

# Campus Times

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## Screw Ups: A Path to Success

By **MOHAMMAD MANSOOR**  
STAFF WRITER

At Screw Up Nights, failure is inherent to success.

“Screwing up and making mistakes are humanizing factors, and something that everyone should embrace,” said sophomore Deniz Cengiz, a student employee at iZone.

To amplify this belief, iZone organized an event this past Wednesday where students from an array of campus organizations came to share their failures. This lively atmosphere where everyone acknowledged failure prompted members of the audience to come up and share their stories as well.

This year’s theme of Screw Up Nights was student “disorganization.”

Senior and SA President Beatriz Gil was the first speaker of the evening.

Gil accidentally sent an email to the Class of 2019 that contained a virus in it. Inadvertently, she was responsible for infecting students’ computers of her class. A small mistake on her part led to an enormous consequence, but she learned from it and is more careful now.

Next to speak was senior Philip Milman, a member of The YellowJackets, who further reiterated his beliefs about failure paving way for success.

Milman said that while fusing two songs for a performance, he realized that it was going to be a “disaster.” However, it was too late to change, and he knew their show would not turn out the way it usually does.

He further narrated how one of the YellowJackets’ campaigns was misinterpreted on social media because of the wrong choice of words they had used to describe it. He said that there were “gaps in the campaign that could be filled” but the backlash enabled him to “learn from it” and be more vigilant of word choices.

The third speaker of the evening was junior Zhongyi Zuo, who is vice president of the Chinese Student Association.

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## MSAB Finds DPS Forum Lacking



GABE ISAACSON / PHOTO EDITOR

President of MSAB and junior Tara Eagan was one of the forum’s moderators.

By **JAMES GUNN**  
MANAGING EDITOR

The Minority Students’ Advisory Board had their public forum. But, for some MSAB attendees, it was an empty resolution.

They blamed the administration for employing a format that limited attendees’ ability to voice their reactions as well as for providing unsatisfactory

responses.

During the forum, Director of Public Safety Mark Fischer, President Feldman, and Senior Vice President Holly Crawford answered questions regarding the DPS proposal for armed officers on River Campus and at Eastman. Junior Tara Eagan, president of MSAB, and Kit Miller, director of the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence, moderated.

“It was a lot of work [...] trying to make sure all of the concerns of students were in the questions,” Eagan said. “To be frank, I am not content with the answers I received during this forum.” She added that the structure was “very silencing.”

Rather than silence, shouts and outrage filled last year’s public forum held by former President Seligman in response to the Jaeger investigation.

SEE **GUNS FORUM** PAGE 3

## Pride Remembers Transgender Victims

By **HAILIE HIGGINS**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the past year, at least 36 transgender individuals around the world were murdered for their identities.

Pride Network held an event this past Tuesday in Hirst Lounge to honor and remember these victims of transphobia.

“Often we don’t talk about this in America, but trans individuals are one of the most killed demographics, particularly trans women of color, simply because people fear them and don’t accept them,” said junior Miles Perry, the president of Pride Network. “So we host this event every year to say those names, because they deserve to be honored.”

Of those remembered, several individuals were given the name “unknown” — either because their often unsupportive families refused to claim the bodies or because their murders left the re-

mains unrecognizable.

Since 1999, Transgender Day of Remembrance is observed internationally every year on Nov. 20. UR, which boasts one of the oldest Pride networks in the country, has hosted an event to commemorate the murdered members of the trans community each year since the day’s creation.

To start this year’s event, two members of No Disclaimers, a spoken word performance group, read poems. Take Five Scholar Ben Frazer read an original poem sharing their own experiences with gender identity and the dysphoria that ensues. Following that performance, Perry shared a piece titled “When You Met God,” honoring the victims.

After the performances, two students read out a list of the names of every documented murder of a trans person in the past year.

The risk of murder is not the only danger trans people must face. The staggering suicide rate,

homelessness and poverty rates, and a lack of comprehensive healthcare threaten the well-being and lives of transgender individuals.

Originally, guest speaker Marie Adelina was scheduled to share her experience as a trans woman of color and being out as an adult. Adelina’s speech was supposed to be a main part of the event. Unfortunately, she was unable to attend due to the weather, shortening the event.

Attendees and organizers partook in a moment of silence for the victims. Unlike the atmosphere of most events hosted by the Pride Network, this evening honoring fallen trans people had a somber and subdued mood.

For many event-goers, it was difficult not to imagine their own name tacked on to the already too-long list of victims.

“It’s weird [hearing the names], because you have an inkling it could have been you,” first-year and attendee Edwin Brun said.

SEE **PRIDE** PAGE 2

## 5K Faces Its Own Challenge

By **EFUA AGYARE-KUMI**  
COPY CHIEF

Putting the power completely in students’ hands to make the campus ever better with \$5,000 or less often produces mixed results.

On one hand, the process has given us a swing set near Sue B., the pads and tampons initiative, and sleeping pods in Gleason. According to organizers, it also repeatedly endures unhelpfully generic suggestions like “more food,” and joke submissions such as “give a dollar to 5,000 people.”

As the deadline for the 5K challenge rolls around once more this Dec. 12, SA Publicity Chair and junior Svarina Karwanyun wants students to seize the day.

“I don’t think the student body really understands how much power they have to make a change on this campus,” Karwanyun said. “\$5,000 is a lot.”

For her, the potency of the 5K challenge lies in its opportunity for collective problem-solving.

“I feel like if we were to sit down with our friend groups, sit down with our community [...] we’d come up with much better ideas that would serve a lot more people,” she said.

According to Karwanyun, the ideal 5K challenge winner is a project that is sustainable over time while improving the lives of the greatest number of people.

A chance of winning is not the only incentive for participating in the 5K challenge — several suggestions get taken care of even if the participant does not win. When vetting the submitted proposals, the 5K organizers reach out to various departments to inquire whether certain suggestions are feasible in the budget constraints.

“Many times when departments hear the request, they just do them,” Associate Dean of Students and SA advisor Anne-Marie Algier said.

For instance, shower heads were replaced thanks to a 5K challenge submission.

Students can submit their ideas through an online form

SEE **5K CHALLENGE** PAGE 3

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THIS CT

**FRAT PARTY  
SEXISM**

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**FLA. RECOUNTS  
RECOUNTS**

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**MEN’S SOCCER  
PLAYOFF**

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GABE ISAACSON / PHOTO EDITOR

## WORKSHOP ENCOURAGES LOCAL GIRLS TO PURSUE ENGINEERING

Last Saturday in Goergen, the Society of Women in Engineers held an informative workshop for local girls from grades K-6 on engineering. Organizers hoped to educate the girls on the impact of the future generation of women in engineering.

### PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

#### Unknown Individual In ESM (1)

NOV. 23—A non-affiliated individual was found in the restroom of ESM East Wing. The individual was identified, issued a ban form, and escorted from the facility.

#### Theft Seen Near Library Road (2)

NOV. 24—An individual was seen riding a bike on Inter-campus Drive near Library Road carrying two auto wheel rims. The individual refused to stop for officers and rode away over the pedestrian footbridge.

#### Unidentified Male Asking For Money (3)

NOV. 28—DPS responded to the report of an unidentified male asking for money. Areas were checked with no results.

#### Accident Near Brooks and Genesee (4)

NOV. 30—DPS assisted RPD with an accident that occurred near the intersection of Brooks and Genesee St.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

### THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

#### TUESDAY | DEC. 4

##### DECEMBER BLOOD DRIVE

FRIEL LOUNGE, 2 P.M. - 7 P.M.  
D'ions and Red Cross are coming together to host the last blood drive of the semester.

##### JAPANESE CONVERSATION HOURS

DOUGLASS 305, 7 P.M. - 8 P.M.  
The Language Center will be hosting conversation hours in Japanese.

#### WEDNESDAY | DEC. 5

##### UR SPLASH GENERAL INTEREST MEETING

DOUGLASS COMMUNITY ROOM, 6 P.M. - 7 P.M.  
UR Splash, a community service organization, will focus on educational outreach programs to high school students in their first general interest meeting.

##### ARABIC CONVERSATION HOURS

DOUGLASS 305, 12:45 P.M. - 1:45 P.M.  
The Language Center will be hosting conversation hours in Arabic.

#### THURSDAY | DEC. 6

##### ONE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: WHAT ARE YOU?

PAUL J. BURGETT INTERCULTURAL CENTER, 6:15 P.M. - 7:15 P.M.  
Students will be discussing their encounters with microaggression.

##### SURVIVING & THRIVING AFTER SEXUAL ASSAULT: CREATING STRENGTH OUT OF TRAUMA

SLOAN AUDITORIUM, GOERGEN 101, 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.  
Guest speaker Becky will be discussing her journey of recovery after experiencing sexual assault.

#### FRIDAY | DEC. 7

##### HOLIDAY SHOPPING FAIR

HIRST LOUNGE, 10 A.M - 4 P.M  
Vendors from the Rochester area will be coming to campus to sell holiday shopping needs. Items include UR spirit gear, jewelry, handmade products, ornaments, and more.

##### CLASS OF 2022 CLASS COUNCIL HOSTS: CHEESECAKE AND MESSAGES

MAY ROOM/BRIDGE LOUNGE, 2 P.M. - 4 P.M.  
The class of 2022 Council will be hosting an event with free cheesecake and massages in hopes to calm the nerves of first-years prior to their final exams.

## Day of Remembrance Honors Victims

PRIDE FROM PAGE 1

The event also hoped to make the community more visible to cisgender allies, according to the organizers.

Overall, the Day of Remembrance served to raise awareness about the challenges transgender people face every day at the University.

One such issue discussed at the event was housing. Despite the well-established network serving the LGBTQ community on campus, UR still lacks comprehensive housing for transgender students who may not feel comfortable rooming with students of the gender they were assigned at birth.

Another issue brought up was the need for improvement in University Health Services. The transgender community on campus would like to see hormone replacement therapy offered — something RIT already has.

The event reminded students of the real threats that come with being transgender.

“This is a sad event — to hear the names of all the people who identify like you being murdered,” Perry said. “I can understand why people wouldn’t come to this event, because it’s rather triggering to hear that you’re at risk for just being you.”

*Higgins is a member of the Class of 2022.*

## Stories of Failures Welcomed in iZone

SCREW-UP NIGHTS FROM PAGE 1

Zuo shared her story of failure about her mistake when trying to plan an on-campus celebration for Chinese New Year.

She wanted to hold the celebration on the day of Chinese New Year. To her dismay, she forgot to click the submission button to reserve a room.

So, the event had to be pushed back a week later than the actual Chinese New Year.

Zuo said she learned her lesson, and she now confidently embraces her mistakes in hopes others will too.

After the three scheduled speak-

ers shared their stories, audience members spontaneously took the stage to do the same. Stories shared ranged from waking up in the wrong bed after a night out, losing a passport, and finding out a visa had expired while studying abroad.

Screw Up Nights has been one of iZone’s top events since its conception, showing how an idea can turn into something great.

“It is an idea that turned from a post-it note into a reality,” Cengiz said.

Screw Up Nights will pick back up for a fifth volume next semester featuring a different theme.

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

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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Contact Research Coordinator at (585) 273-2843

If you are sponsoring an event that you wish to submit for the calendar, please email news@campustimes.org by Monday evening with a brief summary, including the date, time, location, sponsor, and cost of admission.



## Research for Everyone



By AUDREY GOLDFARB  
COLUMNIST

A common misconception shared by many undergraduates is that research is reserved for the sciences. In fact, research at UR spans nearly every discipline, and there are opportunities for students of all majors and interests. Each department has its own set of resources and faculty to guide motivated undergraduates. I spoke with professors from linguistics, biology, and history to provide a partial representation of the research diversity at UR. Though their interests differ, these faculty offer similar advice and encouragement regarding research involvement and success.

“Linguistics straddles natural science, social science, and humanities,” said Dr. Maya Abtahian, an assistant professor in the linguistics department. Abtahian observes changes in the local Rochesterian dialect. Both of her students, senior Julianne Kapner and Take Five Scholar Graeme McGuire, are involved in community engagement as part of their projects. “The fun thing about linguistics is that the data is all around you,” Abtahian said.

Dr. Elaine Sia, a professor in the biology department, is interested in yeast mitochondrial DNA. She encourages undergraduates to influence the course of research in her lab. “You get to be involved in the direction,” Sia said. “There’s no expected outcome, so there’s the potential for real interesting surprises.”

Dr. Sina Ghaemmaghani, an assistant professor in the biology department, studies protein folding and homeostasis. “I love being around people of different ages and in different parts of their career,” Ghaemmaghani said. “I really enjoy having undergrads in the lab, and I think that’s something that’s really special about this university.”

As the director of the Humanities Center, history professor Dr. Joan Rubin encourages and supports undergraduate research in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. “We’d like it to expand as a home base, and we welcome students to hang out here and come to our programs,” Rubin said. “We want to be as open as possible to the undergrad community.”

Professors are quick to debunk the

myth that GPA is a limiting factor for students interested in research.

“It’s not about GPA for me,” Sia said. “I usually look for students who can clearly articulate their motivations. The independent study project is very self-directed; it’s whatever you make it. It’s totally different [than coursework].”

But some coursework introduces concepts at the heart of research. “We have fewer opportunities in linguistics for students who have not yet taken any classes in the department,” Abtahian said. “I usually recommend that students take at least one class to find out what their interests are and then start talking to professors.”

“It’s really difficult to do something meaningful unless you make the time in your schedule for it,” Sia said. “Don’t rush into it too early. Make sure you get a good foundational knowledge.”

Sia praises research experience for building persistence, problem solving, and troubleshooting — skills applicable to any career. “No matter what somebody wants to do with their future, those skills with be useful,” she said.

For example, pre-med students can get significant benefits from participating in basic research. “A lot of medicine is moving towards research-based solutions,” Sia said. “It’s important to learn how to interpret data and form your own conclusions.”

“At the end of your project, you’ve learned problem-solving skills, honed your writing skills, learned how to assess evidence in a way that goes beyond what you learn in the classroom, and you’ve had fun,” Rubin said. “You’ve learned the experience of discovery.”

Ghaemmaghani advises undergraduates to focus on the culture of a lab, even more than the research interest, and stay open-minded to working on an unfamiliar topic. “Being with a good mentor is just as important or more important than the topic being studied,” he said.

“I would argue that no two lab experiences are going to be the same,” said Sia. It is not uncommon for students to work in multiple research labs over a few years, and many undergraduates pursue research at other universities during the summer.

What are the characteristics of a successful undergraduate researcher?

“A good attitude and willingness to learn,” Ghaemmaghani said. “Students are going to make mistakes. Be fearless of that.”

“Energy, persistence, and at best, creativity,” said Rubin. “The most exciting [projects] for me are the ones in which students take the framework of a course and apply that to new materials in creative ways.”

“Be as knowledgeable as possible about what your interests are and what your skills are,” said Abtahian. “Take something you already know about and look at it in a different way.”

In addition to acknowledging the benefits they receive from research, undergraduates should appreciate their potential to generate meaningful data.

“What you’re doing with your hands actually matters,” Sia said. “It’s really valuable.”

“We have a number of students who are making contributions to the field,” said Abtahian. “They come up with things I wouldn’t have thought of.”

Working in a collaborative environment, it’s crucial to share ideas and suggestions. In fact, an inexperienced perspective can be helpful to more senior scientists.

Sia agrees. “In labs we can get quite isolated,” she said. “We try to keep on top of new advances, but students will bring something new.”

Rubin spoke of the variety of independent research opportunities. “Ask a professor to take you on; ask if she or he can use some help with a project,” she said. “You can also pay attention to which courses have research as part of their requirement.”

“The benefit to the department is that they become centers of active learning,” Rubin said. “As teachers, we want our students to learn as much as possible [through] critical thinking, writing, problem solving, analysis, and synthesis.”

Undergraduate research benefits the student, the University, and the field at large. “Everyone should try to find ways of getting involved,” said Abtahian.

“I love every aspect of academia,” said Ghaemmaghani. One of the things he loves most is the absence of a strict hierarchy; in an academic lab setting, undergraduate contributions are heard and respected. “If you’re an undergrad and say something smart, people pay attention to you.”

*Doing exciting research on campus? Contact Audrey at agoldfa5@u.rochester.edu to tell her about it and potentially be featured in the next edition of Research Rochester.*

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

## Sustainable Ideas Wanted for 5K

5K CHALLENGE FROM PAGE 1

on Campus Community Connections, after which their ideas will be vetted. Proposals that survive the vetting will become finalists, and will be voted on in the Spring during SA elections.

In past years, the challenge has received criticism for failing to communicate with finalists and winners after they submit their ideas.

Senior Xueying (Shelley) Chen, who topped the ballot last year with her proposal for massage chairs, was among the dismayed.

“SA did not reach out to me or involve me in the decision-making process,” she said. “I feel like I lost the ownership of my idea when I submitted the proposal.”

This year, SA is striving for greater transparency.

“[S]tudent government is committed [...] [to] making

sure all the information gets to people,” Algier said.

Finalists of this year’s challenge can expect to receive an update from SA explaining next steps and appropriate methods of publicizing their idea to the student body.

Despite bumps in the road, Chen still feels she made the right decision to participate and encourages others to do the same.

“It feels great to see a simple idea to become a reality,” Chen said.

As Karwanyun pointed out, \$5,000 may not change the world, but it can make it a little better.

“If we have that chance, why not take it?”

“The people of Israel have one message for you,” Hadad said. “We stand together against antisemitism. We stand together against hate.”

*Agyare-Kumi is a member of the Class of 2021.*

## DPS Forum Underwhelms MSAB

GUNS FORUM FROM PAGE 1

Following a presentation of the proposal in this year’s public forum, Fischer, Feldman, and Crawford answered questions written in advance by MSAB. These questions were followed by additional ones from attendees.

Yet, the format restricted attendee responses to questions written on index cards. The moderators were the ones to speak these questions, as opposed to those who wrote them.

The structure of the forum was designed by MSAB as well as Fischer, Feldman, and Crawford. Following the event, Eagan criticized the approach that Fischer and Feldman took to organizing the forum.

“The structure was strongly suggested based on what President Feldman, Chief Fischer, and [VP] Holly Crawford were comfortable with,” she said. “It was supposed to be only 11 pre-written questions and then they go on about their way without any audience input.”

MSAB helped write the 11 questions, but Eagan said they would have preferred a question and answer format, “as if we’re having an actual conversation.”

The final structure included the community-written index cards, but for Eagan, this was not enough.

“We could have had a whole sessions just be Q&A, but instead of that, we had to sit on our hands like respectful children and listen to all the answers that were given,” Eagan said.

Despite Feldman’s prior concerns, he was pleased by the forum and the respectful behavior of those involved.

“I will acknowledge being skeptical about town hall meetings because sometimes they turn into unhelpful confrontations,” Feldman told Campus Times after the forum. “And I thought this was a good discussion.”

Fischer also thought that the forum was successful, but acknowledged that it may not have met the expectations of some students.

“I think there was a little frustration expressed at the end that they would’ve appreciated more of an open [structure], being able to shout out questions and having interactive follow ups,” he said. “It’s really hard to communicate in situations like that.”

“But it seemed like most people were okay with it,” he added.

However, structure was not the only problem that some attendees had with the forum.

“I am not convinced, I am not happy,” sophomore Ivana Baldie, a member of Douglass Leadership House, told the Campus Times.

During his presentation, Fischer expressed that he had confidence in his officers.

“I know what they feel about this community, I know that they understand this culture,” Fischer said.

Baldie opposed this explanation. “I think that’s ridiculous,” she said. “We don’t really have a relationship with Public Safety.”

Fischer brought up other issues during the course of the forum. He cited various examples of violence and armed individuals around campus, including a recent shooting-spree that saw two victims treated in Strong Hospital’s ER unit. He also answered questions on the training that DPS officer receive and the data included in the proposal, among others.

For Baldie, it’s too little, too late.

“I’m pretty sure they’re not the ones pushing for this forum and asking all these questions,” she said. “The black and brown students are, and yet you don’t feel like it’s your job to reach out to us and that’s very problematic.”

Additionally, Eagan voiced frustration when asked whether she was now okay with the proposal.

“No,” she answered. “I will never be okay.”

*Efua Agyare-Kumi, Trevor Whitestone, David Schildkraut, and contributed reporting on this piece.*

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

Professor Sina Ghaemmaghani and his lab.



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# OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

## Hillside, Do the Right Thing



By ARYAMAN MAJUMDAR  
OPINIONS EDITOR

Hillside Market recently transitioned from plastic bags to paper ones. It was probably a stupid decision.

Why did they make the transition? The prevailing narrative was that it was an exercise in sustainability.

But was it really?

The short answer: Probably not. Transitioning to paper wasn't a practice in sustainability. It was an exercise in signaling.

Whether paper bags are indeed greener than plastic bags is a complex question, and our go-to grocery store on campus shouldn't be able to shrug it off without a second notice.

The assumption that paper bags are better for the environment is unfounded, and this is no secret. The evidence is inconclusive.

Let's carefully walk through all the reasons behind this uncertainty.

First, consider deforestation of paper bags that contributes, all else being equal, to greater CO2 levels. This immediately gives us reason to believe that paper bags add more to a greenhouse effect than plastic bags.

But the story doesn't end there.

Besides deforestation, paper bags — and in general non-plastic bags — have other problems. To clarify, the type of plastic we're talking about is high-density polyethylene, or HDPE. Your usual Target or Walmart or Best Buy plastic.

Despite paper's higher biodegradability compared to plastic, paper bags weigh five to seven times as much as plastic bags. This means each paper bag adds a greater amount of waste to the waste flux than each plastic bag. In other words, although each unit of paper mass is more biodegradable than each unit of plastic mass, there's more mass per bag in paper bags. If we assume the number of bags disposed per unit time will be the same upon plastic-to-paper transition, this means there'll be a higher amount of mass in sewage, which will tend to increase greenhouse gas emissions.

In reality, it's likely that the number of bags used will be higher for paper bags because of their lower strength and elasticity — both because of a higher number of bags used in one shopping session to prevent breakage and because of a reduction in reusability across shopping sessions due to breakage.

Anyone who's picked up paper bags from Hillside can al-

ready see this difference in number of bags used.

A study by the Environment Agency (UK) determined that in order to reduce the global warming potential of paper bags to that of plastic bags, the former would have to be reused at least three times. Note that the assumption here is that the plastic bags are not being reused at all. If the plastic bags were indeed reused, the reuse-number of paper bags to match the lower global warming potential of plastic bags would increase even further.

This doesn't even consider the potential of greater transportation needed for paper bags compared to plastic bags.

Paper bags are less strong in response to shearing forces and less compressible, which makes each unit need a larger volume of storage space. You can't twist that shit around like plastic bags.

Moreover, the paper bags being used at Hillside are larger than the replaced plastic bags, further increasing the amount of per-unit storage space needed. If we assume that each paper bag gives the same amount of carrying capacity to the customer, it follows that we'd need a larger amount of storage space for paper bags to achieve the same amount of total carrying capacity. In reality, the paper bags don't even give the same amount of carrying capacity due to being less elastic and more tearable. Thus, carrying capacity per unit of storage space decreases both because of an increase in total storage space and a decrease in total carrying capacity.

In other words, you carrying the same amount of groceries as before means more transportation on the producers' side for paper bags than for plastic bags. This greater transportation, if prominent enough, means an increase in gas emissions.

On the other hand, we shouldn't ignore the lower biodegradability of plastic bags, their main drawback.

But their lower environmental cost of production, their lower mass-per-unit and their greater reusability due to material properties should give us pause regarding a drastic transition to paper.

Why this rapid push for paper then?

My explanation is that it's the latest in a line of efforts from Aramark to look socially responsible. To *look* socially responsible. Not to *be* socially responsible.

In either case, it's an effort from their end to give us what we asked for. Misconceptions on our part are what allow corporations to project sham demonstrations of goodness. Ultimately, we should ask ourselves: Do we want to feel environmentally responsible? Or do we actually want to be environmentally responsible?

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

EDITORIAL BOARD

## We Put Study Spaces in Their Places

With finals just around the corner, we've compiled our rankings of some major study spaces on campus, from worst to best. We provide a projected GPA for each.

### QI — 1.7

If you want to be surrounded by friend groups inexplicably spanning the entirety of Monroe county, look no further than this Nalgene watering hole for Greek Life. It may not be the best place to study for STT 212, but stick around anyway to hear about any new sets of eskimo bros.

### Carlson Basement — 2.2

If all dogs go to heaven, all Orgo students go to Carlson Basement. It'll be the figurative and literal low point of your UR career. You'll find that one kid somehow using his model kit as a pillow.

### iZone — 2.6

The above GPA does not apply to the lucky few who are able crawl over the corpses of their peers in the gladiator pit that is reserving one of those

cushy booths. But the odds are far more likely you end up stuck with the huddled masses confined to outer rim of tables or, heaven forbid, the barren oak staircase.

### Starbucks — 3.1

If you've ever wondered how someone runs out of Declining Plan A, head on down to Starbucks. You're sure to be greeted by a rainbow of Macbook cases with PopSockets lining every which phone case. To supplement this entry, we had our stats department calculate the most basic GPA.

### Gleason — 3.3

At last, humanity has found a safe haven for group-project coasters. But when the clock strikes midnight, get ready for a surrealist exhibition on the whiteboards. Stick around, and you might just witness someone finally proving the Meliora Hypothesis through *modus tollens*.

### Stacks — 3.6

This is for people who accept the prime murder conditions of the Stacks' dimly lit corridors if it means they can get away from

their roommate who consistently plays Fortnite well past 3 a.m. The epochs-old knowledge oozing from the tomes within is sure to give you that much needed brain blast. Just don't shine a blacklight on the walls, lest you catch of glimpse of Stephanie's ghost.

### Carlson 3rd Floor — 3.7, with honors

Unlike the basement, students here aspire to higher ideals. There's a picturesque view waiting here for those who seek it. And the cubicles are the latest in ergonomic design. Treat yourself to this zen utopia.

### PRR — 4.0, with honours

Pour one out for the true scholars. These kids don't need to run up to their professors after class — they already got candle-lit dinner with the professor and their spouse the night before. They may only be 100 pages into their dissertation, but don't worry — they haven't double-spaced it yet.

Have a moderately lengthy nap, and then take your pick. You've got this.

# HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

LET US KNOW.

OPINIONS@CAMPUSTIMES.ORG

This editorial is published with the consent of a majority of the Editorial Board: Trevor Whitestone (Editor-in-Chief), James Gunn (Managing Editor), Aryaman Majumdar (Opinions Editor), Shweta Koul (News Editor) and Ben Schmitz (Publisher). 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).

## Campus Times

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OP-ED

# Frat Parties Aren't Free

By HAILIE HIGGINS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



JANE PRITCHARD/ CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

I asked, “Hey, are you going to the off-campus Delta Theta Upsilon Xenon Alpha Gamma Radiation’s party?” “Yeah, I was planning on it,” my friend responded. “Me too! But it’s \$7 at the door.” “Well, girls are free though. Lucky!” Am I, though? While it’s incredibly easy to focus on the “what” in this situation, if we stop to think about the “why” for more than five seconds, it’s kind of disgusting. Ah, I love the smell of female objectification in the morning! Or the afternoon, or the nighttime (because it happens all the time, after all). Nothing like some casual misogyny to really get a party started. Speaking of getting a party started, play the song “Blurred Lines” during your next rager to really pump some sexist overtones into the room! I guess I don’t really have a right to complain. As a female after all, I know I will never have to do something as outrageous as pay a cover charge at a party. For the low, low price of allowing myself to be objectified and

treated as a product for the men of the room to consume, I get a full cup until the booze runs out!

**Ah, I love the smell of female objectification in the morning! Or the afternoon, or the nighttime (because it happens all the time, after all). Nothing like some casual misogyny to really get a party started.**

Nevermind that women don’t want this preferential treatment. As the saying goes, when the product is free, you are the product. Given the choice between being seen in a non-sexual light (or the insinuation that I am a decorative object) and paying, then I will gladly part with my money. Nevermind that, according

to the Department of Justice, women age 18–24 are at an elevated risk for sexual assault, and that 20 to 25 percent of women will have been sexually assaulted by the time they graduate college. It’s important to note that those numbers are rough estimates, because — to nobody’s surprise — people are uncomfortable reporting sexual assault cases. Nevermind that according to the National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, about half of all sexual assault cases involve alcohol. Of course, alcohol doesn’t cause sexual assault, but used within the already sexist and overwhelmingly sexual context of frat parties and clubs, it certainly doesn’t help prevent it. Nevermind that misogyny is a two-way street, and men are hurt by this culture too. Yeah, in the seven dollars more they had to pay than their female friends, but also in the hypermasculine rhetoric that policies like these support. It encourages harmful gender stereotypes — men are either going out to get a date or get laid. The more ladies, the more choices! Men shouldn’t have female friends, they should have their bros, their past hookups, and their future hookups.

Nevermind any of that. When there’s a chance at saving money, who cares about the “why”? It’s the “what” that’s important. Right? We’re all broke college students; just take your free drinks and try not to think about how you’re really paying for them by adding another pair of tits to the room. It’s not about the booze charge. It’s about the outdated sexism that runs rampant throughout frat houses and clubs, and the fact that in 2018, it simply has no business being there. Higgins is a member of the Class of 2022.

OP-ED

# Dealing with a Political Death

By EDDIE HOCK  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Former President George H.W. Bush’s death on Friday led to a torrent of reactions. There came loving tributes from the liberal center-left (President Obama called him a “patriot and humble servant”), scathing, sometimes gloating humor from the left bringing up Bush’s legacy of war crimes and imperialism, and a mixture of vitriolic tirades from conservatives and ultra-conservatives, equal parts enraged with Bush for having distanced himself from Trump and Trumpism and the left for disrespecting a President.

**Why was it now, when Bush had just died, that we all decided to voice our opinions about the man’s politics?**

This confused me, honestly. Why was it now, when Bush had just died, that we all decided to voice our opinions about the man’s politics? Don’t get me wrong — this isn’t some “both sides” argument that we should save our takes for after some arbitrary grace period has passed in the wake of a death like this. But it seemed interesting that we all suddenly decided to yell about the political and military events of decades ago, just because the man who was the face of those decisions had bought the farm.

**It seemed interesting that we all suddenly decided to yell about the political and military events of decades ago, just because the man who was the face of those decisions had bought the farm.**

Bush was President, most recently, just under 26 years ago before Bill Clinton was sworn in January of 1993. That’s a quarter of a century ago. Nominally, he was a one-term President, a Republican, who succeeded Ronald Reagan and more or less continued the interventionist, neo-conservative legacy of his predecessor. His popularity soared after he defeated Saddam Hussein in the Gulf War, driving the dictator back into Iraq with no shortage of war crimes from both sides of the armed conflict (on the so-called “Highway of Death,” American forces attacked thou-

sands of unarmed, fleeing Iraqi soldiers who were in compliance with orders from the U.N. and, allegedly, also attacked Kuwaiti and Iraqi civilians indiscriminately). But his approval collapsed in a failing economy following the fall of the Soviet Union, and he was forced to break his most famous campaign promise: “Read my lips. No new taxes.” He was voted out of office after his first term, replaced by the charismatic but ultimately not particularly different Clinton, and faded from the limelight until his son was elected in 2000. We know how that went. But why is Bush’s death the occasion to remember all this?

**I’m not calling H.W. a good person either — well-substantiated claims of sexual harrassment say otherwise — but I am saying that we’re often too ready to conflate a person with something much bigger than any person — history.**

He was a powerful person, yet power is really the ability of people to act together. Even if people listened to what Bush himself had to say, the events of his leadership were bigger than he was. The actions of his administration didn’t die, rather, they will have consequences for many years to come. George P. Bush, H.W.’s grandson, said after his death on Twitter that “to me, he will always be Gampy. The man who taught me to fish in Maine, to throw a horseshoe and to swing a baseball bat lefty.” This was the Bush who died on Friday. I’m not calling H. W. a good person, either — well-substantiated claims of sexual harassment say otherwise — but I am saying that we’re often too ready to conflate a person with something much bigger than any person — history. Let the discourse flow while these people are still alive and long after they die. Instead of using the deaths of people as reminders of politics that still influence us today, we should all strive to inform and be informed about the very relevant effects of history on our lives. Let the people who knew them take their deaths how they will — grief, relief, or otherwise — but don’t wait for the mouthpiece to die before trying to understand the politics and power they expressed. Hock is a member of the Class of 2021.





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# HUMOR

## Florida Experiences Problems with Recurring Recounts

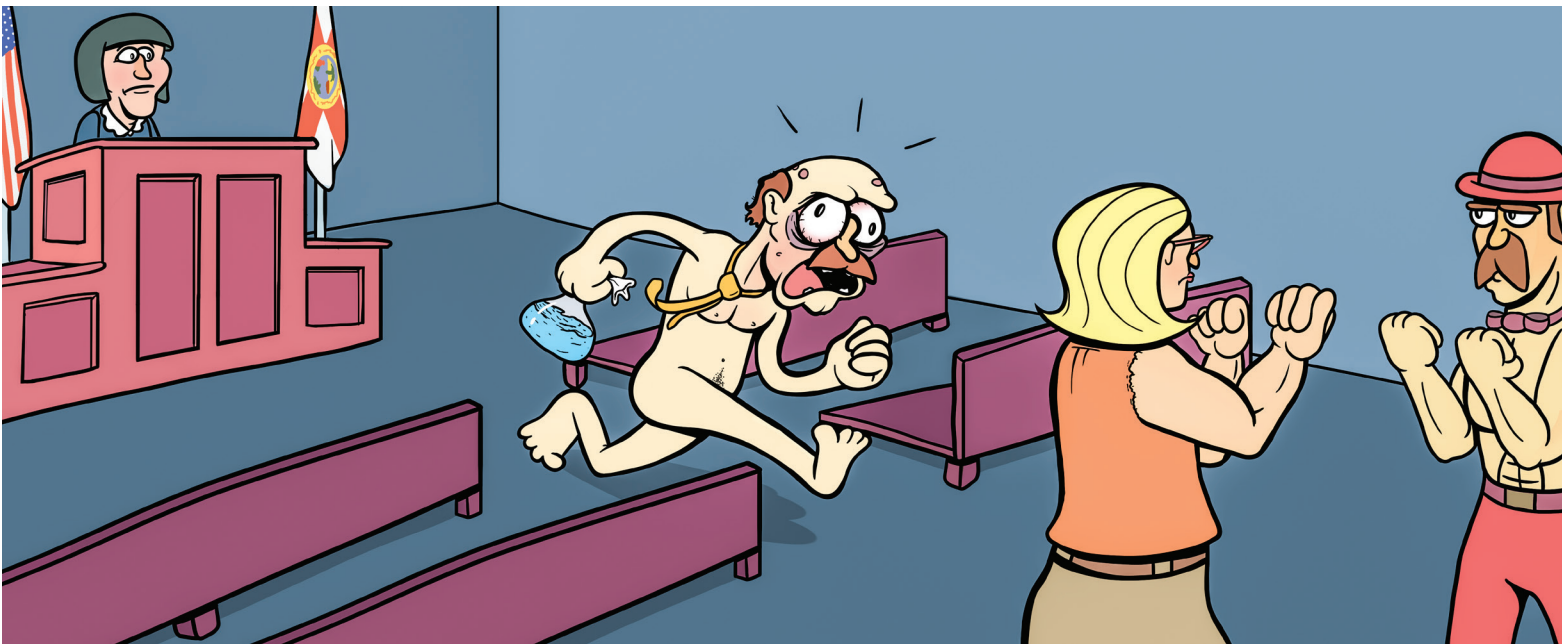
By MICAH GREENBERG  
SPORTS EDITOR

18 years after Florida decided to let nine people in funny robes not from their state vote for President on their behalf, the state’s mid-term elections for Governor and Senator went to a recount.

The process was plagued by several counties that procrastinated their ballot counting, and the Secretary of State, who refused to extend the due date even though the counties claimed they were really busy.

“Article Two, Title Seven, Chapter Four, Section One, Clause 398 of the Florida State Constitution says that the state is physically incapable of making decisions,” said Mark Law, an attorney from Jacksonville who specializes in elections litigation. “In fact, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, and Broward Counties were only accepted into the state on the condition that their votes would never matter due to recounts.”

In both races, an electronic recount resulted in an exact tie. Then, when the remaining counties finished their recounts, the Gubernatorial



REED STEINER/ILLUSTRATIONS STAFF

race remained tied, but incumbent Democratic Senator Bill Nelson gained a one-vote lead over Republican Governor Rick Scott.

“It’s a rigged system,” President Trump said in support of Governor Scott. “How can we expect to have a fair chance of winning if more people vote for the other side?”

However, a subsequent mandatory hand recount returned the Senate race to a tie, while the Governor’s race also remained deadlocked. The hand recount

was notably interrupted when Florida man Alan E. Gator ran across a courtroom naked while high on crystal meth, only to run into his ex-wife in a situation that involved fisticuffs.

Weeks after the vote occurred, there is still doubt surrounding the outcome. “It’s really a shame that the process has dragged on for so long,” Democratic candidate for Governor Andrew Gillum said. “It’s delaying my fundraising abilities for my 2020 Presidential campaign.”

With both races still tied, Florida law grants the State Supreme Court the ability to decide by any other non-biased means. Chief Justice Chancellor Luck-Gavel ruled that the election would be decided by coin flip. Republicans attempted to use the “Heads I win, tails you lose” trick, but it didn’t matter since the coin landed perfectly on its side.

The Florida Supreme Court then gave up, and scheduled a redo of the election in December, drawing the ire of many who spent hours wait-

ing in line to vote the first time. “I don’t want no Yankee snowbirds coming down here and voting for our god-fearing officials,” panhandle native Buck Strongguy said, while holding a rifle.

In addition to Senate and Governor, the special election will also include the race for Florida Agriculture Commissioner, which apparently is a thing. The voters of Florida now continue to consider making up their minds.

*Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021.*

## Michael Bublé Emerges From Year-Long Hibernation In Egg To Judge Mankind

By JOHN PINTO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Michael Bublé emerged from his annual 11-month-long hibernation last Sunday and immediately began judging the sins of mankind while also singing Christmas standards. The 43-year old Canadian crooner, who spends every month but December entombed within a 9-foot-tall egg floating in open water a few miles off the coast of British Columbia, was seen dividing up a crowd of Vancouver Starbucks patrons by their moral purity.

“‘Cold December Night’ was playing when he came in, and Michael started

singing along,” Starbucks patron George Berlin said. “It was like two Michaels singing at once while he searched all of our faces for signs of goodness or wickedness. Really eerie, but kind of reassuring at the same time. Like going back home for Christmas and finding out that your old mail carrier got kidnapped or something.” Here Berlin stopped for a moment to collect his thoughts, before saying, “Actually, ‘Cold December Night’ is totally a Bublé original. That’s, like, the only song he wrote on the entire Christmas record. Weird.”

Starbucks declined to officially comment on Bublé’s reemergence, but

several Starbucks workers at the Vancouver location where the Judgement occurred stepped forward on the grounds of anonymity.

“We get Bublé twenty-four-sev as is,” one worker said, “and that’s frankly a bit too much. I don’t think people realize that there’s only one Bublé Christmas record, and that’s the only one we have on rotation. I’ve tried to sneak Vince Guaraldi in there a couple times, but every time ‘Linus and Lucy’ comes on, my manager comes rushing out and tells me to change it back or else ‘he’ll know.’ Anyways, dude comes in singing and floating two feet off the ground and tells me

in between verses that I have ‘covetous eyes.’ I gave him a cake pop in hopes that he’d calm down, but it did not work.”

From Vancouver, Bublé began a long and terrible trek eastward, flying at a speed of about 35 miles per hour to maximize the amount of time he could spend serenading and judging every person he encountered while still arriving in New York City in time for a performance at the Nov. 28. Rockefeller Center Christmas tree lighting. Scenes of desolation and yuletide joy were left in his wake, along with small-town locals both starstruck and perplexed by the singer’s role as arbiter of humanity.

“Is this why he just kind of vanishes until Christmas time every year?” Missoula, MT native Christine Johnson wondered. “Like,

I know all about the egg and stuff. But the origin of the egg — that’s a real mystery, innit? And how did he know that, on the one hand, I do love freebasing but, on the other hand, I’m a friggin’ force in the soup kitchen I volunteer at, largely because of the freebasing? Stars, man — they really aren’t anything like us.”

Bublé declined to comment on his ultimate intentions when passing by a gauntlet of reporters and cameramen the Campus Times had set up just northeast of Erie, PA, but he did tell this reporter that “blood skies were in [his] future,” and that “city sidewalks, blink a bright red and green.”

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



## LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE...

BY RUKAYAT AKINOLA & LUIS ORTIZ VASQUEZ, ILLUSTRATED BY JANE PRITCHARD





# CULTURE

## A Film to Make You Regret that Steak

By SING CHAN  
STAFF WRITER

Sexism, racism, and ageism are familiar concepts to many at UR. But one group wants to talk more about another form of discrimination: speciesism.

The Student Association of Vegan and Vegetarian Youth and the Undergraduate Film Council gave students an introduction to speciesism with a screening and discussion of “Earthlings,” a documentary on animal exploitation, known for its disturbing content.

Disturbing enough that students were paid five dollars to stay through it. (They were given the option to donate the money to Farm Sanctuary, a local New York animal protection.) As they entered, students were handed brochures and flyers on vegetarianism and veganism.

The documentary reveals how humans are highly dependent on animals through five aspects: pets, food, clothing, entertainment, and science. The title, “Earthlings,” is a term that excludes all forms of discrimination, simply defined as “one who inhabits the earth.”

Senior Sarah Hackley, president of the Association, told the Campus Times that it is “easy for humans to empathize with other humans [...] engage with social justice, [and] understand the sufferings of other humans, [but] see other creatures as mere objects.”

Senior Gabrielle Bowen, co-president of the Council, agrees.

“Every life form is an earthling,” Bowen said. “As humans, we should have humility to admit that every life form deserves to not live in suffering.”



SING CHAN / STAFF WRITER

Pictured are Sarah Hackley, president of SAVVY and Gabrielle Bowen, co-president of UFC.

The decision to have the co-sponsored screening of “Earthlings” marked the start of a friendship between the two presidents. Bowen said she was influenced by Hackley’s enthusiasm for the issue.

“Sarah’s passion moved on to me. My interest grows as my relationship with Sarah grew,” Bowen said. “I started understanding what true empathy is.”

Hackley, who has been a vegan for about six years and an animal rights activist for over year, considers confrontations with skeptics

progress because “any reaction is a good reaction.”

That’s why, despite the film’s upsetting content, Bowen urged people to watch.

“[D]eciding against watching it because you are afraid [...] only points out your inability to take the most basic step to watch an introductory film that expands on the experience of other earth life forms,” she said.

Still, the film left her shaken.

“The magnitude of sufferings, uncountable numbers of animals

[...] the whole time I thought ‘imagine that was me,’” Bowen said.

Several attendees were similarly upset.

“The animals in the meat industry are tortured their entire lives and then suffer from painful deaths,” said first-year Katie Morgan, who has been vegetarian for years.

“It is brutal to watch and emotional and eye-opening, and I believe that a lot of that comes from feelings of shock and confusion,” said junior Courtney Hale, who is

vegan.

“I am speechless; I don’t know what to comment. The fact that the truth is so violent and disturbing just—” first-year Savannah Shao said. “I think I need time to reflect.”

Sophomore Christina Rusu prompted people to take small steps.

“If you take baby steps — not buying fur or leather, having a vegan meal once a day or week — [you] can still help the cause.”

*Chan is a member of the Class of 2022.*

## ROC Players’ ‘Cabaret’ is Dreadful, and it Should Be

By WIL AIKEN  
CULTURE EDITOR

The ROC Players’ production of “Cabaret,” was difficult, disturbing, and upsetting. And I wouldn’t have had it any other way.

Running in the May Room over the weekend, their production of the musical, directed by junior Emily Tworek, is a masterclass in the art of narrative dread.

“Cabaret” tells the story of a sleazy nightclub in early 1930s Berlin, showcasing songs and dances all receptacles for sexuality.

It’s called the Kit Kat Klub, and the play opens as if we, the audience, are spending our night there.

The Emcee (played ferociously by first-year Jack Bell) ushered the audience in and out of different storylines. The main story follows Cliff Bradshaw (talented first-year Richard Nessler), an American writer who falls in love with Kit Kat Klub perform-

er Sally Bowles (senior Rosie Flanagan). Meanwhile, Cliff’s aging landlady Fraulein Schneider (junior Aine Rhyn) and Jewish fruit seller Herr Schultz (senior Will Cunningham) entertain a romance. The early revelation that Schultz is Jewish, through his wishing of “mazel,” was the first indication of the play’s direction, and the first hint of dread. The Nazis were rising.

The first few numbers of the play, during which the players struggled a bit finding their footing, nevertheless felt carefree. Early ‘30s Berlin is painted as a wonderland of desire and vice, a youthful fantasy world where all are welcome. The first number, which was echoed throughout the play, is appropriately titled “Willkommen,” German for “welcome.” The Kit Kat Klub may be sleazy, but all have a place there.

More importantly, it’s fun. Cabaret songs like “Don’t Tell Mama,” performed with a palpable energy, are much more fun to pay attention to than the quick

mention of Cliff having “Mein Kampf” in his suitcase.

By juxtaposing joy with hate, and pleasure with dread, the first act of “Cabaret” offered a choice. I could either watch the play worrying about the looming terror of the Nazis, or I could forget all that and enjoy the show, hop-

***Everything that was so wonderful about the first act became stained with the horror of the second.***

ing it never ended. Essentially, I was given the same choice as the characters of the play.

It speaks to the quality of the Players’ production that, even with the hindsight of history, I am ashamed to admit the choice I made.

I still feel a sting from the final scene of act one. There was no

question as to where act two was going.

Everything that was so wonderful about the first act became stained with the horror of the second. The sweet story of Schultz and Schneider becomes infested with Nazism and anti semitism. The fear and dread mounted, sexual numbers turned sinister, and kick lines became goose-steps. The flamboyance and energy of the Emcee’s performances started to feel inappropriate and offensive in the context of the play. The attitude, embodied by the Emcee, the dancers, and the pit orchestra, that once felt so gleeful now felt upsettingly wrong.

The plays message, that ignorance is ineffective and wrong, never felt heavy-handed, because I always believed the characters. In particular Flanagan’s performance as Sally, a woman whose love for a city is so addictively strong that she is willing to lose everything to keep it. Flanagan’s songs felt more like monologues, and her late number “Cabaret,” was a wrenchingly real portray-

al of denial. Cunningham was heartbreaking as Schultz, and Rhyn painfully raw as Schneider, whose love is overpowered by her instinct for survival, rendered tragically and engrossingly in “What Would You Do?”

The production team deserves a nod here, because their technical skill is essential to telling the story with the respect it deserves. The pit orchestra led by sophomore Michael Wizorek, the sets by sophomore Delilah Przybyla, costumes by senior Keneon Williams and first-year Madalayne Martin-Olenski, and lighting by Wizorek and first-year Kaelyn MacFarlane-Connelly worked in tandem to create a believable world for the characters to inhabit.

Ultimately, “Cabaret” is urgently relevant, a cautionary tale about the war between empathy and ignorance. It’s not an easy pill to swallow. Empathy hurts and so does “Cabaret.” And it should.

*Aiken is a member of the Class of 2021.*



# What Stan Lee Really Gave Us



By **ARYAMAN MAJUMDAR**  
OPINIONS EDITOR

We can sling words about Grandpa Marvel all day — visionary, salesman, genius, liar. But everyone agrees the artistic world would have been measurably different without him.

Stan Lee reinvigorated the comic book industry and laid a foundation for a multi-billion dollar movie-verse.

But would we have this comic-book renaissance without Lee?? Do we really believe that shared universes wouldn't have emerged in comic books? And do we really believe that the film industry wouldn't have successfully capitalized on this?

We can't know the answer to any hypothetical. But since we can guess at some things with a degree of confidence, here are some things that probably would have been considerably delayed if not for Stan Lee.

**THE MARVEL METHOD**  
When Lee was overwhelmed with work in the '60s, he took short-cuts. He stopped writing full scripts and gave his artists a plot outline.

Eventually, he even stopped with the outlines, and began passing on just a few words.

The artist gained more visual freedom to craft the story, effectively becoming a writer. Eventually, comics saw a new visual flexibility. Artists weren't pinned to the scripts of wordy writers. The figures and scenes that arose, like most of Jack Kirby's subsequent work, came from an artist's heart.

Others followed this method and adopted it as a standard. This top-down collaborative method was so economic that it bled into other media like film and is pervasive today.

**PERSONALITY**  
Lee's abilities in the real world were magnetic. With every upcoming project, Lee was there to assure us that it would blow everyone away. The media identifies this as a marketing ploy, but it was so much more. Lee's premature-grandad persona didn't just play up his short-term projects.

The caricature instead was an embodiment of the value of Stan Lee — what he thought life meant, what he thought life was. Every comic book penned by him was an approximation of this value.

Lee's greatest tangible contribution was his personality, emulated and adopted by countless writers and artists after him. This, with his success, allowed comic book writers to not be embarrassed about talking about their profession. The man who adopted a pen name to avoid being labeled a comic writer gave power to the identity of the profession itself.

**HE GOT PEOPLE**  
Stan Lee understood the human being.

All his tangible achievements were a direct result of this. The Marvel Method came from a realization that artists could capture stories he'd imagined, maybe better than he would. The shared universes came from his insight of the social character of people.. The family dynamics of the Fantastic Four, the pariah complexes of the X-Men, and the humanity of Spider-Man came from this intuition. And his larger-than-life personality was a capitalization on this knowledge.

When Lee went into comics, he wanted to one day write a Great American Novel. He ended up writing many. Too many to count.

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

SING CHAN / STAFF WRITER

NOT VANILLA

## At the Crossroads of Sass and Serious



By **VENNELA PANDARABOYINA**  
COLUMNIST

Reader, these past few weeks I have been watching some daytime TV. I cable access where I live. Instead, I've been watching clips on YouTube. Specifically, I started watching the long-running daytime talk show "The View."

I'm not sure what got me to start watching "The View," but once I started, I couldn't stop.

"The View" is a daytime talk show where five women sit around a semicircle table and discuss the day's topics, ranging from marital squabbles to political events. They also have interviews, from Hollywood celebrities to prominent political figures, and fun segments to keep things light. The show was started by the legendary Barbara Walters and has been on-air for 20 years. The all-woman lineup has gone through many changes, although a few have endured for long stretches.

What intrigued me most were the political segments. This current cast contains women with different socio-political backgrounds. Currently on the show are Joy Behar and Whoopi Goldberg (both liberal), Meghan McCain and Abby Huntsman (both conservative), and Sunny Hostin (a moderate). They have open, sometimes heated discussions about political issues, ranging from the President's ties to Russia to the Dan Crenshaw SNL controversy.

These discussions — which feature each host's opinion — are also informative. The show tries its best to provide facts, and to correct itself when the hosts cross the boundary from opinion to fiction. And the variety of backgrounds on the panel keep each host in check, challenging their opinions and pushing all of them to have a discussion that isn't one sided.

I do find the discussions interesting — it gives me a variety of views on the topics of the day. But over time, I realized why I kept watching

the videos. It was the first platform I found where an all-woman group discussed imperative current events and their impact on American society.

For sure, I listen to podcasts and watch news clips featuring women, but there are always men (often outnumbering the women) talking too. And, reader, I'm not saying that men should not be part of political discussions. That's absurd. It was simply refreshing for me to absorb perspectives on current events from a panel that only had female voices. For the first time, I saw my relationships with other women represented on mainstream television. There had been representation of women friend groups on television, but rarely did they talk about anything but romantic relationships or family squabbles. "The View" offers an all-encompassing coverage of what American women talk about — serious current events and fluffy gossip.

I am sure there are now other shows or podcasts out there that also feature an all-woman discussion of current events. But "The View" was at its time revolutionary — no daytime talk show (primarily targeted at middle-aged women) had hard hitting content, lacking the fluff of other daytime talk shows. This show has tackled issues from LGBTQ rights to school shootings, treating the issues and their audience seriously. It was the first show where women's political and social views on current societal issues were prominently featured.

"The View" isn't perfect — over its 20 year run, it has had many controversies and questionable producing decisions. But, for me, its significance is something bigger than the show itself. In this current era, there's a lot of talk about representation, and one of the underrepresented aspects of womanhood is the acknowledgement that women's lives — like all lives — are multi-dimensional. You bet I can gab about light-hearted topics, but I can also engage in heavy discussion about sensitive topics. And "The View" is one of the first platforms I've found that displays this.

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



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# Revolt is Bizarre and Empowering

By DOMINIQUE DORVIL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On the last day of November, I attended “Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.” I did no prior research on the play besides a brief script-skimming. I was excited about the play, because I saw the word “vagina” numerous times.

It was my first time in Todd Union in over a year. I scanned the room for familiar faces and decided to sit in the center of the front row with my dear friend. (This is protocol for seat-finding with my short stature.)

The seats were nearly completely filled for the show’s second performance. The stage was set up with three boxes filled with the colors yellow, green, and red. Soon enough, actors filled those spaces wearing outfits donning the same hues.

The first few scenes seemed to be set in modern day, like one where a guy wants to sleep with a girl. But the characters’ matter of speech and dress made it a little difficult to distinguish the time period. It didn’t help that in the second scene, a female

character described marriage as a way to own a woman, which I don’t believe is the case today.

This scene, along with the title, set the show’s mood. It let the audience know that this was a feminist play and that women weren’t going to stay silent. They were going to fight back and question the commonplace normativity of language used for relationship topics like sex and marriage. Are the conventional ways of regarding sex objectify-

*They were going to fight back and question the commonplace normativity of language used for relationship topics like sex and marriage.*

ing? What does marriage really mean? Does the institution of marriage truly exhibit the feelings of oneness and unity till death?

When the first three scenes

were done, only 15 minutes had passed. I was eager to see how else the space was going to be configured to tell the story, since the three color-settings were already used. And then, all of a sudden, they pushed the middle box to the ground and the next scene began. From that point on, things started to get increasingly figurative.

The wordiness of the first three scenes was apparent, but the dialogue was understandable. After that, the dialogue throughout the play was no longer self-explanatory. The audience had to figure things out through things popping out of nowhere.

My favorite scenes were the ones that startled me most. All the actors were on stage doing something: selling whole hymens or sliding out from beneath my seat, creating smoke, flashing lights, or making an explosion of confetti with words written on each piece. My heart raced as I tried to pick up as much confetti as I could, thinking that they contained different messages. But they all spelled the word “galvanize.”

Galvanize means to shock or

excite someone in hopes of taking action. The people involved in the play definitely succeeded at shocking me. I thoroughly enjoyed the quality of acting that was showcased. At one point, someone dropped their keys; although this was not part of the script, sophomore Olivia Banc (actor and Campus Times columnist) instinctually asked, “What was that?” This showed how in-character she was, and I admired her performance throughout the

*The people involved in the play definitely succeeded at shocking me. I thoroughly enjoyed the quality of acting that was showcased.*

show.

After reading the program and talking to two of the cast members, Banc and first-year Dayna Moonegan, many loose ends were sewn together. This

is a play that questions common words we use today, like freedom. It works to reclaim womanhood after a traumatic event and discusses the ways the dehumanization process shifts from using womanly titles like mother and wife to the physical shutting down of the body. The idea of the play is empowering because, in the end, four women start a new world without men. Though this sounds far from ever coming to fruition, it’s admirably rebellious.

Be warned. The play has a lot of mouth action. Not only with too much verbal performance, but also with elements exiting the body: vomit, blood, tongues — I could go on. If you have seen any of the artist Marina Abramović’s works, the play is noticeably influenced by things she’s done and the creative approach of avant-garde.

There are lots of flashing lights, so epileptic theater-goers should be cautious. Otherwise, you should go. And make sure you sit in the front and collect as much confetti as you can.

*Dorvil is a member of the Class of 2021.*

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# The NFL Falls Short In Fostering Inclusivity

By MICAH GREENBERG  
SPORTS EDITOR

Former Dallas Cowboys linebacker Jeff Rohrer, who played in the league in the 1980s, became the first former NFL player to openly enter into a gay marriage in mid November.

This would seem like a somewhat substantial story for a league which “strives to be a model of diversity and inclusion.” Yet the story received almost no coverage on ESPN nor the league-owned NFL Network.

The NFL has a strange relationship with homosexual ath-

*This would seem like a somewhat substantial story for a league which “strives to be a model of diversity and inclusion”*

letes. In 2014, defensive end Michael Sam became the first openly gay player to be drafted into the league, and the media took notice. He was picked by

the Rams in the last round, and was cut before playing in any game. He briefly joined the practice squad of the Dallas Cowboys and later had a stint with the Montreal Alouettes of the CFL, but was quickly out of football.

Yet, there were reports in 2016 that the league knew teams were unlikely to draft Sam, and they made a deal with the Rams such that Sam would be drafted. In exchange, the Rams would not be featured on HBO’s Hard Knocks. This story was denied, but soon after the Rams cut Sam, HBO announced that the team would be featured on Hard Knocks.

Essentially, the NFL saw Michael Sam’s employment as a public relations stunt. But if that’s true, then why did they not play up the Rohrer story?

In October, the Boston Globe published a and multi-part article and podcast about former Patriots’ tight end Aaron Hernandez, who is known for allegations of murder and his suicide while in jail.

In the series, former teammates of Hernandez discuss their time with him. Former Patriots receiver Brandon Lloyd said fellow receiver Wes Welker told him that Hernandez was “going to talk about gay sex. Just do

your best to ignore it. Even walk away.”

I found it interesting that the response to Hernandez was to

*Essentially, the NFL saw Michael Sam’s employment as a public relations stunt. But if that’s true, then why did they not play up the Rohrer story?*

ignore him. It seems clear that the culture of the NFL is very macho, and it seems that players did not know how to respond to Hernandez.

In 2013, the Miami Dolphins suspended offensive lineman Richie Incognito for his leading role in systematic harassment of fellow offensive lineman Jonathan Martin. Martin was abused in a variety of ways, including repeatedly being called slurs relating to homosexuality even though he was not believed to be gay.

The Richie Incognito scandal was just another example of an NFL team having issues due to

its macho culture. After Incognito was suspended and missed an entire season, he played an additional three years in the league for the Bills. Joe Philbin, who was the head coach of the Dolphins at the time, was recently elevated to interim head coach of the Packers after losing his old job.

On the other end, Martin remained in the league for just one year, and last year he was arrested for making criminal threats, including the social media post “When you’re a bully victim & a coward, your options are suicide, or revenge.”

Philbin and Incognito found second chances in the league, while Jonathan Martin did not.

*Philbin and Incognito found second chances in the league, while Jonathan Martin did not.*

Aaron Hernandez was ignored. Michael Sam had almost no success in the NFL, and the league might have used him in a public relations stunt. Unlike the staged milestone of Michael Sam, Jeff

Rohrer became the first former NFL player to enter a gay marriage, and the media didn’t care.

In the past week, another issue relating to the league’s sliding moral scales and culture of strongmen came to the forefront. Linebacker Reuben Foster was signed by the Redskins after being cut by the 49ers for a domestic violence arrest. Later, Chiefs running back Kareem Hunt was cut when a video was released showing him kicking a woman in February, though it is unclear what the Chiefs and the league knew and when. Needless to say, the league also has a domestic violence problem.

I understand that several former NFL players other than Rohrer have come out as gay, and that Rohrer was not a very well-known player, so it shouldn’t be too surprising that the story didn’t gain too much traction.

But when it comes to players who are gay or are mistreated due to a perception of being homosexual, the NFL claims to support its diversity, but has recently fallen short of actually doing anything to change the league’s culture to be more inclusive.

*Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021*

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### LAST WEEK’S RESULTS

**TUESDAY, NOV. 27**

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL AT OSWEGO STATE – W(62–46)

**THURSDAY, NOV. 29**

MEN’S SQUASH VS. UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO – W(7–2)

**FRIDAY, NOV. 30**

MEN’S SOCCER VS. TUFTS UNIVERSITY IN NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS FINAL 4 – L(3–1)

**SATURDAY, DEC. 1**

MEN’S SQUASH VS. UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA – L(6–3)

**SUNDAY, DEC. 2**

MEN’S SQUASH VS. PRINCETON UNIVERSITY – W(8–1)

### THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

**TUESDAY, DEC. 4**

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL VS. COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT – 6 P.M.  
MEN’S BASKETBALL VS. COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT – 8 P.M.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 6**

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL VS. ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE AT NAZARETH COLLEGE – 6 P.M.  
MEN’S BASKETBALL VS. ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE AT NAZARETH COLLEGE – 8 P.M.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 8**

MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT UTICA COLLEGE EARLY SEASON INVITATIONAL – 10 A.M.  
WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT UTICA COLLEGE EARLY SEASON INVITATIONAL – 10 A.M.  
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL VS. NAZARETH COLLEGE AT ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE – 6 P.M.  
MEN’S BASKETBALL VS. NAZARETH COLLEGE AT ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE – 8 P.M.



# SPORTS

## Men’s Soccer Defeats Defending Champion in Playoff

By KSENIYA KALAURO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Men’s Soccer defeated Messiah College in the Elite Eight, not only breaking into the Final Four, for the first time but also avenging their loss to last year’s champion and the nation’s top-ranked team.

The team then lost 3–1 to Tufts in the Final Four, and had earlier defeated Eastern University 1–0.

On Sunday, Nov. 18, the ‘Jackets faced the vaunted Messiah.

Both teams were attacking from the very beginning. In the 33rd minute, junior midfielder Ulrik Koren scored with on an assist from senior Patrice Douge.

It didn’t take long for Messiah to settle the score. Nick West netted his 30th goal of the season five minutes after the second half started. Eight minutes before the end of the second half, a combination of juniors Christian Batlier, Zach Lawlor and Aidan Miller forced Messiah goalkeeper Connor Bell to give up an own goal.

Messiah had just one shot in the last 20 minutes, and a yellow card in the 86th minute further limited the team’s scoring chances, so the ‘Jackets held on to beat Messiah 2–1.

On Nov. 30, the ‘Jackets lost 3–1 in the Final Four in Greensboro, North Carolina, to the eventual na-

tional champion, Tufts University.

The game was choppy than most. Both teams had two players receive yellow cards. Tufts had 17 fouls, while the ‘Jackets fouled nine times.

Tufts started off in control, and in the 21st minute, senior goalie Patrick Conway made a fantastic save, but on the ensuing corner kick, Tufts scored on a header.

Tufts scored twice more near the beginning of the second half. Though the ‘Jackets worked to mount a comeback, the only response was a goal by Miller in the 72nd minute, and the score remained 3–1.

Before facing Messiah and Tufts, the ‘Jackets found themselves slated against Eastern University in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. But around 12 hours before the team left for Pennsylvania, the weekend’s three games were moved to a snowy Fauver due to extreme weather conditions in Mechanicsburg.

The ‘Jackets faced Eastern the afternoon of Nov. 17. The most dangerous moment for the ‘Jackets on defense was near the end of the first half when Eastern had a corner kick, but senior goalkeeper Patrick Conway got the save. Defense was key for the ‘Jackets, as the first half was scoreless despite seven Eastern corners compared to one offensive corner kick for the ‘Jackets.



KSENIYA KALAURO / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior midfielder Bryce Ikeda fights for the ball in an Elite Eight matchup against reigning champion Messiah

The ‘Jackets broke onto the scoreboard in the 66th minute when junior forward Josh Cooley managed to put the ball in the low left corner off Miller’s assist. The ‘Jackets had a hard time defending while Eastern kept attacking from different sides in an attempt to even the score. The ‘Jackets won but there was no time

to relax, since the Elite Eight game promised to be intense.

Several seniors finished fantastic seasons. Midfielder Bryce Ikeda was named an All-American prior to the Tufts game. Defender Nik Angyal contributed greatly on the pitch as a starter, but also received the Elite 90 Award for academic

excellence. Goalie Patrick Conway saved 80 percent of shots he faced.

The Final Four appearance marked the most successful Men’s Soccer season in school history. Next year’s team will have a lot to live up to.

*Kalaur is a member of the Class of 2022*

## Forness Has High Hopes For Basketball Season

By MICAH GREENBERG  
SPORTS EDITOR

Though Women’s Basketball is off to a 1–4 start, junior forward Ally Forness has been an important starter. Forness leads the team in field goal percentage.

**How did you get interested in basketball?**

I’ve been interested in basketball since I was in about first grade. My dad and some of his friends decided to put together a clinic called “Little Hoopers,” and I wasn’t technically old enough to be in the clinic yet, but my dad would let me join in, and I absolutely loved it and have loved it ever since.

**What do you enjoy most about basketball at UR?**

The best part of basketball here at UR is hands down the girls I’m on the team with. We spend a lot of time together on the court and even more off, which makes me feel so lucky since many of my teammates are the most amazing people I know. We work hard and basketball is not an easy sport, so being on such a supportive team makes every day worth it.

**How have you grown as an athlete over the course of your collegiate career?**



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

Forness brings experience to a team that has seen several first-years receive substantial playing time

When I came in as a first-year on the team, I was a new post player joining a solid group of four experienced post players who were all juniors, so needless to say I took a bit of a back seat to All-American Al Leslie and practical All-American Lauren Deming for my first two years. This year is entirely different since I am now the most experienced post player with quite a few first-years, and we’re all learning together. The experience I gained from going against such strong people before has definitely developed me into a much bet-

ter athlete than I was when I first stepped foot in the Palestra.

**What are your expectations for the basketball team this season?**

I think we’re going to have a surprising season this year and are going to do very well. Many people see this year as a rebuilding year, and we have had a bit of a rocky start, but I think once we gain some more experience and really learn how to play together, we are going to do some damage.

**How do you balance academics and athletics?**

I am constantly looking ahead and trying to keep my schedule organized, just to make sure I know when my exams and big assignments are due versus when my games and traveling are. Luckily, professors here are very cooperative with student athletes as far as making up classes or exams if they conflict with major sporting events.

**Who has had the greatest im-**

**pact on your athletic career, and why?**

My parents have had the greatest impact on my athletic career because of their nonstop support. At least one of them has made it to all but two of my collegiate games, including conference games we play once a year in places like Chicago, Atlanta, St. Louis, etc. They also have been my personal rebounders whenever I ask and are constantly asking me if there is anything they can do to help me in my training. While doing all this, they never put too much pressure on me since they know I already do that to myself, which I am always thankful for.

**Who is your favorite professional athlete, and why?**

My favorite professional athlete is Candace Parker because, well, for one, she is a professional female basketball player who plays post and can dunk, but she also had a baby very early in her career and came back from that no problem and still has many years left to play. I always have so much admiration for female athletes who are able to do that.

**What is your spirit animal?**

My spirit animal is definitely a dog!

*Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021.*