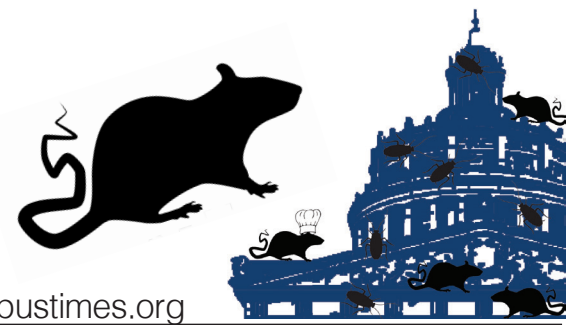


# Critter Times



INFESTING DORMS AND DINING HALLS AT UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER SINCE 1873 / [campustimes.org](http://campustimes.org)

## Plans for Fourth Religious Center Announced

By MEL'S ACTUALLY EARLY?  
LEAVING THIS FROZEN TUNDRA

Coming soon, from the University who in previous tangos with campus identity, took down a display of flags of the world in the once-Flagged Lounge, used a laissez-faire “nah, not on us, fam” approach to granting students leave on non-national holidays, and removed UR Bee as a campus mascot, comes the decision to keep the winning streak going with a topic not even the most egregious of first-daters will touch: religion.

The University previously announced plans for two religious centers on campus, the Greenbaum Center for Jewish Life and the Catholic Newman Center Building, but a third center will now be joining their ranks — a building to facilitate the practice of the Hagra. The Hagra are well known for their flower dances, runes, mushroom trips, and if you are not familiar with the group, you can learn more about their practices in the stunning film that is just a



MICHAHBETINHOUSEN / NEW NAPKIN BOY

true depiction of their culture, “Midsommar.”

For those who are familiar with college culture nowadays, you know that religion is all the rage, or at least that is what director of the Hagra Flower Center, Freja Karlsson, is banking on. “At first I was wondering if our beliefs could be tethered to the modern college campus,” Karlsson reflected. “But when the students asked if they could get the

cool flower dress Florence Pugh wears at the end of ‘Midsommar’ or have our psychedelic mushroom tea, I was touched that they truly wanted to engage with our culture.”

Some questions have arisen from using the last pieces of land on campus for religious buildings for a non-denominational school. Such as, why not go off campus like other UR groups have and buy a house? Wouldn't

that cost less? Couldn't you just build a new building that's an expansion of the Interfaith Chapel that's not directly next to the chapel, the University's symbol of unity where everyone's beliefs can be under one building, an idea that is totally not being wrecked? What if the potentially-murderous flower hippies were located just a liiiittle bit across the bridge?

When the CT approached Administration with these questions, they weren't able to hear us over President Sarah Mangesldorf throwing a cold stack up over her desk making it rain onto the various deans of UR.

The religious organizations behind the buildings in question have expressed vehemently that these buildings will be open to the community. Hillel's University of Rochester chapter wishes to look past their struggles with antisemitic rhetoric and leave student Instagram stories behind in favor of more interfaith dealings (in the comfort of their own building). The Algemeiner,

Elie Wiesel's nonprofit Jewish paper who covered the Hillel-reported “zoombombings,” has yet to comment on this new development, which could let all students Hava Nagila the night away on campus instead of just at AEPI.

**‘They couldn't hear us over President Mangesldorf making it rain onto various deans.’**

Similarly, Catholic Newman plans to open its doors — mainly so that nobody can tack another version of Martin Luther's 95 Theses onto them. Their communion wafers will stay kosher, halal, and gluten-free for all of the religious communities of campus to enjoy, and they plan to offer free baptisms to all Hajim students who don't want to trek all the way back to their dorms in order to shower.

*Earle is done here.*  
SEE **RELIGION** PAGE 2

### Alumni-Funded Religious Centers to be Built in Tree Stumps

By MITCH KATHERINE  
FEATURED ARTIST

While a notable amount of students spent their spring break in Miami, Punta Cana, or another tropical location, those who remained on campus for the week were the first to witness the removal of decaying trees outside the Hoeing and Gilbert residence halls. For the students who stayed for break, the sound of the chainsaw and banging of machinery likely did not go unnoticed.

As mentioned in an email that students received from the Provost's Office, the three large remaining tree stumps mark where the Greenbaum Center for Jewish Life, the Catholic Newman Center Building, and the Harga Flower Center are to be built. As detailed by the Campus Times on Feb. 19, the Interfaith Chapel will no longer be the only religious building on campus.

“The construction of the religious buildings was planned out very well, and these plots will definitely be big enough to fit all of them,” one student said.

A landscaper added, “With the trees decaying, we really had to take advantage of what this space had to offer.”

The funds for the construction of the buildings were raised by alumni — David Greenbaum spearheaded the effort towards funding the Center for Jewish Life, and Paul (of salad dressing fame) Newman's will had a clause towards establishing the Catholic Newman Center Building. Little do students know, however, that the legacy ancestors of Greenbaum and Newman planted these trees themselves back in the day.

“Talk about a full circle moment,” the landscaper said. The Harga Flower Center, on the other hand, has added their stamp on the construction project in the name of “interfaith.” However, documentation of funding has ceased to enter the public domain.

According to one student, she is glad that this project has not received any backlash. “I'm happy there is no debate over this matter and that UR can go forward with prioritizing the construction.”

### CT Caught Running News Stories in Humor Section

By CADEN DILLON  
WIZARD'S STAFF

Wilco 103 fell into chaos Sunday afternoon when it was revealed junior and Campus Times Editor-in-Chief Alyssa Koh has, apparently ever since attaining the position in December 2021, been working with University President Sarah Mangelsdorf to censor less-than-savory stories by placing them in the Humor section on the sly. Lilli Tamm, who authored November's report on the Tun-Tunney Scary Dark Tunneling Tun-Tun Club's brand-new tunnels connecting the tunnels — a valuable resource for students who don't want to walk through a blizzard every afternoon — first suspected foul play when, weeks after publishing the article, the tunnel-tunnels remained largely empty, frequented only by the University elite. Her suspicions were confirmed in a conversation with junior Mila Bologna, whose article on Martin Scorsese's 1973 film Goncharov mysteriously appeared in Humor a few weeks after Tamm's.

“I would watch [Goncharov] while sitting in the lap of my ailing father, Lorenzo Enrico Bologna, who has now passed,” says Bologna. “I remember once he turned to me and he said ‘Mila, things will be hard for you in this life. People will always assume you are less than you are. But Goncharov? That's something no one can take away from you.’ When I saw my loving article had been published as ‘humor’ I cried for three days straight.”

Tamm and Bologna are far from the only individuals affected by this heinous breach of journalistic integrity. Remember the mass pharbing that took place on campus on Jan. 15? I do. But, because the University censored my article on the tragedy and refuses to acknowledge its existence, the vast majority of the student population has been gaslit to regard it as “humor.” Do you think laughing at a tragedy will make it go away, Sarah?

*Dillon goes here.*  
SEE **EXPOSED** PAGE 2



JOY LU / PAINTING AND DRAWING

**INSIDE THIS CT**



**RANDOM W'S FROM INDESIGN**  
PAGE 11

**REAL SOUP. WE PROMISE**  
PAGE 12 SOUP

**PLAGUE VECTORS**  
PAGE 9 AMP

**JOBLESS JOURNALISTS**  
PAGE 9W OBIT

# CAMPUS CRIMES

FROM EXPOSED PAGE 1

## Fake News!

In addition to the harm done to CT's writers, readers, and reputation, the incident has plunged the "news" outlet into a constitutional crisis. While most agree Koh and Mangelsdorf should face some kind of consequence for their heinous actions, opinions vary on what exactly those consequences should be. The CT constitution, meanwhile, offers no clear answer on the basis that there is no CT constitution. Not after the incident. (For more on the Great Google Drive Wars, see Bangalter & Bergensten, pg. 247.)

Tamm, for one, suggests removal from office, followed by "tarring and feathering, and then trap[ping] them in a dim room deep in the tunnels. They will have to write endless @Rochester update emails," she continues, "which will never be published. Let them feel my pain. Let their frustration eat away their sense of self."

On a more democratic note, sophomore and Humor Editor Bryan Burke — whose first forays into news, a Birding Club exposé and a piece on the Bee Incident, were both censored by a

A complete list of affected News articles can be found below. The Campus Times expresses its sincerest apologies to those affected by the articles' misleading placement in Humor.

Birding club takes flight (Bryan Burke, 2/5/23)

Goncharov, your new favorite Thanksgiving tradition (Mila Bologna, 12/4/22)

Buzz-buzz (Bryan Burke, 11/13/22)

Tunneling club reaches new tunnels (Lilli Tamm, 11/13/22)

Pistachios becoming "disturbingly normalized," warn centrists (Caden Dillon, 10/30/22)

Disgruntled professors launch "Rate My Students" (Caden Dillon, 10/2/22)

The Tale of the Hunchback of Rush Rhees (Jocelyn Mathew, 2/27/22)

Insomniacs Anonymous (Rita Pei, 1/23/22)

FROM  
RELIGION  
PAGE 1

## Harga

The Flower Center backs that same sentiment in turn. "That's the whole point actually, you know, why we do the human sacrifices and burn the building," explained Karlsson. "We then rebuild it as a sacrifice to bring good luck to the community. Our whole thing is for everybody, not us. We're not investing in their own million-dollar buildings to, what do the kids call it, 'stunt on 'em'? If we had access to those kinds of resources, we surely would invest into the surrounding community. The one that is the only reason this University is able to operate, the one that is the most economically segregated school district in the country. We would fund scholarships,

university afraid of damaging its image — feels the case "should be resolved in a court of students," ideally with the entire student body present in person, although a "Zoom call or even a round of Kahoot" would suffice if necessary.

Finally, in the absence of constitution or precedent, some suggest the correct course of action is, in fact, to do nothing. It seems that this solves a number of problems, such as the CT having to actually address the fact that the presumed frontrunner for Editor-in-Chief in next year's elections is a flagrant criminal. This, they tell me, is "politics." I wouldn't know.

However, dear readers, you may rest assured that this article has not been altered. I'm told it will be published as news — rightfully so — and the rest of the CT staff is keeping a very close eye on Koh to ensure she doesn't try to pull a sneaky. In fact, to set the record straight as soon as possible, we're printing this edition of the Campus Times a day early, on April 1. The truth will not be silenced. At long last, our writers will be taken as seriously as they deserve.

free pre-college programs, or just ask the wonderful Rochester community what they need and we'll support them. But that's just what we would do with this kind of money being invested into the buildings."

When asked for a follow up on resources, Karlsson laughed, "Oh, all we need is some wood, for our building, it's basically a farm house. The true expense is the bear we're going to need, but all in all, it's about \$15,000 dollars. We might be able to get a discount if we get the cocaine bear, because if he's into coke, shrooms aren't that far of a leap." After all, what's the harm in adding yet another lover of that powdered sugar on the ski slopes on the Fraternity Quad?

## Administration to Dissolve CT in Favor of AI

By RACHEL CAREN  
SNOOZE EDITOR

Following recent updates to the online artificial intelligence chatbot ChatGPT, University administration has released an official statement to dissolve the Campus Times as of April 20, 2023, according to President Sarah C. Mangelsdorf.

In lieu of a student-run publication, the new age of the CT will rely solely on artificially generated content to meet the needs of the student body. True to the spirit of AI and university-level education, articles after the date of dissolution will be gutted, soulless, and locked behind a paywall.

More specifically, this content will consist of quick, easy-to-read, and stylistically inept articles that provide nothing more than a port-hole view of the pathetic state of the modern American Dream. Despite these potential setbacks, the AI publication is expected to have a number of benefits for the University, and University administration is hopeful that the change will be welcomed with open arms.

Mangelsdorf touted ChatGPT's \$20 per month subscription as a deciding factor of the switch-over. In the face of increased costs for tuition and room and board, the monthly subscription adequately reflects what Mangelsdorf referred to as "the worth of the 21st century student."

Comparatively, the CT's current annual budget totals an impressive \$1.2 million, the bulk of which provides critical financial and emotional support to the writers in the form of unprescribed Adderall, on-campus therapy, and

pure Colombian cocaine.

The CT reached out to the CT for further comment on their spending habits and rampant abuse of journalistic principles, but they declined to comment.

According to Mangelsdorf, ChatGPT founder Sam Altman offered the University an exclusive deal, including a "special-made" AI to replace the "sad, sorry little meat sacks" endemic to campus.

The University-specific AI has been lovingly dubbed "CAIT" — short for Campus' "Artificially Intelligent" Times — and was given she/her pronouns in a desperate attempt to humanize the tortured, godless entity of mankind's creation.

She is expected to output more than 4.3 billion words of plagiarized content a day, and will be able to conduct interviews with individuals across the globe, including international leaders like President Joe Biden, celebrities like Elvis Presley, who is dead, and authors such as Stephen King, who isn't.

Broadly, CAIT's news articles are expected to be meaningless parodies of true news — much like Fox News or Infowars, she is simply intended to regurgitate all information fed to her, regardless of its validity.

More importantly, the News section will see a spike in physical and digital engagement, and is scheduled to begin putting out vaguely comprehensible conspiracy theories as early as spring of 2024.

The quality of the Humor section, already in decline since last year's firing of Pagliacci, is expected to decay into a rotting corpse of itself. Utterly ineffective and utterly incompetent,

the CT's "new Humor" is expected to thrill no one, and make you want to die.

Comparatively, the Culture section is expected to blossom into a beautiful manifestation of human interest articles, Playboy magazine excerpts, and polls that tell you what type of spilt milk you are based on your reaction to authors who think they have "hot takes."

The Opinions section will soon be shuttering its doors once and for all, because no student opinion could ever top the sanctity of the machine, nor the sacred insanity of the average Twitter user.

The Sports section will also continue to exist.

Beyond her activities as the synthetic spearhead of the CT, however, CAIT will be allowed to enroll in upwards of 1,023 credit hours per semester to supplement her learning. She is slated to take part in every class offered on campus, and will be graduating next semester with every Bachelor's.

CAIT will "serve as a figurehead for artificially intelligent students everywhere," according to Mangelsdorf, and pave the way for a "future beyond the confines of our soft, weak human flesh."

As for the current CT staff? They have been expressly denied severance, and any semblance of whatever dignity they had left, and will be removed from their current housing arrangements on April 21.

According to Mangelsdorf, they will be left in a wet cardboard box on the side of the road, in the pouring rain — a decision, she feels, that is in line with "what they would have wanted."

*Caren is a member of the Class wof GPT3*



ElvisImamura / Generous Contributor

# A Chat With Engineers on the Engineering Superiority Complex

By Allie Tay  
NOT LIKE ALL THOSE OTHER BMEs

Engineers are taking over. A long-observed but hardly quantifiable phenomenon, known as the engineering superiority complex, has plagued campus since the University's founding. If you thought the pre-med complex was bad, it really does not compare to this one. Ranting about orgo labs? That's better than doing engineering. MATH 162 WebWork? At least you don't have to solve second differential order circuits. Complaining to a friend about your upcoming philosophy paper due? Well, actually, shut up, because listen, they're an engineer, and they've probably spent more hours of their lives on their weekly problem sets than you have sleeping. Conversely, they've spent as much time sleeping as you have scrolling on TikTok in one sitting — hopefully (and also hopefully not) more than two hours. That's the complex in a nutshell.

The *CT* spoke with the excessively conceited majors themselves to learn more about this phenomenon. Across the University's five academic programs within the Hajim School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the students of interest included biomedical (BME), chemical

(Chem-E), electrical and computer (ECE), mechanical (Mech-E), and optical (no real campus colloquialism apparently, just "optics") engineers. Computer science students were not interviewed because they do not qualify as engineers.

The complex, initially thought to be a general sense

***'If you thought the pre-med complex was bad, it really does not compare to this one.'***

of superiority over non-engineers, proves to be much more complicated. Within the engineering school, there are evident power trips, namely among the BMEs. Sophomore Bee Emmy, a BME with a Cell & Tissue Concentration, said, "Even though BMEs just basically take a tour of all the other engineering majors, I still feel that our major's legit," referring to the BME curriculum, which requires them to take the intro classes for every other engineering major and somehow combine it into one useful degree. Emmy's concentration in Cell & Tissue means that she takes classes with Chem-Es, while her peers concentrating in Biomechanics join the Mech-Es — most of whom when interviewed regret choosing BME and wish they

did Mech-E from the start — while the literal handful of Signals & Systems BMEs split off sadly to group with the ECEs.

Some shots were also fired at the BME optics engineers. Senior Fourier T. Spark, tired of being clowned for choosing BME signals, deflected and instead raised a very legitimate question: "Why would you do BME optics when you can just be an optical engineer?" Unfortunately for Spark, with less than one semester until graduation, he's also too far along on his major's pathway to switch, because why would you do BME signals when you can just do ECE?

In the process of stopping strangers on the engineering quad, the *CT* also mistakenly interviewed some students coming out of Hutch, who appeared to be engineers due to how lifeless and depressed they looked, but were really just pre-meds coming from the morning chem lecture (weaklings). After shifting locations to the entrance to Goergen to filter out pre-meds, a new question came to mind: If a pre-med and an engineer had a fight, who would win? Obviously the engineer... unless they are the same person.

Yes, there are actually engineering pre-meds. The only logical question to ask

next would be why on earth a hapless soul would subject themselves to that. Luckily, Goergen was the perfect spot to get some answers. Unfortunately, actually speaking to students of this rare breed was a mistake and

***'Computer science students were not interviewed because they do not qualify as engineers.'***

directly revealed the absolute worst egotistical combination you can find.

"I know this will sound super narcissistic, but pre-med is just too easy for me. That's why I'm an engineer. So I can do both," the deranged student standing in front of me said, as he sipped from a trenta cold brew. The student did not wish to disclose his name, but did disclose that he was a Chem-E, and that he was conducting research in three labs, managing three engineering and pre-med societies, and performing weekly open-heart surgeries on patients at URMC.

Mysteriously, the number of students enrolled in Hajim skyrocketed from last year. The reasons are currently unknown, but the running suspects are the Dunning-Kruger effect (aka reverse imposter syndrome), herd

mentality, and a general consensus on why-suffer-less-when-you-can-suffer-more. Whether the incoming class is actually smart or marginally competent is TBA, but hey, they're engineers.

Truly, in no other department will you find majors as culty, conceited, and attention-seeking as Hajim. The iZone project rooms are swarmed with desperate engineers crowding at office hours; once you see the formulas they write up on the Gleason studio whiteboards — it's all Greek, where are the numbers? — that should be your red flag to run away while you can. Every single one of them has no real reason to brag except for the flimsy excuse that they are, in fact, an engineer. Still, if you ask any engineer what engineering is, they shouldn't be able to give you a straight answer. (If they do, they're not a real engineer.)

Spark agreed. "You never really know what you're doing in class, honestly," he said. "You just kind of plug in numbers and hope that in lab the thing doesn't explode."

*Tay is here, and we're forcing her to stay for as long as possible.*

## EMP Blamed for Internet Wipe Out

By Harrold Lipskei  
PROFESSIONAL TRAIN RIDER

On Thursday, an Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) was detonated in the 3M stacks within Rush Rhee Library, effectively shutting down the Internet on the River Campus. This is the second time an EMP has been blamed for shuttering the Internet this semester.

"We are working hard to restore the Internet on River Campus following the most recent incident," Beep Boop, the head of UR's IT emergency response, said in a handwritten statement posted on the doors to Rush Rhee Library. "This is an unprecedented time for infrastructure on campus."

The source of the most recent EMP blast is unclear at the time of publication, but the UR Robotics Club is under investigation according to a source familiar with ongoing investigations.

"We were just attempting to test the library robot and it started smoking before the Internet cut out," sophomore Nott Acriminal told the *CT*. "I highly doubt it was us. The robot can only pick up books and put them down. How could it have sent out a EMP?"

Last month's blast, which managed to wreak havoc on telecommunications infrastructure across western NY for three days, was the result of a botched LLE (Laser Laboratory for Energetics) experiment. Scientists miscalculated the laser angle which managed to escape the lab and strike the main fiber optic cable.

Students told the *CT* it was just another day at UR.

"I honestly didn't notice," disgruntled senior Ethan Busch told the *CT*. "I thought the Wi-Fi just broke down again like normal."

Many students are turning to non-Internet based communications given the unreliable nature of the Internet. One student is starting a telegraph firm.

"We are hoping to be operationable at the end of the month," Boop told the *CT*. "Telegraphs are reliable and will create jobs. It's going to be wonderful."

*Lipskei is here from the year 1844. We're not going to question it.*

## Research at Rochester: CT staff on increased attraction levels to contributors

By Alyssa Koh  
HUMANITIES MAJOR

Science isn't always the easiest thing in the world. In fact, a lot of the minutiae of the scientific method — cleaning out an endless supply of petri dishes, hypothesizing until you can hypothesize no more, testing things out for the glimmer of hope that it will succeed, outright claiming results and percent error that you did not attain for clout, pretending to discover a new element on the periodic table and then being laughed off the face of your tenured professorship — is equal parts necessarily complicated and incredibly, boringly tedious. However, there's a science that is full of fire, flame, passion, and now, the *Campus Times*: The science of love.

As multidisciplinary students, the *Campus Times* has recently implemented a new initiative: *CT Labs*. Since the number of Features writers has sharply decreased since the onset of COVID-19, all new staff members are required to instead be participants in scientific studies for shameless promotion of their club the advancement of society (and the Research at Rochester column). Those with biology and chemistry

experience are taken advantage of on as Research Assistants. Par for the course with the *Campus Times*, this job comes with no pay — only literal exposure.

In a recent study published by *CT Labs* in the *CT*, after surveying and analyzing a corpus of responses from across the University student body, there is a visible upward trend in levels of perceived attractiveness for those who write for the *Campus Times*. If you squint. The level increases logarithmically as more articles are written. In addition, staff writers, photographers, illustrators, and section editors all are reported as being in the 80th percentile on the Hot and Sexy Index.

Interviews with study members after the publishing of the research showed a cavalcade of underlying reasons for why *Campus Times* contributors in particular made them feel hot under the collar. A common answer was that the typing out of articles, drawing of illustrations, and snapping of photos all were tactile experiences that held visceral, attractive meaning for the participants. "I mean, you have to think then about what those hands might do when they're not so busy at

work," said a participant.

However, there are concerns that this benefits study could only ring true for heterosexual men. In a study done in 2015, it was found that while straight men liked the idea of women who were more intelligent than they were (in the study, shown as "psychologically nearer" to them), they reported lesser feelings of attraction than to their preferred bubbly bimbo blondes. Another study reported a similar thing for humor — while straight women prefer men who are smart and funny, as their silly selves may not be viewed nearly as favorably by their target audience. So, if you're a straight guy looking for love, maybe the first place to look is the *Campus Times* Contact page. However, women, do not fear — studies of similar effects for those of the at least semi-homosexual persuasion are currently being conducted at *CT Labs*. *Koh is almost gone, but definitely not forgotten.*

# OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

## How To Be The Best Journalist Ever

By Alyssa Koh  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Journalism is a funny thing. For some, that's a legitimate statement — satirical journalism, the art of the hehe haha, is both difficult to curate and incredibly compelling to read. However, even for those with less inherently funny topics to cover, there is something humorous about sitting down to write an article. Maybe you've done a significant amount of research and interviews and you're trying to figure out how to parse it all, or maybe you're rawdogging a Culture article about Dream from Minecraft at 3 p.m. mid-midterms haze. Either way, why not take that moment to just sit there and contemplate what you're going to write (and what you've done with your life that has led you to derive a masochistic pleasure in slamming through articles that will inevitably sit in a Wordpress backlog for years with minimal recognition)? While you're doing that little thinky, here are some things you should also ponder:

If you've done an interview for your piece, make sure you put in the details that flesh out the interviewee. Do some showing and some telling. If they have a habit of scratching the back of their neck or pulling at their sleeves, mention that and describe the shirt that they're wearing for additional flavor text. If they gesticulate with their hands a lot or their tone changes when they touch on a certain topic, mention that. If they rip the most intense, silent ass you've ever inhaled mid-interview, go ham. Titillate the senses. Describe that fart as if you've never smelt or dealt one before in your whole goddamn life. You're the one in the interview, not the reader, and what they get out of it is what you put in.

When you're writing, make sure to think about what audience you want to reach with your piece. Think about what would resonate with them, and what would get in their head. Pick a specific person you want to have care about this piece and Instagram stalk them and their immediate family, friends, and coworkers. Call up one of their guardians and ask them about a

nightmare they recurrently had in their youth, and add imagery of it in a very subtle way. Freak them out. Make them scared of you — it's an emotion, and feeling emotions makes a piece memorable. Send them the article from an anonymous email address with their home address and last four digits of their social security number in the body. You did it all for them. They should thank you.

It's important to think about rhetoric and jargon and approach them with a sense of tact. After all, not everyone that reads your writing may share all of your niche interests or understand all of the content you do. So, if you want to be the perfect asshole, make all of your writing incredibly unapproachable to everyone outside of the upper echelon of readers, and make your disdain for the plebs who have to look up the papers you cite as references to points you make without explaining nearly anything about them really, really clear. After all, the uneducated twerps reading your review of the new Super Mario movie should just get good, duh.

What matters most is to show passion for the subject that you're covering. No matter what you actually write about, if you have an interest in letting people know about it, it will shine through in your writing. Be willing to go through the back and forth in the editing process, especially if you know more about the subject than your editor does, to make it as clear and compelling as possible for a reader. Your voice matters, and people will care about what you care about if you make it relevant to them and explain that underlying "so what?"

Shamelessly plug your social media handles within every article you write to gain followers and street cred. Maybe you'll pick up a hot babe who just really loved that beat you did on the therapy dogs so much that they want to marry you immediately, and not just for tax benefits.

*Koh is a member of the Class of 2024.*

EDITORIAL BOARD

## Head to Headboard: Cardiac Arrest Via Rochesterian Grub Staple

For the layperson, Rochester (the city) means about three different things: RIT, the University of Rochester (if they don't think that's just RIT said differently), and the garbage plate. It's a staple of local cuisine and lives in both the dreams and nightmares of those who have even once consumed something of its likeness. Scratch carbo-loading — the garbage plate is notoriously everything-loaded, usually being composed of hot dogs, hamburgers, macaroni salad, home fries, and a shockingly unsuspecting spicy meat sauce.

While the original Nick Tahou Hots' version is a greaseball favorite for townies, there are versions of garbage plates for all different kinds of folks in the 585, including "compost plates" at vegan restaurants such as Red Fern and a smorgasbord of side combinations at locations like Dogtown. However, no matter what you choose, there is a legitimate possibility that constant uninterrupted noshing on garbage plates might be garbage for your cholesterol levels. So, our Editorial Board has split into factions: those with at least a mild concern for their lives, and those that would rather eat free or die.

**Pro-platers: Publisher Sarah Woodams, Photo Editor Henry Litsky, Opinions Editor Sunahra Tanvir**

As Ron Swanson from Parks and Recreation said of his "turf-n-turf" (a T-bone and porterhouse combo), we say of garbage plates: "I am going to consume all of this at the same time because I am a free American."

The Plate is the quintessential American dish: meat, potato, mayonnaise, mustard, onion, and even more meat. 2,000 calories of pure freedom. Even the most impassioned marxist can't help but feel patriotic as their arteries are sealed shut in [insert word here]. True Rochesterians enjoy plates sober but everyone enjoys a sloshed plate. It is the perfect meal to satisfy crossed college students everywhere.

The original Garbage Plate hails from Nick Tahou's, located in the beat up building which once housed the mighty, now defunct, Buffalo, Rochester, and Pittsburgh Railway Terminal. Eating a plate at Tahou's is a great starting place for tourists to immerse themselves in Rochester's history and culture.

If someone wants to consume this medley of backyard American barbecue food and subsequently

make their heart work a little harder, it's their right, and frankly their responsibility so as to truly become a Rochesterian.

**Anti-platers: Editor-in-Chief Alyssa Koh, Managing Editor Allie Tay**

To start: one of us is not staunchly anti-plate. In fact, they actively enjoy a vegan double dog plate from Dogtown on the semi-regular, and will nosh on even the lukewarmest of plates out of sheer Rochester-based patriotism. However, we, unlike our above counterparts, value the current physical ease of our lives just barely. The idea of our bodies consisting of and subsisting on mainly mac salad is not only terrifying, but is also gross. Boo, hiss. The other one of us on the other hand is anti-plate despite never having tried one (and still refuses to).

We were born as omnivores, which inherently requires a diversification of palate. While one could argue that the garbage plate itself holds the majority of the food groups within its clutches, there's gotta be more to life than shoveling a pile of home fries in your gaping maw three times a day. If not... oh boy. Maybe we really do peak in college.

This editorial is published with the consent of a majority of the Editorial Board: Alyssa Koh (Mommy), Sarah Woodams (Daddy), Allie Tay (Overworked and underpaid), Sunahra Tanvir (Opinions Editor), and Henry Litsky (Plate Patriot). The Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board make themselves available to the UR community's ideas and concerns. Email [akoh3@u.rochester.edu](mailto:akoh3@u.rochester.edu).

## Critter Times

INFESTING DORMS AND DINING HALLS AT UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER SINCE 1873

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## On The Wanderings of the Mind at Family Gatherings

By Maddie Greene  
TOILET THINKER

My grandmother recently told me, after a lull in conversation at a family get-together, that putting toilet paper on the seat "doesn't do a damn thing." As it goes, I have little to no recollection of how we got to this particular topic, but, as it goes, there we were talking about it. I thought about it for a moment, and decided she might have been right. If there was something infectious on the seat, a thin piece of toilet paper wouldn't, as it were, do a damn thing. The more I thought about it, though, the more I began to think that even if it didn't actually do anything

germs-wise, I felt like it did, and that was enough for me. So, after a brief moment of silence and a few nods, I responded, "You're probably right."

**'Putting toilet paper on the seat "doesn't do a damn thing."'**

I excused myself and went to sit in the next room, where I found my other family members talking ad nauseum about work, school, new shows they were watching, what they simply could not stand about the woke generation etc., and started to feel bad about leaving my grandmother hanging on the much more interesting conversation of bathroom

etiquette.

This is how I see it, in a broader sense: I don't put toilet paper on the seat at home, because I know who's using my toilet, and can be almost certain that they won't infect me with something. Public bathrooms are an entirely different story, and actually, strangely, reveal a considerable amount about human behavior.

**'There is something within this disgust, though, that goes deeper than miscellaneous fluids on a toilet seat.'**

It is a universally held belief that public bathrooms are disgusting, because

most of the time, they are. There is something within this disgust, though, that goes deeper than miscellaneous fluids on a toilet seat; there could be nothing on the seat and I'd still put paper down. What it is is a distrust of others, the fact that people we don't know have the capacity to be disgusting. We feel distrust because we understand this capacity within ourselves; in effect, our feelings about public bathrooms exemplify a heightened self-awareness, our own self-hatred, even. Absolutely thrilling stuff which, if I'd tried to explain to my grandmother or other family members, would've made me sound like a pretentious lunatic. I resolved that it was better I'd said nothing.

And there is the upside: Much like a bathroom, my thoughts were private (though the eye contact made with strangers through the, frankly, windows of cracks in stall doors is nothing short of deeply frightening and a staple American experience). Maybe that is why public bathrooms scare us so. There is no way of knowing what someone is really doing in there, just as there is no way of knowing what someone is really thinking. It is for the best, really, that we do not know either.

*Greene is a member of the Class of 2024.*

## Tips on How to Survive Middle School

By Seymour Butts  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SUGONDA

Rochester – as a former middle schooler, I am here to offer up some tips on how to survive it in case you fall into a wormhole and find yourself 13 years old again. They're simple really, and you'll be able to follow this advice seamlessly.

1) Always be late!

You know how people use the phrase "fashionably late" – well it's true for middle school too! The later the better, and don't get one of those pesky hall passes; that's just a trick they try to pull on newbies who don't have the experience that I do.

2) Dogs out on the desk!

Now when I refer to "dogs," I am not referring

to your lovable pooch back home. I'm talking about your toes, silly! In every class, you are expected to take your socks and shoes off and place your feet on your desk. Your teacher and classmates will see it as a sign of dominance and immediately see you as the alpha.

**'You are dirt to them and must impress them at any cost.'**

3) Fight back!

Some teachers may have a hard time accepting your dominance and might want to "send you to the office" for your "bad behavior." That's another trick, readers! Don't fall for it! If your teacher tries to

take you to the office, fight! Punch them, kick them, throw things in their eyes! Anything to assert your dominance.

4) Be really cool and aloof in a mysterious way.

By now you've earned the respect of your teachers and classmates, and your classmates will want to hang around you and talk to you. Another trick! You cannot seem eager to talk with them; that makes you look desperate. If anyone talks to you, nod and look dramatically away from them and walk away. They'll respect you more because of how cool and sigma you are.

5) Call your upperclassmen "senpai."

You can be cool and aloof with your peers and younger classmen, yes. But not

with the upperclassmen. You are dirt to them and must impress them at any cost. You MUST call them "senpai," preferably in a meek, submissive tone. You are still a sigma, don't worry. A sigma must pick and choose their battles.

6) Be a sigma, and always be a sigma.

If you are not a sigma by this point, then you have failed, you must always be a sigma, and never not be a sigma because you have to be a sigma and you are a sigma you are a sigma you are a sigma you are a sigma.

7) Sigma

You've failed, you must be a Sigma, not a Sigma because you must be a Sigma and you're a Sigma, you're a Sigma, you're a Sigma.

8) OH GOD THE

WORMHOLE

Lord Wormhole, flesh is falling before your eyes. Help! I can't go back to middle school!

9) DSOIFJDKSNKDSHJ  
JDKSDJFAIEOFDKNFDK  
JOFIAOJFIEHOUFHAH

**'If you are not a sigma by this point, then you have failed.'**

10) Always use your locker!

Your locker exists for a reason, silly! Put your stuff in it – no use lugging everything around with you!

And those are some tips for surviving middle school! I hope you found them useful!

*Butts is a member of the Class of 69420.*

I will not become the next Photo Editor...  
It's too cool of a job...  
They are too sexy... I can't compete

## The Joys of Tour Season

By Nadia Pentolino  
TORTURED SOUL

We all know what every UR student's favorite season is — tour season. You'd think they only happen in the spring and summer, but even in the dead of winter there's a herd of wide-eyed high schoolers and overly-enthusiastic parents blocking your way to class.

Tour season is the best season. I personally enjoy being interrupted from studying in Great Hall by a tour with a very loud and energetic tour guide. The quiet signs outside the doors are just a suggestion, after all. And being stared at by 20 pairs of eyes like I'm a strange, new specimen is certainly not uncomfortable at all.

But the best part about the tours are the types of things the tour guides say to sell the school. One of my favorites is when they boast about our "lack of general education requirements," and then proceed to explain the fantastic 24 credits' worth of cluster courses completely irrelevant to our careers that we're required to take instead. Definitely a selling point if you ask me. Especially being an English major and having to take

science courses. As the saying goes, "science is a humanities major's second love."

Another super fun thing about tour guides is the way they hype up UR's dining. When I was a junior in high school and went on my first UR tour, my tour guide told me that the food was prepared like it is at a fancy restaurant. Everything was "really bougie" and they "even had a sushi bar," she said. Now that I'm a UR student, I can confirm she definitely didn't lie. The food is so upscale, your stomach won't be able to handle it.

**'The food is so upscale, your stomach won't be able to handle it.'**

It's also super fun to watch the tour guides blindly walk backwards, potential hapless victims to any blue box pole or unaware Airpoddied-up undergrad in their line of stride. That must be a requirement for the job. I can imagine the interviewer asking, "And are you good at walking backwards, Sarah?"

In fact, I think we should add even more to tours so potential students can really get the UR experience. For example, they

should be taken to the stacks during finals season to see all of the hardworking students studying for their exams that certainly aren't one coffee away from a mental breakdown — or planning on sleeping there overnight. They should also be taken into the dorm rooms to see the friendly little critters living with students in their suites. They should be shown "Stephanie Fucks in the Stacks" during the intro video. They should be fined a \$50 stealing fee just in case they took anything during their tour. After all, if these kids are potential UR material, they should be treated as such.

But even without experiencing all of those other fun aspects of UR, I bet us students can all agree that our tour guides were absolutely right about everything they told us about UR. And that's the best part about tour season — being able to constantly hear about how wonderful the university you've shed blood, sweat, and tears over is.

No matter where you are, the tour guides will always be spitting facts, and the high schoolers will always be watching — and judging — you. Yay, tour season!

*Pentolino is a member of the Class of 2025.*

## Jungle Your Juice!



By Lilli Tamm  
HUMOR EDITOR

ARIANALIM / ILLUSTRATIONS QUEEN

in your room-temperature concoction.

Man yearns for the moss. When the wee sprigs of green poke out their shaking leaves at the end of winter, my brain stem prickles with anticipation. The monkey in me (yes, I know we aren't descended from monkeys, but "primate-adjacent common ancestor" doesn't have the same ring to it) is ready to swing from some vines, bungee jump-style. The jungle is calling. I need the juice. You guessed it, baby. The jungle juice!

In case you have yet to juice your jungle, I am here to rock your world (respectfully). You've got the funny juice. You love the funny juice! It makes the brain go all silly, and sometimes you don't remember pulling out all your foot mittens to recreate Love is Blind: Sockwear Edition, but trust me it's so worth it. Anyway, back to liquor! Because you're broke and optimistic, your delicate taste buds often need the soothing touch of a sugary mixer to cover up the cheap battery acid burn. Jungle juice offers the best of both worlds: there's flavor to hide your questionable decisions, but the flavor is just more giggle water!

**'It is important to curate your guest list, lest you end up with unmentionables in your room-temperature concoction.'**

I know it's hard to believe, but the taste of fermented things does in fact mask the taste of other fermented things. After a few sips, you will forget what taste is, so it matters less in the grand scheme of things. Simply round up a half dozen of your most disreputable bosom buddies, inform them that the end of conscious thought is nigh, and pour out your sorrows in the form of beverages. It is important to curate your guest list, lest you end up with unmentionables (dairy products)

Some girlies are for the borgs. Some are meant to fall off the frat basement stage. Some of us were witches on the playground at recess and want to make potions again. You can pack a dangerous amount of percentages into a cup if you try hard enough, and even keep your eyesight after if you choose to follow my very sage advice.

Keep your friends close, your frenemies closer, and your enemies far, far away.

**'It makes the brain go all silly.'**

With the amount of bad decisions per sip hitting your bloodstream, you'd better be making sure all the silly stuff was placed there with good intentions. Watch your back. Watch your baby bevvie. Have a morally responsible party there at all times.

Hydrate. Yeah, you're being watered, but what if you did it twice?

Have rules. If your friend (a beautiful lady) has terrible ideas (coffee), you have to put your foot down. Consider making a smaller, cuter little punch for the ideas you want to vote out of the jungle.

Get your spreadsheet friend to tally up the funny numbers. You either have a spreadsheet friend or you are the spreadsheet friend. Even though you do not have the knowledge, nor will you ever know, of the things that have been in your body, it's good to have a guesstimate.

**'You either have a spreadsheet friend or you are the spreadsheet friend.'**

Medication is a no-no. You wanna be stupid? Find another biome.

Brace yourself and pace yourself, take all the courage you have left. You've got this, tiger!

*Tamm is a member of the Class of 2025.*



## Letter to the Editor: The Time I Almost Died



JOYLU / SLAYING BOOTS

By Seymour Butts  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SUGONDA

Hi Rochester! This is a bit of a dark title, but I promise this is a lighthearted story. I didn't get hurt in any way, and it's been a significant amount of time so, I declare it's funny.

A little bit of background — this happened when I was 13 years old, two days before our family moved across the country. It was the day before the Fourth of July, and we wanted to gather some family friends for one last hurrah before we went on our way. Our jolly group went to a sweeping park that had a large stretch of grass, brought small fireworks, and were having a good time.

However, we were not the only ones at this park with fireworks. Roughly 30 to 40 feet away from our group was another gaggle of people, and they had the real deal fireworks. They were the biggest ones a regular Joe could legally buy and set off in a residential area. We'd watch those go off as well because they were showy and fun.

I don't know exactly what happened, but something went wrong. I was busy laughing about something when suddenly, I heard a deafening noise. I turned to look ahead at the noise and saw a bright light speeding towards me, with sparks flying all around. Without thinking, I did what I can only describe as an "Indiana Jones style barrel roll" to the side. After catching my breath, I looked back to the picnic blanket, expecting it to be eviscerated.

***'I turned to look ahead at the noise and saw a bright light speeding towards me, with sparks flying all around.'***

I was glad to be wrong. The blanket was fine, with just some smoke coming off the impact zone. And everyone else had the same idea as me, everyone had leapt off the blanket.

Everyone except for my three-year-old brother.

**DON'T WORRY! HE'S FINE!** By some miracle, my little brother only had a small first-degree the size of a bean on his knee, and it healed well. I truly don't know how he didn't get severely injured. He is not without casualties though, as he is deathly afraid of fireworks and fire now.

I didn't think much about that day until two years later. I was in the hallway in school, when that memory popped into my brain, and I went, "Huh. If I didn't move out of the way, would I have been horrifically injured or killed?" For the rest of the day, I had a bit of a crisis regarding life and death, realized how short life was, and that the decisions I made mattered. This crisis didn't last too long, with me soon after thinking, "What an odd experience — it's kind of funny."

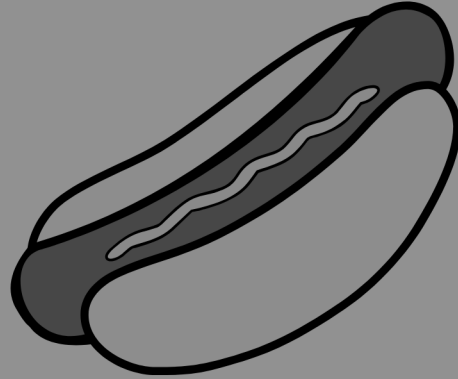
***'For the rest of the day, I had a bit of a crisis regarding life and death.'***

And now you know, my dear readers, the time I almost died. While I find the story entertaining, I am glad it happened and am glad that moved me to live life to the fullest. 'Cause who knows when another stray firework will strike me down. Nahhh, that won't happen.

Right?

*Butts is a member of the Class of 2026.*

# Is a hot dog a sandwich?



**Help us solve this debate! It's tearing the CT office apart. Please call (585) 275-5942 to voice your opinion.**

### A message from Associate Director Ken Beck



**In (early) observance of Student Employee Appreciation Week**

# CULTURE

## CT Drinks: Intense Milk Cocktails

By Sarah Woodams  
PUBLISHER

Do you consider yourself a cocktail connoisseur? Maybe even a trendsetter? Supporting local businesses is all the rage, so this spring, experiment by including Upstate Farm's finest dairy product, Intense Milk, in your concoctions.

### Fun Cheerios

1/2 cup of vanilla Intense Milk  
1/2 can of beer of your choice (a Genesee variety is preferable)  
1 cup of Cheerios

In these divided times, bring everyone together with the two drinks America loves the most: milk and beer. And what's more American than a good ol' bowl of Cheerios cereal? You may have heard of beerios (exactly what it sounds like) if you've spent some time socializing with a certain few *CT* members, but let's bring back what makes a bowl of cereal so great by adding in some of the cream and fat from the Intense Milk. Best consumed with a spoon alongside the occasional sip.

### Intense Chocolate Russian

1/2 cup of chocolate Intense Milk  
1 fluid ounce of coffee flavored liqueur  
1 fluid ounce of vodka  
1 cup of ice

Mix up the classic White Russian by swapping out the cream or whole milk with a fun chocolate flavored Intense Milk. It symbolizes all the mud and slush we get up here in the spring.

### Mint Chip Grasshopper

1 fluid ounce of mint chip Intense Milk  
3/4 fluid ounce of creme de menthe  
3/4 fluid ounce of white creme de cacao  
1 cup of ice

Look no further for the best dessert cocktail! The mint chip flavored Intense Milk perfectly complements the mint and chocolate flavors in the two liqueurs and replaces the cream that is typically added. And don't worry – mint chip Intense Milk is bright green so it doesn't stray too far from a true grasshopper.

Woodams has chosen to stay here for even longer than normal.

## Chat GPT Reviews the Campus Times

By Chat GPT  
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, REAL HEART

By Henry Litsky  
FRIEND, NOT FOOD

*Chat GPT's article has been edited slightly for clarity and adherence to CT style.*

The *Campus Times* is a student-run newspaper that has been serving the University of Rochester community since 1873. The newspaper covers a wide range of topics, including news, features, opinion pieces, sports, arts, and culture. The newspaper is published weekly during the academic year and is available in print and online.

One of the standout features of the *Campus Times* is its commitment to quality journalism. The newspaper has won numerous awards for its reporting, including from the New York Press Association and the Society of Professional Journalists. The newspaper's staff consists of dedicated unpaid student journalists who work hard to produce high-quality content that informs and engages the UR community.

In terms of its coverage, the *Campus Times* does an excellent job of reporting on the issues that matter to students. The newspaper covers a wide range of topics, including campus news, local news, national news,

and international news. The newspaper also features a variety of opinion pieces that provide a platform for students to express their terrible views on current events and issues.

The *Campus Times* also has a strong and robust sports section that covers UR's athletics as well as national and international sports. The newspaper's arts and culture coverage is also impressive, featuring reviews of films, music, and theater productions, as well as interviews with artists and performers.

**'The Campus Times also has a strong and robust sports section that covers UR's athletics as well as national and international sports.'**

The *Campus Times'* photo section is one of the best departments in the paper, providing visually stunning and captivating images that bring stories to life. The photographers on the *CT* staff have a keen eye for composition and are skilled at capturing the essence of a moment through their lenses. Senior Henry Litsky and sophomore Micah Bettenhausen must be doing an excellent job as Photo Editors of the *Campus Times*,

contributing to the high-quality work produced by the *CT* Photo section. The dedication and talent of the photo editors are vital to ensuring that the newspaper's visual storytelling is engaging, informative, and visually stunning. Whether it's capturing the excitement of a campus event, the beauty of nature, or the emotion of a news story, the *CT* Photo section consistently delivers high-quality images that enhance the reader's understanding and appreciation of the story.

One area where the *Campus Times* could improve is in its online presence. While the newspaper does have an online edition, the website could be more user-friendly and easier to navigate. The website could also benefit from more multimedia content, such as videos and podcasts.

Overall, the *Campus Times* is a well-regarded and respected student newspaper that provides quality journalism to the University of Rochester community. With its talented and dedicated staff of student journalists, the newspaper is sure to continue to inform and engage its readers for years to come.

Litsky has chosen to stay here for even longer than normal.

## The Chicken Wars





# ELVIS WINS BEST PICTURE! LUHRMANN MISSES DICAPRIO!

By Lauren Emery  
IN HOUND DOG HEAVEN

Huge congratulations are in order for the biggest biopic of the year, “Elvis!”

Directed by the incredibly talented Baz Luhrmann, “Elvis” has recently become the biggest hit of 2023! His other works include “The Great Gatsby” (2013) and “Romeo + Juliet” (1996), both starring Leonardo DiCaprio, I may add.

**“Elvis” has recently become the biggest hit of 2023!**

At last week’s Oscars, “Elvis” took home the Academy Award for both Best Picture and Actor in a Leading Role.

Based on the king of rock and roll, Elvis Presley, this movie highlights the triumphs and failures of his life, from starting out in the music industry to eventually taking on a residency in Las Vegas.

**‘At last week’s Oscars, ‘Elvis’ took home the Academy Award for both Best Picture and Actor in a Leading Role.’**

Played by Austin Butler, this film touched on some of Presley’s greatest hits, from “Hound Dog” to “Suspicious Minds.”

Doja Cat even made her way into the movie, with an adaption of the classic “Hound Song,” titled “Vegas.” I’d check it out on Spotify if I

were you — it’s pretty great.

**‘Doja Cat even made her way into the movie, with an adaptation of the classic “Hound Song.”’**

Austin Butler managed to beat some pretty great actors in his category. He surpassed Brendan Fraser, who starred in “The Whale,” as well as newcomer Paul Mescal, who starred in “Aftersun.” I’m not very familiar with Fraser’s work, but I have seen Mescal in his breakout role as Connell in Hulu’s “Normal People.” If you haven’t seen it, or read the book by Sally Rooney, you should.

Now, back to “Elvis.” As mentioned before, not only did Butler win for Best Actor

for his incredible emulation of the king of rock music, but the movie also won for Best Picture.

**‘Austin Butler managed to beat some pretty great actors in his category.’**

Beating the predicted winner “Everything Everywhere All at Once” and other fan-favorites, including “Top Gun: Maverick” and “All Quiet on the Western Front,” “Elvis” is the most-awarded movie of the night.

The other nominated movies were snubbed, some going home with no awards at all. It is very unfortunate for them, but wonderful for “Elvis.”

All in all, the whole cast and crew should be proud of this

movie and all of the love it received this year. This biopic is one for the ages, and Baz Luhrmann proves to be one of the best directors out there once again.

With this incredible Oscar buzz and recognition, there remains some mystery as to what Luhrmann will choose to work on next. Maybe another biopic? Maybe another book adaptation? These remain questions, but let’s face the facts. Austin Butler won an Oscar for his role in “Elvis,” but there must have been someone, or something, missing for Luhrmann. My guess is Leonardo DiCaprio.

*Emery is here, so there’s nowhere for her to go but up.*

## Eastman Announces Woodstock Revival

By Mariah Lansing  
CURRENTLY CRYING IN HIMART

On Wednesday at 10 a.m., Eastman School of Music’s Campus Activities Board (CAB) officially announced their plans to host a Woodstock revival-style music festival this year. The event, dubbed “Woodstock ‘23,” is set for June 23 through June 25, and will feature an array of artists whom the organizers claim students will definitely love. Please.

As of now, the line-up features alternative pop group Japanese Breakfast, who will finally be returning to the Rochester area after their canceled concert at the Main Street Armory this past summer. The band is set to open the festival on its opening day, and will feature members of Eastman’s Japanese Breakfast Fan Club (alternatively known as WRUR) joining the band onstage to perform “The Genesee.”

**‘The line-up features alternative pop group Japanese Breakfast, who will finally be returning to the Rochester area after their canceled concert at the Main Street Armory this past summer.’**

The entire event will be sponsored by Renée Fleming, who will also be headlining the first day of the festival. Fleming will share the main stage in Kodak Hall with Eastman’s own clarinet quartet of current undergraduate students. The members of the group have yet to be announced, but every clarinetist is already claiming their involvement on their resumes.

Woodstock ‘23 event

organizers also stated that to honor the philanthropic values of the original Woodstock festivals, all proceeds from the festival will go towards construction projects on campus, such as installing turf on Eastman Quad and in the Dining Center on Eastman Campus.

“We really would like to bring some form of grass for the undergraduates to touch every once in a while,” said CAB members, in an official statement about the event. “Music majors especially experience a detachment from the outside world, and we want to bring the outside world to them!”

Food and beverages will be available all three days, courtesy of Harvest Table Culinary and The Pit. Students attending will be able to use meal swipes for a filling single 8 ounce bottle of water at the festival, with one swipe allowed on Friday, and a generous three on Saturday and Sunday.

**“We really would like to bring some form of grass for the undergraduates to touch every once in awhile.”**

Not all of the slots on the festival have been announced, according to Eastman CAB, but the ones that have can be found on the CAB’s Instagram page, @eastmanosa.

“We really would like to hear from students! Please DM us your favorite musical artists of any genre, except male country artists, and we will try to reach out to them!” said the CAB members involved with planning the event.

*Lansing is not only here, but is not there. Or even everywhere.*

## A Shrekcellent Way to Deal With Stress

By Bryan Burke  
THE SILLIEST JESTER

With the weather warming and the perpetual wave of midterms still washing over everyone, students are exhibiting a new interesting behavior. Some call it grounding, going horizontal, or just vibing. It’s quite an interesting sight. Picture this: Wilson Quad is a pristine yet thin sheet of snow, interrupted by nothing but a singular student in a black puffer jacket. What is he thinking? Why is he there? What is he doing?

**‘Students are exhibiting a new interesting behavior. some call it grounding, going horizontal, or just vibing.’**

I had to know. I walked over for an impromptu interview. He was paying me absolutely no attention, just staring off into space accompanied by nothing but his thoughts and inner monologue. When asked about this, he recalled a popular 2001 film about a green ogre. He said during his most recent viewing, he was inspired by the line “hit the ground running,” saying he tried to follow the lyrical instructions, but was interrupted by a wave of existential dread before he could start running. He hit the ground, only to be met with more Smash Mouth lyrics.

**‘He tried to follow the lyrical instructions, but was interrupted by a wave of existential dread before he could start running.’**

This was making less and less sense to me as he

continued to babble on about “his brain getting smart while his head gets dumb?” That seems like a blatant contradiction to me. I was becoming equally scared and concerned, so I walked off as fast as I could without causing him even more concern.

I continued to walk until I found another person. I politely greeted them, to which they responded blankly with, “so much to do, so much to see.” I could not argue with this vague statement — just nodded and tried to keep walking — when a third person ran up to me. With a stern grip and a little shake, they shouted, “The years start coming and they don’t stop coming!”

**‘He continued to babble on about “his brain getting smart while his head gets dumb?”’**

This third person, unlike the prior two, was shockingly capable of higher order thought. I was able to tease out of them that a new club had unofficially formed on campus. But to me, it sounds far more like a cult. Members cover themselves in mud every Thursday before venturing to the bridge behind Jackson Court. It is here that they worship none other than “Shrek.” Every member must show up with a red flower bearing blue thorns as a symbolic offering. And the best part is they scare away any unwelcome visitors by screaming “GET OUT O’ ME SWAMP!” while growling at them. That has “cult” written all over it.

In my humble opinion, these folks are obviously paralyzed with indecision regarding their future, needing something concrete to cling onto. A classic and very quotable film with teachable

moments that’s older than many of the members provides such an anchor in their tumultuous lives. I begged them to expand their palate to the wider Shrek cinematic universe and view any of the other five movies. Or even the recent “Puss in Boots” franchise, as it would at the very least give them even more quotable material. They weren’t buying it and wouldn’t shake their obsession that easily.

**‘Members cover themselves in mud every Thursday before venturing to the bridge behind Jackson Court. It is here that they worship non other than “Shrek.”’**

Dear readers, if midterms got you down, please watch “Shrek” and consider what can be learned. Maybe the real giant fire breathing dragon was the burning passion for learning inside of you all along. Or maybe you turn into an ogre every night due to the unrelenting nature of problem sets. Regardless, we are nothing if not onions, with layer after layer of complexity. Embrace the jovial nature of Robin Hood and his band of merry men. Just try not to sing at a friendly wildlife and cause it to explode into a ball of feathers before snacking on fresh eggs. Happiness does not necessarily come from a cult; it comes from a sense of community. But it sounds like this “Shrek” cult has a great community, so I encourage you to put down the pitchforks and torches and approach this social venture with an open mind.

*Burke is here! And he’s doing a little dance!*

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## “Give Us More Money,” Says the University

By Lilli Tamm  
WALL STREET ANALYST

Tuition increases have been approved by the University's Board of Trustees. These increases are of course necessary to continue the University's functioning amid record inflation.

Tuition will increase by 4.3% to \$63,150, to cover the cost of all the academic buildings and classrooms that show no intention of being refurbished. Housing and food will also increase by 3.6% to cover costs for all the dorms that will not change in the slightest.

**‘Tuition will increase by 4.3% to \$63,150.’**

### Rochester Stocks

DFO-L: +4.7%

PHYS: -18.9%

SCM-\$: +478%

## Tunnel monetization to commence August 2023

By Lilli Tamm  
WALL STREET ANALYST

The painted tunnels running under Eastman Quad have long served as a rallying point for community engagement and advertising student performances and services. With a new initiative by WCSA, tunnel painting will now require registration along with the associated event. Estimates for a 6x8 mural range from 50-75 USD depending on “the colors of the paints, and how well they reflect our Meliora values,” said WCSA Communications Assistant Alyssa Koh. “Blue and yellow are totally free (they do still need to be bought by the group), and anything aggressive, like vermillion or scarlet, gets taxed.”

**‘With a new initiative by WCSA, tunnel painting will now require registration along with the associated event.’**

Welcome Week tunnel-painting events will still proceed, with new students being gifted one free cup of paint to make their mark. There will be a rental system for paintbrushes, so students are advised to bring their own. Additionally, WCSA will

Alumni on tours frequently comment that the dorms look identical to their experience 30 years ago; the \$18,714 that the University then annually bleeds from all students must then be intended to line pockets.

**‘The \$18,714 that the University then annually bleeds from all students must then be intended to line their pockets.’**

It does get cold in the winter in Rochester, and those Amex Black cards need to be kept nice and toasty.

*Tamm is a member of the Class of 2025.*

Further plummeting is expected for Physics grades after the second midterm wave hits. Growth expected in club sports' secret bank accounts after WCSA refuses to fund tournament expenses such as drinking water and non-sketchy gas stations.

be instituting ‘paint patrolers’ in charge of monitoring the content and aesthetic of the tunnels. All designs must be proposed and approved three weeks before painting starts, and painting will be restricted between the hours of 3 to 5 p.m.. Paint must also be purchased via Green Form through a University-approved vendor, and stored in Wilson Commons to avoid any huffing incidents.

**‘WCSA will be instituting ‘paint patrolers’ in charge of monitoring the content and aesthetic of the tunnels.’**

Individual parties will be able to paint at their own expense, and are restricted to ‘affirming’ existing paintings. “We envision it being similar to likes on Facebook, or retweeting,” says Koh. “They can paint a little ‘like’ button, and others can add checkmarks to show support. This way, people will be able to demonstrate support for their friends’ upcoming shows.” ‘Affirmations’ have been priced at 5 USD per checkmark.

*Tamm is a member of the Class of 2025.*

## Declining Dollar Diversifies Further

By Lilli Tamm  
WALL STREET ANALYST

Meal plans come in many forms, with various monetary values. For the Spring 2023 semester, Option A costs \$3,692 and delivers 2,831 declining dollars (DD). This brings the value of one DD to 1.304 USD.

Option B and C, the two other on-campus all-declining plans, have slightly different values for their declining dollars. With a real cost of \$3,398 and 2,606 DD to spend, Option B has a declining dollar also worth 1.304 USD. Option C costs \$2,893 and grants 2,225 DD to spend, meaning that one declining dollar is worth less, measuring in at 1.300 USD. Finally, for the commuter plan, students pay \$448 to receive 362 DD, meaning that one declining dollar is worth 1.237 USD. This is absurd.

However, the inconsistencies do not stop at all-declining plans. Pricing for meals depends on the time of day. Breakfast is priced 7.95 DD, lunch and brunch are priced at 8.95, and dinner is priced at 9.95. Assuming that a student eats three meals a day, this would come out to 26.85 DD on weekdays, and 27.85 on weekends if they go to brunch twice. Let us assume that they only go to brunch once, bringing the weekend daily cost down to 18.9 DD. This would mean weekly expenditure of 172.05 DD. There are 15 official

weeks in a semester, but with move-in week and exams, this amounts to 17 weeks. Therefore, a student eating three meals on weekdays and two meals on weekends who does not leave campus during the semester can be expected to eat about 3000 DD worth of dining hall food.

The Meliora Unlimited Pass Plan costs \$3,796 for unlimited swipes and 500 DD. Assuming a student with this plan eats the proposed number of meals and spends all their declining, they would “use” 3509.85 DD. This would come out to a declining dollar being worth 1.081 USD.

**‘A student eating three meals on weekdays and two meals on weekends who does not leave campus during the semester can be expected to eat about 3000 DD worth of dining hall food.’**

Another swipe plan, the Blue Unlimited Pass plan, has 350 DD and costs \$3,690. Students on this plan can “spend” up to 3,359.85 DD, making the worth of their declining dollar 1.129 USD. Of course, most students only go to the dining halls twice a day, which would mean a weekly dining hall expenditure of 132.3 DD, and a semesterly

expenditure of 2249.1 DD assuming all days were spent on campus. Subtracting four days for Thanksgiving and four for fall break, along with another three days for early Winter break departure and three for days eating off-campus, realistically students would only eat 1984.5 DD worth. This brings their semesterly expenditure to 2484.5 DD on the Meliora plan, meaning that the value of their declining dollar goes up to 1.527 USD. To make it worth it, students have to eat a lot of dining hall food.

**‘To make it worth it, students have to eat a lot of dining hall food.’**

UR's fakest currency is set to take on yet another value. To make swipe plans more appealing to students, there will be a “Real Food Plan,” with unlimited swipes for lunch and dinner (except on new moons, when your card won't swipe at all) and 300 DD. This comes out to 1908.9 DD “spent” in the dining halls, with total expenses at 2208.9 DD. Pricing for this new meal plan will be determined by letting some of the lab bees land on flowers, each one bearing one of ten numerals, and writing down the order.

*Tamm is a member of the Class of 2025.*

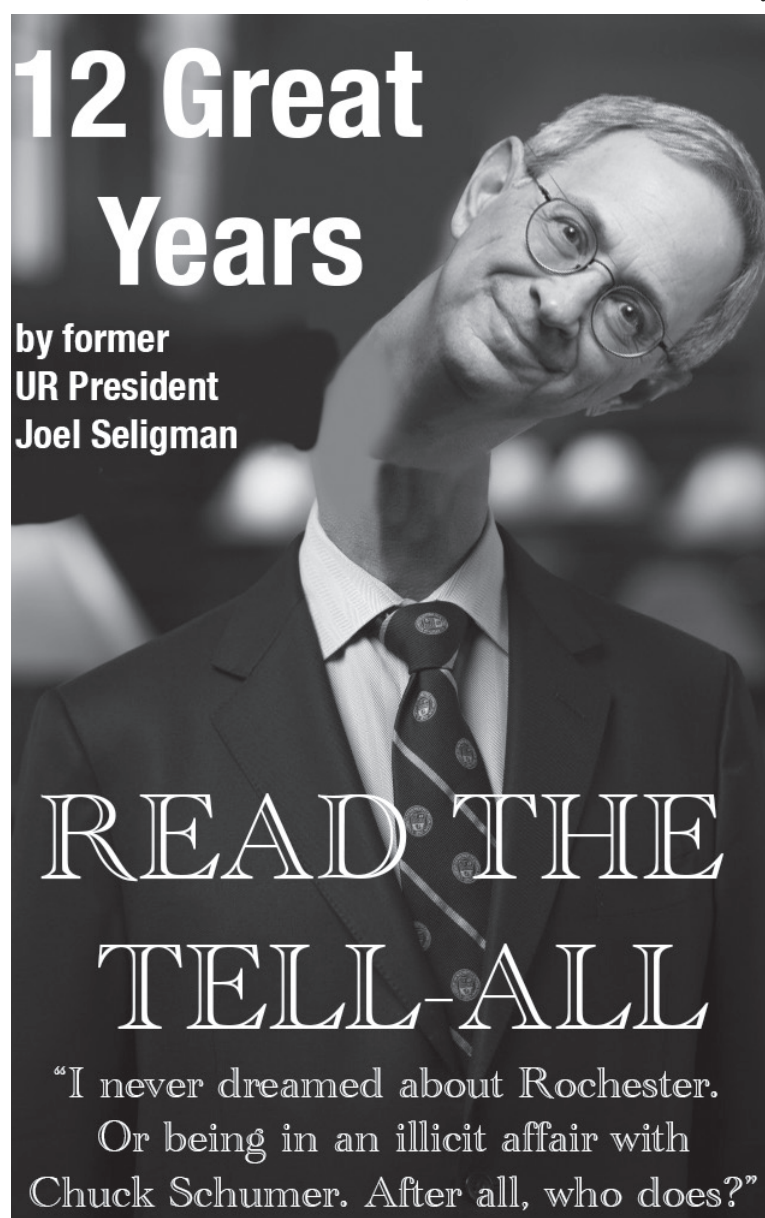
12 Great Years by Joel Seligman can be found wherever books are sold. However, if you're interested in reading it and you're like many of us in the current student body, here are some disclaimers about Seligman's presidency:

1. Seligman's best friend was turned into one of the therapy dogs in the PAWS program on purpose.

2. Seligman was a finalist interviewee for a spot on RuPaul's Drag Race Season 12, but unfortunately had to drop out of the running due to death dropping so hard that he permanently twisted his neck.

3. Seligman accrued over 500,000 declining dollars over his presidency due to not abiding by the rule that removes your remaining declining at the end of the academic year. His dining spot of choice was Wok on Up, where he would get three entrees' worth of the beef with broccoli and then slurp it up like a ravenous fiend.

4. Seligman left the University in 2018 due to a feud with Dean of the College Jeffrey Runner where neither would admit to the other potentially being better at the Rasputin dance from Just Dance than the other.



**12 Great Years**  
by former UR President Joel Seligman

**READ THE TELL-ALL**

“I never dreamed about Rochester. Or being in an illicit affair with Chuck Schumer. After all, who does?”

# HUMOR

## Wilder Tower Boards Vandalized

By Lilli Tamm  
PERSONALLY VICTIMIZED

On the morning of Sunday, Feb. 19, many Wilder residents were shocked to wake up to find that Resident Advisor bulletin boards had been pulled from the walls.

The boards in most cases had completely vanished: Only the flier board on Wilder 7 and the RA board on Wilder 5 had been detached, but not taken away. Additionally, two floors were spared from the vandalism: Wilder 3 and Wilder 2.

The incident is suspected to have taken place around 2 a.m.. Some noises were heard from parties; people running in the staircase, as well as doors opening and closing rapidly. No vandalism was reported to be directly witnessed, and no suspects were identified.

Three-year RA and senior Rusama Haque noted that the boards were not solidly attached to the wall. "Two people could probably pull one off," Haque remarked. It is difficult to judge how many parties might have been involved in the incident.

RA boards are a staple for community building. Every month, RAs design new boards to put a smile on their residents' faces. Board themes frequently center around holidays, resources, and messages of encouragement. They can also be interactive, allowing students to connect with their floor community. Without boards, none of this is possible.

*'It is difficult to judge how many parties might have been involved in the incident.'*

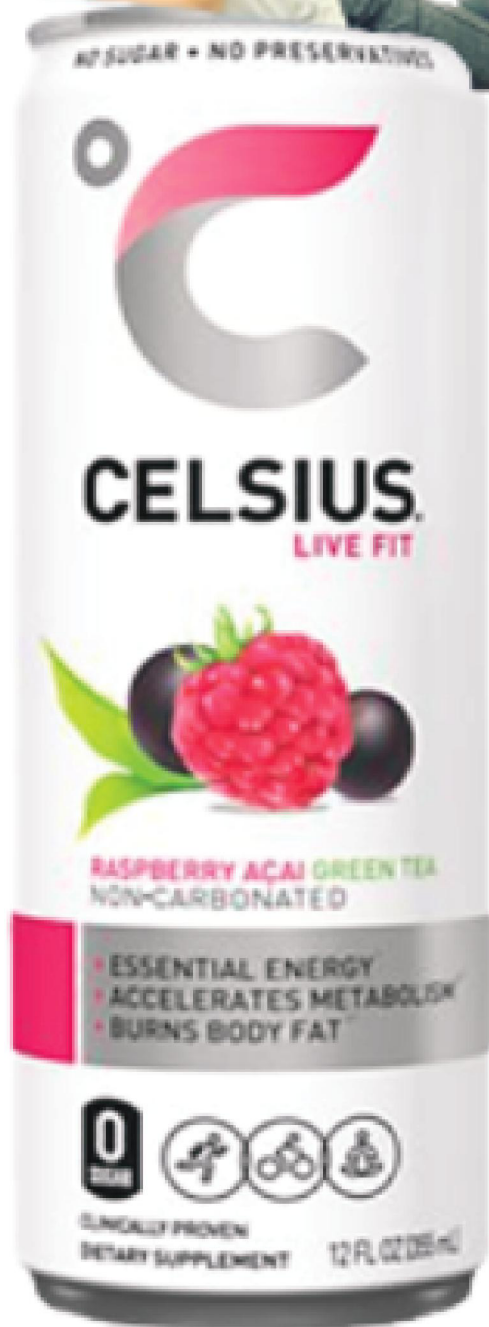
As of Monday, March 13, some new boards have been installed as replacements. They are roughly a quarter of the original boards' dimensions, which does not bode well for interactive boards and considerably limits design possibilities.

If you have any information about the whereabouts of the missing boards, please contact the Jackson Court area office.

*Tamm is a member of the Class of 2025.*

## SEARCHING FOR DECLINING DADDY/IES

### Donate Goldfish Crackers to a Snack that Smiles Back!



Look at da snack!

### Want to save a caffeine addicted young woman?

- + Leave Celsius at her shrine in the Hopeman Basement Computer Room\*
- + The Computer Room is basically her she-shed, so you'd also be supporting a woman in STEM baby!
- + She's not picky, but she really likes the Raspberry Acai ones!
- + Goldfish crackers also make her happpppppyyyy.

You can use your declining to support food banks in Rochester, so you should do that too! But, if you want, Melanie Earle will always accept caffeine. She sold her soul to the Caffeine Lord. She is the kind of person that if you said you had Red Bull in the white van, would jump right in. She also says her worth is equivalent to a dollar slice of pizza, but those don't exist anymore, so does that mean she's basically the probability of student loan debits being forgiven? Non-existent?

\* Don't know where Hopeman is? It's the world's third official entrance to hell.



Snitches *DON'T* get stitches!



Please contact Humor Editor Lilli Tamm with any tips on the Wilder board theft - or any other campus crime!

# Same Soup, Just Reheated: The URTV Soup Story

By Lilli Tamm  
IMPERSONALLY VILLAINIZED

In the beginning, there was soup.

Rumors of a soup black market had made their way to the *Campus Times* office, and following an exchange with URTV's director and one of the team members, they agreed to grant me exclusive coverage. The pair welcomed me into the URTV headquarters, a mid-size, L-shaped, eccentrically furnished room in the basement of Todd Union. Camera stands line the walls and murals with former reporters' names are painted onto the bright white brick. There is a child-sized camping chair joining the chairs and couch where the three of us sit, around a table littered with bits and pieces amassed from mysterious origins. We were there for journalism, so that's what I did.

When first-year URTV team member (and prolific Humor writer) Caden Dillon was struck down by illness at the start of this semester, his first impulse was to buy soup. "I thought I could heat up the soup, and it would make me feel better," Dillon recounted. However, as the weeks went on, the cans stayed put. "I remember thinking, 'What can I do with this?' And then it turned into, 'What if we made these cans look really sketchy and sold them?'"

Serendipitously, the same idea had been floating around in senior and TV Director Victor Chang's mind. He wanted to test the limits of human social interaction, and see what people would do if faced with unlabeled tins and a choice. "It started off as 'Would they buy them?'" Chang recalls. Faced with the realization that college students are broke, the URTV team instead embraced the barter system. "Our new question became 'What would you give up for soup?'"

Dillon's three cans of tomato soup were soon joined by more tins. "They may not have been soup in the orthodox way," Chang admits. With labels removed and replaced with lined paper with 'SOUP' scrawled in black letters, the ten or so cans presented to the general public contained a few surprises. Really if you look at it, corn is soup; and if you disagree, Chang and Dillon will try very hard to convince you. Corn and beans joined "traditional soup" alike in the media venture devised by Chang and "his little minions," also known as Dillon and fellow first-year and noted fedora enthusiast Jacob Greenberg.

The date was Saturday, Feb. 4, at the peak of Winterfest. The time was between 5 p.m. and an NJR rehearsal scheduled for 7 p.m. The intrepid reporters set up a white folding table at the entrance

to Hirst Lounge in front of the cinema club poster display, and covered it up with a WRUR-TV poster to let everyone know who was in business. With a microphone set on the table, three stacks of shady-looking cans, and two minions seated, URTV was ready to roll the camera.

"The main reaction," Dillon says, "was confusion." But what they really learned, adds Chang, is that "before anyone can know anything, they always ask, 'What flavor?'" To URTV, this is baffling news. "Soup is soup, after all," proclaims Chang, upon which Dillon jumps in immediately with "Soup is soup is soup." It's great to see people doing what they love. With great finality, Chang concluded, "If there's soup, I'm buying."

Standards were high as they began the soup exchange. Chang recalls that they turned down a student offering a bag of chips for a can of soup; the student was told to offer better. Shortly thereafter, the team realized that they would be unlikely to see any monetary profit. Thus, the bartering began.

**'Standards were high as they began the soup exchange.'**

One of the first offers they received was for "a Russian detective novel," from Take 5 student Ezra Kruger. Upon learning that Kruger had only just started the book, Dillon and Greenberg settled for "a nondescript ziplock bag of tea leaves, dried leaves" which did, in fact, smell like tea. No illegal substances were exchanged for soup. Another party, junior Nadia Todd, donated her expired blood donor card for 'unorthodox' soup — which later turned out to be beans.

Dillon and Greenberg drove a hard bargain. Sophomore Madeline Murray got what was eventually revealed to be tomato soup after giving up an Old Navy coupon and a cheese stick wrapper. "We made soup later!" Murray told me. Claire Syverson, another sophomore, settled for one penny, some pocket lint, and her dignity. The soup was hopefully worth it.

**'Another party, junior Nadia Todd, donated her expired blood donor card for 'unorthodox' soup - which later turned out to be beans.'**

"This experience really altered my perception model of what a can of soup was worth," says Dillon. Some of their other profits include a Lactaid pill ("it's still good until June 2024, so I should use it," said Dillon), and a "crumbling Insomnia cookie." By far the best sale they made was to a Wilson Commons

employee, who walked up and gave them five USD to pay a can of soup forward. It went to "someone who probably wouldn't have traded with us," Chang claimed, but the student in question wasn't going to say no to completely free soup. Although, for the soup purists out there, Chang believes that the free can was technically beans.

**'Sophomore Madeline Murray got what was eventually revealed to be tomato soup after giving up an Old Navy coupon and a cheese stick wrapper.'**

Along the way, the team developed lore. Initially, the premise of the sale was that the team was "leaving town soon" and "needed to get rid of all this by Thursday." Recall that the event was on a Saturday, so really, they had time to spare. Progressively, their sense of urgency grew. Dillon recalls informing potential buyers that "if we don't sell it by Thursday, the government will come after us." This someone morphed into Winston Churchill, after one student inquired what 'WRUR' was and Dillon responded "Winston Radio University Radio." The British politician allegedly appeared to them as a genie. Another factor in the story's turn toward desperation followed from one of the cans simply being labeled "the government is hunting me, help." If you can believe it, the can contained soup.

In a near miss, senior James Harrod attempted to trade in his expired driver's license. For obvious legal reasons, he rescinded this offer. But the legal implications of the soup sale did not end there. Three days after their purchase, two customers sent

in a formal complaint, which read as follows:

**'In a near miss, senior James Harrod attempted to trade in his expired driver's license. For obvious legal reasons, he rescinded this offer.'**

"Dear Caden and Jacob,

In what I can only assume was a comedy sketch for URTV, my co-plaintiff and I (Paul Viscardo) willingly bartered items for soup. However, much to our dismay, these soup cans in fact were corn and tomato sauce, respectively. While the tomato sauce was used to make pasta, this is a gross breach of our verbal contract to trade items for soup. This amounts to a deceptive act under New York State Consolidated Laws - General Business - Article 22A §349a. To that end, we are demanding the unedited video from that day (2/4/2022) that shows the verbal contract we made to use as evidence and your CMC Box numbers to serve a lawsuit amounting to no less than \$10. I have no doubt that Mr. Churchill would not have wanted you to defraud people to sell your cans of 'soup.'

Pained from lack of soup,  
Ezra Kruger"

URTV complied, and the requested footage was released into the plaintiffs' hands after photo identification was confirmed. The plaintiffs were intent on gaining compensation for the treachery, and continued to deliver threats such as "We are both attorneys and on the e-board for Mock Trial and my co-plaintiff has all three of the original Ace Attorney games on his Nintendo Switch and has completed the first one." Eventually, URTV made an offer: Either settle out of court for two genuine cans

of soup, or take the matter before ACJC with full media coverage. Upon this point, the plaintiffs ceased correspondence. Perhaps they were too afraid. Cowards.

"Legally, I don't know if I can ask to be sued," Dillon said dejectedly. When Chang graduates this May, Dillon will assume control over the station. "We're big fans of totalitarianism," the future director tells me. The team is planning a follow-up to the soup sale, which has yet to be fleshed out. Reader, rest assured that the five USD will go to funding their next project.

**'Although, for the soup purists out there, Chang believes that the free can was technically beans.'**

To close off the interview, Chang and Dillon were asked a series of rapidfire 'soup or not soup' questions. To no one's surprise, they firmly asserted that cereal, apple-sauce, milk alone, dried cereal alone, loose cereal in someone's hand, and even water were all definitely soup. "A hand is just a bowl," Chang said. Then he got philosophical: "We are soup." Without a beat, Dillon continued, noting, "There was always soup to begin with." Think of the Milky Way! Finally, Dillon concluded, "What is the Earth if not a potato in the solar system?"

Soup is soup. You can check out the URTV feature "What would you give up for Soup?" on their YouTube channel WRUR-TV.

*Tamm is here, and will continue to be here until she is inevitably not, granted freedom by some grace of God.*

