

Campus Times

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SA Plan for Gendered Clubs Criticized

By JUSTIN TROMBLY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

SA Government wants its constitution amended so that gendered groups can remain SA-affiliated, drawing formal criticism from Pride Network and social media outcry from other members of the campus queer community.

“We recognize the harm that these gender-exclusive policies can have on members of the transgender, non-binary, and gender-variant communities, and that these students do not currently have the same access as others to the opportunities and resources that these gender-exclusive organizations provide,” reads the SA task force’s recommendation report, which was released last Thursday after it was approved that Monday by the SA Senate.

“However, we recognize that removing these groups from the Students’ Association would decrease the overall number of opportunities for students to be involved in co-curricular organizations and, rather than lifting barriers for marginalized groups, may foster animosity towards members of the marginalized groups adversely affected by gender-exclusive membership policies,” the report continues.

The task force, co-chaired by SA President Jordan Smith and Associate Dean of Students Anne-Marie Algier, was created to address last year’s All-Campus Judicial Council ruling that gendered, SA-affiliated groups were unconstitutional. The decision, which was supported by LGBT advocates on campus, brought into question whether some club sports, a capella, and Greek organizations would survive.

Here is the proposed constitutional amendment, the final version of which can only be passed by a majority vote of students participating in the upcoming SA elections:

“Organizations whose existence and/or activities depend upon following gender-exclusive membership policies set by an external governing body (such as a national organization or intercollegiate league) or otherwise believe that gender-exclusive membership policies are warranted must have a Gender Exclusivity Waiver

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DIWAS GAUTAM / PHOTO EDITOR

Kids and Grown-Ups Play at Simcon

Visitors play in Feldman Ballroom at Simcon 40, the 40th annual convention run by the UR Simulation Gaming Association, last Saturday.

Students React to Slaughter’s Death

By TRACY XU
NEWS EDITOR

Students who have worked for the recently-deceased Congresswoman Louise Slaughter are remembering her as a figure who, despite her towering influence, had no hesitations about bending down to help out those on the ground level.

“She would remember the smallest details about you and follow up, sometimes months later,” senior Jacob Tyson, who worked for her during one of her re-election campaigns, told the *Campus Times*. “She remembered from a brief conversation that my mom was in the hospital and she asked about her wellbeing months later. Congresswoman Slaughter appreciated people and exemplified an authenticity seldom found in Congress.”

Slaughter died in George Washington University Hospital on March 16 after suffering a concussion from a fall in her home. She was 88.

Slaughter had been a Democratic representative for the Rochester area since 1987. She was not only a strong advocate for women rights,

co-authoring the Violence Against Women Act, and the only microbiologist in Congress, but also the author of the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act. She was known on campus for her fights to secure UR funding.

“I was woken up by a call around 10 a.m. to be told and my initial reaction was disbelief — how could somebody who has become an institution here in Rochester be gone?” Tyson said. “Then, I was met with worry. The shoes left behind by the congresswoman need to be filled, and it is going to be very difficult to find somebody worthy enough to do so.”

Those who worked with her praised her personability and passion.

“Congresswoman Slaughter was incredibly sharp and funny but was very serious about the gravity of her work and her duty to her constituents,” junior Lindsay Wrobel said. “She was very down-to-earth in that sense as well, and her office referred to themselves as ‘Team Slaughter,’ which

I found to be incredibly indicative of the kind of environment she fostered. She even phonebanked with us for the Georgia 6th, calling voters in that district herself.”

Students emphasized that her death had left an unforgettable emptiness in the community and that her legacy would be remembered for a long time to come.

“The congresswoman left an irreplaceable mark on this community, which is evident to anyone who lives in Rochester or to anyone who worked for her,” senior Tamar Prince said. “I attended her funeral and the entire Kodak Theater was packed. Two planes full of congresspeople were in attendance. The community adored the congresswoman, and it was evident in [...] Nancy Pelosi, John Lewis, and Hillary Clinton’s speeches that Rochester was her greatest love.”

Congress plans to hold a special election in which the winner will be able to serve the remainder of Slaughter’s term.

Xu is a member of the Class of 2021.

Mice in Phase Draw Resident Complaints

By SHWETA KOUL
NEWS EDITOR

Mice in Phase have disrupted students’ lives this school year, leaving them upset and frustrated with their living conditions.

“We pay so much money to go here and for housing,” said sophomore Brenna James, whose suite on the fourth floor of Munro has caught 14 mice so far. “I already have my own issues with school and trying to stay healthy for sports, this is just so much more.”

Four of the six buildings in Phase — Munro, Kendrick, Slater, and Gale — have been affected, according to Senior Sanitarian Pete Castronovo from the University’s Department of Environmental Health and Safety. Reports to the *Campus Times* by students stated that the mice have been spotted on multiple floors of those buildings.

Fifteen suites told the *Campus Times* that they have dealt with mice this school year, with live and dead ones found in suite rooms, bathrooms, lounges, an electrical outlet, and the electrical part of one student’s fridge.

Despite this, Castronovo said his department does not consider any of the buildings infested. He pins the apparent higher rates of mice this year to the extremity and changes of the weather, as well as the structures around the buildings.

“It’s now become a common issue, so I wish they followed up more with the people who reported mice or said something to us as a whole relating to the mice, about how they were working on it now or their future plans,” said sophomore Payton Nugent, who heard a mouse chewing on paper under her bed, has found droppings on her sock, and discovered one dead in the electrical part of a fridge in her Kendrick lounge. “Facilities really just brought me traps, which, if it was an individual case, could’ve been fine, but it’s a pattern now, so I do think something more should be done.”

Last semester, when several suites complained about bees in Phase, an email was sent out to all residents with Environmental Health and Safety’s contact information. As of Sun-

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DIWAS GAUTAM / PHOTO EDITOR

LOCAL INFLUENTIAL WOMEN IN POLITICS EMPHASIZE GENDER EQUITY

Mayor Lovely Warren, the county executive, the district attorney, and a Monroe County committee chair shared their stories to students about their personal experiences in the political system as women this past Monday in Dewey.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Student Injured at Psi U (1)

APR. 24—A student in Psi U twisted their ankle jumping down the stairs and was taken to the emergency room.

Student Attempts To Use Fake ID (2)

APR. 26—A graduate student tried to use another graduate student’s ID to gain access to the Goergen Athletic Center. The ID was confiscated by staff.

Student Taken to Hospital (3)

APR. 27— A student residing in Riverview experienced breathing issues and was taken to the hospital.

Student Reports Jean Theft (4)

APR. 28— A student reported that an unknown person stole two pairs of jeans from her laundry.



MAP COURTESY OF UR COMMUNICATIONS

Information provided by the Department of Public Safety.

Constitutional Amendment Proposed

SA FROM PAGE 1

approved annually in order to retain recognition by the Students’ Association. Through this waiver, these groups must demonstrate that their membership policy and selection processes are integral to the mission of the organization, are openly advertised, and are non-discriminatory on all other grounds.”

According to the report, the waivers would go into effect in the fall of 2019. The task force recommended that waivers be filed and reviewed annually and that they provide detailed justification for gender-exclusive policies and evidence of educational efforts and external barriers to accepting all genders.

In a statement, Pride Network said it was disappointed with the recommendation and its SA approval.

“Due to the fact that the amendment, which proposes the creation of the Gender Exclusionary Waiver, is clearly transphobic, Pride Network urges its membership and the University of Rochester community to vote against it,” the statements reads. “We instead would prefer to see the creation of a Gender Task Force, which would consist in its majority of individuals from the transgender, non-binary, and gender-variant communities. A task force consisting of these communities who are directly affected by the ruling would give voice to this marginalized community that Pride Network represents. Please join in taking a stand against this systematic transphobia.”

Several members of TINT — a social group on campus concerned with trans, intersex, non-binary, and two-spirit is-

sues — put out a statement opposing the amendment and criticizing the task force’s methods.

“Continuing to justify the existence of these single-gender organizations affirms the discrimination and exclusion of the TINT community in the activities and organizations,” reads the statement. “We have a right to these opportunities under the SA Constitution. The responses also made clear that amending the SA Constitution to allow any form of gender discrimination would be a formal and informal authorization for student groups to target the TINT community.”

The students said that having only one transgender person on the task force made it unable to properly understand gender-related concerns.

“It should be self-evident that a recommendation created and controlled almost entirely by the discriminators rather than the discriminated is fatally flawed,” their statement reads. “Likewise, a simple-majority vote to change the constitution to allow discrimination against vulnerable minority is disgustingly unethical.”

A statement given to the *Campus Times* by the Inter-Fraternity Council said the “waiver requirements are consistent with our principles, as IFC organizations should be manifesting their support toward the LGBTQ+ community in terms of both requirements for membership and in terms of our programming efforts.”

A representative from the Panhellenic Association did not respond to a request for comment. No club sports presidents responded to requests for comment.

Trombly is a member of the class of 2018.

CLARIFICATION

Last week’s edition of “This Week in the *Campus Times*” mistakenly did not note which entries had come from editions of *The Campus*, a predecessor to this paper.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

TUESDAY | APRIL 2

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.

NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK: DE-STIGMATIZING THROUGH HUMANIZING WITH CHARMAINE WHEATLEY
WILSON COMMONS, HIRST LOUNGE, 12:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.
Charmaine Wheatley will be discussing her art campaign that helps raise awareness on health.

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 3

D’LIONS BLOOD DRIVE
SUSAN B. ANTHONY HALLS, FRIEL LOUNGE, 11 A.M. - 5 P.M.
The D’Lions will be hosting a spring blood drive.

UNDERGRADUATE HOUSING LOTTERY WORKSHOP
SUSAN B. ANTHONY HALLS, FRIEL LOUNGE, 4 P.M. - 5 P.M..
The executive director for Residential Life and Housing Services will be helping students through the housing process and answering any questions students might have.

THURSDAY | APRIL 4

PHAMILY PHEUD
ROBERT B. GOERGEN HALL FOR BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING AND OPTICS, 101, 8 P.M. - 10 P.M.
The event will be held to benefit Autism Up and will be held in a trivia game show style.

TOOP PRESENTS: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM
DRAMA HOUSE, 8 P.M. - 10:30 P.M.
TOOP will be putting on a production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

FRIDAY | APRIL 5

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

OFF BROADWAY ON CAMPUS SPRING SHOW
STRONG AUDITORIUM, UPPER AUDITORIUM, 8 P.M. - 11 P.M.
Off Broadway on Campus will be presenting its spring musical theater program “Confessions of a College Musical Theater Group.” The event will include songs from “The Book of Mormon,” “Wicked,” and more.

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.

Like to draw, sketch,
or doodle?

Illustrate for the
Campus Times.

Email illustrator@campustimes.org

Conference Seeks to Understand Guns and Their Culture

By EFUA AGYARE-KUMI
COPY EDITOR

Academics from UR and schools across the country talked guns and the cultural ideas around them last Thursday and Friday during the University’s “Social Life of Guns” conference.

“An object is never just an object,” said UR’s Kate Mariner, a professor of anthropology who played a key role in organizing the event.

Mariner hoped the conference would add more nuance to the conversation around guns in America and “deepen our understanding beyond right and left, white and black, innocent and guilty.”

The conference had been in the works for over a year and was inspired not by recent national shootings but by stirrings closer to home — the arming of Public Safety officers, an issue that sparked hot debate among students, faculty, staff, and the administration.

The emphasis on local affairs was clear during a community panel session, which featured three professors from the Rochester area.

“Gun violence is endemic in the city of Rochester,” Professor Kristin Doughty, who teaches anthropology, told the Campus Times.

Presenter and professor John Klofas from RIT found that a young person from certain areas of Rochester would have been exposed to about 600 shootings over



DIWAS GAUTAM / PHOTO EDITOR

The Social Life of Guns was a two-day interdisciplinary research symposium where speakers discussed the meaning of guns.

the last 16 to 20 years.

The community theme continued with the screening of filmmaker Tam Little’s documentary “Move,” which details the tragedy and aftermath of the Rochester Boys & Girls’ Club shooting in August 2015. Her work is one example of the social efforts that organizers wanted to highlight — for every instance of violence, there are many more people working to solve the problem, Doughty

said.

Conference speakers put gun violence in cultural contexts that blurred the dynamics at play.

Author Charles E. Cobb, a member of the Student Nonviolent Coordination Committee in Mississippi, argued that guns were in fact not central to the problem of gun violence. Rather, he said, violence itself has long been a central part of American democracy, and “a radical reset of our thought”

was needed to fix the problem.

Professor Akinyele Umoja from Georgia State University built upon this theme by illustrating guns’ usefulness in protecting black people during the civil rights movement in the South.

He also argued that the National Rifle Association’s has been tellingly silent on the issue of black gun ownership.

“If you want stricter legislation on guns, a black man with a gun is

the way to do it,” Akinyele joked.

Professor Alexandra Filindra from University of Illinois-Chicago explored this racial discrepancy at length during her presentation. Analyzing NRA magazines, she argued that white attachment to guns was a result of their heavy association with patriotism and virtue, a narrative influenced by NRA publications, which have only featured 10 people of color (with the exception of President Barack Obama’s multiple appearances) since 1967.

Lt. Gary Pudup, a member of New Yorkers Against Gun Violence and a conference attendee, has spent 30 years in law enforcement and owning guns. For him, the seeming intractability of gun violence can be linked back to the U.S. phenomenon of exceptionalism.

“One of the problems with the States is we’re so isolated. We think this [problem] is unique to us and [wonder] how are we going to solve this when it’s already been solved in Australia, it’s been solved in Canada,” Pudup said

But he thinks there’s a growing aura of hope that cannot be ignored.

“Every time we have one of these mass shootings I’ve sat back and thought, ‘Yeah, people will talk about this for a while and it’ll go away.’ But your generation, this means something different to them, and [...] if we’re not at the tipping point, we’re very close to it.”

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

Students Dealing With Mice in Phase Upset at UR

PHASE FROM PAGE 1

As of Sunday, an email had not been sent out to residents about the multiple mice complaints throughout Phase.

A concern Castronovo brought up is that many students do not contact his department or Facilities when they see a mouse. Out of the students who shared their stories, a few had not called Facilities.

“Students may not know to call EH&S Pest Control Unit, although the RAs and Res Life staff as well as Facilities do,” Castronovo said. “Therefore, if they called them, it should get to us, but I do not know that for sure for every call. Another concern is sometimes we may set traps, but students do not call us to let us know the trap was snapped, and the mouse is thrown away and either the trap disposed of also or reset by the student. We need to know when a trap catches a mouse every time.”

But students who received traps from Facilities and Environmental Health and Safety claimed they function poorly, leading some to buy their own traps.

“Some of the traps did not work,” said sophomore Logan O’Connell, who has dealt with five mice in his suite on the first floor of Munro. “You could tell the mouse took the peanut butter off, but they never went off. We have tried to make sure that nothing is left out that they could get into, or something that would attract them to our lounge, but we’ve still had an issue.”

Students claimed to have heard

mice in their ceilings and heaters. Many are concerned the mice may be carrying harmful diseases.

“They’re in my ceiling,” junior Joanna Stasik of the second floor of Munro said. “We woke up to them running back and forth. The tiles were moving up and down, and one of them almost fell on me. I [had to] cover my head with blankets. Two other people in my suite have them living in their oatmeal — they nibbled through their food bins. They’ve found mouse droppings in the food. Facilities doesn’t help at all. They put a mouse trap here and there. They don’t even tell everybody who’s living where the mouse traps are. I almost stepped on one.”

Residents living in James’ suite — the one that has caught 14 mice — have been in close contact with Facilities and Environmental Health and Safety since September, but had been experiencing problems as late as March 5. Even after Environmental Health and Safety filled holes in their room, they caught more mice.

James and her suitemates were also frustrated with Facilities’ failure to inform them about how many mice the department had caught on its own. It was not until the students told them they had caught a few mice that Facilities informed them a custodian had disposed of three more without their knowledge.

Recently, James woke up to find an adult mouse dead in a trap next to her. The stench was “horrible.” She called Facilities and asked them to remove it. The worker

asked her if she could do it herself. When she refused, he said she would have to wait until tomorrow afternoon for them to come.

“We’ve paid for our own traps because we don’t think [the ones provided] are working, and we’ve caught most of them with ours,” James said. “I should never have to clean out my own trap — that’s disgusting, they have diseases. I know if this was happening to them, they would not put up with it. They’re just not treating us like we are people. It’s annoying and frustrating. I’ve been so patient, and I do feel taken advantage of [for] my age. I feel so offended.” Castronovo plans to work with Resident Life, James’ suite, and other residents in Phase to minimize the problem and find ways to prevent it from happening.

“Students, Facilities, and EHS need to be a united team to keep pests under control,” Castronovo said.

As for residents, many want an acknowledgment and plan for the future of Phase.

“These things do happen,” said sophomore Bianca Hall, who found a dead mouse in her room on the third floor of Gale. “What I need to see from Resident Life is them sending an email to us addressing it, so we don’t feel like it’s them just ignoring us and letting this continue. People respond better to you acknowledging a natural problem that you cannot prevent. They need to make it known that they know.”

Koul is a member of the Class of 2020.

THIS WEEK IN THE CAMPUS TIMES



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELLSWORTH P. KILLIP, '1911

(April 6, 1916) Ellsworth P. Killip '1911 and professor Herman Le Roy Fairchild under a banana tree.

April 8, 1882 (*The Rochester Campus*)

The Rochester Campus changes from a monthly publication to a bi-weekly publication.

April 8, 1898 (*The Campus*)

The historical geology class creates a program involving a series of field trips to regional sites including Mt. Morris and Portage to study the geology of the area.

April 6, 1904 (*The Campus*)

John F. Forbes '78 resigns as president of Stetson University, where he had been president since 1885. According to the Stetson University website, Forbes was the first president of Stetson, and his initial salary was \$2,000 per year plus room and board. He was also responsible for more than tripling the size of the student body and the construction of several buildings on the Stetson campus.

April 6, 1916 (*The Campus*)

The Campus publishes a letter from Ellsworth P. Killip '11 to The Campus with an update on an expedition run by professor of geology and natural history Herman Le Roy Fairchild to Jamaica to study geology and botany. In the Feb. 22 letter, Killip cites temperatures in the 70-to-90-degree range, demographic and cultural differences between Jamaica and the U.S., and food on the island.

March 30, 1923 (*The Campus*)

UR receives a letter from Silesia, Germany, written in Latin and requesting money to be sent to support a college and its students. The letter noted prices of goods, including coal, flour, and butter, that were in the range of thousands of marks. The letter was expected to be ignored.

Compiled by Features Editor David Schildkraut, Class of 2020.

COMMUNITY

CT EATS

Osaka, Where Infinite Sushi Rolls out Onto Your Table



By LUIS NOVA
WEBMASTER

There’s a little sushi shop that’s been around for who-knows-how-long in the nearby town of Chili and it’s called Osaka Sushi.

I don’t remember exactly when I stumbled upon it, but some friends of mine took me there back toward the beginning of my junior year, and I’ve been going ever since. Around the beginning of the fall semester of 2017, they opened up a second shop in Henrietta under the same name. The place looks, feels, and serves the same way that the old Chili place did, so now I have an excuse to enlighten you all about it. Let’s talk about sushi for a bit.

The gimmick behind Osaka is that it’s an all-you-can-eat buffet. That means that you pay a flat fee for being there, and you order as much of anything on their menu, at any point, as you want. Yup, for real, no strings attached. You pay your seat price, and then you can get whatever you want.

There’s a lot to pick from at Osaka. For starters, there’s a pretty great variety of sushi rolls (Philadelphia rolls, dragon rolls, spicy tuna rolls, California rolls, crispy rolls, mango rolls), hand rolls (sushi in seaweed cones), sashimi, small noodle plates, dumplings, cooked-meat skewers, and tons of individual sushi pieces (salmon, crab, shrimp, barbecue eel,



COURTESY OF SEBASTIAN FEARN

A set of dishes served at Osaka as part of the all-you-can-eat style dining.

egg, squid, mackerel, and white tuna, to name a few). You can even get ice cream at the end of your meal, with a choice of vanilla, chocolate, green tea, or red bean.

Osaka is a bit of a monthly routine for me and my friend group. Whenever I go, I get a very strategically picked set of plates, one that helps me get what I want while not getting too full too fast. I start with a bowl of chicken udon noodles, a Philadelphia roll, five chicken skewers, five beef skewers, and an avocado dragon roll. After digging into those, I then get an assortment of individual sushi pieces, usually three salmon pieces, three white tuna, three barbecue eel, two squid, and

one shrimp. If I’m still hungry after that, I’ll try to get some fried gyoza with shrimp tempura on the side to split with friends. At the end of my whole meal, I like to top off my experience with a bowl of ice cream, served with one scoop vanilla, one scoop green tea, and one scoop red bean.

I say that this is my routine, but the truth about Osaka is that if you bring even just three people to go, your table is bound to get a platter of sushi so big you’re going to have to eat some of your friends’ sushi just to finish up the order. And you’re going to want to finish what you can, since there’s a dollar charge for each piece of sushi left

uneaten when it comes time for the tab.

I’ve gone to Osaka in a group of eight before and left the place having eaten three times as much sushi as I initially planned on. It’s a fun place to eat, and the food is pretty good for the prices their asking for, especially the chicken udon.

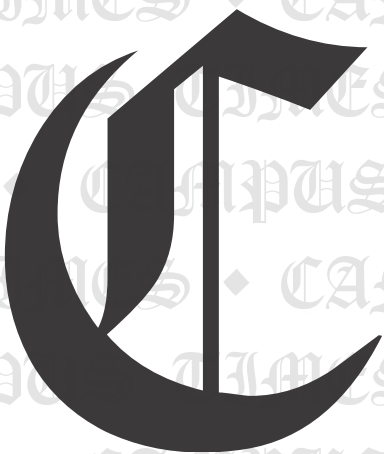
Also, they have a fish tank at both the Chili and Henrietta locations near the entrances of the restaurants, which I find morbidly hilarious, considering it’s a sushi place. Those poor guys are watching their brethren get eaten. I wonder if fish can shed tears in water...

At Osaka, there are different prices for lunch (\$13.95) and dinner (\$22.95), but that’s

about all you pay, aside from tips at the end.

The only real difference between the lunch and dinner menu is that the dinner menu is where sashimi and a couple other things are offered, but it’s really not worth the extra nine bucks if you ask me. Best to get there for lunch, which has nearly all the same menu items available. You can Uber there for about \$10, but if you hop on the Green Line, with a bit of walking, you can get there for free. I recommend finding a friend with a car to get to this one though, as you’ll be so full after eating there that walking might be the last thing you want to do.

Nova is a member of the class of 2018.



OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

How Racism Lives Among Us



By SHWETA KOULL
NEWS EDITOR

As an Indian-American, I have never thought of myself as any more or less of one of my cultures. I have never had to stop and ask myself about my identity. I am just me. It is as simple as that, right?

Not exactly. Everything I thought I knew about my identity crumbled after I found myself a victim of discrimination by one of my own cultures.

It was Orientation. My hall and I went to pull out weeds for Wilson Day. Unfortunately for us, the woods we were working in were littered with poison ivy.

After I got back to my dorm, I noticed a rash on my leg. I headed to UHS to check it out.

Upon walking in, I noticed two international students from India in the waiting room. They were speaking Hindi to each other. I was excited, as I had yet to meet any Indians on campus.

I come from a town about 20 minutes away from Rochester that is known for its lack of diversity. We only had a few Indian students in my high school. So, I envisioned college as a diversifying and culturally broadening experience, and was overjoyed to meet students from India to learn more about my culture.

I went to sign in, and then suddenly I heard it.

“Do you see how short her shorts are? They’re like underwear. She’s so American,” a voice said while laughing in Hindi.

“A disgrace. So shameful. So American. She looks like a whore,” another voice said disgustfully in Hindi.

Little did they know, I could understand Hindi. After signing in, I went to the other side of the room and took a seat while they continued to bash how “American” I was.

I wanted to say something. But my mouth opened and no words came out. I wish I had spoken up. I think what got me flustered is that you never think people from your own culture will discriminate against you.

The clash between my two cultures that I had never dealt with before suddenly was brought to the surface. It began consuming my thoughts.

“I am not fully Indian, but I am not fully American. So what am I?”

That question bothered me for months. I did not know what to do. So I started sharing my story with my friends to see if they had encountered similar problems.

To my fortune, many of them had. My friend from Bosnia grew up in America. When he goes back to Bosnia, he often gets criticized for the way he dresses and acts.

“Every time I go back to Bosnia, people I used to be close to treat me differently or they’ll make

little remarks about how ‘American’ I’ve become and how much less of a Bosnian I am,” he said to me.

My other friend is Asian and Spanish. She also has experienced racism and a clash of cultures.

“I experienced what you went through from both sides of my family. I don’t look fully white and I don’t look fully Asian,” she said. “For the longest time, I felt like I couldn’t identify as Asian-American because I don’t physically represent what the ‘stereotypical’ Asian person looks like.”

After talking it out with my friends, I learned and accepted that I am both Indian and American, no more of one and no less of one. Dressing the part in no way defines who I am.

I have also learned that racism is still thriving today, and it is individuals like me who keep it alive by not shutting it down. After the incident during Orientation, I encountered another racist incident on campus a few weeks later. But I did not speak up.

A few African-American students asked my math professor to switch to a darker marker so they could see what he was writing. A Caucasian student whispered to his friend in front of me that it would not matter whether they could see — they would fail the exam anyways. Again, I said nothing.

Moreover, a friend recently shared with me an incident where his Caucasian friend was emotional at a UR play and another student made fun of his reaction due to his “white privilege.”

Any race can be racist toward another, whether it’s within one’s culture or not. It is our decision to speak up against such behavior that can make a difference.

I wanted to share my story today to help people learn from my mistakes. The next time you find yourself in a similar situation, speak up. I know I will.

Koull is a member of the Class of 2020.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Make Sure to Vote on SA’s Gendered Club Proposal

On March 29, SA President Jordan Smith informed the student body through an email of the policy recommendations of the “Task Force on Gender-Specific Student Organizations.” Since then, the recommendations have provoked impassioned responses from many students and groups. It is the discussion on this issue, and others, such as February’s ruling on the finances of the club Equestrian Team, that drives us to discuss our role as Students’ Association members in the governing of student life.

We won’t detail the complete recommendations here — because the full document is readily available in the email from Smith and in the *Campus Times*’ news story — but the reaction has primarily been in response to a proposed waiver process, through which organizations that “depend upon following gender-exclusive membership policies set by an external governing body” could be excused from last spring’s ACJC ruling that barred SA from affiliating with gendered groups.

The introduction of the waiver would require an amendment to the SA Constitution. Few students are

involved in the SA political process, but this waiver, if anything, should drive many more students to be pay attention and participate. Any SA constitutional amendment requires majority support from students voting. For or against, only by voting can you truly make tangible democratic changes. Perhaps voting may seem fruitless on a national level, but in a school with only about 6,000 undergrads, and remarkably low turnout rates for SA elections, your voting can truly affect the outcome.

And on an issue that could affect so many members of our campus community — those involved in club sports, in a cappella groups, in Greek life, and members of the queer community who feel discriminated against — students should take the time to both inform themselves on the question and to answer it on their ballot.

The apathy of most students toward SA comes from the fact that it feels like the government doesn’t often have a direct impact on our lives. And often that might be true. But SA has vastly more influence in some matters than we might anticipate. Recent events have demonstrated this fact more than anything. SA’s vote on Equestrian

showed that the government can change the everyday life of a UR student in an instant. This is why we need to be involved.

Moreover, we need to be equipped with the right information before getting involved. All of the recommendations of the task force are explained in the six-page document attached to Smith’s email. Reactions to it from the community are discussed in this week’s news story on the situation. It takes little effort to keep yourself informed and to form your own opinions after doing so. For questions as high-profile as this, it will be worth it to fully read and understand what you are voting for — and to actually vote.

If you feel strongly about this waiver — if you feel that it’s an example of political weaseling and a vehicle for discrimination, or if you feel that the gender-exclusivity of a club should be in the hands of the club itself, or if you feel that the recommendations are a necessary compromise given that the rules of some clubs are at the mercy of people outside the University, or if you just feel that it’s plain wrong — please vote. It’ll mean something to students here now and in the future.

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Campus Times

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We Should Have Dealt With Russia Sooner

By MALIKA ZAKARINA

In a perfect world, people learn from the mistakes of the past. In a perfect world, people create, they do not destroy. In a perfect world, there is no constant menace, fear, and animosity between people. Unfortunately, our world is far from perfect.

Communism and the Cold War between the Eastern bloc and the Western bloc were said to have come to an end in 1991. The costs and consequences of the Cold War were hugely detrimental for both United States and the Soviet Union. By spying, accumulating unnecessary military, and spreading hatred, both countries just wasted their time, energy, and natural resources — resources that could have been invested into peace settlements in the East and West. Both countries were fighting imagined enemies, living in fear for more than 50 years. They weakened not only their economies but also the lives of their people.

By 2018, everybody should have moved on. But as I said, people are unable to learn from their mistakes. It seems that the Russian regime is still based on threatening and oppressing its people and people outside of its country. They are still living with a nationalistic and xenophobic frame of mind. Instead of collaborating and negotiating peacefully, the Russian government prefers taking an aggressive position and fighting with the rest of the world.

On March 4, former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia were found on a bench after being poisoned with a nerve agent. The British government accused Russia of the act. This incident reminds me of the poisoning of Alexander Litvinenko, a British defector, by radioactive polonium in the London hotel in 2006.

Promptly after the scandal, NATO member countries expelled more than 140 Russian diplomats. As stated by the secretary of NATO, the coalition’s further steps follow a “dual track” approach, which

means “defense” and “dialogue.” NATO allies are willing to show that there are “costs and consequences” for reckless actions by the Russian government.

This is one of the most forceful and unrelenting moves NATO has ever made in regard to Russia’s heedless behavior. In light of current and previous events, given the amount of involvement Russia has had, my only question is this: Why now? Why did NATO wait so long? I think expelling Russian diplomats from NATO is definitely the right move, but not only as retaliation against the poisoning of a spy and his daughter on British soil.

I strongly believe that using a nerve agent in someone else’s territory is a disgraceful act. But even aside from Skripal’s case, there has been much more to talk about.

Let’s be honest here: There has been a lot. An illegal annexation of Crimea, the Ukrainian crisis, the restless war.

What about the time when the Malaysian airplane was shot for

no reason by Russian forces, ending more than 250 lives? In response, the Russian government accused Ukrainian military, as the airplane was shot in Ukrainian airspace. What did NATO do, besides showing its “concerns”? Alarmed by the annexation, NATO just sent fighter aircrafts and ships to Eastern Europe for extra security.

And what about the ongoing cyber-attacks, hacking, propaganda, and surveillance imposed on other countries by Russian intelligence? For example, there was a time when Estonian banking, media, and websites were blocked, so that officials could not communicate, and channels could not broadcast their news. The incident happened right after the disagreement between the Russian and Estonian governments, and the address from which those cyberattacks were coming was determined to be Russian. I used to believe that the incident was just a bogus story, but now I am assured that the Russian cyber-warfare is

true.

Cases like this involving the Russian government are endless.

Again, I strongly believe that expulsion of Russian diplomats from NATO was the right move. But then I ask myself, what if the nerve agent was used not in the British territory, but somewhere else? What if somebody was poisoned, let’s say, in Syria or Afghanistan? I am curious: Would NATO even notice that it was used there? Perhaps if such highly coordinated and vigorous actions by NATO and world community were taken earlier, a lot could have been prevented.

But again, it is not a perfect world. People seem to care about stuff only when it affects themselves. Nevertheless, I hope that someday people will start learning from their mistakes, and nations will become less aggressive towards each other legislation and nuanced reporting.

Zakarina is a member of the Class of 2021

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opinions@campustimes.org

UR OPINION

By ARYAMAN MAJUMDAR AND GABE ISAACSON
OPINIONS EDITOR & PHOTO EDITOR

“SAY SOMETHING YOU FEEL ABOUT ONE OF YOUR PROFESSORS THAT YOU WOULDN’T NORMALLY SAY.”



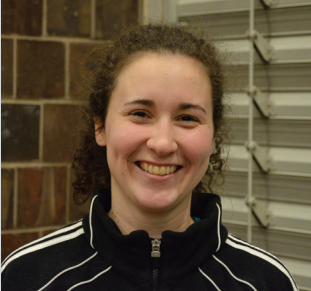
ELI BURKE, ‘21
“He’s inept.”



KAPAMBWE CHALWE, ‘20
“He’s inspiring.”



KRISTINE GURCAN, ‘20
“They make me want to sleep.”



SAVANNAH LYNCH, ‘18
“His giggle is contagious.”

HUMOR

'You've Been Punc'd!'

By ERIC FRANKLIN
HUMOR EDITOR

Saturday night, 2:30 a.m. — not usually a time of the week one associates with the overly pious. But this weekend's Saturday night was more than just Saturday night for devout Catholics around the world — it was Sunday morning.

Though many Catholics, devout or not, attend mass on Easter Sunday, only the most faithful show up at midnight for the Easter Vigil Mass. It is arguably the most important and holiest mass on the most important and holiest day of the Catholic liturgical year. It's also one of the longest masses of the year as well, as it is when adults who are converting to Catholicism receive the Sacraments of Initiation and become full members of the Catholic Church.

But one such mass caused controversy this past weekend in a small community a few hours south of Rochester.

It had been over two hours since the start of Mass in the town of Susquanandaguaquoit, and though the congregants were tired, it was well worth the beautiful mass they had just celebrated, especially the initiation of a new member to their flock — Sue, a born-again Protestant who decided to undo her rebirth in favor of the Catholic community that had been helping her family since her house burned down two years ago.

Several members of the church community started the mass skeptical — their normal pastor, Father Lee, was visiting family for the holiday, so this most important of masses would be presided over by another priest from a few towns over. While no one had any particular qualms with this Father Ashton, they were still uneasy with the idea of a stranger conducting their Easter Vigil Mass.

However, throughout the mass, Father Ashton impressed the congregation. He was well-spoken, with a kind smile, and not a bad singer to boot. (There are a few parts of Mass that the priest has to sing, and let's just say that those were not Father Lee's strong suit.)

In particular, they were impressed by his homily — inspirational and uplifting, he spoke about the selflessness of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and the miracle of the Resurrection and the promise of everlasting life. Though these are common themes in Easter homilies, the eloquence and passion of Father Ashton's words provoked profound reverence in even the most seasoned churchgoers.

By the time the majestic pipe organ belted out the first jubilant chords of the closing hymn, the congregation's fears about Father Ashton had vanished.

Some, in fact, were already commenting that he might be better than Father Lee.

Then the camera crew came out.

"Cut the music, cut the music!" yelled "Father" Ashton, who, as he took off his robes and peeled of a fake mustache, turned out to be Ashton Kutcher.

"April Fool's!" he yelled, as teens with iPhone cameras swarmed around the church, capturing the confused looks of the congregation. "There's no God and the only thing awaiting you after death is the everlasting void!"

As the churchgoers looked around in confusion and the teens documented it, Kutcher delivered his signature line. "You just got Punc'd!"

"Punc'd," apparently, is a Tumblr page maintained by Mr. Kutcher and a handful of dedicated fans of the long-cancelled MTV prank show "Punk'd," which Mr. Kutcher hosted. For their April Fool's special, they decided to project their nihilistic fear of death onto a wholesome community of faith.

Realizing what was going on, angry congregants quickly surrounded Kutcher. One of them wrestled him to the ground, and the local sheriff, a member of the parish, arrested him for fraud and impersonation of a clergyman.

As he was being taken away, Kutcher yelled, "Arrest me if you want, but Sue will still have to wait until next year's Easter Vigil to get initiated into the Church! Hahaha! Punc'd!"

Mr. Kutcher has been released on bail, pending a court date related to the fraud charges.

Reactions in Susquanandaguaquoit outside of the Catholic community were mixed, with most expressing outrage over Mr. Kutcher's antics.

Not all reactions were negative, however. Some people, such as local shop owner Jim Proctor, showed a begrudging respect for the prank.

"Sure, maybe it wasn't in the best taste," Proctor said. "But you have to admit it's one hell of a joke."

Franklin is a Take Five Scholar.

Easter Bunny: Hoppin' Mad

By SIOBHÁN SEIGNE
HUMOR EDITOR

I've said it before and I'll say it again — I'm probably the least-appreciated figure in holiday lore. Sorry, where are my manners? Hi, I'm the Easter Bunny. Happy Easter. Did everyone enjoy themselves? Did you feel good about yourself for going to church for the first time this year? Super. See you again at Christmas!

I apologize if I'm coming across as bitter but another year has come and gone and once again I've received no recognition for my work. 2011 was a great year. The release of the movie "Hop" really boosted my popularity — until Rotten Tomatoes tore it apart.

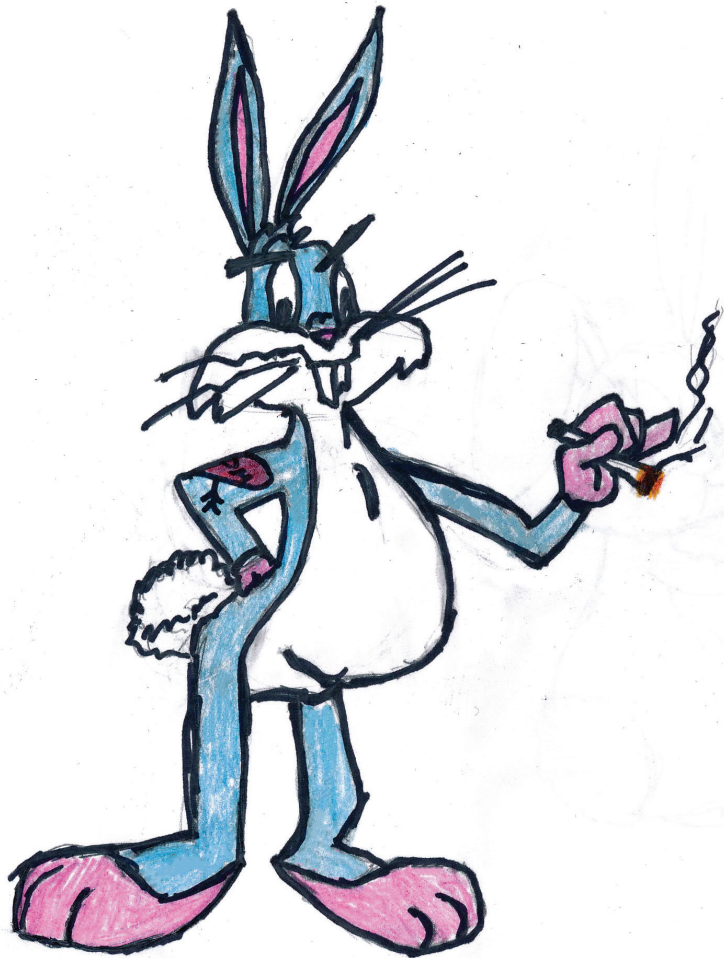
There's a lot that people don't understand about me and my job. The media gets a lot wrong. Yes, it's true that I poop jelly beans. Everyone thinks it's cute, but it's actually a serious medical condition.

I feel like Santa gets all the credit when I do the same work that he does and more. Yeah, I also visit every house in the world in one night. I even manage to do it without the help of any magical reindeer or slave labor — I think that's the politically correct term for the elves now.... Though I can't be too sure, I dipped out of politics after the Jimmy Carter rabbit incident. We don't talk to that side of the family anymore.

Sure, I have the help of all woodland creatures, but some use they are. They don't even have opposable thumbs! I'll admit I have set up some sweatshops in the magical forests of the "Amazon," but my workers are the subject of much prejudice. They are often referred to as rodents, and I've even found some traps set up in Jeff Bezos's office! So, we've pulled out of there and are now actively searching for a rodent-friendly workspace. I'm considering the New York Subway.

The world population just keeps getting bigger. It's hard to keep up with demand. I used to make all of the baskets myself. Now I have to outsource. Handwoven baskets? Not in this economy.

Another important part of the job is the artful layout of the



SIOBHÁN SEIGNE / HUMOR EDITOR

basket. It takes an eye for design. Few people know that I attended the Easter Island School of Design. I have a degree. It's hanging in my office right next to my certificate of vaccination stating that I'm 100 percent rabies-free. (Ladies, feel free to give me a call — I'll bite.)

Recently, I've been struggling with how to fill the baskets. There's undoubtedly an obesity problem that's spreading throughout the world. I don't want to be responsible for contributing to that — especially with my chocolate rabbits, something I already have an issue with. I'm just not sure I'm comfortable with children debating worldwide which part of me is more delectable to start with — my ears or my ass. Lady bunnies, on the other hand....

I mean, I understand why I can't give them carrots. Think about how disappointing it would be to come downstairs to find a basket of raw, dirty vegetables on the kitchen table. When I was a kid we had to walk uphill both ways to get those vegetables, and we didn't even have the luxury of that newfangled "gluten" in our foods.

It's often assumed that since I do all the basket arrangements,

I do Easter egg hunts too. That is not true. It's not that hard, people. After you leave the church and before you immediately go to brunch as an excuse to drink five mimosas in one sitting, you can take a couple minutes to throw some eggs on the lawn for your children to find. I'm busy enough as it is. Besides, the only egg hunt I'm interested in is one of a more, biological nature.

The times have changed, and I'm slowly adjusting. I've come to terms with the fact that there are always going to be egregious misrepresentations of me. Take those bunny costumes that workers at the malls wear for pictures with "The Easter Bunny," for example. Those are pretty insulting. My tail is not that small. Anyways, it's not the size of the tail that matters, it's how you use it.

Recently, environmental and animal activists have been up my tail about some of my production practices. In particular, Peeps' factory farming is coming under a lot of fire. It's surprising because Peeps are actually inanimate objects, but young people today, they just want to have a cause.

Seigne is a member of the Class of 2019.



SANG PAK / CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATOR

CULTURE

ROC Players Elevate ‘Spring Awakening’

ByWIL AIKEN
CULTURE EDITOR

The May Room in Wilson Commons is an interesting place to stage a musical because it doesn’t seem built for them.

It’s small (compared to something like Strong), and its stage is an elevated platform, also small, with no curtains. But necessity is the mother of invention, as the ROC Players proved in the finer moments of their production of Duncan Sheik and Steven Slater’s 2006 musical “Spring Awakening” on Friday.

“Spring Awakening,” which could conceivably be renamed “Screw You, Mom,” is about teenagers in late 19th century Germany discovering sexuality and the conflicts that arise between their parents and teachers. Caught in the middle of things are intelligent rebel Melchior (senior Justin Maldonado), the anxious Moritz (sophomore Casey Brentnall), and the smart, curious Wendla (junior Maddy Gartenberg).

In terms of the performances and casting, the play was excellent. Maldonado, as an actor and vocalist, topped his work in the Players’ previous show, “Into The Woods,” by a mile or so. (He also gets to do a lot more.) Gartenberg delivered pain and honesty in her role, and Brentnall went from funny to sympathetic to tragic as a sexually unaware dunce.

The story of “Spring Awakening” never quite comes together, and the Player’s production of the show exceeded the show’s script. A few plot elements and character choices seem to come out of nowhere, and the play takes a very adolescent, black-and-



DIWAS GAUTAM / PHOTO EDITOR

Students perform ‘Spring Awakening’ in the May Room.

white stance on the conflict between teenagers and adults. Theater, and in particular musical theater, is a very empathetic medium — when done well, you feel everything along with everybody in the play. This is why I wish the play spent a little more character development time with some (or at least one) of the adult characters, played by sophomore Ewan Shannon (who played all the adult men) and first-year Alyssa Nelson (who played all of the adult women). Shannon played about 15 different atrocious men and was particularly nasty as

the instructor at a boys’ school. Nelson, given a far greater opportunity than her stepsister role in “Into The Woods,” played each woman with equal skill, variety, and personality that maintained clarity throughout the role juggling. It was her performance that made a friend tell me that, in a late scene when Wendla’s mother finds a love letter to her daughter, that he was eager to hear the mother begin to sing. hat song never happened, and we never got her perspective, but Nelson’s performance filled in as much as it could where the playwright

ing falls short.

But if the play as a whole doesn’t fully work, the majority of the individual scenes did in this performance. One happily sweet and funny scene involved a gay romance between the gung-ho, egotistical Hanschen (senior Grant Sorbo), and the timid, childlike Ernst (first-year Jonathan O’Brien). Another well-done scene, though far more painful, was a powerful duet between Martha (senior Andria Rabenold) and Ilse (junior Jane Huffer), called “The Dark I Know Well,” about the physical and sexual abuse

they had suffered at the hands of their fathers.

The creative way that the play was put together in terms of choreography, set design, staging, and lighting is one of the main attractions here. The stage was somewhat limiting, but choreographer junior Charlotte Pillow worked well with what’s given. This is particularly true in the show’s fourth song, “The Bitch of Living,” which involved about nine actors with stools. The lighting design, by senior Emily Ivey and first-year Michael Wizorek, and set design, by sophomore Victoria Bebbler, worked together wonderfully, changing scenery by casting new shadow. The lighting was most stunning in the song “The Guilty Ones,” where an overhead light seemed to travel around the cast. The light throbbed on one actor once and then moved to the next, and the next, and the next. It was a mesmerizing accompaniment to a moving song.

Another touching sequence was a love-making scene done with two actors onstage, with the rest of the actors singing in the aisles. Putting actors where the audience is has always been a massive pet peeve of mine, but, for whatever reason, I found it stunningly beautiful in this play’s context. The sex in this play was not weirdly forced or unintentionally funny (as staged sex almost always is), but emotionally genuine and beautiful. Staged sex is a lot like mac salad: It’s really easy to do it badly, and when done badly there’s really nothing worse. Somehow, director junior Rachel Coons and the Players managed to pull it off.

Aiken is a member of
the Class of 2021.

40 Years of Games at Simcon

ByWIL AIKEN
CULTURE EDITOR

Last weekend marked the 40th annual Simcon, the UR Simulation Gaming Association’s convention of board games and more.

Senior Stephen Watson, the association’s Simcon chair, explained that the term “simulation gaming” is really a “catch-all way to distinguish yourself from video games and other things.”

The convention, which ran from Friday afternoon to Sunday evening, featured a game creator panel discussion, vendors, and role-playing games one-shots — that means a full story arc in a three-to-five hour sitting, according to Watson.

The panel discussion featured four different game creators: Jeff Dunlap and Eric Kovatchitch, from Kinsoul Studios, Dan Hundycz, from DPH Games Inc., and Kevin Colagio, of Games Over Coffee. All were there to “playtest” their games. Playtesting is the process of having convention attendees play a game and give feedback to the creators.

The panelists were asked how they would come up with their ideas.

“Our first game just popped up

in conversation. We had played a bunch of games, and we were like, ‘Why don’t we make a game?’” Dunlap said. “And then we kinda laughed, but then we were actually like, ‘No, really. We could. People do.’[...] Then we made an idea and just ran with it and three-and-a-half years later, there it was.”

‘I look at my life as game where, if I’m having fun, I’m winning.’

He and Kovatchitch were at the convention playtesting their game “Steepseers,” a game about psychics gathering visions from tea. Hundycz was at Simcon to playtest a nine-card, two-to-four-player, spy game called “Agent 299.” He also told the story behind “Affliction: Salem 1692,” his historically accurate Salem witch trials game.

“The real impetus was there was a game that came out called ‘Salem,’ and the tagline was that you play the good guys hanging the witches. And I kind of went a little ballistic in my head going, ‘That was so not what happened,’ and I

just started piecing together that concept.”

The panelists talked about their attitudes toward the work that they do. Colagio, who created a filmmaking-centered game called “Hero Flix” as well as a political game called “Governance,” talked about balancing his life as a creator with his other job as an IT professional.

“I look at my life as game where, if I’m having fun, I’m winning,” he said Dan Hundycz added, “The easy part is making a game. The hard part is selling them.”

Vendors included Boldo’s Armory, a local game store, and Black Unicorn Wood, which sells

“fanciful artifacts, from Steampunk jewelry to geek-inspired buttons, all handmade by Midori [Hirtzel-Church, owner].” Hirtzel-Church showed up to the convention in full Steampunk gear, complete with hat and goggles.

But Watson’s involvement was more personal.

“We probably have like 50 to 100 different games here of all different sorts, and when it comes to board game people, we’ll happily play any board game ever.”

Aiken is a member of
the Class of 2021.

‘The Party at the Place at the Time’

ByASHLEY BARDHAN
ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

In the post-Snowden era, the omnipresence of digital surveillance is a constant, menacing threat. That’s why I went to Alpha Delta Phi this weekend for its annual “The Party at the Place at the Time.”

Let’s start with concept. I guess “The Party at the Place at the Time” is funny in a benevolent Caucasian neighbor named Connor sort of way, so I would give that a seven out of 10.

I went with Manasvi, Austin, and Dan. On the way there, Manasvi and I discussed how Trump was the lesser of two evils, because we’re woke. Austin was just ready to have a good time, and Dan likes The 1975.

Now that the scene is set, we can get into the experience. We joined the clumpy line of people congregated outside the house, like cattle awaiting slaughter. Soon, the man granted us entry, and into The Place we went.

As I walked through the door, I was blasted with the scent Viktor & Rolf Spicebomb, sweat, and postmenstrual women. I was the postmenstrual woman.

And then — bodies, bodies everywhere, as we descended the stairs into the basement where early-2000s bangers such as Fountains of Wayne’s seminal 2003 release “Stacy’s Mom” lurked, eager to enter our ear holes and hearts.

We made our way through the dancefloor like a cat desecrating a salmon carcass, and eventually we found a sliver of space available by the DJ. The room was impressively packed, so attendance was about a nine.

As I moved my size-eight 2013 Adidas Gazelle’s across the floor, I noticed something spectacular. The floor wasn’t even sticky. This moment of purity allowed me a brief, but special, experience of hope. Perhaps I wouldn’t need to self-induce a hysterectomy after all.

They played a mashup of Oasis’ “Wonderwall” and Major Lazer’s “Lean On,” and although it was the worst thing I’ve ever heard, I think atmosphere was a solid seven. That brings ADP’s score to a rounded eight. Great job. Please use my eyeballs for soup.

Bardhan is a member of
the Class of 2020.

Indulgence is Unapologetically Badass

By LOUKIA AYDAG
CULTURE EDITOR

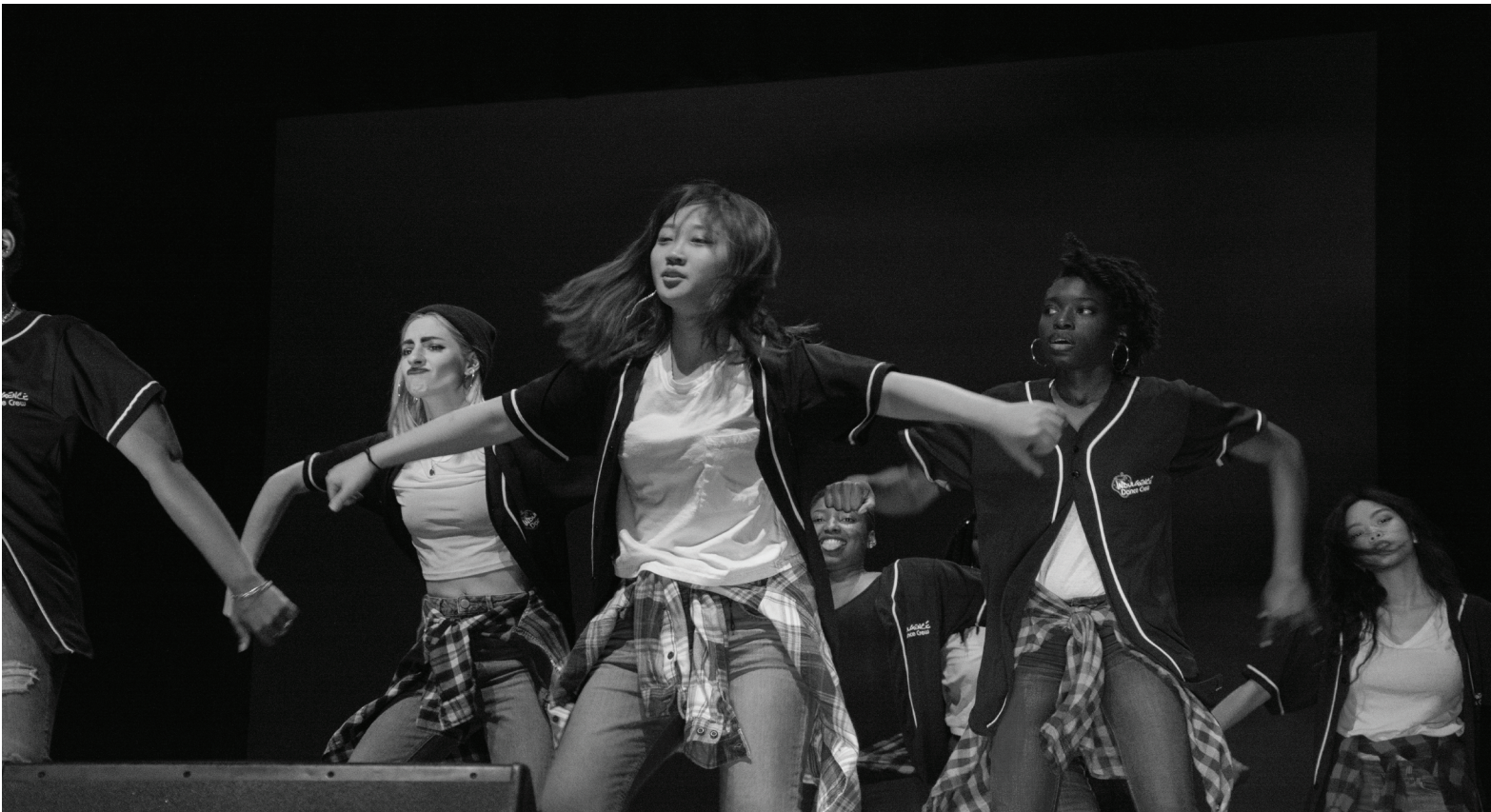
I have only two words to describe the “Growing up in Hip Hop” Indulgence spring show this past Saturday: holy crap.

For those who are unaware, Indulgence is a hip-hop dance group on campus run by the Black Students’ Union. I remember seeing them perform in the diversity showcase during Orientation and in After Hours’ fall show, but I was not prepared for how blown away I would be by an entire hour and a half of pure Indulgence.

The show was split into themed parts, with solo interludes by Indulgence members, and three guest performances including Ma’frisah, Xclusive Step Team, and Evolution. I thought the layout was well thought out for costume changes, theme changes, and keeping the audience on its toes. The videos and mini skits that began each segment also helped give you a bird’s-eye view into the personalities of the members as well as the feel of the group in general.

Part of Indulgence’s mission is to not only expose people to the enjoyment of the dance genre but also to hip-hop music. Let me just say: I hate almost all hip-hop music. It is difficult for me to find music in this genre that I enjoy, and though they used many songs I have never heard as well as music I already deemed I didn’t like, I fell in love with every single song because of the performance they added to it.

Nearly every member was responsible for the choreography



Members of Indulgence perform in their spring show “Growing Up in Hip-Hop.”

GABE ISAACSON / PHOTO EDITOR

of at least one song and I was incredibly impressed. Hip-hop is one of the more difficult genres in not only skill set but also in the diversity of movement. Every dancer brought their own feeling, flavor, and passion to each piece, and if I’m being completely honest, with the feel of the dancers and the audience, you couldn’t help but want to jump up there and join them.

Ma’frisah is a dance group that combines traditional and modern moves to promote West African culture. Though they only could perform a few songs, I thought it was a wonderful addition to the show. You could

really feel the culture in the passion they put into their performance. Xclusive Step Team is the only non Greek affiliated step team on campus that does a phenomenal job at exposing campus to a dance style that literally shakes you to your core. Their performance was powerful, loud, and rhythmic, and it was evident they love what they do. Evolution is an off-campus group comprised of kids from the Rochester area who are a part of a program to keep children involved in productive activities. Anyone you ask will say that these kids were a definite highlight of the night; you could

tell they were having a blast and the audience went nuts with support for their killer moves and their contagious attitudes.

I must admit I was worried for a second or two that there wouldn’t be a large showing of people, considering it was held in Strong Auditorium at 8 p.m. on a Saturday. I was wrong. They sold out with one of the most invested, supportive, and entertaining crowds I have had the pleasure of being a part of. Most often, you sit as an audience member and silently enjoy what is being presented to you, whether it be singing, dancing, acting, or all of the above; however, there is

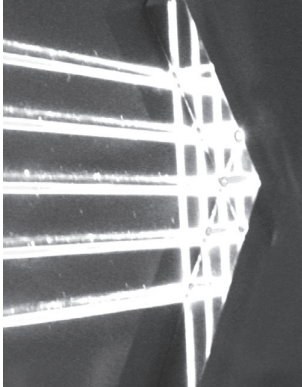

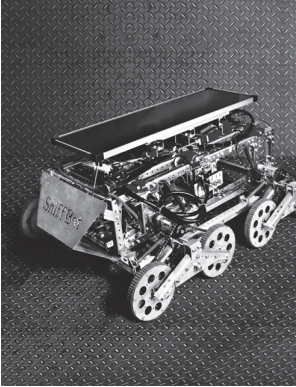
a time or two when you become a part of an atmosphere that is so full of love, admiration, and adoration for everything the performance stands for that there is not a silent human to be found. This was my favorite part about the show in general, and it also made me realize that without an environment like that, the show would’ve been much different.

This show not only gave me a newfound appreciation for hip-op culture in general but also was an amazing display of diversity and culture on campus.

Aydag is a member of the Class of 2021.

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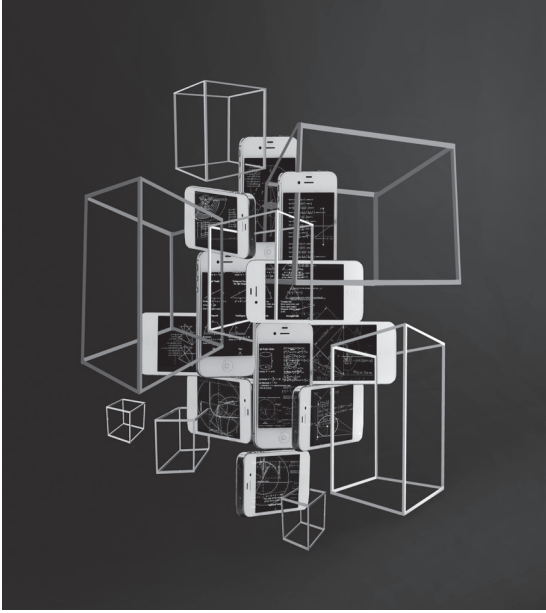
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Crossword

by Micah Greenberg
SPORTS EDITOR

ACROSS

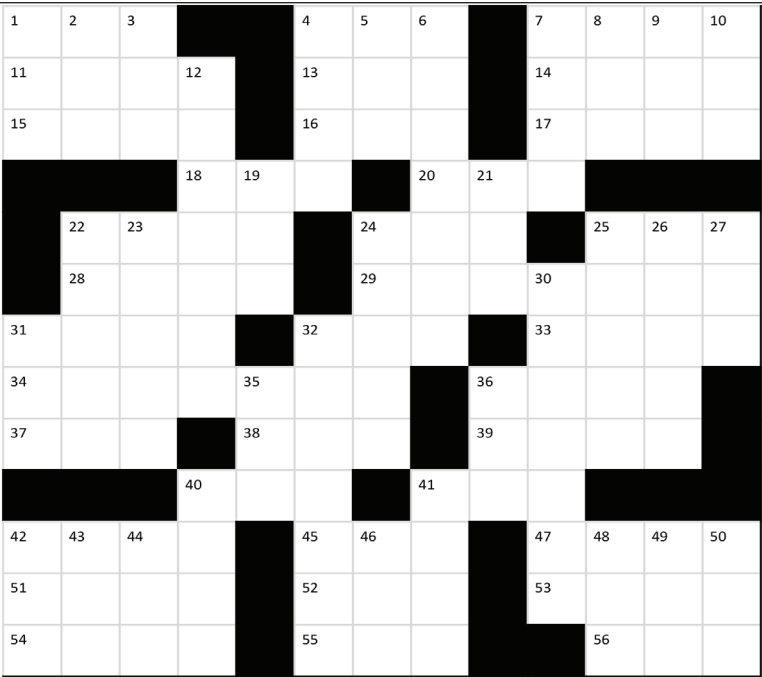
- 1. “A long, long time ____ ...”
- 4. Boat propulsion tool
- 7. Surcharges
- 11. Salad type
- 13. Mathematical dessert
- 14. “Milk’s favorite cookie”
- 15. One may be in a volcano
- 16. Bird in the Outback
- 17. A duckling, perhaps
- 18. A long period of time
- 20. Sunday night org.
- 22. Practice for a fight
- 24. It can be first
- 25. Stanley ____
- 28. Grab
- 29. It’s gained by reading 42-Across
- 31. Place where you don’t want to see your name
- 32. It makes a man
- 33. What plants do
- 34. Finals week feeling, perhaps
- 36. To improve writing
- 37. Clever
- 38. Poem “to Joy”
- 39. Teenage commonality

- 40. Bitter beer
- 41. Do wrong
- 42. See 29 Across
- 45. Quick take
- 47. Car type
- 51. Sunburn soother
- 52. Aah companion
- 53. Aucun
- 54. King of the jungle
- 55. Like Batman and Robin
- 56. Tom’s species

DOWN

- 1. Common sports injury spot, in short
- 2. Indian state with Portuguese influence
- 3. Sash worn across kimono
- 4. “____ sesame”
- 5. It comes ahead of “fire”
- 6. Meliora Weekend event
- 7. It may result in free throws
- 8. Indoor rowing machine, abbr.
- 9. Long, predatory fish
- 10. “Yo ____ ...”
- 12. Something that may take a while to get over

- 19. Mining product
- 21. Longest-serving POTUS
- 22. Pittsburgh’s most famous industry
- 23. Bright flower
- 24. Commit arson: set ____
- 25. Rack item
- 26. Come together
- 27. Teacher’s follower?
- 30. He does “not like green eggs and ham,” but he did want to be president
- 31. Strong workers?
- 32. Difficult “pill” to swallow
- 35. Early giant in internet service
- 36. Drum locale
- 40. Prayer ending
- 41. Cave’s response
- 42. Friend
- 43. Frazier opponent in Manila
- 44. British bathroom
- 46. Debt acknowledgement
- 48. Small amt. of time
- 49. Baseball stat.
- 50. Speck



NOT VANILLA

Lazy Sunday Shows



By VENNELA PANDARABOYINA
COLUMNIST

The future of food-decorating competitions isn’t exactly hanging in the balance, but let’s just pretend it is. I recently was introduced to the new Netflix show “Nailed It” (no, reader, this is not a sponsorship), and I realized that with the movement of media from television to streaming platforms, a lot of the smaller, more niche content that I grew to love would not survive the shift.

What is niche content, you ask? Niche content is the content on those channels that you don’t necessarily know the code to type in the remote, but if you scroll by it you’re inclined to see what’s on. I’m talking about channels like the Cooking Channel, HGTV, the History Channel, Oxygen, and Boomerang.

These channels host home makeover shows, cooking competition shows, and low-budget reality TV shows. And while their content is not Emmy-worthy, it is definitely watchable. It’s the kind of content that you watch on a rainy Sunday afternoon, or when you’re sick and bored with a giant bowl of soup, and just want to watch pleasant television and turn your brain off.

Don’t misunderstand me, reader — I realized while watching “Nailed It” that the concepts

and formatting behind these shows will probably travel over to streaming services. The show was an exact replica of shows like “Cupcake Wars,” down to the poppy, colorful set design and sassy judge. What I’m afraid won’t shift over are the specific personalities and brands that I have grown attached to. Food judges and makeover stylists don’t often have the clout to warrant a streaming service to remake their show (and buy it off of its original network) instead of going for their own version of it.

I think in general that the switch from TV to streaming services is not only changing the way that we view media, but also, as a side effect, is narrowing down the options viewers have for what they want to watch. Sure, if one has Hulu and Netflix and HBO Go and Showtime and CBS All-Access the variety of shows to watch could stay the same. But who has the resources and the will to get all those services?

So maybe the shift means less of the not-so-typical content than what’s present. Or maybe I’m wrong and streaming services will shift to making more niche content once they have established their mainstream content. Either way, I recommend recording whatever guilty pleasure show you watch just in case because the personalities probably won’t switch over like the shows will. As for me, I’ll be recording episodes of “Unique Sweets,” “How It’s Made,” and old “Tom and Jerry” cartoons because who knows how long they will be so accessible.

Pandaraboyina is a member of the Class of 2020.

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EVERYBODY TALKS

An Evolving Pastime



By JACKIE POWELL
COLUMNIST

Spring is a rebirth. We attempt to say goodbye to grey skies and to bitter cold afternoons. In America, baseball’s opening day is a symbol of our annual revival. But instead of telling you how 2018 is the re-awakening of the greatest rivalry in sports, or which rookie manager is destined for greatness, why don’t we look at some developments beyond the backstop.

Diversity. International diplomacy. Wage gaps. Mental health. Education. It’s difficult to know which I’m talking about: America or its pastime?

We all know about the rise of “Baseball Tonight” analyst Jessica Mendoza, but what you might not know about is how MLB has aimed to diversify its front offices to look like modern America. The Office of the Commissioner launched its own diversity fellowship last fall where it will place both people of color and female candidates at one of the 30 clubs, along with a stint at the MLB’s office in New York.

Breakers of baseball’s glass ceilings are continuing to emerge. University of Virginia graduate Hayley Alvarez is a scouting coordinator for the Oakland A’s, and former Division I baseball and softball umpire Jen Pawol is looking to officiate her first MLB regular season game. The LA Dodgers promoted Ellen Harrigan in January to director of baseball administration.

While it’s difficult to be able to predict when Fox’s short lived TV Drama Pitch will impact reality, there’s a clear effort to strive for more heterogeneity in baseball.

This year, 254 international players took to the diamond on opening day rosters, which is around 29 percent of major leaguers. The record-high numbers could be a signal or a cause of why the league is pursuing a considerable amount of endeavors outside of the U.S. The league is heavily pursuing a 2019 Red Sox-Yankees series across the pond, and, apparently, the Rangers and Indians will be playing at Hiram Birthorn Stadium in San Juan this year.

While most of America has forgotten about the continuous strife facing Puerto Rico, I challenge both teams and MLB to take advantage of that opportunity and to rise to the occasion. With 19 players hailing from Puerto Rico, though, I question if the league’s earlier \$1 Million donation to hurricane relief in both Puerto Rico and Mexico was close to enough.

Hurricane survivors aren’t the only ones in need of financial support. Slade Heathcott, an outfielder for the Oakland A’s, has toggled between the majors and minors for the majority of his career, tweeted about the lingering wage issues for minor league players.

According to Heathcott and Scout Media reporter Taylor Ward, these players are paid below minimum wage for around half the year. The outcome of the Senate’s recent spending bill will prevent players from collecting overtime pay, an issue most salient for the minors. MLB has come under fire for lobbying Congress in order to make these propositions a reality. Minor leaguers shouldn’t have to scrape by to have a shot at their American Dream.

OWhile some players are speaking out on economic inequality, other players are now opening up about their own internal battles. Seattle Mariners catcher Mike Marjama ended his reticence on an eating disorder that had plagued his pre-college baseball career. His voice comes at a time where these disorders are mostly discussed by women.

Marjama’s decision to speak openly continues a nation-wide conversation about athletes and their mental health. “Just because you’re a Major League Baseball player, that doesn’t mean you’re immune to everything,” he said.

The catcher’s voice is one young athletes and aspiring baseball players need, as concentrating on the needs of youths has been a recent consideration of MLB. It was encouraging to learn that, at the end of January, MLB and the U.S. Conference of Mayors renewed its partnership in support of “Play Ball,” the league’s youth-empowerment initiative.

Amid the current climate where national movements are led by the younger generation, MLB understands that the sustainability of the sport lies in the education and care for the youth.

Similar to what exists in the United States, institutions from within baseball have begun to challenge the status quo and evolve. But, traditionalists will always find something to argue against. If that means opposing safer games with league wide protective netting or believing there’s no appropriate way to address baseball’s pace of play, the game will always face challenges modernizing.

Akin to anything in this country, we must remember that pursuing change comes with perseverance and patience.

“Just because it has been this way since the start of the game does not mean it has to continue and doesn’t mean it is right,” Heathcott tweeted..

The diamond and its accompanying stadiums are places where communities thrive, laugh, cheer, but also might disagree. As we look toward the 2018 season, we must recognize the changing landscape on and off the field for America’s oldest sport. When it’s all said and done, baseball is more than just a game.

“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.

By MICAH GREENBERG
SPORTS EDITOR

The Games Are Not the Draw

For years, I have said that my favorite day of the year on the sports calendar is the first day of the NFL Draft. I have always been drawn to the strategy behind the draft, the dueling philosophies of drafting the best player available and drafting for need, the shocking trades.

I have also always loved the frenzy that comes at the onset of free agency. When free agency starts, teams engage in massive bidding wars for the services of star players, which can completely change the balance of power in the league.

I am starting to think that maybe the offseason is better than the regular season. The offseason is when all of the teams are built. The regular season seems like a mere reflection of those offseason deals.

This holds true for me across other sports. I’ve found myself more inclined to watch the NFL Draft than a World Series game. As a Celtics fan, Gordon Hayward’s signing was a bigger deal to me than Gordon Hayward’s injury.

In an internet age with low attention spans, it is much easier to get ESPN alerts when a big signing happens than to sit down for hours and watch a game.

Furthermore, the events of the offseason matter for years, whereas games have short-term effects. I still remember the various teams Peyton Manning visited in 2012, but I can’t remember many of the regular season games of last season, even though I watched many of them.

The offseason storylines really intrigue me, but I also think it’s important to remember that the true goal of sports is to show the best achievements and abilities of humankind. As former Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren once said, “I always turn to the sports section first,” adding, “the sports section records people’s accomplishments; the front page has nothing but man’s failures.”

LAST WEEK’S SCORES

MONDAY, MARCH 26
MEN’S GOLF AT DAY 1 HUNTINGDON COLLEGE WYNLAKES INTERCOLLEGIATE – T-10TH OF 16

TUESDAY, MARCH 27
MEN’S GOLF AT DAY 2 HUNTINGDON COLLEGE WYNLAKES INTERCOLLEGIATE – 9TH OF 16

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28
WOMEN’S LACROSSE VS. ITHACA COLLEGE – L(9–19)
WOMEN’S TENNIS AT WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE – W(7–2)
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL AT ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE – L(0–2); W(1–0) (DOUBLE-HEADER)
MEN’S BASEBALL VS. ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE – L(4–15)

FRIDAY, MARCH 30
MEN’S BASEBALL AT RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE – W(8–4); L(6–7) (DOUBLE-HEADER)

SATURDAY, MARCH 31
WOMEN’S ROWING AT MURPHY CUP IN PHILADELPHIA, PENN. – COMPLETE
MEN’S TRACK AT SUNY GENESEO EARLY SEASON INVITATIONAL – COMPLETE
WOMEN’S TRACK AT SUNY GENESEO EARLY SEASON INVITATIONAL – COMPLETE
MEN’S BASEBALL AT RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE – W(7–4); L(4–5) (DOUBLE-HEADER)
WOMEN’S LACROSSE VS. ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY – L(8–9)

SUNDAY, APRIL 1
MEN’S GOLF AT DAY 1 HERSHEY CUP IN HERSHEY, PENN. – COMPLETE
WOMEN’S ROWING VS. ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY – COMPLETE

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

MONDAY, APRIL 2
MEN’S GOLF AT DAY 2 HERSHEY CUP IN HERSHEY, PENN. – 8 A.M.
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL AT SUNY CORTLAND – 3 P.M. AND 5 P.M. (DOUBLE-HEADER)

TUESDAY, APRIL 3
MEN’S BASEBALL AT ITHACA COLLEGE – 8 A.M.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4
WOMEN’S TENNIS AT NAZARETH COLLEGE – 4 P.M.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6
WOMEN’S LACROSSE AT BARD COLLEGE – 4 P.M.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7
WOMEN’S TENNIS AT ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY – 9 A.M.
WOMEN’S ROWING VS ITHACA/RIT/FRANKLIN & MARSHALL – 10 A.M.
WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT HAMILTON COLLEGE INVITATIONAL – 10 A.M.
MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD AT HAMILTON COLLEGE INVITATIONAL – 10 A.M.
MEN’S TENNIS AT ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY – 1 P.M.
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL VS CLARKSON UNIVERSITY – 1 P.M. AND 3 P.M.
MEN’S BASEBALL VS ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY – 1 P.M. AND 3:30 P.M.
WOMEN’S LACROSSE AT VASSAR COLLEGE – 2 P.M.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8
MEN’S BASEBALL VS ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY – 12 P.M. AND 2:30 P.M.
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL VS ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY – 1 P.M. AND 3:30 P.M.

I seem to prefer to put myself in the place of a general manager rather than that of a player. I’m much more willing to say, “If I were the Giants, I’d take Quenton Nelson” than, “If I were Jesse James, I would have kept control all the way to the ground.” I can put myself in the place of a general manager and often feel like I could make better decisions than some GMs in the league. However, not only can I not see myself as an NFL player, I definitely can’t see myself executing a play perfectly, with precision and athleticism.

I am pushing myself to watch the regular games mor, and focus less on the offseason. Of course I will still watch the draft, but I’ll also watch the March Madness finals even though my bracket was busted about an hour into the tournament. Sports is its own world, and it’s important to sometimes enjoy the beauty of the game rather than the failures of the front office.

Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

For Fujimaki, College Tennis is a Team Sport

By MICAH GREENBERG
SPORTS EDITOR

Junior Masaru Fujimaki has played for Men's Tennis all of his three years at UR. He is a team captain and usually plays in the number-one spot in both singles and doubles competition. Last year, he reached the third round of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Northeast Regional Singles Championship. This year, he currently has a 7–8 record in singles play.

How did you get interested in tennis?

I started playing tennis because of my brother. He didn't want to play alone so he asked me to join, and then the coach told my parents that I am talented in tennis — that's why I started practicing seriously.

What has been the most difficult thing aspect of playing tennis in college?

The most difficult thing about college tennis is that tennis became a team sport instead of an individual sport. It is very interesting, but this is my first time in 14 years of playing tennis that I actually need to win a tennis match as a team, not as an individual player.

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

Over the course of my collegiate career, I really felt like I have improved as a tennis player. I came as a freshman and played the top spots, which gave me great opportunities to compete with other top players in the nation. Coaching and my teammates gave me support both on and off the courts and helped me technically and mentally. The biggest moment so far in my career happened when [my] coach chose me as a captain last fall. Being a captain really changed my mindset as a player and increased my responsibility as well. I became more disciplined as a player and also focused on improving the team as a whole and for the future tennis program for UR.

What is the dynamic between you and your teammates?

It is very interesting since every year some players graduate and also few players join the team. And our team is very international, with players from China, Malaysia, Taiwan, Norway, India, and Japan (myself). I really enjoy being on this team and spending time with them anywhere.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

Fujimaki often plays in the number one spot in singles and doubles competition

We support each other during matches and also in classes. It is a great team, and we all like each other.

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

Definitely my parents. They are the ones that let me play this sport and supported me for my 14-year career. They traveled anywhere for my junior tournaments to support me. Without them, I couldn't make it this far in this sport, and every accomplishment

belongs to them as well. My friends in professional tours also gave me motivation, and they gave me advice about tennis. My coach is very helpful and very positive about me accomplishing achievements in collegiate tennis.

Who is your favorite professional athlete, and why?

My favorite professional athlete is Roger Federer. To me, he is flawless, and he is a legend in this sport. I actually don't know how can I describe him better than just

saying that he is the best tennis player in this world and no one can reach his level again.

If you could have an unlimited supply of one thing for the rest of your life, what would you choose?

I really like eating chocolates, but I couldn't eat them that much during season so I would like to have unlimited supply of various chocolates. I will eat them after I retire tennis!

Greenberg is a member of the Class of 2021.

Women's Lacrosse Falls to St. Lawrence and Ithaca

By NICK DAVIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Women's Lacrosse fell to Ithaca College last Wednesday, 9–19, and then lost an 8–9 nailbiter to St. Lawrence University on Saturday.

The Ithaca Bombers were the 17th ranked team in the country entering play Wednesday, and it looked like they could take a tumble after a tight 6–6 first half.

At one point, the 'Jackets were up 4–2 against the favorites from Ithaca. But the second half proved too much for the 'Jackets. Ithaca outscored Rochester 13–3 across the second half of play.

Senior Brigid Regan led the way in scoring for UR, with three goals. Seniors Madeline Mullholand and Madeline Levy both added two goals for the 'Jackets. Levy also had an assist on the day. Sophomore midfielder Jamison Seabury had two assists to go with her one goal and also led the team in draw controls. First-year midfielder Kendra Jones added a goal for the 'Jackets, and junior goalie Conley Ernst ended the day with eight saves.

The 'Jackets were back in



PHOTO COURTESY OF UR ATHLETICS

Junior midfielder Katherine Woo had two shots against St. Lawrence but was unable to find the net

action on Saturday as they hosted St. Lawrence University for another Liberty League matchup. St. Lawrence jumped out to a quick start after Seabury had put the home team up 1–0. St. Lawrence had seven first-half goals and led 7–3 at halftime. When the second half rolled around, the 'Jackets started clicking. They outscored their opponents 5–2

in the second half, losing a tough game at home. Levy led the 'Jackets in scoring Saturday with three goals. Seabury added another goal to bring her total to two on the day. First-year midfielder Mary Panepento and sophomores Maggie McKenna and Jenna Macri all added a goal each as well.

It was another close game

that felt like Rochester could come out on top in. The team has lost four games by two goals or less in the beginning of the season but is playing competitively against all opponents. The team knows this too.

"Regardless of our record, we have played well in our games and want to keep our heads up," Levy said.

The 'Jackets will take on Bard College this Friday and Vassar College this Saturday. Both will be Liberty League games on the road.

"Vassar is a team that is pretty evenly matched with us," Levy said.

The 'Jackets are looking to get in a good week of practice before their upcoming games.

"Our strengths are our strong defense and moving the ball really well in the midfield. This comes from our strong communication and speed," said Levy.

She added that the team is hoping to focus on making good decisions on the offensive end and taking care of the ball. Levy currently leads the team in goals and has played a pivotal role in the team's offense this season. The team looks to build off the strong second half performance against St. Lawrence University in their next games. It'll be hard to keep them from the back of the net if they do. Bard College is currently 2–4 but has dropped the last four in a row. Vassar College is currently 2–5 on the season and has lost its last two games.

Davis is a member of the Class of 2020.