

Campus Times

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Feldman Talks Jaeger, Moving On

By EFUA AGYARE-KUMI
COPY EDITOR

University President Richard Feldman asserted that Professor T. Florian Jaeger's return to teaching does not mean the end of progress for UR in an interview last week with the Campus Times.

"I think we can move on with Professor Jaeger teaching again," Feldman said. "We can address all the policies as we've been doing and do all the work we're trying to do to make the community feel more welcoming, to make people feel safe."

Feldman added that since the UR-commissioned investigation released earlier this semester found Jaeger had violated no school policy, and since the Faculty Senate censured his behaviour but not called for any sanctions, "we thought it would be okay for us to try and move on. We think this is part of the next phase."

As part of the moving-on process, the University has begun several initiatives seeking to improve campus culture and inclusion.

For starters, UR recently announced its intent to prohibit all intimate relations between faculty and graduate students, a change that would add to UR's existing policy banning relationships between faculty and undergraduate students.

"Trying to say when it's okay and when it's not would be too complicated," said Feldman, who also cited the power dynamics within such relationships as a further source of confusion.

Furthermore, a new statement of "vision and values" — created via a committee — will apply not just to the College but to the entire University, including the graduate programs and the Medical Center. The statement will be up for approval in the coming May.

Feldman expressed his desire for how the statement could be used to shape campus culture.

"My hope is that when people behave in ways that

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Gil and Holtz Win Uncontested SA Election



JUSTIN TROMBLY / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Junior Beatriz Gil and sophomore Jamal Holtz celebrated their victory in the presidential and vice presidential election for the Students' Association Government.

By JUSTIN TROMBLY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Junior Beatriz Gil and sophomore Jamal Holtz won the uncontested SA presidential and vice-presidential election last Friday with an unofficial count of 1,402 votes.

"We're extremely happy," Gil said shortly after seeing the results.

Added Holtz: "More happy to see that a lot of people turned out to vote."

Almost 2,100 students voted in the overall elections, according to the unofficial results, a slight decrease from last year's total.

The duo knew they would likely win the race — it was the first empty field since 2013 — but were concerned turnout might be low. They also didn't want to win only because they were unopposed.

"We still continued to meet with groups," Holtz explained, saying the two spoke with around 30 student and other groups, which helped shaped their focus.

As Gil said when asked about what the ticket wanted to accomplish as president and vice president: "It's more like, what do the students want?"

Gil and Holtz plan to spend the rest of the semester laying the

groundwork for their return in the fall. And once that comes around, one of their first goals will be to meet with a representative of every group on campus "to express their concerns and to see what they want to get out of SA," said Holtz.

The two are particularly interested in meeting with cultural groups.

"To see in what way we can help them to actually achieve integration," Gil said.

Much of Gil's career as an SA senator — both she and Holtz have served two terms — has homed in on international students and their concerns, perhaps

to no surprise: She is from Spain.

And she may be the first international student elected SA president. Associate Dean of Students Anne-Marie Algier and Assistant Dean of Student Life Operations Laura Ballou — SA Government's advisers — said they couldn't recall any elected in their 20 years at UR.

"I'm beyond proud," Gil said, "because one of the things I've been working really, really hard on is to increase international student representation. I think that this is a great achievement, and I'm extremely, extremely happy about it."

Holtz, who is black, agreed

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The Latest Chapter in Booze on Campus? A Dry Frat

By SOPHIE AROESTY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Editor's Note: This is part two of two.

Thirty years after alcohol policies changed at UR, students are dealing with a new ethanol-inspired existential crisis. Sophomore Dan Green, president of Sigma Phi Epsilon, is leading his fraternity in a transition toward a substance-free house.

The switch isn't a campus rule, and it wasn't a decision made by this chapter, either. Sig Ep nationals ruled that all 215 chapters across the country must be substance-free. By 2018 all alcohol has to be confined to the rooms of brothers over the age of 21, but by 2020, no Sig Ep

house can have alcohol.

Green was supportive of the change.

"I don't see this impacting us negatively at all," he said. "If anything, I would hope it would have a positive impact. The fact is, people in this fraternity aren't changing, and that's our biggest draw — who we are as a brotherhood."

Green might be optimistic, but the initial response from brothers was less enthusiastic. Some brothers felt that partying — and booze — formed a large part of their brotherhood. But despite their initial hesitations, the Sig Ep brothers came to accept the change.

Green thinks this change will be felt across the entire frater-

nity quad, in time. He predicts that in five to 15 years, all fraternities will be substance free. Green explains that this change will be a response to all of the hazing incidents that have given fraternities a bad reputation, pointing to the death of a student at Penn State.

"Sig Ep now is very far ahead of the curve," he said.

Green could even see the entire campus going dry.

But Green might be overestimating how revolutionary Sig Ep's example is to the university. Karen Zenilman, associate director of student conduct, said that the University becoming a dry campus has not been a recent suggestion.

"We have dry components

to campus," she said. "The first-year buildings are dry, again, recognizing that underage drinking is illegal [...] Our policy is reflective of New York State law [and] federal law. But the way we respond to violations of that policy is consistent with harm reduction."

Harm reduction is how the University shapes all its alcohol policies. It's an approach that public health officials have been researching for the last 40 years.

"Harm reduction can be described as a strategy directed toward individuals or groups that aims to reduce the harms associated with certain behaviours," reads the scholarly journal linked on the Center

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COURTESY OF AKIRA RANJAN SAH/ UR PHOTOGRAPHY

HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR AND ROCHESTER RESIDENT SHARES HER STORY

As a young Jewish girl in Hungary, Lea Malek shared her story of her family’s struggles to survive and her eventual liberation by the Russians. The emotional and inspiring event took place this past Tuesday at the Interfaith Chapel.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Stolen Items in Goler House (1)

APR. 7—A student reported personal items stolen from the mailroom in the Goler House.

Damaged Ceiling Tiles in Riverview (2)

APR. 8—An individual damaged multiple ceiling tiles on the third floor of Riverview.

Stolen Wallet in Strong Auditorium (3)

APR. 10—A visitor attending an event in Strong Auditorium reported their wallet stolen.

Students Disobey Fire Safety (4)

APR. 11—Students were reported not leaving the Riverview building during a fire alarm.

Armed Robbery on Genesee Street (5)

APR. 12—An undergraduate student was the victim of an armed robbery off campus on Genesee Street.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

CORRECTION

In an online article, junior Camilla Collingsworth was listed as a first-year.

Alcohol Policies Focus on Harm Reduction

ALCOHOL FROM PAGE 1

for Student Conflict Management’s website. “When applied to substance abuse, harm reduction accepts that a continuing level of drug use (both licit and illicit) in society is inevitable and defines objectives as reducing adverse consequences.”

A well-known example of a harm-reduction model is comprehensive sex education in high schools, said Director of Alcohol and Other Drug Education Amber Ingalls.

“It focuses on the reality that it happens, rather than avoiding it,” she said.

When it comes to responding to alcohol incidents on campus, the harm-reduction model allows Ingalls to play more of a supportive role for students, rather than that of someone in charge of doling out punishments.

“It’s recognizing that if you come alongside the person and kind of figure out what their thoughts are [...] you can get people to be more aware of the decisions they’re making,” she said.

For Zenilman and Ingalls, banning all alcohol would make it more difficult for them to be more than simply punitive.

“By driving the behavior more and more underground, we [wouldn’t] have the opportunity to have conversations with students about it,” said Zenilman. “I think that we would have a hard time offering things like the alcohol education seminar that are really beneficial to students and be a dry campus at the same time.”

Ingalls agreed with her, adding, “How we talk about [alcohol] would be drastically different [if we were a dry campus], and it would make it more challenging to meet the needs of students.”

Knowing the effects of abstinence-only policies, Zenilman doesn’t think that banning alcohol on campus would even change students’ behaviors. She thought it might mean fewer registered parties on the fraternity quad. Not fewer parties — fewer registered parties. (Registered parties are one way that the University tries to limit risky drinking.) It is one of several policies that the organization must follow, including having sober students present to monitor the party.

The policies aren’t new, but Green has noticed that things seem to be getting stricter on

campus.

“It’s not so much that things have changed; it’s the way that the rules are being implemented,” he said. “In the past, a fraternity would leave pizza boxes out, and whenever Public Safety would come by, they would see that everyone ate pizza. Now, they ask for the receipt and actually check to make sure there’s pizza in the box. They’re making sure people don’t cheat the system.”

That’s not the only way the University has learned to resist attempts to get around rules about alcohol. Drinking games aren’t allowed at UR, regardless of the age of the people playing, and regardless of the beverage they’re playing with. That’s right — students caught playing beer pong with water could get written up for violating University policy. Zenilman explained that it’s because students could fill their beer pong table cups with water but drink from nearby cups of beer. And there are other reasons to ban drinking games.

“So much research has shown that drinking games encourage binge drinking so significantly that it produces a safety risk,” Zenilman said. “We don’t want students practicing binge drinking. It sends out the message that it’s okay.”

The University has only one other rule for drinking on campus. There can’t be any common containers of alcohol, like kegs or bowls of punch. That also means that sizes of drink containers are limited: Students can have only 64 ounces of beer, five liters of wine, and one liter of liquor in a single container.

But students could have, say, 10 growlers of beer at the same party, which would together equal close to the amount of a small keg. Or, they could have infinite growlers of beer. (Theoretically.) The ruling is on individual container size rather than total amount of alcohol because of the dangers of common containers.

Besides hygienic concerns, drinking from common containers can make it more difficult for students to know how much alcohol they’re having. This is especially true of sweet punches that mask the taste of liquor. Despite the sometimes nitpicky policies, it’s clear that the University isn’t trying to keep students from drinking. It just wants to keep students safe.

Aroesty is a member of the Class of 2018.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

TUESDAY | APR. 16

ITALIAN CONVERSATION HOUR
FREDERICK DOUGLASS COMMONS, 305, 4:30 P.M. - 5:15 P.M.
The Language Center will be hosting conversation hours in Italian.

WOMEN’S SOFTBALL VS. SUNY FREDONIA
FAUVER STADIUM, VARSITY SOFTBALL FIELD, 3 P.M. - 8 P.M.
Come support Women’s Softball as it plays SUNY.

WEDNESDAY | MAR. 17

JSA DINNER AT DANFORTH
DANFORTH DINING HALL, 5 P.M. - 7 P.M.
The Japanese Students’ Association will be hosting a Japanese-themed dinner at Danforth.

ARABIC CONVERSATION HOUR
FREDERICK DOUGLASS COMMONS, 305, 1 P.M. - 2 P.M.
The Language Center will be hosting conversation hours in Arabic.

THURSDAY | MAR. 18

LECTURE: FRIENDSHIP AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM IN THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICA
RUSH RHEES LIBRARY, RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, 5 P.M. - 7 P.M.
Author Nancy A. Hewitt will be giving a lecture.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY, LECHASE ASSEMBLY (G-9576), 10:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Red Cross will be holding a blood drive sponsored by Friends of Strong.

FRIDAY | MAR. 19

CONCERT: HOPEMAN CARILLON “APRIL IN PARIS”
RUSH RHEES LIBRARY, 6:45 P.M. - 7:45 P.M.
The Department of Music will be holding a concert on the carillon.

S.E.E.D.: SPRING EXPLORATIONS AND EXPERIMENTAL DANCES
SPURRIER HALL, DANCE STUDIO, 8 P.M. - 10 P.M.
The Spring Explorations and Experimental Dances includes dances choreographed by students and faculty.

UR Mock Trial Team Heads to Nationals

By SHWETA KOUL
NEWS EDITOR

A made-up case of attempted murder got UR Mock Trial to nationals, but now the team will be competing with a brand new case — a conspiracy surrounding an armed bank robbery.

Starting this Friday in the three-day tournament, the club’s A team will take the stand against the best mock trial teams from colleges across the country.

“I never imagined this happening at all,” said senior Zachary Marshall-Carter, the group’s vice president and an A-team member. “My freshman year, we hadn’t been to nationals for maybe six or seven years until last year [...] We really want to show that we’re here, and we’re ready to compete at the highest level of competition.”

UR’s teams started prepping back in August, and now the A team — the only team that has survived eliminations — is headed to Minneapolis for the tournament. Last year, both A team and B team went to nationals at UCLA.

The A team placed fourth out of 20 at regionals in Buffalo and fifth out of 24 in the next postseason round in Pennsylvania to propel it to nationals.

What’s interesting about UR Mock Trial, and perhaps makes its run to nationals even more of an accomplishment, is that the organization is student run and student taught.

“We’re one of the few schools that’s both student run and we don’t have a law school associated with our

school,” said junior Samantha Myers, who is in charge of fundraising for Mock Trial and a member of the A team. “Most other teams have coaches who sometimes write their material or at least just gives them constant advice on how to be improving their material.”

Junior Hannah Brennan, publicist of Mock Trial and member of the A team, pointed out that despite a lack of resources, there is not a “drastic difference” either between the skill levels of their team and teams that are coached.

According to Marshall-Carter, about 700 teams sign up nationally each year, and now there are a total of 48 teams headed to the Hennepin County Government Center to compete.

The fictional case to be tried, released by the American Mock Trial Association after the second round of the postseason, is “United States v. Parker Barrow,” in which Barrow is accused of helping aid the robbery of a bank they work at.

The A Team has only had a few weeks to prepare for nationals and has thus increased the amount of time its met to plan out the best prosecution, defense, statements, witnesses, and cross-examinations.

“[Nationals is] more fun and relaxed because we know that we’re just there to do our best, and we can take some more risks and have a little more fun with it because there’s no pressure knowing that we have to move to the next round,” Brennan said.

The 48 teams competing in nationals this weekend are split into two divisions and

put through four rounds. At the opening ceremony, the A team will be paired up against a random college in the first round. Based on this performance, it will compete against teams that performed similarly.

Teams can be judged by law students, attorneys, and actual judges. Members receive individual scores on a specific task in the trials.

At the closing award ceremony, individual awards will be handed out to the best attorneys and witnesses, and the winner of each division will move to a fifth round, where a national champion will be crowned.

“I think, to me, that would just mean everything,” Marshall-Carter said on winning nationals. “It would mean that all the work, all the hundreds and hundreds of hours that we put in, hours of thought, it just means something. It really would solidify to me that this activity, we had a really great impact on it, especially for people to come.”

Most members of UR Mock Trial actually have no interest in practicing law. Many members enjoy the creativity they have to make their statements and their witness their own.

Although nationals will be tough to win, the members are overjoyed with the opportunity to compete and the lasting friends they have made throughout the process and throughout the competition.

*Features Editor David Schildkraut contributed reporting for this piece.
Koul is a member of Class of 2020.*

Gil-Holtz Ticket Focus on Representation



JUSTIN TROMBLY / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

President-Elect Gil and Vice President—Elect Holtz lock arms in unity as they witness the final election results.

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that international students are underrepresented on campus and said minority students are, too.

“Seeing those two [groups as the] two faces of student government, it sheds light to it, but it also gives students in those communities hope,” he said, explaining that his and Gil’s election could inspire other students from those communities to run for SA Government.

With the passage of the widely-publicized amendment to the SA Constitution, which was also on

the ballot, the pair plans to assemble a working group next semester to start implementing the waiver process for gendered, SA-affiliated groups. They want to meet with individuals affected by the waivers and make sure they are represented on the working group.

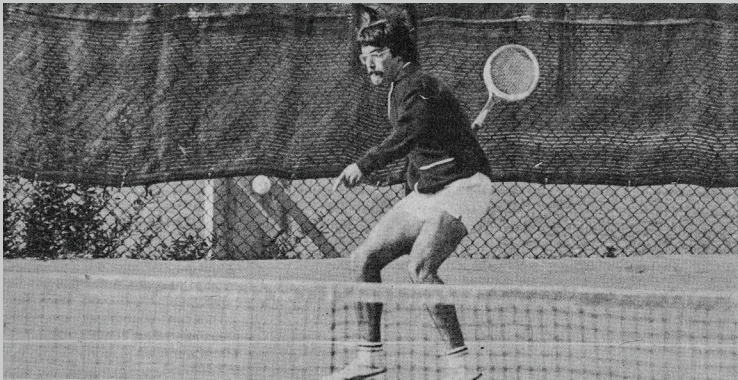
As they prepared to leave the Ruth-Merrill Center the night of their election, though, things were simpler.

“I’m excited,” Holtz said as the two hugged.

“Me too,” said Gil.

Trombly is a member of the Class of 2018.

THIS WEEK IN THE CAMPUS TIMES



RICHARD RIGHTHAND / CAMPUS TIMES 1976

(April 20, 1976) Bobby Pecora, No. 2 two singles

April 19, 1955 (*The Tower Times*)

The SA Government plans for a primary for the presidential election to prevent a situation in which a candidate is elected by a small plurality. The plans come at the same time that a referendum that would integrate the Women’s SA with the rest of the SA over the course of two years was placed on the ballot for the primaries.

April 17, 1956

To raise money for a fraternity brother’s musical show, “Once Over Lightly,” Phi Mu Alpha brothers spend weeks participating in a study with the Eastman Dental Dispensary to determine the effects of chewing gum on removing stains from teeth. The brothers were required to chew gum three times a day and have weekly progress checkups.

April 17, 1962

UR considers adding an East

Asian program to its Non-Western Civilizations Program. The new program would include courses on China, Japan, and India, and would result in the addition of language and literature courses for Japanese and Chinese.

April 17, 1962

The UR Hockey Club joins several other schools to form the Finger Lakes Collegiate Hockey League. Other schools joining the league include Ithaca College and Syracuse University.

April 19, 1968

The College Cabinet unanimously approves the constitution of the Black Students’ Union.

April 20, 1976

UR defeats Hobart 8–1 in tennis in its second consecutive win. The team had to face high winds during the matches.

Compiled by Features Editor David Schildkraut, Class of 2020.

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UR Aims To Do More Than White Reccomendations

FELDMAN FROM PAGE 1

are not what we’d like to see, they’ll get corrected locally [by] somebody saying, ‘Hey, that’s not what we do here,’ [...] before things develop into larger issues.”

As the University also strives to fulfill the investigation report recommendations, it is taking its time.

Citing one recommendation, which called for advisors to be made available “to advise claimants and the accused on sexual harassment claims involving faculty,” Feldman said he agreed but thought it could be broadened to include sexual harassment claims that involved anybody, not just faculty members.

“We’re trying to figure out what we need to cover the entire range of cases,” Feldman said, pointing out that the Medical Center has a different setting that needs to be accounted for.

With the help of a consul-

tant, the University is also devising the creation of a new office and position centered around diversity and equity. The purpose of this office would be to examine policies pertaining not only to sexual misconduct but to all issues of inclusion, such as race.

“Students can expect that over the coming months we will continue to address these issues, and there will be more and more changes of policy and continued improvement in things,” Feldman said, adding that he welcomes feedback from the student body on all new ideas and policy changes.

“The greatest success will come from the greatest collaboration,” he said.

Though hard deadlines have not been set for the creation of the office or the advisors, students can expect regular updates in their email.. They can also view and provide feedback on policies through the UR Respect website, which aims to increase access to information on University policy.

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

COMMUNITY

CT EATS

At Roll’n Yen, Try Tasty Thai Ice Cream — Chopped Fresh



By LUIS NOVA
WEBMASTER

This week on *CT Eats*, I’ve decided to talk about a place I stumbled across in South Wedge after devouring sandwiches at Harry G’s with our editor-in-chief. With a full belly of turkey BLT, I was walking down South Avenue, commanding the streets with the intimidation factor of my newly-engorged gut, when out of the corner of my eye I saw a sign that piqued my curiosity. “Rolling Ice Cream,” written in friendly pink lettering, drawn out in the shape of a spiral. I’d never seen it before, and yet it had apparently been there since last year. Weird, but to be fair, there’s always shops popping in and out of the town at times I’d never expect them to.

To fulfill my curiosity and to satisfy my general hunger I decided to stroll in with the full support of our editor, Justin, who backed me up in a hushed tone. (It was both frightening and calming, like a mother’s voice.)

Inside the shop, we were bombarded by colors, a chalkboard menu, and some staff hard at work making what turned out to be Thai ice cream. For those of you not in the know, Thai ice cream is a style of the dessert where you pour a flavor of liquid ice cream onto an icy plate, then spread it with a scraper until it becomes a thin sheet on top of the plate. After it’s sat for a bit, your liquid sheet will have slowly become a frozen sheet of ice cream, ready to be cut up and rolled. You put these rolls into a cup, throw some candies, cookie



LUIS NOVA / WEBMASTER

Roll’n Yen brings Thai ice cream to Rochester’s South Wedge neighborhood. The eatery gives you the option of a wide variety of ice cream and topping combinations.

crumbs, Pocky sticks, tapioca bubbles, whipped cream, or syrups on top, and boom, you’ve got Thai ice cream. I first had the stuff in a shop next to Eddie Huang’s Baohaus in NYC, and I’ve been hooked ever since.

This place — the real name of which is Roll’n Yen — followed all the routines of most Thai ice cream shops, but with an extra. At Roll’n Yen, you can get stuff mixed into your ice cream liquid as its being frozen up, letting you turn it into a blend of flavors and textures, fit to your preferences.

The ordering process at Roll’n goes like this: You pick a base ice cream flavor, choosing between vanilla, green tea, or chocolate. You then choose a mix-in, with options like Oreos, Snickers, cookie dough, chocolate chips, Nutella, mango, ba-

nana, strawberry, and a couple other fruits and candies. Then you put two toppings on top, choosing from Fruit Loops, mini-gummies, waffle cone crumbs, peanuts, coconut, and a few others. Finally, you drizzle a syrup on top, going with either chocolate, raspberry melba, caramel, white chocolate, rainbow sprinkles, and chocolate sprinkles. If you want, you can even get free whipped cream on top to seal the sugary deal.

For my ice cream, I was curious to try a green tea base mixed with cookie dough and then topped with peanut flakes, whipped cream, and chocolate drizzle. Green tea ice cream has become a sort of default favorite flavor for me now due to my Osaka binges, and Roll’n Yen seems to have gotten their flavor down pretty well. I’m glad to say that my bowl of

ice cream was absolutely delicious and creamy as hell, leaving a cool impression on my taste buds. Roll’n Yen is a family-run business. Justin and I met the owner — he was the guy rolling up our ice cream. He seemed like a good guy trying to do his best to make some great ice cream, and he chatted to us while we were waiting on our orders, so I can’t help but give him a thumbs-up for that one and recommend that people here on campus stop by and give his shop a visit, especially if they’ve never had Thai ice cream before.

There’s a lot of variety in the options there, it can be reached by taking the Orange Line, and it’s open every day of the week except Monday, starting at 12 p.m. each day and closing at 10 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, 11 p.m. on Friday and

Saturday, and 9 p.m. on Sunday.

You’ll probably spend about seven to 10 bucks depending on whether you choose a small or large ice cream size, and once you factor in your topping choices (with extra mix-ins at 50 cents each for candies and a dollar each for fruit, then extra toppings at 50 cents each).

If you show your student ID though, you can get a dollar off, so be sure to cash in on that deal though and get more toppings. Hopefully, whenever Mother Nature stops being so mad at us for electing Donald Trump as president, we can finally enjoy some Thai ice cream to celebrate the coming warm weather. Till then, see you all next week. I’m going back for more, even if it is a bit nippy out.

Nova is a member of the Class of 2018.

Campus News. Every Week.

OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Don’t Force Creativity



By SAMANTHA MAYNES
PRESENTATION EDITOR

For the past decade, there has been endless talk about funding the arts in public and private schools.

Music, art, dance, and drama have all been vastly diminished in importance, starved from funding because literacy and mathematics have been considered more important. Ever since us ‘90s kids were in elementary school, we’ve been groomed to prioritize math and memorize periodic tables. And maybe once a week, we would have time carved out in our schedule to paint a picture or express imagination.

Children in elementary school have an unbelievable capacity for imagination: making up games on the playground, drawing a picture of what the North Pole looks like, or even giving social lives to stuffed animals. This type of imagination evokes passion, innovation, and creativity that gets educated out through years of schooling.

When was the last time you remember being wrong about something and not fearing any consequences? Kids don’t fear the consequences of being creative. Kids aren’t afraid of being told they’re wrong. If you tell them they’re wrong, you’ve just entered an completely illogical argument with a 5-year-old that you will not win. Their imagination will prosper. On the other hand, we adults have lost the capacity to understand how to be wrong and be prepared to continue using creativity.

If you ask people what they think creativity is, maybe they’ll say that it’s the ability to draw a picture without a prompt. Maybe it’s writing a song on an instrument they know how to play, or writing a fictional story for their English class.

To me, creativity is a bit different. I don’t have the ability to do any of those things, I never have, and I most likely never will. I feel that I got educated out of my creativity, yet I’m expected to just continue to have this ability of creativity on demand in class. It’s like schools understand they are killing creativity, yet continuously ask students to have such talents despite their inability to provide the

environment to nourish this ability.

To this day, in college, part of your grade on a project or paper — a meaningless letter or number that will indirectly affect your future — may be a measure of creativity. Maybe the professor expects the students to make a video project “fun” by making you present information in an imaginative, funny, or artistic manner. This hard work or skill apparently provides the professor or teaching assistant with the means of assessing your intelligence on the material at a higher level than other students who lack such talents.

My definition of creativity is the ability to have unforced, valuable, original ideas that connect different perspectives.

I ask the students and faculty at the University: Is this how we want to measure creativity? My definition of creativity is the ability to have unforced, valuable, original ideas that connect different perspectives. When creativity is forced, would you still consider it creativity? When you’re given the task of being creative, how hard is that task to you? It’s kind of like when someone asks you to tell a joke on command. How funny is that joke really going to be? Most would just resort to a crappy dad joke, or maybe something corny that has to do with oranges and bananas.

Creativity is a powerful force, yet forced creativity has the power to kill creativity. Creativity makes us diverse individuals. Forced creativity makes us try to live up to what others believe creativity should be.

This inherently contradicts the essence of creativity: If creativity is suppose to make us all unique, why is this system forcing us all into being creative in a specific way? Why is someone grading one’s creativity? When was the last time you were creative without the fear of losing points? Is this the proper system that would facilitate bright minds to contribute new, original ideas into the workforce, or into new research to tie different studies together? Is such a system truly driving UR students to be “ever better”?

Maynes is a member of the Class of 2019

EDITORIAL BOARD

Feldman Makes Progress, but Be Wary

Deadlines for implementing sexual misconduct policy changes have crept up, but they haven’t all been met. A new diversity and equity office hasn’t been created yet, and the reassignment of cabinet-level administrators hasn’t been done.

Should we see this as a problem? According to University President Richard Feldman, the answer is no.

“It’s much more important we do these things right, that we do these things collaboratively, than we do them by some particular deadline,” he told the Democrat and Chronicle for an article published April 9.

According to the president, the delay has been caused by the administration trying to do more than what was initially planned and not because of a difficulty in gaining traction with the proposals. If this is indeed the case, we support the delay of deadlines. We understand that compromising

deadlines might be necessary in seeing plans through to their fullest.

The benefit of the doubt we give Feldman and the administration isn’t blind faith. There’s reason to believe they are making real progress. Take a look at the status updates on the White investigation recommendations on the University’s “Culture of Respect” website: We see that the administration has already created new sexual misconduct guides for students, faculty, and staff; identified two advisors to help the claimants and the accused; appointed consultant DeEtta Jones to help design a new office focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion; and reviewed mandatory training programs for UR community members, which are expected to be implemented in the fall.

The updates also showcase further nuances, such as making FAQs that clarify any ambiguity regarding the definition of sexual misconduct; identifying experiential

training for community members that supplement online modules explaining sexual misconduct; and recognizing that claimants might need different kinds of advisors. As the website reads, “there are differences between an advisor who helps a potential claimant or an accused party understand the process, and an advisor or advocate who provides support to a claimant or accused party in matters involving sexual harassment.”

But we must also recognize the situation as a slippery slope. Once deadlines are foregone, it gives allowance to further forego deadlines. Thus, students must keep in mind that deadlines were compromised and continue to put reasonable pressure on Feldman and his administration, so that there’s a continued incentive for them to get things done.

As it stands, the administration seems to be making good progress. But we must remain cautious.

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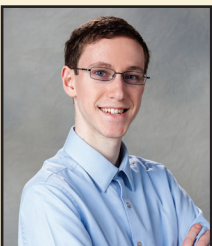
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HUMOR

Beloved Local Bar Buckles Beneath Burden of Bankruptcy

By ERIC FRANKLIN
HUMOR EDITOR

A Rochester-area staple announced Friday that it will be shutting down at the end of the calendar year, following several years of significant losses and increasing competition in the city.

That’s right, time has finally spelled the end for the beloved blue-collar bar 15 Beers on the Erie Canal.

Located along the storied canal itself, for years the bar has catered to weary laborers and overworked students alike, bringing them together as brethren to commemorate the region’s bygone era of bustling canal-based commerce, coaxed on by copious quantities of Genesee Cream Ale.

But the bar’s longtime strength — its proximity to the mighty canal — has become a weakness as the University has developed more of the real estate around itself and new bars have cropped up in places like College Town and the East and Alexander neighborhood.

The owner of the bar, Lawrence Leary, has actually owned the land on which the bar is built

for over 50 years, much longer than the bar has been there. Always a lover of the history of the area and especially the canal, he tried a number of different business models through the years, always with the goal of bringing people to appreciate the waterway and have some fun while doing it.

His first idea was a petting zoo based on the local wildlife that early colonists and later canal-builders interacted with. The result — 15 Deers on the Erie Canal — was underwhelming and only lasted a year or two.

Wanting to capitalize on the scenic location of his property, Leary next opened up his property for weddings, with an onsite wedding cake shop to cut costs. That business — 15 Tiers on the Erie Canal — is actually cited by some as a forerunner of today’s “Cake Boss.” But Leary’s incarnation of the specialty wedding cake business came too early to benefit from the cash cow that is reality television. It folded within five years.

Tired of the variability of customers, especially with the changing seasons, Leary decided to get into a more stable business

and started his own private practice in proctology, which actually did quite well, lasting for nearly 10 years. However, like the others, that business — 15 Rears on the Erie Canal — was shut down after it was discovered that Mr. Leary had, in fact, never attended medical school.

Looking for another steady, yearlong stream of customers and noticing that many people who had been married on his property were having kids, Leary next ventured to set up a youth organization emphasizing outdoor skills and developing leadership skills. Fifteen Peers on the Erie Canal only lasted four years, but hearing the peers’ parents arguing on the sidelines of the meetings gave Leary his next business idea.

The marriage counseling business that came next had a rough start, faltering in its first year or two as Leary discovered that a marriage on the rocks was an entirely different problem than a boat that’s run itself aground on a shallow, rocky canal-bottom.

However, 15 Tears on the Erie Canal made a turnaround, becoming Leary’s most successful venture since the proctology practice.

All he had to do was start arbitrarily prescribing various pills in what has been cited by some as a forerunner to today’s “opioid crisis.” That business lasted for over 12 years before it was shut down after it became apparent that Leary had still not attended medical school.

In significant debt as a result of heavy fines for impersonating a doctor (twice), Leary decided to get into the high-risk, high-reward entertainment industry in an attempt to claw his way out of debt. His first attempt in that field was an insult comedy club, 15 Jeers on the Erie Canal, which performed poorly and closed after two years.

It was during that time, however, that Leary started converting his property to a haunted house every October, the beginning of the successful 15 Fears on the Erie Canal that has lasted to the present day and has become a longstanding tradition for many in the Rochester area.

It was after 15 Fears on the Erie Canal that Leary finally hit on what would be his most successful business ever — 15 Beers on the Erie Canal. The bar became famous for giving free

beer to the winners of its weekly canal-based trivia nights and karaoke nights. But the bar began to go downhill in late 2016, when it was revealed that Leary had voted for James Monroe in the election.

Leary had always voted for James Monroe, the President in 1817 when the Erie Canal’s construction began, but in this era of increased partisan polarization supporters of both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump viewed him as a traitor and organized separate boycotts of his bar. Along with the increased competition from College Town, it was too much.

In a last ditch attempt to save the bar, Leary tried to diversify, starting a weekly LGBT night — well, you can guess the name — and starting a booze cruise that stopped at over a dozen ports along the canal. But alas, not even 15 Piers on the Erie Canal was enough to save the bar, and it will be closing down after this year’s annual 15 Fears on the Erie Canal.

It will have been Leary’s longest-lasting business, having survived for a decade and a half.

Franklin is a Take Five Scholar.

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CULTURE

YellowJackets Make Disney Magic in Spring Showcase



Yellowjackets perform in their Disney themed Spring Show in Strong.

DIWAS GAUTAM / PHOTO EDITOR

By MADELEINE FORDHAM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With a theme like “Disney,” you might have expected the YellowJackets spring show this past Saturday to be a little kitschy or ridiculous. It was anything but.

A combination of pop songs, old favorites, and Disney classics came together in a night that was truly magical.

The theme wasn’t reserved only for the songs. The night was interspersed with the Disney-esque story of junior Shurik Zavriyev, the prince of Gilbert Hall, who goes on a quest to find his true love — a mysterious boy who forgets his yellow blazer when he leaves a party to study for an orgo exam.

Prince Shurik searches far and

wide for his true love, junior Gabilan “Cubby” Sivasithamparam, whose name he doesn’t know because “it’s too hard to spell.” Zavriyev and Sivasithamparam, as well as classmate James Fosburgh (who played Sivasithamparam’s evil step-brother), carried the show on their shoulders, each soloing in so many songs it was hard to keep track.

Fosburgh’s version of “Before He Cheats” turned a Kelly Clarkson ballad into a hardcore cappella bop. Zavriyev had the audience in stitches as he acted out the parts of both Timon and Pumbaa from “The Lion King” in “Hakuna Matata,” as did Sivasithamparam playing the demigod Maui in “You’re Welcome” from “Moana,” both as a part of the group’s Disney medley.

The first act also contained classics like “Bare Necessities” from “The Jungle Book,” “How Far I’ll Go” from “Moana,” “Love is an Open Door” from “Frozen,” and closed with “The Circle of Life” from “The Lion King,” in which they invited PASApella, UR’s pan-african cappella group, to the stage.

Speaking of PASApella, the two numbers they performed, both in the South African language of Xhosa, were beautifully blended, rich in vocals and harmony. The solos of first-years Ndondwa Mijoya and Jenna Raslan knocked the socks off of everyone in the audience.

In stark contrast to the first act, the second contained only one Disney song — “When You Wish Upon a Star” from “Pinocchio”

— but was no less impressive or enjoyable.

The group performed the set that led it to place third at the ICCA quarterfinals last month. “Start a Fire,” from “La La Land,” and Michael Jackson and Justin Timberlake’s “Love Never Felt So Good” got the audience grooving. Fosburgh joined senior Scott Abrams in a duet of “Happier” by Ed Sheeran mashed up with “Stay With Me” by Sam Smith that was moving and heartfelt, and the set closed out with a rendition of Michael Bublé’s “Cry Me a River,” soloed by Kevin Spooner, in a stunning performance that brought the house down. Learning that Spooner is just a first-year points to a hopeful future for this group.

Sadly, the YellowJackets had

to say goodbye to Abrams, the group’s sole senior, who performed a sweet, earnest version of Tracy Chapman’s “Fast Car.” The group closed with its iconic number, “Waving Flag” by K’Naan, before bringing alumni up to the stage to do one last song together.

The YellowJackets are clearly performers, as is evident to anyone who has seen them onstage, last Saturday or ever. Not just because they are amazing singers, but because of their ability to keep an audience attentive and engaged, whether that’s with their vocals, their humor, or just their all-around stage presence. Watching them is infectious — it makes you wish you were up onstage with them.

Fordham is a member of the Class of 2021.

Barbs and Fairies Fly in TOOP’s ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’

By WIL AIKEN
CULTURE EDITOR

If you had told me a week ago that before the week was over I would be rick-rolled via Shakespeare, I would have told you to seek medical attention.

But I nevertheless found myself in such a situation last Friday evening in Goergen Hall, watching The Opposite Of People’s production of William Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” directed by senior Andria Rabenold.

The performance, in the second and final weekend of its run, wasn’t supposed to be in a Goergen lecture hall. TOOP’s plan had been to perform it on the grass in front of Susan B. Anthony Hall, but the weather was crappy, so there we were. It was

somewhat uncomfortable sitting in an audience as well-lit and visible as the stage. It took some of the safety of being an audience member away. On the other hand, TOOP was able to show off an impressive ability to adapt. The group used sliding blackboards and whiteboards to establish setting in a clever, minimalist way. If the change affected the performances at all, I certainly couldn’t tell. And thank God for that. The scenes of romance played like combat. Watching the twisting and repurposing of words into weaponry felt akin to viewing a Jackie Chan movie: I know how it’s going to end, but I want to know how he’ll weaponize his surroundings (or, in Shakespeare’s case, the dictionary) in the battle. Rabenold — who also (gasp) edited Shakespeare’s script

for this production — and the cast did well with this aspect of the play. In this version of “Midsummer,” the romance was not a union but an eternal sparring match in the ring of life. Sparks of love and fury flew in scenes between Demetrius (depicted with doltish arrogance by senior Manan Hora) and Helena, whose lovesickness and understandable paranoia was portrayed with ferocity and relish by junior Rosie Flanagan. Flanagan’s Helena also had a tremendously fun back-and-forth, height-insult scene with poor Hermia (junior Matalin Collins), who finds herself an object of hatred from her forbidden beau Lysander, lovably portrayed by senior Ben Frazer.

I must admit I got confused at one point. Soon-to-wed couple Theseus and Hippolyta are played by sopho-

more Shagun Bose and first-year Olivia Banc, respectively. They also, respectively, play Oberon and Titania, the fairy king and queen. During the show, I had no idea that Theseus and Hippolyta were different characters than Oberon and Titania. That said, I didn’t know I was confused until the end of the show, so it’s okay. The dynamics between both couples are similar enough that it didn’t matter whether I knew they were separate. It still functioned perfectly well, and Banc, in a high-maintenance portrayal of Titania, ably performed in a funny sequence of events in which she falls in love with Bottom (junior Andrew Peck, who committed the rickrolling), who has the head of a donkey. (One of several creative bits of costuming by sophomore Ruki Prathivadhi-Bhayankaram and

first-year Rebecca Sarin.) I also must note the hilarity of the actors playing, well, a troupe of actors who put on a ridiculous tragedy at the end of the show, with much of the humor derived from junior Reid Wilson’s deadpan performance as an actor who has to play a wall.

But the driving energy in this production came from sophomore Andrew Durham’s hysterical performance as Puck, a clever yet somehow dopey sprite. Durham played Puck with an insane mix of dynamic physicality, absolute intensity, and occasional deadpan. It was Durham’s ability to balance impeccable comedic timing and energy with honest character portrayal that drove the show home.

Aiken is a member of the Class of 2021.

BPG is ‘Unafraid’ to Dance to New Heights



Ballet Performance Group performs their spring show “Unafraid.”

GABE ISAACSON/ PHOTO EDITOR

By **LOUKIA AYDAG**
CULTURE EDITOR

Ballet Performance Group performed its spring showcase “Unafraid” this past Friday. Though the group’s true mission, included in its name, is to keep classical ballet alive on campus, its members are more than willing to venture into various genres of dance, something that continued in “Unafraid.”

Some of the women performed classical ballet pieces to music by Aram Khachaturian from the “Masquerade Suite.” Watching these pieces made me appreciate keeping ballet alive on campus especially since I used to perform

classical ballet pieces myself. Other dancers tackled different genres — jazz, lyrical, and tap — which were all presented wonderfully in this show. “I Got Rhythm,” choreographed by sophomore Jessica Robbins, made me fall in love with tap all over again. Tap is a fun and synchronized form of dance that, when done right, puts a smile on your face and makes you want to get up and dance with its performers; that piece, along with “Runaway Baby,” choreographed by junior Hannah Tompkins, did exactly that. Another nontraditional piece that captured the audience was “Express,” choreographed by senior Abbi Bruce,

which was as sassy and striking as you would wish a jazz routine to be.

The love put into the choreography and the love for dance in general shown by every dancer was evident in this large showcase.

As an interlude to the performance, BPG invited third- and fourth-graders from Rochester City School District School 23 on stage, who put on an impres-

sive and adorable performance that wowed the audience. Choreographed by junior Alana McGovern, the children’s performance to “Brave” was a wonderful interlude within the show. Also choreographed by McGovern, “Rise Up” was one of my favorite pieces due to its lyrical portrayal of the song and all the struggles experienced with it.

As almost a side-note, I also found the outfits chosen for the performances memorable — they did a decent job of furthering the mood of each piece. The lighting and backgrounds heightened each piece and drew you into another world. Staggering from group dances to solos, from songs

with heavy and sad messages to upbeat and happy messages, the show was a rollercoaster of emotion and talent.

One thing in all these enjoyable pieces had in common was an appreciation for dance. The love put into the choreography and the love for dance in general shown by every dancer was evident in this large showcase. It is difficult to find a group of people that are all at the same level of dance skill, and that this group put on a show that embraced its members’ varying levels of experience was remarkable and inspiring.

Aydag is a member of the Class of 2021.



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Smith Brings Pride and Poetry to X Agenda

By LOUKIA AYDAG
CULTURE EDITOR

Pride Network hosted its second-annual X Agenda this past Saturday with guest speaker and poet Danez Smith.

The event lasted about an hour and half, beginning with an open mic for any member of Pride or the spoken word group No Disclaimers to perform.

For the remainder of the time, Smith spoke, recited, and answered questions in an inspirational and informal manner. “You can’t have bravado and feelings at the same time,” Smith said in response to a question, highlighting the elimination of ego when sharing poetry. He also tried to explain what he feels being a poet means: “If you can’t say, ‘I feel X,’ you can show it through images.”

Smith is a queer African-American poet from Minnesota with a background in slam poetry. He has published three works of poetry: “Don’t Call Us Dead” (published by Graywolf Press in 2017), “Black Movie” (published by Button Poetry in 2015), and “[insert] boy” (published

by YesYes Books in 2014).

Pride Network had purchased a number of each of these works and gave them to the attendees of the event, who also had the opportunity to get them signed at its end.

Danez mostly recited from “Don’t Call Us Dead,” his most recent work,

‘You can’t have bravado and feelings at the same time,’ highlighting the elimination of ego when sharing poetry.

which discusses police brutality and the struggle of African Americans and queer people in today’s world as well as identity struggles related to HIV. But he also brought a large, black, and well-loved (duct-taped and battered) journal full of papers with more recent and unpublished poems he felt needed to be shared.

What seemed to resonate most with the intimate group of 20 or so

people was the relatability of each poem and the way he recited each piece. He recited one poem called “Dogs,” which had 22 parts and was well received by the attendees. Many of his poems come in parts or waves, all having to do with the same message but shown through numerous perspectives.

Danez is a member of both the Dark Noise Collective and a podcast by the Poetry Foundation of Post-loudness. He is also the recipient of the Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry and the Kate Tufts Discovery Award.

During the open mic portion, the poems recited covered African-American feminism versus white feminism, Icarus, past hauntings, life after sexual assault, identity as an individual especially after sexual assault, to being transgender. The final poem worked as an extension to the biblical seven days of creation — days eight through 11 showed how the wonderfulness of the world would be stripped away with the violence and war of today.

Aydag is a member of the Class of 2021.

NOT VANILLA The Search for Sitcoms



By VENNELA PANDARABOYINA
COLUMNIST

With all the classic comedy shows of my childhood gone (I’m talking “Parks and Recreation,” “The Office,” “Community,” “Drake & Josh,” “Friends”), I have been on the lookout for new comedies to catch my eye.

For me, a comedy has to be smart with minimal cringe, present likeable characters, and preferably include a couple to ship. (Ship, reader, means to root for two characters on a show to get together and be a couple.) The show also must be available on Netflix or Hulu, for logistical reasons.

In my vast searches for my new go-to comedies I’ve come across three shows that have those things. They’re all relatively new. You’ve probably heard of these comedies, but I’d like to give you a good reason to actually invest in watching them.

First off is “Brooklyn Nine-Nine.” (We’ll call it “B99” from now on.) “B99” airs on Fox and first came to the scene in 2013. It’s about a New York City police precinct, featuring the gung-ho and slightly immature detective Jake Peralta (played by Andy Samberg) and a cast of other fantastic characters. My personal favorite is Gina Linetti (played by Chelsea Peretti), a sharp, self-confident woman who spouts golden lines of dialogue — “My mother cried the day I was born because she knew she

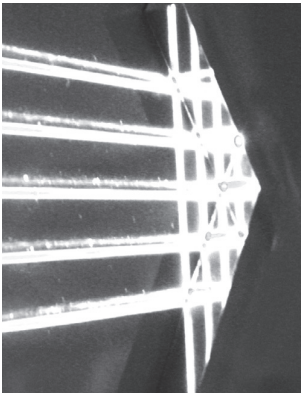
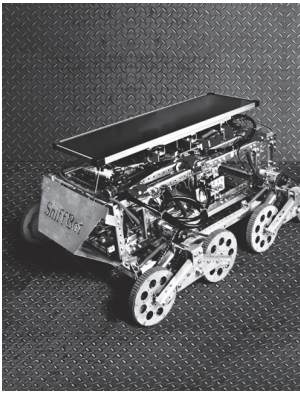
would never be better than me”; “I feel like the Paris of people”; “Gina Linetti: the human form of the 100 emoji.” The show takes a sincere and light-hearted look at the long hours and absurd situations police detectives are put in. The show also portrays some fantastic friendships not often seen on television.

Another great comedy is “The Good Place” on NBC. This show premiered in 2016 and has an all-star cast, including Kristen Bell and Ted Danson. It’s about a woman named Eleanor (Bell) who ends up in heaven (called the Good Place). But she isn’t actually supposed to be there — she’s there due to a clerical error and is actually quite an awful person. The show is centered around her trying to fit into this new world filled with goody-goodies. This show’s premise is great and makes for some unique humour. It also deals with questions of morality, what makes us good, and if people can truly change their nature.

My final show is “Superstore,” also on NBC. It started in 2015 and is a workplace comedy about the employees of a Walmart-esque store. Their dealings with the scourge that is corporate America and all that comes with it (low income and lack of adequate health insurance) is hilarious. The characters are zany but all have real depth to them. Out of the three shows I’ve listed today, I think “Superstore” is the most slept-on, despite its hilarity. It also contains a wonderful ship (#JonahandAmy4eva).

Whenever you get a break in your hectic life, reader, take a look at these shows. If you tell me you didn’t laugh, I won’t believe you.

Pandaraboyina is a member of the Class of 2020.



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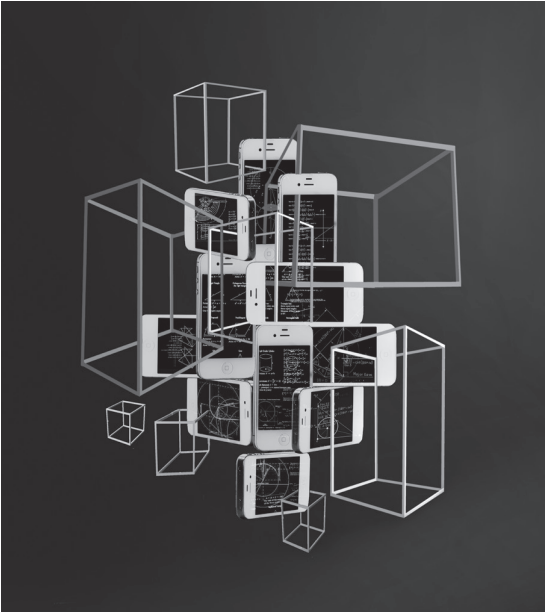
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EVERYBODY TALKS

The Privilege of Title IX



By JACKIE POWELL
COLUMNIST

This week I came to a conclusion — thank God for Title IX.

Two recent readings caught my eye, and they both included prominent figures in U.S. women’s basketball.

Cheryl Reeve penned a poignant essay in The Player’s Tribune detailing her experience as a girl with a passion for sports who became (and remains) the current coach of the WNBA’s Minnesota Lynx. She referred to 1996 as a magical year for women in sports. The women who competed in that summer’s Atlanta Olympic Games were among the first to grow up under Title IX.

“People were saying the Summer of ’96 forever changed the way Americans saw women’s sports,” she wrote.

The New Yorker profiled Becky Hammon, the first salaried full-time female to coach in NBA history. Currently, she is serving as an assistant coach for Gregg Popovich’s San Antonio Spurs.

Within the piece, journalist Louisa Thomas brought attention to Hammon’s decision to play for the Russian Federation in Beijing’s 2008 Olympics after she was passed over by Team USA. While Lisa Leslie and the team’s head coach, Anne Donovan, believed Hammon was a traitor, her Russian Federation team lost handily to the Americans.

In Atlanta, Beijing, Pyeongchang, and the Women’s Soccer World Cup, American women were dominant. Many argued they were more dominant than their male counterparts in respective competitions.

But upon beginning this fascinating journey into analyzing women in sport a couple years ago, a peer of mine put an idea in my head. He spouted to me that the reason American women win is because of lacking competition around the world.

While I was discouraged and thought his intent was to devalue female athletes, I’ve realized that he was correct. Adrienne N. Milner and Jomills Henry argued the American advantage in their 2017 book “Women in Sports: Breaking Barriers, Facing Obstacles.”

“The United States is one of the few nations to promote women’s athletics through collegiate scholarships. The growth in the number of women’s Olympic events puts the United States at an advantage over other countries who have yet to encourage women culturally, and financially, to compete at the highest levels of sport,” they wrote.

After Rio in 2016, Rebecca Lai and Jasmine Lee of the New York Times asserted that the success of women in the Olympics is linked the opportunities granted in their home countries. Nations such as the U.S., China, Canada, and New Zealand all had more medals won from women than men.

A conclusion was drawn, however, that the International Olympic Committee had much more to do. A

final graph in the Lai and Lee piece explained that there were still fewer medals that women could win the 2016 games.

We discussed last week that the committee actually has taken considerable steps to “foster gender equality.” In addition to introducing mixed-gendered events within the 2020 Agenda, the committee released a report from the Gender Equality Review Project last month.

There is a clear understanding that the Olympics will be focusing on gender parity among its athletes, its media coverage, the body’s philanthropic pursuits, and the committee’s leadership. Also, it will be implementing public relations strategies to inform the international community of its progress.

While I approve of all of the above, one initiative is clearly missing. Where is the plan to increase parity across all women’s events? How will the committee encourage countries besides the United States to invest in women’s athletics?

We’ve returned to our initial discussion: How did Team USA become so dominant?

An obvious albatross in the way of this progress is the power of cultural norms and legislation in authoritarian and repressive regimes. While Saudi Arabia sent four women to Rio, the government currently denies women and girls not only participation in tournaments and state-organized leagues but also attendance at male sporting events.

Could the Olympic Committee entertain sanctions against nations such as Saudi Arabia that clearly do not uphold all of the principles of the committee and its games?

Now here’s the good news. Apparently, the United States has been linking itself to these types of initiatives. Since 2012, a partnership between the U.S. State Department, ESPNW, and the University of Tennessee’s Center for Sport, Peace, and Society spurred the Global Sports Mentoring Program. The program sends ambassadors to work with global communities such as in Egypt, India, Kenya, and beyond, encouraging the participation of women and girls in sport.

And beyond the obvious parity, this type of work is valuable. Back in 2005, a UN report entitled Women, Gender Equality and Sport found that allowing women to engage in sports in any capacity has extreme physical and mental health benefits. (Duh!)

Astrid Aafjes, the director of Women Win, a non-profit dedicated to empowering girls around the world through sports, addressed the privilege Title IX has guaranteed the United States. “Title IX provides evidence of the positive effect of rights-based programming upon a population whose rights had been denied,” she wrote. “Funding drives equity.”

And so I say once again, thank God for Title IX.

“Everybody Talks” is a radio show on WRUR’s the Sting that highlights women’s involvement in sports and the social issues that surround athletics. You can listen to it every Friday from 1–2 p.m. on thesting.wrur.org.

Powell is a member of the Class of 2018.

LAST WEEK’S SCORES

- TUESDAY, APRIL 10**
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL VS. NAZARETH COLLEGE – W(6–2) AND W(8–0) (DOUBLE-HEADER)
WOMEN’S TENNIS AT RIT – W(6–3)
MEN’S BASEBALL VS. THE COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT – L(6–8)
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11**
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL AT UTICA COLLEGE – W(3–1) AND W(3–2) (DOUBLE-HEADER)
MEN’S BASEBALL AT OSWEGO STATE – L(7–11)
WOMEN’S LACROSSE AT RIT – W(16–12)
- THURSDAY, APRIL 12**
WOMEN’S TENNIS VS. SUNY GENESEO – W(7–2)
MEN’S TENNIS AT HOBART COLLEGE – L(3–6)
- FRIDAY, APRIL 13**
MEN’S GOLF VS. DAY 1 FRED KRAVETZ INVITATIONAL IN PITTSFORD, NY – 3RD OF 6
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL AT RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE – L(0–5) AND L(5–6) (DOUBLE-HEADER)
- SATURDAY, APRIL 14**
MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD VS. UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER ALUMNI INVITATIONAL – COMPLETE
WOMEN’S TRACK VS. UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER ALUMNI INVITATIONAL – COMPLETE
WOMEN’S ROWING AT BARBARA DONAHUE CUP – COMPLETE
WOMEN’S TENNIS VS. NEW YORK UNIVERSITY – L(0–9)
MEN’S GOLF VS. DAY 2 FRED KRAVETZ INVITATIONAL IN PITTSFORD, NY – 4TH OF 6
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL AT SKIDMORE COLLEGE – L(6–7) AND W(5–3)
MEN’S TENNIS VS. NEW YORK UNIVERSITY – L(3–6)
WOMEN’S LACROSSE AT UNION COLLEGE – W(10–5)
- SUNDAY, APRIL 15**
WOMEN’S ROWING AT CLARK/SIMMONS/MT. HOLYOKE/BRYANT IN WORCESTER, MASS. – COMPLETE

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

- TUESDAY, APRIL 17**
MEN’S BASEBALL AT SUNY CORTLAND – 4 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18**
MEN’S BASEBALL VS. VASSAR COLLEGE – 12 P.M. AND 2:30 P.M. (DOUBLE-HEADER)
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL VS. ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY – 3 P.M. AND 5 P.M. (DOUBLE-HEADER)
- THURSDAY, APRIL 19**
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL VS. CLARKSON UNIVERSITY – 3 P.M. AND 5 P.M. (DOUBLE-HEADER)
- FRIDAY, APRIL 20**
MEN’S TRACK VS. UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER TWILIGHT CLASSIC – 2 P.M.
WOMEN’S TRACK VS. UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER TWILIGHT CLASSIC – 2 P.M.
WOMEN’S TENNIS AT UNION COLLEGE – 3 P.M.
MEN’S TENNIS AT UNION COLLEGE – 3 P.M.
- SATURDAY, APRIL 21**
WOMEN’S ROWING AT HAMILTON/ST. LAWRENCE/UNION IN ROME, NY – 9 A.M.
MEN’S BASEBALL AT BARD COLLEGE – 1 P.M. AND 3:30 P.M. (DOUBLE-HEADER)
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL VS. ITHACA COLLEGE – 1 P.M. AND 3 P.M. (DOUBLE-HEADER)
WOMEN’S LACROSSE VS. WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE – 2 P.M.
- SUNDAY, APRIL 22**
MEN’S BASEBALL AT BARD COLLEGE – 12 P.M. AND 2:30 P.M. (DOUBLE-HEADER)
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL AT RIT – 1 P.M. AND 3 P.M. (DOUBLE-HEADER)
WOMEN’S LACROSSE VS. D’YOUVILLE COLLEGE – 3 P.M.



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SPORTS

Club Quidditch Defeats Texas to Win National Tournament

By MICAH GREENBERG
SPORTS EDITOR

The UR Thestrals, better known as Club Quidditch, took home the U.S. Quidditch Cup in Round Rock, Texas.

The Thestrals won 100–80, defeating Texas Quidditch, the team from the nearby University of Texas at Austin. UR made history as the first school from the Northeast Region to ever win nationals.

“It feels incredible, we’re all just in disbelief right now,” junior Ethan Warren, the team captain said. “I never thought we’d see ourselves here, but I’m so proud of all of my teammates, and I’m proud to bring this cup home to Rochester.”

With the Thestrals down 80–70, a Texas chaser scored an athletic goal. However, UR’s seeker reached the golden snitch and pulled the yellow flag. As several referees deliberated, including one wearing a cowboy hat, they signaled that the game was complete.

After lining up to congratulate Texas on a great game, the Thestrals were then each given medals, and the team hoisted the cup.

Texas was seen as a strong, hard-hitting team, but the Thestrals maintained control. Chaser Basem Ashkar was key to keeping the Thestrals in the game by administering their attack and playing for almost the entirety of the game. Even still, the game was truly a team effort.

“People were counting us out from the beginning,” senior and club president Sam Dinga said.

She added, “Analysts said we only had three real players, and we came out and won with some amazing depth. We ran freshmen-only lines and had some of the best utilization of female



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR QUIDDITCH

The Thestrals competed at the US Quidditch Cup this past weekend after winning the Northeast Regional Championships.

chasers seen all weekend.”

Going into the tournament, the Thestrals were ranked seventh in the nation. Earlier this season, the team won the Northeast Regional Championships, becoming the first-ever team not from Boston to win the region.

Although some quidditch players join only to be part of a competitive sports team, many are also “Harry Potter” fans. The sport is loosely based on its version in the series, though since flying broomsticks haven’t been invented yet, players hold plastic “brooms” between their legs at all times.

Each team has seven players. The main part of the game resembles handball. Three players on each team, known as chasers, try to score 10-point goals by throwing a ball past the op-

ponent’s keeper and into one of three hoops.

Meanwhile, two beaters battle over the three “bludgers,” which are actually dodgeballs. If a chaser gets hit by a bludger, they are forced to return to their own hoops before returning to play.

After 18 minutes, a neutral player known as the “snitch” is released. One seeker on each team chases after the snitch, who wears a flag football-style flag. The team that catches the snitch ends the game and is awarded 30 points.

The game might seem highly complex, difficult, and even somewhat silly. However, it is quite serious, as it is a full-contact sport. The Thestrals take the sport quite seriously, too, as they hold two-hour practices four times per week.

The practices are both fun and important for the team’s success. The team focuses on the fundamentals, including throwing, catching, positioning, and tackling. Even still, music is always blasting during practices.

Quidditch is one of the few competitive club sports on campus that is gender-inclusive. Although this is partially influenced by J.K. Rowling’s use of co-ed teams, the real-life sport of quidditch goes even further.

In national competitions, no more than five of the seven team players on the pitch at a time may be members of the “majority gender,” which is usually male. This leaves at least two spots for non-male players at all times and allows access for athletes of all genders.

“While there are challenges

that non-male players face due to the physical nature of the game, we always support each other, and it can be a very empowering experience,” club secretary Emma Foley said.

Foley added that the team is like a family, and that since the players spend so much time together, strong bonds are formed between teammates. Additionally, the club has several team bonding events outside of practices, matches, and tournaments, which help bring the players closer together.

After defeating some of the best teams in the country to take home the cup, the Thestrals cemented their spot as one of the more successful club sports teams in recent years.

Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Gabbey Reflects on First Collegiate Pitching Outing

By MICAH GREENBERG
SPORTS EDITOR



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS
Gabbey makes a catch at first base.

Senior Owen Gabbey has been a key player for Men’s Baseball this year, playing first base, third base, and catcher. Additionally, he made his first pitching appearance two weeks ago, when his four scoreless innings helped the ‘Jackets come back to defeat St. Lawrence.

How did you get interested in baseball?

I think I remember sitting down and watching a Yankees game on TV with my dad at 2, so basically my whole life I’ve been around the game.

What do you enjoy most about baseball at UR?

I think the team atmosphere is the best I’ve ever been around. No matter what we’re

doing, we do it as a team, which has been awesome.

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

I’ve gotten way more disciplined over my time here. I think I’ve learned the game way more and have become a more well-rounded player as a result.

What has been the highlight of your baseball career at UR?

Going on a 17-game win streak my freshman year was really cool because it felt like everyone was clicking at the same time, a hard thing in a team sport.

How do you balance aca-

demics and athletics?

I think learning how to stay organized is key. Knowing which hours you have to dedicate to which activities and staying to that strict schedule. That and energy drinks.

Who has had the greatest impact on your playing career and why?

I’d say my dad for sure. I probably couldn’t find anybody else who’d go hit me an hour’s worth of ground balls in the middle of the street whenever I wanted to.

What was it like to pitch in a game for the first time and do well?

It was fun pitching in a real game and, even more than that, pitching in a spot where

I was able to help our team come back. I’ve pitched a lot elsewhere in my career, so I knew what I needed to do, just fun to be able to go out and execute.

Who is your favorite professional athlete, and why?

I’m a big James Harden fan because I like his approach to the game and personality.

If you could be any movie character, who would you choose to be and why?

Nicolas Cage from “National Treasure.” He ends up with a fortune of buried treasure, and he’s still Nicolas Cage.

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