

# Campus Times

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## CT Community Mourns Alum Miguel Rodriguez

By MEGAN BROWNE  
PUBLISHER

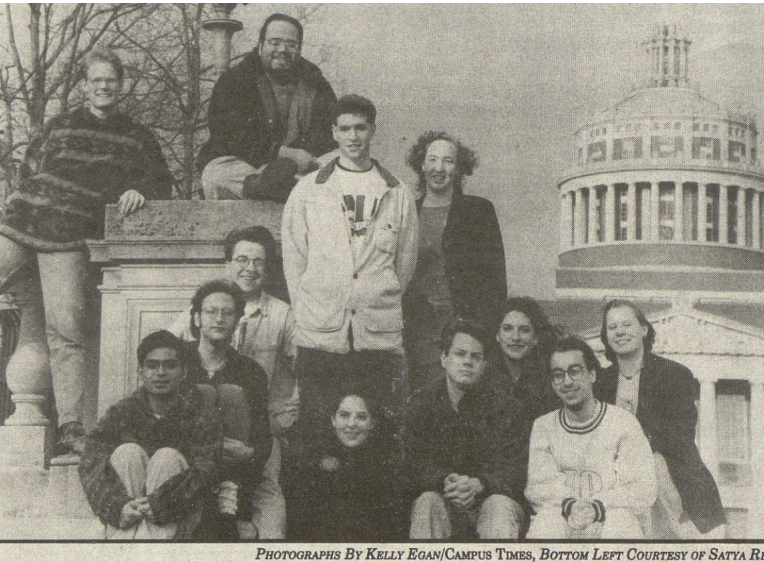
“You can’t stop me, you can only hope to contain me.” Quoting Dan Patrick, those were Miguel Rodriguez’s (’96) last words to the Campus Times when he said goodbye as a senior. This month, Miguel — Miggy, to his colleagues — passed away due to complications from COVID-19. Miguel’s legacy is obvious. He served for all four of his undergraduate years

with the Campus Times, acting as a Staff Writer his first year, Sports Editor his sophomore year, Syndications Editor his junior year, and Senior Staff his senior year. After graduation, he continued to be a lifelong journalist. Along with CT, Miguel played as a goalkeeper for UR Hockey and majored in English. After graduating, he went on to work for the University Sports information department at the Democrat and Chronicle from 1997-1998,

the Greater Niagara Newspapers from 1998-2003, and finally ended up with The Buffalo News from 2003, covering the high school sports beat until his death. Miguel’s death made headlines not only at his home publication of The Buffalo News, but also made national news at the Washington Post.

Miguel’s story is a testament to the Campus Times as an organization. On Tuesday, we received a letter to the editor from David Leavitt ’98 regarding Miguel’s passing, including how Miguel had a big heart, and was a dedicated editor who helped him grow into the Editor-in-Chief he became years later during his first year in the CT. Following that, the Campus Times reached out to David about doing a long-form article about Miguel, in which we immediately received an email with four former editors CC’d, who then CC’d two other editors, all telling touching stories about Miguel and the CT.

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Rodriguez (top row, second from left) and Campus Times members

## Dining updates include GrubHub ending Feb. 14

By HENRY LITSKY  
NEWS EDITOR

Starting Monday Feb. 14, students will no longer be able to spend declining dollars on off-campus GrubHub purchases, and Grab & Go will reopen. The decision comes as the University continues to expand on-campus dining hours/options as dining staffing levels approach normal levels.

Many students who spoke with the Campus Times were disappointed about the closure of off-campus GrubHub purchases.

“The general population of students are not satisfied with the quality of food in the dining hall[s], so having the GrubHub really opened up the options that we have, and variety of cuisines and quality of food that we can get. So it was kind of disappointing to hear how GrubHub was being closed,” senior Joanne Lee told CT. “We are not totally back to where we were before, so there is some dissatisfaction in that.”

UR first allowed declining dollars to be spent at off-campus restaurants through GrubHub last semester after

dining staffing levels plummeted to 65% of their normal rates. In response to the employment crisis, the University closed many dining options and consolidated employees to prioritize keeping the Pit and Douglass Dining Hall open. The University has always presented the GrubHub arrangement as a temporary solution.

The Sept. 23 announcement introduced the measure as “not meant to be a permanent part of the meal plan” only continuing “as long as necessary to supplement student options during this staffing crisis.”

The start of the spring semester welcomed the resumption of both dining halls operating in tandem again, but with altered service hours. Grab & Go, which was open during the fall semester, was closed for the first few weeks of this semester, which helped to justify the continuation of off-campus GrubHub benefits.

Despite many reopenings and expanded hours of service on campus, some students are still worried about the number of options available, especially to those with

dietary restrictions.

“You can get the same food from Grab & Go that you can get at the Brew or [...] at Connections, it’s the same shit just in a different place,” sophomore Meaghan Baker told CT. “So I don’t know what they think they are doing by magically opening Grab & Go.”

**“I don’t eat beef or pork, [and] I feel like the dining halls just don’t have as many options [as] they make it seem,”**

“If I’m being honest I think the hours are there. My bigger concern is personally I don’t eat beef or pork, [and] I feel like the dining halls just don’t have as many options [as] they make it seem,” senior Destine Baldonado told CT. “Like, the vegan station at Danforth, sometimes the options are just very limited [for] someone who has a more restricted diet. It’s not even the hours that’s concerning to me; it’s being able to eat literally anything.”

Litsky is a member of the class of 2023.

## Medallion Program Workshop Ends Abruptly After Conflict



MICAH BETTENHAUSEN / PHOTO EDITOR

By ALYSSA KOH  
MANAGING EDITOR

Thursday night’s Medallion Program workshop, titled Understanding and Responding to Antisemitism and Anti-Israel Sentiments on Campus, received intense student backlash after presenter Joy Getnick, Executive Director for Hillel, muted attendees during the presentation and ended the Zoom discussion early. Getnick said she wasn’t sure “if people came to hear things in the way [she] intend[ed],” and “[she] reserv[ed] the right to close that.”

The workshop was promoted by the Medallion Program as a way to “introduce participants to historical and contemporary expressions of antisemitism, with a focus on understanding how antisemitism presents itself on campuses today.” In addition, the training was to “focus on understanding the intersection and divergence of antisemitism and anti-Israel sentiments, and the boundaries between legitimate criticisms of Israel and anti-Israel/anti-Zionist/antisemitic behavior.”

Immediately after the workshop’s announcement on WCSA’s Instagram, which has subsequently been deleted, student concerns arose. As a result, the eboard of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) agreed to join the event together, promoting attendance to their individual followings as well as to the club at large.

“Hey guys! Just wanted to let you all know how the Medallion Program is trying to discuss the anti-Israel sentiment on campus and correlating it with antisemitism, and I think it’s important for our members to try to attend to set the record straight that anti-Israel isn’t antisemitism. That our school and the

Medallion Program specifically should not stand for a state that is committing the crime of apartheid!” said SJP President and senior Mufida Asmar in a statement to the club.

The Zoom event was prefaced by Getnick explaining the workshop’s origins, which were apparently spurred as a result of incidents this past May during increased tensions between Palestinians in Jerusalem and Israeli police. Getnick specifically mentioned that there had been “some Instagram posts and some comments that felt upsetting to Jewish students on campus that felt threatening of their identities and how they might connect to their heritage,” and that “there wasn’t really an awareness of why those statements might be so upsetting.”

The goals of the event were noted as being launched through the Medallion Program “as part of increasing understanding and cultural awareness of all peoples and for all people on campus.” According to Getnick, the workshop had “started with some faculty and staff” and Hillel was “doing kind of a soft launch tonight through the Medallion Program to see who really wanted to show up and engage in the conversation.”

In addition, group participation was encouraged, with Getnick specifically noting that she wanted people “to feel like they can ask questions.”

“If that’s not something that we’re really going to focus on, I might say, ‘Hey, I’m happy to continue that conversation online at a different time,’” she continued, “so that we can get through what we do intend to focus on today. I certainly don’t want people to feel like their voices are squashed.”

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# CAMPUS

## SA Senate recap Feb 7, 2022

By JUSTIN O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

During their Feb. 7 meeting, SA Senate discussed committee updates, scheduling their town hall, the new SA website, and a procedural change that would put students before senators in their speaker's list order, among other topics.

They began 33 minutes late after a struggle to meet quorum. Many senators were absent, including sophomores Annie Chin, Miraz Sadi, and Cecile Wang, juniors Falisha Hola and Kevin Tusiime, and first-year Zephyr Zhao.

To start off the meeting, junior Ben Lapidus, senior systems analyst at Wilson Commons, gave a presentation about the SA website redesign. Committee chairs then gave updates.

Campus Life Committee Chair Lilly Hutton said the Global Celebration Committee would host its first meeting on Friday, Feb. 11 to discuss alternatives to the Hirst Lounge flag display. She expressed frustration at being the only student on the committee composed of mostly administrators.

Hutton also said she and first-year Senator Olga Yu-

vchenko will investigate reports from the UHS Horror Stories Facebook group. Students can submit Bias-Related Incident Reports for themselves and others to create records of those UHS experiences and email Hutton to highlight incidents they want SA to address.

Legislation in response to a professor denying a student an excused absence on Lunar New Year will be drafted. Currently professors are only required to accommodate religious observances, not cultural ones, according to the Advising Handbook.

During meetings with Dean Jeffrey Runner over the past few weeks, President and junior Sabeet Kazmi Kazmi and Vice President and junior Rusama Haque recommended allowing at least two pass/fail courses to count towards students' clusters this semester. Kazmi said this recommendation will likely not be entertained.

Reacting to concerns about the response rate to student complaints last semester, Dean Runner is considering requiring that syllabi include a link to the faculty complaint form, and President Sarah

Mangelsdorf suggested having an ombudsman for faculty complaints.

Minority Student Affairs Liaison Adrija Bhattacharjee urged senators to attend meetings and put in more work.

"If you are in this position and you want to stay here and finish your term, you can either do the shit that you have to do or just leave," she said. "There are kids out there, actual students, that would want to come in this position and do a lot more work in the last two months than y'all have done in the past year."

Debate was later held concerning a proposal by Bhattacharjee looking to end the practice of senators yielding to students in the gallery. The proposal would function by automatically placing non-senatorial students at the top of the speakers' list if they have input. The procedural change would not require legislation to be enacted, so no vote was held.

After another debate, the senate agreed to conduct an Instagram poll to set a date and time for their town hall. The forum will be held sometime on the week of Feb. 21.

*O'Connor is a member of the Class of 2023.*



HENRY LITSKY / PHOTO EDITOR

SA Senate started 30 minutes late due to low attendance from senators.

## BICC Holds College Diversity Roundtable

By ALYSSA KOH  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Feb. 11, the College Diversity Roundtable (CDR), led by CDR Chair and Director of the Paul J. Burgett Intercultural Center (ICC) Jessica Guzmán-Rea, met to discuss proceedings about cultural celebrations and University holidays, and a summary on Fall 2021 bias reports.

The CDR, which meets monthly, focused on these topics as a result of the student backlash against a professor's decision to deny a student the ability to make up a lab for the Lunar New Year.

Sophomore and SA Minority Student Affairs Liaison Adrija Bhattacharjee was the first student to speak up about the faculty policy, which currently gives professors the decision-making power to grant students exemptions that are outside of University holidays. "We can put the Lunar New Year in the policy mandate for right now, make it a University holiday, but then there have to be so many days that come up after that that mean so much, so how do you draw the line?"

Bhattacharjee spoke about minority students whose holidays are often unfamiliar to professors until they bring them up, saying, "Why do we have to wait? Why do we need to explain to all of you that it doesn't need to be put onto paper — that our word should be enough? That's just this tiring conversation that we're continuing to have over and over again [...] I think we should just start with listening to the student first, being empathetic from the get-go, and that's the bare minimum. We should be expecting that. That is not something we should need to talk to grown adult faculty [about] at this point."

In favor of adding more student input on excused absences, Assistant Director of the CARE Network Issha

Travers said, "Students have shared with CARE Network a theme of flexibility and empathy at the onset of COVID-19, and then what feels like a shift to rigidity — despite the pandemic continuing to impact students. Though I will note there have been many lovely and accommodating faculty offerings and relationships."

Another topic of conversation was the Medallion Program workshop that occurred on Feb. 10, where the presenter and attendees engaged in conflict and the event ended prematurely as a result of high tension. Senior Program Assistant for the ICC Hannah Witkin had this to say: "This University often says that a reason for acting or not acting on something is because the University doesn't take stances on geopolitical issues [...] But then, when it comes to this one workshop, you have geopolitical conflict being conflated as religious conflict [...] and I was shocked that the Medallion Program was hosting this workshop, that WCSA was promoting this workshop."

As a summation of everything that had been discussed, junior Sierra Sadowski said, "As someone who was not at the workshop but who works with the Interfaith Cooperation on campus, I think it's also important not to sideline the voices of our religious student groups on campus in favor of an academic approach [...] It is important to include academic voices who can speak to cultural and political conditions that create and proliferate antisemitism, or any prejudicial attacks against POC, religious folks, etc., but not in lieu of the leaders of student groups who are interested in discussing and tackling serious issues such as antisemitism with more care and expertise."

The next CDR meeting will be held on March 18.

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

WORKSHOP FROM PAGE 1

## Contentious Medallion Workshop Ends Early

By ALYSSA KOH  
MANAGING EDITOR

Around ten minutes into the start of the talk, Asmar raised her virtual hand to comment on the correlation posed by the workshop between antisemitic and anti-Israeli sentiments. In the middle of her statement, Getnick cut her off, stating that Asmar's interjection was "the conversation [she didn't] want to have tonight."

Twenty minutes in, Asmar attempted to be called on again, but was ignored. When she spoke up, stating that Getnick was "saying things that were harmful to students at [UR]," Getnick forcibly muted her, saying that she had to "because it wasn't the point of this educational opportunity".

Midway through the presentation, after Getnick refused to answer any further questions until concluding the talk, SA President and junior Sabeet Raza left the Zoom call with this statement:

"Hi all, Joy, thank you for the presentation and organizing. Unfortunately, it seems quite unfair to host an event through a program developed and intended to uplift marginalized voices — particularly of students — and shutting students down at your convenience without giving them good faith opportunities to express their perspectives. The purpose of the Medallion program is to uphold and promote the MELIORA values; Equity, Lead-

ership, Integrity, Openness, Respect and Accountability. Clearly, there is no respect for student voices, a lack of openness towards student perspective, and a bad faith attempt to educate without engagement; especially at an event intended to promote civic engagement, which, of course, requires engagement; something [this] event clearly lacks thus far. I have to head out for another commitment, but can only hope that the engagement part of this civic engagement event will be honored going into the next hour."

Towards the end of the meeting, in response to comments from recent graduate Jenna Raslan '21, Getnick pulled up a slide containing three Instagram posts made by UR students in the past 24 hours. Getnick attempted to block identifying information of students, but left profile photos visible.

"I've blocked out who the names are — folks here might know who posted them, but that's not relevant for me to share," Getnick said.

She then read the first post aloud and began analyzing the content to explain how the language could be perceived as "biased and hateful." Getnick was cut off from continuing when a student unmuted and began arguing over her choice to say "Israeli military presence in West Bank," stating that it was an "occupation" repeatedly.

After this interaction, Raslan unmuted and attempted to resume the previous line of conversation when Getnick abruptly ended the call in the middle of their statement. According to Raslan, they had been in the middle of attempting to explain to Getnick the difference between attacks on Israeli politics and antisemitism. In an interview with the Campus Times, Raslan had this to say about Getnick's behavior on call: "You cannot claim to be talking about the lives and emotions of people of a religion and then consistently equate it to political activity and not expect people on the other side to want to engage in that conversation. You draw that division when it's convenient for you."

Getnick, when questioned about the results of the presentation by the Campus Times, responded with this statement over email:

"In general, it's just not a good idea for me to get into a more nuanced conversation about this situation in such a public way [...] I can say that our intention was to offer a training about how Jewish students experience antisemitism and anti-Israel sentiments on campus. It was unfortunate that so many students showed up — at the last minute, and continually throughout the program — with a seemingly different agenda."

*Koh is a member of the class of 2022.*



# Political Science Professor Tackles the Relationship Between Business and Politics

By ALLISON HONG  
STAFF WRITER

Here at UR, different political perspectives can be hard to come by. While students may disagree on minor things, a majority of the student population tends to sit on the same side of the political aisle. Thus, the work that David Primo, Professor of Political Science and Business Administration, is doing with the Politics and Markets Project (PMP) is vital to introducing his students and the UR community to contrasting perspectives. Created in 2014, PMP aims to bring diverse perspectives to campus and foster education, research, and debate on the ever-changing nature of business and government. The project has brought in guest speakers with

first-hand experience in areas like corporate strategy or crisis management to speak in some of Primo's courses. Primo highlighted that guest speakers allow students to see that "you don't necessarily have to go to law school to have an impact on public policy, you don't necessarily have to get an M.B.A. to have an impact on business." This semester, Primo plans to bring three or four speakers, and since their career talks are open to the public, even students outside his classes are able to benefit. These events go beyond topics related to his courses, focusing instead on the guests' work and perspectives from their respective fields. It can be difficult to see how the things we learn in class apply to real life, and Primo recognizes this. The

PMP's goal extends to his classrooms, and Primo says that "the main way in which the PMP has enhanced my teaching is that the guest speakers I can bring in add a different dimension to the course. It's one thing for me to teach about corporate political strategy, it's another thing to hear from somebody who is actively working on it in their jobs." Take Five student Josh Liao noted that "[Primo's] homework questions and assignments are very strategy-based. We are asked to come up with strategies for the case studies that he gives the class, and it puts you in a real-world situation and you are asked to think like a potential executive of a company." Beyond the classroom, PMP also holds expert panels once a semester about

major policy issues. Past events have included a discussion on immigration, and last semester, on the future relationship between the private sector and the U.S. government. The panel included a socialist, a libertarian, and people in between. These events strive to break the ideological bubble that college campuses are often in. In founding the PMP, Primo sought to "facilitate an actual meaningful exchange of ideas" on campus. The project's next panel event, focusing on the relationship between Big Tech and Big Government, is on April 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Wegmans Hall auditorium. The panel plans to debate both sides of the question of how much the federal government should be intervening in the operations of companies like Google,

Facebook, and Apple. Primo says, "it seems tempting to say we should have more regulation of their activities, but the flip side is that the federal government may not necessarily enact regulations that are beneficial." In exploring both sides, major policy issues such as these become "open questions" and the potential policies regarding them become much more complex. Being surrounded by relatively like-minded people on campus, our own discussions can end up monochromatic and stagnant. If we're ever going to have new, more creative ideas, we have to get out of our political comfort zone, and the PMP provides an opportunity for students to do just that. *Hong is a member of the class of 2025.*

MEMORIAM FROM PAGE 1

## CT Remembers Alum

By MEGAN BROWNE  
PUBLISHER

Through this I was able to find out that the Campus Times staff used to go on weekly Friday night outings to ice skate at the Genesee Valley Sports Complex, where Miguel, one of the two hockey players in the group, would skate laps around his fellow editors. Along with the email came pictures from former Photo Editors Allegra Boverman and Rachel Coker, all displaying Miguel and the rest of the staff at GVP during writers' retreats and at a Campus Times wedding post-graduation between two former editors. Back then, CT was composed of people working to churn out weekly print editions of the news on bricks of computers. In all of these photos, Miguel is front and center, cheering everyone on. Through Miguel, I had gotten to witness a group of colleagues who hadn't spoken in years

reunite around their beloved coworker and friend. Miguel's death inspired an immediate reaction from those that cared about him. Everything I have read about Miguel, from the articles and emails written about him to his pieces here, say the same thing about his character: Miguel was big-hearted, dry-witted, and loved by those he worked with. When Miguel wrote the words, "You can't stop me, you can only hope to contain me," the Campus Times was still telling its readers to "visit us on the World Wide Web." Who knows if Miguel would have guessed at that time how hard it would be to contain such a presence 30 years later. Through his writing, these people, and the publications that he touched, his legacy will live on. Even now, we can't stop him, we can only hope to contain him. *Browne is a member of the class of 2023.*

Photos Courtesy of Allegra Boverman





# COMMUNITY

## Luv Skating? Head Down to Skate Luvers Roller Palace

By HAILIE HIGGINS  
SENIOR STAFF

Every Thursday night, in an unassuming warehouse west of downtown Rochester, over a hundred people come together. Bumping hip-hop and R&B, they lace up their roller skates and hit the rink, moving and grooving under colorful lights.

By day, Skate Luvers Roller Palace is a tiny self-contained world of good vibes, great dancing, and wheel-oriented fun for all ages. By night (on Thursdays and Sundays), it's the exact same thing, but for skaters aged 18 and above. In addition to a large roller rink, the space contains a kitchen that churns out the best fries you'll ever have in your life, a stage in the center of the rink perpetually set up for a live band, and a variety of loosely-blocked-off spaces along the walls that function as birthday party and VIP spaces.

Fortunately, you don't need to be a seasoned skater or have your own shoes to shake it at Skate Luvers. This past Thursday, Senior Staff member Olivia Alger and I dragged Publisher Megan Browne out for some shenanigans. Should you need them, skate rental is included with the price of admission.

Alger and I have been to a few Thursday nights at Skate Luvers, and always had a blast. This time, I had the opportunity to sit down with the owner, Matthew Singleton, to learn more about the business.

When I arrived, the music was already booming as usual. While great for skating, a thumping bass makes it a bit difficult to hear or record interviews, so Singleton took me into the much quieter, well-painted space called "Midge's 'We Care' Room."

"There's a young lady

— she will be 94 this year," Singleton said. "She's a very strong pillar in our community. Good friend of mine, very supportive. I wanted to give her a room [where] she can bring friends of hers, and gather, and have a good time."

According to Singleton, Skate Luvers is much more than a roller rink. They have a variety of community-oriented programs for skaters under 18. The space has a movie theater area, a bounce house, and an arcade. They put on events including open mic nights and talent shows, and when the weather gets warmer they hold picnics, eating competitions, and games of basketball and volleyball, too. In addition to their all-ages open skates, they offer lessons and camps.

Singleton said that he created Skate Luvers first and foremost to keep kids safe. "We realize in our community — the city of Rochester — that we have a lot of violence, a lot of children that wander," he said. "We are here to keep them off the street, give them a safe place, something to eat, and some fun."

"I've been skating for a long time, and it was one of the things that kept me off the street," he explained. It also allowed him to meet new people, which he said improved his social skills. But even though the skating community is highly social, you can still roll up to the rink solo. "Even if you didn't have anyone, you can put on some skates and enjoy the time being by yourself," he said. "So I wanted to offer that to our youth in the community."

To help cultivate this space, Skate Luvers takes safety very seriously. When you walk in, you're greeted by a metal detector and an employee Singleton called a "Peace Officer."

"From my years of living

here in the community, I've seen [...] different organizations open and close due to violence," Singleton said. "That's something we don't tolerate here. I have very little tolerance, at all, for it [...] We don't wanna scare people. but we definitely want people to know we are about safety [...] And for 11 years, it's been very good."

The first iteration of Skate Luvers was opened closer to downtown 11 years ago, where it stayed for about four years before moving to the current location.

How did Singleton come to rent this huge industrial space? "Funny you should ask, I used to work here back in the '80s," he said. At the time, the space was a factory for the pasta sauce brand Ragú. (Apparently Ragú opened its first factory ever in Rochester in 1946.)

In between sorting and shipping boxes of pasta sauce, Singleton had quite

***"Skating and running this business has definitely had its challenges, but the customer really makes it more rewarding when I see that they enjoy it,"***

a few other occupations, including starting his own home remodeling business in 1986. But Skate Luvers is currently his full time job.

"Skating and running this business has definitely had its challenges, but the customer really makes it more rewarding when I see that they enjoy it," he said.

I've had my roller skates for about a year, and have been coming to Thursday night adult skates for a few months now. I've come to realize there are definitely regulars, and those regulars definitely all know each other. It's not uncommon to see a spontaneous dance line start on the rink floor, or be passed by a group of smooth skaters all bouncing in sync.

Even if you're new to the scene, the more experienced skaters are quick to share their advice if they see you struggling. on a move. On Thursday, I had the acute joy of being complimented by one such skater, who told me that my turns were getting "a lot better."

"The roller skating community [is] very very big," Singleton said. "The thing that is so beautiful is that you get to meet new people."

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

### DAY IN THE LIFE

## Art New York

By SARAH WOODAMS  
PRESENTATIONS CHIEF

*A Day in the Life is a Campus Times series highlighting the studies and lives of UR students. Answers have been lightly edited for grammar, clarity, and/or style.*

Junior Nathan Cobbs is an Art History and Studio Arts double major in the Art New York program for the Spring 2022 semester. The CT interviewed Cobbs to learn more about his experience so far, why he chose to apply, and what he'd tell prospective applicants.

Tell us about a typical day in your life in the Art NY program.

Thursday is my most interactive day. I arrive at the office for my internship with the Monira Foundation in Jersey City around 11:30 a.m. after about an hour commute on two different trains. I help with a lot of different things, but currently I'm helping with an exhibition on site and one in the Jersey City Mayor's office. We're displaying works from artists that did their residency with the Monira Foundation. I've also helped curate works, put forward proposals for exhibition layouts, and set up artist talks. My internship ends between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and I head back to my apartment, sometimes stopping to pick up some food for dinner (otherwise I'll make it myself).

Fridays are also usually busy. In the morning I have my studio course with the 12 other students where we come together and work on our projects that are based on prompts from our professor, Heather Layton. The colloquium usually takes up the afternoon with field trips to different art-related things around the city. So far we've been to Bushwick for a street art tour, the Banksy Museum, a subway tour, and MoMA PS1. We're going to the Brooklyn Museum soon for the Christian Dior exhibit.

What are your majors and why did you choose them?

I started off college as just an Art History major, but I had to take a studio class for the major in my sophomore fall and really enjoyed it. I love the analysis of art and how it reflects culture and have taken a lot of studio art classes in grade school. Double majoring was a perfect opportunity to not only tap back into that but also see both sides of it. Coming from an Art History perspective, it's easy to analyze work but not understand the physical process of making it. On the flip side, from a Studio Arts perspective, it's easy to make art but not be able to analyze it or fit it into a

historical context or have specific reference points in your work. I thought double majoring would be a good mesh of the two so that I'm more well rounded.

I also have two clusters in Sustainability and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies. It was especially interesting my sophomore fall. I was taking a queer history class, a studio course, and two art history courses, and they all meshed together. I love when your classes are all interlocked and you can learn about the broader context of art at the time it was created.

***"I love when your classes are all interlocked and you can learn about the broader context of art."***

What made you choose to apply to the Art NY program?

I first heard about the Art NY program my first year when my Posse scholar advisor recommended it to me so I was really always thinking about it and planning on applying. There aren't a lot of art internship opportunities in Rochester outside of the Memorial Art Gallery, and I knew going to New York City would be a good opportunity to get more experience in the art field.

What's been your favorite part of the program so far?

I'd have to say the field trips. They show us sides of the city from an artistic perspective and places we wouldn't have access to on our own or wouldn't have known about, like MoMA PS1. It's been fun to be a part of the city and experience being elsewhere in the middle of my time at UR.

Heather Layton and Megan Mett  have done such a great job running the program. Heather is in the city with us running the studio course and colloquium, and Megan helped me find an internship and set up most of the students' apartments.

What would you tell students considering applying to Art NY?

Go for it! There are people who aren't art-related majors in the program so don't worry if you've never taken an art class before. It's a great opportunity to experience New York City and its art scene. You get to push yourself creatively and draw inspiration from the city. There's so much to pull from here and the opportunities are endless. If you have the space in your schedule, why not? You don't know if you'll ever have this opportunity again.

*Woodams is a member of the class of 2023.*





# OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

## Don’t You Dare Tell Me What Antisemitism Is

By ETHAN BUSCH  
PRESENTATIONS CHIEF

*Editor’s note: This piece is not an accusation of antisemitism, but an encouragement to be aware of your identity as it relates to the issue.*

As you read this, if it troubles you, if you feel that you are being attacked, know that it isn’t an attack on you, because it isn’t just you. I wouldn’t have written this any differently before I met you. I’m not writing this because of what happened on Thursday. I’m writing because I knew what would happen on Thursday before it occurred.

I am about as Jewish as you can be (my parents are both Rabbis), and about as well-informed on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as any layman. My mom was a Hillel director for over a decade, so from a very young age, I knew that college students could say very hateful things. I’ve heard people say horrible things because they genuinely hate Jews, and I’ve heard them do it because they genuinely don’t understand the effect of their words.

I’ve participated in thought-provoking conversations about the conflict with Palestinians in Israel. I’ve also been on the receiving end of misinformation, hate-mongering, and disingenuous tactics from both sides of the conflict. But what causes me the most pain is when many liberal people, with whom I see myself aligned, make antisemitic comments without understanding the consequences.

When I tell you that many people on this campus slip from criticizing Israel (a state that certainly earns it) to employing language that personally offends me because of my ethnic and religious background, I expect you to believe it.

I expect you to believe it because when you tell me the same, I will believe you.

I am white. I would never presume to tell a Black person that a comment I made that offended them wasn’t racist.

I am male. I would never presume to tell a woman that a comment I made that offended her wasn’t sexist.

I am Jewish. I would never presume to tell someone who is Muslim that a comment I made that offended them wasn’t Islamophobic.

And if I have said something offensive to you, please tell me. I will listen to you explain how I hurt you, and do the best that I can to understand experiences of yours

that I cannot share. I will learn and grow and do what I can to make myself better, and to make things right.

I am an imperfect person in an imperfect world. I do my best to live up to my ideals; I don’t always succeed.

These are all of the things that leaders of liberal movements of all stripes request — that they be allowed to have the ultimate authority on prejudice against them.

I don’t feel that me or my people have been granted that authority.

I am terrified every time someone tries to create a forum to discuss antisemitism, because I know it is a coin flip away from turning into another room full of anti-Zionists yelling that they aren’t antisemitic bookended by comments that make my stomach turn.

If you’re part of any marginalized community, you know the feeling.

The feeling that you can’t trust these people who refuse to trust you about your own experiences.

The feeling that it doesn’t matter if you speak up, because they won’t listen.

The feeling of fear in a place where you should feel safe.

I am Jewish. Don’t you dare tell me what antisemitism is.

*To clarify my positions on the conflict — I believe in the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank as quickly and safely as possible. I also believe the the Palestinian Liberation Organization does not have the best interests of their people at heart, and know that Hamas is a terrorist group which causes as much — if not more — harm to Palestinians as it does Israelis. Because of this, I’m not sure it is currently possible to establish a Palestinian state without starting a war, and so believe that as many efforts as possible should be directed towards feeding, clothing, educating, and supporting Palestinians on their land until a government that isn’t bent on war with their neighbors can take shape. I also believe that it is a travesty that Palestinian self-determination should be dependent on Israelis’ goodwill, but the reality is that it is, and that reality must be respected if conditions are to improve. My ultimate hope is for Palestinian people to have a home where they can thrive in safety, and for both peoples to no longer experience the kind of fear that drives them to commit atrocities.*

*Busch is a member of the class of 2023.*

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

## Please Don’t Say ‘Time Management’ to Me

By ALLIE TAY  
OPINIONS EDITOR

I’m sure you’re all familiar with the feeling. You’re assigned a paper on capitalism — oh, I’ll start it tomorrow. A WeBWork assignment due next Friday where you calculate the velocity of a helium nucleus when the sun explodes — not now (that’s a billions-of-years-later problem).

I’m sick of people telling me “you need to manage your time better.” That’s not the issue. Procrastination, according to psychologists, is fundamentally “an emotion regulation problem, not a time management problem.”

**‘My to-do lists encompass everything from long-term assignments to three-minute tasks like trimming my nails.’**

If anything, I’m a micro-manager. My to-do lists encompass everything from long-term assignments to three-minute tasks like trimming my nails and weighing the pros and cons of taking that job interview. My Google Calendar, with all its neat and colorful overlapping blocks, is my bible. Practically every half-hour is scheduled — I admit it might be a little excessive.

My friends laugh at the weird times I offer to schedule grabbing breakfast. 9:50 a.m.? Why not just 10 o’clock? (Because 9:50 a.m. really means 9:55 a.m. and if we eat for 25 minutes, we’ll be done by 10:20 a.m., so that by the time we actually start doing work it’ll be 10:30 a.m.) Over winter break, I even dissected every hour out

of the weekly 168 on a whim and determined that I can only allocate two hours daily for eating all three meals and personal hygiene. Which in theory doesn’t sound too terrible, but it’s not even humanly possible considering how long the lines at Douglass get.

It’s not that I can’t find time to start anything on my dreaded to-do list — I honestly can. I do theoretically have the time — one hour is technically reserved for walking between classes and all the miscellaneous stuff that has to get done. But I don’t want to do it.

And what’s wrong with that? Human nature makes our brain naturally prioritize short-term needs over long-term ones, so it makes sense that we might ditch a study session in favor of a momentarily-blissful YouTube binge. I know I’ve done it, for sure. Attending to and satisfying our present selves feels much more worthwhile than being miserable — although temporarily — for our future selves’ happiness. And also, we’re also not robots. C’mon.

Procrastination is strategic. We’re not intrinsically lazy; our systems just end up unfortunately associating these tasks with boredom and perhaps a fear of failure. To overcome procrastination, then, means we need to rewire those systems — reteach our brains to associate catching up on history lectures with entertainment and grinding through problem sets with a fun time.

But if you just scoffed at what I said, don’t worry, because I did too. Only an insane person would grin while writing a 20-page paper. (That’s sadistic. If you see someone doing that, run

away.) How can we suddenly reteach ourselves to love doing things we despise? If someone has the answer, please let me know.

**‘I self-diagnose with the rather unfortunate combination of planning obsessivity and execution paralysis.’**

I self-diagnose myself with the rather unfortunate combination of planning obsessivity and execution paralysis. It’s futile, doing these types of calculations, when your brain, and subsequently your body, won’t comply. It pains me realizing that the one hour I spent meticulously planning out every hour of the next week could have been spent sleeping, when my plans go out the window either way due to spontaneity. Procrastination — it’s the ugly beast-child of micromanagement, mental exhaustion, and a broken emotional association system. It’s a painstakingly constructed, spontaneous-urge-driven, guilt-motivated, self-reinforcing cycle, and there’s no one definitive thing to blame.

But it sure as hell isn’t time management. Time management is a nice little term — it’s convenient to attack, but it trivializes the real underlying issues that we’re perhaps not yet comfortable enough to recognize and deal with.

Unsurprisingly, I’m writing this article to procrastinate something else. Now that I’m done, out of the 109 tasks left on my to-do list, that WeBWork is beginning to look enticing.

*Tay is a member of the class of 2025.*

## Campus Times

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# Call Me By My Name

By SUNAHRA TANVIR  
STAFF WRITER

My name is Sunahra. Sunah-ra. I love it. My name is intrinsically linked to my identity — to my culture, heritage, and family. My name was a gift from my grandmother. It was a blessing from Bangladesh, my motherland. My name informs who I am.

**‘My name was a gift from my grandmother. It was a blessing from Bangladesh, my motherland. My name informs who I am.’**

My name is important to me, and so I hate it when my name becomes

something people think they can change. Time and time again, when I meet new people, I immediately have to be confrontational and authoritative to ensure that they call me by my actual name and not some Americanized monstrosity. I can never understand how strangers possess the audacity to say that because my name was too “hard” to say, they wanted to call me something else. I hate that my name has to become a thing the first time I meet someone.

It is deeply ignorant to ask someone to go by another name just because you think it’s difficult to pronounce. It’s ignorant to thrust random cutesy nicknames at a stranger because you do not know how much value they hold in their name.

Growing up, I remember

dreading the first days of school when new teachers didn’t know how to say my name. I dreaded roll call — they’d butcher my name and then ask, “Do you go by anything else?” I dreaded being the only child who had to say anything more than “here.” I dreaded my name becoming a conversation, a thing, just so my teacher could have some time to get over their embarrassment. “Oh! So pretty! What does it mean? Where is it from?”

**‘No matter how many people have asked to call me something else, I have always insisted that I be called Sunahra.’**

No matter how many people have asked to call me something else, I have

always insisted that I be called Sunahra. But that insistence can become exhausting. I know other ethnic children who just gave up, who didn’t want another conversation about why they don’t want to be called Amy instead of Amita or Mo instead of Mohammed.

I remember in elementary school how a teacher called one of my classmates — Mwafuq — “Zain” just because she didn’t want to say “fuck” in class. I asked him why he let her do that, and he told me that rectifying it “wasn’t worth it”.

I understand that. I find myself getting tired too. I let my favorite art teacher mispronounce my name all three years of middle school. The first time she mispronounced it, I corrected her. When she continued to mispronounce it differently, I didn’t want to embarrass her. So for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, I was Sun-AY-ra. At Starbucks, I go by Sarah. I let my high school boyfriend misspell my name two years into our relationship.

**‘So for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, I was Sun-AY-ra. At Starbucks, I go by Sarah. I let my high school boyfriend misspell my name two years into our relationship.’**

It is tempting to want to go by a westernized name just so I can adopt a modicum of whiteness, so life can be a little bit easier. But despite all the imaginative

ways my name’s been altered, I don’t think I could ever completely let go of my name fully. I really do love my name. My name is a thread that connects me to my family who are thousands of miles away. I can’t stop using it. I won’t stop using it.

**‘My name is proof of the love and care my family has for me. I already have a name — I do not want a new one.’**

Western ignorance forces ethnic children to sever one of the few connections we have left with our cultural identities. We are already thousands of miles away from the countries we immigrated from, and western culture has molded us into something too foreign to ever be able to return and wholly fit in. We will not be stripped of our names as well.

It’s disrespectful to change someone’s name. A name you come up with in a second will not be better than a name that my parents and grandparents ruminated over for months, a name weighted with rich heritage. My name is proof of the love and care my family has for me. I already have a name — I do not want a new one.

If a name looks too hard, please just ask how to say it. Please don’t try to rename me. I will not change my name because it inconveniences you. My name is who I am.

*Tanvir is a member of the class of 2025.*



SUNAHRA TANVIR / STAFF WRITER

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# To the Editor: Antisemitism Ruins Medallion Talk

By BEN SCHIFFMAN  
CLASS OF 2023

In May, tension in Israel led to an 11-day war between Israel and Hamas. That far away war became a cudgel of hate against Jews in the diaspora for their perceived connection to the Jewish state. That swinging bludgeon of hate did not miss our campus, and as student awareness of the conflict exploded, so did libels against Jews, the Jewish state, Jewish groups, and Jewish life. Students made posts claiming that the movement for a Jewish state was inherently racist, that the Jewish state was nothing but a “settler colonialist” entity. Many reposted claims that amounted to blood libel, and other age-old antisemitic tropes of Jews controlling the media, or being greedy money snatchers.

These ideas about Jews are not new; rather, they have

been repackaged for a new purpose. Unfortunately, a new generation has fallen prey to the age-old lies about the Jewish people. Instagram stories have become a sort of echo chamber of the Protocols revived. Some don’t care to learn what a Jew really is, some try to erase our history. Thursday’s Medallion workshop demonstrated that not only have these ideas crept around the edges of our campus since the war, but rather have slowly permeated into the core of student life behind the scenes even as social media quieted down.

**‘Instagram stories have become a sort of echo chamber’**

The Medallion program’s mission statement says: “The Medallion Program aims to educate student leaders by providing opportunities for intentional

learning, self-reflection, and skill development. Students enrolled in the Medallion Program gain a strong sense of self-awareness, work effectively with others, and become civically and socially engaged.” Yet when confronted with the idea that the program might challenge preconceived notions of moral superiority amongst some students, they decided it was best to not engage in intentional learning, self reflection, and self-awareness, but to coordinate an attack against the materials being taught.

Students came with the intention of “ensuring accuracy” of a program run by a prominent Jewish group teaching about the Jewish perspective. This effort was coordinated publicly on Instagram, and included speaking over and attacking the presenter, and attempting to falsify the presented materials publicly in the chat and vocally.

These students were later the focus of a piece in the Campus Times, and portrayed as victims both in the article and a malicious headline that spread rapidly before being changed. That “news” article claims the presenter “silenced students,” the very same students who by their own statement only attended the program to “set the record straight.”

**‘Students came with the intention of “ensuring accuracy” of a program run by a Jewish group teaching about the Jewish perspective.’**

That article, written by this paper’s managing editor, made no effort to actually present an accurate portrayal of the events that occurred. In fact, the author did not reach out to

any Jewish students who attended.

Joy, the presenter, impressively stayed calm. However, these students seemed to not be able to handle any ideas that challenged their own. They took to social media to not only attack Joy, but the Medallion program. Their actions spat in the face of the goals of the Medallion program, and were an exercise in intentional ignorance, self affirmation and echo-chamberism.

I hope to see this campus become more accepting of all, but it seems we are quite a ways off. There is fair debate to be had about Israel, but that talk was not the place for those discussions. We were meant to learn when and where the line between real dialogue and hate is drawn, instead those who came insisted there is no line.

*Schiffman is a member of the class of 2023.*



# Learning to Love Love

By JOSHUA SCHULTZ  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Ah, Valentine’s Day — where the sickeningly sweet smell of chocolate fills the air, and it seems like you can’t even turn a corner without seeing some egregious display of love. For those of you in a relationship, this day is one of joy, when gifts are exchanged between loving partners and you share the company of the one you love most in the world. If you’re not, you may find yourself agreeing with my opening line.

Between advertising, media, and sometimes even our friends, it seems like love is being shoved in our faces. I know how it feels — none of my past relationships have ever made it to Valentine’s Day, so I’ve always felt left out. Despite that, I still love Valentine’s Day, even though this year continues my long-standing streak of not being in a relationship on the holiday.

**‘Despite that, I still love Valentine’s Day, even though this year continues my long-standing streak of not being in a relationship on the holiday.’**

To understand how we might begin to love this holiday, I think we need to understand why we single people hate it to begin with. It’s easy to feel excluded, partially because of the widespread marketing of the holiday. Though Valentine’s Day wasn’t always the depressing consumeristic holiday it is now, as time has gone on, it seems like I can’t even pull up my phone around this time without seeing an ad for some sort of Valentine’s Day sale.

But I don’t think this alone explains why we might feel excluded from Valentine’s Day — it’s also because we have an incomplete idea of love. When we think of love, we’re inclined to think of primarily two types of love: romantic love



LEANN KUCHLER / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

and familial love. We aptly describe the affection and compassion we feel for our romantic partners and family members as love, but there’s hesitancy in using it beyond these applications.

Think of the last time you called your mom on the phone — did you tell her you loved her before hanging up? I’d say it’s fairly common to do so. But what about the last time you were on a call with a close friend? I’m not saying that no one does this, but it seems much less common to express love to close ones outside romance and family. And this is the greater reason I believe we feel excluded from Valentine’s Day — because the everyday use of love in the English language and western culture is by definition one that is exclusive.

This is not the universal conception of love, though. The ancient Greeks had eight separate

words for different types of love, including words describing the love of all people,

playful love, and even love for the self. If Valentine’s Day is a day about the celebration of love, it shouldn’t be just confined to one narrow view of love. For example, you’ve likely heard of Galentine’s or Palentine’s Day. Expanding our definition of love is integral to giving everyone the ability to enhance their Valentine’s Day experience.

When I was talking to a few friends about their Valentine’s Day plans this year, one friend said she had three Valentines this year — “me, myself, and

I.” Despite her corniness, she has a point. Instead of letting the day be a reminder of not having a significant other, it’s better to treat yourself and practice self-love, which may be the most important and one of the least practiced types of love there is. Love should be practiced and celebrated as the close bonds and affection we feel for all people we care about, including reimagining love to include ourselves as people who can be loved by us.

**‘My to-do lists encompass everything from long-term assignments to three-minute tasks like trimming my nails.’**

So what am I telling you to do exactly? Instead of moping around this holiday forlorn

about not being in a relationship, remember you still have love. Go buy your friends and family some chocolate or a Spongebob Valentine’s Day card like it’s second grade. Tell those you love how much you love them and why you appreciate them, almost like it’s a sequel to Thanksgiving. And above all, remind yourself that you’re worthy of love on this day, no matter what your relationship status is. Valentine’s Day is my favorite holiday, because I love love, and I hope that in reading this article, you can start to reimagine the holiday so that you might love it too.

Schultz is a member of the class of 2025.

# Raised for Success: the Toxicity of Being the Best, All the Time

By KATHERINE KAISER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

What is it like to be the best of the best? Stressful, I imagine. During events like the Olympics, we are reminded of the almost unimaginable talent that these athletes have. We see them break records and do the seemingly impossible. They are truly the best of the best.

**‘Death and severe injury is nonchalantly considered part of the necessary risk one must take to compete.’**

The Winter Olympics are particularly dangerous. Death and severe injury is nonchalantly considered part of the necessary risk one must take to compete. In such a high-stakes environment, stress levels are already elevated. The whole world is watching these athletes, their entire country depending on them. This would be enough pressure to make most people snap. We judge athletes when they react poorly to losses, but with their countries counting on them, can we blame them?

When someone is a superstar in an area of their life, it seems that people focus more on their few failures than their many successes. Maybe it’s because the failures are outliers. Or maybe people want to see them fail because they can’t fathom their success. Shaun White, a three-time gold medalist snowboarder, just retired. However, if you Google his name, you will find articles emphasizing how he placed fourth in his final Olympic event, missing a chance to be on the podium. Very few articles mention his record as the oldest male halfpipe rider to ever compete in the Olympics.

When someone is the best, breaking records and winning are considered expectations. And with high expectations, the failures feel more devastating. In the winter Olympics, failures don’t just mean not winning a medal — they can have dire consequences. So far this year, there have been many serious injuries among the athletes. Nina O’Brien, an American Alpine Skier, fractured her tibia and fibula during a horrendous fall at the end of her giant slalom run. Although her injury is serious, far worse injuries have taken place during past winter Olympics. In 2018, Austrian snowboarder Markus Schairer broke his neck during an Olympic

event. In 2010, Nodar Kumaritashvili, a Georgian luger, died during a practice run. During the final turn, he was launched from his sled at 88 mph, and after hitting a pole, he could not be revived. Worst of all, this occurred after many athletes raised concerns about the safety of the course.

One of this year’s biggest Olympic scandals has been that of Russian figure skater Kamila Valieva. At only 15 years old, she became the first woman figure skater to land a quadruple jump during the Olympics. The world was in awe of her. Russia won gold in the team event, but when news of a failed drug test surfaced, the medal ceremony was canceled. Valieva had tested positive for a banned substance which called into question if Russia could still receive their gold medal. Given her age, Valieva is not responsible for her positive drug test, and in this unique and somewhat unprecedented situation, the jury is still out on how to proceed. Valieva’s coach, Eteri Tutberidze, is known for pushing young figure skaters past their limits, causing many of them to retire within one to two years. There is speculation that Tutberidze pushed Valieva into doping, which reveals a dark trend in sports. No matter who ultimately wins gold, the moral is that the best athletes are being pushed beyond their limits.

**‘We must be more forgiving of our athletes. Modern sports need to have more achievable’ expectations, or the Olympics might not be around in the future.’**

In modern sports, expectations are too high and coaches push athletes more than they should. It’s not surprising that some athletes snap under the pressure. Evidently, the athletes are not to blame. The way they’re treated — by coaches and fans alike — sets lofty expectations and harsh criticism every shortcoming. It’s no surprise that being an athlete is not sustainable physically or mentally.

We must be more forgiving of our athletes. Modern sports need to have more achievable expectations, or the Olympics might not be around in the future. For most, the pursuit of being the best is more detrimental than the possible gain.

Kaiser is a member of the class of 2025.

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# CULTURE

BY Jotham Vega  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When I see “Eternals” at Hoyt Auditorium in a few weeks, I will force myself to give the MCU a chance. I say this because of the ironic fact that Marvel keeps on hiring “independent filmmakers” to compensate for the lack of independent thought I saw brazenly displayed in “Shang-Chi.”

**“*Shang-Chi*” is a waste of time.’**

The movie follows Xu Shang-Chi (Simu Liu), the son of ancient warlord Xu Wenwu (Tony Leung). Ever since the death of Shang’s mother Yi Ling (Fala Chen), Wenwu has been training Shang to be an assassin for his gang, The Ten Rings. But after being assigned his first mission, Shang escapes to San Francisco, becoming a valet driver and changing his name to Shaun (and yes, that name change is given recognition in a painful joke). He becomes a slacker with a dead-end job, wasting

away in karaoke bars with his best friend Katy (Awkwafina). That is, until he finds out that Wenwu is trying to find his wife, believing that Yi Ling is calling for him to save her.

“Shang-Chi” is a waste of time. The writers thought they were making some drama regarding intergenerational conflict, accepting your past, and unhealthy obsessions. But if you really want to explore these themes, just watch Yasujiro Ozu films, because the “Shang-Chi” writers treat these topics with a severe lack of sensitivity. As soon as they received the offer for a MCU film, they seem to have turned into hyperactive children, sprinkling hints of these themes into pathetic scenes and instead choosing to focus on awfully corporate fight scenes.

Aside from Leung and Chen, no other actor seems to care about this film. I recently learned that Simu Liu got his start in stock photos, and he seems perfect for that. The film tries to have a script that turns Shang-Chi into a three-dimensional character, but Simu didn’t really get that memo (just like the screenwriters). I

can’t take his performance seriously, as it always feels like he just arrived on set unprepared. His face for emotional scenes is the equivalent of thinking of a funny joke while you’re at a funeral. His casting can be attributed to his physique, but unlike other action stars who

**‘*Aside from Leung and Chen, no other actor seems to care about this film.*’**

aren’t the most talented, he doesn’t seem to have a personality past his stock photo face.

Meng’erZhang as Xu Xialing, Shang-Chi’s estranged sister, seems to have no interesting aspects of her that her flashback doesn’t introduce. That seems to be why she has the same dull performance in every scene. Michelle Phan as Yi Ling’s sister does a better job explaining the story to the audience, but is only there for derivative exposition and to be an extra for Act 3.

There are attempts at comedy, but when you have Awkwafina in the film, that means 90% of

the jokes will be from her, and 100% of them won’t be good if the director thought she was a good casting choice. Despite the fact that she can’t speak Chinese, fight, or use weapons, she forces herself into Shang’s dangerous mission, spending the runtime being useless until her deus ex-machina in the finale. Even after she sees many people die in front of her, the writers keep on giving her tone-deaf jokes. Ever since “Raya and the Last Dragon,” I find her to be the most annoying “comedian” to ever exist, screaming with that terrible urban accent and smoker voice, thinking that her “humor” is the reason people laugh at her. Side Note: There’s a “Planet of the Apes” joke that got many laughs in the theater, and I realized it was stolen from “That ‘70s Show” and dragged out in a sequence that should’ve been deleted. (S1, Ep 20: A New Hope; 01:44-01:55.)

At Hoyt Auditorium, on my second viewing, I found many scenes to be funnier than I remembered. But not because of their “comedy,” but because of Simu Liu’s hilarious “dramatic performance” and the action

sequences. It was clear that the MCU wanted a martial arts film to look diverse, but everything seems to go wrong with the action. The editing reminds less of “The Matrix” and more of a cheap music video, which isn’t made better by the blatant CGI and lack of convincing violence on screen. Many martial arts films try to emphasize the physical work done by the actors, with raw scenes that show stakes. What makes “Shang-Chi” terrible is that despite the amount of violent physical contact, the characters never

**‘*I found many scenes to be funnier than I remembered.*’**

get any scars or bruises, which could have given these soulless sequences some stakes.

But at the end of the day, it’s just another Marvel movie. Just another movie that pretends to be a serious work of art. There’s a reason why I say that every Marvel movie is only directed by the VFX Supervisor.

*Vega is a member of the Class of 2025*

## Art in the Anthropocene: A look at Anna Lussier’s ‘Ecology in Dystopia’

BY Regan Collins  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Junior Anna Lussier, in her new Sage Art Center exhibit “Ecology in Dystopia,” was able to combine her passion for art and environmental justice in a thoughtful visual manner.

Her eight pieces primarily examine human growth within the boundaries of confined space. Through a variety of mediums — from digital art to landscaping substrates — Lussier creates an emotional, evocative exhibit that forces its viewers to examine our own limitations as a species and to contextualize the modern environmentalist movement in our era of bleak futurity.

**‘*Her eight pieces primarily examine human growth within the boundaries of confined space.*’**

The word “ecology” is derived from the Greek phrase “study of the home,” and Lussier expands this traditionally domestic definition to include our natural, earthly home. One of the first pieces in the gallery, “A Record of Our Home,” emphasizes the purposefully subconscious schism with nature that we

create when we construct physical houses. The seemingly ordinary photo album progresses from ubiquitous family pictures to fragmented snapshots of people or animals with any other organic elements “redacted for your convenience.”

Nearest to the album is a sculpture titled “Caring for Capacity,” an unsubtle play on words for the biological term “carrying capacity.” This phrase describes the maximum population size that an ecosystem can support before collapsing. Lussier’s dynamic piece is a monument to the often-unintended

callousness of science by reducing living systems to simple formulas.

Another piece, “Valuation in Trepidation,” explores the negative implications of ecosystem services. An ecosystem service is a natural place and process that has been ranked by the value that it provides to human lives. Though at first glance her multi-layer acrylic painting appears abstract, upon closer examination, viewers can make out bees, butterflies, flowers, fungi, and coral reefs. The deeper you look, however, the more the shapes and layers begin to

blend until it is difficult to determine what each brush stroke represents. Trying to look further doesn’t really matter — Lussier, through this medium, successfully illustrates the futility of trying to place an economic value on our biosphere.

The other five pieces in the exhibit are equally as effective in telling their stories. The Biblically inspired “Divinely Exalted” and “The Garden of Plenty of Gaps” examine our exponentially-increasing human population and the subsequent co-optation of plant growth for food production. Lussier’s digital art skills are



MICAH BETTENHAUSEN / PHOTO EDITOR

showcased in “Quarantine: The Greenhouse Effect.” This looping movie perfectly captures the cyclic mundanity of quarantine. It presents a bleak depiction of our lives for the past two years while addressing the artificiality and futility of our attempts to reconnect with nature. Lussier’s last two pieces, “Waste of Space” and “Mother’s Earthly Impressions,” are deeply personal representations of her relationship with the environmental movement and how she reconciles her own

**‘*Lussier successfully illustrates the futility of trying to place an economic value on our biosphere.*’**

existence with her awareness of imminent environmental collapse.

Overall, Lussier’s exhibition is an impressive commentary on the unidimensional approach to environmentalism often seen in modern politics and education. “Ecology in Dystopia” is open for free viewing in the Sage Art Center’s ASIS Gallery from noon - 6:00 p.m. every day until Thursday, March 3.

*Collins is a member of the Class of 2023*



# ‘Level 16’ Teaches Us To Think Ahead in a World of Oppression



BY Leeza Nadeem  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Recently, I came across this thrilling movie “Level 16.” The movie revolves around young girls in a prison-like boarding school, who throughout the film uncover dark truths behind their captivity. As the suspense of “Level 16” builds, viewers are confronted with the film’s two key values: male domination and undervalued humanity.

After grappling with the core ideas of “Level 16,” I was forced to contemplate what it would be like to have my own life fully controlled by a dominating figure, and to have to go about my daily life without knowing what to expect next. Growing up in a sheltered household, this wasn’t far off the mark from my prior experience, but imagining a life with all my basic rights stripped away just sounded inhumane.

**‘Surviving an indoctrinated society in itself is a breach to human liberty.’**

As Vivian and Sophia, the two leading characters, attempt to stay awake all night to search the premises, they soon find out that they get sedated daily through their medications, and will never get the opportunity to search unless they skip them. Again, with their lives continuously monitored by cameras, skipping their medications is out of the question.

The combination of female exploitation and cruelty is played out, as the movie concludes with Vivian and Sophia uncovering they have been living not in a boarding school, but on a farm. When the girls reach “level 16,” they are skinned to death and their beauty is harvested as a means for the owner to turn a profit by implanting it in older women.

Surviving an indoctrinated society in itself is a breach to human liberty. Impulsively, one can imagine that throughout our college career, we can enter with a fresh mindset and explore new courses that later develop into passions and drive our ambitions for our future careers. However, this pathway isn’t for everyone, and if it were forced on all members of society, we would consider it unethical. But consider a scenario like the one depicted in the hit Netflix series “Squid Game.”

**‘Learning to perceive something to a greater degree allows us as humans to plan and tackle our situations.’**

In “Squid Game,” the players are unaware of the games they will be playing and, at least initially, the repercussions of losing. It becomes apparent that those who could possibly guess the next game would receive a survival advantage. What does this mean on a larger scale? The more we are able to plan out our future, the more likely we will succeed? Questions like these strike me as I see a continuous pattern — when the leading character or a supporting role is able to figure out what they can expect, they subsequently find their “aha” moment and conclude the movie. Learning to perceive something to a greater degree allows us as humans to plan and tackle our situations. While the idea of oppression and having all your rights stripped away remains unthinkable, we can learn something about how we can work better in an oppressive world through characters who face these tribulations and grow to understand the mechanisms that bind them.

Nadeem is a member of the Class of 2025

BY Bailey Rike  
COLUMNIST

“Hi. I’m pretty sure I’m bisexual and I’m uncertain about who to come out to first, or if I should even do it at all. Some of my friends have come out to their best friend or their family first, but I don’t really know what to do. I have people I trust and I know that they wouldn’t ostracize me for it, but I’m just scared of them thinking about me differently. People say to take my time and that I’ll know when I’m ready to tell people about it. How will I even be able to tell if I’m ready or not? What do you think I should do?”

Coming out can be scary as hell. On the other hand, one of the good things about it is that you (ideally) have complete control over the situation. In other words, you get to decide what you want to say and who to say it to.

**‘m going to start this off with something about myself,’**

I’m going to start this off with something about myself, and then segue into some advice, if that’s alright with you. To put it simply, I questioned my own sexuality in the past. And guess what? Nothing changed — well, nothing except me developing a greater understanding of myself.

## Ask Riley: Coming Out

Regardless, I’m still me, and I’m still the person that my loved ones know me to be. Many of my friends have also dealt with the same issue that you’re dealing with right now.

All of these experiences have led me to the realization that no matter your sexuality, your personality is not required to be based around it. It is just a part of you, just like your academic interests and your music taste (although it’s arguably more profound than these examples). The same goes with gender identity. These things don’t have to define us if we don’t want them to. So, as long as you are comfortable with how you perceive yourself, then nothing else matters in this situation. If you’re not, then give yourself some more time to think about it and process it more. It also may or may not help to try to talk to someone about it when you do.

Additionally, you don’t necessarily have to come out to anyone. You can easily just keep it to yourself and move on with your life if you’d rather do that instead. There’s nothing wrong with doing that. On the other hand, some people use coming out as a way to process their situation further and to make it feel real. Others may come out because they don’t want to feel like they are hiding something from their loved ones. It’s all based on what

you are comfortable with. But, it’s your call. What’s the first feeling that comes to mind when you think about coming out? Fear? Relief? Dread? Happiness?

In any case, the most important thing is to understand and process what being bisexual means to you. Not everyone who is bisexual experiences it the same way: I know some people who are more attracted to a particular gender, some who share their

**‘The most important thing is to understand and process what being bisexual means to you.’**

attraction equally amongst multiple genders, and some whose attraction fluctuates depending on the day! Human sexuality is fascinating.

Once you’re able to figure that stuff out, you’ll know what to do. But again, please be patient with yourself. It won’t do you any good to beat yourself up for not knowing what to do.

Here’s some really helpful information and tips from the Trevor Project about coming out and bisexuality. I’d highly suggest looking at them if you would like a more professional viewpoint.

- Riley.  
Rike is a member of the Class of 2023

## Out of a Two-Year Hiatus, Mitski Explores Relationships in ‘Laurel Hell’

BY Carter Hasenoehrl  
STAFF WRITER

Mitski’s highly anticipated sixth album “Laurel Hell” has dark origins, but the atmosphere of the name aptly encompasses the album. It gets its name from large thickets of laurel that grow in southern Appalachia, which are simultaneously beautiful and ominous — the thickets can be so dense that people get hopelessly lost.

**‘The singer-songwriter made the decision to take a break from the constant churning of the music industry as a means of self-care.’**

“Laurel Hell” was released after Mitski’s nearly two-year-long break from music. The singer-songwriter made the decision to take a break from the constant churning of the music industry as a means of self-care, which is encapsulated in the album’s first single, “Working for the Knife.” The album further delves into Mitski’s feelings about pursuing music, and in doing so, vulnerably addresses the fear and uncertainty that comes when a

passion becomes an obligation. “Everyone” and “Love Me More” reflect on similar emotions, respectively describing the unexpected consequences that come with fame and the desire for her fans’ love.

**“‘Laurel Hell’ takes an axe to the typical idea of love songs.’**

“Laurel Hell” takes an axe to the typical idea of love songs and gives us a deeper, realer, more melancholic take on the gray areas of struggling through a relationship. “Laurel Hell” fits both the feeling of getting lost in work and getting lost in love. Both can be beautiful, but getting lost in them can be hell.

The remainder of the songs on the album — including danceable bops “Stay Soft” and “Should’ve Been Me,” and more somber tracks like “I Guess” and “Nothing Left for You” — explore different aspects of relationships. Mitski approaches the vulnerability that comes with love from all angles, such as the regret that comes with not being able to give a partner what they need out of a relationship, and the power

someone wields when they have our love.

“Laurel Hell” takes this exploration of the idea of love a little further by mixing the classic emotional lyrical stylings of Mitski with ‘80s inspired funky synth-pop and disco. This iconic pairing creates some of the most danceable sad songs to ever be played. The album truly took the feeling of crying in a club and turned it into music. This pairing of upbeat synth-pop with emotionally dire lyrics serves as a way of showing how exciting but also heart-shattering love can be.

**‘This iconic pairing creates some of the most danceable sad songs to ever be played.’**

“Laurel Hell” dismantles a romanticized ideal of love within its complex lyrics and musical choices. The album is a nice departure from Mitski’s previous album, and provides excellent synth-pop and disco-based songs that really set this album apart from her previous works.

Hasenoehrl is a member of the Class of 2024



HUMOR

Help! My Upstairs Neighbors are Having Fun

By Brianna Lindsey  
HUMOR EDITOR

Dear Campus Times:  
My name is [redacted], I'm 20 years old, a UR junior, and I live in the laundry room at Anderson Tower. I'm a Biochemical-Theoretical Astro-Philosophical Geo-Cryptology Tri-State-Area Performance major with a Spanish minor. As the first person to pioneer such a necessary field, it's important for me to be on the top of my game. But the people one floor above me practice choreography for UR Celtic at 2 a.m. every night. I can barely get any sleep, and their rhythm is terrible! What should I do?

Dear [redacted],  
First, I want to say that you have such a lovely name. Such a unique inclusion of punctuation, I love the brackets!  
Second, I am so sorry to hear that you are stuck in such an unfortunate situation. I've heard good things about the janitor closets, so I would suggest inquiring about moving into a broom storage space next semester (you could ask about the mop room, but they're quite wishy-washy about who they let in).  
Thirdly, what amazing job prospects you must have! It's so wonderful to see that the Made Up Shit department is still going strong! Go Yellow Jackets and Teal Vests!  
Last (and kinda least),

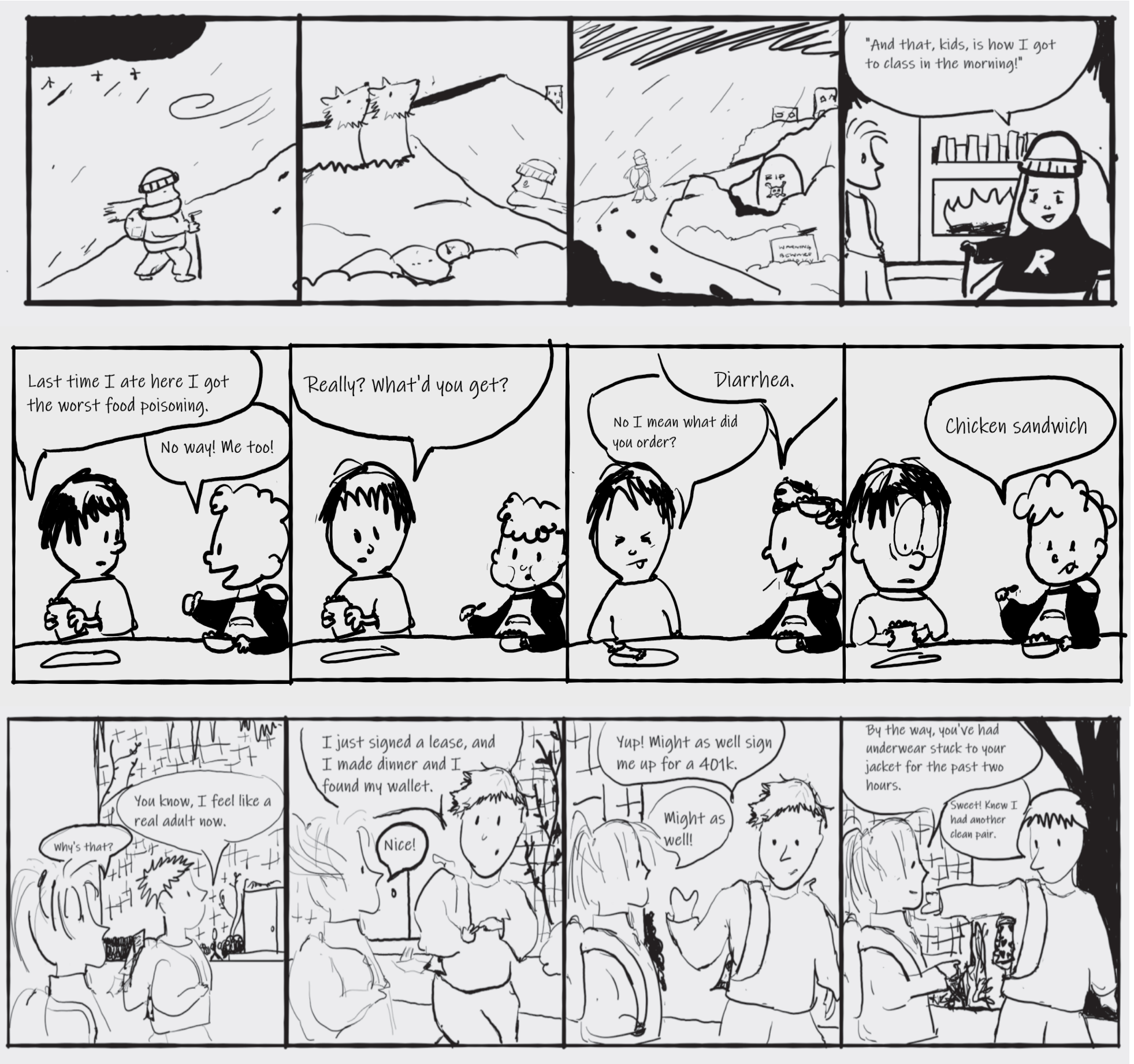
about that Irish step dance class... oof. That's "totes not chill," as I'm sure you and your hip friends have often put it. No hat, or something.  
***'I'd suggest a good old-fashioned duel in the First-Year Quad.'***  
The difficulties of college presented to hopeful applicants seldom include common problems such as living issues. After all, who hasn't had to play poker in a chicken suit to make sure the suite next door upholds their end of the agreement to sacrifice a business student to the floor trash chute? It's just part of college life, so I totally understand what you're going

through.  
There are a number of things you could do, depending on how confrontational you are. I'd suggest a good old-fashioned duel in the First-Year Quad. It doubles as conflict settlement and a show of power to remind the new students who they answer to.  
If that's not quite your speed, there are less direct ways to go about things. Perhaps you're in it for the long run? In that case, you could start a petition to ban potatoes from campus dining facilities. The Irish gene will go dormant without proper nourishment, so the absence of potatoes will allow for the club's rehabilitation to a

healthy TikTok dance group.  
If all else fails, my final suggestion is to attend a meeting. Once you've infiltrated their numbers, outperform them, and leave having destroyed their egos and floors beyond repair.  
You might be thinking, "But CT, I don't know how to Irish step dance!" In that case, I would simply be better, and be good at Irish step dancing. It's easy when you think about it. Just, be good. Got it?  
Hope this response finds you healthily vindictive.  
  
Hugs and kisses,  
The Campus Times.  
  
*Lindsey is a member of the Class of 2024.*

By Jocelyn Mathew  
HUMOR EDITOR

Comics of the Week





The Order of the Idiot

By LILLI TAMM  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

You know me. You’ve known me your whole life. The soundwaves of my voice have lovingly caressed the velvety stretch of your inner ear, my raspy tones echoing in the sudden quiet. There’s always been a tension between us, a crackle, a spark, when our fingers brush along a passed handout or a borrowed pen. Your friends all know my name. I am, of course, a lord of chaos, a master of deceit, an inspiration to you all: I am the Idiot.

My kind are known across the land. In days of yore, we dwelled in villages, piercing holes in buckets and making love to our neighbors’ wives. Humanity’s greatest wonders were those of our visions: the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the 2004 Toyota Corolla, toilet paper inserted the wrong way. I am the descendant of a lineage that has weaponized the shortcomings of the world for immense profit. I am a genius. I am a fool. Bezos wants my charisma. Zuckerberg desires me carnally.

*‘I am a genius. I am a fool. Bezos wants my charisma. Zuckerberg desires me carnally.’*

In the depths of the tunnels shrouded in darkness and clad in scavenged 2013 Mel Weekend sweatshirts, the Order of the Idiot awaits. Those who desire our services have ways of finding us: swiping a water-type Pokémon card at Starbucks, trying to skip a rock against the outer glass walls of Goergen Hall, or poking the kid lying prostrate on the floor of your chemistry workshop three times and whispering “HELP.” Few can afford to pay the price (2 lbs. of 24-carat gold, or one of Jaeger’s exclusive “Clinton wants what I have” NFTs). Nonetheless, if you persist, we will provide you the ultimate honor: We will ask your questions. We will ask everything you want, and more importantly, everything you don’t. Need a professor stuck in a shouting match stalemate about why we can’t just print more money for the full lecture so there’s less content on the exam? Done. Want office hours monopolized by someone not even taking the class so your lukewarm take on Kant’s lack of relatability can shine by comparison? We got you. Require a confident stranger to piss off your TA beyond belief so recitation ends early? That’s our job.

The mechanics of such an operation are sprawling and complex. All members either come from generational

wealth or whore themselves out for the cause, enabling us to put our dads’ and daddies’ dollars to good use. This chapter began with a grant from iZone, made out to “Dum B. Ath Society” for community service projects. Our troop of proud citizens heartily hoisted the lucky employee across the Quad in a burlap sack, singing our anthem “Stupid Hoe” by Queen Nikki, and set them down by the Meliora monkey lab to let nature take its course. The money was never traced back to us, and legend has it that the behaviorists frequently marvel at the developmental skills of one monkey concubine, who mimics the Queen’s English and draws stick-like, hooded figures on their cell walls with curious, furless digits.

To preserve the shame and indignity of our illustrious brotherhood, great measures have been taken. An army of fact-checkers sequestered in the stacks do our bidding, verifying every idiocy that will leave our mouths to avoid accidental moments of insight. After all, a fool’s reputation can never be recovered. One connection between dick jokes and political struggles, and you’re done — looking at you, Shakespeare. Our former grand vizier struck a blood pact with CETL to ensure them endless business in return for the creation of CASC 318 — Intro to Unpaid Internships — which allows us to harvest informants from the hoards of students clamoring to get leadership experience for their barren, Canva-designed, shitty resumes.

My brethren’s contributions have been maint. Yet it is I, our glorious leader, who has ushered in a new era of mindlessly idle, stupid luxury. I bartered pre-strung rackets with the squash team for the use of their house to launder my buckets of hard-earned cash. I spent weeks crawling through vents above the fume hoods in Hutch to place my tiny, acetone-resistant microphones to pick up on the naughty, naughty research publishing talk (heed my words: Whoever’s name goes first is never

alphabetical). I hacked the Yellowjacket mascot’s computer, found their in-character sex tape, and threatened to leak it, unless they took up the sweat-soaked hood on my behalf.

Some say that the Order is a cult, worshipping at the altar of Chaos and marveling at the despair and destruction we leave in our wake. They are not entirely wrong. To be an Idiot is to close your mind and sign away your soul to a higher purpose, basking in the glow of death stares and mockery, preying on over-caffeinated scholars in empty libraries past midnight, and taking shifts chanting in fake Latin in hope of summoning Cthulhu (we’re running up on two years going and are still very optimistic). We are stronger than you have ever been and ever will be, and we’re only getting started. Do you know the power it takes to disrupt a 400-person lecture with a single, half-inaudible sentence? I am your hell. I am your salvation.

*‘I am a genius. I am a fool. Bezos wants my charisma. Zuckerberg desires me carnally.’*

There is no one coming to save you. Your prayers were heard and turned away. In truth, there was never a God. There is only me. So what am I telling you to do exactly? Instead of moping around this holiday forlorn about not being in a relationship, remember you still have love. Go buy your friends and family some chocolate or a Spongebob Valentine’s Day card like it’s second grade. Tell those you love how much you love them and why you appreciate them, almost like it’s a sequel to Thanksgiving. And above all, remind yourself that you’re worthy of love on this day, no matter what your relationship status is. Valentine’s Day is my favorite holiday, because I love love, and I hope that in reading this article, you can start to reimagine the holiday so that you might love it too.

*Schultz is a member of the class of 2025.*



RACHELKAMATA / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

Psychology Bets



RITAPEI / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

By MELANIE EARLE  
MANAGING EDITOR

The UR Psychology Department recently released a statement about the discovery of a secret game run by five undergraduate psychology students. The students made bets on which major they thought they could get to burn down our beloved Rush Rhees Library, and then tried to manipulate their selected major into doing so.

The students in question were two seniors and three juniors, who had bet a minimum of \$20 on their selected major, and the winner not only received all the cash, but also a month of Connections bagels and cold brew. According to one of the players of the game, who asked to go by Sigmund Freud, they were not going to be the only winners of this game.

“Well, you know that thing where if you get hit by a University bus you get free tuition?” said Freud. “We wanted to try to see if Rush Rhees went down, would everyone automatically graduate with our degrees? Because that would be a catastrophe for UR. I am sure like 80% of people came here because of the iconic Rush Rhees picture. It’s like UR’s biggest selling point.”

The rules were simple. Each player was to:

- Pick a major which they thought would contain vulnerable students.
- Focus their attention on one student in the major.
- Mentally break down and manipulate that student into burning down Rush Rhees.

Freud revealed to CT which majors were picked: Biology, Epidemiology, Computer Science, English, and Mechanical Engineering.

The names of the selected targets are being kept from the public for privacy reasons, but when talking to Freud, I was curious to know which one of the MechEs they chose, because I major in Mechanical Engineering. Freud went quiet all of the sudden. After a nice pregnant pause, I inquired, “It’s me, isn’t it?” The most Freud could do was politely nod and inform me that a nice sum of money was placed on my

head. It’s always nice to know when someone believes in you.

The tactics to manipulate the prey were as follows:

The Biology student’s email was spammed with statistics on what GPA and extracurricular activities get you into medical school. Every time they came out of class, they heard a student bragging about how hard the class was but they were “barely” getting As on all tests and assignments. The person who picked the Epidemiology student was banking that the current events and UR COVID-19 policy would do the student in.

*‘A statement by the Psychology Department said it was because “Rush Rhees is intact, the students aren’t too banged up, and it was some good hustle.”’*

“We The Computer Science student was barraged with endless people asking the CS student if they could fix their computer issues for them when there were no problems with the technology at all. The English student was harassed with obnoxious STEM students asking them sarcastically what they were going to do after college, and when they tried to convince them that there were many career options for non-STEM people, the STEM kids would scoff, “I guess.”

No actions were taken for me. When I asked why, Freud responded, “Well. Look at you.” I was a little confused by this statement, so I inquired a little further. Freud said I knew what they were talking about. I don’t think I do, but I do know one thing: Nothing hurts anymore after not meeting the goal I set at 4 years old of becoming a Power Ranger by 15 years old.

No consequences will be given to the students involved in the bet. A statement by the Psychology Department said it was because “Rush Rhees is intact, the students aren’t too banged up, and it was some good hustle.”

*Earle is a member of the class of 2023.*



# SPORTS

## New York Giants Name UR Alum Brian Daboll as New Head Coach

BY Natalie Fullerman  
STAFF WRITER

Perhaps the Meliora spirit is the solution to turning the New York Giants around. The team finished the 2021-2022 season with a 4–13 record that placed them at the bottom of the NFC East and resulted in the firing of their head coach Joe Judge. In the hope of becoming “ever better,” the team hired UR alumnus Brian Daboll ‘97 as its new head coach.

*‘The dynamic duo of Allen and Daboll revolutionized the team and the functionality of their offense.’*

The former Yellowjacket has found much success in his career. After starting at safety at UR for two seasons before an injury ended his playing career, he served as a student assistant during his senior year and then began his coaching tenure as a volunteer assistant at William and Mary. Most recently, he returned to his roots, serving as the offensive coordinator for the Buffalo Bills from 2018 to 2022. Prior to working for the Bills, Daboll coached powerhouse teams in both the NFL and the NCAA, including stints with the University of Alabama Crimson Tide and the New England Patriots, where he won a College Football Championship and multiple Super Bowls, respectively.



RITA PEI / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

His time with the Bills coincided with the arrival and ascension of quarterback Josh Allen, who has already drawn comparisons to beloved Bills legend Jim Kelly. The dynamic duo of Allen and Daboll revolutionized the team and the functionality of their offense. During their time together, Daboll was 2020’s Associated Press Assistant Coach of the Year and Allen set many records, including becoming the first player to score 100 passing and 30 rushing touchdowns in his first four NFL seasons. Daboll is credited by many for developing Josh Allen’s skills and reforming him into the renowned player

he is today.

Daboll has made both stars and history alike. On Jan. 16, 2022, in the first round of the NFL playoffs, his offense completed the first perfect offensive game of the Super Bowl era. Buffalo had no turnovers, punts, interceptions, or field goals and scored a touchdown on every possession in their game (with the exception of their ending kneel) against the New England Patriots, advancing to the divisional round of the playoffs and shocking the country with their never-before-seen feat. Against a historical rival in a high-stakes environment, this game especially demonstrated

all that this year’s Bills were capable of, largely because of how well Daboll had developed their strong offense.

The hiring has not been without its hiccups, however. Brian Flores, the former head coach of the Miami Dolphins, is suing the league and three teams, including the Giants, for racism and discrimination in multiple instances. Flores and Daboll not only have their first name in common, but also past experience working with New England Patriots’ head coach Bill Belichick. Their shared names led to a text message slip-up in which Belichick meant to offer his congratulations to Daboll on

his new position, but mistakenly reached out to Flores — before Flores had even interviewed with the Giants for the job. Thus, by accident, Flores discovered that his upcoming interview was a facade and that he was not being met with a fair opportunity. This controversy is unfolding in real time; it remains to be seen what will happen in the lawsuit with the front office staffs of the sued teams and the NFL as an organization.

*‘Daboll has made both stars and history alike.’*

Following the release of the texts, Daboll’s hiring was officially announced, and he has begun to assume his duties as one of 32 NFL head coaches. Just this past weekend, his selections for his coaching staff were published, and he will continue to make forward strides as he attempts to rebuild one of the NFL’s most famous franchises.

Ironically, the New York Giants play in New Jersey (along with the New York Jets), making the Buffalo Bills the only NFL team located in New York state. Though Daboll’s promotion may be taking him out of NY, his western New York roots remain with him as he continues to forge a legacy and make the football world ever better, reminiscent of his days here on the River Campus.

*Fullerman is a member of the Class of 2024*

## Men’s Tennis Begins Promising Season With 7-2 loss Against Vassar College

BY Alex Elchev  
SPORTS EDITOR

The UR men’s tennis team tipped off their season with a difficult 7-2 against Vassar College (N.Y.) on Feb. 13.

The Yellowjackets dropped all three doubles matchups along with four of six singles matches. All four of the singles losses were in straight sets, while both wins came in split sets.

*‘The Yellowjackets are vying for a spot in the playoffs this season.’*

Going into the matchup, junior Kenneth Lee said, “We’ve had a long week of preparation, and they’re a tough opponent, but we’re ready to get started.” The Yellowjackets are vying for a spot in the playoffs this season, with serious talent in both singles and doubles



Junior Kenneth Lee sets up to serve

MICAH BETTENHAUSEN / PHOTO EDITOR

matches.

Vassar College was coming off a narrow loss to RIT on Feb. 12, taking three of six singles matches but only one

of three doubles matches.

Head coach Matt Nielsen reiterated the strength of the opponent and the rivalry between the two schools: “They

beat us two years ago, and then last year[’s season] was shortened. Hopefully we can start well.”

Despite the loss, Rochester

is remaining hopeful for what’s to come. “I’m excited to have a full season this year,” Nielsen continued, “especially being able to travel.” The team is looking to become closer off the court, too. “We’re getting dinner, hanging out together a lot,” Lee said. “Just trying to build chemistry like anyone else.”

*‘Rochester is remaining hopeful for what’s to come.’*

Vassar College improves to 1-1, while UR opens their season at 0-1. Rochester will continue their season on Feb. 20 against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at the Goergen Athletic Center. If you would like to support Yellowjacket athletics, a full schedule of events along with livestream links can be found on the athletic composite calendar.

*Elchev is a member of the Class of 2023*