meeting Friday, Administration and Review Committee (ARC) Chair Alex Guerrero and Appropriations Committee (SAAC) Chair Nick Mavrelis submitted three proposals—one by Mavrelis, and two by Guerrero—for a new structure for SA Government.

As of Sunday night, though, 10 senators and a legislative aide (who is a member of the *Campus Times* editorial board) had signed a letter expressing concerns about proposals that seemed to make ARC and SAAC separate entities that would no longer fall under SA Senate.

The document specifically cites the necessity for Senate to be able to oversee the two committees, which handle recognition, review, and funding of all student organizations.

"That kind of power, in my

opinion, needs to be checked," junior Senator Cindy Molina, a signatory, told the *Campus Times*. "Processes like [appeals], when ARC and SAAC are under the legislative branch, are the kinds of things put in to check a specific organization's power, and we have a number of organizations here on campus, and the budgets of those organizations are extremely relevant and crucial to the way they are run and to student life."

Mavrelis felt the senators' concerns were unfounded.

"I think not enough information was given to senators," Mavrelis said. "I think what the senators are thinking is that SAAC and ARC are looking to be completely separate and completely unchecked. That's untrue."

The revision process, which started with the creation of a constitution task force, began toward the end of November. The SA Constitution was last revised in 2005.

"This is something that's been trying to happen for the past few years," Guerrero said. "Last year's branch leaderships tried to sit down and rewrite the document. But when [...] a timeline was laid out, it didn't look like that group of people would have enough time to effectively write, discuss, and have a document prepared for the spring election."

Braniecki said he expects Senate to take two weeks to approve the new constitution, since the document is likely to be tabled the first week it appears in Senate.

So far, a handful of decisions about provisions in the final document have been made: the existence of the All-Campus Judicial Council (ACJC), that the SA president will be elected by popular vote, and that the SA president will have a fluid cabinet.

SafeZone Training Sparks Dialogue

By DAVID SCHILDKRAUT
NEWS EDITOR

The Paul J. Burgett Intercultural Center (BIC) held its first SafeZone Training Monday, kicking off monthly training sessions designed to spark dialogue and increase understanding of the issues facing the LGBT community.

The training, according to BIC program assistant and senior Michael Hellman, has been in the works for three years and has been worked on by a team consisting of Hellman, senior Nico Tavella, and BIC graduate assistant Jay Skye. The BIC's preparatory work included attending training sessions held by the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley and similar SafeZone trainings at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

SafeZone is a national "LGBTQ awareness and ally training" program.

As part of the training, Hellman and Tavella discussed terms relating to LGBT issues, such as "cissexism" and "two-spirit." Participants had the opportunity to ask Hellman and Tavella questions pertaining to the terms.

"I feel that I gained more of an insight in general into a

community that I am barely connected to," freshman Jacqueline Sanchez said. "It helped me understand more of the world around [me], and not just the parts of it that affect me. I also just want to be a better listener and the training helped me prepare to be a better one."

The training also presented participants with a variety of statements and scenarios. For each situation, attendees shared their thoughts on how they would respond.

For example, in response to a scenario in which a student drops a course because their professor is refusing to use their preferred name, students discussed which faculty to approach and bias-related incident reports.

Participants were vocal regarding several of the scenarios presented, providing especially passionate responses to the scenario in which a person says that they would not be comfortable using a bathroom at the same time as a transgender individual.

Students found discussions on the situations useful and thought-provoking. Some even felt the need to take action to support their peers.

"This training has prompted me to see the urgency in the

issues that LGBTQ+ individuals face in our gendered and heteronormative society," senior Carlos Rojas said. "Even as a gay man, my experiences are limited. Through this training, I particularly reflected on how I could better support gender minorities like the transgender people in this campus."

The BIC intends to hold identical training sessions once a month—the next is on March 20—and also to provide on-demand training sessions for student organizations and clubs.

Hellman hopes the success of the BIC's SafeZone training sessions will lead to similar programs on topics ranging from race to disability awareness to religion.

"I think every group I facilitate makes me more optimistic for the future of this campus regarding issues of social justice, especially LGBTQ issues," Hellman said. "I think as a campus, we need to be more open to having conversations about difficult topics, and although hard and potentially triggering, having a discussion of difficult topics [...] is necessary to see positive social change on this campus and just life in general."

Schildkraut is a member of the class of 2020.



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

Students participate in the Paul J. Burgett Intercultural Center's first-ever SafeZone Training, centered around LGBT issues.

RCL Forum Finds Student Concerns About iZone Purpose

RCL FORUM FROM PAGE 1

nology Services (ITS).

Though the services the IT Center provides students with will remain, the help desk will be relocated, and the space will be renovated to create "a hub and community for students who want to make an impact on the world through problem-solving, team-building, solutioning, and conceptual thinking," according to Director of the iZone Julia Maddox.

This is supposed to mean that students will ideally use the iZone to work collaboratively on projects and network with like-minded people.

It's Maddox's hope that the space will be conducive to helping students learn how to use and apply entrepreneurial problem-solving and innovative design thinking.

The preliminary design of the iZone includes open collaborative areas and project team rooms, a presentation and display space with an amphitheater, a meeting and consultation space, administrative offices and workstations, storage space, and a computer lab.

The mezzanine—otherwise

known as upper-ITS—will be kept and made handicap accessible, and more windows to draw natural lighting from will

likely be installed.

Despite the modern approach to iZone's design, students at the forum were unsure

that a space like this would be useful for everyone.

"I think you should be aware that you are taking one of the

most and best used resources of the University and replacing it with something new and untried," a graduate student and

ITS employee said.

Among his concerns was the fate of the desktop computers that line the back portion of

lower-ITS.

"I know the expectation is that, as everyone gets their own devices, people aren't go-

ing to be using them, but the fallacy in that is, as we get smaller with these tablet-like devices, there is in fact more need for the computing power of the desktop machines that we have and the software that comes with them," he said.

Another student asked, "So I guess the point of this, really your vision of this, is if you have an idea and you need help from someone in a completely different major and want to collaborate, or just start an idea, you would go to this spot. Why don't you just digitize this and have a database?"

Though students were largely critical of the iZone's current design plans, Maddox and Dean of River Campus Libraries Mary Ann Mavrinac welcomed the feedback they received and say they'll continue to seek student opinion in future RCL Forums.

"We want to have the voice of the customer, our students, at the center of everything we do," Maddox said.

Marquez is a member of the class of 2017.



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

Rough design sketches of the Barbara J. Burger iZone were revealed at last week's River Campus Libraries Forum.

SA Constitution Rewrite Behind Schedule But Ongoing

SA FROM PAGE 3

A fluid cabinet would allow the SA president to appoint cabinet members as they see fit, as opposed to the current provision that defines the cabinet members the SA president must have.

While the CTF has been meeting weekly, several members of the committee expressed concerns about attendance of some of the members.

“Tell them to start scheduling meetings so I can actually show up to them,” freshman Senator Leif Johansen said. “They’ve been having all their meetings on Mondays from 2-3:30. I have calc from 2-3:15 on Mondays. Hopefully they’ll make meetings so I can actually get to them soon.”

Braniecki indicated that the absence of some of the CTF

members—he estimated that on average two people miss meetings a week—was not cause for great concern.

“We have to do our best and move forward and have the people who are present and move forward with our discussion,” Braniecki said. “We’re providing as many opportunities to [make voices heard] as possible. It comes back to every meeting you have. You’re not always going to have everybody there, but if there’s a majority opinion, then that’s something that we really need to highly consider. Is there a way that we can really account for everyone? No.”

As the spring elections approach, members of the CTF are working with the SA executive branch’s public relations team to determine how to get

student feedback on the new constitution and obtain enough support for the measure to pass in April.

Members of the CTF offered differing assessments of what had been discussed as far as student engagement.

“I’m not too sure [if there will be any discussions],” Mavrelis said. “I think there should be though. I think we’re [...] also looking at Facebook advertising. That’s been pretty effective.”

Guerrero had a different understanding of where things stood regarding publicity of the rewrite.

“There will be a time when [...] we will go out and host focus groups,” Guerrero said. “We will poll the student body on what they think of the new document. Probably [after spring break].”

Several other members of the task force declined or deferred comment.

ACJC Deputy Chief Justice and junior Madeline Blackburn responded to a Campus Times request for an interview with, “Thanks, but no thanks.”

The only other ACJC member on the task force is Associate Justice and junior Christian Keenan, who declined to comment and directed all questions to Braniecki.

SA President Vito Martino did the same, additionally citing a 2 p.m. meeting on Feb. 27 that he suggested the Campus Times attend. That’s been pretty effective.”

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Schildkraut is a member of the Class of 2020.

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OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Let’s See School Spirit



By VENNELA PANDARABOYINA
OPINIONS EDITOR

My high school was, like every high school, full of ups and downs. It provided a top-notch education, along with excellent athletics and a vibrant arts department that funded the theatre, choir, and band groups in the school.

But it lacked something in every part of the school: school spirit.

This problem manifested itself in many ways in my high school, but I only realized that all these manifestations were linked when I left my high school. It was present in the majority of students seeing high school as a way to get to a good college. It was present in how posters and flyers that

But with all the University offers and with all that it can offer, the school spirit present is simply not as high as it could be, or even should, be.

were posted around the school to promote school unity or events were aggressively torn down or graffitied. It was apparent in how almost every event held by student and even school organizations was mainly attended by the family of the students who were part of the event—there was no interest in attending events you weren’t personally involved with.

In some ways, school spirit was something I wasn’t looking for in a college.

School spirit had always been associated with having a student body that was disproportionately inclined to sports and sporting events, and I wanted a school that was equally interested in a variety of fields, not just athletics.

But after spending some time at UR, it is clear that school spirit is something every part of the University needs.

It affects attendance at Class Council events, sporting events, dance group performances, and cultural group events, just to name a few.

When a student body has pride in its university, it in turn wants to support the population that makes up the university, and its students often express this support by being

active in the school’s community.

UR definitely has some school spirit; without it, the University would certainly not be 32nd on US News & World Report’s list of top colleges in the country. Students come to the University because they genuinely want to, and that’s apparent in the large percentage of Early Decision students that make up the population. It’s apparent in the painted tunnel and in the proliferation of images of Rocky all around campus.

But with all the University offers and with all that it can offer, the school spirit present is simply not as high as it could, or even should, be.

For a school that boasts over 285 student-run organizations, UR’s school spirit does not mirror this enthusiasm. While the 2020 Class Council was planning a spirit basketball game, we reached out to several student run spirit groups for co-sponsorship. None of the groups got back to us, even after some of us tracking specific members of each group down to ask them if they were able to help with the game.

But it is not just the spirit groups that reflect the University’s lack of enthusiasm. Many groups resort to providing free pizza or other types of free merchandise to get people to attend their events, and while free stuff is a great aspect of school events, it should not be the sole or the main reason people show up to events. Sometimes the free food has no relation to the event at all, but is just offered so that students who are drawn in by the refreshments might possibly also participate in the activities of the general event.

I think the key to drumming up more school spirit is for the University to focus on what is special about UR. It does sound like a cheesy solution, but it doesn’t make it any less true. By focusing on UR’s positive traits, the student body might develop more pride in being part of the UR community and history. People can appreciate how all of the buildings have red brick, which gives the entire campus a smooth, cohesive feel, or how the University has opened all-gender bathrooms, or how all the trees on campus change color during the fall, making the entire campus look that much more picturesque.

Over time, an accumulation of small appreciations like these will foster a greater school spirit than the one we have now, and the University will be better off because of it.

Pandaraboyina is a member of the Class of 2020.

EDITORIAL BOARD

On Tuitions and Transparency

Another year, another tuition increase. In a perfunctory email sent out to the student body on Sunday, the University announced that tuition would increase by 3.7 percent for the 2017-2018 academic year.

“These tuition increases balance our intent to continue to control costs while simultaneously continuing to provide an outstanding education to our students,” President Seligman said in a statement on the now \$66,141 yearly commitment.

That yearly tuition raises are part and parcel of any college education is, unfortunately, a moot point that’s long past discussion. Regardless, the administration and the student body are both done a disservice by the opacity of the process by which the final number for tuition is reached and how the distribution of those dollars is decided.

Of course students are interested in the University’s ability to “attract and retain our extraordinary faculty and staff,” as the statement reads.

But if that statement alone is the beginning and end of the evidence of that undertaking, how are students expected to see that in action? Where can they look for tangible results?

There is indeed a financial report available on the University website, but the document is hopelessly dense and inscrutable to those who aren’t familiar with balance sheets, to say nothing of those for whom English is a second language. There needs to be a fact sheet, much

like the one put out by Admissions and Financial Aid, that distills this information into a digestible form, with greater detail available on request.

Greater transparency in this process would also help to dispel the notion that many of the recent campus projects are more for the benefit of attracting prospective students and visiting alumni than for the student body.

Was there a demand for our shiny new dining hall? The food’s better, sure, but couldn’t that have been ac-

Students can’t really be blamed for wondering whether their tuition payments are bumping up the salary of one of the deanlets scurrying about campus.

complished without a complete change in venue? What about moving the bookstore off campus, to the inconvenience of students?

The list goes on.

That these projects were undertaken to impress only prospective families, and not the students who are actually here, can’t be said definitively, of course. But as groups that directly touch students—University Counseling Center, Office of Minority Student Affairs, and service workers, to name a few—scrounge for resources, stu-

dents can’t really be blamed for wondering whether their tuition payments are bumping up the salary of one of the horde of deanlets scurrying about campus, or, say, for an entire quad of new grass to be put down in advance of Meliora Weekend.

Obscuring those details is how a disgruntled, apathetic student is created. Make this information readily available, and you can chip away at that.

Forgive us if it seems useless to lament the increased financialization of American higher education, wherein the organizing principle has become cost-efficiency, rather than whatever an institution claims as its core values. We’re going to continue to point this out until it changes, especially since these new costs are uniformly borne by students, campus service workers, and adjunct professors, among others.

The first obligation of institutions with endowments in the billions should be to its financially weakest community members, rather than to its bottom line.

If the administration agrees with that sentiment, than it should move to accept representatives from the student body, faculty, and SEIU Local 200United (representing campus and Medical Center workers) as voting members of the Board of Trustees tasked with making these decisions on tuition and appropriation of University funds.

Allow those most directly affected by these decisions to have a say in their formulation.

The above editorials are published with the consent of a majority of the editorial board: Justin Trombly (Editor-in-Chief), Jesse Bernstein (Managing Editor), Vennela Pandaraboyina (Opinions Editor), Angela Lai (Publisher), Ben Schmitz (A&E Editor) and Alexandria Brown (Community Member). The Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board make themselves available to the UR community’s ideas and concerns. Email editor@campustimes.org.

Campus Times

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UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, ROCHESTER, NY 14627
OFFICE: (585) 275-5942 / FAX: (585) 273-5303
CAMPUSTIMES.ORG / EDITOR@CAMPUSTIMES.ORG

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Trump’s Twittersphere

By MANASVI CHATURVEDI

Ever since he began campaigning, U.S. President Donald Trump’s preferred method of communication with the public has been his controversial Twitter account. All throughout his campaign, his tweets occupied a large part of daily media coverage, causing equal parts uproar and enthusiastic support.

However, the model of public communication expected of him has now changed. The role of the president and the responsibilities that come with that role demand a different level of formality and neutrality than what President Trump is used to. The president’s office also brings with it a sense of dignity

Trump’s use of Twitter in this way was a useful campaign tactic. Now that he is president, however, it is dangerous.

and importance that Trump’s Twitter often seems to violate.

A private account gives Trump fast and easy access to a platform that allows him to say whatever is on his mind unchecked. His tweeted outbursts about trivial matters like an SNL impression make him seem more like a disgruntled teenager than POTUS. His tweets deeming media companies who are critical of his behavior “fake news” make it obvious that he will disparage anyone who goes against him in the 140-character limit. Tweets like these alienate almost half of the country, creating division rather than unity.

Trump also uses Twitter to put forward his opinion on or to answer to important news stories. This serves to give incorrect impressions to his followers; his 140 character tweets cannot possibly represent a situation accurately. He also tweets ac-

cusations left and right, without any evidence; 140 characters allow him to spew outlandish allegations without having to substantiate his claims. He alleged that intelligence agencies were illegally giving out information to the media, but provided no further evidence or support for this claim.

Trump’s use of Twitter in this way was a useful campaign tactic. Now that he is president, however, it is dangerous.

Trump’s applause for all who support him (Fox News “is great,” says one of his tweets), and immediate disparagement for every critique is more an indication of a dictator than a fair president. Such allegations against the media, government agencies and public figures sound more like something made up by a conspiracy theorist rather than the rational ideas of a president.

With a title as powerful as that, a person’s personal opinions have the danger of becoming public belief, and taking offense at trivial things can cause serious public anger. The role of president dictates that personal matters must take a backseat for the benefit of the whole country, an implication that Trump’s Twitter proves he does not understand. Trump does not seem to comprehend the responsibilities that come with the title he holds, and continues to misuse the reach that comes with it.

One can see a clear difference between the official @POTUS Twitter and Trump’s personal one. The official account paints a very different picture of Trump’s voice; it’s everything you would expect a president’s account to be, and is clearly run and checked by his staff.

Trump’s use of Twitter in this way not only tarnishes the office he holds, but also misleads the supporters who believe him, and creates unnecessary tension around unproven claims. This creates an image that is not suitable for a U.S. president, both for his constituents and the citizens of the world.

Chaturvedi is a member of the class of 2020.

ARE YOU LITERATE?

DO YOU HAVE OPINIONS?

WRITE FOR THE CT

OPINIONS@CAMPUSTIMES.ORG

UR OPINION

BY VENNELA PANDARABOYINA & YIYUN HUANG

OPINIONS EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR

“WHO DO YOU THINK WILL WIN AN OSCAR TONIGHT?”




JULIA WHITTEN, '19

"I think 'Hidden Figures' will win Best Picture."



ALICIA LAU, '19

"Emma Stone, just because."



MICHAEL MONROE, '20

"'Moonlight' for Best Picture."




RAYMOND YU, '19

"'La La Land'."



RAFAEL JUNIOR, '18

"I don't watch the Oscars."



ERIN STRAIGHT, '17

"Meryl Streep."

FEATURES

Chi Rho Society, 20th Century Spirit Group and ‘Enforcers of Tradition’

By MELANIE DEJONG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

in an unmasking ceremony on
Dandelion Day.

If a black-hooded group was spotted running around campus nowadays, they would probably be stopped by Public Safety. Between 1909 and the mid-1960s, however, such a group had administrative permission to do just that. That group was Chi Rho.

What was Chi Rho?

Once defined in the UR yearbook as “the black-hooded enforcers of tradition,” Chi Rho was a society made up of sophomores who were dedicated to making sure freshmen followed the unwritten rules of the University. These “unwritten rules” included knowing the lyrics to the University’s alma mater and saying hello to each person you passed. The aim of the society was to promote the growth of school spirit and community that results from honoring a shared set of traditions.

Who was in Chi Rho?

Chi Rho was a group of of sophomore men hand-picked by the previous year’s members for their leadership and dedication to the school. Upon joining the society, members selected a pseudonym based on an Egyptian pharaoh, like Rameses or Ptolemy, and they wore hoods during society activities to protect their anonymity. The members’ actual names were revealed

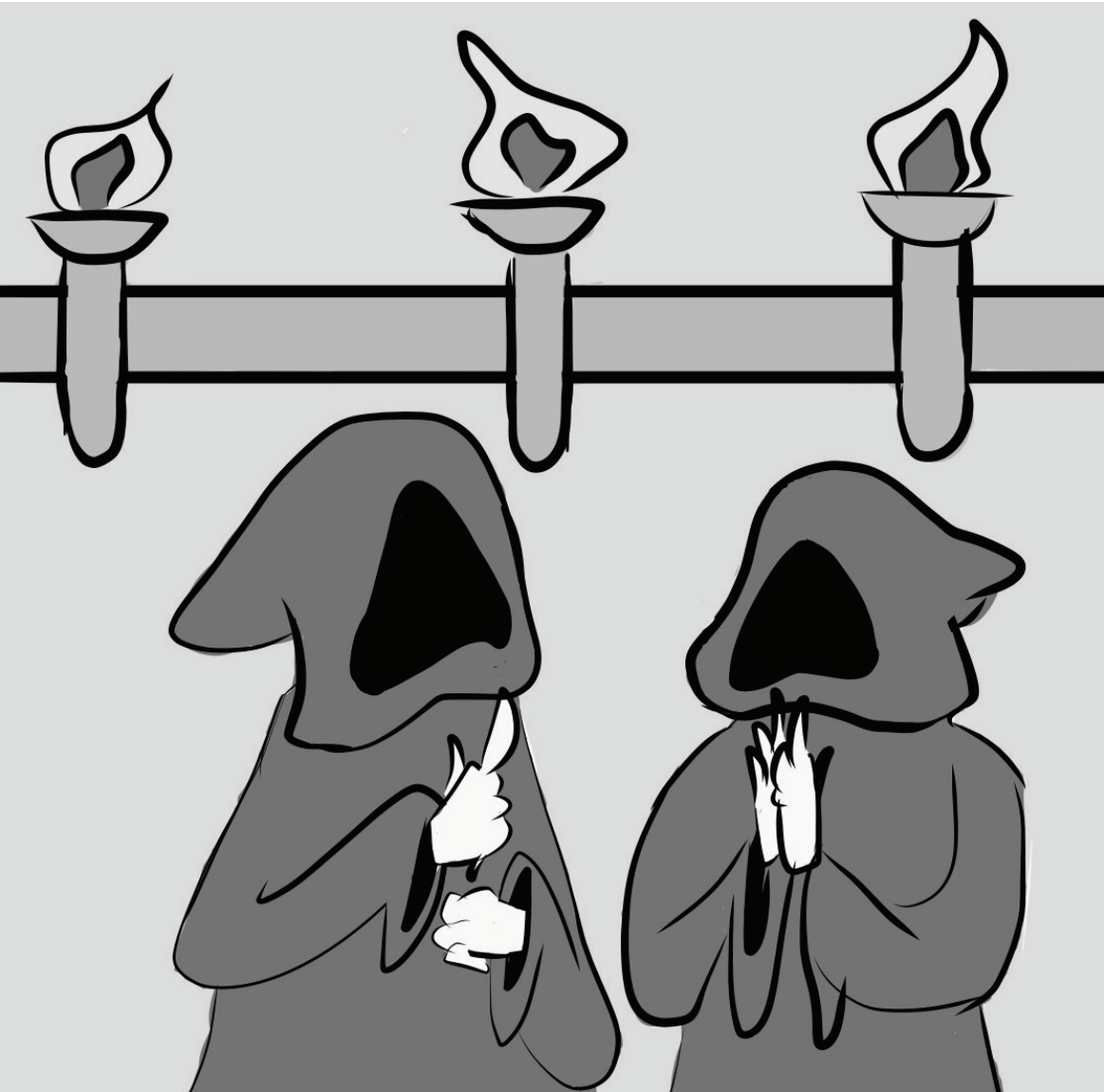
Chi Rho and the “Frosh-Soph” Rivalry

Chi Rho played a pivotal role in the historic rivalry between the freshmen and sophomore classes. It was its members job, for instance, to enforce the penalties of losing the famed “Flag Rush,” an activity wherein sophomores tried to keep freshmen from retrieving their class flag from the top of a greased pole. If the sophomores were successful, the freshmen had to wear their beanies and stay off the Eastman Quad for a specified period of time.

It also became a tradition for the freshmen to try to keep members of Chi Rho from appearing at their unmasking ceremony.

Chi Rho’s Methods

Chi Rho took different stances toward tradition-breaking students at different periods of time. Some years, they had some bite ; other years they were more bark. It appears that most years, they were a combination of both. The 1960 yearbook puts it this way: “When, during the year, a freshman disregards a school tradition, he is visited by a member of Chi Rho who explains the history and meaning of that tradition. If the offender persists in this disregard, several other members of the society call on him to enforce the custom with slightly more persuasive means.”



LUIS NOVA / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

While certain groups of members sometimes took this a bit too far, overall the society seemed to know it’s bounds and was successful in using these methods to foster university traditions.

What happened to Chi Rho?

Chi Rho faded out of existence in the mid-1960s, when the pressing nature of world events turned students’ focuses from intra-campus affairs to affairs

outside of campus. They were replaced by other honorary organizations such as Yellow Key (a UR parallel to the Golden Key International Honour Society).

DeJong is a member of the class of 2019.

UR TECH

One Giant Leap for Mankind...From Earth

By JAMES GUNN
FEATURES EDITOR

Space: the Final Frontier.

Each day, that vast emptiness appears just a little less infinite. On Feb. 22, NASA proved how far we’ve come in our ability to explore and discover without ever leaving Earth. On that day, it announced the discovery of four more planets surrounding the star known as TRAPPIST-1, 40 light years from Earth.

All four planets are terrestrial—meaning they are possibly as habitable as Earth—bringing the total tally of habitable planets in the system to seven.

The word TRAPPIST has nothing to do with Fetty Wap or Admiral Ackbar; instead, TRAPPIST is an acronym that stands for TRAnsiting Planets and Planetesimals Small Telescope (though this

was inspired by the beer created by Trappist monks). The star is the first with exoplanets that the telescope has discovered, and thus it is designated TRAPPIST-1.

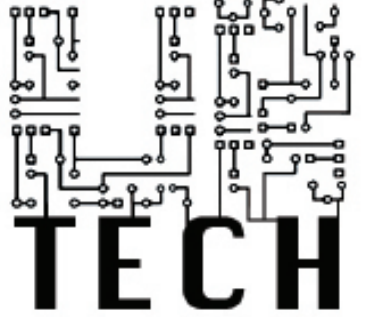
The interesting characteristic about the technology is that the telescope doesn’t directly observe the planets, which would be impossible due to their distance. Instead, the telescope relies upon the “transits” of the planets: hence the “transiting” in the name of the telescope.

The telescope measures the light given off by the star; when an object, such as a planet, passes in front of the star, the brightness dims by a small amount determined by the relative sizes of the star and the planet.

There are other methods of observation, such as calculating the effects of the planet on the star’s orbit, that reveal

the mass of the planet. This can lead to the calculation of other characteristics of the planet, such as its density and its physical composition.

Using this method with TRAPPIST lets scientists discover much about planets and stars by simply observing



their effects and never having to view them directly.

Scientists will soon also be able to discover a lot more about the planets. Currently, they know that the planets have potential for life because of their similar sizes to Earth

and their relative distance from their own star. However, soon they may be able to know the composition of the planets’ atmospheres, a crucial step to truly understanding them.

In 2018, NASA will launch the James Webb Space Telescope, a telescope with unprecedented sensitivity to certain wavelengths that are useful for making astronomical discoveries. Using the telescope, scientists will be able to see a ring around each planet, caused by starlight piercing through their atmospheres. The fluctuating colors of the rings will allow the scientists to determine what molecules the light is hitting, and thus determine the composition of each planet’s atmosphere.

The discovery of different atmospheric conditions will be enlightening for sci-

entists. They may be able to determine if the planets have global oceans, like Earth, or even estimate the greenhouse effect’s influence on each planet, allowing for a prediction of the planet’s temperature. Other gases, like ozone or methane—often emitted by bacteria—are very important. Ozone and methane balanced with carbon dioxide and water has only one obvious explanation: life.

Discovering the exoplanets of TRAPPIST-1 is hugely significant, yet it is only the beginning. It represents the opportunity for furthering the understanding the emptiness around Earth—and reveals that space really isn’t so empty. This is still just the beginning of the quest to find life. Only time will tell if Earth is really alone.

Gunn is a member of the class of 2020.

WRITE FOR THE CAMPUS TIMES

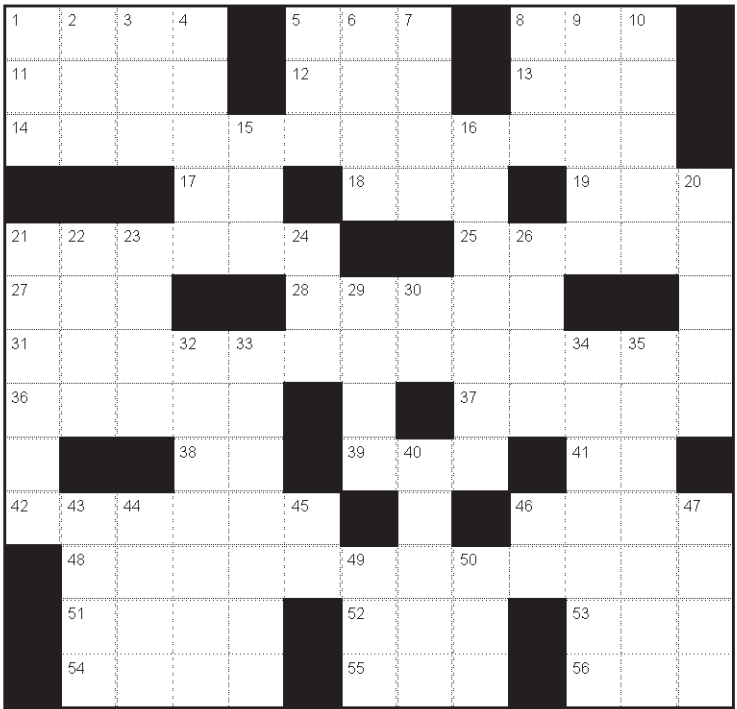


IT’S OUT OF THIS WORLD



PUZZLES

Opening Pitch



BY DAVID SCHILDKRAUT '20
DIFFICULTY MEDIUM

ACROSS:

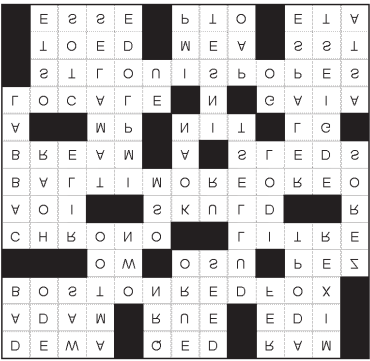
- 1. Home of the Haji Waris Ali Shah shrine
- 5. Math proof capstone
- 8. Speedy PC data storage
- 11. First man
- 12. A regretful herb
- 13. Electronic data interchange, in passing
- 14. Animal that starts the game in contact with the monster
- 17. Expression of pain
- 18. Home of Buckeyes fans
- 19. Candy with a wide variety of dispensers
- 21. Relating to time
- 25. 1000 cubic centimetres
- 27. Color of the sky in Kyoto
- 28. One of three Norns
- 31. Mr. McHenry's snack at the start of the game
- 36. Freshwater fish
- 37. Objects of winter fun
- 38. UK Parliament member
- 39. Louse egg
- 41. Phone electronics giant
- 42. The general area
- 46. Earth deity
- 48. Leaders that start the game with an overarching prayer
- 51. Two-___ sloth
- 52. "My" to Caesar
- 53. Like the Concorde
- 54. Essence, in short
- 55. School organization linking staff and families
- 56. When a flight is due in

DOWN:

- 1. Name of popular dance move
- 2. Old capital of Japan
- 3. Is in the past?
- 4. Companion statement to "are not"
- 5. In radio, naturally sourced noise
- 6. Currency of 45-
- 7. Grades that barely pass
- 8. Sec. of library with dictionaries and atlases
- 9. Action taken with a cat, dog, or child
- 10. Device used in making cake
- 15. To defeat someone, slangily
- 16. Least polished

- 20. Multiple scores giving no credit
- 21. Burden-bearer
- 22. Grayish-white
- 23. To irritate someone
- 24. Open Street Map, casually
- 26. Pop icon
- 29. Zen master's thought-provoking riddle
- 30. Our school
- 32. Hot _____
- 33. Collapse in on oneself
- 34. Return to a worse state
- 35. Most irritable
- 40. A type of map
- 43. Bony prefix
- 44. Company heads of tech.
- 45. See 6-down
- 46. "Ready, set, ___"
- 47. American Seed Trade Association
- 49. Little demon
- 50. Kung ___ Chicken

This Week's
Answers



Last Week's
Answers



CAMPUS UNDERDOGS

Leaving a Legacy in Campus Sports



By ETHAN BIDNA
COLUMNIST



By MELISSA HOLLOWAY
COLUMNIST

Here at Campus Underdogs, we make a point of highlighting student leaders on campus who do big things and deserve their due. To this end, we make a point of looking beyond large campus organizations like the Students' Association (SA) Government to find these lesser-known leaders. But there comes a time when we meet a campus leader whom, despite their affiliation with a big group, is doing groundbreaking work for their fellow students and, we believe, deserves some time in the limelight. Patrick Fink, a senior, is one of these leaders. Growing up in Fulton, N.Y., a small town outside Syracuse, Fink had big dreams. Despite coming of age in a town that he described as, "a place where no one goes anywhere," Fink sought a broader horizon. His home was a place of complements. His father was often deployed by the military, and his mother, whom he described as the "perfect woman," helped to create a stern household while always doing everything she could to ensure her children could do what they wanted to do. It was because this environment that Fink described himself as ultimately a shy kid, one who was, "very insecure for a long time."

For Fink, this all changed in high school; he met Susan Dauphin, his world history teacher. Of Dauphin, Fink had few words other than "literally the most influential person in my life."

It would come to pass that Dauphin gave Fink the confidence he needed to make a positive influence on the world around him. At her insistence, Fink would run for and win his high school's class presidency in his freshman year, a position he would hold for his entire high school career, serve as both his high school's National Honor Society president and "academics president" (a liaison between the administration and the students) during his junior year, and serve as his school's Student Senate president during his senior year.

But Fink believes these accomplishments pale next to the experience he believes was pivotal to breaking out of his shell. This moment would come in his sophomore year, during Dauphin's annual "Leaders in History" tournament. In this competition, students would speak in front of their classmates on why a certain leader was the greatest in this history of the world. With Dauphin's insistence, Fink took part. His speech on Caesar Augustus both won him both first prize in the contest and a lifelong passion for public speaking and leadership.

At UR, Fink continued his passion for service. However, he admitted that he found himself early on a bit too overzealous.

"I came in really ambitious," he said, "joining a bunch of clubs, including the Finance Council, serving as hall president, and taking an overly-hard load including upper-level physics and math courses. My second semester, I took 24 credits. I dived in headfirst into everything."

Despite his over-eagerness, Fink soon found organizations that he was passionate about. The first of these was rugby.

Rugby, to Fink, was the "single-most formidable experience on this campus." Though he had done a number of sports in high school, rugby was something

As a member of SAAC, Fink saw club sports weren't getting the resources he felt they needed.

else entirely. "I couldn't believe how much passion these 35 guys have for each other and a sport they've never played before college. I would do anything for the people on this team." Fink's penchant for leadership and his love for his club sports brought him to the role where he's found the most ways to make an impact: the Club Sports Council (CSC). He originally joined because he wanted to learn more about club sports, and was enthralled because "everyone is so passionate about their club sports."

It was around this same time that Fink began to rise in the ranks within the Student Association's Appropriations Committee (SAAC), which works with club business managers to manage their budgets and resources.

As a member of SAAC, Fink saw club sports weren't getting the resources he felt they needed. To this end, Fink has spent his college career rebuilding the Club Sports Council, leveraging his experience with SA to make it happen. During his tenure, Fink has rewritten the CSC manual, given CSC teams a voice in the approval of new club sports, and balanced the needs of casual club sports groups and those that are more competitive. Now, as the council's president, Fink is excited to leave his legacy by doing what he can to help a part of campus that was pivotal to his Rochester years.

Bidna and Holloway are both Take Five Scholars.

Make crosswords for the Campus Times!

features@campustimes.org



Want to feature on our track?

Write for the Campus Times
Email features@campustimes.org

HUMOR

What Type of Shower Are You?

By SIOBHÁN SEIGNE
HUMOR STAFF

By ERIC FRANKLIN
HUMOR EDITOR

ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY LUIS NOVA / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

- ☐ 1. Choose a hat.
- A. Fedora

C. Pussy hat

B. Does bedhead count?

D. Red baseball cap
- ☐ 2. Choose a drink.
- A. Champagne for guests,

C. Fresh, warm milk

Franzia when I'm alone

B. 32 ounces of Mountain Dew

D. Vodka
- ☐ 3. What is your spirit animal?
- A. Leech

C. Tadpole

B. Sloth

D. Snake
- ☐ 4. Where do you usually go on vacation?
- A. Las Vegas

C. Oh, varies

B. The backyard

D. Mar-a-Lago
- ☐ 5. How would your friends describe you?
- A. "A great guy"

C. Immature

B. Calm and collected

D. Tremendous
- ☐ 6. Where do you take someone on a first date?
- A. Olive Garden is a quality establishment

C. If it's serious? Chuck E. Cheese's

B. Netflix and chill, maybe order a pizza

D. Does that time in the closet count?
- ☐ 7. What celebrity would you want to eat dinner with?
- A. Christopher Columbus

C. Beyoncé's twins

B. William Howard Taft

D. Ivanka Trump
- ☐ 8. What is the meaning of life?
- A. Make connections with as many people as possible in the hopes of one day exploiting them for your own benefit

C. Take as many nutrients as you can and get out before anyone notices

B. Don't worry, be happy

D. Trying to fill the hole where my soul once was with as much money and attention as possible
- ☐ 9. What do you wear to look sexy?
- A. Spanx

C. Birthday suit

B. Oversized t shirt, no pants

D. An extra long tie and gloves that show off my big hands
- ☐ 10. How frequently do you poop?
- A. Twice a day, at 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. sharp

C. I have never pooped in my life

B. Once a week, tops

D. In an unending stream, usually out of my mouth
- ☐ 11. What is your preferred method of contraception?
- A. I keep a Magnum in my wallet and free UHS condoms in my room

C. How am I supposed to know? My parents clearly couldn't figure it out

B. Fall asleep before sex instead of after

D. Masturbate to thoughts of my daughter instead of having sex
- ☐ 12. Which of these celebrities is your role model?
- A.

C.



Life After College Athletics

By CHRIS COOK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With all the Little League, pee-wee soccer, Pop Warner football, and youth fencing tournaments around the country, most people probably played some kind of sport in their youth.

As you moved up to high school sports, things got a little crazier, but it was all worth it for the friendship and the opportunity to stick it to those dumb kids in the town next to yours.

But then people left high school for college, and left high school sports along with it, leaving you to figure out what to fill that void with.

Some go Greek to enjoy that same sense of hardship and camaraderie, but pay for it with money instead of time and effort. Others discover the ease of having a gym within walking distance and believe that gaining copious amounts of muscle mass above the waistline can be equated with athleticism.

But some (like me) persevered, put in the extra effort, and continued in their chosen sports through college. But as your four (or five) years come to a close, you must once

again move on and find a different passion to pursue.

To help you out in this endeavor, I have come up with a guide so you may make an informed decision, then ignore it and do what feels right.

1. Join a real life cult: You've been enjoying the cult-lite experience for four to eight years as a member of a sports team, so why not step it up a notch? I hear Scientology is pretty nice this time of year. It may not be the easiest thing to get into, but pretty soon you'll be living, eating, and enjoying all your major life events almost exclusively with your cult friends, and everything will feel like it is back to normal.

2. Become a coach: Relive the college experience many times over as you guide younger athletes through the same experiences you had. Push them to work as hard as you did to achieve more than you could. But don't worry, you're still better than they are, you just have to take an insane amount of Advil before you compete again.

3. Phys Ed. teacher: As the great Jack Black once said, "For those who can't do, teach. For those who can't teach, teach gym." Keep

your badminton skills sharp and your workout clothes fresh—you're going back to school and those kids are going to learn the fundamentals of basketball, damn it. Make sure you pass along all your weightlifting horror stories from college and tell everyone about how you used to be athletic until you had seven back procedures and four knee surgeries. Or maybe that was just the gym teachers where I'm from, I'm sure you'll be better.

4. Literally go to Greece: You think you know enough Greek from all three of the frat parties you got to go to, and travelling only meant that you were competing outside New York State. Plus, what better way to get some sun on your body as it slowly leaves the peak shape you were in during your college years?

5. Enjoy life: Cake? Sure. Hit the gym after work? Only if you really feel like it. Leave all that old stress behind you and rejoin the ranks of the real world, you'll slowly acclimate until one day no one will even suspect you were once a college athlete. You've earned it. You deserve a smoke break.

Cook is a member of the Class of 2017.



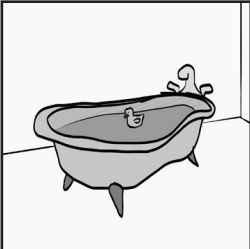
What Type of Shower Are You: Results

If you answered mostly As: **Hotel shower.**



You put on a good appearance, and people are always happy to meet you the first time. It's only when they try to get to know you that they discover your fickle temper, hot-headed one minute and giving the cold shoulder the next. You aren't the worst person they've ever met, but after five minutes with you they're ready to retreat to the comfort of their own friends back home.

If you answered mostly Bs: **Bath.**



You appreciate a good rest. You don't understand why people spend so much time overworking themselves and stressing themselves out when they can just crack a beer and be happy instead. Most of your friends have gotten used to the smell of your apartment, and the ones that haven't aren't worth being friends with anyway. A bath may not be the best way to get clean, but it's the easiest, and you like that.

If you answered mostly Cs: **Baby Shower.**



You live fast and easy. Your life has gone by in a warm, pink haze. You don't know much about the world yet, but your current pad is getting pretty cramped and you're ready to move out and experience life. It's time to cut the umbilical cord and move on. Life will get more complicated—there will be tears and you'll have to get your shit together—but you're ready and excited to move on to the next stage of your life.

If you answered mostly Ds: **Golden Shower.**



Your success is even bigger than your hands. (And look at them! No one's ever seen hands so big, believe me folks.) People want to either be you or kill you. You're rich enough that even your shower is gold. It may not be advisable, or even sanitary, but you haven't technically broken any rules, so the media should get off your back. You don't even know anything about Russia. (But wouldn't it be great to be friends with them?)

Seigne is a member of the Class of 2019.
Franklin is a member of the Class of 2017.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

‘90s Music Laser Show Proves Otherworldly Experience

By SAM PASSINISI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The snow falls in flurries—except at occasional intervals, when it’s checked by a vibrant burst of lasers.

It’s a Saturday night in February at the Rochester Museum and Science Center’s Strassenburgh Planetarium, and that can only mean one thing: we’re going to the ‘90s Laser Show.

No, it’s not a cyberpunk remake of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. It’s something totally unique, and uniquely difficult to explain.

No, it’s not a cyberpunk remake of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. It’s something totally unique, and uniquely difficult to explain.

I’m ushered in, along with a sizable crowd, to the dome of the planetarium—the room is by no means full, but there are more people here than I’d expected.

The seats are set back at a 45-degree angle to the floor, a necessity when the show is happening above your head. As I sink into my seat, the projectionist assures us that smoke and strobing lights are nothing to worry about—it’s all part of the show.

The lights snap off, and the music begins.

“What’s the frequency, Kenneth?” singer Michael Stipe roars, as the lasers in the back of the room etch the first patterns of the evening on the screen above us.

Prismatic shapes pinwheel across the observatory dome as the churning, wave-breaking chords of R.E.M.’s “What’s the Frequency, Ken-



LUIS NOVA / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

neth?” fade into the austere and melancholic notes of Oasis’ “Wonderwall.”

Prismatic shapes pinwheel across the observatory dome at the churning, wave-breaking chords R.E.M.’s ‘What’s the Frequency, Kenneth?’ fade into the austere and melancholic notes of Oasis’ ‘Wonderwall.’

The planetarium’s massive, multi-ocular star projector (nicknamed “Carl” for its manufacturer, the Carl

Zeiss Company) rises from a pit in the center of the room to cast star-scapes on the domed screen over our heads.

“Wonderwall” might be the perfect song for drifting through interstellar space. As Noel Gallagher’s plaintive “maybes” crash over the audience, we gaze up at the ceiling, where crazy light patterns whirl against a starry backdrop.

It’s easy to imagine I’m not on this planet at all. A smile finds its way to my face.

By the time the song ends, I’m not sure I want to come back to Earth.

Fortunately, I don’t have to. The blaring intro riff of Dave Matthews Band’s “Too

Much” kicks in, and sends us hurtling out past the orbit of Neptune. As one song segues into the next, I lose track of time, but I don’t want to look at my watch.

The playlist goes on—”Too Much” is followed by Pearl Jam’s “Elderly Woman Behind the Counter in a Small Town;” next is “Plush” by Stone Temple Pilots and “Never There” by

By the time the song ends, I’m not sure I want to come back to Earth. Fortunately, I don’t have to.

Cake. (All these songs now live in a playlist on my Spotify account called “90s La-

ser.”)

It’s not until “1979” by Smashing Pumpkins that we really achieve lift-off, soaring into nebulous and star-studded vistas on Billy Corgan’s aching vocal chords.

Sarah McLachlan’s “Possession” is next, followed by U2’s “Mysterious Ways” and Bush’s “Machinehead.”

Smoke begins to billow from the front of the room, and beams of green and blue light cut through the haze, snapping like the finger of a metronome. The last

By this point, we’ve been here under the lasers for the better part of an hour and I can’t stop smiling.

three songs are a recognizable power trio: “Under the Bridge” by Red Hot Chili Peppers, “Zombie” by The Cranberries, and “Smells Like Teen Spirit,” by Nirvana, perhaps the most 90’s of all 90’s anthems.

By this point, we’ve been here under the lasers for the better part of an hour and I can’t stop smiling. Is this what the future was meant to be like? In 1999, I think maybe it was.

When the lights come up, there is scattered applause—but we mostly walk away in silence.

The Strassenburgh Planetarium, just down the street from the Orange Line stop at East and Alexander, hosts laser light shows every weekend. Music and themes vary by month—Saturdays in March feature a Radiohead playlist at 8:15 p.m. and Dave Matthews Band at 9:30 p.m. Shows are 50 minutes in length; tickets are \$6 with your student ID.

Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.

Rochester City Ballet Pays Visit to College Town

By SREYOSHI SUR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University bookstore organized a storytelling event that featured dance as a center point Thursday afternoon.

From toddlers to teenagers, everyone waited eagerly for the dancers to make an appearance.

Ballerinas from the Rochester City Ballet (RCB) Francesca Genovese and Lauren Petit, dressed in brightly colored tutus complete with pretty little ballet slippers, captivated the youngsters.

RCB participates in a variety of outreach programs.

“We actually do stuff like this all the time,” said Genovese while describing her ex-

perience at the event.

From toddlers to teenagers, everyone waited eagerly for the dancers to make an appearance.

Every year, before their annual holiday show, the dancers come to the Barnes & Noble bookstore in Pittsford to read “The Nutcracker.” Over the years they have also done short performances in the bookstore.

In bigger ballet companies, the trainees and the apprentices have most of the responsibilities for community outreach, but it’s quite the

contrary at RCB.

“Rochester City Ballet Company is a small one,” Genovese said. “So, the dancers are involved a great deal with the outreach.”

The mission of RCB is “to create inspiring, entertaining and educational experiences through the art of dance.”

One of those ways is achieved through an introduction to dance at an early age. The RCB members hold various after-school programs at the Rochester City School District.

They open their dress rehearsals of “The Nutcracker,” “Peter and the Wolf,” and “Cinderella” to students at the city public schools. Their outreach programs go

on throughout the year.

In the upcoming month, RCB is organizing a fundraiser called “Princesses and Pirates,” a children’s event at their studio where kids can come and interact with the dancers.

The University’s book-
The mission of RCB is ‘to create inspiring, entertaining and educational experiences through the art of dance.’

store hosts a variety of events throughout the school year and summer, too.

According to event manager Francine McAndrew, the bookstore organizes about 100 events a year, including 40 to 50 solely for kids.

The ballet book-reading event was first of its kind, and the turnout was more than expected.

The UR Kinder Lab also organizes book-reading events at the bookstore. McAndrew has reached out to dance groups like Ballet Performance Group to have more student involvement in the bookstore.

“We love doing events. The more the better,” McAndrew said.

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

Sun Kil Moon Invites Listeners to Think More

By BEN SCHMITZ
A&E EDITOR

It is hard to take anyone seriously who describes an album as an “experience.” Descriptors like that tend to be red flags of a deeply personal, yet not necessarily relatable connection to an album that makes it difficult for a fan to introduce it to others. Rarely, this label can be rightfully earned by an album when it transcends being listened to and becomes lived in by the listener.

Sun Kil Moon’s newly-released “Common as Light and Love are Red Valleys of Blood” accomplishes this very feat.

Sun Kil Moon is the name under which former Red House Painters frontman Mark Kozelek has been releasing music since the early 2000s. “Common as Light and Love” is Kozelek’s eighth release under this name and his longest release by far. With its sixteen tracks ranging anywhere from six to twelve minutes in length, the album clocks in at two hours and nine minutes in length. This is not an album that is easily digestible, especially when listened to in its entirety, and it may prove difficult for some to get into for this reason.

What exactly makes it so compelling then? On “Common as Light and Love,” we see Kozelek perfecting a songwriting style introduced with his last album “Universal Themes.” This style, defined by entrancing, repetitive instrumentals

and personal, stream-of-consciousness style lyrics, makes Kozelek’s songs unlike any other.

This style is well encapsulated on “Chili Lemon Peanuts,” in which a tight, rolling groove of drums, bass, and synth carries Kozelek’s borderline rap vocals steadily and entrancingly forward.

The lyrical content here is Kozelek in his stream-of-consciousness style and habit of breaking the the fourth wall. (“I’m on the front porch staring at this old dusty bible and I’m writing lyrics.”)

This is where the true rarity of this album lies: the lyrics are often personal to the point of mundanity—but Kozelek offers listeners residence in his own head. This creates a powerful means for experiencing another human perspective or even escaping their own.

This is where the true rarity of this album lies: the lyrics are often personal to the point of mudanity—but Kozelk offers listeners residence in his own head.

Kozelek’s headspace is not always a happy place to be. In recent years, Kozelek has made news for his rude, offensive, and filterless demeanor, especially with members of the music press. This bitterness appears of-

ten on “Common as Light and Love,” but rarely does it come across as entirely baseless whining. Much of the complaining done on the album is against societal ailments that Kozelek has meditated on following their growth in the public conscience in the past year. These include gun control (“This sick epidemic that’s fucking up our sense of safety and our community,” from “Bergen to Trondheim”), transgender bathroom laws (“But you won’t let a transgender use a bathroom of their choice?/What kind of bullshit is that, you good old hillbilly boys,” in “Lone Star”), and of course, Donald Trump. (“When Donald Trump becomes president/ Blame it on Facebook [[...]] and every other thing that has turned this country/Into a bunch of dumber-down slaves of technology,” also in “Lone Star.”)

Kozelek’s age, uncommon lifestyle as a musician, and hardline opinions can be off-putting to a young listener that has little in common with someone like him. This is exactly why the album’s ability to draw you into his head becomes so captivating. The differences between your life experiences and beliefs and Kozelek’s lead to an expectation of little common ground upon initial listening, but this is what makes Kozelek an ideal person to be making this kind of music. When you do start to realize how Kozelek’s life, one that is likely radically different

from your own, turns out to have surprising parallels to your own, the beauty of what this music has the ability to say about the human experience begins to become clear.

As brilliant and unique as this album is, it does have weaknesses, most of which are related to its sheer length. Kozelek’s lyrical style that is initially entrancing doesn’t benefit from the extended period of listening required to get through this album in one sitting. The personal, minutia-intensive subject matter can begin to feel like rambling self-indulgence.

“Common as Light and Love” sees Kozelek reflecting on countless news items from the past year, and these reflections are some of the album’s best moments, but when we hear Kozelek reflecting about terror attacks on “Bastille Day,” his sentiments don’t seem different enough from those expressed on songs like “Bergen to Trondheim” to warrant so much further pondering, especially to a listener’s likely-weary ears when this song appears at over an hour and a half into the album.

It is well-advised to listen to the album over several sessions to prevent Kozelek’s musings from starting to sound like your weird uncle who never shuts up, drunkenly mumbling about what he saw on the news.

“As Common as Light and Love are Red Valleys of Blood” is certainly not for everyone, but its importance should not be understated.

It is exceptionally rare, especially within the realm of music, that we get such a realistic look into someone else’s head. With most albums, the enjoyment is found in the listener’s ability to relate to the songs and the songwriter themselves. Here, that enjoyment is complicated by the grimness, reality, and sheer honesty of Kozelek’s songs, but the unexpectedness and even uncommonness of common ground with him makes that ground infinitely more meaningful.

We are living in an age where an inability to empathize and see other points of view is creating divides wider than ever. Say what you will about who Kozelek is, but he doesn’t pretend to be anyone he isn’t, and on this album he opens himself up entirely, exposing everything for people to critique, gawk at, and, hopefully, understand.

He lets the audience do the work of finding meaning and understanding for themselves, and it is that active participation that makes this album such a special and potent exercise in empathy.

Schmitz is a member of the Class of 2019.

‘JACKIE’ BY SCOTT ABRAMS SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

“I never wanted fame. I just became a Kennedy.”

This line is merely one of many contradictory statements strewn throughout “Jackie,” Pablo Larraín’s biopic of the iconic first lady. You might not expect to see his kind of statement in a traditional biopic, but “Jackie”—starring Natalie Portman in what should be a career-defining role—goes far beyond the constraints of its genre, where it arrives at catharsis for both subject and viewer.

The film presents Jackie Kennedy to us by displaying the different versions of herself she “plays” throughout several framing devices—an interview with a reporter for Life magazine (Billy Crudup) days after her husband’s death, a conversation with a Catholic priest (John Hurt), the first lady’s Emmy-winning White House tour, and, most importantly, her attempts to secure JFK’s legacy in his funeral arrangements.

In each, the first lady portrays a different version of herself: the grieving widow for the public after witnessing her husband’s assassination; the poised professional during her television appearance; the angry solitary figure she cuts in her first moments alone in the East Wing, pounding vodka and smoking as she tries on different outfits.

Yet what, of all this, is true? The script, by the producer of the “Today Show,” Noah Oppenheim, credits no source material, and the film heavily explores the idea that history is created by the way in which historical events are interpreted, rather than the events themselves. Perhaps to hint at this ideology, Larraín edits the film in a subtly ominous way—shots within individual scenes do not always align perfectly, creating an impression of inaccuracy. And still history is something of an obsession—both for Jackie and, well, “Jackie.” If there’s one string connecting the fragmented storyline, it’s a focus on how history is told. Jackie, who personally raised thousands of dollars to purchase antiques for the White House, holds a rather interesting view of it: “I believe the characters we read about on the page end up being more real than the men who stand beside us.”

Who creates history? Those, like her husband, who participate in and mold events, or the writers, who spin the information displayed to the public?

Indeed, these contradictions define the film. Jackie is ferocious but vulnerable, clever yet incredibly selfish. The beautiful costume and production design contrast with everything else in the film: it feels like a dream slowly becoming a nightmare.

For the moments of Jackie dancing with her husband (JFK is portrayed, almost wordlessly, by Danish lookalike Caspar Phillipson) at a presidential ball, the film returns to the assassination multiple times, as Jackie must constantly. The memories no longer exist without one another. Keeping with the theme, the brilliant, Oscar-nominated score by Mica Levi seems to take the expected orchestral music and slowly deflate it, as if she was scoring a horror movie. Additionally, the score is often contrasted with the title theme of the musical “Camelot”, a song that appears repeatedly throughout the film.

The reference, like much of the film (which premiered in September, months before the 2016 election), is unwittingly timely in a world where the White House has pitted itself against the media and spews countless lies to its citizens.

The musical intones that “for one brief shining moment, there was a Camelot,” an age where “ordinary men [would band] together to fight for a better world.” As Jackie says, her husband, “had ideals. Ideals he could rally others to believe in.”

“But there won’t be another Camelot. Not another Camelot.”

Abrams is a member of the Class of 2018.

Carmack Concert Brings UR EDM Scene Together

CARMACK FROM PAGE 1

“We take vinyl records that we buy and use virtual synthesizers, and we just kind of put that together with hip-hop, electronic beats, and just try to mash it up into this kind of music,” Rouchdi said. “It doesn’t fit any genre, it’s just kind of what we are inspired by.”

Rouchdi and Henrichs both feel that Rochester’s music scene matches their style more than the UR audience does. “Basically, the music there touches back to the lack of the scene of electronic synth music and like, that scene is in Rochester at the Bug Jar, they’re all about that,” Henrichs said, having performed there last December.

The UR DJ scene has grown consistently in the last year, with performers such as junior Maverick Cummings performing in a number of campus events.

Though mostly at his fraternity, Alpha Delta Phi, Cummings also notes that his work will likely extend beyond campus because he feels it will be better received.

“I think that’s kind of the sentiment [to EDM/DJ music] that you’re there to be yourself and be who you are,” Cummings said. “I think with college frat parties that everyone is so concerned with coming off as being weird or insecure or not being liked that that maybe factors into it.”

Cummings has been making music since his sophomore year, also inspired by Car-



TIANYI MA / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Mr. Carmack comes from Honolulu and performs a mix of EDM/synth music.

mack’s work, which, at the time, was sporadically posted and taken down from SoundCloud to garner interest.

“Making the music just comes down to good quality,” Henrichs said. “And you expect your audience to just be able appreciate the quality and goodness of music in its purest form. And then basically they can hopefully appreciate it and audiences expand from that.”

Birnbaum mentioned that genres for events thrown by SPB are decided by the feedback they receive via their online polls, meaning artists such as Carmack are invited due to student interest.

“I think what’s been helpful this year more than any other year is that we’ve gotten feedback from the student body,” Birnbaum said. “We really appreciate that and we can’t really represent everyone if we don’t hear their voices to begin with.”

Rouchdi noted that an appreciation for EDM/DJ music

comes from experiencing it first hand.

“What gets people into music usually is seeing the show and getting to experience what the music is made for. A lot of people here don’t go to a lot of festivals or don’t have a lot of experiences at concerts, and that’s I think, the biggest reasons why,” Rouchdi said. “I feel like maybe it might be a little too late for people, but definitely seeing it in its purest form at a show, the experience is changing people.”

The increase in campus DJs and student-requested performances such as Zeds Dead and White Panda at D-Day back in 2015, however, show that the music scene at UR could be reaching a turning point.

“I think there’s a group of people like myself who are restless,” Cummings said, “who want something different, want something new, and want to change things.”

Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.

‘MEDIA MATRIX’

Gumball Machine Is Very, Very Gay



By JEFF HOWARD
COLUMNIST

I found Gumball Machine while I was on a long bus ride, manically flipping through suggested songs on my SoundCloud account, hoping to find the next sound that would elevate my soul to a higher level of being.

I haven’t found that sound since I discovered Yung Lean in 2014—these days I will tell you that most music that’s not Yung Lean is stupid. I might not have found my next Yung Lean on this fateful bus ride, but a name caught my attention—Gumball Machine.

More accurately, Gumball Machine didn’t attract my attention so much as his brilliant track title did—“I’m Gay and Instagram is Ruining My Life.”

When I saw this title my heart skipped a beat. I have been waiting this whole life for a raunchy, underground gay artist to sing me to sleep at night—was this him? Well, Gumball Machine might not be the one. Luckily, he comes close.

“I’m Gay and Instagram is Ruining my Life” has a four-on-the-floor beat, Arabianesque synth chords, and a vocal style that would best be described as male Ke\$ha. Lyrically, on this song Gumball Machine laments how

obsessed he has become with taking the perfect selfie for Instagram and his mom not understanding that. “I’m my own masterpiece brought to life / I’m prolific taking pictures every night,” he pouts over demented, melting synthesizers. The lyrics on this track actually do a good job of highlighting how much Instagram is seen as a high art by myself and my peers, while to our parents it is so far from it.

Another song I really like from Gumball Machine is “Cooties.” The song has a similar club-centric feel to that of “I’m Gay and Instagram is Ruining My Life,” with a darker and more sensual edge.

The bass response on this track is pummeling, and it has a cool distorted bass and breakbeat breakdown that evokes Deadmau5.

This track would best be described as Gumball Machine’s “hot and heavy” offering.

While it only has 73 likes, it is a very enticing preview of coming attractions from Gumball Machine—strong, dark production with sensual vocal delivery, very club-ready.

If you are looking for gay artists or are feeling really gay or just want to feel like you’re in a dark club with neon pink lights and sweat beading on your neck, Gumball Machine is worth a listen. His songs are quirky, full of character and swag, and very, very gay. (I’m gay.)

Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.

Know something we don't?

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How Playoff Road Will Be Determined for UR Basketball

By JAKE SEHNERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the basketball season comes to an end, UR Men’s and Women’s Basketball (URBB and URWB) are optimistic about their future. Both teams are going to finish in the top three of their conferences with overall records of 21–3 and 17–7, respectively, excluding their final games at Emory University.

As a result, both teams are poised to make their post-season tournaments simultaneously for the first time since 2014. Before examining each team’s paths to the tournament, let’s take a look at the tournament selection process as described by URWB Head Coach Jim Scheible, a member of the selection committee.

For both the men’s and women’s leagues, the first teams into the tournament are the conference champions, who fall into Pool A. Then, Pool B for men, and Pool C for women, are composed of teams who did not win their conference. For women, Pool B aggregates teams without a conference, from which one team is selected. To organize Pool B and C, teams are separated and ranked according to eight regions.

Then, the selection committee compares the current leaders of all regions to make its picks. The team who was previously behind the selected team then moves into first place of the region, and the process is repeated. The two leagues use different criteria to compare teams, but both incorporate winning percentage, strength of schedule, and performance versus each other or common opponents.

Teams are organized into four clusters upon selection and the top seed of each cluster hosts the first two rounds of the tournament. Each year, the Univer-

sity rotates rights to host the tournament between the men’s and women’s teams; the women’s team will host this year.

URBB currently sits atop the East Region, indicating they will be considered in every round until they are selected or the bracket is filled. The regional rankings will be redone after this article is published, but with a better record and a head-to-head victory over second place St. John Fisher College, UR is in good condition.

In an interview, Coach Flockerzi pointed out the team’s strong non-conference performance, where the ‘Jackets went undefeated. Their overall record puts them in a strong position to not only be selected to the tournament, but also to host the first two rounds of tournament play.

Homecourt advantage is crucial in postseason play because teams can travel anywhere within a 500-mile radius for the first couple rounds. A long bus ride limits the physical preparation for games, giving the home team another advantage in addition to having the crowd on their side.

URWB currently sits in third place of the East Region. The largest advantage the ‘Jackets have is earning an 8–5 record in one of the best conferences in all of Division III. Every team in the conference has an overall record above .500 except for Brandeis University, and seventh-ranked Washington University will play University of Chicago on Saturday to determine the conference winner. Boasting a win against Washington U., and playing well in a tough conference, puts the ‘Jackets in a strong position to make the tournament.

Last year, they made a run to the Elite 8 before falling to Amherst College. The team’s composition has changed, however, having replaced two graduated starting point guards with freshmen Brenna James and Lauren Foley. But ultimately, the experience of making postseason run gives the team confidence in its ability to compete this year.

Sehnert is a member of the Class of 2019.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Junior forward Tucker Knox and URBB are awaiting their playoff seeding.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

- URWL BEGINS REGULAR SEASON @ THIEL COLLEGE**
UR Women’s Lacrosse will kick off their season this Saturday away at Thiel College in Pennsylvania. Two home games will follow on Wednesday against SUNY Geneseo and next Saturday against Oswego State.
- MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TRACK & FIELD @ ECAC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**
Next week, both the Men’s and Women’s Track & Field teams will travel to Ithaca for the Eastern College Athletic Conference championships in which athletes who posted qualifying times throughout the season will compete.
- MEN’S SQUASH @ CSA INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**
UR Women’s Lacrosse will kick off their season this Saturday away at Thiel College in Pennsylvania. Two home games will follow on Wednesday against SUNY Geneseo and next Saturday against Oswego State.

STANDINGS

UAA MEN’S BASKETBALL			
SCHOOL	CONF	ALL	
Washington (Mo.)	12-2	20-5	
Rochester (N.Y.)	10-4	21-4	
Emory	9-5	18-7	
Chicago	8-6	16-9	
Carnegie Mellon	8-6	14-11	

UAA WOMEN’S BASKETBALL			
SCHOOL	CONF	ALL	
Washington (Mo.)	12-2	23-2	
Chicago	10-4	18-7	
Rochester (N.Y.)	8-6	17-8	
Carnegie Mellon	7-7	18-7	
Emory	6-8	15-10	

LAST WEEK’S SCORES

- FEB. 24**
MEN’S TRACK @NYSCTC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 1—SEVENTH OF 12
WOMEN’S TRACK @NYSCTC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 1—THIRD OF 10
- FEB. 25**
MEN’S BASKETBALL @EMORY UNIVERSITY—L(63—62)
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL @EMORY UNIVERSITY—L(57—73)
MEN’S TENNIS @VASSAR COLLEGE—L(5—4)
MEN’S TRACK @NYSCTC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS—SIXTH OF 12
WOMEN’S TRACK @NYSCTC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS—SECOND OF 10
- FEB. 26**
MEN’S TENNIS @RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE—L(5—4)
WOMEN’S TENNIS @RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE—W(7—2)

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

- MARCH 3**
MEN’S SQUASH @CSA INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 1—ALL DAY
MEN’S TRACK @ECAC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 1—2 P.M.
WOMEN’S TRACK @ECAC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 1—2 P.M.
- MARCH 4**
MEN’S SQUASH @CSA INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 2—ALL DAY
WOMEN’S TENNIS VS. UNION COLLEGE—10 A.M.
MEN’S TRACK @ECAC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 2—10 A.M.
WOMEN’S TRACK @ECAC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 2—10 A.M.
WOMEN’S LACROSSE @THIEL COLLEGE—1 P.M.
MEN’S TENNIS VS. UNION COLLEGE—2 P.M.
- MARCH 5**
MEN’S SQUASH @CSA INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 3—ALL DAY
WOMEN’S TENNIS VS. CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY—10 A.M.

LAST WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS

- MEN’S BASKETBALL @ EMORY UNIVERSITY**
In their last regular season game, UR Men’s Basketball fell to Emory University on Saturday after a 3-point attempt from sophomore Jake Wittig failed to find the basket, which would have won them the game. Junior Sam-Borst Smith had a team-high 22 points, 14 of them coming in the second half. The men are awaiting their NCAA Tournament fate, as the field will be announced on Monday.
- WOMEN’S BASKETBALL @ EMORY UNIVERSITY**
UR Women’s Basketball fell to Emory University on Saturday, giving the Yellowjackets an overall record of 17–8 at the end of their regular season. Junior Al Leslie led the team with 23 points, boosting her career total to 1,386 and lifting her to third place on the career scoring chart.

- TRACK & FIELD @ ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY**
Both Men’s and Women’s Track & Field traveled north to St. Lawrence University this Saturday to compete in the New York State Collegiate Track Conference Indoor Championships. Senior Brant Crouse won two state titles in the 400-meter race and was a part of the 4x400-meter relay placed first at the meet. The other runners were freshman Mark Westman, junior Wesley Clayton, and senior Nathaniel Kuhrt. The women’s team finished the weekend in second place overall as a result of numerous event wins over the course of the weekend. On Friday, sophomore Kylee Bartlett won the pentathlon and the distance medley relay team consisting of graduate student Catherine Knox, junior Colleen Arnold, freshman Julia Myers, and senior Samantha Kitchen also took home a state title. On Friday, there were a total of five event wins including Bartlett’s 60-meter hurdle and high jump victories. Two other state titles were captured by Kitchen in the 800-meter and Knox in the 3,000-meter. The women’s 4x800-meter relay team of Myers, junior Brianna Loughran, freshman Jordan Hurlbut. and senior Anne Peterson tallied one more event win.

- MEN’S TENNIS @ VASSAR COLLEGE**
In a close match, UR Men’s Tennis was defeated by Vassar College this Saturday. At the beginning of the match, the men would win all three doubles points. At its conclusion, freshman Yifan Shen and Vassar’s Alexander Luckmann competed in a winner-take-all match, in which Luckmann would prevail after Shen took the second set.

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An Advanced Look at URWB’s Strengths and Weaknesses

URWB FROM PAGE 3

-fensive and defensive statistics.

As mentioned before, the ‘Jackets are doing exceedingly well on offense, with a performance in the 95th percentile in ORtg, but their DRtg (opponent ORtg) is in the 17th percentile, putting their net rating at the 42nd percentile. One should keep in mind, however, that they are still outscoring opponents by a significant 16 points per 100 possessions.

They have achieved their offensive prowess primarily through lights-out shooting and limiting turnovers. Beside effective field-goal percentage, another measure of shooting efficiency is PPWS (points per weighted shot), which divides total points by shot attempts (free throws are counted as .475 shooting attempts). This season’s team has produced 1.01 PPWS.

A benefit of using PPWS is that it can provide an idea of what the team’s ORtg would be if shooting was all that mattered in offense. If that were case, the team would score 100.9 points per 100 possessions, which is right in line with its actual ORtg.

This means that other aspects of the team’s offense—turnovers, offensive rebounding, and free throw frequency—are roughly cancelling out. It should be kept in mind that shooting is the best predictor of offensive performance, so these numbers have at the very least high correlation.

The team has limited opponent shooting as in years past, but it hasn’t produced nearly as many turnovers as usual. In fact, the ‘Jackets’ opponents have caused two more turnovers per 100 possessions than their rivals—and they are already turning over the ball at a low clip on offense.

There are many limitations when studying a team’s performance relative to its own instead of against league-wide data—trends from season-to-season are able to provide better context. For example, the league average for ORtg could be 90 in one season, and 95 a few seasons later.

More stable, however, are net statistics, found in the third row of the table. Going back to turnovers, it’s clear that it is not URWB’s strongest area. However, its edge in effective field goal percentage is certainly apparent.

When offense and defense are considered simultaneously, this season’s team is in line with URWB tradition almost exclusively because its shooting, and despite lukewarm performances in other areas.

There are many factors behind all of these statistics, whether it be league-wide trends, what a coach values the most, and, of course, the playing style and strengths of the personnel.

Keeping in mind that shooting is the strongest predictor

of success in basketball, the Yellowjackets have certainly recruited well.

PERCENTILE	ORTG	PACE	EFG %	TOV %	ORB%	FT/FGA
OFFENSE	95%	88%	96%	86%	30%	68%
DEFENSE	17%		56%	10%	51%	19%
NET	42%	--	86%	18%	28%	26%

Junior forward Al Leslie, who certainly does more than shoot, leads the team with 1.26 PPWS. Guard and fellow junior Lauren Deming is second at 1.11, and freshman guard Lauren Foley is right behind at 1.10.

Foley is one of four Yellowjackets with a 3-point attempt rate above .500. (This is the ratio of 3-point attempts to overall field goal attempts.) A full 72 percent of her field goal attempts have come from behind the line, and the team as a whole is attempting them at its highest recorded rate.

Considering the current basketball trends, being led by teams such as the Golden State Warriors, 3-pointers are a strong area to invest in. After all, making 33 percent of your 3-point shots is just as valuable as making 50 percent of 2-point shots. The team, in this regard, has picked their shots almost perfectly. The ratio of their 2-point field goal percentage (.463) and their 3-point field goal percentage (.316) is 1.47.

Ideally, a team with a ratio below 1.5 would continue to trade off higher percentage looks on 2-pointers for more difficult 3-pointers until the ratio reached 1.5. (A team could

have a 3-point percentage much closer to their 2-point percentage if they only attempted 3-pointers given wide-open looks, but it would still benefit from attempting slightly more difficult shots from beyond the arc, given the 3:2 points ratio from making a shot.) URWB’s ratio is right in the wheelhouse for efficiency, so there’s no reason for its players to change their shooting habits.

Leslie, who is 10th in Division III in scoring at 22.2 points per game and has won UAA player of the week four

times this season, also leads the team in total rebound percentage (estimated percentage

of total rebounds grabbed by a player when they are on the court), with a percentage of 17.3. Deming is second at 14.9 percent, which is exceptional for a guard.

The statistic can be broken up into offensive and defensive rebounding. Leslie, junior forward Mary Kronenwetter, and sophomore guard Lena Ethington each broke 10

If Leslie played with an otherwise average team for 100 possessions, that team would now outscore opponents by 7.4 points over that span, instead of breaking even.

percent in offensive rebounding. Meanwhile, Leslie and Deming broke the 20-percent mark in defensive rebounding (which is far more frequent than offensive rebounding).

Deming just eclipses Leslie in assist percentage (the estimated percentage of teammate field goals assisted by a player while they are on the floor), 21.6 to 21.1. Leslie, how-

valuable than other turnovers to the team causing them, since they give the offense efficient

fast-break potential while also ending the opponent possession with no points.

Finally, a player’s tendency to end plays on offense (via shot attempt or turnover) is shown in usage rate. Unsurprisingly, Leslie leads the team at .307, with Deming in second at .248.

Combining all advanced individual stats that have been mentioned thus far, one can calculate a players’ Box Plus-Minus. Normally, a plus/minus in basketball is just the team’s net scoring while the player is on the floor. However, there are a huge amount of factors in play, especially quality of one’s’ team and their opponent. Starting in the NBA, a statistic called RAPM was used (Regularized Adjusted Plus-Minus), which now has a sort of successor in ESPN’s RPM (Real Plus-Minus).

They both treat each player as an independent variable, trying to isolate for the player’s effect on plus-minus while on the court (the league average should always be zero). This means a large sample size is needed, since it’s difficult to isolate one player’s performance while 10 are on the court. For this reason, data from the previous season also plays into the statistic.

To do the same for URWB, uniformly stored play-by-play data would be needed for, at the very least, every team on their schedule. In fact, despite the many advanced statistics sites for Division I, a similar statistic hasn’t been calculated because of the sheer amount of teams and players.

Instead, one needs to do a bit of approximation. Basketball Reference’s BPM (Box Plus-Minus) uses the aforementioned statistics, and regresses them to get coefficients toward RAPM. For example, 10 additional percent points in defensive rebounding may be worth a point in BPM (although the formula has a few parts, so such a translation can’t really be made).

After calculating a raw OBPM and DBPM (offensive and defensive components, which, when combined, give the overall BPM) for each player on roster, the team’s actual offensive and defensive performance versus league average must be considered. Here, we used URWB’s schedule-adjusted offense and de-

fense to make this calculation, so that strength of schedule played into the statistic. So the following numbers will be relative to the average women’s college team.

The result is that Deming and Leslie lead the team with BPMs 7.6 and 7.4, respectively. Leslie leads the team in OBPM at 4.1, and junior forward Jillian Silvestri has a team-high 4.1 DBPM. To give an example, if Leslie played with an otherwise average team for 100 possessions, that team would now outscore opponents by 7.4 points over that span, instead of breaking even.

From here, two additional extensions can be made. Multiplying BPM by the fraction of total team minutes that the player logged gives PAA, or points above average. Since Leslie has played more minutes than Deming, she’s been worth more PAA (which also has offensive and defensive components that are used in minor ways in the final calculation).

Finally, one can subtract the players’ PAA contributions from the team’s points scored and allowed for the season, and find how the team would’ve done without them. Subtracting this from the team’s’ actual performance gives WAA (wins above average). The leaders in the statistic are shown in the

PLAYER	WAA
AL LESLIE	2.8
LAUREN DEMING	2.5
LENA ETHINGTON	1.2
MARY KRONENWETTER	0.8
JILLIAN SILVESTRI	0.8

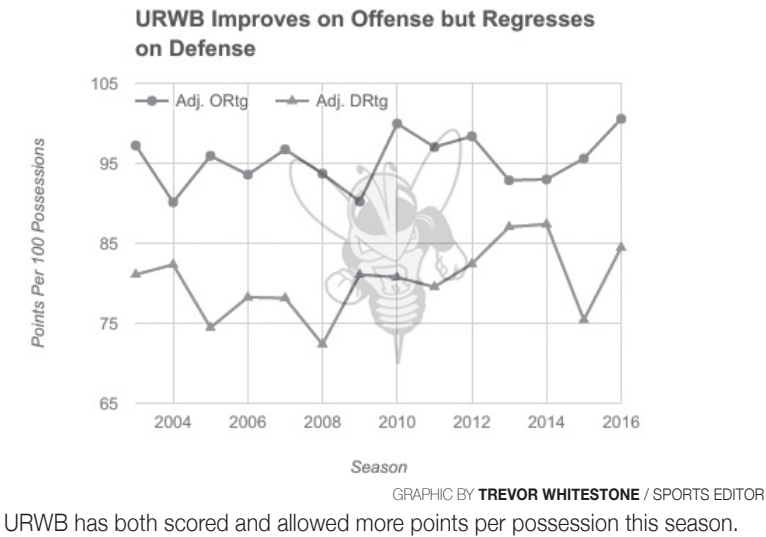
table below.

This statistic attempts to say what record an otherwise .500 team (against a .500 schedule) would have if they added that player. So, considering that the ‘Jackets have played 24 games thus far, a 12–12 team would now go 15–9 if it added Leslie, which is a hugely significant contribution.

An important thing to note with WAA and BPM is that they’re not simply comparing a team or lineup with that player to one without the player—they’re comparing to one with a league average player replacing them. So saying a perfectly adequate player (who isn’t someone all that easy to find), in Leslie’s place, would be worth three fewer wins in a 24 game-span, truly underscores her value.

With her and other members of URWB, you don’t need to look this hypothetically to see how valuable they are. But it does put their performance in perspective.

Whitestone is a member of the Class of 2019.



SPORTS

A Rounded Look at Irving's Flat-Earth Comments

By TOM BORCHERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Kyrie Irving, the All-Star point guard of the Cleveland Cavaliers, made headlines this past week for reasons completely unrelated to his on-court prowess. Just before All-Star Weekend kicked off in the Big Easy, news broke that Irving believes the Earth is flat, saying, "This is not even a conspiracy theory, the Earth is flat. The Earth is flat. It's right in front of our faces. I'm telling you, it's right in front of our faces. They lie to us."

This revelation shocked many, and has some denouncing Irving as a poor role model for children. The statements also prompted some entertaining discussion in the NBA world, including an uncomfortable disclaimer offered by Commissioner Adam Silver, and later, a rebuttal of Irving offered by popular science educator Neil DeGrasse Tyson.

Before hopping aboard the "Kyrie is a Flat-Earther" bandwagon, though, let's take a moment to be rational or, at the very least, optimistic.

Irving's initial statement came on a teammate's podcast, and was made in decidedly less than serious circumstances. Furthermore, he added that he really just wants people to "do their own research" and make a decision.

This makes it clear that he is not being entirely serious, and that his words should probably not be taken at face value. It gives reason to doubt whether Irving actually holds his so-called belief, and allows some measure of hope that Irving is not, in fact, a wildly-unhinged conspiracy theorist.

Additionally, when asked point-blank about his views, Irving chose only to comment on the prevalence of fake news, perhaps hinting that he is simply providing

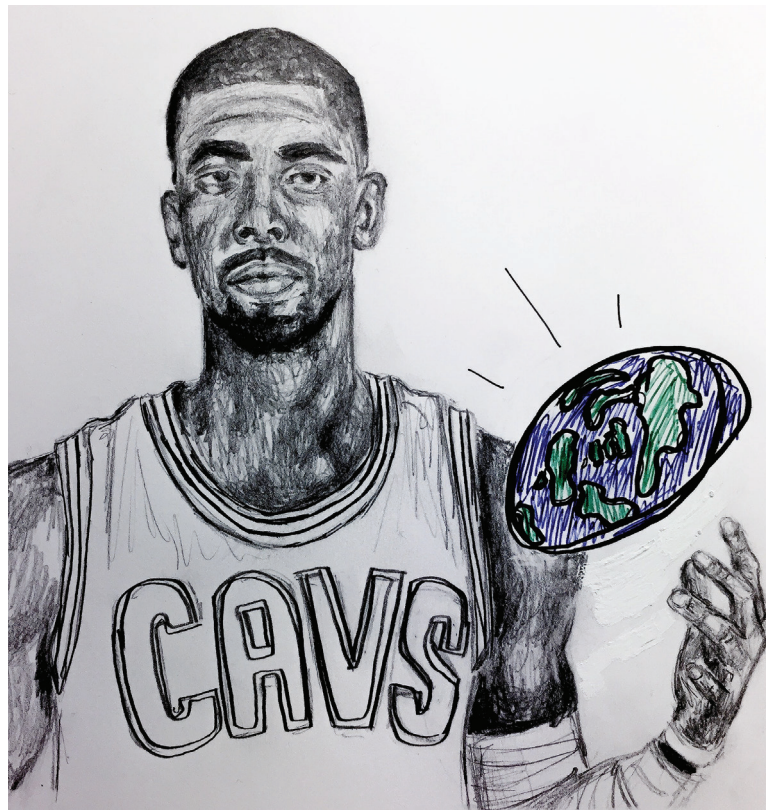
social commentary on the current status of the media.

Commissioner Silver advocated for this view, saying in his own interview that "... he was trying to be provocative, and I think it was effective. I think it was a larger comment on the sort of so-called fake news debate that's going on in our society right now [...] personally I believe the world is round."

In the same interview, Silver, seeking a lighthearted tone, joked: "Kyrie and I went to the same college. He may have taken some different courses."

Clearly, this event should not be taken terribly seriously, and it is certainly ridiculous to condemn Irving's actions. At best, he was making an astute social commentary, and at worst, he truly believes that the Earth is flat.

Most likely, however, the truth lies somewhere in the middle, and this entire episode is more of a commentary on the lethargy and lack



ASHLEY BARDHAN / CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

of actual hype surrounding the NBA All-Star Game.

All in all, this mediastorm over Irving highlights the dearth of buzz for NBA special events. Perhaps next

year the NBA will learn a lesson from the Irving case and spice up the All-Star Proceedings.

Borchert is a member of the Class of 2019.

Club Rugby Balances Brains and Brawn

By LAUREN SHARPE
SPORTS EDITOR

In the words of Winston Churchill, "rugby is a hooligan's game played by gentlemen."

The UR Men's Club Rugby team, known as the Ugliers, who've won the state title two out of the past three years, is no exception to this claim.

"For 80 minutes, you go toe-to-toe with the opposition, clawing for every inch, and when the final whistle blows, you dust yourself off, shake hands, and have a good laugh about the game," senior and team member Ruairi Conway said.

The game is known for intense physicality and barbaric nature. A typical rugby match lasts about 80 minutes.

"Every player is hurt and tired after the first ten minutes," junior player Rumi Easter said. "The key is to get up and keep on making tackles and plays."

Senior player Patrick Fink agreed.

"You play for the rugger on your left and right, and you play to improve and spread the sport of rugby," Fink said. "Our success certainly derives most from our strong team relationships, allowing us to understand our individual and team strengths and weaknesses."

For the team, chemistry on and off the pitch is crucial to success, and is as high on the list of priorities as refin-

ing skill and tactics.

"The nature of rugby as a sport requires you to have a high level of trust in your team," Easter said. "Much of our success on the field comes from how close we are as a team both on and off the field."

Another important factor for the Ugliers is the strategic aspect of rugby, a sport that requires its players to study its complex tactics.

"While fitness and athleticism are huge parts of the game, usually the smarter and more skilled team wins," Easter said. "While we constantly push ourselves physically, we encourage our players to do so mentally as well, by studying film matches."

The team accepts all new members, regardless of experience level. Rookies on the team are taken under the wing of veterans, who teach them the rules of the game and make them feel welcome.

"We throw rookies right into the mix and try to guide them through the intricacies of the sport as we go through the drills or intrasquad scrimmages," Fink said. "As a vet, I have gained a large respect for those mentors who guided us when we first got here. We took them for granted, but now understand how much they did for us."

Joining the Club Rugby Team at UR was freshman Dylan Collin's introduction to the sport.

"I decided to check out the rugby team because I have



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

Members of UR Club Rugby participate in a drill at practice in the field house.

played sports my whole life and loved playing football in high school," Collin said. "I wanted to maintain being apart of a close team, and that's exactly what I got when I started playing for the Ugliers."

Fink began playing rugby in high school. Senior Ruairi Conway played rugby for ten years before coming to UR. He took up the sport in Ireland, his home country, because of its popularity among his classmates.

"Fortunately I learned to love the sport itself and will definitely continue to play after I graduate," Conway said.

During the primary club rugby season, the Ugliers compete in the Nescro Small College League and play against both in-state teams and those in the broader northeast. In the fall of 2015, the team was ranked 13th in the nation in its division. This season, despite being a building year, it has

a high level of talent on their roster.

In the spring, the team begins its Sevens season, where each team plays with seven men on the pitch, rather than playing with 15 like they do in the fall.

The Ugliers will compete in several tournaments this spring, but their number one priority is competing in national qualifiers in Plattsburgh, N.Y., in April.

Sharpe is a member of the Class of 2019.