

Campus Times

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SINCE 1873 / campustimes.org



Passio Go! Shuttle-Tracker Launches with Big Bug Problems

BY ELENA BACHMANN
NEWS EDITOR

BY PAIGE MCCURDY
STAFF WRITER

The University's transition from the TransLoc app to Passio GO! for tracking shuttles has sparked significant conversation among students and staff alike.

This shift, prompted by a substantial increase in the cost of TransLoc's services, was accelerated when the older app became largely non-functional, forcing the Department of Transportation and Logistics to push forward with Passio GO! despite unresolved issues.

This changeover is part of a broader trend observed across numerous colleges and universities, with institutions like Emory University and Rutgers also making the switch to Passio Technologies.

The decision has not been without its challenges. Users have reported several problems with Passio GO!, including issues with shuttle tracking, inaccuracies in service displays, and outdated route and schedule information (problems that have carried over from TransLoc).

'Forcing the Department of Transportation and Logistics to push forward with Passio GO! despite unresolved issues.'

The Orange/Blue line has shown the route going via Mt. Hope Ave in College Town, where it does not go. The Pittsford Green Line displays the stop at Tops as located in the parking lot instead of on Rue De Ville. Multiple separate inbound/outbound stops are displayed as being combined despite being on different sides of the street, such as the Laser Lab stop on the Blue Line. These difficulties have affected the reliability

SEE **PASSIO** PAGE 2

SJP Holds First Protest of the Semester, Their Largest Yet



JUSTINO'CONNOR / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

BY JUSTIN O'CONNOR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

BY MADELEINE MCCURDY
STAFF WRITER

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) held their first protest of the semester outside Hirst Lounge on Saturday. Around 60 people showed up to rally against the war in Gaza.

"Free, free Palestine." The

chant, led by a student moderator, rang throughout Wilson Quad, kicking off the protest. Attendees waved Palestinian flags and raised handwritten posters in support of the Palestinian cause.

Around them was a semi-circle of Wilson Commons Student Activities (WCSA) staff and student volunteers donning bright yellow tags identifying them as "event

monitors." The protest was registered in advance to take place from 3-4:30 p.m., according to Interim Dean of Students Anne-Marie Algier.

After a prayer for the lives lost and a moment of silence, the rally proceeded with eight speakers from varying backgrounds, who each spoke in opposition to the war and U.S. assistance towards it, with a particular focus on the

University administration's lack of support for a ceasefire and divestment from Israel.

The first speaker, a student from Nazareth University, began with the definition of genocide and said what is happening in Palestine meets the criteria. She said the claim that a humanitarian crisis is occurring is completely wrong.

'After a prayer for the lives lost and a moment of silence, the rally proceeded with eight speakers from varying backgrounds.'

"The last time I checked, a humanitarian crisis didn't look like Israeli soldiers rampaging into a hospital dressed as Palestinians with military weapons killing three little girls," she said. "It didn't look like every single hospital being bombed along with schools and places of worship, along with innocent people."

SEE **PROTEST** PAGE 2

Heartbreaking Thriller: Men's Basketball Falls 81-76 to #10 NYU

BY AENEAS WOLF
STAFF WRITER

Most people deride UR as "not a sports school." Friday night's basketball game proved some students bleed blue and yellow.

The men's contest was a back-and-forth battle decided in the last seconds.

#10 NYU (16-3, 6-2 UAA) opened scoring when junior guard Zay Freeney (#23) converted a right-handed layup after a hard drive to the basket.

'The men's contest was a back-and-forth battle decided in the last seconds.'

From there on out, NYU and UR (9-10, 3-5 UAA) traded metaphorical — and sometimes physical — blows in a contest befitting a "Rocky" movie.

Graduate student guard



HENRY LITSKY / MANAGING EDITOR

Mitchell Kershner (#21) delivered a bounce pass to a cutting senior guard, Matt Wiele (#13), for UR's first points. Wiele was fouled during his shot and made the free throw.

NYU senior center Emmanuel Onuama (#32) threw down a powerful dunk in transition with 10 minutes left in the first half. NYU led 16-13.

NYU graduate student

guard Spencer Freedman (#13), alumnus of basketball powerhouse Mater Dei High School, poured in several consecutive baskets and dished out one behind-the-back assist during the final minutes of the first half. A minute later, UR junior guard Ethan McEachern (#3) drained a three, forcing an NYU timeout.

SEE **BALL** PAGE 12

RPO's "The Planets"

BY ALEX HOLLY
CULTURE EDITOR

In the beginning, there was nothing.

The vastness of an unborn galaxy marked by the absence of sound, light, and substance. Empty music stands on an empty stage.

Then the universe began to form, colors and shapes began to dance across what we would soon come to call the sky, the stars, and the planets. Sounds of an orchestra began to play, colorful and clean. The conductor took his stand. It then became clear how the murals and decorum that lined the walls echoed to please the ear as much as they did the eye.

SEE **PLANETS** PAGE 8

INSIDE THIS CT

SA MID-YEAR REPORT
PAGE 3 CAMPUS

LISTEN TO ISRAELIS
PAGES 6

CT EATS: PASTRIES GALORE
PAGE 8 CULTURE

CODING ON PAPER
PAGE 11 HUMOR

CAMPUS



JOY LU / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

PASSIO FROM PAGE 1

Take 5 student Aaron Weiner, an intern for the Department of Transportation and Logistics, shared insights into the transition, noting that the switch was necessitated by financial considerations rather than a belief in superior service from Passio GO.

Weiner highlighted that while Passio GO! does offer some advantages over TransLoc — such as not requiring location services, offering easier access to routes and stops, and providing more customization options — it generally falls short in terms of user interface and overall functionality.

‘While Passio GO! does offer some advantages over TransLoc ... it generally falls short in terms of user interface and overall functionality.’

“The TransLoc app was no longer being actively supported by the company, making it challenging to implement changes or updates to the platform,” Transportation Operation Manager Andrea Walton said. “Our shuttle provider, TransDev, migrated UR

and RIT to the new app, Passio GO!. Although we’ve been working to get the new app up and running since the summer, we felt the fall semester of 2023 was too soon to launch it.”

‘The department has been proactive in addressing these issues, working closely with the app developers to implement updates.’

The department has been proactive in addressing these issues, working closely with the app developers to implement updates. Walton indicated that the equipment issues that have led to incorrect shuttle locations and discrepancies in stops and routes have been identified, and the department is working with Transdev and Passio to address the issue.

“Students are encouraged to refer to the printed schedules posted on the Transportation website for up-to-date schedule information,” Walton said.

Bachmann is a member of the Class of 2027.

McCurdy is a member of the Class of 2025.



MICAHBETTENHAUSEN / SENIOR STAFF

PROTEST FROM PAGE 1

The next speaker was a member of the Rochester Voices for Palestine community organization. She listed the ten stages of genocide, highlighting similarities between them and Israel’s conduct in Palestine. She also asserted that it is everyone’s responsibility to hold their leaders and institutions accountable.

Chants framed all of the speaker’s calls. “Gaza, Gaza, don’t you cry, we will never let you die,” the crowd yelled.

At this point in the protest, the wind was blowing cold air on attendees who had already been outside for over thirty minutes. The moderator noted it was the same temperature in Gaza, but they did not have clothes or electricity to stay warm. “Just keep that in mind,” he said.

The third speaker was alumnus Mahmoud Tarifi ‘23. He explained that the reason they resist and protest is to tell their children that they did everything they could during the Gaza genocide. He noted that a large majority of schools in Gaza have been destroyed, and he voiced his disgust that UR supports the “apartheid government of Israel,” as he put it, that directly attacks education and educators.

‘The moderator noted it was the same temperature in Gaza, but they did not have clothes or electricity to stay warm.’

“Speak now or forever hold your shame and guilt,” Tarifi stated.

The following speaker was a Jewish student from the University, who declined to be named in the

Campus Times. He stated that, as a member of the Jewish faith, it was heart-breaking to see atrocities happening in the name of Jewish people and that Jews have a duty, as survivors of genocide, to ensure that it does not happen to anyone else. He also spoke out against the University’s actions.

“They have many times said that they are doing this to protect Jewish students on campus, I came here today to tell you all and the University that we do not want this,” he stated.

The next speaker was another student from the University who did not prepare a speech. She said Israel is destroying Palestinian culture and that we are failing to acknowledge that culture because all everyone sees is Palestinian suffering.

Another chant broke out: “Hey hey, ho ho, Zionism has got to go.”

The sixth speaker at the protest was alumnus Elvis Vasquez ‘23. He talked about how attending the protest meant that you care about the liberation of Palestine and all oppressed peoples. He said the UR administration doesn’t understand that the systems that justify Islamophobia and antisemitism are the same.

He additionally encouraged protesting on campus by listing instances in which protests were successful, like when students prevented the arming of Public Safety officers on the River Campus.

“Those that come after you will uphold your legacy,” he said. “Don’t lose faith because the younger one[s] are watching you organize, while those that came before you are looking at you with pride.”

“1, 2, 3, 4 — Occupation

no more,” the crowd chanted.

At this point, the protest moved in an orderly fashion from outside Wilson Commons to Wallis Hall. The crowd shouted the whole way there, and some passing cars honked in support.

‘He talked about how attending the protest meant that you care about the liberation of Palestine and all oppressed peoples.’

“5, 6, 7, 8 — Israel is a terrorist state,” they yelled.

At Wallis, the moderator and a few students holding a large Palestinian flag stood in front of the building. All other protesters were instructed to stand on the grass behind the sidewalk, as that is city property, not University property.

The final speaker of the protest was the moderator, who shared a story about his cousin Tofiq, a 17-year-old American who he said was killed in Palestine by Israeli snipers for throwing stones. The moderator explained that every day they protest, innocent lives are becoming statistics.

Students and their family members are directly impacted by what is happening, he said, and the University needs to take a stand. He stated that calling for a ceasefire will not change the situation in Palestine, but it would put the University on the right side of history.

“Does your job mean more than our lives?” he asked.

O’Connor is a member of the Class of 2024.

McCurdy is a member of the Class of 2025.



JUSTINO’CONNOR / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Vigil Mourning Israeli, Palestinian Deaths Prompts Reflection

BY KATHY MITCHELL
FEATURES EDITOR

Rows of candles lined Hirst Lounge Dec. 10 as students and faculty gathered for a vigil and watched junior Moez Boussarsar deliver his original piece on the coexistence of Jewish individuals and Muslims in Tunisia — the community he grew up in.

The vigil, organized by sophomores Alana Eisenberg and Mucteba Gokcek and advised by Political Science professor Gerald Gamm, brought members of the UR community together to establish peace and mourn the deaths of civilians in the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

“It was hopefully a place where all students could share a common interest in ending violence, regardless of their viewpoint or where they stand,” Eisenberg said.

The vigil featured student speakers who recited various passages written by individuals of Israeli, Jewish, Arab, or Palestinian backgrounds. Audience members followed

along with pamphlets, which included all of the excerpts.

While the vigil pamphlet primarily included contributions from already-written passages, Boussarsar said he believed no existing piece would add as much value as an excerpt he could write himself. His original work, titled “The More I Grow, the More I Know,” reflects on his upbringing and experiences as a Muslim student in Tunisia who grew up near a small Jewish community.

99% of Tunisia is Muslim, and the other 1% is mostly Jewish with a mix of other religions, Boussarsar said. Jewish individuals thus comprise the second largest religious community in Tunisia, with the majority living on an island called Djerba. There are three or four Jewish neighborhoods on the island.

Boussarsar added that if Tunisian individuals do not take the time to visit the island where the Jewish community lives, they will likely not have many opportunities to learn about the community. He was able to consistently travel growing up,

and visited the island multiple times. Boussarsar said he enjoyed his encounters in Djerba because Tunisia is noticeably homogenous, so the island was an unfamiliar, eye-opening experience.

“There are many individuals from the Jewish community that had a lot of influence on Tunisian culture, specifically the food and the art. People don’t know about this community — even people from Tunisia,” Boussarsar said. “I wrote about how some Tunisians might not feel that they owe anything to the Jewish community, but they should. In the same way, the Jewish community owes to the people around them setting the ground for all communities to coexist.”

Boussarsar concluded his piece addressing the Jewish community in Tunisia as follows: “I feel ashamed when I hear my own speaking bad of you. And for that, I will stand with you, present or absent.”

The excerpt speaks to the ultimate goal of the vigil — to create a space for coexistence

and togetherness in the midst of a whirlpool of conflicting viewpoints, thoughts, and sentiments.

Boussarsar said he usually prefers to partake in other types of demonstrations on campus, like protests. Although he believes that protests tend to be more radical in nature and do not always make room for individuals with less extreme or polarized viewpoints, he still believes that “Historically these demonstrations are what change things.”

He went on to say, “My father used to always tell me that in this society, there are always 20% of people who are convinced of a certain concept or topic, 20% who are convinced against that topic, and then the 60% in the middle.”

In order to reach the “60%” in the middle, Boussarsar said it is important to organize events like the vigil. “The goal is to be neutral and for the event to be accessible — not accessible in terms of place or time, accessible in that people don’t feel like they are supporting one side

or the other by attending said event,” he added.

According to Eisenberg and Gokcek, both organizers were very pleased by the turnout of the vigil, with over 250 people in attendance.

“I’m really glad that people in the UR community were able to get behind this idea of peace and coming together,” said Gokcek. “We appreciated that people took the time out of their days to stand with each other and stand next to each other during such a critical time.”

Gokcek added that the vigil was only one event to hopefully begin a cascade of additional events this spring.

“A lot of off-campus organizations reached out to us saying that they wanted to fund our future programs,” she said. “They want to help us bring in more speakers to the university to help spread more ideas of peace.”

Mitchell is a member of the class of 2026.

SA Leadership Starts Meetings With PubSafe

BY MADELEINE MCCURDY
STAFF WRITER

Communication between the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and student leaders is set to become more frequent this semester.

Students’ Association President Daniel Pyskaty and Vice President Elijah Bader-Gregory kicked off new bi-weekly meetings with DPS Interim Deputy Chief Michael Epping and Assistant Director Dana Perrin on Jan. 31. In the coming weeks, Pyskaty said he and Bader-Gregory plan on convening more student representatives and Wilson Commons Student Activities (WCSA) staff to meet with DPS as well, with the overall goal being to set up round tables with different student leaders and groups about public safety and protest policies.

The move comes as the UR administration has shifted on-campus protest policies in response to the numerous pro-Palestine rallies held since Oct. 7.

‘The move comes as the UR administration has shifted on-campus protest policies.’

An update sent Nov. 17, 2023 reaffirmed their implementation of “time, place, and manner” restrictions and introduced a three-day notice requirement for on-campus gatherings. The changes preceded a Dec. 11, 2023 gathering in Hirst Lounge the University deemed “un-sanctioned,” as they put it in a statement, resulting in a

BY JUSTIN O’CONNOR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

large public safety response and the arrest of senior Nadia Tolosa.

Aside from Pyskaty and Bader-Gregory’s new meetings, the only formal channel between DPS and the student body is the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). An outgrowth of the old Public Safety Review Board, PSAC was established in 2023 as part of the University’s Campus Safety Five Point Plan, according to its website.

PSAC is supposed to be made up of 16 members: three student members, four faculty members, five staff members, and four committee administration members. Pyskaty is one of the three student members and the only River Campus student on the committee.

Pyskaty said PSAC meets on an as-needed timeline. They last convened in December 2023, and none of their meeting minutes are available on their website.

The Campus Times reached out to Epping and Perrin for an interview about the prospective meetings. In an email, Perrin said they “look forward to continuing conversations with SA leadership both current and future.”

McCurdy is a member of the class of 2025.

O’Connor is a member of the class of 2024.

Key Takeaways From SA’s Mid-Year Report

BY MADELEINE MCCURDY
STAFF WRITER

It’s that time of year — the snow is letting up, Valentine’s Day is right around the corner, and, of course, SA’s Mid-Year Report just dropped.

The 18-page report includes SA’s self-stated achievements from last semester, along with their goals for the spring semester. Here are some key takeaways, with a focus on accomplishments with tangible implications for students.

Executive Branch

Most of SA’s successes last semester were concentrated in the executive branch, which is led by junior SA President Daniel Pyskaty and sophomore Vice President Elijah-Bader Gregory.

One main achievement was a temporary solution to the loss of Dining Plan Option D due to federal law changes, which forced many onto the pricier Option C plan that offered too much declining for some. The executive branch helped make an interim plan to right-size Option C, but Pyskaty told the Campus Times they are meeting with administrators about a longer-term solution.

Stemming from changes in the administration’s enforcement of time, place, and manner restrictions on on-campus protests amid pro-Palestinian demonstrations, another in-progress executive branch project is the call “for a full review and restructuring of our protest policy,” the report states. SA leadership now meets bi-weekly with the Department of Public Safety (DPS), and they are setting up student roundtables to meet with DPS.

Another key accomplishment came after student pushback against Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s Meliora Weekend speaker invitation due to her past comments about transgender people. SA leadership brought students, SA leaders, and administrators together in roundtables to discuss inclusivity

BY PAIGE MCCURDY
STAFF WRITER

action items like increasing staffing to support LGBTQ+ students, expanding space for LGBTQ+ programming and resources, and changes to the Policy Against Discrimination and Harassment “to better protect LGBTQ+ students,” the report reads.

The final key executive achievement came from the junior Jason Lin, secretary of alumni and advancement, whose team helped create two Meliora Collective groups — one for international students and another for SA and Class Council members.

Campus Life Committee, Legislative Branch

Most legislative branch wins came from the SA Senate’s Campus Life Committee.

Legislative Advisor Aaron Weiner ‘24 (E5) and Bader-Gregory worked with UR’s Department of Transportation and Logistics to add a Green Line stop by the residential quad and a Gold Line stop at the Mount Hope Family Center.

According to the report, Campus Life was also in dialogue with mail services about the impacts of student mailboxes being taken away. Students without physical CMC boxes currently get email notifications to pick up their letter mail, and a specific window was opened for letter pickups. Both came after Campus Life requests.

Campus Life also coordinated last semester’s Thanksgiving shuttles,

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee, Legislative Branch

SA Senate’s DEI Committee is collaborating with the Biology Department on DEI training for TAs, and they are continuing work from senior Adrija Bhattacharjee SA presidential administration to establish race-related faculty training.

The DEI Committee is also continuing work on an LGBTQ+

BY JUSTIN O’CONNOR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

resource package for first-year students.

Academic Affairs Committee, Legislative Branch

Last semester, SA Senate’s Academic Affairs Committee started working with the registrar and dean of the college to make Latin honors in line with peer institutions.

They are also making a list of courses that may be included in a public policy major.

International Student Affairs (ISAC) Committee, Legislative Branch

ISAC is creating a resource document for international students on commonly-queried topics like taxes, immigration, and academics.

Administration and Review Committee, Legislative Branch

SA Senate’s ARC, with the Student Organization Review Board, approved 13 new student organizations and derecognized eight.

Intercommittee Work, Legislative Branch

Several SA senators and legislative advisors are working with Residential Life to form an Accessibility Committee, which is beginning this semester.

Judicial Branch

The All-Campus Judicial Council, aside from carrying out their normal academic honesty case duties, conducted their “Know UR Rights” campaign, which featured programming to inform students about their Student Code of Conduct rights and will continue this semester.

McCurdy and McCurdy are members of the class of 2025.

O’Connor is a member of the class of 2024.

Ultra-Popular Mock Trial Timekeeper App Was Made by UR Student

BY ALLIE TAY
MANAGING EDITOR

Teams, rejoice. The mock trial world has a new handy app: Mock Trial Timekeeper is available on all iPhones. No more fumbling with handheld timers and tedious calculation during trials.

The face behind the “Mock Trial Timekeeper” app — and now niche mock trial micro-celebrity — is junior Matan Kotler-Berkowitz. A major in Computer Science and Political Science, the one-man team developed the app for pure convenience’s sake, not anticipating to help thousands of “mockers” in the process.

Mock trial is a competitive high school and intercollegiate extracurricular that blends elements of theatre and simulations of real-court trials. Every event is timed, from cross-examinations to opening and closing statements given by each team. Typically, each opposing team has a timekeeper responsible for manning the stopwatches, alerting fellow members about how much time is left for their segment, and keeping the other team accountable.

‘The Mock Trial timekeeper allows users to man a console of multiple clocks [...] as well as custom-edit times after they’ve been logged to correct for discrepancies between teams.’

Timekeeping is made complicated by the fact that the order of events, such as presenting evidence, alternate between plaintiff and defendant and can be interrupted by objections. The Mock Trial Timekeeper allows users to man a console of multiple clocks with an interface tailored specifically for collegiate mock, as well as custom-edit times after they’ve been logged to correct for discrepancies between teams.

The idea was born over summer 2023. Reading over the board minutes of the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA), Kotler-Berkowitz learned of a proposal that would permit the usage of cell phones during the trial for timekeepers. After emailing them on Sep. 7 with an initial description of his app, he got a green light from the AMTA chair, as long as the app would operate on airplane mode. On Sep. 15, the AMTA officially updated its rulebook to officially permit phones during trials.

Since its first download on Oct. 10, the Mock Trial Timekeeper has made Kotler-Berkowitz “very famous in a very, very niche community.” He doesn’t promote the app or monetize it;

its popularity spreads primarily through word-of-mouth, he says. Since the season’s start at scrimmages and tournaments, teams’ timekeepers have been using the app — and on the analytics end, there’s a boost of roughly another hundred downloads every weekend when tournaments are held. Currently, the app has over 1,800 downloads.

Amid success, Kotler-Berkowitz himself, though, remains humble.

“The only reason that I think it’s so popular is because it was literally impossible to be made before I made it, because the rules forbade it,” he said. It was just “the combination of the right idea at the right time.”

After he made an initial post on the Mock Trial Confessions Facebook page — a gossip hub for all things mock across the country — announcing the app’s release, a request directed to the “Mock Trial Timekeeper guy” alerted him to the fact that the app did not work on certain older iPhone models. After troubleshooting, Kotler-Berkowitz realized the issue: On older iPhone models, when the battery saver is on, the timer clicks down slower. One second on newer iPhone models would be counted as 0.9 seconds on older models, causing a discrepancy between clocks. The issue has since been resolved.

Having the app go out to real people and be used in real competitions is both thrilling but daunting, and feedback from social media keeps Kotler-Berkowitz on his toes. Over the winter break, he developed a dark mode for the app and is working on migrating it to Android to accommodate more users.

‘Since its first download on Oct. 10, the Mock Trial Timekeeper has made Kotler-Berkowitz “very famous in a very, very niche community.”’

In the meantime, at home base, Kotler-Berkowitz is Vice President of the University’s mock team and also a sub-team captain, responsible for giving feedback, assigning roles, and running the weekly practices. He’s a “jack of all trades,” he says. His impact in the “Moffice,” or mock trial office, while not defined by numbers and downloads, is immeasurable.

When asked about the future direction of the app and whether it’s a project he sees himself developing further, Kotler-Berkowitz laughs.

“Probably not,” he says. “Just because it’s kind of done.”

Tay is a member of the Class of 2025.

Pagan Students’ Association: A Space for Pagan Religious Exploration

BY PAIGE MCCURDY
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever wanted to practice witchcraft? Learn how to write sigils to manifest a goal? Worship different pantheons? Look no further than the Pagan Students’ Association — the University’s newest faith community on campus.

The Pagan Students’ Association became an official organization in fall 2023. The group is a community for students who practice all different paths of Paganism or those looking to explore.

Sophomore Michael Mahnken is the group’s President and a Roman Pagan who worships the Roman pantheon. He says the club wants to create an environment where students of any path of Paganism can practice and find their community.

‘The group is a community for students who practice all different paths of Paganism or those looking to explore.’

“It is really an umbrella for people who practice in a more religious fashion, practice in a more spiritual practice, or people who are just looking,” Mahnken said.

“At its core, we, as a spiritual practice, are decentralized,” Associate Director for Residential Life Sean Watson, serving as Pagan chaplain, added. “There is no church of Pagan.”

UR is one of the few universities in the country that has a Pagan chaplain. Watson has been a practicing pagan for 20 years and is an eclectic Pagan, which is a blend of different types of Paganism and other religious be-

liefs or philosophies. He became the chaplain in Dec. 2023 and brings years of experience to the group. “It is invaluable to have Sean as our chaplain,” Mahnken said.

‘[Mahnken] says the club wants to create an environment where students of any path of Paganism can practice and find their community.’

Watson acts as a spiritual leader — he provides knowledge and experience to the rituals and helps guide the growing group.

‘UR is one of the few universities in the country that has a Pagan chaplain.’

On Saturday, Feb. 3, the group celebrated Imbolc with a ritual honoring the turning of the wheel of time and the beginning of spring. On this beautiful, bright day, candles were lit in the Sanctuary of the Interfaith Chapel. The sun shone through the stained glass walls and cast vivid colors as Watson called out to and welcomed the “elements” and “divine” to their circle. The group welcomed the return of the light and took time to self-reflect on their futures and goals.

Watson ran the Imbolc ritual, using his personal items to create the altar. Throughout the ritual, which featured spiritual music and dim lighting, Watson not only led but educated those who attended.

“The beauty of paganism and ritual within the Pagan perspective is that it is so down to the group,” Watson said. Many

students have different experience levels with Paganism and different levels of knowledge about rituals and practices. Both Mahnken and Watson do their best to educate and allow for individualized experience. “What can I do to help you celebrate your spirituality in a community?” Mahnken asked.

‘On Feb. 3, the group celebrated Imbolc with a ritual honoring the turning of the wheel of time and the beginning of spring.’

“For me, one of the core beauties is how inherently interfaith it is,” Mahnken remarked.

The group struggles with public misunderstandings about Paganism.

“For me, one of the core beauties is how inherently interfaith it is,” Mahnken remarked.’

“There is a lot of stigma, whether it is because those people came from religiously observant homes in other traditions or whether it is because those people’s families have fallen into stereotypes of Paganism being ‘devil worship’ or ‘satanism,’” Mahnken explained.

The Pagan Students’ Association is only just getting started. “We are hoping to interact with RIT Pagans a lot more, and if any local Pagan communities wanted to work with us, we would be eager to do so,” Mahnken said.

McCurdy is a member of the Class of 2025.



CHARLIEU/PHOTO EDITOR

OPINIONS

EDITORIAL OBSERVER

Spill the T(ay)! : The Last Puzzle Piece

BY ALLIE TAY
MANAGING EDITOR

I've moved five times in my life. The first two places were in Illinois, where I was born and where the tap water tasted like dirt, according to my parents. The other four places were all around the same small patch of Central Jersey — "Yosko" was where I rode tricycles up and down the little winding pavement to the apartment door; "Homestead" was where I learned to ride a bike with two, then one, training wheel; "Central" was where the training wheels came off; and "Center" was where I could finally say "I'm biking home."

The number of years grew and the number of wheels I rode on fell. Vague, blurry memories of the brown-brick apartment complex the afternoon bus used to drop my first best friend off at before I moved away — I don't know if I even said goodbye. Then I shifted into a new school district: 25 new faces. 25 new personalities. 25 new possibilities. On screens, I watched kids with pigtails and toothy grins run across the street and take turns pushing each other on swings; in paperbacks, I read about best friends who whispered secrets in the back of the bus, girls who fell in love with the boy next door.

'I don't know if I even said goodbye.'

As I grew up and moved away, the fictional and real worlds I tended to held a stark contrast — there were no more bus-best-friends, no boy next door. An infinite gorge of detachment, no matter how hard I tried to bridge it, tied to the fact that because I had gotten there after everyone else, I did not get there first. I was never there first. Because when you're younger, being first is everything: being first means you get to decide the dynamics of your situation, tactically finetune the knobs of social circles. Being first gives you first pick. Being first gives you power, power that I did not and could not seem to grasp.

And so I became an ever-evolving puzzle piece, the last one you put in to complete the picture — no matter if it's a 200, 500, or 1000-piece puzzle. Like the piece with the frayed knob with the corner of Tinker Bell's foot, or the edge of the Christmas sled peeled

off to leave only the brown paper backing. I became a shape-shifter. A mold, a malleable thing that was able to fit not all, but many, open niches. Some people would say hardy and adaptable; I would say survival of the fittest. You learn what people like and what they don't. You learn when to speak out and when to shut up. You learn how people treat you when they want something, how they discard you when you're no longer useful.

'I became an ever-evolving puzzle piece, the last one you put in to complete the picture.'

There was a time in the fifth grade when we wrote plays and poetry and stood up in front of the class reading our work — a classmate of mine wrote about the things other people said about her and how she'd try to fix them. Someone didn't like the way I smiled, she said. Someone didn't like my laugh. Someone said that the things I said were too boring. My eyes watered — I stared in a sort of paralysis. But it went on: Smile nicer, the corners of her lips higher, she'd practice. Laugh at a different pitch. Think of more interesting things to say. Like the pre-stamped tear lines in the spiral-bound notebooks my poem was written on, I felt my heart rip along seams I didn't know existed. Then, after she received some sympathetic "sorry's" and an "aww, I didn't know you felt that way" from the class, she shakily sat back down and I went up, rattling off some lines I'd written about wanting a cat. At that time, I didn't know I was allergic. At that time, she didn't know how much her words would still resonate with me to this day.

'Some people would say hardy and adaptable; I would say survival of the fittest.'

It's difficult to be the last puzzle piece — to be the one who has to make things fit and make sense while the rest of the picture is already established, already complete. I feel hollow when I think about that day in English, because the assignment was meant to be a Fun poem, a Dumb poem, an Unimportant



SUNAHRA TANVIR / PUBLISHER

poem, and her words still plague me even behind the carefully constructed smile she wore while reading it aloud. It takes immense courage to stand up in front of people you know, people who have changed you, and tell them that you are hurt, that they've hurt you, and have those same people tell you that they're sorry it has to be this way. But what if she had never gathered the courage to write that poem? What if I had been absent that day?

Moving has changed me — with each person I learned to stop relying on, with each wheel I graduated from. I feel grateful, because that poem verbalized the feelings I didn't have words for at 10 years old. Once I could give language to these feelings, I learned to walk the tightrope; I learned to play the game. I learned not to

be immature and naive.

'Moving has changed me — with each person I learned to stop relying on, with each wheel I graduated from.'

But there's a fleeting beauty in adaptability, in realizing that just because you can adapt doesn't mean you have to, in the temporariness and whirlwind serendipity of it all. The people you laugh with, laugh at, or lock even the briefest second of eye contact with, are people — real people with real stories. They are people whose stories live not in their eyes where you can see but in the crumpled up verse they don't dare to share with anyone else; in the hysterical midnight phone calls to their long-distance

confidant; in the pain that is concealed under draped and rehearsed smiles, behind the facades and fronts.

'There's a fleeting beauty in adaptability.'

Moving places, moving amongst people, has changed me. To be vulnerable with strangers, to protect myself from the friends they become. To trust wholeheartedly, or not at all. To love, and to unlove. How you fill in the gaps, or choose not to — matters.

Tay is a member of the Class of 2025.

Campus Times

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SINCE 1873

WILSON COMMONS 103A
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, ROCHESTER, NY 14627
OFFICE: (585) 275-5942
CAMPUSTIMES.ORG / CT_EDITOR@U.ROCHESTER.EDU

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF JUSTIN O'CONNOR PUBLISHER SUNAHRA TANVIR
MANAGING EDITOR ALLIE TAY MANAGING EDITOR MAHNOOR RAZA MANAGING EDITOR HENRY LITSKY

NEWS EDITORS ELENA BACHMANN
MAYA BROSNICK
FEATURE EDITORS KATHERINE MITCHELL
EMMELY ELI TEXCUCANO
OPINION EDITORS HELENA FENG
SHERENE YANG
CULTURE EDITORS ALEX HOLLY
EMILY ENGLISH
PRESENTATIONS CHIEFS KAYLIN HAN
SARAH WOODAMS
COPY CHIEF MADDIE GREENE
SPORTS EDITOR JOSEPH MALIK
HUMOR EDITOR BRYAN BURKE
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR ANGELICA REYFER

ILLUSTRATION EDITORS JOY LU
SUBAAH SYED
JIYO MIN
PHOTO EDITORS KEVIN HU
CHARLIE LU
STAFF WRITERS NATALIE OPDAHL
MARIAH LANSING
MADELEINE MCCURDY
PAIGE MCCURDY
BRENNAN PRICE
AENEAS WOLF
COLUMNISTS NADIA PENTOLINO
FINN ABBEY
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER HARRY LI

Full responsibility for material appearing in this publication rests with the Editor-in-Chief. Opinions expressed in columns, letters, op-eds, or comics are not necessarily the views of the editors or the University of Rochester. Campus Times is printed monthly throughout the academic year, except around and during University holidays. All issues are free. Campus Times is published online at www.campustimes.org, and is updated Monday each week. Campus Times is SA funded. All materials herein are copyright © 2024 by Campus Times.

It is our policy to correct all erroneous information as quickly as possible. If you believe you have a correction, please email CT_editor@u.rochester.edu.

Political Neutrality: Is It a Choice We Can Make?



JOYLU/ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

BY MARIA VARDANYAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In 2019, the majority of my classmates, including myself, had no interest in politics. Most of us had few political opinions and viewed anything political as the “dirty theater” of our government that did not require our engagement — not because of our young age, but rather because of the lack of necessity.

A year later, our conversations inside and outside our classrooms changed radically, becoming a lot more political. It might be puzzling to think of the reasons why such a shift in our views on neutrality and politics changed, but the answer is rather “simple” — war.

I’ve always known that I lived in a place where war could break out on any given day. It seemed to be a common understanding of all of my peers. This time, however, for the first time in our lives, my generation saw a prolonged war, along with all of its repercussions just like our parents did in the 90s: We saw what it is like to lose your land, your home, and most importantly, your loved ones because of war.

One could say the events of 2020 — and everything that followed — politicized our generation, but I would like to suggest a slightly different perspective: 2020 forced us to understand that our daily lives are politicized to such an extent that prohibits neutrality. Neutrality is no longer an option; no matter how much all of us would love to pretend politics do not involve us, the same politics in question shape our daily lives and the lives of the people around us.

‘Neutrality is no longer an option.’

For many of us, staying neutral simply meant allowing the flow of politics to subsume our beliefs and hopes for the future.

We all have a similar idea

that political neutrality was not a choice we could make because the news we were reading on our phones was not something that we could ignore or pretend not to see. They were our loved ones who were not going to be alive after the war, and in that place, there was no option not to care.

People uphold their political neutrality not because they don’t have access to resources that would allow them to formulate any opinions, but rather because they have the privilege of not being directly affected by political turbulence. Most people will not stay neutral when the shots are aimed at their own houses. I am sure that when the political events that are merely news start to affect the large neutralist audience, none of them will stay neutral.

‘The next time you stay neutral when facing injustice and violence, think about who it benefits.’

In my view, it is impossible to be truly politically neutral because our inactions can, and do, have effects of the same magnitude as our actions. Our current reality is that our lives are politicized to such an extent that it is irresponsible to believe that staying neutral is harmless. Instead, neutrality itself is an action that benefits a certain group.

The next time you stay neutral when facing injustice and violence, think about who it benefits, and how the course of history would have been different if neutralists chose to speak out against what was happening around them.

Vardanyan is a member of the class of 2027.

BY FINN ABBEY
COLUMNIST

Editor’s Note: The digital version of this article (on campustimes.org) includes many hyperlinked sources.

Activists for Palestinian liberation have long accused Israel of genocide and ethnic cleansing. Of course, this is a deeply controversial claim to make — so controversial, in fact, that national media has centered the question more so around whether the accusation can be made, rather than if the accusation is true. To publications like *The Atlantic*, the crimes of the Gaza war would seem to be occurring at American colleges rather than in the strip itself.

Columnists like the *New York Times’* Bret Stephens have characterized the charge of genocide as “a moral obscenity” and stated that “the discussion has turned to genocide [...] because it’s the behavior of the Jewish state that’s in question.” This is the standard defense of Israel’s actions in this conflict: Charging its government with genocide is antisemitic. In fact, it is often antisemitic to even acknowledge the pleas of Palestinians for the bomb-

‘Israeli officials cannot stop saying how much they want to ethnically cleanse Palestinians.’

ing of their homes to cease.

There is one critical problem with this argument: Israeli officials cannot stop saying how much they want to ethnically cleanse Palestinians. It is an inconvenient fact for liberal defenders of Israel that its government is dominated by right-wing parties. Of the 120 seats in Israel’s unicameral Parliament, the Knesset, only 44 seats are held by parties that can (charitably) be called liberal or left, while the rest are held by parties that range from right-wing, to far-right, to far-right (settler interests), to religiously far-right, to religiously far-right (but different). Of the liberal/left parties, only 10 seats belong to those with a specific commitment to Israeli-Arab rights, despite that group making up over 20% of the population (although hundreds of thousands are not afforded voting rights).

As a result, Israel’s governing coalition is a patchwork of right-wing parties whose reactionary leaders hold powerful ministerial positions. Take, for example, coalition partner Otzma Yehudit (literally “Jewish Power”), an extreme far-right party descended from Kach — a banned political party designated a terrorist group by Israel, the EU, and the US. Its leader is Itamar Ben-Gvir, the current minister of

Listen to Israelis

national security. Ben-Gvir is a follower of the terrorist Meir Kahane, a man who advocated, among other things, the enslavement of Arabs. Ben-Gvir also hung in his living room a portrait of Baruch Goldstein, the terrorist and Kach member who massacred 29 Muslim worshippers at a mosque in 1994, removing it only in 2020 when other right-wingers said it was a bad look. A leader among settlers, he once said, “My right, the right of my wife and my children to move around Judea and Samaria [a religiously charged term for the West Bank] is more important than freedom of movement for the Arabs.” This is not a fringe backbencher MK advocating for these genocidal positions; this is the sitting Minister of National Security. Imagine U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin explicitly saying that he believed an ethnic group should be discriminated against.

You can also look at Minister of Finance Bezalel Smotrich, the leader of “National-Religious Party—Religious Zionism,” who once was detained by Shin Bet (Israel’s FBI) for his involvement in a 2005 plot to blow up part of a highway being used to move Jewish settlers from the Gaza strip. He advocates annexing all Palestinian land and forcing the population to either leave or to live as permanent second-class citizens in Israel. He once called for a Palestinian city, already victimized by settler violence, to be razed, saying “I think that Huwara needs to be erased.”

In the center of all this is Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the leader of Likud, and a man indicted on bribery, corruption, and fraud. Throughout his career as the longest-serving PM in Israel’s history, he has worked tirelessly and proudly to expand settlements and to prevent the creation of the Palestinian state, going so far as funding Hamas for decades to hamper the possibility of a Palestinian state. Others in his administration agreed, with Smotrich characterizing Hamas as “an asset.” He recently bragged about his work thwarting Palestinian self-determination, saying, “Everyone understands what would have happened if we had capitulated to international pressures and enabled a state like that in Judaea and Samaria.” Netanyahu’s leadership has shown a clear disdain for peaceful solutions to the conflict, overseeing numerous bombing campaigns against Palestinians, including 2014’s Operation Protective Edge (in collaboration with Benny Gantz, alleged liberal and political frenemy), during which Israel killed thousands of Palestinians, the majority of them civilians.

It is hard to argue that Israel is a rule-abiding member of the international community when, in the immediate aftermath of an International Court of Justice ruling that Israel must suppress and punish genocidal language, 11 cabinet members and 15 coalition members attended a conference that advocated the “voluntary migration” of Palestinians. Many participants carried guns, and shirts were sold bearing the slogan “Gaza is part of the land of Israel.” You don’t have to be a student of history to understand what the far-right intends when it’s arming paramilitaries, claiming lands where ethnic “others” reside, and calling for a policy of “voluntary migration.”

The Israeli government and its leaders have demonstrated time and time again that they have no intention of working towards any amount of Palestinian sovereignty, no care for Palestinian lives, no real concern for international laws against settlements, and that a genocidal hatred towards Arabs does not disqualify attainment of high-level governmental positions. Although Netanyahu is a deeply unpopular figure for his failure to prevent the violence of Oct. 7, his party and its coalition members hold a clear majority in Israeli politics, and radical action against Palestinians, such as calling for them to be starved,

‘The uncomfortable truth is that the people making these statements hold state power, and wield it with intent to kill.’

is widespread.

Many attempts have been made to satisfy American public concern by hand-waving away the horrifying rhetoric of the current Israeli administration. The uncomfortable truth is that the people making these statements hold state power, and wield it with intent to kill. The United States is damaging its global standing by bankrolling and diplomatically supporting this far-right regime that defies international law and openly discusses its plans for continued expansion.

In a conflict where disagreements run to the core of peoples’ beings, it’s unusual to find shared beliefs between Israeli officials and Palestinians. However, here we might be able to identify one: Palestinians say Israeli officials want to violently expel them from their homes and take their land. Israeli officials agree.

Abbey is a member of the class of 2025.

Cultural Identities Are a Balancing Act



SUBAAHSYED/ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

BY EVA NAIK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Editor's Note: The digital version of this article (on campustimes.org) includes many hyperlinked sources.

Who we are as people is influenced by everything around us, including people, events, culture, norms, and society. When I think about my own culture, I think of my ethnic roots along with the environments of my upbringing such as exposure to social groups, religion, and even language.

When it comes to what shaped me into who I am

today, one of the first things that comes to mind are my experiences as a child of immigrant parents. I grew up in a small town in New England, and my family was one of just a handful of people of color in the area.

Generally speaking, Western cultures are more individualistic when compared to other cultures worldwide. I remember feeling overwhelmed by trying to balance my South Asian culture and the white-dominant Western culture of my hometown. Between speaking Hindi at home and English everywhere

else, as well as some of my other traits — such as the way I look, the foods I ate or didn't eat — that seemed to stick out like a sore thumb in comparison to my peers; I felt simultaneously out of place with my peers in the US and disconnected from my family back in India. I said some words differently than my peers in the US because I grew up pronouncing things in British English — the type of English my parents learned before immigrating. I ate Indian food at meals, something my American peers did not do.

In some ways, being different made me a target. I never felt fully Indian but I didn't ever feel truly American either, leaving me suspended in a weird balancing act.

This struggle is usually brushed aside. Cultural norms and holidays such as Halloween or Christmas are great at uniting people. But, for people who don't have any connection to these norms, there is no unifying feeling.

'For people who don't have any connection to these norms, there is no unifying feeling.'

Recurring cultural disconnect can lead to feeling like

they aren't enough, or that they truly have no place within a culture. Studies show that instances of relocation into a completely new culture "diminished a sense of connectedness," caused changes in behavioral patterns as well as shifts in values and priorities. It is no surprise that feelings of isolation and removal can strongly impact both mental and physical health. However, there is a fine line between having a sense of belonging to a culture while expanding horizons and being so far removed from your culture that feelings of isolation begin to emerge.

It is so incredibly important to feel a sense of community. Feelings of connectedness and belonging, whether that be to a social or ethnocultural group, are associated with increased regulation of negative emotions, leading to fewer symptoms of anxiety and depression.

I used to hate feeling like I did not belong to a certain culture, and sometimes I still find myself dwelling on what it would be like if I was just a little more Indian, or just a bit more American. With time, patience, effort, and a little bit of luck, I have been able to find my communities: people who make me feel welcome and safe to be who I truly am, but also who constantly

expose me to something different than what I am used to.

Like many people who are surrounded by unfamiliar cultures, there is bound to be a mix of connect and disconnect, like a tug-of-war. This sort of disconnect is uncomfortable, like being behind a glass wall, being able to see in but not being able to truly grasp what is going on.

But along with that disconnect, I also usually end up learning something new. Whether that is a custom of a culture similar to mine or values that a community holds that don't resonate with me, I'd like to think that I walk out of every uncomfortable situation having learned something. Although a constant feeling of connectedness is comfortable, it is always important to remember that if you exist in an echo chamber of your own ideas, there is never any room for growth.

Naik is a member of the Class of 2026.

Making Long-Distance Friendships Work: A Formula

BY SHERENE YANG
OPINIONS EDITOR

If you have read any articles about making long-distance relationships work, nearly all of them say something along the lines of "communicate with the other person!" But what does communication look like? How do we know that the other person wants to continue communicating with us? Why do some of us naturally drift apart even after our numerous attempts to communicate with each other?

Undoubtedly, you and I both have people that we talked to daily in high school who we perhaps only talk to once or twice a year now, wishing each other happy birthday or "happy new year." Maybe there was a person with whom you walked to classes and are now barely in contact — I know I certainly do. It's natural. Forced proximity is a great force that initiates and often maintains friendships, and without it we have time to breathe and think about whether or not we truly want to continue them.

Okay, if we know for certain that we want to keep in contact with a friend, how do we make sure that happens? There's always this

fear that your best friend will find their own friend groups in college and slowly start to forget about you. I get that. Even with a majority of my friends going to school near UR, the same thing still applies; because we aren't together every day like we used to be, it forms an emotional distance. While I understand the fear, we must remember that we most likely also have this new friend group in college that we interact with daily, and your best friend might be feeling the same way. The hard thing to understand here is that if the friendship is something you both cherish and want to continue, the effort to stay in touch would be equal in magnitude.

Communication comes in two major forms: active and passive. Active communication refers to physical interactions between people where thoughts are shared in real time; passive communication is the exchange of thoughts over another medium, like texting or emailing. To make long-distance relationships work, we need both types of communication consistently, not just when it is convenient for one or the other.

In every miscommunication trope I've read in books

that apply well to experience I've had in real life, there is one common thought I found the protagonist to have: When the other party doesn't seem like they're putting in as much effort as you, it feels like they don't care. Because of that, you start to put in less effort because they aren't putting in as much effort. It's a common cycle that we fall into. But this is the time that communication becomes a necessity. Because we no longer know what is going on in the other person's daily life, it's harder for us to judge their schedule and what they're thinking. We must understand that we are all busy people; but those who want it to work will make an effort to keep in touch despite their busy schedules, whether that's sending and replying to reels throughout the day or spontaneous video calls in the middle of the night.

'But this is the time that communication becomes a necessity.'

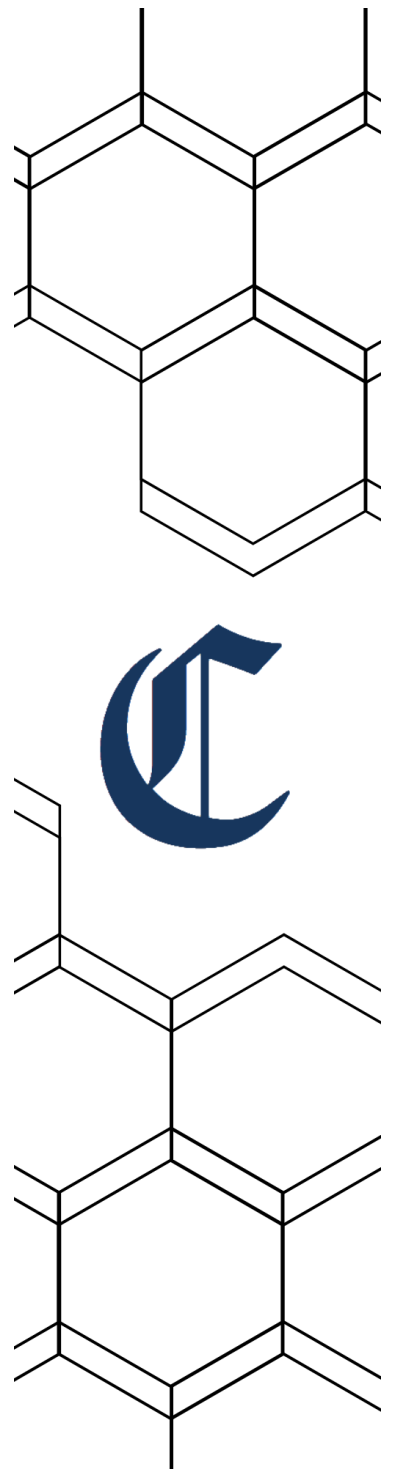
To stay up to date with one another, my friend group created a weekly newsletter system where we answer questions independently on a questionnaire. Then, as

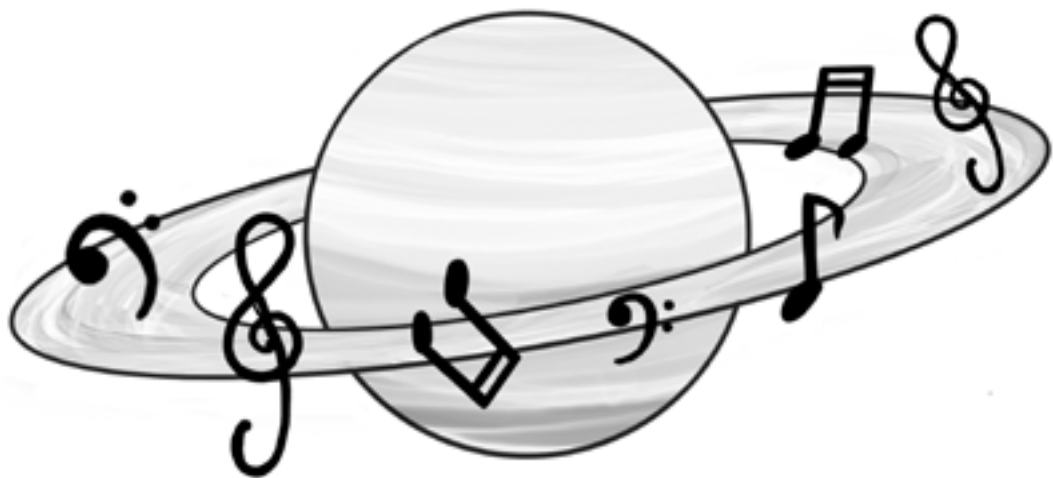
the person who creates the emails, I send everyone's responses out every Sunday, which is also when we would react to people's weeks in our group chat. In this case, we have slotted a designated time to talk about our week.

After being away from my home friends for a whole semester, being able to gather for a couple of hours over break is so much more precious. What I've come to realize is that adult friendships look different. We might go weeks without seeing a friend but still might fall into the same routine effortlessly when we finally do.

In the end, I don't think there is anything magical that makes some friendships work but not others. Some friendships come naturally, while others require more effort, and there is nothing wrong with that. Communication enforces friendships but it can't force friendships to work. So don't be afraid to bombard your best friend with TikToks that keep them up at night, and always find time over break to goof around!

Yang is a member of the Class of 2026.





PLANETS FROM PAGE 1

As explained by Bay during the pre-concert discussion, Holst found inspiration for his suite from a topic that has twisted and captivated the human mind for centuries — astrology. Whether or not you subscribe to a daily horoscope, it cannot be argued how deeply our perception of the planets has shaped our aesthetics and culture — and Holst takes full creative liberty with this notion.

The performance began with DeBussy's "Three Nocturnes" — an ethereal trio akin to "The Planets" through its entrance of a woman's chorus (Rochester's Concertus Chorus) in the final movement. Coupling with its vivid imagery — described during the pre-concert talk as that of water and shades of gray — Bay selected the piece with utmost intent. The movement begins softly, building into melodies that sweep across the orchestra and echo in each line. While "Clouds" blends a solemn tone with that of soothing eternality, "Festivals" follows with blooming joviality and brassy confidence. The suite closes with "Sirens," which features the chorus, with their alluring calls cascading over the ebb and flow of the orchestra itself.

'In a world so focused on the digital, it is often easy to forget the power of live performance.'

The main event of the evening, to no surprise, proved an excellent journey across the planets that we find so familiar, bringing each to life with persistence and passion. In a world so focused on the digital, it is often easy to forget the power of live performance, particularly that of orchestral music. Yet, the harmonic richness and energy that flowed throughout the hall again proved the power of this

art form and how entrancing collective sound can be. The musical performance was paired with NASA imagery of the planets themselves, smoothly meshing Holst's imaginative depictions with that of scientific innovation not possible at the time of its synthesis.

'While each movement proved spectacular, the highlights of the performance often aligned with moments of intensity.'

While each movement proved spectacular, the highlights of the performance often aligned with moments of intensity. Bay said his favorite sections to conduct were the beginning ("Mars, the Bringer of War") and end ("Neptune, the Mystic"), and the heavy dramatism of both makes for a spectacular playing and listening experience. "Mars" in particular, when paired with the flashing reds of the celestial body and depictions of rovers navigating the vast surface feels almost "Star Wars"-esque — minus all of the blasters. As John Williams found inspiration from Holst's suite for his compositions for the film, it is a fun tie-in that further links these cultural mainstays.

"Mercury, the Winged Messenger" moved with a mesmerizing quickness that showcased the orchestra's finesse, its lightness complimenting an almost holographic portrait of the planet that danced across the screen. Following shortly after, "Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity" was quick to live up to its name with a triumphant confidence. One of the most well-known movements of "The Planets" suite, "Jupiter's" melodies paraded into a climax of the piece and soared through a majestic glimpse of the gas giant's humongous heart.

The suite closes with "Neptune, the Mystic," a shimmering flutter of

luscious blue. The piece's magic is found both in its elegance and the artists who form it, once again featuring Rochester's Concertus Women's Chorus. The collective spins to an entrancing close which the chorus leads to the ends of the movement, dangling the piece over the edges of the galaxy. The audience, in turn, leaves with awe, intrigue, and a heavier resonance with the distant planets that we find so familiar.

'The piece's magic is found both in its elegance and the artists who form it.'

RPO's Centennial Season will continue until June, featuring Kodak Hall performances of "Rhapsody in Blue" and "Ode to Joy." Additional information, as well as tickets, can be found on their website.

Holly is a member of the class of 2026.

JIVOMIN / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

CT Eats: Golden Harvest Serves Goopy Cinnamon Rolls, Bulky Donuts for Cheap



SARAHWOODAMS / PRESENTATIONS CHIEF

BY SARAH WOODAMS
PRESENTATIONS CHIEF

On the fringes of national chain-dominated Henrietta strip malls lies a local gem — Golden Harvest Bakery and Cafe.

Despite my many trips into Henrietta, I'd never ventured far enough down Jefferson Road to see this bakery, and as someone who consumes far too many baked goods, I'm sad it took me this long to find it.

The shop relocated to Jefferson Road in June 2022, leaving their Scottsville location after nearly three years in business. Mennonite family-owned and ASL-friendly, the Golden Harvest staff craft donuts, soft pretzels, and many other baked goods from scratch, which they serve with locally-roasted coffee and specialty teas. In addition to all-day breakfast, they serve lunch items like soup, salads, and burgers.

In the same building lies a small store, selling a smorgasbord of food-related products — Amish Country popcorn, Chick-fil-A sauce, spray cheese, specialty pasta, canned pickles: What more could you ask for?

'What more could you ask for?'

I was initially drawn in by their hefty donuts, which the River Campus Libraries served at the Scare Fair in Oct. 2023. I finally headed over this past Friday for breakfast (at noon). Upon entering, you're greeted with a box of free jars, large \$1.50 buckets for sale (such a steal), and a menu featuring several breakfast sandwich offerings.

I was tempted to try a "Ham n Swiss Do'wich," which features a donut

as the sandwich's bread, but decided to save that for another visit. Instead, I ordered the largest cinnamon roll I've ever seen and a cinnamon-sugar donut (that I'd been thinking about for months) while watching employees roll out pretzel dough.

Their seating area, full of natural light, made a good spot to enjoy my fresh cinnamon roll, which was simply delicious. Warm, goopy, dense, cinnamon-y, and all devoured while listening to another patron discuss how she thought Trump cheating his way out of paying taxes didn't harm anyone besides the bank. Here's a life tip to make doing things by yourself more interesting: Eavesdrop instead of going on your phone.

'The donuts are the thickest I've ever seen.'

I saved the donut for later, heating it up in my microwave. It held up well. The donuts are the thickest I've ever seen, at approximately 1.5 inches, making the donut and the massive cinnamon roll well worth the \$3.50.

If you ever find yourself in Henrietta (not on a Sunday), I would highly recommend checking out this small spot to appease any pastry cravings. Your arteries won't be happy, but your metaphorical heart will be.

Woodams is a member of the class of 2024(T5).

Yayoi Kusama's Wonderful "Infinity Mirrored Room" is Open at the Memorial Art Gallery

BY MARIAH LANSING
STAFF WRITER

At the Memorial Art Gallery, step into an immersive art installation by Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama and experience the wonder of your reflection bouncing off of mirrored walls and floating orbs. The piece is called "Infinity Mirrored Room: Let's Survive Together" and is on display until May 5.

The temporary exhibition is on loan from the Art Gallery of Ontario, and during its stay, the MAG is featuring the women artists in their permanent collection through their Represent: Great Women Artists at the MAG exhibit.

Each guest is allotted one minute to explore the mirrored room, roughly the size of a dorm room here on campus, with one mirrored post in the middle (don't run into it). Reflective balls hang from the ceiling and sit on the floor, and the

effect is the trippy experience of seeing your reflection strewn across every surface in sight.

After the minute is up, the monitor at the exhibit opens the door and explains the time limit: Kusama herself found that after a minute, the human eye naturally begins to find flaws in the installation. We pick out the cracks in the mirror panes, the strings holding the mirrored orbs in the air, and the smudges from accidental fingerprints.

Kusama is a Japanese artist who was born in Matsumoto City in 1929. She experienced auditory and visual hallucinations, which compelled her to draw net-like and polka-dot patterns from a young age. Her art typically depicts obsessive repetition through the use of lighting and mirrors — shown very obviously in the Mirrored Room at the MAG.

She has created art prolifically, and her work has been on display in over 20 countries. In 2016, she received the prestigious Order of Culture Award from the Imperial Family of Japan, the first woman to receive such an award. Kusama now lives and works in Japan, home of the Yayoi Kusama Museum.

UR students can get into both the MAG and the Kusama exhibits for free with their student IDs. The exhibit is wheelchair accessible, but you cannot bring in coats, bags, or strollers — there is a cubby to store these items while experiencing the exhibit.

Lansing is a member of the Class of 2025.



MARIAHLANSING/STAFF WRITER

Accomplished Ethnomusicologist Dr. Kofi Agawu Lectures on African Art Music at Eastman



KEVINHU / PHOTO EDITOR

BY TALIA ZUCKER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Friday, I found myself speed-walking through the innards of the Eastman School of Music, a little lost, looking for a mysterious classroom called ESM 305. After asking two groups of people for directions, a brief elevator trip, scanning many gold placards on doors, and passing by the sound of a piano, I found it! I slid into a seat while a hum of conversation filled the room, but once the speaker made his way up to the lectern, a respectful silence ensued.

I was there to attend a presentation (which was part of the Spring 2024 Eastman Theory Colloquium series) called "African Art Music and the Challenge of Postcolonial Composition" compiled by

Dr. Kofi Agawu, an accomplished professor of music from the CUNY Graduate Center. Agawu is a voracious scholar who has published many articles and books since the mid-1990s. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1991.

'Agawu is a voracious scholar who has published many articles and books since the mid-1990s.'

Agawu's discussion was mostly focused on African Art Music, a thriving genre across Africa (especially in Ghana and Nigeria). A few synonyms of the term 'art music' are classical music, serious music, and canonic music — it includes

any composition hailing from the Western musical tradition.

Colonists and missionaries brought this genre to Africa, and often put religious lyrics to the tunes of famous classical composers for the indigenous population to consume. Unfortunately, European scholars have often ignored the influence of African music. Agawu explained this is because there is a refusal to acknowledge the complexity and diversity of postcolonial music within academia.

There were many jokes throughout the talk that made the musically inclined audience chuckle, such as one about whether or not Händel should be spelled with an umlaut, which went over my head. Still, all of the key information was fascinating and easy to understand. At the end, there was time for a Q&A session where students and faculty asked rich, complex questions.

If you want to dip your toes into musical theory, the next Eastman Theory Colloquium talk will be given by Melissa Hoag on Feb. 16 at 4 p.m. in ESM 305.

Zucker is a member of the Class of 2026.

Want to write fun culture articles like these? And get free tickets to events to write about them?

Reach out to our culture editors at

ct_culture@u.rochester.edu

“The Holdovers” (2024) Review: Holding Oscar Nominations

BY BRENNAN PRICE
STAFF WRITER

I think I’ve found a new favorite film. While original stories seem hard to come by nowadays, this one stuck out to me. It flew under my radar until I found out it was nominated for Best Picture at the Academy Awards. Excitedly, I started watching this film with no expectations and no spoilers, and I was rewarded.

“The Holdovers,” written by David Hemingson and directed by Alexander Payne, is a surprisingly upbeat and touching film that explores depression and loss. It follows a rag-tag group of characters who find themselves left at a boarding school during the holiday season.

It’s 1970, and after an excruciatingly long

semester, troubled junior Angus Tully (Dominic Sessa) finds out he will be spending winter break at a New England prep school. Meanwhile, everyone’s least favorite teacher, the strict Mr. Hunham (Paul Giamatti), is forced to supervise all the students who are “holdovers” with school Head Chef Mrs. Mary Lamb (Da’Vine Joy Rudolph), whose son recently died. All three need to learn to tolerate each other if they hope to make it to the next semester.

The acting among everyone in the cast was outstanding. Randolph — well deserving of her Oscar nomination — does a phenomenal job with her character as the audience watches her mourn and love. She is so beautifully entrancing as she balances Mary’s comedic

undertones while making her emotionally nuanced. Even with her somewhat short screen time, she steals every scene she is in and makes her arc in the film more satisfying.

‘The acting among everyone in the cast was outstanding.’

Her fellow co-stars and leads, Giamatti and Sessa, have amazing chemistry together. Mr. Hunnam, performed by Giamatti, who has also received an Oscar nomination, was a wonderfully complex and broken character to follow, which was elevated by Sessa’s performance. He does a great job going between an infuriating teacher (a character everyone can relate to) and an endearing father figure.

I was surprised that,

after some research, Sessa was a newcomer who managed to hold his own throughout the film. His acting was constantly on par with the other seasoned actors, as he established himself as a great up-and-coming actor. I hope to see more from him while he continues his acting career in dramedies.

The film accomplished so much by being simple; although this may seem like a fault, it allowed the actors to carry the story, permitting layered storytelling. The simplicity is seen from the cinematography — which was never too jarring — to the score, never undermining the humorous and emotionally vulnerable scenes. Everything was done almost to perfection.

Occasionally, it would falter with slow pacing,

taking me out of its beautiful storytelling. This happened particularly between the second and third acts, when I started to recognize the movie’s runtime.

‘The film accomplished so much by being simple.’

I am ridiculously hopeful that Rudolph gets the Oscar for supporting actress for this gorgeously crafted film. I can also confirm that this is one of my new favorite films. Although the weather may be cold outside, I highly recommend this movie if you want to warm your heart.

Price is a member of the Class of 2027.

Etta Marcus’ Debut Album Left Me Indifferent

BY EMILY ENGLISH
CULTURE EDITOR

Etta Marcus’ debut album, “The Death of Summer & Other Promises,” drew me in by the title and cover, which is a girl luxuriating in flowers in black and white. I had not heard of Etta Marcus before I saw her featured on the Instagram story of Matt Maltese, singer-songwriter of “As The World Caves In.”

I went through and listened to Marcus’ debut album three times on different occasions. I went in unsure of how I would feel and left feeling just the same: unaware, confused, and slightly unaffected.

The album visits and revisits topics of love and loss, friendships lost and dwelled on, girlhood, and growing up. On my first listen, I felt like my internal bias against intense synths and densely-layered tracks got in the way of enjoying the songs. So, I waited until the next day, going in having already forgotten what I listened to.

On my second listen, I realized all of the songs streamed together; I wasn’t necessarily aware of when a song started and

when it ended. Without sugarcoating it — each track sounded very similar despite being very different when breaking them down. It went in one ear and out the other; her frequent and recurring vocal trill in each song sounded identical.

So I put it down, listened to different music as a palate cleanser, and revisited it again. I watched the lyrics as they passed over my phone screen, listening to each note and vocal shift as it went on. Yet the same feeling of unaffectedness remained within me.

‘Love and loss, friendships lost and dwelled on, girlhood, and growing up.’

Despite my overall indifference, there were good parts. Marcus has beautiful vocals, and even in her song “Dog Eyes,” we experience her layering them until they eventually get overshadowed by the intense synth tracks and gritty sound effects. “Dog Eyes” was my favorite track off the album, featuring a slow build-up and clarity in Marcus’ vocals. The lyrics talk of love, a consuming one, maybe

not a healthy one, but bring nothing new to the conversation. There is an unnecessary gritty shift in the song that could have been amazing if they did not cover her voice with battling tracks.

“‘Dog Eyes’ was my favorite track off the album, featuring a slow build-up and clarity in Marcus’ vocals.”

But there is a track that features lyrics with more grit — something chewable, analyzable, and more of a fresh take than seen in other songs on the album. “Lovesick Boy Prays” mixes religious ideology, love, and toxic behaviors. There is a grainy backing track and the use of the same vocals, going up then down, up then down, which takes away from the potential of this song. It features a rapid breathing sound in the middle of the song, adding a fun callback to the lyrics. This song held so much potential, especially if it featured a more acoustic sound. But it does the opposite, containing synth tracks like a background noise of rapid beeps throughout

the song.

Tracks that did not resonate with me were “Girls That Play” and “Theatre,” due to my dislike of over-used synths and reverb. “Girls That Play” is the more upbeat song beat-wise and vocal-wise, but that gave it more of a stale take for me. It felt repetitive and tiring. The lyrics are about girlhood and friendship but give nothing more than that. “Theatre,” the opening track, being the one that sets the theme for the entirety of the album, contains loud-sounding tracks and intense vocal reverb, hiding Marcus’ beautiful dark vocals. This song is about a performative lustful relationship, repeating the same lyric: “I want to be loved” that stretches out the song, making it feel excessively long despite it being only three minutes.

I would like to repeat that this album is not bad — it is just fine. The remainder of the songs have similar-sounding tracks, continuing with a bittersweet sound but not leaving an impression on me. The lyrics are all baseline, nothing excessively vague, but nothing dense and multi-dimensional. It ends up a mix of synth and real

instrumentals, excluding “Snowflake Suzie,” which has more guitar and drums than the rest, but the same excessive vocal reverb.

‘The remainder of the songs have similar-sounding tracks, continuing with a bittersweet sound but not leaving an impression on me.’

I leave this album feeling indifferent, understanding why people would enjoy it and why they would not. For Marcus’ future albums, I hope she utilizes her strengths more, like her vocals, without repeating the same riff. I believe she can have the nitty gritty lyrics without overdrawing the song. She can get the deep indie sound she was aiming for by avoiding overdoing synth tracks, sticking to the instrumentals, and leaving her vocals as they are, building tensions and depth not with reverb but by layering her vocals.

English is a member of the Class of 2027.

Are you an artist? Like taking pictures?



Join Graphics!

ct_photo@u.rochester.edu
ct_illustrations@u.rochester.edu

HUMOR

Sports! A Layman's Perspective

BY BRYAN BURKE
HUMOR EDITOR

BY EMMELY ELI TEXCUCANO
FEATURES EDITOR

7:00: Are we late? How much is admission? Wait... it's... empty? Frat music fills the air.

7:10: We find our seats. It is not hard, as we're the only ones here. The gold and blue visiting team can be seen in their dugout(?)

7:15: Our team (blue and gold) appears on the opposite side.

7:17: They start sliding as black Betty plays far too loud.

7:18: #9 (Rochester) hits himself against the wall. It was very loud. Why is the ref so smooth with it? It's like he's dancing out there.

7:19: They warm up? Music was cut, and now they're just playing. The puck is very small, and I cannot see anything. Honestly the best skater is the ref — look at him vibing. Wait... THERE ARE TWO REFS???

7:23: GOAL!!!!!! The crowd goes mild as Rochester scores on not Rochester. There are three refs. Like mitosis, they multiply.

7:24: Hordes of frat men, with flannel everywhere, filter in fashionably late. They sit directly in front of us.

7:27: One of the three refs blew the whistle (again). I'm slowly realizing this sport is boring.

7:29: All of the men were in the corner. It may have been a penalty shot?

7:32: The men wiggle when they wanna go fast. Finally the other team falls while running.

7:39: Something probably happened! The frat boys holler loud and proud.

7:43: I'm officially bored. I'm seeing why Canadians drink so much, 'cause this is so goddamn boring. My mind wanders to Kim Jong Un. Basketball rules.

7:45: The ref made a bad call. The frat boys exclaimed, "Ayy! WOH!" with arms spread wide. We refuse to interject as we display our journalistic integrity and impartiality.

7:46: The players tumble into each other like long-lost lovers.

7:47: The buzzer buzzes. 3-0 marks the end of the first quarter. Enter the Zamboni. Powered by propane for no reason, she glides over the ice with beauty and grace the likes of which I've never seen. The zamboni says Zamboni on the front. Is it a brand name like Kleenex? There's so much mystery behind her square grill.

8:00: The second quarter starts. The frat boys continue to multiply and begin to fraternize with the security guard. A group of girls joins the frat boys. We are displaced further up the bleachers. The DJ cranks dat Soulja Boy. I'm busy writing my budget for this week.

8:10: The puck is spending more time in the air than on the ice. I understand it's made of a hard rubber, what if it was softer? I wanna see that bitch bounce.

8:12: These 2010 beats fill the air. The crowd is graced with the first three lines of every banger. Emmely is happy but also cold.

8:16: "I'm blind! I'm deaf! I wanna be a ref!" says the flanneled man, as the ref is trying to figure out if a Rochester player is okay, as his helmet has vanished from his head. Sean Kingston plays.

8:19: Oh! They switched sides! Neat!

8:22: Bored again. What if two pucks?

8:25: Frat boys yell instructions like it'll help this Division 3 scrimmage. How much are they being paid? Is this their Saturday night? Are these boys okay? My thought was interrupted by the second buzz of the evening. Halftime once more.

8:30: I've learned there's another period of the game, and I'm bored and this piece is already 600+ words.

Burke and Texcucano are members of the Class of 2025.



EMMELY ELI TEXCUCANO / FEATURES EDITOR

Coding on Paper

BY BRYAN BURKE
HUMOR EDITOR

I'm not entirely sure why, but boomers go feral for technological regression. On some level, I can empathize. Tech is annoying; just the other day, my computer (which was running a pirated copy of Windows 10 just fine) decided it wanted to run Windows 11 instead. I had no say in this. I simply had to accept that fact. It now refuses to work.

On the other hand, I dabble in the occasional technological tomfoolery. It's so funny to abuse staples of corporate america, like using Google Calendar and LinkedIn for social purposes. And Spotify allows me to fill every waking moment of my existence with noise, to stave off the existential dread. So fun!

I'd like to think I'm fluent in technology. Whenever I boot up a new app, I can basically guess where to find everything and what gestures or buttons I need to use to get there. I also enjoy the occasional coding problem, as the differently-coloured special words scratch a certain itch deep deep down in my monkey brain. I'm not the speediest typer, but that's only one part of the coding process. A lot of it is arranging and rearranging code blocks, changing integers to static and then to volatile and back to static once more because it changed literally nothing. Oh, and pulling out my hair since the compiler is telling me there's a char error on line 63 even



SUBAAHSYED / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

though there is not a single char on line 63.

Writing code is a very fluid process and is extremely difficult to write linearly. That's why everyone codes in integrated design environments, or IDEs for short. If you're unfamiliar with the term, think of Microsoft Word for code, but it actually works well and is free.

There is one IDE that is exceptionally awful and will not aid you in the slightest (and no, I'm not talking about BlueJ). I'm talking about paper. Real, physical paper, with a pencil. There is no autofill. There is no CTRL + F. There isn't even copy paste, unless you brought your trusty scissors and glue to your CS midterm. Of course, it's not impossible and there are some tricks, like leaving yourself a generous amount of space between each line in case you have to go back. It's also no secret that writing out code is hated, so the grades are often forgiving.

I'm sure professors know what they're doing when they

announce a written coding exam. They watch all of our ambitious little eyes widen with fear as we try and understand the gravity of the situation; all the while, they're exercising their very best poker face.

I get why paper coding is common for exams, as it's a very easy way to minimize academic dishonesty — but it feels wrong. It's like when your older sibling hands you an unplugged controller. I'm well aware that none of the assignments I perform throughout these four short years are revolutionary and certainly will not change the world, but writing a computer program on a dead tree feels so disconnected from the real world. Even more than midnight deadlines, dissimilar weekday schedules, and dining halls. The exam tests not only our coding skills, but also our ability to put up with utter bullshit for a degree.

Burke is a member of the Class of 2025.

Vitamin Misinformation

BY BRIAN LY
STAFF WRITER

HELLOOO ROCHESTER,

This is your daily dose of misinformation and, as always, I am here to spread lies!

Today's topic is about the falsehoods spread by vitamin companies. For those of you who take or don't take vitamins, today's news is for you.

The vast majority of the population thinks that vitamins are good for them. However, they are unaware of the reality of vitamins.

The consumption of vitamins isn't simply beneficial for the human body. More than that, they are also the pathway to our evolution into higher beings!

More than that, they are also the pathway to our evolution into higher beings!

lution into higher beings! Vitamin companies refuse to let you know this, but if you've ever taken a Flintstones gummy, you'd know the sheer power it gives you.

In fact, ever since I discovered the benefits of vitamins, I haven't eaten a full meal in five days! Without having to go to the dining halls, I've saved hours of my life.

With those saved hours, I can now fully immerse myself in researching the power contained in the average vitamin gummy.

With every chomp, I can feel the adrenaline coursing through my veins and giving me the power of 10 elephants. With just one vitamin gummy, I can lift cars. Upon consuming more gummies, I can feel myself start levitating off the ground.

There's a reason that vita-

min companies recommend that you only eat one to three vitamins a day. They don't want you to realize that, with enough gummies, you could overthrow the government.

They don't want the public to know. But I know the truth. And they're after me for it. For now, eat your vitamins. And wait for us to call upon you.

They don't want you to realize that, with enough gummies, you could overthrow the government.

We will make them regret the day they tried to hide the truth from us. We will take power. The establishment will crumble.

Ly is a member of the Class of 2027.

SPORTS

BALL FROM PAGE 1

Following each UR basket, a small but notable crowd in the UR students' section erupted volcanically in support of their Yellowjackets.

The second half began with the same intensity as the first, the score 41-35 in favor of NYU. Both teams battled to secure rebounds. In one instance, McEachern bounced the ball off of an opposing player, much to the delight of the Yellowjackets' fans.

The game was physical, and both teams seldom missed free throws down the stretch.

Behind three, an offensive rebound by Kershner led to a three-point bucket and a tie game with three minutes left.

With a minute and a half to go, NYU's Freedman, the game's leading scorer, delivered on a long 3-pointer. UR took a timeout in response. 76-74 NYU.

UR turned the ball over

down 2 points with 40 seconds left after instant replay determined the ball last touched a Yellowjacket, reversing the initial call on the court.

In the end, Freedman iced the game with two free throws after UR was forced to foul.

'The game was physical, and both teams seldom missed free throws down the stretch.'

Despite the loss, Yellowjackets head coach Luke Flockerzi remains hopeful, pointing to the team's constant improvement during the season. After a contest against Brandeis on Feb. 4, the Yellowjackets will try to demonstrate that growth Friday versus the University of Chicago at 7:30 p.m. in the Palestra.

Wolf is a member of the Class of 2027.

Women's Basketball Bested 95-53 by #1 NYU Amid Historic Run



HENRY LITSKY / MANAGING EDITOR

BY AENEAS WOLF
STAFF WRITER

Despite a valiant effort, UR's women's basketball team failed to contain a surging NYU squad last Friday in the Palestra.

From the onset, #1 NYU (19-0, 8-0 UAA) held the initiative. UR (9-10, 4-4 UAA) set up their defense instead of contesting the opening jump ball.

NYU graduate student forward Morgan Morrison (#30) scored the game's first points out of the post, portending future challenges for UR, who struggled to defend the rim against NYU's athletic forwards. Graduate student forward Callie McCulley (#42) put the Yellowjackets on the board with a driving layup.

The Violets continued to apply pressure with precise ball movement and

suffocating defense. Despite UR's best efforts, NYU dominated the paint on both sides of the ball, out-rebounding the Yellowjackets 52-37 overall. At the half, NYU led UR 51-16.

'Despite UR's best efforts, NYU dominated the paint on both sides of the ball.'

The score notwithstanding, the Yellowjackets played a spirited second half against the historic NYU team that UR head coach Jim Scheible called "possibly the best Division III team I've ever seen." UR junior forward Raquel Williams (#14) came off the bench and scored six quick points with 5 minutes to go in the third quarter, on the heels of two NYU triples.

First-year guard Rylee Drahos (#5) hustled to secure a loose ball in the waning seconds of the game, passing to fellow first-year guard Peyton Jones, who scored UR's final point at the foul line. Moments later, the buzzer sounded. The scoreboard read 95-53 in NYU's favor.

Another win for a buzz-saw Violets squad, another loss for a Yellowjackets team finding its footing. After the game, Coach Scheible put it succinctly: "NYU couldn't play much better than that."

After a contest against Brandeis on Feb. 4, the Yellowjackets will look to bounce back against the University of Chicago on Friday, Feb. 9 at 5:30 p.m. in the Palestra.

Wolf is a member of the Class of 2027.



HENRY LITSKY / MANAGING EDITOR



HENRY LITSKY / MANAGING EDITOR



HENRY LITSKY / MANAGING EDITOR



HENRY LITSKY / MANAGING EDITOR