



University Alumna Dr. Owusu-Ansah Shapes Medical Storytelling on HBO's 'The Pitt'

BY SUBAAH SYED
MANAGING EDITOR

Season 2 of HBO's "The Pitt" began streaming in January after winning Best Drama Series and four more awards at the 2025 Primetime Emmy awards for its first season. Both seasons follow a full shift at the Emergency Department (ED) of the fictional Pittsburgh Trauma Medical Center (PTMC), and each episode follows an hour of the main characters' shift.

At the heart of the show's riveting patient cases, plot twists, and cliffhangers that make you sit on the edge of your seat is the medical accuracy of scenes. Writers and directors achieve this by working closely with medical advisors to ensure the medical terminology, procedures, and character details reflect real-life emergency medicine. Their guidance helps ground the drama in authenticity, both immersing viewers into the true-to-life intensity of each episode and providing meaningful representation for healthcare workers.

Dr. Sylvia Owusu-Ansah '00 played a pivotal role improving the accuracy of the show and creating memorable storylines.'

Medical Director of Pre-hospital and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and University alumna Dr. Sylvia Owusu-Ansah '00 played a pivotal role improving the accuracy of the show and creating memorable storylines. She connected with ED physician, producer, and television writer of "The Pitt" (and the early 2000s series "ER") Joe Sachs in March of 2024 to advise for Season 1. This opportunity arose through Hollywood, Health & Society, a University of Southern California program created to guide the entertainment industry in forming accurate narratives with the latest information on health and safety.



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH MEDICAL CENTER

Dr. Sylvia Owusu-Ansah smiles in the trauma bay at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

"What they asked me basically was 'What has not been shown on medical dramas that you think is important — what storylines?'" she recalled. "I shared with them things such as [being] tired of sickle-cell [anemia] patients being considered pain seekers." She also referenced how she "talked about how we [healthcare workers] do a moment of silence [after deaths of patients], the demographics of Pittsburgh" and "being troubled by the increasing ingestion of THC in kids and how that affects kids and how parents aren't very aware."

"What they asked me basically was 'What has not been shown on medical dramas that you think is important — what storylines?'"

These concepts manifested themselves throughout the show's first season, such as in a storyline involving the treatment of a Nepali-speaking woman whom the residents and nurses had difficulty interpreting, as well as a four-year-old who ate his father's weed gummy.

"[I] spoke about my experience as the only Black physician in my emergency department. Only 5% of all

active physicians identify as Black, only 2.3% of them are Black women. So hence Dr. Collins." The character Owusu-Ansah refers to is a Black woman and senior resident in Season 1 of "The Pitt" and is her favorite on the show.

Owusu-Ansah also added, "If you're going to talk about healthcare in Pittsburgh, you have to talk about Freedom House Ambulance." One of the patients in Season 1, 81-year-old Willie, was revealed to be a former medic for the Freedom House Ambulance, the United States' first ambulance company to train first-responders beyond basic first-aid. The 25 Black men in the program's inaugural class of 1967 became the nation's first paramedics. The plot line shed light on Pittsburgh's lesser-known revolutionizing legacy of these pioneers who broke racial barriers in healthcare at the time and set the precedent for EMS in the U.S. With the popularity of "The Pitt," the public now seems more aware of Freedom House, according to Owusu-Ansah.

"I'm seeing all the social media posts are talking about Freedom House the past two years when I've never seen anybody talk about Freedom House," Owusu-Ansah said.

This shift has also driven bipartisan support for introducing a federal bill to award the Freedom House Ambulance with the Congressional Gold Medal, a goal Owusu-Ansah has pushed for.

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As of publication, "The Pitt" is currently the number one series streaming on HBO Max. When asked what makes the show stand out from other medical dramas, the UROchester alumna gave credit to its medical accuracy. "Medical accuracy streamed with real character stories of both patients and the physicians," she added, "making the physicians seem human by showing their vulnerabilities, right? And showing that they too are not perfect. You have [Dr.] Langdon with his struggle in drug use and going to rehab. You have Dr. Robby and [his] PTSD from COVID. You have Whitaker and his so-called 'homelessness' and the list goes on and on and on." Dr. Mi-

chael "Robby" Robinavitch played by "ER" actor Noah Wyle is the attending of the PTMC Emergency Medicine team and oversees the department including Dr. Langdon, Whitaker, and half a dozen more.

The authenticity of each individual patient case was also important in contributing to the show's acclaim. One notable storyline, which is one of many Owusu-Ansah helped create, was that of Joyce St. Clair, a Black woman in Season 1 who has sickle cell disease. Sickle cell anemia is marked by an abnormality in the shape of red blood cells which leads to the cells' destruction and blocking of blood vessels, characterized by painful episodes, called "pain crises," that can last for hours. The disease disproportionately affects Black populations. The patient case was taken straight from one of her own patients who was also initially mistaken for an addict.

"[Joyce was based on] a 17-year-old female, probably 90 pounds soaking wet, who was brought in in restraints, and we were told that she was known to be aggressive," Owusu-Ansah described. "She was spitting. She was biting. But her chief complaint was pain crisis. I heard a lot of screaming commotion in the hallway. So I came into the room. It wasn't my patient originally. I came in and she was in four point restraints. And then the security guard even had his hand around her neck ... I yelled and screamed, told them to get off of her and kneeled down next to her, whispered in her ear and said, 'Just try to relax. I'm here for you. I'm your advocate.' Again, I'm the only Black person in the hospital in the ED." In the show, Dr. Samira Mohan took Owusu-Ansah's place as the advocate of the sickle cell patient.

For Season 2, Owusu-Ansah helped in building the story of a one-month-old infant, nicknamed "Baby Jane Doe," who was aban-

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doned in the bathroom. She said she sent the writers information on "Safe Haven" babies and the legal acts in the state of Pennsylvania surrounding legal protection of babies, such as how leaving a baby older than 28 days in the hospital is considered a crime.

Owusu-Ansah has also directed her own short film, "In Good Hands," a 12-minute HBO film-finalist that speaks to her experience as a Black physician in academia. It was screened from New York City to Los Angeles through the American Black Film Festival and will be released this spring or summer.

Navigating the film industry as a full-time physician has been a refreshing opportunity to take a break from the ED but also appreciate her profession more, said Owusu-Ansah.

"Having the media aspects has helped me enjoy my job more and create a balance, you know, because in healthcare it's a broken system, especially in the emergency department. It's fast paced, high acuity," she pointed out. "And I work with children. I call time of death on children. I mean, last summer I had three shifts, three weeks in a row where I called time of death on babies, three babies. And so it is a nice break from that ... Over the span of a lifetime of my profession, I may touch hundreds, maybe thousands of lives individually. But through media, you touch millions of people all at once."

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Originally from Boston, Owusu-Ansah attended the University for a bachelor's degree in Biochemistry. Her undergraduate experience solidified her lifelong dream of becoming a physician. While attending the University, she conducted HIV research and took advanced biochemistry classes where she enjoyed learning about calcium channels, receptors, and proteins.

'Her undergraduate experience solidified her lifelong dream of becoming a physician.'

"I did my final paper on the papain enzyme from papaya ... which I always wanted to use in the world of cosmetics to help folks like myself in our hair texture to have natural ways of straightening hair instead of using chemicals such as lye," she said, which can lead to scalp irritation and burns.

Owusu-Ansah also started a program at the University called "Kids for College" which brought inner-city youth from underserved communities, such as the public housing that used to be where College Town is. The program aimed to expose these students to higher education where they would be paired up with mentors and attend classes in STEM and liberal arts. She was also very involved in the Interfaith Chapel and spent many Sundays there attending and helping out with services. Her favorite study spots were Carlson, her dorm room, and the Pittsford Wegmans which her friend would often drive to.

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In college, Owusu-Ansah overcame challenges stemming from being the only Black student in group settings and emphasized the role that religion had in her determination. "I was told [by a classmate] that if I were to go into medical school, it was because of affirmative action ... Other people didn't think I was going to make the cut. And so I prayed about it. I prayed and fasted in the end at the Interfaith Chapel there."

'With her background in health policy-writing, Owusu-Ansah has spent over a decade on Capitol Hill pushing for legislation on pediatric healthcare.'

She recalled only applying to four medical schools due to a lack of confidence. Despite these obstacles, Owusu-Ansah not only graduated from the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in 2005 but also obtained her Masters in Public Health (MPH) in Health Policy from Johns Hopkins. With her background in health po-

licy-writing, Owusu-Ansah has spent over a decade on Capitol Hill pushing for legislation on pediatric healthcare.

Amidst the hectic shifts that unfold in "The Pitt," Owusu-Ansah thought back to her own most-hectic ED shift. "You know, there's so many. There's so many I can't even recollect. Usually right after the holidays are pretty busy ... people hold out during the holidays." Season 2 of the Pitt notably takes place on a holiday: the Fourth of July." Also Mondays in the ED are infamously busy. People tend to stay home on weekends, depending on the level of sports activity in the city, too." Since October, Owusu-Ansah has taken a break from the ED as she is officially a cancer survivor and finished her last chemotherapy treatment Feb. 10.

'The intersection between community and healthcare is a central theme reverberating through Owusu-Ansah's work.'

The intersection between community and healthcare is a central theme reverberating throughout Owusu-Ansah's work, from her research and extracurriculars at URochester and her EMS leadership in Pittsburgh to her policy work at the Capitol and her medical advocacy on "The Pitt." Her expertise has helped shape the series into an overnight fan-favorite that simultaneously reflects her deep care for marginalized communities and the history, resilience, and dedication of frontline healthcare workers across the nation.

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Syed is a member of the Class of 2027.

Community Response to ICE in Rochester

BY YENAH PARK
NEWS EDITOR

BY SUBAAH SYED
MANAGING EDITOR

With the increase in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activity across the United States, student groups on campus and members of the community are responding with efforts to comfort, inform, and mobilize Rochesterians.

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Baber African Methodist Episcopal Church (Baber A.M.E.) located in downtown Rochester held a community wake Jan. 30 for Rochesterians killed by ICE. The wake was organized by local community organizations such as Metro Justice, Rochester Democratic Socialists, the Rochester Rapid Response Network (RRRN), and Free the People Rochester and addressed the recent local impact of ICE in Rochester communities as well.

Senior Miller Gentry-Sharp, president of the student campus organization Jewish Voices for Peace (JVP), attended the wake. According to him, most of the nearly 300 in attendance were people from the Rochester community, along with a handful of recent graduates. Gentry-Sharp explained that the wake helps in building a sense of community in similar times of crises: "I think people have been looking for a place to go and a place to mourn," he said. "It was really important in terms of activating the community and giving people sort of hope and a place to be and action items, things to do."

"When people are being shot on the street, that is horrifying," he said. "Seeing the energy in the room at this event ... a lot of people are pretty outraged."

Keynote speakers such as the senior pastor of the Baber A.M.E. James Simmons emphasized these action items, including what to do if you see ICE in your neighborhood, what to do if you see ICE try to detain someone, and general

ways community members can offer support during these difficult times.

The wake is one example of how the city of Rochester has been reacting to ICE's presence, and it is not the only response students have had.

JVP and the Students for Democratic Society (SDS), another group of which Gentry-Sharp is an executive board member, have also been working to engage with the student population in helping them stay informed and prepared. Gentry-Sharp mentioned in an interview that clubs on campus like JVP have been organizing workshops this semester such as "know your rights training" which show people what they can do if met with police or ICE violence.

Last semester, SDS invited the RRRN to train students in responding and keeping communities safe. The network was credited to making federal agents spotted in downtown Rochester turn around and go home without arresting people, according to Gentry-Sharp.

ICE has also been spotted closer to campus, specifically in the Mount Hope area. An alert was issued Jan. 20 by the Stop ICE Raids Alert Network to warn students and community members of ICE officers nearby. In response to this, Gentry-Sharp emphasized the need for students to take action as well as be more informed.

"The most important thing right now is that more students get involved with Rapid Response and just stay tuned into what's going on and where they can be most helpful," he said.

"Having people who are organized and together and speaking out is the thing that will help protect us," he said. "I really want more people to get involved, get out in the community and do whatever they can to push that."

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Park is a member of the Class of 2027.

Syed is a member of the Class of 2027.

CAMPUS

Campus Brat: Choosing Rochester (*The Shame of Settling*)

BY KATIE JARVIS
COLUMNIST

Is there a word for the feeling when you're driving home on a road trip and you see the particular roll of a familiar hill, the specific shape of an underpass, or a certain clearing in a row of roadside trees and realize you've seen it before? There's probably one in German (the Germans have words for everything), and I bet it includes that overwhelming wave of familiarity. "You're almost home," the landscape says. "It'll be okay."

I felt that wave at Exit 45 of I-90, right by Eastview Mall, driving home from Tufts University (my dream school), the last stop on my pandemic college tour. In that moment, I knew I would enroll at the University of Rochester, and although the stress of uncertainty was gone, I couldn't help but feel I'd settled for second-best. I was uncharacteristically quiet the rest of the way home.

I wonder now what it was like for my parents, just one week later, watching their daughter sit at the family computer and sob as she makes one of the biggest decisions of her life, knowing she's turning down her dream. What can you do in that moment?

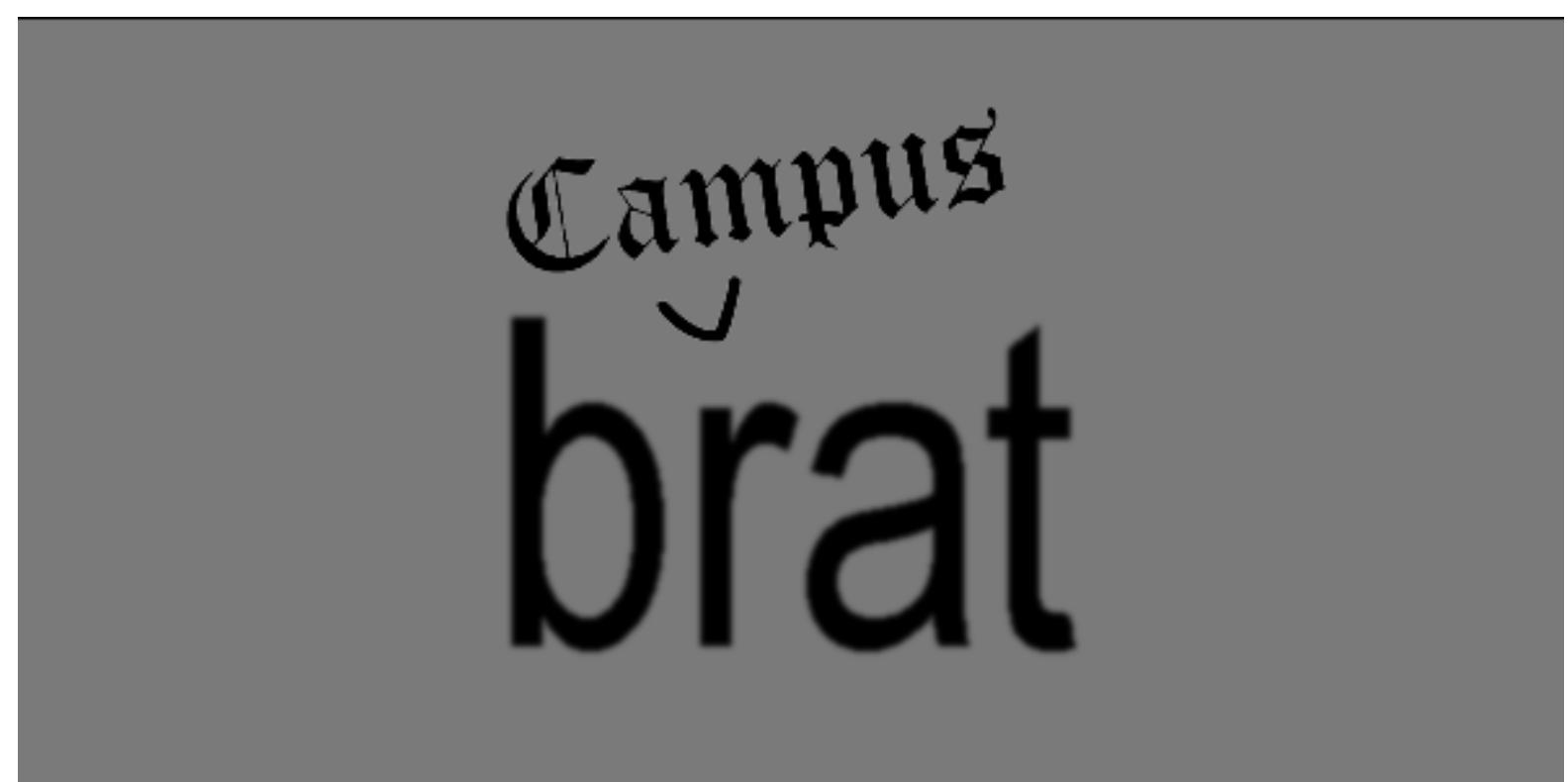
You might tell her that it's still ultimately her decision — that although Tufts isn't realistic, she has other fantastic and affordable schools to choose from. Or that she can wait until Decision Day in case she changes her mind. But she won't.

When it's over with, you'll encourage her to join the "UR admitted students" groups, and that helps. She'll meet three of her best friends in one group — and her future boyfriend too. She'll accidentally join an LGBTQ+ affinity group chat and not realize she's the only straight person until several weeks later (years later she will realize she was never straight to begin with, but that's another story). She'll get a tour from your colleague's child, and they'll tell her about all the perks of campus life that she hadn't considered.

'Not all campus brats are made the same way, but this is my story.'

And one day, months, or maybe years after that day when she sits, making the leather of the office chair wet with tears, she'll realize that it was one of the best decisions she could ever make.

Not all campus brats are made the same way, but this



is my story.

I had decided at a very young age that I would go to URochester (although it's always been "the U of R" to me). I would get free tuition and I could hang out with my dad all the time. From a slightly-less-young age, I threw out that idea entirely and decided I would attend MIT or maybe CalTech. I knew nothing of these universities except that they were Good, and I, as a "gifted kid" needed to attend a Good School.

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Lockdown began in my junior year of high school, right around the time I might have started researching and visiting colleges. It was hard to get a good idea of my options without live college fairs and guided tours, but I managed to narrow my search down to six schools. URochester only made the cut because of the tuition benefit.

I also developed a set of criteria for what makes a good school for me:

- 1) Lecture class size (small)
- 2) Name recognition
- 3) Prettiness of Campus
- 4) Proximity to Wegmans

Also considered, though far less consequential, were things like quality of mascot, pleasantness of color scheme, and catchiness of alma mater song.

At the top of my ranking was Tufts. Tufts was basically like this university's cool older cousin. The campus was modern and fresh, the course catalogue was teeming with fascinating classes, and the professors loved to work with

undergraduates. Their mascot was the regal elephant, my favorite animal as a child, and their colors were a dignified light blue and silver. It even had a Wegmans (rare in Massachusetts) just eight minutes from campus.

During the months of composing my applications I was told endlessly not to get my hopes up. I wrote and rewrote supplemental essays until they stopped looking like words. I put more effort into my appearance for my admissions interview with Tufts than I did for my high school graduation.

The work paid off. I got in. I got into five of the six schools I applied to, in fact, but Tufts was the only one that mattered. The dread I'd been feeling since March 2020 was finally lifting. The only problem was cost. I am lucky that both my parents were able to graduate college without debt. This meant they could start saving for my and my sister's educations as soon as we were born. I'm incredibly lucky to be in the position to say this.

However, to private universities like Tufts and URochester, college funds aren't all that helpful. When these universities audit your finances, they see just how much your family is able to spare and try to take everything they can.

At Tufts, my acceptance came with the expectation of me paying full tuition, which, at the time, was about the value of my childhood home. Per year.

I was heartbroken. I'm sure I'm not alone. Many of my friends chose this school over their real top choice because of financial aid. I blame the culture of American high schools which are in an almost incestuous relationship with the higher education industry. When you spend

four years of parties, family reunions, and holidays being asked "Where do you want to go to college?" and when others act like the college process is the only interesting thing in your life, it starts to become what you build your identity around.

'You'll realize that if they chose to come here, there must be something special in this school that you can't see.'

I felt shame turning down Tufts. I told my mum I'd rather have been rejected because then at least I would have had no part in the death of my dream. The shame was deeper, too, because in turning down Tufts I was settling for my hometown. I'd always been the least adventurous in my family, and now here I was accepting my fate to live, study, and sleep within a one-mile radius of the hospital in which I was born. I have a feeling that most campus brats carry a piece of this shame. The shame of settling. But it will fade, most likely. For me it did. Here's what might help:

The biggest factor in my journey was getting in contact with other admitted students as soon as possible. In the same way that Tufts was my dream school, this university is the dream of hundreds if not thousands of high school students every year. When you hear your peers gush

about their programs, about the campus, about the research, you might start to see the University through their eyes. You'll meet people who are astoundingly brilliant and incredibly accomplished in these groups and you'll realize that if they chose to come here, there must be some-

KATIE JARVIS / COLUMNIST
thing special in this school that you can't see.

Another piece of advice: Talk with currently enrolled campus brats! I was shown around by my fellow history brat, Eleanor Lenoe '21, and knowing that she'd gone through the same choices and worries about staying in Rochester meant I could be more honest with her about my hesitations. Just seeing how at-home she felt on campus — how she had redefined her relationship with the University to be her own rather than an offshoot of her dad's — I saw what my future could look like and I wasn't scared or ashamed.

'Ultimately, I'm confident I made the right decision enrolling here.'

Although I still have gripes with the University (the ever-shrinking footprint of the *Campus Times* office, for one, and the authoritarian protest policy, for another), ultimately, I'm confident I made the right decision enrolling here. I've discovered parts of campus and the city I never would have found without my time living on- and off-campus.

When I think about myself five years ago at that computer, I wish I could hug her and say, "It's going to be okay. You're not settling. You're going to love who you become."

Any questions or topic suggestions for *Campus Brat* can be directed to kjarvis4@u.rochester.edu.

Jarvis is a member of the Class of 2026 (T5).

A Season in Stride for Sophomore Striker Natalie Santangelo

BY TEDDY ALMOND
NEWS EDITOR

By the time URochester women's soccer team finishes warmups, the nerves have already set in: "You just want to be on the field so you don't have to feel it anymore," sophomore Natalie Santangelo says. "But it's a good stress."

Since age 4, Santangelo has been obsessed with soccer. Growing up in an athletic household, this now-Division III athlete has been in her cleats for as long as she can remember. She has always taken life by the horns, describing herself as an uplifting, reliable, and competitive soul.

Now a sophomore striker for the Yellowjackets, Santangelo has learned quickly that college soccer brings a different kind of pressure, yet she applies her carefree attitude nonetheless.

Santangelo, an English major double-minoring in Business and Spanish, was raised in northern Virginia. Her mother, also a Yellowjacket, played varsity volleyball during her time at the University.

Although Santangelo has played soccer for as long as she can remember, her parents officially enrolled her in a recreational league at age four. They often joke that her interest began even earlier. "They would bring me to my brother's practices, and I'd try to hop on the field and join in," she said, laughing.

While Santangelo has played soccer for practically as long as she could walk, she revealed there was no single moment that sparked her love for the game: "Honestly, there's no reason I was really drawn to the game, it's just kind of been around for as long as I can remember. I can't really imagine my life without it, you know?"

She had always seen soccer as something in her future. However, as she grew older, she adopted more realistic expectations: that soccer was not going to be her professional career.

Santangelo sought to weave her career with her passion for soccer: thus wanting to be a sports journalist — a Spanish-speaking journalist to be precise (hence her minor in the language).

Santangelo knew she wanted to play the sport at the collegiate level. "Because I went to a lowkey 'bad at soccer' high school, I never got many offers [to play college soccer]," she lamented. Yet just because the scouts didn't go to her did not mean that she couldn't go to the scouts;

her father enrolled her in soccer camps to get her name out in the world.

Santangelo felt uneasy about the application process. She recalled corresponding with the New York University soccer coach until she was "ghosted." "Senior fall ... that was the one time I was struggling a lot," she reminisced. "That was a rough period."

By this point, Santangelo had received only rejections and was beginning to accept that she wouldn't play soccer at a smaller school, as she had once imagined.

All that changed when one of her biggest cheerleaders, her dad, insisted that she try out for one more school.

Santangelo's last attempt turned fruitful when she was offered a spot on the URochester roster.

"I do believe everything happens for a reason," she said. "Like, if I didn't take this last camp, I would have just been, maybe, a sorority girl somewhere else."

When Santangelo arrived in Rochester, the reality of college soccer set in almost immediately. Within her first season, she was moved out of her familiar midfield role and into the attack, a shift that forced her to adapt on the fly, as she is now the main goal scorer.

Earning minutes as a starting player early brought opportunity, but it also brought pressure.

"I kind of pushed myself a little too far sometimes," she said, reflecting on the season. "I forgot why I was doing what I was doing." For the first time, soccer wasn't just an outlet, it was a test of confidence, patience, and identity.

When on the field, Santangelo thinks of nothing but the game. Sprinting up the field, she glides past opposing defenders as she seamlessly drops ball after ball into the goal. To observers, everything looks choreographed, making soccer look less like a game and more of an art.

Yet Santangelo lives for the pressure, it means adrenaline for her, not stress. "The anticipation of the game is, like, one of the best feelings ever ... when you are about to play, you get the energy up, it's an unmatched feeling."

To quell pregame jitters, Santangelo focuses on her own potential performance rather than the other team, she shares, twirling the rings on her fingers.

Besides the worry of not playing your best, injuries are a constant worry plaguing the team. While Santangelo said that she



KATIE JARVIS / SENIOR STAFF

had not been injured while playing, she did recount one of the more disturbing events in her collegiate soccer career.

"The stands went silent, and she was just screaming. I never heard someone scream that loud," she said when describing the moments after her friend, Eileen, fell to the ground after being injured in play. Despite not being injured herself, Santangelo explained that seeing her friend writhing shook her.

"I thought she broke every bone in her body. I turned away so fast because I was like, 'Oh my God, I'm going to throw up.'"

Despite this traumatic injury, Santangelo knew one thing: The game must go on. "It was hard at first, but we all knew that we were playing for her. We knew that we had to finish the game, like how she wanted," she said.

Santangelo prides herself on remaining focused and on target, even when things get shaky. What keeps her going is the camaraderie and support she gets from her teammates. Although game days are dominated by focused energy, team bonding and locker room rituals are an important staple in her pre-game routine.

While donning their uniforms, Santangelo and her teammates build that bond by blasting a five-song mashup playlist that gets everyone excited.

With the interlude of "Viva la Vida" by Coldplay blaring over the speaker, the space erupts with dance-club reminiscent energy as team members jump up and down and fists fly into locker doors with the rhythm of the music. "It's just one last unifying experience before we step onto the field," she explained.

That pressure, however, is not something Santangelo carries alone. At the

University, it exists alongside a team culture that values connection as much as competition: This is a balance she has come to rely on.

Her charisma was underscored by her sophomore teammates, midfielder Hannah Nagashima and defender Remi Cherkas: "She'll say hi to, like, everyone. I'm like, 'Who is that?' I don't even know who that is," Nagashima joked.

Her personable nature has made her an ideal mentor, the two explained. This past fall, as incoming first-years arrived on the field, Santangelo stepped into a new role, taking time to train the next generation of strikers.

"I tried to make [the new freshman strikers] feel confident to take shots and be selfish when given the opportunity on the ball," Santangelo told me in a later interview.

Cherkas explained that each coach has different preferences for how the position is played, something that can be confusing for a first-year. Having navigated that learning curve herself just a year earlier, Santangelo quelled those concerns by teaching the first-years the ropes of playing striker.

Santangelo explained that being a mentor meant that she learned things too: "We worked on holding defenders off of our backs ... And because I was also semi-new to the position, I took things from [the first-years] too. We built off of each other."

Santangelo's role on the team has extended beyond her play on the field. Teammates describe her as someone who shows up consistently, offering support, encouragement, and attention to those around her.

Santangelo, Nagashima, and Cherkas have been a trio ever since the fall of their first year. One thing

is clear, Santangelo brings the same commitment and kindness to her relationships as she does to the game.

Nagashima described Santangelo as being one of the first people she connected with on campus: "It was just me and her, and we were talking about, like ... personal stuff. Relationships and that kind of stuff."

Now, with the rhythm of college soccer familiar and her place on the team established, Santangelo has begun to think more deliberately about what comes next.

While soccer remains central to her life, it exists alongside growing ambitions in journalism and storytelling. While in high school, she hoped that she could combine her passions with a profession. Commenting on her ambitions in sports journalism: "I think it's so cool that, like, I could go to a game, write about it, and get paid."

This is something she is attempting to pursue now as she serves as a contributing sports writer for the *Campus Times*.

In her future, Santangelo hopes to continue to play recreationally in her future, but says she wants to appreciate her years on the team while still in college.

While graduate school remains a path for her, she confessed that she hasn't figured it all out yet.

One thing Santangelo will bring with her throughout her collegiate career and beyond is her lightheartedness: "I feel like, all in all, being positive and lighthearted, it really can't hurt you."

Almond is a member of the Class of 2028.

New Commencement Speaker Unveiled After Student Feedback

BY TEDDY ALMOND
NEWS EDITOR

Often beginning more than a year in advance, the meticulous planning for finding a commencement speaker is what often helps make the speech the highlight of students' and families' graduation experience.

The quality of this year's speaker is no different, with the University announcing that Jeannine Shao Collins '86 will be delivering the school's 176th commencement address May 15.

'Collins, who serves as the chief client officer at multiplatform advertising and media company Kargo, has had a long respected career in the media and advertising industry.'

Collins, who serves as the chief client officer at multiplatform advertising and media company Kargo, has had a long respected career in the media and advertising industry.

Having earned her bachelor's degree in Economics from U Rochester, Collins has also received many awards and distinctions over her career, including the designation of being a "Top Woman in Media 2025" by AdMonsters and AdExchanger, according to a University press release.

'Collins has remained engaged with the University, especially through entrepreneurship initiatives.'

Collins has remained engaged with the University, especially through entrepreneurship initiatives. In recent years, she has visited campus where she met with students and was in-

vited to be a keynote speaker as part of the Ain Center for Entrepreneurship's Global Entrepreneurship Week. The week serves as "an opportunity for a region-wide celebration of the people, programs and partnerships building our local economy."

'Her story should inspire our newest graduates to pursue their own passions while embodying the drive to make the world ever better, as she has done.'

Jeannine Shao Collins is an inspiring example of someone who has enriched the lives of others through her actions, her words, and the way she engages with those around her," University spokesperson Sara Miller said when asked why Collins was chosen. "Her story should inspire our newest graduates to pursue their own passions while embodying the drive to make the world ever better, as she has done."

'We are looking for someone who has a personal connection to the University [and] has personal and professional experiences that are relatable to U Rochester graduates.'

Picking a commencement speaker is no small task and is one that carries serious consideration: "We are looking for someone who has a personal connection to the University [and] has personal and professional experiences that are relatable to U Rochester graduates," Miller said. "[Someone who] is respected within their professional community, is an engaging

speaker, and will deliver a hopeful and inspiring message."

The selection process originally had been concentrated to just a few months, but Miller explained that planning farther ahead yields better results and helps mitigate the logistical challenges that might crop up regarding the speaker's availability.

'Ultimately, the speaker is selected by the University's president, whose decision is based on feedback from various individuals who interacted with the potential speakers.'

Ultimately, the speaker is selected by the University's president, whose decision is based on feedback from various individuals who interacted with the potential speakers.

'Starting two years ago, student feedback has become part of the consideration.'

Starting two years ago, student feedback has become part of the consideration. Each year, the speaker is presented via a focus group to the River Campus Senior Class Council prior to the final selection, according to Miller.

Almond is a member of the Class of 2028.

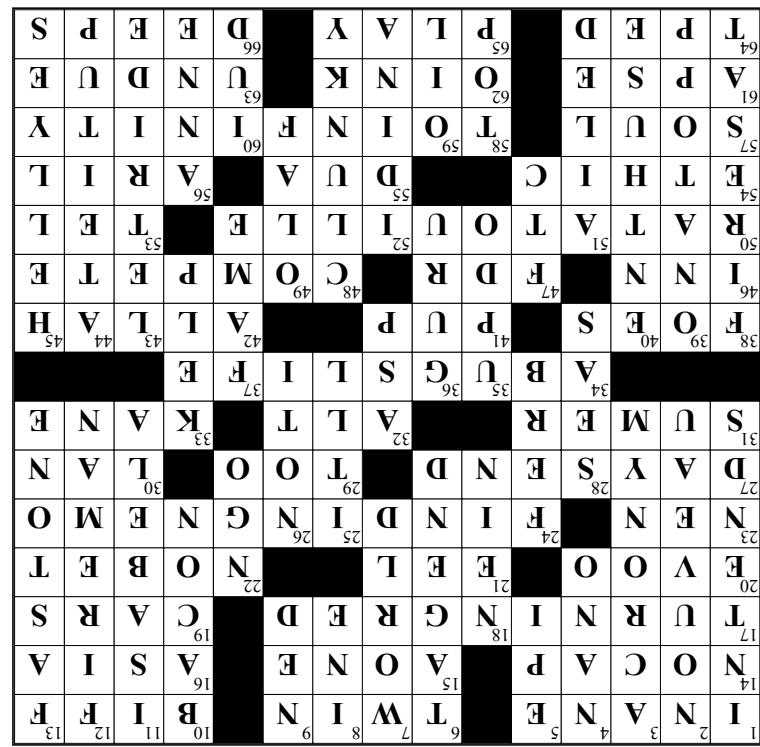


MICAHBETTENHAUSEN / SENIOR STAFF

Narm Nathan '25 in a cap and gown outside Rush Rhees.

Crossword Answers

BY CALEB OSHINSKY
STAFF PUZZLER



This crossword can be found on page 12.

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OPINIONS

ICE in Milan — What's Changed?

BY FRANKIE BRERETON
OPINIONS EDITOR

Protests swept through Milan at the prospect of agents from the American Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) "providing security" at the Winter Olympics. This backlash comes as a result of the violence perpetrated by the agency in Minneapolis, including the recent murders of Renée Good and Alex Pretti at the hands of ICE agents.

'Protests swept through Milan at the prospect of agents from the American Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) "providing security" at the Winter Olympics.'

ICE's presence at the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games is not unusual; they have operated at previous international events, and many countries send their own security divisions to global events. This delegation is the division of ICE that works internationally, Homeland Security Investigations. They operate largely to provide intelligence and monitor transnational crime, and do not have a notable domestic presence. The agents who make arrests and handle removal of people are from the Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) division. ERO is the executor of the terror seen in Minneapolis this past month.

'This does not change the fact that their organization is one the entire world has watched abuse U.S. citizens and non-citizens as sub-human.'

Although the ERO is not the division of ICE in Milan, this does not change the fact that their organization is one that the entire world has watched abuse U.S. citizens and treat non-citizens as sub-human, which has left a sour taste in the mouths of many Europeans. Not even a U.S. passport has protected people from those that wear the same badge as the officers currently

in Milan; ICE has arrested American citizens, some held for more than a day without being allowed contact with legal representatives or family members, and many held for weeks before their release. This undoubtedly contributes to 77% of Italians having an unfavourable opinion of Trump, as ICE and the American president have become more and more entwined. He calls those that have been arrested by the agency "hardened, vicious, horrible criminals," praising the agents that spread fear and unrest in the cities that he is supposed to protect.

'It's no surprise that Milan's mayor, Giuseppe Sala, has made it clear that ICE is "not welcome in Milan."

In light of all these abuses, it's no surprise that Milan's mayor, Giuseppe Sala, has made it clear that ICE is "not welcome in Milan." Hundreds of Italians attended a rally to oppose the arrival of ICE, many holding up "ICE OUT" signs, reflecting the disapproval of Trump and of ICE felt by Europe at large.

'It is about ICE as a symbol of Trump's overreach and the terror that his administration is enacting upon people on U.S. soil.'

Italy's Interior Minister, Matteo Piantedosi, has said that ICE agents "have no capacity whatsoever, nor any authority, to operate in Italy" and that "their involvement is limited to analysis and information exchange with Italian authorities." They "are not operational agents." But that is not what people are concerned about.

'Even the American athletes competing in the Winter Olympics reported being "heartbroken" over the state that their country is in.'

The public is not under the impression that ICE is going to arrest and deport people in Italy; deport them to where? It is not



SUBAAHSYED / MANAGING EDITOR

about whether the agency is active on foreign soil. It is about ICE as a symbol of Trump's overreach and the terror that his administration is enacting upon people on U.S. soil. Even the American athletes competing in the Winter Olympics reported being "heartbroken" over the state that their country is in. American freestyle halfpipe skier

Hunter Hess told *USA Today* that "wearing the flag doesn't mean I represent everything that's going on in the U.S."

If even Olympians cannot throw their support behind this country, how are the rest of us supposed to feel? Surely after this level of backlash on the world stage, the time has come for the U.S. government

to reevaluate how they are running this nation, and how its policies are affecting its people.

Brereton is an exchange student from the University of Southampton.

Campus Times

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Greenland Is Not Just An Island. It Is A Climate System.

BY JOHNPAUL SLEIMAN
STAFF WRITER

Most people hear “Greenland” and think of a remote Arctic territory, a place where polar bears roam and scientists drill ice cores. A piece of geography that rarely makes the news unless someone proposes to buy it.

But Greenland is not just a place. It is a planetary thermostat. What happens there over the next few decades will shape coastlines, weather patterns, and human migration for centuries.

‘A 2022 study found that recent climate conditions have already guaranteed at least 27 centimeters of sea level rise, regardless of what we do next.’

Greenland’s ice sheet contains 90% of the Arctic’s land ice which is enough frozen water to raise global sea levels by more than seven meters if it all melted. That ice sheet is currently losing roughly 280 billion tons of ice every year. A 2022 study found that recent climate conditions have already guaranteed at least 27 centimeters of sea level rise, regardless of what we do next. The melting ice is not waiting for policy debates to conclude.

Ice is a clever tool that the Earth uses to regulate the global temperature. Ice reflects sunlight back into space, mitigating heat, especially compared to ocean water, which absorbs it. As Greenland’s ice retreats, more heat gets trapped in the atmosphere, which melts more ice, which exposes more water, which absorbs more heat. Scientists call this a positive feedback loop. Once the loop accelerates past a certain point, returning to equilibrium becomes extraordinarily difficult. The ice sheet also regulates ocean currents. As Greenland melts, massive amounts of freshwater pour into the North Atlantic. Freshwater is less dense than saltwater, so it disrupts the sinking motion that drives the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (the ocean conveyor belt that distributes heat around the planet). Weakened circulation means significantly colder winters in Europe, shifting monsoon patterns in Asia, and unpredictable weather across the Northern Hemisphere. The effects

ripple outward in ways that climate models are still working to capture.

And then there is the methane.

‘This is not a hypothetical future risk. It is happening now.’

The Arctic is warming four times faster than the global average. As temperatures rise, permafrost — ground that has remained frozen for thousands of years — begins to thaw. Locked inside that permafrost are enormous quantities of organic material. When it thaws, microbes break it down and release methane, a greenhouse gas 30 times more potent than carbon dioxide. More warming causes more thaw, which releases more methane, which causes more warming. Another positive feedback loop, layered on top of the first.

‘Some will say these resources are essential for the clean energy transition. Rare earth elements power batteries and wind turbines. Critical minerals are necessary for electric vehicles. But Greenland’s rare earth deposits are co-located with uranium, which complicates extraction.’

This is not a hypothetical future risk. It is happening now. This would only be made worse with the so-called “newly accessible” Arctic resources. These resources are only accessible because the planet is destabilizing. The warming that reveals these resources is the same warming that threatens coastal cities, disrupts agriculture, and drives extreme weather. Mining and drilling infrastructure accelerates permafrost degradation. Oil well pads on Alaskan permafrost have been shown to accelerate local thaw rates even after remediation efforts. Some will say these resources are essential for the clean energy transition. Rare earth elements power batteries and wind turbines. Critical minerals are necessary for electric vehicles. But Greenland’s rare earth deposits are co-located with uranium, which complicates extraction. The harsh Arctic environment makes mining extraordinarily expensive, five-to-ten times costlier than operations elsewhere. Infrastructure is



RIDA AL-ZAYAD / STAFF ILLUSTRATOR

also virtually nonexistent: Only one small mine currently operates on the entire island. The economic case for expanded mining is weaker than it appears.

Greenland’s government has looked at these trade-offs and made a choice. In 2021, they banned new offshore oil and gas exploration, citing climate concerns. The same year, they banned uranium mining due to environmental and health risks, effectively blocking development of one of the world’s largest rare earth deposits. A country of 57,000 people, seeking economic independence, decided that some resources are better off frozen than extracted.

‘A country of 57,000 people, seeking economic independence, decided that some resources are better off frozen than extracted.’

Meanwhile, the United States has proposed opening 1.3 billion acres of coastal waters to offshore drilling. Federal protections have been stripped from millions of acres of

wetlands and streams, narrowing Clean Water Act coverage to just 19% of the country’s wetlands. Environmental review timelines for fossil fuel and mining projects have been dramatically shortened. Requirements for public input on drilling and infrastructure projects have been eliminated.

‘Protecting Greenland is not about locking away resources that someone might want. It is about recognizing that some places matter more as they are than as they could be converted into.’

These policy choices represent a fundamentally different approach to environmental protection. If Greenland’s resources were developed under a regulatory framework, also known as under U.S. control, that prioritizes speed and extraction over environmental review, the consequences for a fragile Arctic ecosystem could be severe.

Protecting Greenland

is not about locking away resources that someone might want. It is about recognizing that some places matter more as they are than as they could be converted into. Greenland’s leaders understood something important: The ice sheet is not a barrier to the island’s value; it is the value. Every policy decision that adds stress to that system, whether through extraction, infrastructure, or weakened environmental review, accelerates a process we cannot reverse.

The question is simple. Do we, like Greenland, make the right decision and treat the Arctic as a system worth protecting? Or do we force Greenland to empty its resources and accelerate the ice sheet’s death?

This article was originally published Feb. 8.

Sleiman is a graduate student in the School of Arts & Sciences.

CULTURE

‘Lux’: The Saints’ Album, Three Months Later

BY FRANKIE BRERETON
OPINIONS EDITOR

There's so much to talk about within this album, from the use of 13 languages, to the inspiration taken from the lives of female saints, to the use of the London Symphony Orchestra with what The New York Times calls “formal audacity.” The artist (in the truest sense of the word) described her album in a press release in October as an “emotional arc of feminine mystique, transformation, and transcendence,” and that is what one experiences upon listening.

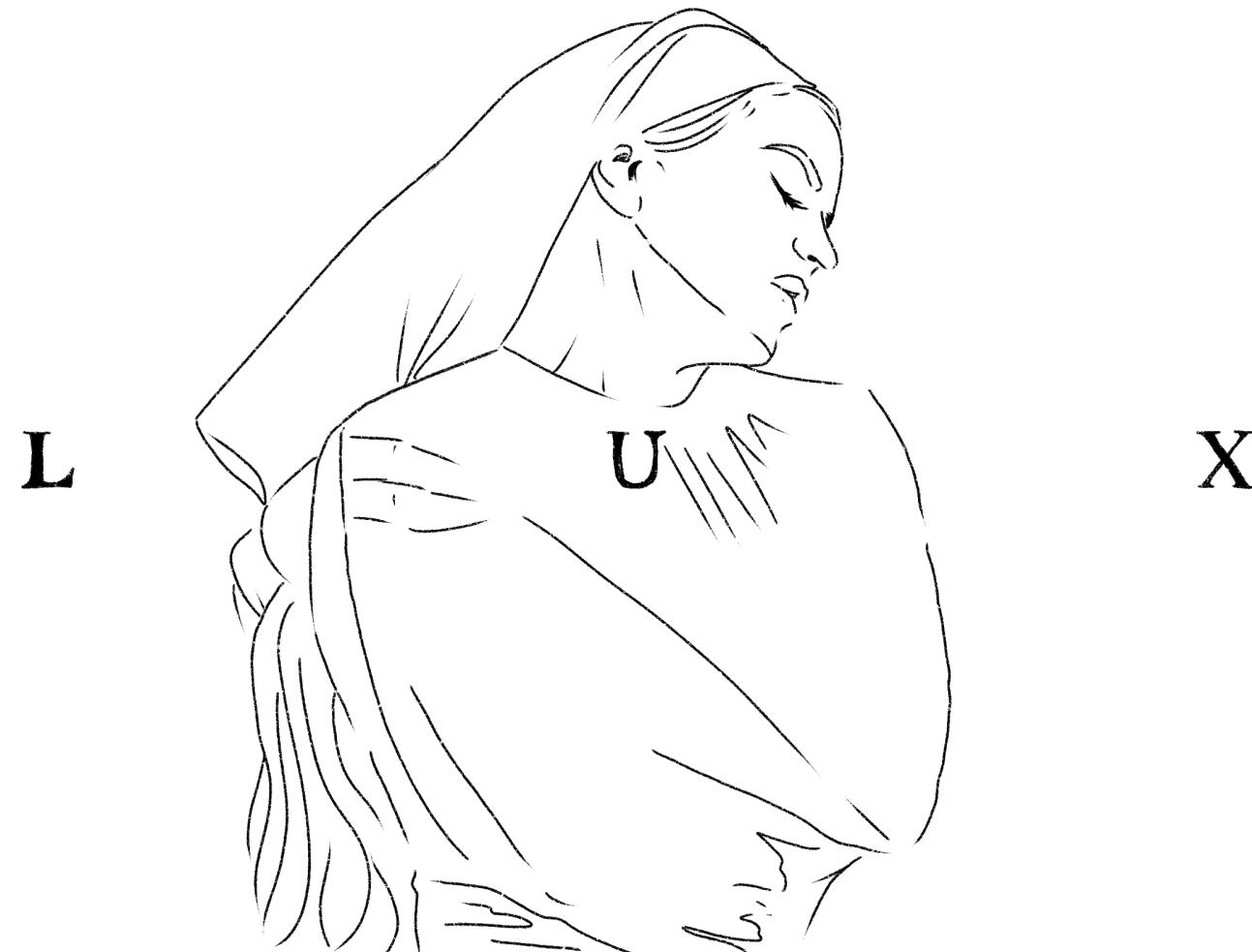
‘An album that works cross culturally and picks up languages from across the globe, including Hebrew, English, Japanese, Ukrainian and Sicilian, as well as her native Spanish and Catalan.’

Rosalía, the album's creator, told *Popcast* that, “it's a lot of trying to understand how other languages work” and collaboration with professional teachers and translators to make the phonetics work. This shows dedication to her music as organic pop; she refused to use AI and engaged with real humans to create an album that works cross culturally and picks up languages from across the globe, including Hebrew, English, Japanese, Ukrainian and Sicilian, as well as her native Spanish and Catalan.

‘... Shows her skill and her dedication to creating art that transcends our idea of how translation works.’

One of my favorite tracks on the album is “La Yugular,” and although it has a Spanish title, it has verses and a chorus sung in Arabic. Rosalía's ability to work with a language like Arabic, one that belongs to the Semitic language group rather than the romance group, shows her skill and her dedication to creating art that transcends our idea of how translation works. *Rolling Stone* called the album a “truly timeless work of art,” putting Lux into a league of its own.

Part of the creation of this album was a three-year



ELIANA THOMPSON / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

process of language learning and research. “La Yugular” was inspired by Rabia Al Adawiyya, the first female Sufi saint in Islam. She is known for founding the doctrine of divine love, essentially saying to love Allah for his own sake, rather than for reward or out of fear. Rosalía takes this and creates moving lyrics in Arabic that translate to, “For you, I would destroy the heavens, for you, I would demolish hell, without promises and without threats.” Later in the song, she sings in Spanish and addresses a ‘you,’ using a Gitano word for God. This could literally be the religious figure, or perhaps her turning a romantic interest into something worshipped. In another track she references an ex with anger, but “La Yugular” and the invocation of Rabia Al Adawiyya suggests a reorientation towards peace. Even the title of the song references Arabic and the Qur'an, translating to ‘The Jugular,’ in English, and calling back to Surah Qaf 16 (Qur'an 50:16): “Indeed, it is We Who created humankind and fully know what their souls whisper to them, and We are closer to them than their jugular vein.”

She references further female saints in other songs, Saint Ryonen Genso of Kyoto in “Porcelana,” Saint Rosalia of Lima in “Reliquia,” and Saint Hildegard of Bin-

gen in the first single of the album that was released, “Berghain.” Her geographical range of divine figures reflects her mastery of language and her classical training. Having studied as a conservatory musician with a preference for vocal flamenco performance, her understanding of operatic and classical music becomes clear in “Berghain” in what *Pitchfork* calls “violin fireworks” borrowed from Vivaldi's ‘Winter’ to her consistent collaboration with the London Symphony Orchestra across the album. She brings in further influence on this track with three distinct languages and collaboration with Yves Tumor and Björk. She told *Billboard* that in learning to use an orchestra, it was a challenge to “understand all the instruments, all the possibilities,” but she has done so masterfully to produce an album with four movements and an incredible range of sounds, and Rosalía's own version of an aria to boot.

‘This could literally be the religious figure, or perhaps her turning a romantic interest into something worshipped.’

“Lux” has a 95 out of 100 on Metacritic, coming in second on the site's top 40 albums of 2025. AP's Maria Sherman said of the

album: “If there is a single avant-garde saving grace in the pop music landscape, it's here.” She gave the album a 4.5 out of 5 stars. I believe that it is worth 5 out of 5 stars, and would go even further and break convention, as Rosalía herself does, and give it 6 out of 5 stars. It has acted as an entryway into Spanish language music for me, as well as encouraging me to move into listening to albums as a whole, rather than select tracks. Rarely have I had anything on repeat as much as I have this work of art; I've sat with it, read about it, stewed on it, and am happy to be able to express the awe that I hold for this album here, if a little late.

‘She has done so masterfully to produce an album with four movements and an incredible range of sounds, and Rosalía's own version of an aria to boot.’

I'd like to finish this belated review as Rosalía finishes “La Yugular,” using a 1976 interview with Patti Smith as a reminder of the ground breaking nature of this album and the inspiration that listeners can take from it: “Seven heavens — big deal! I wanna see the eighth heaven, tenth heaven, thousandth heaven. You know, it's like,

break on through to the other side. It's just like going through one door. One door isn't enough, a million doors aren't enough.”

‘I believe that it is worth 5 out of 5 stars, and would go even further and break convention, as Rosalía herself does, and give it 6 out of 5 stars.’

Brereton is an exchange student from the University of Southampton.

SPORTS

Seahawks' Defense Triumphs Over Patriots in Super Bowl LX

BY NATALIE SANTANGELO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With a 29-13 victory over the New England Patriots, the Seattle Seahawks are Super Bowl champions for the first time since their victory against the Denver Broncos in 2014.

'The Seattle Seahawks are Super Bowl champions for the first time since their victory against the Denver Broncos in 2014.'

The majority of the game was a slow roller, with no touchdowns being scored until early in the fourth quarter. For the first 45 minutes of Super Bowl LX, it appeared that Seattle kicker, Jason Myers, was going to be the sole scorer of the game. Myers set the record for most field goals made in a Super Bowl, ending the night with five through the goalposts. The Seattle defense was their strongest asset on the field, forcing the Patriots to punt on eight consecutive drives to start the game.

'The Seattle defense was their strongest asset on the field, forcing the Patriots to punt on eight consecutive drives to start the game.'

The Seahawks scored the first points of the game just over three minutes in, taking the lead 3-0. Soon after, they extended it to 6-0 after an 8-play drive, culminating in Myers' second field goal. Myers concluded the uneventful first half with a third field goal as the game went into the halftime show with a score of 9-0 Seahawks.

The second half opened with a Patriots punt, followed by the Seahawks, yet again, marching down the field to set up Myers for his 41-yard fourth field goal. The majority of the third quarter was a punting contest, with each team trading possession twice.

'With the Seahawks up 19-0, many viewers began to wonder if this would be the first Super Bowl to end in a shutout.'

At the end of the third, Patriots 23-year-old quarterback Drake Maye fumbled the football and the Seahawks recovered at the New England 37-yard line, enabling them to secure the first touchdown of the game. A minute into the fourth quarter, Seahawks quarterback, Sam Darnold, passed it 16 yards to tight end AJ Barner to secure the touchdown. With the Seahawks up 19-0, many viewers began to wonder if this would be the first Super Bowl to end in a shutout. However, Maye and the Patriots found their first points of the game on the following drive to put an end to that idea. Maye threw a deep pass to wide receiver Mack Hollins for 35 yards and a touchdown. The New England defense then forced Seattle to punt, and the outcome was suddenly looking a bit brighter for the Patriots.

'The outcome was suddenly looking a bit brighter for the Patriots.'

Unfortunately for New England, this hope was stripped from them shortly thereafter. Maye threw his first interception of the night with just under nine minutes left in the game to Seattle's Julian Love. A short Seattle drive ended with Myers' fifth and final field goal of the game, wrapping up a historic performance by the kicker and giving Seattle a 22-7 lead.

'Unfortunately for New England, this hope was stripped from them shortly thereafter.'

The nightmare of a game kept getting worse for Maye and the Patriots. A short pass intended for wide receiver Kayshon Boutte, was intercepted by Seattle linebacker Uchenna Nwosu, and returned 45 yards for the touchdown. This pick-six put the Seahawks up 29-7.

'The nightmare of a game kept getting worse for Maye and the Patriots.'

While the Patriots got six points back on the following drive, it wouldn't be



SUBAAHSYED / MANAGING EDITOR

enough, and Super Bowl LX ended with a final score of 29-13 in favor of Seattle. Seahawks running back Kenneth Walker III was awarded Most Valuable Player with a total of 135 yards on 27 carries. This award makes Walker III the first running back this century to win Super Bowl MVP. Seattle's Sam Darnold is the first quarterback from the 2018 draft class to make, and win, the Super Bowl, getting to this mile-

stone before superstars Josh Allen, Lamar Jackson, and Baker Mayfield.

Santangelo is a member of the Class of 2028.

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Two Weeks Down, Two Weeks Left for Men's Basketball

BY MADDIE UNRUH
SPORTS EDITOR

The month of February is a big one for the men's basketball team as they will be playing in the final games of the University Athletics Association (UAA). They kicked off the month with the seventh game of the UAA regular season Feb. 1 against the WashU Bears. That game ended in a 78-89 loss, but the team earned back a win two weeks later against the Brandeis Judges, with a score of 89-83.

'The team earned back a win two weeks later against the Brandeis Judges, with a score of 89-83.'

This has been a difficult season for the 'Jackets, as they have played teams all across the UAA ranking, from the Emory Eagles to the Case Western Spartans. These games have led to their current standing: An overall record of 11-11.

'This has been a difficult season for the 'Jackets.'

Feb. 8 was another good game for the 'Jackets, as they beat the WashU Bears 76-72, with the winning shot in the last 30 seconds of the game. The second half of the game was



HARRY LI / PHOTO EDITOR

Oprea (#5) clashes with UChicago's Shane Regan (#15) in a game Feb. 6 at the Goergen Athletic Center.

more action packed, with WashU's defense looking strong. As the clock ticked down, the game looked more and more promising for the 'Jackets as the team closed the gap.

'The game looked more and more promising.'

The comeback was

threatened when, with just over five minutes left, #5, senior Corvin Oprea, was injured. Limping off the court, Oprea was replaced with #10, junior Theo Murray. But #6, first-year Jordan Owusu, came through for the 'Jackets, making the winning shot in the last 30 seconds of the game.

On Friday, the 'Jackets

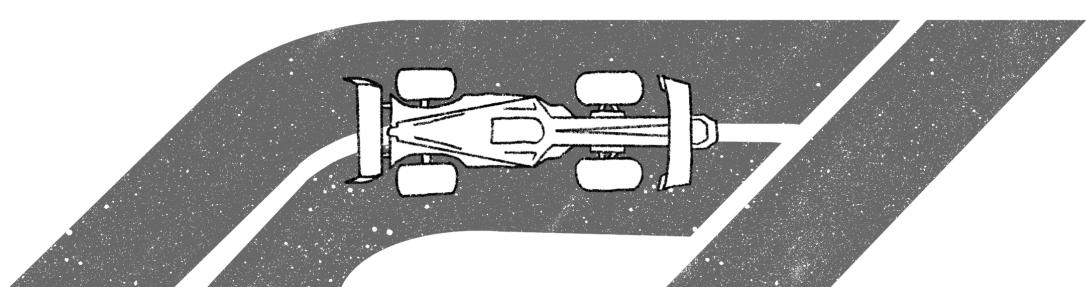
hosted the NYU Violets, and lost a close contest 80-88. Though both halves were very close, the 'Jackets still ended the night down eight points.

'The second half of the game was more action packed, with WashU's defense looking strong.'

Their next game is at Carnegie Mellon University on Friday and will hopefully continue this winning streak.

Unruh is a member of the Class of 2029.

A Deep Dive Into Formula 1



BY MADDIE UNRUH
SPORTS EDITOR

Since its inception 76 years ago, Formula 1 has always used rules to ensure the drivers' and cars' safety. Effective this year, those rules might shake up the established racing scene. According to Formula 1, the main difference is how the aerodynamicity of the car has changed, allowing the manufacturers to drop 30 kg of mass, giving drivers a lighter vehicle and a faster time on the tracks. A key vehicular design element is

the wing on the back of the car and the low-rider wing on the nose, both of which are now moveable "to allow for closer racing," which means the cars can drive in closer proximity to each other.

'Effective this year, those rules might shake up the established racing scene.'

The new rules that F1 has created will make for more interesting races, and the Australian Grand Prix on

ELIANA THOMPSON / ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR

Mar. 8 should be a compelling first example of that. With the new rules about vehicle safety and agility of the cars, there will be some very intriguing changes made by the teams and pit crews. The new set of rules will "be ratified by the World Motor Sport Council on June 28," according to an article on the F1 website.

Nikolas Timbazis, the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) Single Seater Technical Director, wants this new set of rules to create "a 'nimble car' concept." With

the reduction of vehicle size and weight minimum by 30 kg, the car will have the "active aerodynamics to achieve very low drag on the straights and the Manual Override system that will provide drivers with an on-demand burst of battery power when close enough to the car ahead of them," according to Timbazis. With all of the changes made to the rules, drivers will have more control of their cars and race in a safer environment for everyone on the track.

'Anything that affects F1 racing has the potential to have a large impact on race city markets.'

Anything that affects F1 racing has the potential to have a large impact on race city markets. Over 560 million dollars were put into the 2025 Las Vegas Grand Prix, which led to the city making over 45 million dollars through hotels and

casinos along the strip. That's half of what Monaco makes in a year.

With the rule changes focused around the driver and not the team, their impacts will center on the drivers' skill, allowing for the cars to race closer together, and give the teams greater competition within each race, potentially leading to even more interested spectators.

"The key features of the 2026 F1 Regulations are advanced, sustainability technology and safety," FIA President Mohammed Ben Sulayem said. "Our aim, together with Formula 1, was to produce a car that was right for the future of the sport's elite category. We believe we have achieved that goal."

Unruh is a member of the Class of 2029.

The Cold Never Both- ered Them Anyway

BY MAYA BROSNICK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I've cracked it. No really, I have, just like one of those pocket hand warmers that are always sold out when you need them (don't tell me to plan ahead better, it's physically impossible to consider the idea of hand warmers unless you can't feel your limbs, I swear). But no, I can't get side-tracked. I've cracked it: I know why people feel the need to walk around in 15 degree weather in shorts and a T-shirt, and it isn't the power of being born in Minnesota like they might claim.

No, those walking around without any sort of protection from the wind are hiding something. And it isn't that they're only doing it to get attention from their freezing fellows — though that might have been the initial motivation for choosing to gain tolerance to extreme cold.

You, our cherished *Campus Times* readers deserve the truth, and that is why I have spent seven months undercover amidst the ranks of the Northeast's most secret of secret societies: Sníðhræða. From an intense internet investigation after my undercover experience, Sníðhræða means Snow Fear, a name designed to make you think members fear the snow rather than them training to have "no fear" of it.

I have spent seven months undercover amidst the ranks of the Northeast's most secret of secret societies: Sníðhræða.

In my short time as a member of Sníðhræða, we participated in numerous activities designed to change the very fabric of our beings. It started off relatively normal: a couple ice baths and polar plunges. Then it started to get weird: They injected the insides of hand warmers into our blood (I knew it wasn't my fault I could never find any!), and built fire pits underneath our beds. But then, near the end of my stint, us new initiates were given the honor(?) of watching those who have completed the course have small molecules of lava chemically bonded to each individual cell, designed to heat them from the inside. This is the final change in a long series designed to prime the body to tolerate its union with lava. But, as one might assume, adding lava to one's

cells isn't the kind of procedure with a 100% success rate. Still, it seemed potentially being slowly turned into a screaming pile of lava was a small price to pay for those hoping to astound with their tolerance of frigid weather.

Soon after witnessing that, I made my escape back to the land of leggings under jeans and hands in pockets, but not before speaking with the American president of Sníðhræða, Thomas Lean. Posing as a faltering initiate (which let's be real, I was), I requested a meeting with Lean to "raise my confidence." Lean was initially reassuring, letting me know that "almost all initiates question their commitment to the process at some point." After just a little prodding, Lean expounded on the history of the society, telling me of the Han Solo-style blocks of ice that now hold their founding members, before anyone had quite gotten the process right. "But don't worry," he told me, "we now have a very high 44% success rate with the change."

To try to boost those levels, Lean told me the society selects initiates from warm homelands: "contrary to popular belief, people who grow up in the heat are better suited for our adaptations, we just tell everyone to say they're from the Upper Midwest to throw off the heat."

When asked what would happen if a Sníðhræða member revealed the organization's secrets to the world, Lean didn't seem concerned. "I mean, we put that lava there, we control it."

Yeah okay, I was done. I said goodbye to Lean, and the very next morning I slipped out between shifts. I struggled with whether or not to expose Sníðhræða, I really did, but you deserve to know what walks among us, and potential initiates deserve to know the heat they'll live with for the rest of their lives. If you see someone walking around on a five degree afternoon in shorts, know that they are liable to turn into lava at a moment's notice.

This article was discovered on Brosnick's computer after her untimely death, presumably intended for the humor section.

Brosnick is a member of the Class of 2027.

Eulogy for Brian Ly



LEN LAN / HUMOR EDITOR

BY GABRIEL JIANG
HUMOR EDITOR

BY LEN LAN
HUMOR EDITOR

BY KATIE JARVIS
SENIOR STAFF

BY BRIAN LY
SENIOR STAFF

We gather here today to honor the birth, life, and death of our dearest former Humor Editor, Brian Ly. His whimsy, silliness, and holy crusade against typos pushed him to go above and beyond in every way possible. His mere presence was a welcome substitute for the light of a sunny day down in the liminal basement of Wilson Commons. Without him, the basement has become dark, and the skies of Rochester have opened once again.

'His whimsy, silliness, and holy crusade against typos pushed him to go above and beyond in every way possible.'

In life, Brian was a lover of many things: Waldo-hunting ("After years of searching for Waldo, I realized that, perhaps, the real Waldo was the friends we made along the way"), the unofficial *CT* rabbit mascot Daisy ("Katie, when are you going to write another Daisy article?" — Brian Ly, every budget), and Getting Touched by the Boogeyman, his finest piece to date. Additionally, those close to Brian recall his love of fanfiction, with no less than four of his budgets urging writers to submit Trump slashfic and two explicit requests for smut-related articles. Coincidentally, his initials are "BL" which explains much of his love for fanfictions.

'Additionally, those close to Brian recall his love of fanfiction, with no less than four of his budgets urging writers to submit Trump slashfic and two explicit requests for smut-related articles.'

Brian was more than just a Humor Editor. He was also the self-proclaimed unofficial-official leader of the "Being Single is Cool" club, despite spending his time "flirting with hiring managers," and urging those like him to "mog the huzz with your chopped aura."

'He may or may not have been the best Humor Editor there ever was.'

He may or may not have been the best Humor Editor there ever was, but he certainly was the Humor Editor in the *Campus Times* to be quoted on the office wall saying: "My eyes just loaded in a different font," at 10 p.m. It's his quotes like these that inspire generations of readers and writers to do the same.

'It still feels like he's here in the CT office, with his voice ringing out from the corners, editing articles in spirit.'

Brian found joy in life's simple pleasures. He "shuttlecocked a shuttle. Shuttled a shuttlecock. Shuttled a cock? With [his] eyes closed," protected URochester students from

the Hatman, and even "assaulted Mickey Mouse, stole mildly warm milk from Santa Claus, and ran over the characters from 'The Simpsons.'"

It still feels like he's here in the *CT* office, with his voice ringing out from the corners, editing articles in spirit. Even though he's no longer with us, he has already left his mark in the *CT* — his astute advice to the future generation of editors: "Now that I've almost burred down the kitch-enb, it's your turn to cook."

'Under Brian's guidance, may we continue to "crank [our] hog[s] and flick [our] bean[s].'"

As we burn the extra newspapers left in the *CT* office in honor of him, may we send our best wishes to him for his afterlife — forever fussing over Oxford commas and double spaces. Under Brian's guidance, may we continue to "crank [our] hog[s] and flick [our] bean[s]." May you finally rest well on Sundays and early Monday mornings, Brian "The Funniest Humor Editor. Ever" Ly.

Jiang is a member of the Class of 2028.

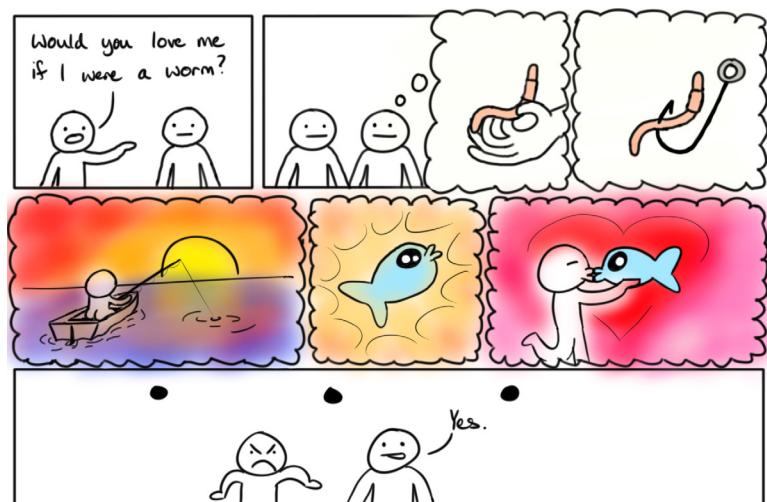
Lan is a member of the Class of 2029.

Jarvis is a member of the Class of 2026 (T5).

Ly is a member of the Class of 2027.

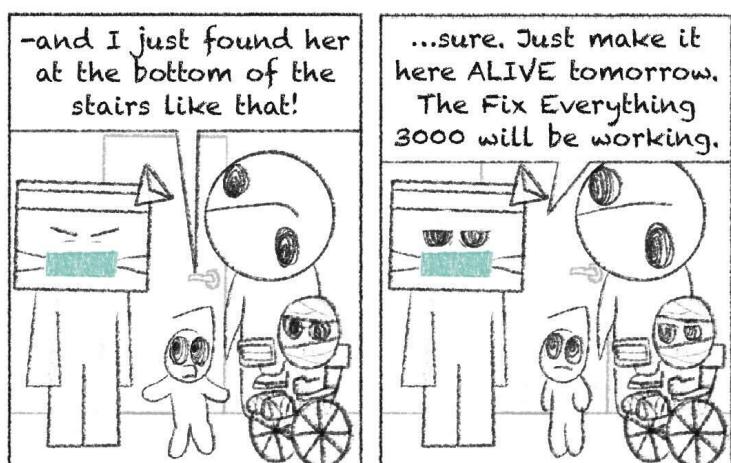
Would You Love Me

BY GABRIEL JIANG
HUMOR EDITOR



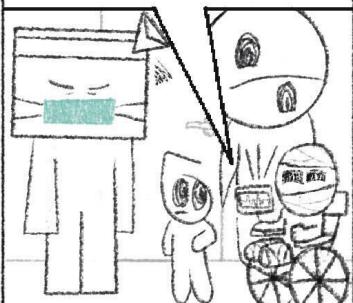
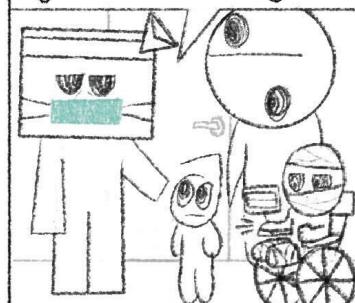
Papercuts: Voice Box

BY JOSHUA SCHIAVI
STAFF WRITER



In the meantime, she can use this computer to speak because her jaw was dislodged.

Meep meep meep meep mee pmeep mepe* MEEP*** meeeeeep La la la la la hahahaha



To be continued

Want to join
The Campus Times?



JOIN THE
CCC!

NOT Clickbait: Trading a Paperclip to a ...

BY LEN LAN
HUMOR EDITOR

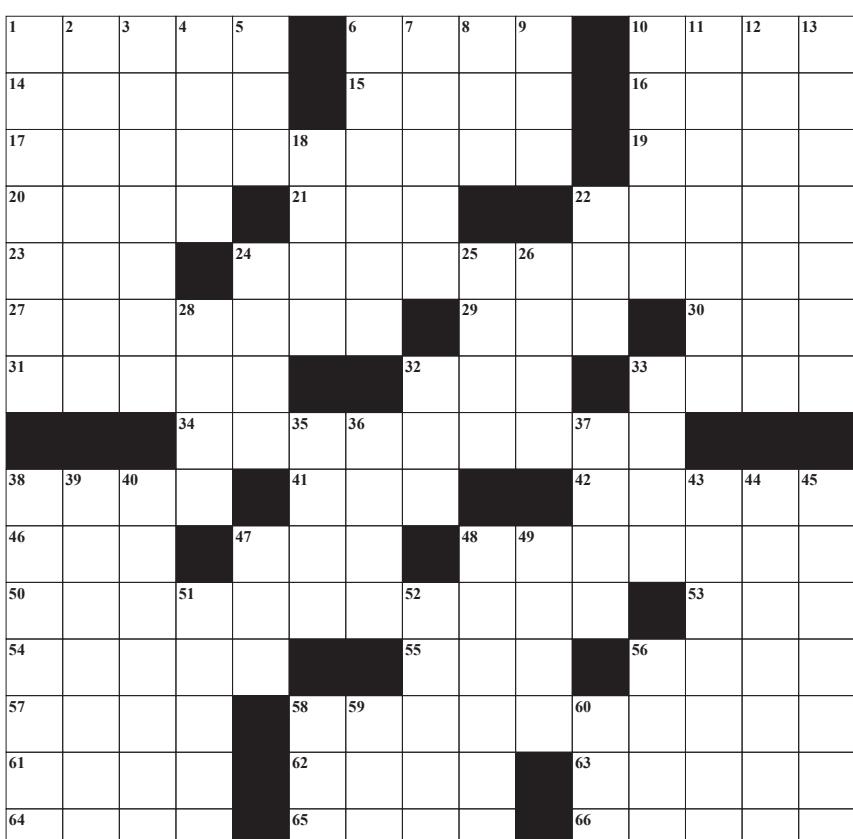


Crossword: Letterbox

BY CALEB OSHINSKY
STAFF PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Absurd
6 Homie, so to speak
10 "Back to the Future" bully
14 "Seriously!," in slang
15 First-rate
16 Cambodia's continent
17 *Blushing
19 *Road runners?
20 Sautéing acronym
21 Snaky sea swimmer
22 "Check," in poker
23 Former Giants closer Robb
24 *Locating a submarine captain of literature?
27 Nightfall
29 Also
30 PC-to-PC system
31 Ancient Mesopotamian birthplace of cuneiform writing
32 Ctrl-__-Del
33 "Citizen __"
34 *An apt account of ant hill history?
38 Adversaries
41 Baby dog
42 Quran deity
46 Hostel environment?
47 New Deal POTUS
48 Try to win
50 *French vegetable dish
53 __ Aviv
54 Moral code
55 Singer Lipa
56 Seed covering
57 *Essence
58 With "and beyond!", the most famous catchphrase of the studio associated with 17A, 19A, 24A, 34A, 50A, and 57A
61 Cathedral recess
62 Sty cry
63 Not called for
64 "Decorated" on Halloween, informally



DOWN

65 Frolic
66 Oceanic abysses
11 Eldest daughter in "Encanto"
12 One battling heat at work?
13 Unfair trick
18 Deutschland denial
22 Doctors Without Borders, e.g.
24 Phineas' toon counterpart
25 " __ do"
26 "Me? Never!"
28 Sailor's septet
32 Nile biter?
33 "Forest" forming underwater plant
35 French twist, e.g.
36 Ashram adviser
37 Fortune's partner
38 Tries to shoot
39 GoldenEye girl Xenia
40 Excite
43 Accept for now
44 Savored the flattery
45 "Damn right!"
47 Consumer protection org.
48 Unwieldy
49 "Frozen" snowman
51 Wasn't well
52 Menzel who voiced 49D's creator
56 Green Gables girl
58 Spinning toy
59 Standard product?
60 T-shaped birth control device

The answers to this crossword can be found on page 5.