

# Campus Times

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## Constitution Rewrite Cancelled

By DAVID SCHILDKRAUT  
NEWS EDITOR

SA's constitution rewrite has been nixed. Students' Association (SA) Government Elections and Rules Committee Chair Jake Braniecki—head of the Constitution Task Force (CTF)—announced at last Monday's SA Senate meeting that this year's SA would no longer pursue a constitution rewrite to be voted on during spring elections, as originally intended.

The decision follows several weeks of contentious discussion at Senate meetings and a lack of transparency for both senators and the student body. The CTF, which had been working on a rewrite, faced other challenges, including a poorly attended town hall and a cancelled meeting due to a lack of quorum.

Members on the CTF supported the call to table the planned timeline.

"This is such an important document that if we were to try and get it out at the same time as elections, the quality wouldn't be there," junior and task force member Christian Keenan, an associate All-Campus Judicial Council justice, said. "It would be rushed, and I don't think that an important document like this should be rushed."

The constitution rewrite has been going on since the creation of the CTF at a November SA meeting. At the meeting, Braniecki promised that work on the rewrite would "be done in a year."

He additionally promised posted minutes and open meetings to ensure transparency.

**Lack of Transparency**  
Freshman Senator Leif Johansen explained that despite being on the task force, he's been left in the dark for much of the time.

"We could have communicated much better," Johansen said. "I still don't have most of the documentation. Campus Times got more documentation than I did on the constitution rewrite, and I'm on the committee. There could have been more organization and we could have had more hard evidence of what we're working on."

The goal of the wasn't to be

SEE **REWRITE** PAGE 3



Students debate affirmative action policy during an event organized by the Debate Union and Asian American Alliance Thursday

## Debating Affirmative Action

By SAM PASSANISI  
SENIOR STAFF

Is affirmative action a useful and progressive policy—another tool against racism? Or is it merely a well-intentioned idea that's caused more harm than good?

That was the question debated Thursday night in a Dewey lecture hall, in an event co-hosted by Debate Union and Asian American Alliance (AAA) titled "The Admissions Game."

Two teams debated the evening's topic: whether affirmative action is "an effective policy in the advancement of certain minority groups in the U.S."

Each side had researched the pros or cons of affirmative action and would be presenting their assigned viewpoint.

The pro-affirmative action viewpoint was presented by sophomore and co-president of AAA Leta Yi, with senior and former policy-style debate captain Nick Heitsch. The con viewpoint was presented by senior and former Debate Union president Reefat Aziz alongside freshman and Debate Union member Anthony Pericolo.

Debate Union President Miriam Kohn introduced both teams, and described the format of the debate. Each team would present two arguments, and the debate

would close with a rebuttal—also known as a "whip" argument—from each team, followed by floor speeches and auxiliary material from the audience. The evening's debate focused on affirmative action in higher education, using African-Americans as an example of a minority group.

Yi opened the debate by providing background on the idea of affirmative action. Its purpose, she noted, is to give minority groups the opportunity to compete in arenas where they would ordinarily be at a disadvantage. She noted, as well, that opponents of affirmative action have tended to tout Asian-Americans as a so-called "model minority." The idea of a "model minority" is a myth, Yi argued, and it is an obstacle to solidarity among Asian Americans.

Access to higher education, Yi argued, is one of the few opportunities for social mobility in the United States. Affirmative action acts to disrupt the racial barriers preventing African-Americans and other minority groups from having access to the most elite colleges.

After Yi had concluded her opening argument, Aziz responded by questioning whether affirmative action has actually helped minority groups, and whether the policy has had unintended negative consequences for minorities.

Not only is affirmative action a reductive policy that reduces college applicants to their race, Aziz argued, it contributes to a trend of minority students dropping out of college because they're less academically prepared than their peers. Aziz attributed this to financial and academic disparities between predominantly white and minority high schools. He also argued that affirmative action is a sort of "easy fix" for university administrators, who can feel like they have "solved racism" by endorsing affirmative action policies, and don't feel a need to address other systemic issues.

Heitsch was next to speak, arguing again for the pro-affirmative action stance. He pointed out that affirmative action has the ability to change society's perception of minorities, by giving them better opportunities to break into white collar fields. He acknowledged the problem of inequality in high schools—but argued that the wider base of minorities who have access to higher education as a result of affirmative action will enable more high school students to pursue college education. He stressed, as well, that affirmative action should be viewed as a step towards a solution, rather than a complete solution in and of itself.

Pericolo responded by arguing that the opportunity

SEE **DEBATE** PAGE 2

## Students Volunteer in Haiti

By AMANDA MARQUEZ  
NEWS EDITOR

Professor of Psychology Andrew Elliot is trying to break down barriers by helping build libraries.

As a part of his class "Competence and Motivation in Developing Countries," Elliot and four students traveled to Borgne, Haiti in collaboration with the Haiti Outreach Pwoje Espwa (HOPE)—a non-governmental organization focused around developing communities in Borgne—over spring break to assist the local leadership generate ideas for building libraries in the poverty-stricken country.

While there, Elliot and his students participated in meetings with Haitian community members, took excursions to building sites, and embarked on a seven-hour hike to scout the location for a new library to be built.

As Elliot and his students hiked under the beating sun, local children dressed in ragged clothes and barefoot, walked passed them. Witnessing extreme poverty firsthand, Elliot said, allowed his students to connect course content about achievement motivation to the children they saw, as they had to be highly motivated in order to walk an hour or two to class everyday.

"I wanted to teach my students both the conceptual, theoretical parts of achievement motivation and show them how it works in a developing context," said Elliot.

One of the most important parts of the class, according to Elliot, is to provide students with both positive and negative models for how and how not to do developmental work.

"There is a lot of talk in development literature and the development world about the ill that's done when people come in feeling like they have all the answers and force their projects upon a needy group," said Elliot.

To prevent that outcome, Elliot said the first step is to get to know local leadership. Once a relationship has been formed, both parties can build ideas together.

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YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

## CHINESE DIPLOMATS VISIT CAMPUS

Diplomats from the Chinese consulate in New York City visited campus Thursday to discuss education affairs with students.

### PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

#### Riverview Carpet Burned (1)

MARCH 25— Burn marks were found on a carpeted area of Riverview.

#### Water Leak in Chambers Hall (2)

MARCH 26—A water leak in Chambers Hall was reported.

#### Student's Vehicle Damaged by Ball

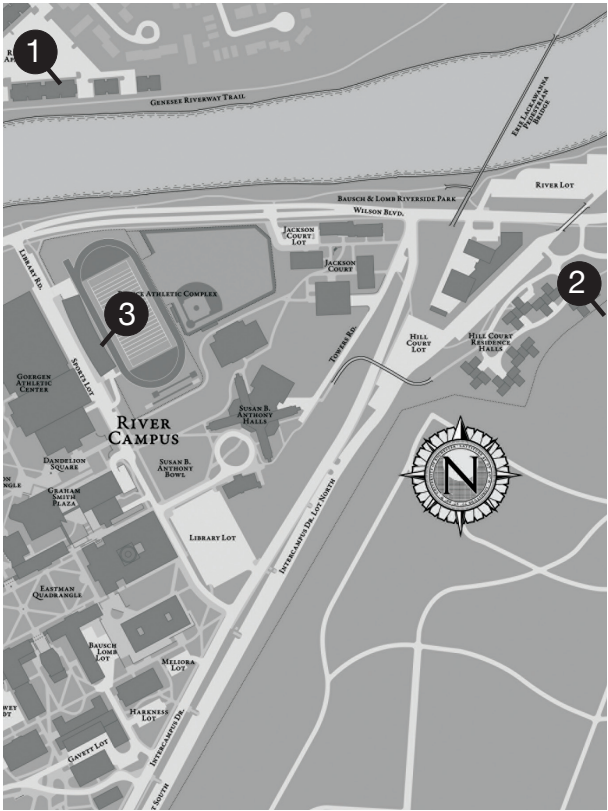
MARCH 28—A student's vehicle was damaged by a foul ball hit from the GLC softball field.

#### Student Injured on Fauver Field (3)

MARCH 29—A student injured on Fauver Field was taken to the Emergency Department for treatment.

#### Parking Boot Damaged

MARCH 30—A non-affiliated person damaged a parking boot when they tried to drive away with it attached to their car.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

### THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

#### TUESDAY | APRIL 4

##### GOLDBERG LECTURE

MOREY 525, 2 P.M.-3:15 P.M.  
Italy's former Minister of Economy and Finance Vittorio Grilli, a UR alum, will deliver a lecture on "Banking and Finance in the Post-Crisis World."

##### BASEBALL VS. BROCKPORT

TOWERS FIELD, 4:30 P.M.-8 P.M.  
Come see the 'Jackets take on the Brockport Golden Eagles in baseball.

#### WEDNESDAY | APRIL 5

##### PHELPS COLLOQUIUM

EISENBERG ROTUNDA, 4 P.M.-5:30 P.M..  
Brain and cognitive sciences professor Rajeev Raizada will be delivering a lecture on "Using Data Science to Unlock the Brain."

##### IMMIGRATION MONOLOGUES

HOYT AUDITORIUM, 6:30 P.M.-8 P.M.  
Immigrant students will be sharing their stories and experiences from their time living in the US.

#### THURSDAY | APRIL 6

##### REFUGEE/IMMIGRATION TOWN HALL

MOREY 321, 6 P.M.-8 P.M.  
Learn about how refugees and immigrants fit into the Rochester community and learn how to advocate for them.

##### EASTMAN OPERA THEATRE

KODAK HALL, 7:30 P.M.-10:30 P.M.  
The Eastman Opera Theatre presents Cendrillon, an opera based on the fairy tale of Cinderella.

#### FRIDAY | APRIL 7

##### UNDOCUALLY TRAINING

FRIEL LOUNGE, 2 P.M.-4:30 P.M.  
Learn about the history, difficulties, and legislation undocumented immigrants face on a daily basis. Attendees will learn how to be an ally to undocumented immigrants.

##### AN EVENING OF DANCE AND DIALOGUE

SPURRIER DANCE STUDIO, 8 P.M.-9:30 P.M.  
The Program of Dance and Movement presents "On the Verge of the Outermost Edge of US." The program is directed by Rose Pasquarello Beauchamp.

## Affirmative Action Jump

DEBATE FROM PAGE 1

to attend college, absent the requisite preparation in high school, is of little use. Students who are admitted to college under affirmative action, he said, are more likely to attend prestigious colleges where they are unlikely to succeed. Underrepresented minorities should instead strive to attend mid-range colleges—which may offer more support and networking—where they will do better.

Following Pericolo's speech, Yi responded with her final argument. Affirmative action combats "tokenism," she said, by building a critical mass of minorities at colleges and making them truly diverse. Far from forcing minorities to attend colleges, she added, affirmative action is a program that merely increases their agency. It is, as well, one of the few programs to directly address systemic racism.

Aziz gave the evening's closing argument, beginning with the accusation that the pro-affirmative action debaters had been blinded by a "white savior complex." For many people, Aziz said, college is a bad idea, and results in nothing more than financial debt, with affirmative action widening the wealth gap and making it more difficult for minorities to succeed in that regard.

After the conclusion of the debate, audience members were invited to come forward and give short speeches. Some argued for affirmative action, pointing out that low-income and minority students could be hampered

in building their resumes because their extracurricular opportunities were more limited than those of white students. Others proposed that affirmative action could be harmful to Asian-American college applicants, who are often held to higher standards than their white counterparts.

Freshman Jamal Holtz said he had heard about the event through his Intro to Debate class, as well as through some of the event's co-sponsors, the Minority Male Leadership Association and the Black Students' Union.

"I think the debate was very informative for people who didn't know much about affirmative action," Holtz said.

He said that he had done previous research on affirmative action in high school.

Other attendees offered their perspectives as well.

"It was a lot of points I had heard before," junior Mahir Khan said, but added that it was interesting to hear the affirmative action debate summed up all in one place.

Sophomore Payal Morari also enjoyed the debate.

"I didn't expect to agree with points from both sides, and at first I was a little conflicted," she said.

Morari added that she felt both sides came up with "really valid points," and that she would be interested in attending other debates.

AAA and Debate Union had been planning the event all semester, Yi explained, adding that she herself was debating for the first time.

"It was definitely an eye-opening experience for me," she said.

*Passanisi is a member of the Class of 2017.*

## Haiti Jump

HAITI FROM PAGE 1

"My students aren't coming in with the mindset that they're helping the poor people of Haiti, they're coming in with the mindset of being open to learning about a different way of living," said Elliot.

For Elliot to successfully combine teaching and developmental work, his "two loves," he centered much of his course around trust.

"I think it's important for people to trust each other and get to know each other well because we do a lot of open discussion of what we're processing and what we're seeing," he said.

Sophomore Danqi Lin came out of her shell by participating in discussions and making public presentations. The small class size of the seminar, she said, helped each student recognize

their own strengths and encouraged group work.

"The supportive environment of this class taught me to be braver and more confident when making public speeches," said Lin.

For professor Elliot, a highlight of the course was getting to know his students on a deeper level.

"Although I get to know my students a bit during normal classes, it's different when you're sleeping in the same hotel, traveling on flights with them, or riding in bumpy car rides for two hours," said Elliot. "To see students really engaged, be open, and then changed is what you live for as an educator. It's what gets you up and inspires you to work hard."

*Marquez is a member of the Class of 2017.*

### CORRECTIONS

Last week's print edition was incorrectly labelled as Volume 8. It was actually Volume 7.



# Button Walk Aims for Accessibility on River Campus

By DAVID SCHILDKRAUT  
NEWS EDITOR

As part of its attempt to address accessibility on campus, the Student’s Association (SA) Government Senate Campus Services Committee held a “Button Walk” Friday.

Participants walked around campus trying to find broken handicap buttons and inaccessible ramps on campus.

The Button Walk came a

*‘It’s important that for people who maybe don’t have the ability to open doors, those doors can be opened for them.’*

day after “Stories for Accessibility,” an event held by the Campus Services Committee to raise awareness



JUSTIN TROMBLY / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As UR strives to become a more inclusive campus, accessibility has become an increasingly important issue to students.

of the difficulties faced by people with disabilities on a daily basis.

The event was inspired, in part, by the apparent need for the accessibility of campus to be assessed.

“Somebody mentioned how sometimes, even the buttons don’t work,” said

Deputy Chair of the Campus Services Committee Alexandria Brown, a junior who is also a member of the *Campus Times* Editorial Board. “It’s important that for people who maybe don’t have the ability to open doors, those doors can be opened for them.”

Brown explained that the event’s organizer, Campus Services Committee Chair and senior Dan Matthews, was also inspired by the Walk for Light last fall.

Similar to the Walk for Light, students went out around campus in small groups. They then reported

any issues they found. Matthews, however, decided to change the reporting process to a digital one using a Google Form for continuous reporting.

The Button Walk revealed the degree to which campus may be unintentionally inaccessible. Both the door to the Susan B. Anthony Hall elevator and the Sage Art Center were found to not open automatically. The front door to O’Brien Hall had broken handicap buttons, and Wilder Hall was found to be entirely inaccessible.

Matthews is planning to compile a list of accessibility concerns to submit to UR. He is hoping that it brings to the attention of the administration the issue of accessibility, and that it leads to changes being made on campus to improve accessibility.

“I think there are a lot of students who are passionate about this, who want to come to these events,” Matthews said. “I hope students are aware of this on a day to day basis, that they are not just passing by, not noticing that this is a real issue. I hope at the very least, these programs brought that to people’s attention.”

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

## Progress Pushed Back To Next Semester

REWRITE FROM PAGE 1

that’s how the process ended up. He pointed out though that many of the senators who expressed concerns about the rewrite did not take advantage of the open CTF meetings, which may have contributed to concerns about transparency.

Many senators have expressed concerns at SA meetings on transparency, and several have alleged that the CTF wasted over a month on grammatical analysis in the document rather than agree on structure and functions before looking at wording.

Other allegations included a lack of documentation available to senators. The *Campus Times* previously published images of documents accessible to senators.

According to members of the CTF, further documentation has been put together, and there is a progress document that is updated regularly.

Those with access to this documentation indicated that Braniecki should be the one to provide the documentation. Requests to Braniecki for documentation, however, have gone unanswered.

In a brief email response, Braniecki said that the CTF had “made some excellent progress and have begun discussions that are long over-

due.”

**Work to Continue**

At Monday’s SA meeting, Braniecki announced the start of project-based subcommittees that senators could sign up to work on.

Appropriations Committee Treasurer and senior Nicholas Mavrelis explained that this work, which will continue to the end of the semester, will “focus on five or six major topics” that would be included in a final constitution document.

“It could be factored in, but I don’t think it’ll be gospel,” Mavrelis said. “It’s not going to be like, ‘You have to do this.’ These are going to be mere recommendations to the next year’s group.”

Mavrelis confirmed that this meant the work done over the past year could be disregarded in its entirety by future.

A look at the document, provided by a sitting senator, shows that the topics the CTF plans to work on during the remainder of the semester are: the executive session, special elections, committee and executive director appointments, Senate authority, SA group relations, and an appendix to the constitution.

The CTF is hopeful that its work will be used as a base for a continuation of the rewrite during the next academic year. Any work on the

constitution would be dependent on the approval of next year’s SA government.

**SA Reactions**

Senators were overwhelmingly in support of the decision to scrap the rewrite.

“The fact that this choice came from the internal committee truly shows me that this decision was made for the wellbeing of our student body,” sophomore Senator Gabriella Lipschitz said. “There have been feelings of possible neglect in regard to how much work [CTF members] have put into these documents. I see this as a display of passion—for our school, its population, and the wellbeing of both. I think this was the right decision, as ultimately it came from a loving place.”

Other senators were more critical of the process, but supportive of continuing the project.

“I believe that the Constitution Task Force found took the responsible decision of not submitting an incomplete or vague document to be voted by Senate or the student body,” sophomore Senator Andres Ollarvez said. “I believe that in the future the task force should establish a clear outline for what they want to achieve. They shouldn’t be constantly discussing how the constitu-

tion should look like. They should decide in consultation with the Senate and the student body how SA should look like and then simply work on making the constitution based on that.”

Sophomore Senator Nick Foti echoed this sentiment.

“I knew that the CTF had a huge task ahead of them, but I really expected and anticipated the student body to have the opportunity to vote on a new constitution this spring,” Foti said. “The committee told us they’d have something by the end of the year and they come up short.”

Foti continued by stressing the need for more input from the student body and a more committed CTF.

“The student body needs to and deserves to know and contribute to what is going into their constitution,” he said. “There should be regular communication with the student body at-large right from the start to ensure that SA can be trusted, inclusive and transparent every step of the way. I think leadership on the task force was strong, but the composition needs to be more committed, and the people sitting on the CTF need to constantly and consistently be held accountable.”

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

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# OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

## Sticks and Stones



By ISABEL DRUKKER  
A&E EDITOR

I love my cat, Toulouse, very much.

We share my room and he has lots of toys to play with and kitty forts to climb. When the lighting is right, you betcha I'm taking at least 30 pictures of him. On slow mornings, I let him watch videos made for cats where he can watch virtual mice run around.

But he started peeing incessantly on my bed, so I had to put my foot down.

The vet said his problem was behavioral. Sometime in the past week, my cat got pissed and my mattress got pissed on. The vet told me to make a statement.

So now his food, water, and litter box are in the basement. He's only allowed in my room with a chaperone. The first night the rules were enforced, he slept in the living room. He meowed all night, but my housemates and I suffered through it until he went to sleep.

And since that first night, Toulouse hasn't peed anywhere but his litter box.

Actions speak louder than words—particularly when there's a language barrier because you are communicating with a cat. I first learned this cliché when I read the “Samantha” series by the American Girl company (highly recommend) but it's been reinforced over my years at UR especially.

Writing professors teach “show, not tell.” Fellow dancers offer, “Really emote!” And friends complain that their significant other apologized, but never changed. Actions speak louder than words, because as much as I hate to admit it, words don't have to mean anything if you don't want them to. Lying is easy.

Toulouse has been so polite it's startling. It's pleasant, but shocking, to have a feral cat I adopted acting better than most of the adults I know. What I've learned, with people as well as with cats, is that actions are what you should demand from yourself the most and expect from others the least.

What's confusing in our political time, though, is that word choice has become an action in itself. Words are coded and loaded with underlying meanings until they're too heavy to use in casual conversation. There now exists a spectrum of how seriously words are taken, and it runs all the way from “trigger warnings” to “fake

news.”

It's difficult to decide what terminology suits what you can say with who and where. Our generation throws a lot of slang around only to demand that other words be chosen with a pinpoint precision. Words today are both malleable as silly putty and hard as bricks. Some things are easy to let slip, some have a greater impact than expected.

An actual queen of faux pas, I've had my share of saying the wrong thing at the wrong time. I always try to follow it with that heart-pounding moment and all the dreaded eye contact and the heaviest, hardest words to say, “Sorry. I was wrong.”

But sometimes I don't, because it's easier to not say anything. But I regret the times I've failed to properly apologize more than the times I've mistakenly said the wrong thing. One of those was an accident, the other was filled with intent. And no, ignorance is not synonymous with innocence. But staying silent is a decision and an action, the two most defining and damning traits of character.

The vet told me that whatever conflict happened between Toulouse and I would still be present. Within his recent politeness is an underlying agenda to pee on my bed, even if he acts otherwise. But the important thing is that my cat stopped ruining my sheets every time I left the house.

And as much as I hate to admit it, it's the same with words. If words are so unimportant, if they actually mean so little—just apologize. If words can never hurt us, would you mind throwing a few of those our way, along with all the sticks and stones? The action of apologizing—that would mean so much. If you don't feel like regulating your language, pair it with the verbal cushion explaining that. Explain that you have decided words are for adornment and actions are for defining you as a person. If you don't want to define yourself via your words, you have to do so with your actions. I'll change my perception of you accordingly.

My cat can't verbally apologize for what he's done, but as a person you can. Let's say it's not an option, because I understand, apologizing is hard. Some words that could have originally meant nothing still hurt. Just like some words that you don't actually mean are really hard to say. The words “I'm sorry” are an admission of fault, and maybe you don't want that.

To avoid this maze of words, intent, action, and character, though, there is one simple solution: Stop peeing everywhere.

*Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.*

EDITORIAL BOARD

## Not Fooling Anyone

Whether the purpose was for a joke or for a call to action, the alt-right flyers that have been found around campus are unacceptable. Simply put, the flyers support a white supremacist agenda, an agenda that discriminates against members of our community and therefore must be condemned.

Moreover, the idea that

*We're not yet sure if these flyers were printed as a wide-scale trolling effort or with genuine intent to radicalize, but the truth is, it doesn't really matter.*

only privileged liberal arts students would have the gall to tear down openly racist propaganda is embarrassingly stupid. To say that an ideology that endorses pan-European supremacy and superiority over all non-whites is somehow just another idea in the marketplace of ideas, one that needs to be considered on its supposed merits, betrays a deep moral confusion. Do you hear that? It's a clatter of keyboards and a distant muttering—“So much for the tolerant left.”

Controversy in itself is not the primary cause for con-

cern. Provocative materials are not all condemnable by nature; the difference between terming something a progressive accomplishment as opposed to provocative incitement can sometimes simply be time. Whether it was the women's lib movement or civil rights crusades, many of the ideas that now seem so obviously worthy of our devotion were once considered radical.

As long as the materials incite a broader conversation that either educates or introduces new, difficult ideas to whomever they're direct toward, they have a legitimate reason to exist. We don't think universities should, by and large, be in the business of saying who can and cannot have a voice.

But to posit the ideas of the explicitly racist alt-right, whose greatest intellectual achievement is Pepe innovation, flies in the face of the idea of a “broader conversation.” If they had their way, the “broader conversation” would be significantly narrowed.

We're not yet sure if these flyers were printed as a wide-scale trolling effort or with genuine intent to radicalize, but the truth is, it doesn't really matter.

The flyers have managed to make the large majority of campus at the very least uncomfortable, and at the most, feel highly offended or threatened. Even if the

flyers were made for joking purposes, jokes that hint at a growing white supremacist movement that would directly threaten a huge portion of the student body aren't particularly funny.

*To say that an ideology that endorses pan-European supremacy and domination over all non-whites is somehow just another idea in the marketplace of ideas, one that needs to be considered on its supposed merits, betrays a deep moral confusion.*

To those who are angry that these flyers and all of their ghoulish connotations have appeared, stay angry, but direct it usefully. Equating alt-righters with Nazis is, ultimately, unhelpful and incorrect. Though they certainly share some similar ideas, it has to be remembered that the latter was a political party with a paramilitary and proud members. Putting unsigned flyers up on a college campus to get a rise out of students is the desperate flailings of people who're still pissed off about Gamergate.

This editorial is 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 (Sports 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](mailto:editor@campustimes.org).

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WILSON COMMONS 102  
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, ROCHESTER, NY 14627  
OFFICE: (585) 275-5942 / FAX: (585) 273-5303  
[CAMPUSTIMES.ORG](http://CAMPUSTIMES.ORG) / [EDITOR@CAMPUSTIMES.ORG](mailto:EDITOR@CAMPUSTIMES.ORG)

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF JUSTIN TROMBLY  
MANAGING EDITOR JESSE BERNSTEIN

NEWS EDITORS AMANDA MARQUEZ  
DAVID SCHILDKRAUT  
OPINIONS EDITOR VENNELA PANDARABOYINA  
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# Helping the Homeless?

By LINDSAY WROBEL

Walking up the steps of Wilson Commons on Saturday evening, I found myself staring at a pair of L.L. Bean boots sticking out of the opening of a large box emblazoned with, “Homeless 4 Homeless.” Each year, Delta Upsilon puts on this philanthropic event during which they sit in their box in shifts over the course of 48 hours, attempting to raise awareness and money to donate to Habitat for Humanity.

Fighting homelessness, no doubt, is a worthy cause—homeless individuals face a barrage of health problems, from hunger and nutritional deficiencies to respiratory and infectious diseases, and are subject to intense stigmatization from homed-society. Homeless shelters are overcrowded, and often will ask residents to pay a daily fee to be allowed to stay.

Mental health services for the homeless are abysmal, and are often the reason so many remain homeless. Where roughly 6 percent of the general population face mental illness, that number jumps to 20-25 percent for the homeless, the people who often have the lowest access to care.

This is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to homelessness, and I have learned absolutely none of this information from DU’s event in the four years I’ve been at the University to witness it.

For an event that claims to have the aim of raising awareness, Homeless 4 Homeless does the opposite. This event instead relies on the spectacle of an inaccurate and harmful stereotype of what it is to be homeless, all the while trivializing that same issue. To sit on the steps of the student union of your private university in a box, claiming to be “go-

ing homeless for homeless” in short shifts is at best not providing any real lens through which the brothers, or the student body, may understand homelessness and at worst offensive and harmful to members of our community. They are entirely sure of when they’ll be able to go inside to a warm, dry bed, and when they’ll have their next meal. They retain access to UHS and UCC, and those who walk by regularly stop and speak to them or bring them food and drink.

The boxes are placed in a highly visible spot for the purpose of using that spectacle to attract attention. However, the individuals responsible for this event seem to have not thought through the placement’s impact on students, faculty, or staff who may have experienced or who are currently experiencing homelessness. In choosing the steps of Wilson Commons for the ostentatious display of priv-

ilege that is Homeless 4 Homeless, these members of our community are forced to walk past a degrading caricature of their real, lived experiences.

Homelessness is not sitting in a box for three hours or more often than not, sitting in a box at all. Homelessness can come in the form of living in a motel, a car, or a shelter—homeless individuals can be students, veterans, people working multiple jobs or those escaping abusive households. Combating homelessness means treating the homeless with respect and dignity, and DU’s event does not even approach that standard.

Rochester has a real homeless population and a large number of people who’ve dedicated their lives to helping that population. If Delta Upsilon’s aim is to raise awareness and to make a difference in their community, it should consider hosting a panel of those who are or

who have been homeless and those who work to end homelessness in order to actually educate the University community in a meaningful way.

Delta Upsilon should consider spending some of the 48 hours that it currently uses to sit on the steps of Wilson Commons in boxes to instead volunteer for Habitat for Humanity or one of the many organizations in Rochester that provide services for the homeless—and organizing the University community to volunteer as well.

Going forward, it is my hope that Delta Upsilon considers the real, harmful impacts of what I’m sure is a well-intentioned event, and chooses to explore other avenues to achieve their goals of education and awareness. Here’s to hoping that take-two actually respects those individuals they’re claiming to work for.

*Wrobel is a member of the Class of 2018.*

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## UR OPINION

BY VENNELA PANDARABOYINA & JUSTIN TROMBLY  
OPINIONS EDITOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

“WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT  
TAKING NEXT YEAR?”



KAVYA NAGUMOTU, '18  
“I’m excited about taking Advanced Photography.”



MORGAN MACKAY, '18  
“Religion and the First Amendment!”



KRISHNA KANERIA, '19  
“I’m excited to take BCS classes that are on my track rather than Intro classes.”



DOMEIRY GONZALEZ, '20  
“I’m excited for ASL 102 because I get to learn more about deaf culture.”



EUGENE NICHOLS III, '20  
“I’m excited about taking Anthropology for Theories and Debates.”



JESSENA MAXWELL, '20  
“I’m excited about taking Intro to Yoga, because I’ll finally be able to perfect my Downward Dog.”



FEATURES

Rexpo Thrills Passionate Community



JESSE BERNSTEIN / MANAGING EDITOR



JESSE BERNSTEIN / MANAGING EDITOR

Lizards for sale displayed in tanks at the Rochester Reptile Exposition.

Sophomore Brett Rapenou looks at a terrerium vendor.

By **JESSE BERNSTEIN**  
MANAGING EDITOR

The guy who runs the Know Your Rep Reptile Shows table definitely has a name, but I don’t catch it, so for our purposes, let’s call him Donny Osmond, because he looks like a blond Donny Osmond, if Donny Osmond had a no-bullshit cop stache.

Donny Osmond has a story about an anaconda he used to own. It’d eat two whole chickens per meal, he said, and to kill them the snake would coil around one unlucky bird and smash it into the ground until “it was in pieces or it stopped moving.”

Once, the anaconda smacked a chicken into the ground with such force that an egg popped out. His partner at the time, Tony, picked up the “perfectly good egg” and fried that sucker up.

Donny Osmond tells this whole story with a nine-foot Columbian red python coiled around his neck, which elicits approving nods and comments (“Girthy!”) from those who know what’s worth ap-

proving, crowded around him and his daughter. She Vanna-White’s other reptiles and products at his behest.

The Rochester Reptile Expo, better known as Rexpo, is in its third year, and these are the types of stories told this past Saturday at the family-heavy affair, billed as being “Herpetoculture for Herpers by Herpers.”

Hundreds of reptile enthusiasts crowded the Main Street Armory, where rows and rows of vendors hawked an Ark’s worth of snakes, geckos, frogs, tortoises, and more. (The Armory looks a little church-ish in the daylight, beneath those massive windows.) The vendor logos range from crude Photoshop to downright corporate, to the point that you might forget they deal in venomous frogs from Madagascar; the Vivariums in the Mist logo looks like it could be advertising a Disney World-roller coaster.

Patrons walk around with snakes slung around their necks, and no one seems to shy away from handling any of the reptiles. A lot of them

are wearing camo, and I say that not as a David Brooksian social signifier but just to illustrate how difficult it was to tell whether someone had a snake around their neck or it was just the pattern on their jacket.

The dietary needs of the various reptiles necessitates an ecosystem among the living merchandise. For every few snake vendors (most of whom elect to display their wares in stacked plastic boxes that are IKEA-level efficient), there’s a rat and mouse breeder not too far away. One mouse breeder describes the process by which he likes to thaw his frozen mice when he feeds his snakes: snakes are attracted to the higher body heat of rodents, so to appease them, he dips sandwich baggies full of dead frozen mice in to boiling water. If there’s still more heating to be done, he uses a blow dryer.

If you’ve purchased a reptile, there are terrariums and containers ranging from the most Spartan wooden boxes to, like, crystal terrariums complete with miniature deck

furniture. After that, there’s feed to be bought, décor to consider, and of course, free of charge, expertise.

It cannot be understated: the vendors, as well as most of the patrons, know this shit cold. Which reptiles will mix well, which will bother each other, how big a container has to be for each stage of a reptile’s life, the best time of the year to mail crested geckos in cold weather regions, and more. The two herpers running a Wellsboro, Pa. outfit called Canyon County Reptiles claim to be better forecasters of the genetic mutations and number of babies in a given season than an online calculator of such things, “without fail.” One educator weaves some serpentine fun facts into a story about a nun, an old professor, and an eight-foot indigo snake.

Throughout the afternoon, it’s a deep, abiding curiosity in all matters reptilian that unites the crowd (duh), but beyond that, there’s a real sense of camaraderie in the community. Yes, everyone’s trying to wring a buck out

of this, but vendors take precious time away from sales pitches to indulge every question they field, from greenhorns like me to experts who ask questions they already know the answer to, just to make conversation. One woman hands out a \$30 frog to a little girl going through chemo over the protest of her father. (“Let me give you something.”)

Vendor and customer alike traveled from hours away to get to Rexpo; the furthest I hear is five, which is definitely traversable, but it’s still a commitment to something more than just the inventory they’ll move or buy during the day. I think it’s the idiosyncratic nature of the whole herpetoculture that creates the warmth and fervor of the vendors, the ticket sellers, and everyone who came to find the perfect ball python for their collection. I think Rexpo is, ultimately, the type of community of self-aware weirdos that a lot of online fandoms aspire to be.

*Bernstein is a member of the Class of 2018.*

Can Porn be Feminist?

By **JESSE BERNSTEIN**  
MANAGING EDITOR

The Barnes & Noble at Union Square is, both in selection and size, one of the biggest bookstores in New York. The first floor is a constant frenzy, though the vinyl and video section in the back provides some solace from the noise; the second floor houses the children’s books and, consequently, there are staff members walking around in Harry Potter hats here today; the third floor has a Starbucks, as if this city needed another one; and on the fourth floor, a former employee of this very branch is in conversation with

a New York Times reporter about her new book.

That author is Asa Akira, one of the biggest stars in the porn industry. (“Adult entertainment” is for the squeamish—we’re not going to deign to use that term.) Sitting in front of a red velvet curtain, Akira is here to hawk her second memoir, “Dirty Thirty.”

Coming in groups seems to be the move—it probably makes it easier to hold the spectacle at a safely ironic distance, to be able to shoot a look to your friend, “This is nuts, right?” It’s in direct contrast to the actual experience of porn, of course—personal,

specified, where the viewer is asked to confront an image head-on, so to speak.

The seats (100-plus) are filled, but at least 30 more people are milling around behind the seating area, begging the question—are they honest perusers of the bookshelves, or voyeuristic skulkers with poor time management skills? Akira begins to speak, and oddly enough, the performer divulges to the crowd that she’s nervous.

The next hour is a pretty good summation of how the book reads. Akira tells disjointed stories about love, sex, and the porn industry, one that’s still caught between the

highly regulated, professional quality of major production companies, and the world of “Hot Girls Wanted”—i.e., every porn horror story there is, whether it be rape, bare-minimum STD testing, or pitiful wages. Akira comments on that distinction, telling the audience that her experience has been the former, but that’s to be expected. She’s a porn one-percenter, one of a lucky few “contract girls” who only does one shoot a month with a single high-end studio. She’s been in the industry for years, and as a 30-year-old of the time of this reporting, she’s reached an age when most actresses start their “MILF

work,” as she calls it, though she laments the lack of Asian actresses in the genre.

It’s a bizarre session. She stops herself from saying the word shit, but goes into graphic detail during a story about tearing her asshole. A selection of quotes:

“I signed up to be objectified.”

On writing: “It’s kind of like tearing your asshole, in another way.”

“I’ve had two abortions—classy.”

As for the book itself, well, it’s kind of like porn: exactly the same as the one that pre



# Pornstar Memoirs and Modern Feminism

SEX FROM PAGE 7

ceded it, with barely perceptible wrinkles and twists, begging the question of necessity. But she’s a funny writer, and reading the work of a porn evangelist like her is certainly interesting.

One answer stood out more than any, precisely for its vagueness. The interviewer asked Akira about what a feminist porn set looked like, to which Akira could only say that it was one where “women were respected,” which, if President Trump has taught us anything, can mean different things to different people. The assumptions behind both the question and the answer—that porn can be feminist—is the most important question in porn today.

The so-called Golden Age of Porn, which porn historians peg as between 1969-1984, were the days when some pornographic movies could get a wide release in major theatre chains. “Deep Throat” and “Behind the Green Door” generated nationwide controversy. “The Devil in Miss Jones” was

the seventh-highest grossing movie of 1973 (7th place, 2015: “Minions”), and one reviewer compared the plot to Sartre’s “No Exit.” 1973 was a year when the New York Times published a thoughtful Vincent Canby rumination on “porn chic.” Directors and performers who might have otherwise gone mainstream were gravitating toward porn—Andy Warhol, for instance—and the storylines were more than the window-dressing that they would later become. Serious artists could find a home in porn.

With the landmark Miller v. California decision in 1973, though, porn took a big hit. The legal of definition of obscenity went from “utterly without socially redeeming value” to lacking “serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value,” which gave local judges a hell of a lot of leeway in deciding what violated community standards. With the new definition, putting obstacles in front of porn production and consumption became far easier. Though there were still a few classics to come (“The Open-

ing of Missy Beethoven,” for example) the new financial restrictions on porn—it was now nearly impossible to get a wide release—forced the industry to a halfway point, not quite mainstream, but not quite underground, either.

Ultimately, the point of film production is to make money, and the porn industry was (and is) no different. But just as any director could secure big-studio money for decidedly un-capitalist films, so too could porn find a semi-coherent ethos with which to term their work “art.” Beside the simplest joy of “watchin’ people fuckin’ on film,” (Phillip Baker Hall, “Boogie Nights”), there’s a loose philosophy of forsaking the constraints of polite society, a philosophy of desire and fulfillment; the work of battle-tested sexual liberation fighters is a clear backing to that era of porn. More explosively, and what I would argue continues to be the most relevant question in porn, is that of the feminist interpretations.

That Golden Era is the rare issue that placed second-wave feminists on roughly the same side as Jerry Falwell. Andrea Dworkin and Catharine Mackinnon, among many others, were the first to offer strong feminist critiques of porn. Dworkin, not putting it lightly: “The civil impact of pornography on women is staggering. It keeps us socially silent, it keeps us socially compliant, it keeps us afraid in neighborhoods.” Gail Dines, also not putting it lightly: “Pornography is the perfect propaganda piece for patriarchy. In nothing else is their hatred of us quite as clear.”

For these second-wave feminists, who had worked so hard to move beyond the sexualization of the female body in every facet of American culture, while simultaneously working to tear down barriers to women’s own sexual pleasure, the idea that pornography, with its demonstrably straight male-dominated production (from writers to boom operators to

financiers) and penchant for focusing on male pleasure could be anything but another manifestation of patriarchal dominance was laughable. As Dworkin put it, only a male performer got to be “the one who takes.” Truly, in any mainstream (read: straight) porn, the male performer’s orgasm is always (sorry) in-your-face obvious, while the female orgasm has to be performed. And we won’t even get into mainstream exploitation films of the era, where women were penetrated by men as often as they were by knives.

Even beyond interpretations of the on-screen action, the most famous account of female experience during the period, that of “Deep Throat” star Linda Lovelace, is one of abuse, coercion, rape, and a general miasma of misogyny that’s harrowing to read. During the late ‘70s, Dworkin and Mackinnon did everything in their power to end what they saw as the most harmful sex-ed someone could be exposed to.

That stance on the performance of female sexuality in porn didn’t face much of an opposition within the movement until the early 80s. Therein saw the birth of what we call sex-positive feminism, an iteration that calls for celebration of female sexuality that supporters say excludes the vilification of all male sexuality that they saw in second-wave feminism.

Women like Ellen Willis, Gayle Rubin, and Betty Dodson (among many, many others) spearheaded a movement that objected to porn vilification on the basis of: (a) what they saw as a push toward neo-Victorian censorship, with more in common with anti-alcohol temperance groups than feminism, and (b) what they saw as a misunderstanding of porn audiences and what was being portrayed on screen. Rubin and Dodson especially championed the portrayal of diverse female sexualities as combating ingrained stereotypes about men as the main beneficiaries of sex, with

women simply enduring it. As Naomi Wolf later wrote (echoing Chantal Akerman’s “Jeanne Dielman”): “Orgasm is the body’s natural call to feminist politics.”

By and large, this is the line of thinking that seems to have won out among modern feminists, certainly among those at universities like UR. YouTube personalities like Lacey Green go to lunch on embracing a full spectrum of sexuality, endorsing sexual frankness and exhorting their followers to never shy away from the sexual expression that makes them tick. See: Slut Walks, Free the Nipple, or our own Spring Porn Weekend, and, of course, Asa Akira speaking to a packed house at the Union Square Barnes & Noble. As for porn, there’s an entire part of the increasingly niche-catering industry that makes so-called feminist porn, which tends to mean soft lighting, shitty acoustic guitar, and none of the parody themes so popular with Brazzers and the other titans of the industry.

And yet, “Hot Girls Wanted” and similarly bleak depictions of the industry still represent all that is vile to feminists. How does one reconcile the experiences of “unicorns” (as Akira calls them) like Sasha Grey, who found mainstream success, with the more-often-told horror stories of nameless women with a grainy webcam? If women choose to be objectified, as Akira puts it, is that a tacit admission of exploitation, or is it an empowering choice?

These are the questions that modern porn creators and consumers (by some estimates, 40 million Americans monthly) have to ask themselves. The enormous question of internet pornography and what it means for American envy/voyeurism (I’d argue that Facebook is a family-friendly porn option) is one that no one could have seen coming, but now that it’s here, it needs to be answered.

*Bernstein is a member of the class of 2018.*

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CAMPUS UNDERDOGS

# A Sustained Love for Science



By **ETHAN BIDNA**  
COLUMNIST



By **MELISSA HOLLOWAY**  
COLUMNIST

MaryKate Hanchett is a self-declared “unconventional person.” From her obsession with math and science to “getting a kick out of doing things different, like being a female engineer,” she has always worked to do things her way.

But Hanchett insists this is only one part of her personality. Her mother, she said, worked hard to instill in her a drive to create positive change. Of her mother’s sayings, Hanchett vividly remembers one: “You need to do something with your life where you go home every day and change someone’s life.”

Today, she is doing her best to live out her mother’s advice.

Hanchett’s hometown was not particularly diverse.

“We had a pretty great public education system and relatively safe neighborhoods. For this reason, I felt I had an obligation to not be ignorant, and to not let these opportunities go to waste,” she said.

To this end, Hanchett was a very serious, studious, quiet teenager. Most of her time was spent studying, practicing guitar and piano, taking dance classes, and doing science-based after-school programs. Of particular note to her was the Rochester-based NASA-Hutch program she founded at her high school, which allowed students to design experiments that send objects up into zero gravity.

“I wasn’t all math and science, though they were my primary loves,” she said, “That said, math and science were my main focus.”

In high school Hanchett found what would be her lifelong passion: chemical engineering. She had long known she wanted to in major engineering or a STEM subject,

and had contemplated pursuing architecture or mathematics. Chemistry had always been a passion of hers, and she had been a strong student, with encouragement from her high school science teachers.

“That my science teachers were women mattered a lot. They too encouraged me to do more and showed me that chemistry could be fun,” she said.

The pivotal moment for her came when she was accepted into an internship with the Rochester Laser Lab, and placed in a chemical engineering research position. During her experience, where she learned about ways to ‘aide the fuel recovery process’, Hanchett decided she would focus her life on chemical engineering. She would soon apply to (and be accepted into) UR’s GEAR program.

At UR Hanchett wears many hats. She was a key member helping to launch the Native American Students’ Association, and served as an executive member of Alpha Phi sorority. Most central to her, however, was the work she has done, in both official and unofficial capacities, promoting initiatives related to sustainability. Unique to Hanchett is the origins of her passion for sustainability. Not only does she see it as her moral responsibility, but she has leveraged her knowledge of chemical engineering degree to fulfill her mother’s advice.

After considerable work finding an “industry” summer experience, Hanchett found herself shipping out to Kansas State University to participate in NSFREU, the National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates. In this position, she was assigned research responsibilities regarding different forms of alternative energy. Hanchett would spend her summer working on biofuels, and studying their economic costs, and walking door to door, trying to persuade Kansans of the importance of climate change and alternative energy.

“I learned two things that summer,” she said. “First, how to talk to people who are either very anti-science or whose lives are deeply intertwined with the current energy economy. The second, that I was capable of changing the minds of people who didn’t at first care about climate change.”

Following that summer, Hanchett would come home

with both published research on biofuels and a renewed focus and passion to make similar changes back at home.

Now, back in Rochester, Hanchett has become something of a sustainability champion.

“I realized that, if I can convince a rural Kansan who doesn’t have as much interaction with science that sustainability is important, I’m sure I could the same for Rochester,” she said.

Hanchett has made it her mission to push the campus into adopting sustainable practices. She has become a leader of this movement in her own right.

Of her advocacy work, Hanchett shared that the hardest part was being a woman.

“I’ve encountered a lot of degrading behavior. Because I’m a woman talking about sustainability, people think you’re just being cutesy or just following a social trend. They often will write you off, even when you can discuss in depth the chemical and economic rationale,” she said.

She added that this discrimination was not confined to her work advocating for social change: “It also happens when I tell some people I am studying chemical engineering. I’ve had more than one person ask me if I was in it for the money or to find a husband.”

But Hanchett has persevered. She is proud of the minds she has changed.

“It’s important, I’ve learned, not to write off people who disagree with you,” she said. “Instead, see where they’re coming from. You don’t have to change their views, but you gain more by seeing their perspective.”

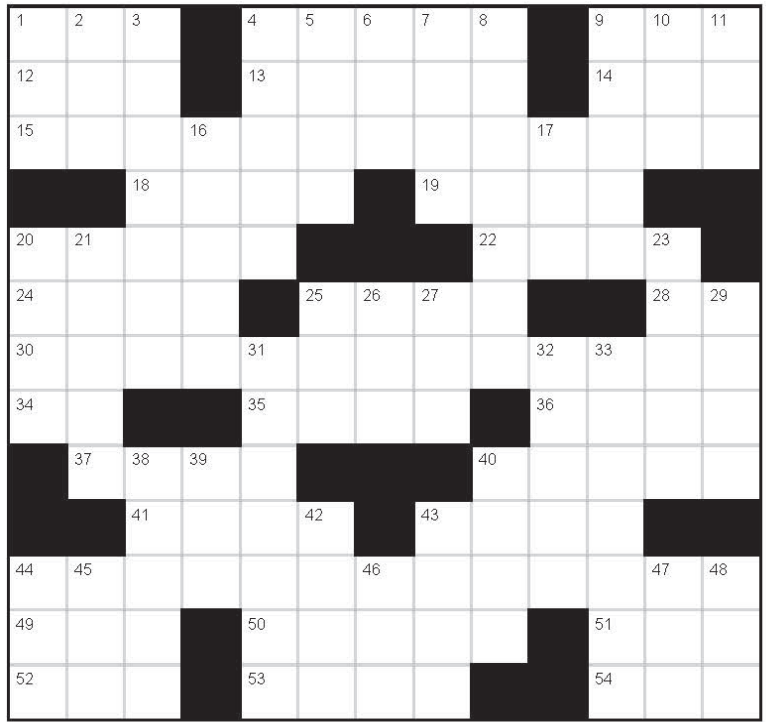
The science for her is the most exciting part.

“I want to use my skills to solve our nation’s energy crisis,” she said. “I love the competitive spirit of being the first one to break through the energy and climate problems plaguing our world, and I’m going to be the one to do it.”

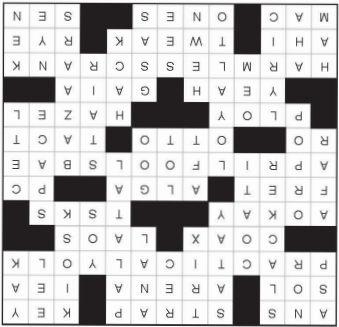
*Bidna and Holloway are both Take Five Scholars*

PUZZLES

## Crossword: Hoaxes Pocus



- BY **DAVID SCHILDKRAUT** ‘20 DIFFICULTY **HARD**
- Across**
- 1. Sol. to your problems
  - 4. Backpack part
  - 9. Solution to your problems
  - 12. Sun’s name
  - 13. Site of a sports game
  - 14. International org. with a focus on power
  - 15. A mischievous act in the middle of a light breakfast?
  - 18. A persuasive cable?
  - 19. Asian Communist state
  - 20. “All good”
  - 22. Disapproves of
  - 24. Worry
  - 25. Green pond creature
  - 28. I.e. your laptop
  - 30. Prank in which you are in a relationship for 24 hours?
  - 34. Romanian URL component
  - 35. The Iron Chancellor Bismarck
  - 36. Situational sensitivity
  - 37. A ruse
  - 40. Eye color
  - 41. “OK”
  - 43. ESA space mission
  - 44. Shaft companion that jokingly wouldn’t hurt a fly?
  - 49. Tuna
  - 50. Adjust
  - 51. Grain
  - 52. Cheese’s companion
  - 53. Threes minus twos
  - 54. D.C. lawmaker
- Down**
- 1. Dangerous snake
  - 2. Neither’s partner in crime
  - 3. The person who lazes around all day
  - 4. Southeast Asian dish
  - 5. The cereal “for kids”
  - 6. Red button label
  - 7. Type of sex
  - 8. How one may describe certain sounds
  - 9. Information booth
  - 10. Slick fish
  - 11. Pack animal
  - 16. Latin American raccoon relative
  - 17. Casual greetings
  - 20. How something may be seen
  - 21. Bro or sis or mom \_\_\_\_
  - 23. Type of blanket
  - 25. At the back of a ship
  - 26. A straw or die, for example
  - 27. Slime
  - 29. Disability services office at UR
  - 31. Allegiant
  - 32. With case, a method of ascent
  - 33. Markets
  - 38. Line in a song
  - 39. Emer. depts
  - 40. Illegally break into a site
  - 42. To have chopped wood
  - 43. Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, briefly
  - 44. Cheese’s companion
  - 45. Inspired’s exclamation
  - 46. Observe
  - 47. The “Science Guy” Bill
  - 48. When doubled, a math puzzle



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HUMOR

What Type of Shower are You? Part II

By SIOBHÁN SEIGNE  
HUMOR STAFF

By ERIC FRANKLIN  
HUMOR EDITOR

- ☐ 1. What's your major?  
A. Economics/business  
B. BME  
C. Marine biology  
D. Education  
E. Psychology  
F. Physics/engineering  
G. Botany  
H. English
- ☐ 2. What kind of pet do you want to have?  
A. Rat  
B. Guinea pig  
C. Tropical fish  
D. Puppy  
E. Dove  
F. Mouse  
G. Lizard  
H. Snakes in a can
- ☐ 3. What's your dream job?  
A. High school coach  
B. Middle manager  
C. Bartender  
D. Retiree  
E. Homemaker  
F. Professor  
G. Who needs money, man?  
H. Performer
- ☐ 4. Who's your favorite Greek god(dess)?  
A. Nike  
B. Hades  
C. Poseidon  
D. Hera  
E. Aphrodite  
F. Athena  
G. Demeter  
H. Dionysus
- ☐ 5. What is your favorite part of the human body?  
A. Testicles  
B. Goosebumps  
C. Feet  
D. Heart  
E. Uterus  
F. Brain  
G. Lungs  
H. Funny bone
- ☐ 6. Which of these songs is the best?  
A. Queen, "We Are the Champions"  
B. Idina Menzel, "Let it Go"  
C. Jimmy Buffett, "Margaritaville"  
D. Stevie Wonder, "Isn't She Lovely"  
E. Kool & the Gang, "Celebration"  
F. Weird Al Yankovic, "White & Nerdy"  
G. The Beatles, "All You Need is Love"  
H. That song from the bar scene in "Star Wars"
- ☐ 7. Choose a type of neckware.  
A. Sweat towel  
B. Choker  
C. Lei  
D. Hand-knitted scarf  
E. Necklace  
F. Bow tie  
G. Daisy chain  
H. Ascot
- ☐ 8. What is your favorite type of beans?  
A. Mexican jumping beans  
B. Raw green beans  
C. Bean bag chair  
D. Jelly beans  
E. Rice  
F. Bertie Bott's Every Flavor Beans  
G. Soy beans  
H. Magic beans
- ☐ 9. What's the best type of dinosaur?  
A. Pterodactyl  
B. Woolly Mammoth  
C. Megalodon  
D. Archaeopteryx  
E. Brontosaurus  
F. Pachycephalosaurus  
G. Stegosaurus  
H. It's a magical liopleurodon, Charlie
- ☐ 10. How do you want to die?  
A. SARS (Shower-Acquired Respiratory Syndrome)  
B. Hypothermia  
C. Shark attack  
D. Crushed by a python  
E. Syphilis  
F. Poisoning  
G. Overdose  
H. Brain trauma from stepping on a rake and having the shaft hit me in the face
- ☐ 11. What's your favorite pretentious vocabulary word?  
A. Feckless  
B. Cantankerous  
C. Lackadaisical  
D. Persnickety  
E. Fatuous  
F. Ipso facto  
G. Phantasmagorical  
H. Sesquipedalian
- ☐ 12. Which woman would you put on the \$20 bill?  
A. Katie Ledecy  
B. Snooki  
C. Pamela Anderson  
D. Mrs. Doubtfire  
E. Harriet Tubman  
F. Marie Curie  
G. Janis Joplin  
H. Betty White

UR Announces Spicy Chipotle Double Major

By JEFF HOWARD  
SENIOR STAFF

The University announced last Friday that it would be unveiling a competitive new liberal arts program in the fall of 2017. The interdisciplinary curriculum is designed for students of the humanities and social sciences to apply their skills into business and marketing domains. The program is called the "Spicy Green Chipotle Baja Double Major Leadership Initiative."

University President Joel Seligman released a statement last week that he was "proud of the program for its diverse and flexible curriculum" that offers a plethora of exciting majors for students who want to "experience new levels of heat and bold flavor" in their academics.

"A skills-based initiative that offers this much choice to the student is simply unprecedented for a liberal arts college," Seligman said. The president was eager to announce the selection of studies that the Spicy Baja Leadership initiative offered, including "Cool Buffalo

Chicken," "Poppin' Jalepeno with Jack Cheddar," and "Sizzlin' Sweet and Sour Stir Fry."

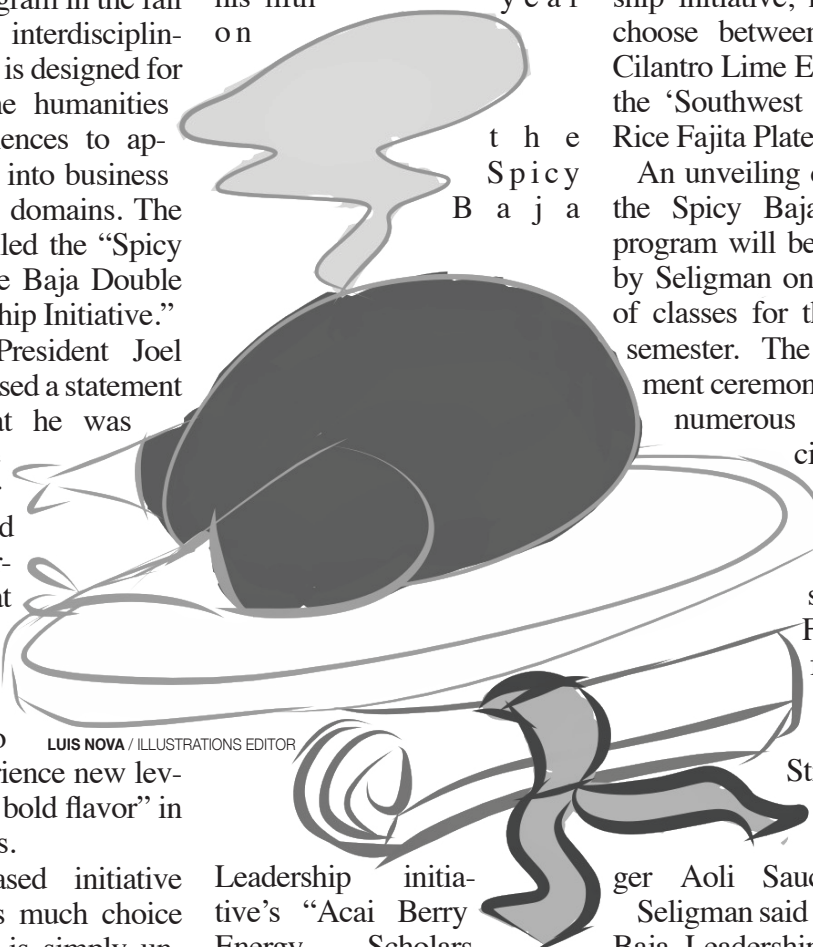
Danny Homestead, a Take 5 scholar at UR, is spending his fifth year on

line of dark chocolate and almond snack bars infused with hemp milk and taurine I knew I had to stay another year. With the Spicy Baja Leadership initiative, now I get to choose between the 'Zesty Cilantro Lime Enchilada' and the 'Southwest Chicken and Rice Fajita Plate!'"

An unveiling ceremony for the Spicy Baja Leadership program will be commenced by Seligman on the first day of classes for the Fall 2017 semester. The commencement ceremony will feature numerous candles in a circle as well as a complementary food truck sponsored by Frito Lay offering "Curry Chicken Masala Dipping Sticks with Spicy Shira-cha and Ginger Aoli Sauce."

Seligman said that the Spicy Baja Leadership program is free for students with a GPA of 3.8 or higher, excluding payments for food, board, leadership opportunities, and other tuition-related expenses.

Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.



A Millenial's April Fool's

By NATE KUHRT  
SENIOR STAFF

Second semester senior Frank Ericlin's Saturday started off as most do—a slight hangover due to a poor water-to-beer ratio the night before, fried food from Douglass breakfast (which, according to his physician, may be the cause of his irritable bowel syndrome) and a challenging decision between working out and studying, which ultimately led to six episodes of "New Girl" on Netflix.

Making any decision in life has been a frequent challenge for Ericlin. For instance, in determining his major, Ericlin completed clusters in chemistry, Russian, psychology, dance, biology, computer science, Swedish, economics,

political science, and public speaking.

This chronic indecision have led to many sleepless nights for his parents. Most recently, they have been worried about Ericlin's impending decision about whether or not to pursue a gap year as a semi-professional Mashoonga-er (a game played with two styrofoam swords), which has seemed more and more likely as graduation quickly approaches.

Knowing his mother's disdain for his uncertainty, and recognizing that it was April 1, Ericlin seized the opportunity, making his most definite decision since determining that John Denver's "Take Me Home, Country Roads," is actually a poor description for the highway he drove on through West Virginia en route

to sprang break.

At approximately 2 pm, Ericlin called his mother and father, and said, "Mom, Dad, I've decided to enter a Ph.D. program next fall in microbiology."

His parents rejoiced, feeling as if a weight had been lifted from their backs. For the remainder of the day and night, Mr. and Mrs. Ericlin felt confident they had raised a self-sufficient young man who will be ready to take on the world after graduation, a feeling which was quickly replaced with renewed anxiety upon waking up to Ericlin's drunken voicemail, left at 12:01 am that night, telling them, "You got got! April Fools!"

Kuhrt is a member of the Class of 2017.



# On Self-Important Social Media

By SCOTT ABRAMS  
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

If there’s one thing I cannot stand, it’s people who feel the need to post every positive aspect of their life on social media. Like, I really don’t need to see you and your boyfriend posing for a beach picture on Instagram (especially when you don’t even pay attention to the framing). And I really hate it when people post screenshots of their grades on Facebook.

It happens every semester, and it’s always the same. They attach some kind of sob story that’s way less sad than the person thinks it is, followed by how they overcame whatever “adversity” they faced.

Here’s an example from a totally real guy I definitely went to high school with in my actual life:

“My dearest acquaintances, I have a confession to make.

I know that from the outside, my life might seem perfect. But, you see, it hasn’t always been this way.

High school was a breeze. I was the golden child. Perfect grades, perfect friends. Boy Scout; great relationship with my sister; all-state athlete; no history of incest; 2300 SAT score: I had the world in my (J-Crew) pocket.

When I first arrived at college, I kind of assumed that

everything would come easy to me, just like it always has! But surprisingly it didn’t. I had to study for the first time in my life! That fall semester hit me pretty hard, and I almost failed all my classes (3.77 GPA). To top it off, I only ended up with a SA Senate seat after the election winner quit due to ‘lack of interest.’ (I lost the original election after someone spread some definitely false rumors about me and my sister.)

But, you know what, you live and you grow. (Well, I actually lost the freshman fifteen, but that’s another story #kale.) I picked myself up and decided to devote at least 45 minutes a day to schoolwork. I began to put effort into social interactions, until I had all of the friends. Sophomore year, when I won the Senate seat due to ‘lack of competition,’ I knew that I had made a lasting change in my life.

And now, look at me! Sitting here, with my 3.94 GPA, ready for my final semester; staring down upon the world armed with my boundless potential and the strawberry daiquiris my sister and I ordered on our special ‘siblings-only’ retreat to the Cayman Islands, I have finally realized that I’ve made it.

Please join me in congratulating myself.  
Just sharing my truth,  
Chad”

Honestly, I don’t know that I need to say anything else about this. I think it kind of speaks for itself. Like, how many ways do I need to say that these people are just the worst?

I might have bought myself an Oxford crewneck that I wear literally always just to broadcast the fact that I spent a semester at what some might call “the most prestigious university in the world,” but that’s not because I like to brag, it’s just because I literally cannot find any other blue sweatshirts, you know?

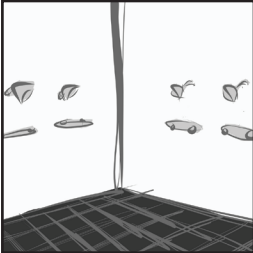
One of the things that always annoys me is how a lot of their A’s are from dance, theater, or cooking classes. As an English major myself, far be it for me to tell another person that his major is “easy” and that his grades mean less. But they do. But, if you want to judge other people’s grades, maybe try to not get B’s in some of your classes that actually have exams or essays or some form of tangible assessment?

If you really want to show how much better you are than everyone else, just do it the normal way and base your self-worth on the number of celebrities who favorite your tweets.

Just sharing my truth,  
Scott  
*Abrams is a member of the Class of 2018.*

# Shower Quiz Results

## If you answered mostly As: Locker Room Shower



Your life hasn’t gone the way you thought it would (but not necessarily in a bad way). You never thought you would ever see so many penises concurrently, especially not while you were also naked. But, you know? It’s not as bad as you thought it would be, and you underestimated the camaraderie. Your friends have started to notice that you shower longer with other people than by yourself, but what can you say? Time flies when you’re having fun.

## If you answered mostly Bs: Cold Shower



You’re pragmatic, frugal, and always add a refreshing (if sometimes unwanted) dose of reality to someone’s day. Whatever your real name is, your friends often refer to you as “Debbie.” In conversation, your contributions are always well-tolerated and only sometimes ignored, and you’re always the life of the awkward silence. A cold shower is the best way to start your day, because then the rest of the day will be easy and pleasant by comparison.

## If you answered mostly Cs: Outdoor Shower



There’s nowhere you’d rather be than lying on the beach. You’re laid back, content to go with the flow. You would bathe in the ocean itself if it offered any sanitary benefits or you had the power to repeal public nudity laws, but until that day you have to bathe behind the four trusty wooden walls of a beachside outdoor shower. You’re drawn to the idea of trying to clean yourself with a glorified garden hose while standing on the same ground that got you dirty in the first place—by the time you get back inside it’s like you never even left the beach!

## If you answered mostly Ds: Showers of Affection



You’re such a nice, wholesome person that the only showers in your life consist of compliments, which you bestow on your loved ones with near-reckless abandon. No one is ever unloved in your presence, but unfortunately all your doting can’t keep you physically clean, so hopefully that damned nurse shows up to give you your sponge bath soon.

## If you answered mostly Es: Bridal Shower



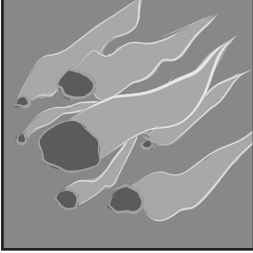
You’re practically glowing today (cleaner than any shower could get you), even if Trish tried to upstage you with that Vera Wang dress and her god damned \$500 Gucci handbag. But it’s OK, because, compared to Beth sitting next to you, you look radiant—at least until you get down and dirty in a few weeks on the honeymoon ;)

## If you answered mostly Fs: Lab Safety Shower



You’re so hardcore, the only thing worth showering for is when you literally spill toxic chemicals on yourself. Sure, the stench of your body and room may repel both man and beast, you want to be judged not by the smell of your laundry but the contents of your pocket protector. That is, at least until your friends start intentionally spilling chemicals on you to make you go shower.

## If you answered mostly Gs: Meteor Shower



Man, the only showers you need are the ones Mother Nature gives you, and the best one of all is the meteor shower. Laying out under the stars with Mary Jane, contemplating the cosmic expanse of the universe, trying to find some snacks...wait, was I supposed to be talking about showers? Man, showers are just how the man gets you to conform, man.

## If you answered mostly Hs: Shower? I barely even know ‘er!



You have excellent taste in humor (if you do say so yourself). You’re the life of every party, whether the party likes it or not. You are the chief feminist among your friends, constantly considering the female perspective on every comment and educating your comrades about “what she said” at every opportunity. Your wit and creativity are unparalleled, and none of your friends ever cringe or compare you to their dads when you regale them with your whip-smart witticisms. Keep it up, people will definitely still want to be friends with you.

ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY LUIS NOVA / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

# Senioritis Ravages River Campus

By ERIC FRANKLIN  
HUMOR EDITOR

“It was one of the worst days of my college career,” said Kylie Smithe, senior Anthropology major, about the fateful afternoon of March 29. “I just really let myself get behind on my work, and I had to resort to drastic measures to get all my homework done on time.”

I had to know—just what did she have to do that was so scarring? Plagiarize a paper from online? Sneak a cheat sheet into an exam? Bribe a professor with sexual favors for a better grade?

She could barely bring herself to say it.

“I had”—her voice broke as a tear rolled down her face. “I had to pull an all-dayer.”

To understand the gravity of the situation, I talked to Dr. Ronald J. Morrow II, senior senior researcher at Strong Memorial Hospital. It was from him that I learned about the epidemic ravaging the Class of 2017.

“Despite our best efforts, UR has again been struck this year by a raging epidemic of ‘senioritis,’” he explained. “We’ve been working on a vaccine for years, but unfortunately most of our undergraduate lab assistants come down with the disease before they can finish working out the final kinks in the formu-

la, setting our research back months as we have to hire and train new students.”

It is believed that only seniors are susceptible to the disease due to their aged and weakened immune systems. Peak incidence is usually from March to May each year, but symptoms will often start as early as January or even December.

Symptoms include loss of motivation, lethargy, and drowsiness, and the only known cure is a cocktail of several of drugs including graduation, starting a job, and the onset of student loan payments.

Smithe was one of the first seniors affected by this year’s wave of senioritis, noticing her first symptoms in late January as the semester was just beginning. In a stroke of luck, she happened to lock down a job just a few days before she came down with her illness. Academics have been a struggle ever since.

“The only way I can describe it is that it feels like when I had mono freshman year, but only when I’m thinking about or trying to do homework,” she said. “Even something as simple as writing 400 words by noon every Friday is an uphill battle.”

Asked to recount the terrible day of the all-dayer, she took a few minutes to compose herself and told her story.

“On a Wednesday I wake up around 11:15, contemplate going to my 11:40 class, then go back to sleep until 12:30 when I’m ready to start my day,” she began.

The rest of the day consisted of breakfast, a 20-minute power nap, a 2:00 class, a four hour nap until dinner, an hour of homework, and a strict bedtime of 10:00 pm.

“But last Wednesday, I don’t know what went wrong,” she said. “My roommate got up at some ungodly hour for track lifting or something, and I couldn’t get back to sleep.” She cited her previous day of 20 hours of sleep as a likely factor. “So I started doing some research for a paper I hadn’t started that was due before spring break, and before I knew it it was 1:30 and time to go to my class. I was so tired by that point that I needed coffee for class, and that kept me from taking my pre-dinner beauty sleep.”

As she prepared dinner and watched the sun dip below the horizon, she realized the gravity of what she had just done.

“I couldn’t believe I had just done something so unhealthy as staying up an entire day,” she said, milking the consequences of her actions.

She plans to sleep for 24 hours straight to try and make up for her grave error.

*Franklin is a member of the Class of 2017.*



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## ‘Almost Maine’ Paints Poignant Vignettes



PHOTO COURTESY OF TODD KALMAR PHOTOGRAPHY

Senior Sarah Kingsley was one of the actors in “Almost Maine” portraying multiple characters throughout the play.

By ISABEL DRUKKER  
A&E EDITOR

The curtain didn’t go up at the start of UR TOOP’s “Almost Maine” Saturday night—because there was no curtain.

Instead, its performance at the Drama House provided an intimate setting where the audience sat feet away from the performers on mismatched chairs and couches.

“TOOP fills an important role—of providing a theater outlet that is low-pressure, but still commits itself to putting on an enjoyable show,” junior and TOOP actor Ben Frazer said. “This show in particular was light-hearted and cute, and I think for actors and audience alike it was a refreshing opportunity to lose oneself in the humor and the absurdity of a show that doesn’t profess to be much else.”

***The tag line, ‘It’s love but not quite,’ reflects not only the title, but the intricate nature of the play.***

The play focuses on snippets of the lives of residents of the small fictional town of Almost, Maine. The tag line, “It’s love, but not quite,” reflects not only the title, but the intricate nature of the play.

“This show is very cute by

nature,” junior and director Meredith Watson said, discussing what struggles she faced putting on the show. “But if you lean into that too much it can get very campy and I didn’t want it to pull too campy because that obviously turns a lot of people off. It was embracing the simplicity of the production [...] Enjoying the magical realism of it without thinking too hard or trying to explain it too much.”

“Almost Maine” was written by John Cariani. It is the first play that Watson has directed in her three years in TOOP.

The decision to play “Almost, Maine” was inspired Watson’s seeing a performance of it at Geva Theater.

“I thought it was absolutely beautiful,” Watson said. “It’s always been in the back of my mind as something I’d like to be involved in. Little did I know I’d be directing it.”

Watson’s direction focused on the love aspect of the play. She followed Geva’s path in having two stagehands have a romance that develops throughout the play, but made it more concise and decreased the conflict to avoid any distractions from the other stories. Additionally, she chose to make the romance develop between two women stagehands.

“I didn’t feel that there was enough representation there already so I kind of I wanted to throw that into the mix,” she said.

Additionally, Watson had musical interludes produced independently by Eastman student Marc Laroussini.

“The play provides a really interesting way to explore love and romance,” senior and TOOP actress Murie Gillette. “The smaller vignette-style scenes is perfect for TOOP, where everyone brings unique talents to the group.”

***‘Almost Maine’ was written by John Cariani. It is the first play that Watson has directed in her three years in TOOP.***

TOOP is completely donation based, offering its shows for free to any and all who want to watch their shows.

“Especially when things cost money, we don’t have a lot of money or time to devote to enriching our lives with art,” Watson said. “It can be really tricky when we’re trying to allocate our funds to supporting ourselves. TOOP’s mission is to make really good quality theater that came about from the labor of students and make it very accessible for students so they can get exposure to some really classic plays, plays they haven’t heard of before.”

*Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.*



DANIEL OSBORNE / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

### YELLOWJACKETS SPRING SHOW WOWS APRIL FOOLS

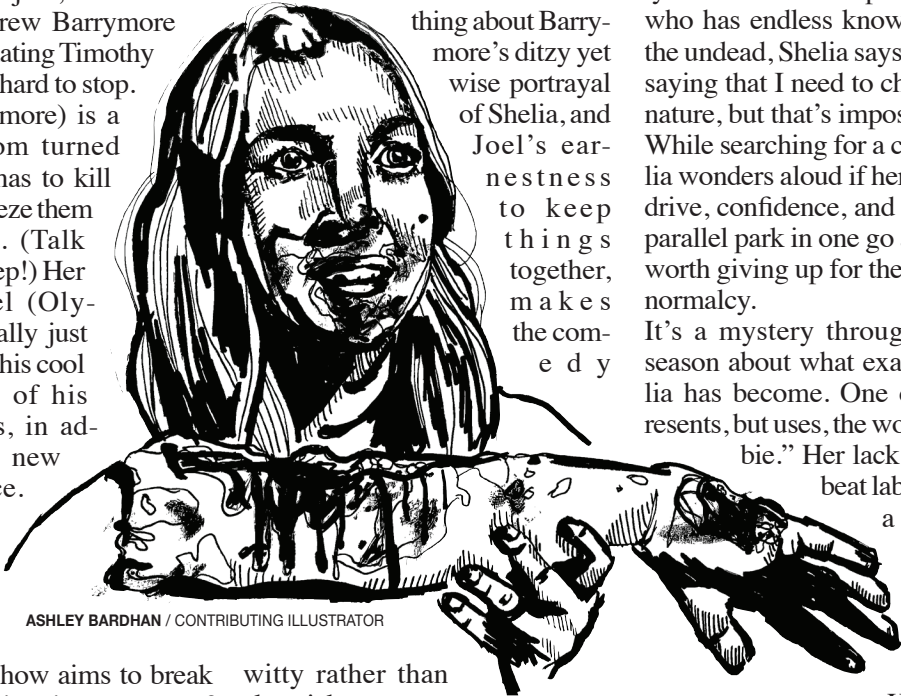
UR’s most recognizable band of blazer-donning crooners the Yellowjackets took to the stage this past Saturday for their annual spring show featuring a host of new repertoire including songs by The Chainsmokers, Ed Sheeran, and Amy Winehouse. The YJs also said goodbye to seniors Jang Kim and Christopher Ostwald who performed sendoffs by Maroon 5 and Ed Sheeran respectively.



# Barrymore Bites Back

By ISABEL DRUKKER  
A&E EDITOR

My first recommendation about watching “The Santa Clarita Diet” is to not do so while eating. I also recommend making plenty of time and sitting in a comfortable space, because once you begin this project, which stars the bubbly Drew Barrymore and the scintillating Timothy Olyphant, it’s hard to stop. Shelia (Barrymore) is a suburban mom turned undead who has to kill people and freeze them for her food. (Talk about meal prep!) Her husband Joel (Olyphant) is literally just trying to keep his cool in the midst of his midlife crisis, in addition to this new inconvenience. The premise is unique—but the con-



ASHLEY BARDHAN / CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

ventions the show aims to break require bringing in a sense of familiarity. Within each episode’s plot, we are brought back to a place where we feel at home. The show opens with trite shots of suburbia: sprinklers, cars, garbage trucks. Within the first five minutes, an overhead view of the neighborhood calls back to the infamous “Little Boxes” opening of the suburban train wreck dramedy “Weeds.” Plot lines include all the classics: married love life, nosy neighbors, the need for family dinner, a teenager acting out. It’s everything we know and love accompanied by outrageously fake yet still repul-

sive fake blood. The writing in this show doesn’t always do its best—some quips are too try-hard, in particular on Olyphant’s part. However, the drive to keep watching is in wanting to answer why and how this strange phenomenon occurs to characters that, let’s face it, we learn to love. Something about Barrymore’s ditzy yet wise portrayal of Shelia, and Joel’s earnestness to keep things together, makes the comedy

witty rather than slapstick. Truly the characters in this show are what keeps the whole wild premise together. Shelia’s transformation especially takes the show on a whole other level. She is introduced as uptight and bland, repressive from the way she has sex, talks to her boss, and makes toast in the morning. At the beginning of the first episode, she understandably laments that she isn’t bolder. After becoming a member of the undead, though, she can only act to please her id. Suddenly, she wants Joel all the time, she swears back at her mean boss, and

instead of toast in the morning, she prepares a meat smoothie made from her everyday bullies. This new self doesn’t come easy to Shelia. Near the middle of the season, she regrets the changes her persona has caused in her life. Talking it through with her daughter’s friend, another friendly horror movie trope character who has endless knowledge on the undead, Shelia says, “You’re saying that I need to change my nature, but that’s impossible.” While searching for a cure, Shelia wonders aloud if her new sex drive, confidence, and ability to parallel park in one go are really worth giving up for the return to normalcy. It’s a mystery throughout the season about what exactly Shelia has become. One character resents, but uses, the word “zombie.” Her lack of heart-beat labels her as a member of the undead.

However, Shelia’s new characteristics and Joel’s emasculation at her aggressive and bloody ways tell us point blank what Shelia has become. “The Santa Clarita Diet” is the depiction of the modern day phenomenon of what happens when women adapt the self-interested behavior of men. Only season two can tell us what happens to Shelia, and if having a character like her is really worth keeping around. One thing is for certain, though—It’s sure to be pretty graphic.

Drukker is a member of the Class of 2017.

# Spring Porn Plays Trump Card

By JASON ALTABET  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

What topic has gotten more attention over the past year than the election of Donald J. Trump? From his primary run, to his continuing success, to his eventual stunning election night victory: the nation has been captured by Trump’s rise. And with any big story, there comes the inevitable made for TV adaptation of the event.

Director, writer, and camera operator Steve Matthew was tapped for this semi-fictionalization of the Trump saga. This was a huge moment for Matthew’s career. After 25 film credits as head of lighting, and one film credit as gaffer, Matthew finally got a yuge break as the person in charge of Hustler’s in-depth look at the rise of Donald Trump. It’s no wonder Mr. Matthew finally got his shot. Who could forget his lighting work in the 2003 hit, “Hot Showers 8,” or the 2013 XBIZ-nominated film “Mother Superior”?

Of course, Mr. Matthew couldn’t get just any actor to

**The movie’s exploration of Trump’s wild ride to the White House was stuffed full with many revelations.**

play the POTUS. Hustler’s premier penetration into Trump’s political, and personal, life, was going to require a real star. Some may have expected Alec Baldwin to play the part of the reality TV star turned political titan. The New York Times thought Russell Crowe might step in and play Trump in any televised reproduction of the 2016 campaign. However, Matthew has not gone wrong with the choice to cast experienced star Evan Stone. With 60 lifetime nominations and 21 wins, for movies like “Pulp Friction” and “Pussy a Go Go!,” Mr. Stone plays a vigorously realistic Donald Trump.

With an all-star lead, this novice writer, director, and camera-operator brought the Trump story to TV.

The first scene has us in the Oval Office following Trump’s victory. Melania, Ivanka, and Donald talk around the seating area of the room. Overall, the set direction is fairly good. The viewer really feels like they’re looking at the new president in his office. There are even magazines detailing the Trump rise in the background of the shots, although some seemed to be facsimiles. (One, for example, had a naked Melania on the front next to her husband.) Only someone looking really closely at the background of the scene might notice that a fireplace

seems to have been added to the historic office and that a window in the rear appears to look out into a suburban street.

This conversation was just the tip of the spear for Hustler’s groundbreaking discoveries. After thoroughly exploring the very intimate relationship between Donald, Ivanka, and Melania, the movie thrusts the audience into another vital element of the Trump campaign, its choice for the vice president. The never-before-seen details of Trump’s exhaustive vetting of his potential number twos are revealed by the investigative talent at Hustler Productions. The process appeared to start with a standard background check, done off-screen. After passing that, the candidates go through Trump’s personal check: a challenge to prove a candidate’s youthful vitality, demonstrated in the bedroom at the Mar-A-Lago suite. Two Trump staffers tested the talents of Senators Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz in separate performances viewed by the then-Republican nominee, in a contest to see who would be Trump’s running mate. Perhaps as a nod to the investigative reporters at Hustler who discovered this incredible secret, Matthew makes an appearance in the scene as a reporter who has stumbled upon the stunning senatorial scene.

At this point in the screening I attended, much of the audience had already come and gone. There were perhaps four, or five, remaining for the film’s stunning climax: a scene between former vice-presidential nominee Sarah Palin and former potential vice-presidential nominee Carly Fiorina. Admittedly, Brittney Amber, of “My Wife Caught Me Assfucking Her Mother 10,” has only a passing resemblance to the former HP CEO. However, her acting portrayal of Fiorina was very accurate, with several references to the famous and infamous moments Fiorina had on the campaign trail, and an extended conversation with Gov. Palin regarding conservative social policy. And while this reviewer is loath to comment on outfit choices, I will mention that the choice to have Amber wear only a miniskirt and 2 pieces of tape seemed at odds with Carly Fiorina’s real life fashion style.

Overall, the movie’s exploration of Trump’s wild ride to the White House was stuffed full with many revelations. While the Trump White House refused to comment for this article, one can imagine staffers at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue have spent some late nights exploring the nooks and crannies of Hustler’s investigative piece for any and all salacious details.

Altabet is a member of the Class of 2017.

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CT RECOMMENDS

‘SHRINK’

BY DEAN SMIRO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A show filled with Chicago-based improvisors from the iO and Second City, “Shrink” is an eight-episode series on the NBC/Amazon comedy streaming network, Seeso, and it’s the best show I’ve watched since “Atlanta.”

You probably recognize more than a few of the actors in it too. Yes, that is the guy from the Sonic commercials, and that is Lutz from “30 Rock,” and the bozo older guy from “Mad Men” who was, I think, friends with Peggy.

The show is centered around Dr. David Tracy (Tim Bantz, writer/co-creator), a recent medical school graduate can’t get into a residency program. That would be a problem for any med school grad, but it’s potentially life-destroying for Tracy and his family, since his mom cosigned his now \$586,000 student loan debt. “Shrink” shows him attempting to become a therapist, both to maintain his medical license and to defer those loans.

To do this, he has to complete 1,920 hours of supervised free sessions, which he conducts in his parent’s garage and advertises on Craigslist. Semi-improvised hilarity ensues.

A lot of the humor comes from his highly unprofessional behavior but clear desire to help. One of his patients can’t have sexual thoughts after seeing his dead uncle’s wooden dildo and Tracy’s response is to take him to a sex shop. He also makes out with one of his patients at the end of their first session.

This is not to say that “Shrink” is a sitcom, or even specifically a melan-comedy (melancholic comedy, i.e. “Louie,” “Casual”); it is inspired by both, but isn’t really either. The show has a definite structure in terms of how it makes you laugh in the actual sessions, but outside of the garage (and for one episode his mid-2000’s Camry), “Shrink” fully embraces its melan-comedic side.

This primarily manifests itself in how Tracy is forced to deal with his insane student loans, but also struggles with his step-brother and a possible relationship emerging with the patient he kissed.

To make money while he’s doing the free therapy, David ends up working the night shift at a “Happy Foods” (a supermarket that makes me appreciate Wegmans so much more than I already did) with his best friend and former, one time patient, Doug. (David is still Doug’s sister’s therapist, she looked it up online and it said, “Grey-area.”)

This seems like a lot of environments and characters for one show, especially one that’s only eight half-hour episodes, but it works. It works well. It’s funny, different, and has very likeable characters that feel full even if they don’t get a whole lot of screen time.

I’ve watched “Shrink” twice and would suggest it to people that like “Louie,” “Parks and Recreation,” and Netflix’s “Love.”

Smiros is a member of the Class of 2017.

‘MEDIA MATRIX’

Seasons of Jeff



By JEFF HOWARD  
COLUMNIST

In the fall of 2015 I discussed race at a party with a girl.

In the fall of 2015 I declared myself God.

In winter 2016 I would listen to the “Life of Pablo” while smoking Newport cigarettes.

In the winter of 2016 I said something about feminists in ITS.

In the Spring of 2016 I said something about Muslims in The Pit.

In the Spring of 2016 I watched videos on YouTube made me understand how it might feel to start watching Fox News and like it.

In Spring of 2016 I went to bed one night saying, “I hope he wins,” while a death occurred in my lower abdomen that produced the sound of roughly 500,000 people in an arena sponsored by Amway to which I thought, “I might be having an out of body experience.”

In the summer of 2016 I took a class on multicultural psychology at UConn’s Hartford Campus.

In the Fall of 2016 I voted for Hillary Clinton.

In the Spring of 2017 I high-fived my best friend while talking about offending people.

In the Spring of 2017 I watched a video on a YouTube channel called “Prager University.”

In the Spring of 2017 I despised the overarching attitude of self-hate in Prager University videos.

In the Spring of 2017 it

took me approximately 30 seconds to process why Prager University’s videos depiction of women is wrong.

In the Spring of 2017 it took me approximately 20 seconds to roll my eyes at the use of the phrase “Oppression Olympics” in a Prager University video.

In the Spring of 2017 it took me approximately five seconds to feel disgusted when a gay guy on a Prager University video defended businesses that discriminate against gay people, specifically when the situation concerns cake.

In the Spring of 2017 I spat on my computer while watching Prager University videos.

In the Spring of 2016 I got a Grindr account.

In the Spring of 2016 I came out as gay.

In the fall of 2015 was a staunch individualist.

In the fall of 2015 I rejected any ideology that puts other people before myself.

In the Spring of 2015 I finally figured out how to smile in the right way.

In the Fall of 2014 I felt elated at the Sigma Nu fraternity.

In the Spring of 2014 I punched my bedsheets on a Friday night because other people were partying and John Mayer’s “Paradise Valley” album was failing to calm my nerves.

In the Fall of 2013 I smoked weed for the first time.

In the Fall of 2013 nobody knew I was gay.

In the Spring of 2016 I was a Donald Trump supporter.

In the Spring of 2016 I was unhappy.

In the Spring of 2017 I think Prager University is pure garbage.

In the Spring of 2017 I am happy.

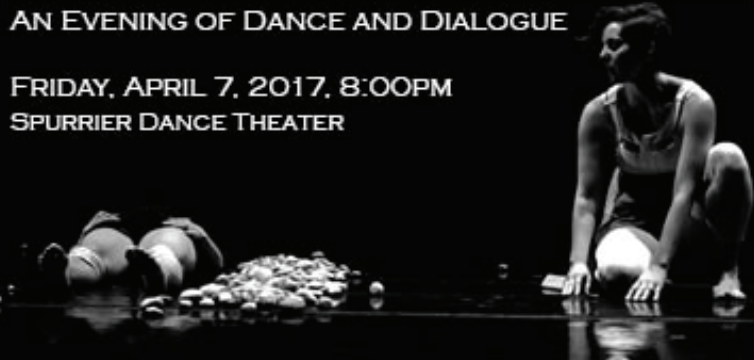
Howard is a member of the Class of 2017.

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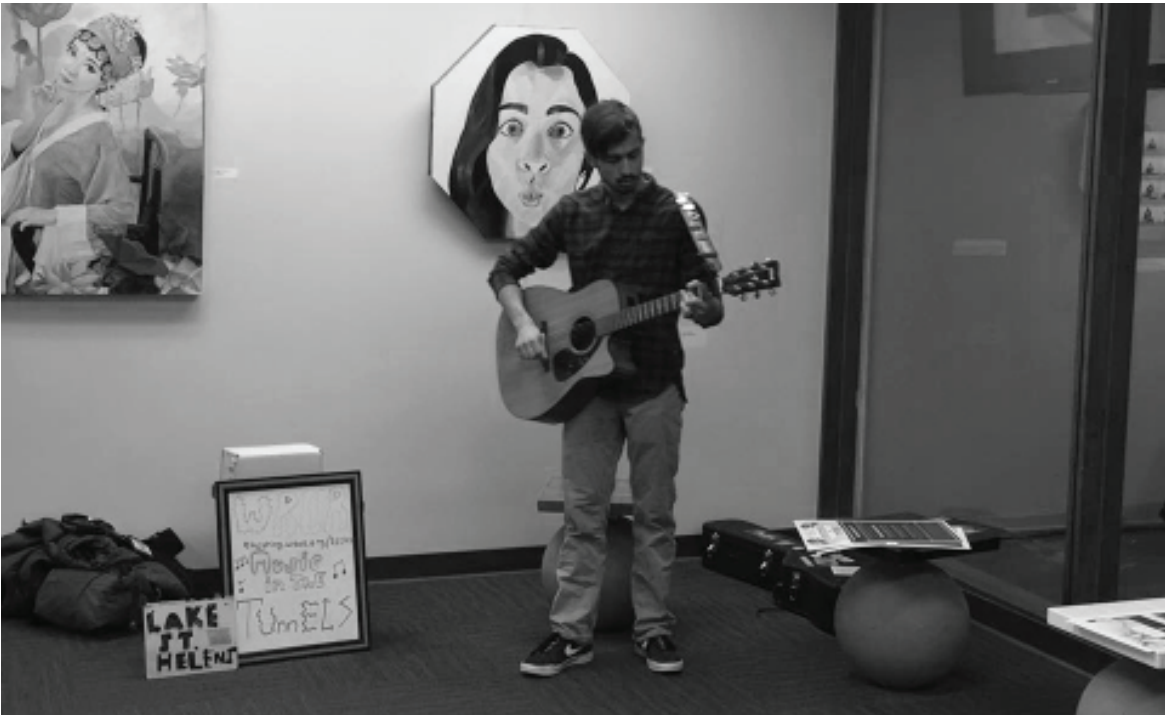
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WRUR IN THE TUNNELS



YIYUN HUANG / PHOTO EDITOR

Freshman John Pinto performs beneath Rush Rhees as Lake St. Helens as part of WRUR’s annual Music in the Tunnels.



# Busy Week for Baseball and Softball

**BASEBALL** FROM PAGE 16

doubleheader. Freshman left fielder Jake Hertz went three for five and came around to score each time he reached base. Meanwhile third baseman Jack Herman and catcher David Rieth went a combined six for nine with a resounding 11 RBI. This could certainly bolster playing time for the sophomore and freshman, respectively. Once more, relief pitcher McConway shined, giving one ER in four and a third innings, pitching in both games of the doubleheader against Clarkson.

UR Baseball split another doubleheader on Sunday against Clarkson. In the first game, Rochester won 5–1, behind the strong play of sophomore first baseman Aiden Finch, who went two for three with two RBI. Starting pitcher sophomore Jack Denzer was dazzling, pitching seven innings with one ER and seven hits, bringing his season record to 1–2 with a 4.34 ERA. He certainly gave the team the innings they needed on a long day.

On the women’s side, the Yellowjackets (10–4) split a doubleheader against the Ithaca Bombers (7–5). The first game was a close affair, as UR was victorious by a score of 5–3. Sophomore first baseman Rachel Pletz came up huge with a monster two-run homerun to bring her season average to .326. Freshman third baseman Lydia Petricca also went two for three with a double and an RBI. On the mound, senior Eleni Wechsler went the distance with seven innings pitched, three ER, and seven hits. The five strikeouts bring the senior’s strikeout total to 36 on the season, and she is enjoying a 1.20 ERA.

The second game of the doubleheader was less successful for



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS  
Sophomore starting pitcher Jack Denzer pitched seven innings of one run ball against Clarkson.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS  
Junior utility player Jocelynn Blackshear is batting .326 on the season.

the women, as they lost 5–1. The offense could only muster three hits from the top three spots in the lineup (catcher Harleigh Kaczegowicz, left fielder Shelby Corning, and Petricca). The bottom two-thirds of the lineup went a combined zero for 16. On defense, the theme of the day was errors costing the team runs on the board. Despite senior pitcher Sam Malecki turning in a phenomenal performance (5.2IP, 0 ER, 7 hits), the defense could not back her up, coughing up five

runs with her on the mound. This performance brought Malecki’s season ERA down to 1.69 and her record to 3–3, as she took the loss. Weschsler finished off the game, fanning three batters in an inning and a third.

On Tuesday, the baseball team is looking to succeed in a doubleheader against Vassar College, while UR Softball will play a doubleheader against St. John Fisher.

*Upadhya is a member of the Class of 2017.*

# Track & Field Sets Records

By **TREVOR WHITESTONE**  
SPORTS EDITOR

At the William & Mary Colonial Relays in Williamsburg, Virginia on Friday and Saturday, UR Track & Field had a strong showing from both the men’s and women’s teams, though Friday’s action was delayed at times by rain, and some events were moved back a day.

The women’s team set numerous personal bests and broke a school record.

Senior Samantha Kitchen set that record in 5K on Friday with 17:01.03, the third-best time in Division III for the event this year. Grad student Catherine Knox finished just behind at 17:09.12, setting a personal best and earning the sixth-best time in Division III on the year.

Senior Anne Peterson earned the year’s third-best time on the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a 10:59.24, a personal best and also the second-fastest time in UR history. Sophomore Kylee Bartlett finished 10th in the 100-meter hurdles with a 15-second mark. Senior Laura Lockard ran a 1:00.07 in the 400-meter, finishing second in her heat, while sophomore Alice Freese ran a 2:32.09 in the 800 and freshman Julia Myers ran a 4:56.78 in the 1,500.

On Saturday, after some relays were moved back due to weather, the team of Lockard, Bartlett, senior Brittany Schutrum, and freshman Brenna James ran a 1:46.16 in the 4x200 relay, finishing first among Division III teams and 26th overall. The 4x1,500 team of Kitchen, Peterson, Knox, and junior Brianna Loughran ran a 19:59.39, finishing third in its heat.

Earlier, James, Lockard,

Schutrum, and sophomore Siobhan Seigne ran a 50.87 in the 4x100. Seigne was also a member of the 4x800 relay alongside freshmen Julia Myers and Jordan Hurlbut and sophomore Rachel Bargabos, which posted a time of 10:08.86.

Multiple men’s team members also set personal bests.

On Friday, in the 100-meter dash, sophomore C.J. Ruff posted a personal best of 11.43 seconds. Junior Wesley Clayton ran a 1:56.40 in the 800, and senior R.J. Morrow posted a 17.87 in the 110-meter high hurdles.

Senior Brant Crouse managed a 16th place finish with a 49.56 in the 400-meter, with 14 of the runners ahead of him hailing from Division I schools. In distance, Senior Dan Nolte ran a personal best 15:12.76 in the 5K, and junior Adam Sorrentino finished 10th in the hammer throw with a distance of 40.66 meters.

On Saturday, in the triple jump, freshman Mark Westman cleared 13.17 meters, setting a personal best and finishing 13th overall. He was also a member of the 4x200 meter relay team, along with Ruff, freshman Federico Hama, and junior Sean Corcoran, which ran a time of 1:32.42.

In the 4x400 relay, Westman teamed up with Crouse, junior Wes Clayton, and senior Nate Kuhrt for a time of 3:22.97. In the 4x1,500-meter, freshman Ivan Frantz, sophomore Benjamin Martell, senior Chris Cook, and senior Eric Franklin ran a 16:52.52.

The teams will be back in action on April 8 at the Nazareth College Roc City Classic.

*Whitestone is a member of the Class of 2019.*

## LAST WEEK’S SCORES

**MARCH 27**  
WOMEN’S LACROSSE VS. OSWEGO STATE—W(6–3)

**MARCH 29**  
BASEBALL VS. ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE—L(10–0)

**APRIL 1**  
MEN’S TENNIS @OBERLIN COLLEGE—L(5–4)  
WOMEN’S TENNIS @OBERLIN COLLEGE—W(7–2)  
BASEBALL VS. CLARKSON UNIVERSITY—W(15–8)  
BASEBALL VS. CLARKSON UNIVERSITY—L(5–3)  
WOMEN’S LACROSSE @SKIDMORE COLLEGE—L(10–5)

**APRIL 2**  
MEN’S GOLF @THE HERSHEY CUP DAY 1—9TH OF 15  
MEN’S TENNIS @JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY—L(6–3)  
WOMEN’S TENNIS @JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY—W(5–4)  
WOMEN’S LACROSSE @RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE—W(8–6)  
BASEBALL VS. CLARKSON UNIVERSITY—W(5–1)  
BASEBALL VS. CLARKSON UNIVERSITY—L(7–4)  
SOFTBALL VS. ITHACA COLLEGE—W(5–3)  
SOFTBALL VS. ITHACA COLLEGE—L(5–4)

## THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

**APRIL 3**  
MEN’S GOLF @THE HERSHEY CUP DAY 2—8 A.M.

**APRIL 4**  
BASEBALL @VASSAR COLLEGE—12 P.M.  
BASEBALL @VASSAR COLLEGE—2:30 P.M.  
SOFTBALL VS. ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE—3 P.M.  
WOMEN’S TENNIS @ITHACA COLLEGE—4:30 P.M.  
SOFTBALL VS. ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE—5 P.M.

**APRIL 5**  
SOFTBALL VS. SUNY CORTLAND—3 P.M.  
MEN’S TENNIS VS. ONEONTA STATE—4 P.M.  
SOFTBALL VS. SUNY CORTLAND—5 P.M.

**APRIL 6**  
WOMEN’S TENNIS VS. NAZARETH COLLEGE—4 P.M.

**APRIL 7**  
WOMEN’S LACROSSE VS. VASSAR COLLEGE—4 P.M.  
**APRIL 8**  
MEN’S TRACK @NAZARETH COLLEGE ROC CITY CLASSIC—10 A.M.  
WOMEN’S TRACK @NAZARETH COLLEGE ROC CITY CLASSIC—10 A.M.  
WOMEN’S TENNIS VS. ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY—11 A.M.  
BASEBALL @UNION COLLEGE—1 P.M.

## WHAT TO WATCH FOR

**SOFTBALL COMPETITION WEEK**  
The UR Softball team will be playing at home this week against St. John Fisher College and SUNY Cortland, and will travel north to play Clarkson University and Skidmore College this weekend. Wins against the visiting Cardinals this Tuesday will improve the team’s record to 12–3 going into Wednesday’s game against the Red Dragons.

**BASEBALL @ VASSAR AND UNION COLLEGES**  
After going 4–2 this weekend against Clarkson University, UR Baseball will visit Vassar College on Tuesday and Union College on Saturday to continue their regular season. The Brewers will look to improve their 5–6 record against the Yellowjackets. This weekend, UR’s young team could hand the Dutchmen their sixth loss of the season.

## LAST WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS

### WOMEN’S LACROSSE OPENS CONFERENCE PLAY

Lacrosse (5–2) had a successful week, winning two of three games. The team closed out non-conference play with an 6–3 win over Oswego State (2–5) in Edwin Fauver Stadium on Monday. Sophomore goalie Conley Ernst saved eight of 11 shots on goal, and she and the defense held the Lakers scoreless in the second half. The team traveled to take on Skidmore College (5–3), in the Liberty League opener for both teams on Saturday. After an even first half, the hosts outscored UR 6–1 in the second half to take home a 10–5 win. Senior Midfielder Jamie Wallisch scored three goals on the game, and Ernst recorded a career-high 15 saves. On Sunday, the Yellowjackets visited Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (3–5). After falling behind by a goal early in the second half, the ‘Jackets finished strong and earned an 8–6 victory, evening up their league record. Freshman Jamison Seabury scored three goals, and Wallisch assisted on two while scoring one of her own.

DIDN’T HIT  
THE GYM?

WRITE FOR SPORTS INSTEAD.



# SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Wallisch Looks to Past Challenges to Build on Career

By LAUREN SHARPE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior midfielder Jamie Wallisch of UR Women's Lacrosse has 18 goals and 6 assists in the first six games of the season. She leads the team in both goals and assists and has started every game for the Yellowjackets.

**When did you decide you would play lacrosse in college? What is your earliest memory of the sport?**

I wanted to play lacrosse in college starting in the beginning of high school. I was on a travel lacrosse team starting in sixth grade, and we would play throughout the entire year in front of college coaches. It wasn't until I was around 15 when I truly believed I could have the opportunity to play for the coaches that were watching me from the sidelines. I also was completely in love with the sport and couldn't imagine my life without it. My earliest memory of the sport was Christmas in sixth grade when my mom got me a lacrosse stick. I showed up at tryouts and all the coaches looked at me and chuckled. They came up to me and said I had to use one of their sticks because I was holding a men's lacrosse stick. The rest is history.

**Who is someone who you have looked up to during your**

**lacrosse career and why did you do so?**

I have always looked up to teammates that I've played with throughout the years. It is so inspiring to watch people you know and care about play well. It has always made me want to be better and fight to be the best teammate possible. Taylor Cummings was an incredible player at the University of Maryland that graduated last year and, to me, was the definition of an overall skilled player. She was all over the field, impacting every play and showing leadership in simply playing her best. After every time I watched her play, I went out and played wall ball because I wanted to be better.

**What is the greatest challenge you have faced in your lacrosse career? How did the experience shape the kind of player you are today?**

The greatest challenge I've experienced is losing two state championships in a row in high school, as well as our season last year. It is so challenging for a team to work so hard toward a certain point and want to achieve something great, but have those goals fall flat. It is disheartening and makes you dig deep so you don't become discouraged.

**As a senior and main contributor on your team, in**



Junior midfielder Jamie Wallisch dekes a Nazareth defender in the midst of a five point performance. PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

**what ways do you lead your teammates?**

With my teammates, it is such a give-and-take in terms of leadership. They inspire me to play the best I can and I try my best to lead by example. If we are down, it is about keeping the energy high and stay positive. It's important for me to show I believe in my teammates and our abilities to play our best, so no matter what, lead through encouragement and understanding.

**Do you have any pre-game rituals?**

My pre-game rituals including lots of dancing and singing with my teammates. I also always need to take some time by myself before we leave the locker room to focus and collect my thoughts. It's also important for me to have my entire uniform be the exact same every game or I feel it will inhibit how I play.

**What will you miss most about being a student athlete at UR?**

At UR, I'll miss going to class everyday to learn what I thoroughly enjoy. More importantly, I'll miss the people and the connections I've created here.

**What is your dream vacation spot and why?**

My dream vacation right now is Vietnam. It seems so beautiful and unique. I have never been to that part of the world so I would love to experience it for myself.

*Sharpe is a member of the Class of 2019.*

## Coach Martin's Grit Fueled SC's Final Four Run

By JAKE SEHNERT  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The 2017 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four features No. 1 North Carolina versus No. 3 Oregon and No. 1 Gonzaga versus No. 7 South Carolina. Only 0.01 percent of brackets submitted on ESPN featured all four of these teams in their Final Four. Only 0.6 percent of brackets had South Carolina making it this far.

Over the past five years, Head Coach Frank Martin has molded South Carolina's basketball program in his image of pride and toughness. This Cinderella run has been a culmination of the mentality he has fused into this Gamecocks team, helping it beat three top-20 teams on its run to the Final Four.

Martin entered the program in 2012 after leaving his position at Kansas State, where he stacked up a 117-54 record with tournament appearances in four out of five years, including a run to the Elite Eight.

Following this success, Martin and the Gamecocks struggled in his first two years running the program, going a combined 9-27 in conference play. Martin was suspended for the last regular season game of the 2013-14

season for issues regarding his verbal communication with the team. Frustration plagued the program.

The following year, the Gamecocks put together an impressive 9-3 non-conference showing, highlighted by a win over No. 9 Iowa State. But the team continued to struggle in conference play and ended with an even record.

The team's best player, guard Sindarius Thornwell, suffered through some significant injuries his sophomore year, Martin's third season.

"If he was my child, where I kind of had to sign off, I would not have allowed him to play," Martin said. "I threatened to suspend him that year to force him not to play; he wouldn't let me."

Thornwell's grit motivated the rest of his team to work harder to try to establish South Carolina as a dominant basketball program. His hard work would eventually pay off.

The 2015-16 season was a significant turnaround for South Carolina basketball. The Gamecocks opened up the season winning 16 straight games, earning a ranking as high as 19th. Their momentum eventually slowed during conference play, as they went 11-7, but the team ended

up with 24 wins, hopeful for their tournament chances—no Power Five conference team had ever missed out on the tournament after winning that many games.

But after receiving a false notification the team would be placed in the tournament, Martin's Gamecocks instead received an NIT bid. A successful turnaround season ended in disappointment.

Though Thornwell was able to expand his play that season thanks to the addition of guard PJ Dozier, who relieved some offensive pressure, both he and Martin knew they had to continually improve to make the 2016-17 season count.

The Gamecocks did just that. The team went an impressive 22-9 during the regular season, featuring a 12-6 conference record. They jumped as high as 16th in the rankings in week six, keeping themselves relevant in the discussion of the top teams in the country.

The Gamecocks pride themselves on their persistent defense, turning opponents over 17 times a game. In Martin's first season, the Gamecocks were ranked 230th in defensive efficiency, but that number has improved all the way to second in the nation for his fifth season. Martin has

shared his message of outworking opponents and never giving up, something the team has taken to heart.

Of the Final Four teams, none have played a tougher tournament schedule than South Carolina. The team's first victory came against Marquette, followed by a major upset victory over Duke, a heavy tournament favorite. The Gamecocks then dismantled the Baylor Bears with a 70-50 statement win and followed that game up with a win against Florida.

Going into the weekend, the Gamecocks were the hottest team in the tournament with a scoring differential of +13.5 and Thornwell scoring 25 points per game. Though the Gamecocks had never played a game in the Final Four before, they became a team that believed in itself, united by its coach and boasting the most stout defense left in the tournament.

Despite their narrow loss to top-seeded Gonzaga on Saturday, the Gamecocks have made their supporters and coach proud, and have set themselves up for increased success in the years to come.

*Sehnert is a member of the Class of 2019.*

## Long Week for URB and URSB

By RAHUL UPADHYA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University of Rochester (4-6) baseball team had a long, tiring week of play. They started off getting shut out by St. John Fisher College 10-0 and then split both doubleheaders on Saturday and Sunday.

In the loss to St. John Fisher, the Yellowjackets were able to muster up six hits but did not capitalize on some key opportunities with runners on base. Senior third baseman Pete Carrier was the standout player on offense, going two for four. Freshman starting pitcher Garrett Renslow also had a solid day, giving up only one hit and one walk in two innings of work. However, relief pitcher Tyler Pauly ended up with the loss, surrendering four runs (two earned) in two thirds of an inning. In relief, sophomore Tyler McConway was superb, giving up only one hit in two innings.

On Saturday, UR defeated the Clarkson Golden Knights 15-8 in the first game of a split doubleheader. Freshman left