

Specifications

Fifty cast bronze bells by Royal Eijsbouts of Asten, The Netherlands.

Range:

4½ octaves.

Weight:

6700 lbs.; largest bell (BOURDON) 1400 lbs.

Keyboard:

48 keys and 26 pedals, connected to the bell clappers by a half mile of metal rod. Keyboard is housed in a playing cabin immediately beneath the bells.

Clock:

Electric clock and chiming mechanism strike the hours and Westminster quarters on five bells.

Overall size:

7 ft. x 7 ft x 40 ft.

Rush Rhees Tower:

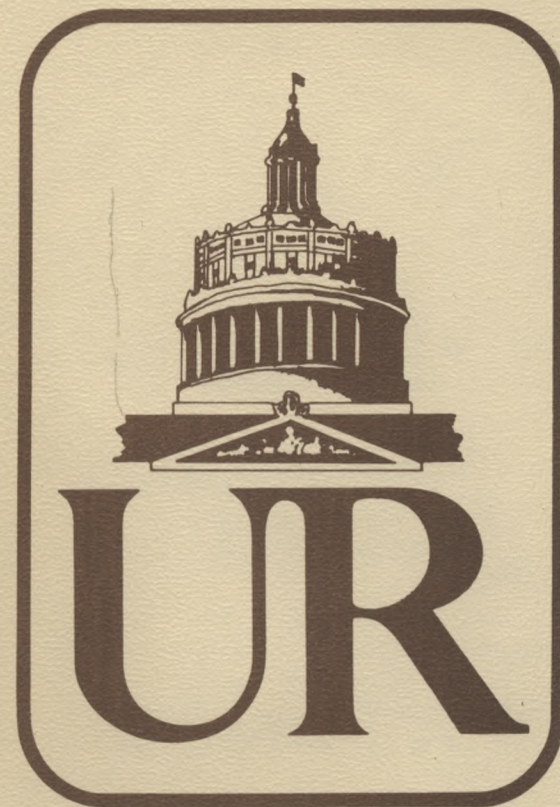
Height above Quadrangle, 189 ft.

The Hopeman Memorial Carillon is played for University events, holidays, and special events on campus. For more information on the instrument, to arrange a performance, or to request a tour, contact:

University Carillonist
River Campus Music Office
Wilson Commons
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY 14627
(716) 275-2828

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University of Rochester

Hopeman
Memorial
Carillon



The Hopeman Memorial Carillon

Since its founding in 1930 the River Campus has echoed with the sound of bells. The original seventeen-bell chime was given in memory of Arendt Willem Hopeman, a prominent Rochester builder, by three of his children. In 1956 two bells were added. The Hopeman Memorial Carillon — 50 bronze bells by Eijsbouts of The Netherlands — replaced the chime in December 1973. From its aerie in the tower of Rush Rhees Library, the carillon is played regularly throughout the year and especially to mark major University events.

The Instrument

The Hopeman Memorial Carillon is a musical instrument consisting of 50 cast bronze bells, which have been precisely tuned so that many bells can be sounded together harmoniously. Carillon bells are stationary; only their clappers move. The clapper of each bell is connected by thin metal rods to a keyboard. This keyboard contains a double row of rounded wooden levers (the keys) plus a set of pedals. The carillonist sits on a bench facing the keyboard and plays the instrument by depressing these keys with loosely clenched hands. The keys are arranged in the same pattern as the keys of a piano: The lower row corresponds to the "white" keys, and the upper, shorter row corresponds to the "black" keys. The pedals, which are connected to the heavier bass bells,



are depressed with the feet. As with a piano, expressive playing is achieved by variation of touch.

The Summer Recital Series

Each summer since 1979 a series of recitals has been performed by guest carillonists. Made possible by a gift from Andrew Stalder (University of Rochester Class of 1948), these concerts have brought carillon music to large audiences of appreciative Western New Yorkers. Evenings of excellent carillon music, with summery picnics in the setting sun, are becoming a local institution.

New Music

Complementing the Summer Recital Series, the University has commissioned faculty members of the Eastman School of Music to compose new music for the Hopeman Carillon. Two pieces by Sydney Hodkinson were commissioned in 1982. The previous year Warren



Benson's Picnic Music was first performed. These commissions have offered Rochester audiences an opportunity to hear new works in an informal setting, while adding significantly to the carillon repertoire.

Education

In addition to its frequent use as a performance instrument, the Hopeman Carillon serves as an educational resource at the University. Its bells and their reverberations throughout the campus have been the objects of study for students of acoustics and the physics of music. Student composers have written for it. Most important for the future of the instrument, several students and alumni each year begin the study of carillon performance. Drawing on a variety of sources for support, the University has created the position of University Carillonist to see that these activities are properly coordinated and to provide for the services of a skilled performer.