



4 CHILDREN
FOR SALE
INQUIRE WITH

JOBLESS MEN
KEEP GOING
WE CAN'T TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FREE
SOUP COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS
FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

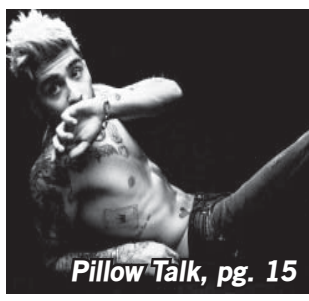
the paper
Vol XLVI
Issue 1



China, pg. 3



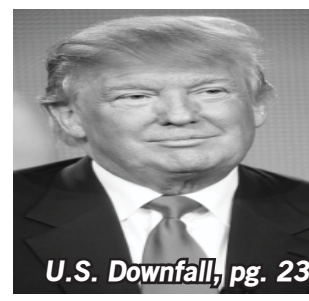
Inclusive, pg. 9



Pillow Talk, pg. 15



F & L, pg. 21-22



U.S. Downfall, pg. 23

the paper

c/o Office of Student Involvement
Fordham University
Bronx, NY 10458
paper.fordham@gmail.com
www.fupaper.org

the paper is a product solely of the students. No part of the publication may be reproduced without written consent of the editors. *the paper* is produced using Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Microsoft Word, and the incredibly hard work of the people above. Photos are "borrowed" from Internet sites like: www.imdb.com, www.google.com, www.nambla.org, www.rollingstone.com, www.cnn.com. Sorry mom, subscriptions are not available. Ad rates are unreasonable – don't ask. Open staff meetings are held Tuesdays at 9:00 PM in McGinley 2nd. Articles and letters to the editor may be submitted via e-mail to paper.fordham@gmail.com, or scrawled incoherently in White-Out on back issues of *Penthouse* magazine. Submissions are always considered, usually printed, and occasionally used to make origami rhinoceroses. If you do not wish your letter to the editor to be published, just say so. We do not advocate wussitude; all letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit any material submitted for publication. We will, however, work with the writer and see that content is as true to the writer's original as possible. We publish this rag ten times a year (five per semester).

So why not come down and write for us? We are a constantly evolving publication, and have been since 1972. And we try our best to second guess mainstream opinion and buck the system, even if there is no call to do so. But hey, writing isn't for everyone. Try reading a good book like *Everybody Poops*.

our aim

the paper is Fordham University's student journal of news, analysis, comment, and review. Our aim is to give the Fordham community fresh insights on old issues, new thoughts on new issues, and information that other campus publications may not be able to report. We do not claim to be a newspaper of record – facts, figures, and dates. Instead, we focus on the Fordham student perspective, on thoughtful analysis, and on the comprehension of the full scope of events, rather than staggered and straight news coverage. In short, our emphasis is on the obvious and active role of the student writer in his or her work. We also aim to provide Fordham students a less fettered venue for expression, something they may not be able to find at other student publications. Basically, if we make you laugh, piss you off, or move you in some way, then we're doing our job. If you don't like it, shut your pie hole (or come write for us)!

"What's your favorite political OTP?"

Editors-in-Chief

Siobhan "Jobama" Donahue

Executive Editor

John "Cruzio" Looby

News Co-Editor

Luis "Christie Kreme" Gomez

Opinions Editors

Melody "Santorum" Knight-Brown
Lisa "Buckabee" Calcasola

Arts Editors

Arthur "Jeb!" Banach
Matt "Ivankald" Whitaker

Earwax Editor

Reyna "Vladtin" Wang

Features and List

Michael "Abe the Babe" Sheridan
Claire "Billary" Nunez

Copy Editors

Rachel "Bernald" Poe
Jenny "Rand Pot" Harris
Emma "Donye" Chioke
Colleen "Krump" Burns

Contributors

Declan Murphy, Adam Hamilton, Nicholas Peters, Rena Brand, Kirsten Anastasio, Blu, GoFundMe, Basic Sorority Bitch, The Freedom Kids, Kim Jung Un, Hot Topic, Kanye Looking Mad, the darkroom door, Macklemore's Haircut, Ram Labels, hangovers, Kylo Ren, The Bouncer From Blue Goose, Debt Collectors, Mulder and Scully, The Great Depression, Dresden, Zayn Malik

HEY! IT'S YOUR CHILDHOOD STUFFED
BUNNY RABBIT!

You should come to *paper* meetings on
Tuesdays at 9pm in McGinley 2nd





Chinese Market “Doing Great” Despite Evidence to the Contrary

by Luis Gómez
News Co-Editor

Remember summer? Summer was a nice season. Birds flew in the skies, it didn't get dark outside until at least sevenish, and *The Force Awakens* hadn't come out yet. Also, the Chinese stock market was in the middle of a slide. A rather large slide. That first wave of selling among investors was seen as a downward correction, which is the term used for falling prices related to something being overvalued. For years, people have been speculating that China's everything has been overvalued, from its stock market to its currency. Many thought that, after that initial slide, the world's second largest economy would get back on track.

Guess what didn't happen.

On January 19th, China announced that its economy had grown 6.9% in 2015, a figure well within the government's target range of “around 7%.” It was also a number many people thought was kinda bullshit (estimates hover closer to about 4%), given that China has a track record for fudging official statistics. Even more people thought it seemed bullshit when Wang Baoan, head of China's National Bureau of Statistics, the department which announced the GDP growth rate, was arrested for corruption. Well, technically, he was arrested for “serious disciplinary violations,” which is right up there with “Let's Get it On” in terms of subtlety.

Even less subtle than their slightly bullshit GDP numbers is China's tumultuous stock market. In a sort of culmination of events, China's market dramatically shut down on January 7th, after only being open for about thirty minutes. The shutdown was caused by a new series of circuit breakers put in

Turns out they kind of just lie about stuff

place to try and limit panic and over-selling. Every stock market has them, so this isn't some kind of anti-free market nonsense. What is a bit suspect is the levels at which China set those circuit breakers. The S&P 500's circuit breakers, for example, halt trading for

came at the tail end of a weeks-long fall. On January 11th, the Washington Post reported that the Shanghai index, the main one in China, had lost 15% of its value in the last six days. Which is a lot. And which is a repeat of the whole situation in August.

There are a lot of people betting against the Chinese market now. International firms are leaving the yuan, China's currency, for the dollar. Hedge funds are placing a lot of bets against China, either by selling off their investments in China's market and currency, or by betting heavily against it. Foreign investors are much more reluctant to invest in China now, until it can prove it's either hit some sort of price floor or they can stop the flow of money. Business dude and conspiracy-theorist-subject George Soros believes that China's economy is on track for an inevitable hard landing. With bets piling up against them, China's state run paper ran a commentary piece that basically said that if you were short selling their currency then you're the devil and super mean and you shouldn't do that even though it makes perfect sense.

Now, you might be saying, this is all well and good and has a lot of percent signs bandying about, so I guess that's that, right? Well no. And stop talking during my article.

Here's where things get a bit interpretive. China's key to holding political control has been its economic growth. Without that economic growth, the Communist Party's central claim to power (beyond sheer force) rapidly decays. China's political leaders need their economy to hit the GDP target each quarter. Actually, China is one of few countries that even still have a GDP target.

When you're the world's second biggest economy, what happens to you happens to everyone else. China has the potential to float or sink the entire global economic system. If things don't change for the better very quickly, everyone else will need to learn to swim.



fifteen minutes if the market drops 7% and again if it drops 13%. If the market drops 20%, trading halts for the rest of the day. China operates under a similar system, but its thresholds are much higher, with trading paused at 5% and closed at 7%. These levels have been roundly criticized since China is a much more volatile market, so changes in price tend to be quicker and more dramatic.

But that was just one day of trading right? Well, no. Not at all. The shutdown

And that's where the central bank comes in. For weeks now, China's central bank has been trying to prop up its market, injecting it with cash by having regulators purchase shares using central-bank supplied cash, cutting interest rates, halting any new share listings, and threatening short sellers (people who bet on the price of something falling rather than rising) with jail time. Because placing obvious bets should be punished. Anyway, that hasn't been working either.

Are The Gallup Polls Feeling The Bern Yet?

By Declan Murphy
Staff Bern Victim

After months of debates and campaigning, the 2016 Presidential election gets underway in a very real way with the Iowa Caucus and New Hampshire primary. Monday, the first of February, marks the Iowa caucus for Democrats and Republicans; just over a week later, February 9th, is the New Hampshire primaries. These primaries are the first two elections which will determine who each party's nominee will be in the general election in November.

With the general election just nine months away, however, it's remarkable how unpredictable this campaign has been. Hillary Clinton, having long been the Democratic frontrunner, is losing in New Hampshire and fairly even with Bernie Sanders in Iowa. A number of polls have her losing from anywhere between three and nineteen percentage points in New Hampshire, and eking out a victory within ten points in Iowa. Don-

These developments have further stirred up an already shaky campaign season.

ald Trump retains his significant lead over the Republican field, despite many analysts predicting last year that Trump would burn out well before the primaries. He is followed in the polls by Ted Cruz, whose own rise was unexpected even months ago. Ben Carson, who was briefly the Republican frontrunner (by some polls), has basically fallen off the map. (Tellingly, Carson's campaign staff abandoned him at the start of 2016).

These developments have further stirred up an already shaky campaign

Time will tell, but seriously who still likes Hillary?

season. On the Democratic side, Hillary's dominance was all but agreed upon for most of 2015. Few considered Sanders a real threat, and O'Malley was decidedly not an obstacle. That latter part, at least, remains true. However, Bernie Sanders has continued to pose a semi-serious threat to Clinton's campaign. His impressive fundraising efforts certainly have her worried. A Sanders win in New Hampshire might mean little in the long run, but it

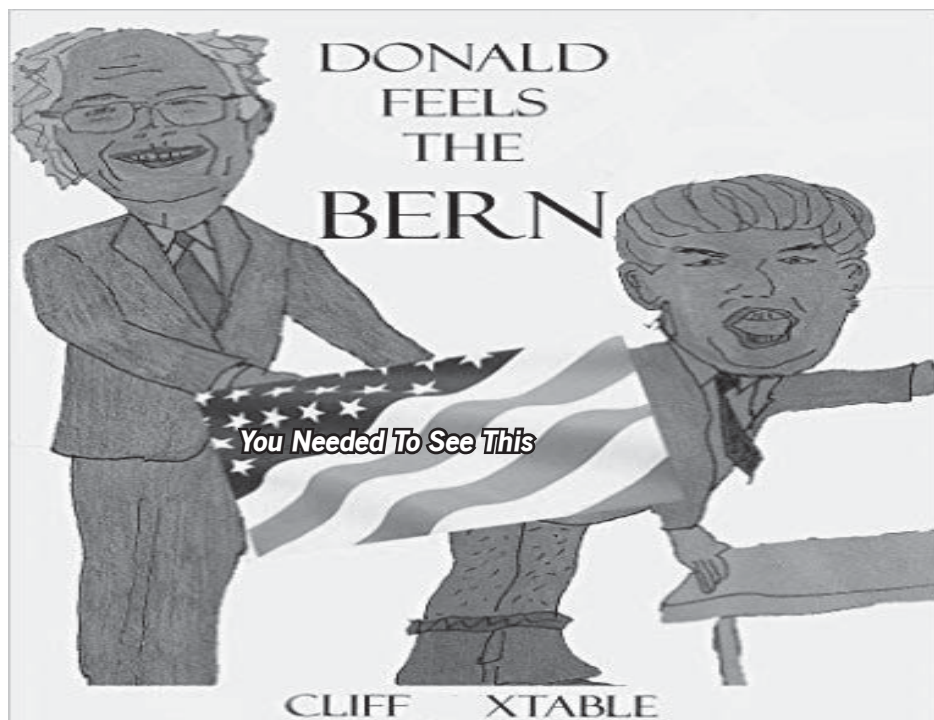
has changed perceptibly; her now-daily exhortations for funding warn of the danger of a Sanders victory in New Hampshire. Elsewhere, former New York mayor Michael Bloomberg may be poised to run as an independent, perhaps in part foreseeing Clinton faltering in the polls.

For Republicans, Iowa and New Hampshire both appear to be strongly going to Trump. Even after skipping

The Republican establishment is, in fact, one of those groups patiently awaiting Trump's eventual downfall. In preparation, they continue to seek out other, more moderate candidates to fill the void when 'the Donald' stumbles. Instead, however, they've got Ted Cruz. After remaining persistently in the middle of the field early on, Ted Cruz experienced a surge in polling, only enhanced by his subsequent debate performances. For mainstream Republicans, though, Cruz is not the one they were looking for. Cruz is a radical constitutionalist, whose views are comparably extreme to that of Trump, though in observably different ways. Meanwhile, conservatives moderates like Marco Rubio and Jeb Bush flounder.

It's important to keep in mind that while the Iowa and New Hampshire primaries are first, they are by no means predictive of how the general election will go. In 2008, Democrats in New Hampshire went for Hillary, who eventually lost the nomination to Barack Obama. Indeed, New Hampshire has a long history of not selecting the eventual nominee, particularly from the Democratic party.

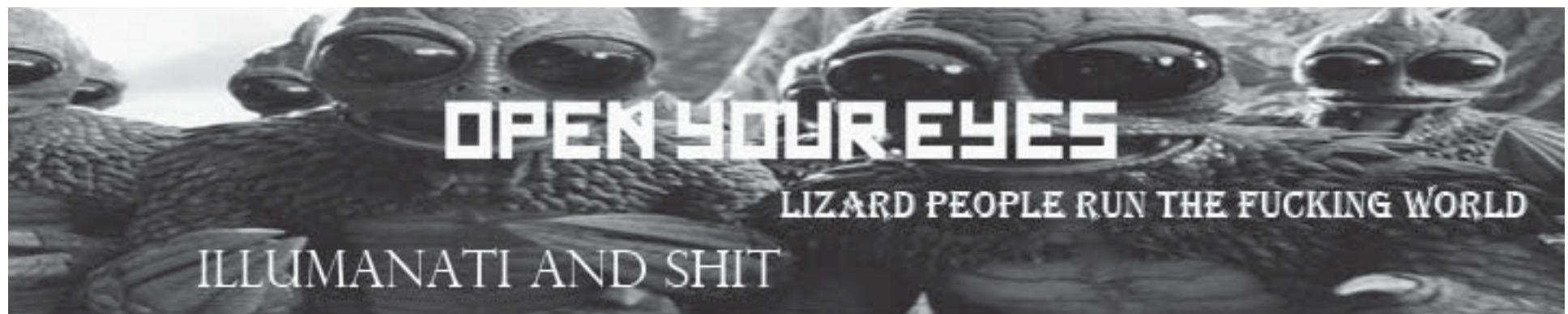
Most of the major primaries are still to come: New York, California, etc. There may be many shake-ups ahead in the upcoming months. Even the polls about Iowa and New Hampshire are more or less speculation at this point. Only when we have the results of these two elections will the full picture be revealed. Nonetheless, these early wins and losses will affect campaign strategy in the months to come, and affect the overall tone of the election as it progresses. The race is only just beginning, but with the major players in place and the election drawing nearer, each of these primaries and caucuses will carry a major weight.



would keep Bernie in the running, and possibly encourage new donors. It also undercuts one of the strongest rhetorical arguments that Clinton supporters have clung to: that Sanders simply isn't electable. More important battleground states will, of course, have different effects and influences. But an early victory by Bernie could put Clinton on the defensive—which, politically, is never a safe spot to be in.

Clinton's campaign does, indeed, seem worried. The tone of fundraising e-mails

Thursday's final debate, Trump has a commanding lead, and a cocky assuredness to go along with it. Trump went so far as to proclaim that he could "shoot somebody" in Iowa and still come out on top. Those who wait patiently for Trump's campaign of jingoistic nationalism and narrow-minded rhetoric to burn itself out are growing more and more impatient, as the campaign shows no signs of slowing down.



Iran And United States Sort Of Reduce Tensions

by Declan Murphy
Staff Diplomat

On January 12th, 2016—the morning of President Obama’s final State of the Union address—it appeared as though Republicans had won a significant victory against the sitting POTUS. After touting an agreement with Iran, aimed at limiting Iran’s nuclear program in exchange for a lifting of trade sanctions, crisis loomed yet again as Iran had detained several US sailors, who’s vessel was in Iranian waters.

But by the following morning, the sailors had been set free, and all was well yet again. Days later, Iran released a number of political prisoners, including one American journalist, the *Washington Post*’s Jason Rezaian. In the following weeks, the U.S. lifted trade sanctions, and other United Nations member countries followed suit.

Though the detaining of the U.S sailors was likely an accident, the incident was almost an international crisis. Iran claimed that the ship had strayed into

Still act like awkward couple that just broke up trying to be friends

its waters, and were thus justified in detaining the sailors. The proximity of this incident to the nuclear deal, however, threatened to put such progress in jeopardy. Thankfully, the diplomatic approach won out, and the crisis was resolved with no harm done. For many, including Secretary of State John Kerry, this was seen as a victory for the Obama administration. Without the diplomatic channels opened by the negotiations for the nuclear deal, the situation may have escalated into something far greater.

Indeed, such smooth negotiations are almost unprecedented. US-Iran have never been particularly comfortable—in fact, the U.S. had cut formal diplomatic relations with Iran since the seizing of the U.S. embassy in Iran in 1980—but in recent years the relationship had become more and more strained. Amidst numerous reports that Iran was developing a nuclear program, determined from such

signs as Iran’s purchases of enriched uranium, the threat posed by Iran grew greater each year. From the brink of crisis, though, it was ultimately the diplomatic approach that helped to ease the tensions—for the time being.

So what exactly do the lifting of these sanctions do? In essence, Iran is once again open to trade with the U.S. and other Western nations. According to one source, it will also open up sources of capital held by Iranians in foreign bank accounts that were previously inaccessible. The possibility for investment in Iranian business, or expansion by international corporation into Iran, is once again on the table. To put it somewhat reductively: the removal of sanctions means that McDonalds can open restaurants in Iran just as long as it means improved diplomatic relations

with Iran.

However, things are far from perfect. At the same day that the United States lifted most of its sanctions, a number of new ones were put in the place. These were set out in response to an alleged Iranian ballistic missile test. Clearly, there is a ways to go before an equilibrium amenable to both sides is reached. Yet the historic negotiations are, at the least, a step in the right direction.

Republican opposition to the deal remains strong. Indeed, many Republicans in Congress took offense to the fact that President Obama refused to address the detainment of the sailors in his State of the Union. Many of the presidential hopefuls have stated definitively a desire to be ‘tougher’ on Iran, and stand with our allies in Israel. A Republican victory in November may well lead into a retreat from these negotiations, or even a wholesale rejection of the deal.



Rapper Attempts To Set Back Scientific Progress Hundreds Of Years

by Nicholas Peters
Staff Clone

There have been many famous rap beefs. We had 2Pac and Biggie. We had Nas and Jay-Z. Last year we had Meek Mill and Drake. All of these were great rap beefs. However, we have been granted with one of the greatest rap beefs of our generation (sorry Meek Mill v. Drake). We now have B.o.B. vs Neil Degrasse Tyson, and it’s amazing.

Bobby Ray Simmons Jr., better known by his rap name B.o.B., is a hip hop artist, known for popular songs such as “Strange Clouds” and “Headbands”, has been making social media go abuzz this past week. B.o.B went from creating fun party songs to creating politically charged conspiracy-theory laden songs (collected on a mixtape entitled *New Black*), in what is one of the strangest changes in rap I’ve seen in one single person.

Well, B.o.B. is still showing that he has gone conspiracy crazy, as on January 24th, he decided to make a couple of posts on social media, questioning the legitimacy of the statement (made

Also he might be a mirror lizard clone

more than four centuries ago) that the Earth is indeed not flat. B.o.B. very much disagrees with any sentiment



that the earth is spherical, using legitimate sources such as a picture of the ground from a jet (presumably his), asking where the curves are. As well, he provides a photo of himself on a hill, with a nice view in the background, asking where the curves in the Earth are. He also retweeted a bunch of other Flat Earthers, all providing their views on the flatness of our Earth. Obviously, he is using the scientific method to prove that the Earth is flat, with these “credible” sources.

Neil Degrasse Tyson replied to many of the tweets, correcting him and ex-

plaining why the Earth is not flat. B.o.B., rather than listen to a professional on this matter, decided instead to do what rappers do and write a rap diss towards Neil Degrasse Tyson. On January 26th, B.o.B dropped for us “Flatline”. In this song, he disses Tyson, while explaining how the earth is flat, as well as referencing other conspiracies, and comparing himself to Malcolm X. He also pays reference to Holocaust denier David Irving (instructing us to look him up), as well as discussing conspiracies around the Freemasons. I think I also heard “mirror lizards” referenced at one point, (it got a little weird). As of today, “Flatline” is no longer offered on B.o.B.’s soundcloud, gone to the wind, never to return again.

The next shot in this beef came not from Neil Degrasse Tyson but from Tyson’s nephew, Stephen Tyson. The younger Tyson dropped a cover of the Drake song “Back to Back” (which is in itself a diss, towards Meek Mill), titled “Flat to Fact”. He released it on Soundcloud, and even put science down as a hashtag for it, to put B.o.B. in his place.

In this song, he corrects B.o.B. on his views and keeps firing shots at him. But it wasn’t over yet, as a couple days later, Neil Degrasse Tyson appeared on *The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore*, in which he gave an impassioned speech about how B.o.B. is wrong and the dangers of thinking like he does. As he finished up his speech, he leaves dropping the mic, “this is called gravity”. Currently, B.o.B. has yet to release a response to Neil Degrasse Tyson, but one can only hope. Maybe Tyson finally convince B.o.B. of the error of his ways. It would explain where “Flatline” went.

The real winner of this beef though wasn’t B.o.B. (definitely not) or Neil Degrasse Tyson (he came close though), but us, the viewers of this beef. We have experienced a once in a lifetime event. We have witnessed a a rapper beef with a famous astrophysicist, and the astrophysicist won it. This beef is amazing. The album name for the new Drake - Future collaboration definitely applies here, “What a Time to Be Alive”. Remember folks, “once you go flat, you never go back”.

FAKER THAN TRUTH

By John Looby

Whiteout Blackout 2k16

In a disturbing turn of events the recent city wide blizzard turned Fordham's corner of the Bronx into a hellscape of damp boots and degeneracy. Modest Estimates claim that over the course of the weekend 95% of students consumed "lethal" amounts of alcohol before heading into the tundra they now call home. The other 5% literally froze to death. Funeral Services will be held in the coming days. When asked for comments Students were quoted as saying "I don't even know my name right now", "ugggghhhh", and "Holy Christ in Heaven God has abandoned man to die in a frozen bastion of sin and also can I bum a cigarette". In the coming weeks nothing is expected to change besides an increase in Girls complaining that someone stole their north-face.

Student Builds Snow Castle and Declares Self Warden of the North

Fordham Student Michael Rajkamur in an act of total devotion to Game of Thrones, recently completed a to-scale replica of Winterfell on Eddies. Constructed out of Snow and loneliness the installation is a testament to what happens when your friends don't text you back on a Friday. The undergoing took hours during which Rajkamur's friends were "Really concerned, but wanted to see if he would build all of Westeros before the sun came up". As of now the sculpture stands in ruins after what Rajkamur referred to as Wildlings stormed his master piece and stomped it to bits for "being where they normally smoke" and "really messing with their vibes. The tragedy will be mourned but hoinestly it was kind of weird.

Congress Seat Finally Opens After Eons

By Adam Hamilton
Staff Congressmen

Harlem and the neighborhoods surrounding it have been seen as major centers of African-American culture and life in New York, but since 1945 it has only been represented in Congress by two men: Adam Clayton Powell Jr. and Charlie Rangel. That changes now as voters in New York's thirteenth congressional district get to vote to decide who replaces the retiring Rangel. This seat is not the same one that Congressman Rangel won back in 1970, as changes in districting and in immigration have made it increasingly diverse. The Thirteenth district covers most of Northern Manhattan and parts of the West Bronx.

Charlie Rangel won his seat back in 1970, usurping it from Adam Clayton Powell Jr. in a contentious election.

Since then, he had worked his way up the byzantine hierarchy of Congressional committees to become Chairmen of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, which writes tax law. He held this position until 2010, when he was forced to step down after an ethics investigation found official misconduct in his acceptance of corporate vacations. Rangel has indicated that his decision to step down is in part based

on wanting to leave Washington at the same time as President Obama. Rangel's retention of his seat for nearly the last half century has made it difficult for other rising political stars to move up. In the heavily democratic fifteenth district—the Republicans declined to run a candidate against him in 2014—state and local elected officials have to constantly operate in Rangel's shadow; but especially since the ethical complaints that came to light in 2010 they have been less content to do so. In the

Do these people remember how to vote?

last several elections Charlie Rangel's seat has seems less safe. Part of that is demographic, as Harlem continues to gentrify and Washington Heights and Inwood's Caribbean and Latino identity politics allow for opposing bases of political support to develop.

State Senator Andrew Espailat has been one Rangel's chief adversaries. Espailat almost defeated Rangel in a primary in 2012, coming about 1000 votes shy. He ran again unsuccessfully in 2014 and is expected to make a competitive bid this year. His major advantage was that after redistricting in 2010 and the culmination of decades of gradual demographic shifts, Rangel's district was now majority Latino instead of Black. Years of emigration has seen Northern Manhattan's immigrant communities grow, with large influxes

ing. Black votes in Harlem may be split among Assemblyman Keith Wright, State Senator Bill Perkins, and Clyde Williams. Former Assemblyman Adam Clayton Powell IV, the son of Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr., who was defeated by Rangel back in the seventies, has also thrown his hat in the race. Racial politics will most likely come into play, and at a forum earlier this month five candidates said that race will likely be a deciding factor in how people vote. Outside of the novelty of potentially electing the first Dominican to Congress, this race does not look like it is going to be notable. On most issues the candidate agree and there will be no organized opposition Republican or otherwise. Once in Congress, Mr. Rangel's successor will have a tough time making a name for themselves in the likely

Republican controlled Congress. At home, many of the same issues will still need to be addressed. NYCHA, New York City's Housing Authority, has become a central issue in the campaign as a significant number of people in the district live in city subsidized housing. In general the largest campaign issue has been keeping down the cost of living, especially in housing.

Mr. Rangel has done a lot for the city and for his district in his years in Washington and has left a legacy. But like so many lions of their ages he will leave with a whimper. The Harlem he

took over has changed. It is now more diverse, wealthier, and younger, all of which are opportunities for the districts next political leader to make their name in addressing the new problems that it faces. There probably will not be another representative as iconic as Charlie Rangel in Harlem for quite seem time, but that does not mean his legacy will not be felt. Charlie is now 85, and will enjoy the next few years in peaceful obscurity with his longtime wife, Alma.



of Puerto Ricans and Dominicans. This, and the inclusion after 2010 of part of the West Bronx, where he is less well known, hurt Rangel. Bill Perkins, an African-American State Senator running for the Democratic nomination says "This is not a Black seat."

Rangel's long career in Washington has in some ways hurt his prospective edge. He has yet to endorse a candidate, but among those running to replace him, there is a fear that his influence in the district may be wan-

Entire City Has Their Water Poisoned

By John Looby
News Co-editor

Recently, Flint, Michigan was given a surprise, not the all your co-workers bringing you a cake sort. Instead, their water is pretty much poison. By poison, I mean it's filled with toxic levels of lead because why eat vintage paint chips when you can trust your city's infrastructure to ruin the your health and your family's. Now, I'm sure you may know that water isn't usually full of lead, so how exactly did Flint, Michigan turn into the worst place to own a

Whole thing could have been avoided

worth a few million dollars, so the water source was changed to the Flint River. The Flint River, of course, is basically the ooze that gave birth to the teenage mutant ninja turtles.

The pH of the water is best described as not fucking good. The corrosiveness of the water is strong enough to eat away at the pipes that transport water throughout the city. Surprising no one, these pipes are old enough to have lead in their construction. When the acidic filth

just the absolute worst. The level of just blindly ignoring the problem was almost impressive. The mayor of Flint himself went on the news and drank the water to convince everyone that officials weren't peddling toxic fluids. So, to put it bluntly, that asshole would rather publically poison himself that admit that city officials were wrong.

With all the sheer idiocy of the Flint city officials, it's easy to overlook that the day-to-day citizens of Flint are going about their lives suffering through the horrific side effects of lead poisoning and the terrible mismanaging of their city. Their hair is literally falling off and children are likely to be plagued with developmental issues for years to come due to the concentration of lead in their systems. Worst of all is that if the citizens of Flint don't want to pay for literal poison, they risk losing their children because the bullshit just never stops. The problem here is that Child Protective Services legally have to remove children from homes that don't have running water, even if said water is poisonous and could kill said children. So, the people of Flint are stuck paying to have poison run into their houses, so that they can keep their children.

The impact of this essentially fucking terrible series of events is years of repairs and a potential spending on a billion dollars on infrastructure alone. Estimates put the time to complete the repairs within the city at 15 years because sometimes people just fuck up that badly. The infrastructure costs don't even account for the public health costs because frankly, some of the damage there is just irreparable and city officials are probably planning on just fucking over the citizens again. In a move less likely to outright crush your sense of a bright future for humanity, several groups outside of Flint have begun raising money in order to assist the health costs for the children living within the city. These groups are helping to take care of a group of children, who are likely to be haunted by the effects of lead poisoning for the rest of their lives. It's a slight amount of hope amidst tragedy, but still probably lower than the amount of lead in the water. The upcoming years in Flint, Michigan will be a trying time, but hopefully can serve as a lesson in dumb shit you should not do an entire city of people.



squirt gun? Well obviously bureaucratic bullshit and idiocy. This is America, after all.

All the fun began when Flint's leaders decided to change the city's water source in an effort to save a few million dollars over the course of a couple of years. For over fifty years, the city had been buying its water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. This water was taken from Lake Huron and chemically treated before being dispersed to the residents of Flint. The important thing to note about this chemical treating of the water is that it wouldn't poison the people of the city. However, at some point, it was apparently decided that not poisoning innocent men women and children wasn't

water ran through the pipes the lead leached in to the water and the poisoning began. City officials would continuously decline that unhealthy levels of lead were to be found in the water up until the point where they gave up and admitted to the fact that they didn't even know where the lead piping was.

Now, while you may be think that this is all basically the fucking dumbest thing that a city could do to it's residents, you should also know that it is super illegal. Flint officials ignored federal regulations like a red headed stepchild. This whole situation could have been avoided if the officials had actually run the tests required of them, rather than be

Reality Than Fact

By Luis Gómez

Tony the Tiger® has a twitter account. And every morning, when he gets out of bed and goes to his kitchen, making sure to pour himself a delicious bowl of Frosted Flakes™, he checks that Twitter account. And every day, as he's eating his Frosted Flakes™ and checking Twitter, Tony the Tiger® is inundated with porn. Furrries keep sending him porn. In fact, furrries are sending Tony the Tiger® so much porn he's been mass-blocking them. And he's been forced to tweet about this.

January 27th will go down in history as the day Tony the Tiger® tweeted, "I'm all for showing your stripes, feathers, etc. But let's keep things gr-r-reat - & family-friendly if you could. Cubs could be watching" That day was the day that Tony the Tiger® stood before all his followers, and with a voice ringing true, told everyone to just stop sending him pictures of anthropomorphic wolves fucking. Truly, a watershed moment for cereal mascots, breakfast, and indeed, for America. Like, all of America. Not just the United States.

Never before in the world of delicious, nutritious starts to your day has anyone been confronted, nay, assaulted, with the idea that a cereal mascot a) has an active twitter account b) gets sent furry porn on the reg and c) actually receives so much furry porn that he has to tell people to stop doing that.

Also, Chester Cheetah® is apparently much more accepting of furry porn because he also tweeted (what a world!) about this, but in like a boring general way. And then responded to someone who said "senpai noticed me."

Outbreak of Zika Virus Causes Pregnancy Concerns

By Reyna Wang

Earwax Editor

The Zika virus, spreading rapidly throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, has garnered worldwide attention over the past few weeks. Named after the Zika forest in Uganda where it was first discovered in 1947, the mosquito-borne virus has previously caused outbreaks in other African countries, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands. But if the Zika virus has been around for so long, why is it only now causing so much alarm? The symptoms themselves are quite mild; they are similar to those of dengue, which can include rashes, fever, headaches, and joint pain, but are generally much less severe. Only 20% of people infected will actually exhibit these symptoms, and due to their mildness, the disease has never been heavily studied until recently.

The real cause of concern arises from the newly discovered correlation between Zika and microcephaly, a rare condition in which an infant is born with an abnormally small head and usually an underdeveloped brain. Most of the evidence for this correlation comes from Brazil, the nation hit the hardest by Zika. The outbreak of the virus in Brazil began last May, and the country has since reported over one million cases of infection. Perhaps not coincidentally, there have also been 20 times more

Everyone keep it in your pants until we have a vaccine

with microcephaly have in many cases found the virus, suggesting that a linkage is probable, but public health officials agree that further investigation is required to prove that the Zika virus does in fact cause microcephaly. Some researchers speculate that the cause could actually be a combination of viruses, or that Zika may not be related to microcephaly at all.

reporters, “We would like to suggest that women of fertile age take measures to plan their pregnancies and avoid getting pregnant in the next year and a half,” and this recommendation has been echoed by other doctors and authorities in Brazil, Colombia, Jamaica, and Ecuador.

But is it fair to place the burden of pregnancy almost entirely on women? Many of the statements issued by pub-

and to avoid the transmission of the virus.

Abortion is also highly restricted or in some cases completely illegal in Latin America, which is concerning when the issue of unplanned pregnancy now has higher stakes than ever due to the suspected effects of Zika. In El Salvador, for instance, girls from 10 to 19 years of age account for roughly one-third of all pregnancies, the majority of which are unplanned. Restrictions or bans on abortion lead to the widespread practice of unsafe abortions, the frequency of which will only increase with the rise of Zika infection unless sex education, family planning programs, and access to contraceptives or safe abortions are improved. Dr. Serruya, director of the Pan American Health Organization’s Latin American Center for Perinatology, Women and Reproductive Health, has stated in light of the Zika outbreak that “all the countries of the Americas have agreed to work to improve perinatal care to promote family planning respecting cultural differences and ensuring access to modern and safe methods, and to develop and implement measures to reduce unsafe abortions.”

Other than in Puerto Rico, the virus has not yet directly affected anyone in the United States, though WHO has predicted that it will likely spread to every country in the Americas as the weather warms, save for Canada and Chile. Brazilian researchers are now also examining a possible connection between Zika and Guillan-Barré syndrome, where one’s immune system attacks parts of the central nervous system. A vaccine for the virus has not yet been developed, and even testing for the virus is rather difficult, with common testing methods only being able to detect the virus up to a week after its contraction. The best way to fight Zika at the moment is to practice vector control, which in this case entails eliminating still water, wearing bug spray, using mosquito nets, and other such precautions that have actually shown to be highly effective methods of eliminating or containing mosquito-borne diseases such as Malaria or West Nile Virus. Zika is part of a curious trend of the recent decades in which mosquito-borne diseases have been traveling to the Western world through Africa and Asia. This trend is yet another example of how human processes like globalization and urban crowding have changed the ecological landscape of the globe, for better or for worse.



As if we needed more reasons to hate them

Restrictions or bans on abortion lead to the widespread practice of unsafe abortions, the frequency of which will only increase with the rise of Zika infection.

cases of microcephaly in 2015 than in 2014. French Polynesia is the only other country affected by a Zika outbreak that has noted a simultaneous spike in the number of babies born with microcephaly. Tests on tissue samples from newborns and stillborns

However, most officials are recommending a “better safe than sorry” approach. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a travel alert advising travelers, especially pregnant women or women planning on pregnancy, to postpone visits to Central America, South America, and the Caribbean, or to “practice enhanced precautions” while visiting these regions. The World Health Organization (WHO) backed this warning, stating that “Pregnant women should be especially careful to avoid mosquito bites,” and that “Women who believe they have been exposed to the Zika virus should consult with their healthcare provider for close monitoring of their pregnancy.” El Salvador’s deputy minister of health told

public health authorities do not consider the high percentage of pregnancies that are unplanned, and that both men and women must be held accountable for pregnancy. “Calling attention to women not to become pregnant has caused outrage amongst all the women’s movements here,” El Salvador director of Catholics for a Free Choice, Rosa Hernandez, told Broadly. “The virus doesn’t just affect pregnant women, but also their partners; men should also be told to protect themselves and not impregnate their partners.” Even more, there have been reports of the possible spread of Zika through blood transfusion or sex; in one case, the virus was found in semen. This means that both men and women must take extra care to practice safe sex in areas where they are susceptible to Zika, both to avoid pregnancy



“Person of Color” Or “POC” Isn’t Actually An Inclusive Term

by Melody Knight-Brown
Opinions Co-Editor

Creating a synonym for “non-white” doesn’t really promote diversity

If you spend any time on the internet, or at least the non-pornographic tumblr-y parts of the internet, odds are you have come across the term “person of color” or POC, when abbreviated. The term is fairly self-explanatory, referring to people who do not have a Caucasian or White heritage and has been popularized by people advocating for equal representation in media.

One example is the 2016 Academy Awards or The Oscars. The fact that the Oscar nominees are overwhelmingly White (#OscarsSoWhite) may be a result of the implicit or explicit racism of the Academy, and indicative of the fact that maybe a bunch of old White men are not the best judges of what the year’s best achievements in film are. However, the reason the Oscar nominations are so White may also be, at least in part, due to the fact that Hollywood sucks at making good roles for people of color. And its not just Hollywood. POC representation in film, TV shows, magazines, books, etc., is nearly nonexistent and too often where it does exist, POC characters are either the sidekick to the main White character, the evil bad guy, or the first person to be killed (see: every horror film ever). Likewise, most advertisements depict White models. Most children toys are White action figures or White dolls. Books are a little better with POC representation, although not by much and when a book is translated to an on-screen adaption, the POC characters are usually whitewashed, which just means the POC is casted as a White person.

However, this is not about how society fails at representing diversity. This is about the term “person of color.” It is a convenient way to talk about diversity that doesn’t privilege any one race. Going back to the Oscars, the Academy got a lot of criticism for ignoring Black actors. But what about Asian actors? Or Hispanic actors? Or

this problem and allows people to talk about diversity without excluding anyone.

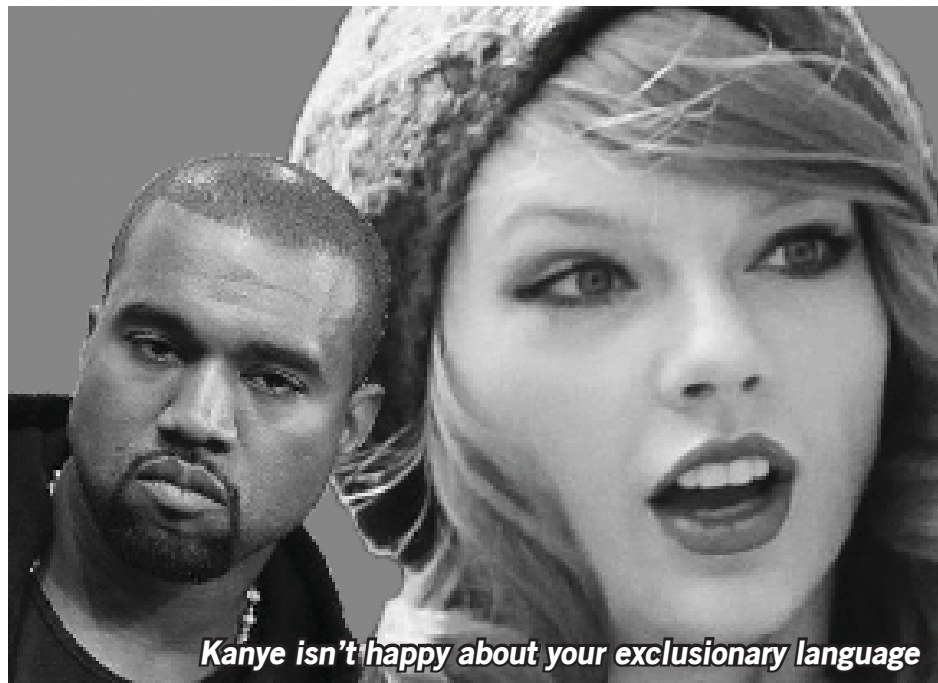
And I absolutely hate it.

“Person/People of Color” is so stupid and on top of that, it’s racist. I realize that people who use it are well meaning and representation is important and all, but that doesn’t make

know. What about pink people? Or beige people? I’ve seen plenty of tan people but that’s not really what people mean when they say of color because pink, beige, and tan are all “White” right? And White’s not a color right? At least that’s what you seem to be implying.

Colors of the rainbow argument aside, which is admittedly somewhat satirical, there is the bigger, more important reason I don’t like the term POC. It clumps together everyone who is not White. It perpetuates the idea that there are White people and then there is everyone else. Literally everyone who is not White can be identified by this term because, I mean they’re practically the same anyway, right? The same in their non-Whiteness. Of course, now, if you use the term non-White, everyone will yell at you for being racist. It’s wrong to say that there are White people and non-White people. But isn’t that pretty much exactly what “person of color” is saying too? It’s just a new way of saying non-White.

Yes, it’s important to talk about diversity and yeah I realize just saying POC is so much easier than trying to list every kind of “of color” you mean. But it’s important to say what you mean because POC are a diverse group and they are neither the same nor share they same experiences just because they are not White. And if you must use an abbreviated term to generalize people who are not White, try saying ethnic minority or racial diversity because that’s what you really mean when you say POC.



Kanye isn't happy about your exclusionary language

Native American actors? The term POC circumvents this problem by including all races even those that people don’t normally think of. Like what about Middle Eastern actors, Aboriginal actors, Filipino actors? People don’t usually remember to include smaller racial groups and even if they did, it would be impractical to name every ethnicity there is because there are just so many of them. POC fixes

this term any less dumb.

Person of color? What exactly does “of color” mean? Do you mean Black people? Or Brown people? Better not mean yellow people or red people, because that’s offensive, i.e., yellowbellied Japanese or redfaced Indian. But what about blue people or green people? Or orange people? Do people who tan themselves orange count as of color? Probably not, but you never

Distinction Between Intern and Slave Diminishing Rapidly

by Michael Sheridan
Features & Lists Co-Editor

It's the time of year when the freezing weather, blizzards, and disgusting slush makes us all wish it was summer. Yet despite the great weather of summer, the season also brings with it plenty of work in the form of internships.

Internships are great because they allow you to experience what working in a particular field is really like. Today, almost 75% of all college students participate in internships. It can help you to decide whether a career in this field is something you actually want. However, while the actual internship can be great, the process of finding an internship is usually a nightmare because of the existence of the dreadful unpaid internship.

Somehow the idea that students should be willing to devote countless hours a week to do work and get paid nothing in return has permeated American business culture. This seemingly anachronistic practice is justified in that these interns are being "paid" in the sense that they are receiving experience and opportunity. Legally speaking, an unpaid internship is only legal if it benefits the intern, not the employer, doesn't replace paid employees, and

...what also makes these internships extremely unfair; they favor wealthier students over lower income families...

is genuinely educational and teaches real skills to interns. However, despite these rules most internships continue to simply be getting coffee, making copies, and sorting files.

This is why I truly hate unpaid internships. I believe that they are simply a way for companies to exploit the time and effort of young, vulnerable college students. There is a constant pressure to find internships, which often pushes people into simply accepting these internships despite the fact that they can be horrible arrangements. These

Remember, you're here forever (and we won't pay you)

companies require near full time hours for these positions, preventing students from trying to make some money through a second job. Instead, those with unpaid internships not only have to work for free but must also find a way to pay for housing, food, and other living expenses. Where is this money supposed to come from?

This fact is what also makes these internships extremely unfair; they favor wealthier students over lower income families. Some people are lucky enough to not have to worry about the

unpaid, you are not able to participate in the program and benefit from participation.

I do not understand what allows unpaid internships to even exist. What other kind of job could possibly exist where you get paid nothing? They seem almost anachronistic in our society. While workers across the country are demanding higher minimum wages (#fightforfifteen), how is it still allowed for companies to pay nothing simply because a job is titled "intern"?

A common argument that businesses

rations being cheap. For example, I am interested in museum work after college, so naturally I want to intern in an art museum. Since the art world is not known for its wealth, it would seem as if the argument that they can't afford to pay their interns is valid. Yet several museums, especially in New York, do quite well financially. The Guggenheim Museum, for example, is one of the most visited museums in not only the city, but the world. The museum is doing quite well financially and the number of visitors was so high that this past year it was able to raise its admission prices. Yet despite this financial success, the museum does not pay their interns. I find it hard to believe that a museum so wealthy couldn't afford to pay their team of six to eight interns a thousand or two each.

It is not about the cost, it is purely companies being cheap and wanting to exploit vulnerable college students for free labor. A place like the Guggenheim knows that no matter what it will have applicants to their programs. The museum has no incentive to start paying their interns. This experience is mirrored across business and various other fields. Thus, unpaid internships won't be ending anytime soon due to lack of demand.

In fact unpaid internships are only growing in America, with almost 50% of all internships being unpaid. Overall, unpaid internships allow businesses to save an average of \$15,000 in labor costs per intern according to Business Insider. This is only encouraging businesses to cut compensation even more.

And beyond private businesses, the government, at the local, state, and federal levels, have also begun to rely on unpaid interns too. Congress alone employs 20,000 interns, most of them being unpaid. The white house employs 6,000.

Despite this, I believe that the government needs to intervene and outlaw this practice entirely. There simply is no place in the modern world for unpaid internships. I personally am refusing to apply to any unpaid internship and I would encourage anyone to do the same. It's time to get paid for getting all that coffee and filing.



fact that they are unpaid. They can simply focus on the internship while their parents worry about paying for housing, transportation, and food. Meanwhile, lower income students simply do not have the resources to afford these internships. Thus, the lower income student will have to work in a part time job most likely unrelated to their field, while the wealthier student is able to start building his or her resume and make connections in the business world. The richer student gets to push ahead in their field simply because they were lucky enough to be born into a wealthy family.

It is ever more frustrating when an unpaid internship is more than just getting coffee, but actually sounds interesting and useful towards your future career. But because the program is

and corporations use is that they just don't have the money to pay their interns, but still want to provide an opportunity. In their train of thought, simply

It is not about the cost, it is purely companies being cheap and wanting to exploit vulnerable college students for free labor.

offering an unpaid internship is better than offering no internship. This argument is more often than not just corpo-

Chanel Tried a New Thing and We Weren't Impressed

by Jenny Harris, Rena Brand
Staff Fashionistas

As one of the most iconic fashion houses in the world, Chanel has a long history of revolutionizing the fashion industry. From extravagant fashion shows to the most famous faces gracing their advertisements, Chanel is truly an iconic brand. Because of this, they can put on bizarre shows that are able to magically elevate the banal to the extraordinary. With settings such as a grocery store, an airport, and a casino, Chanel has gone for the unconventional with its recent shows. This is why the simplistic choice of a Zen garden for the latest show was an unexpected one that left many a viewer wanting more, especially us, the authors of this article. The Zen garden represented the natural elements that served as inspiration for the collection. We'll be the first to admit nature is pretty fucking extraordinary, so how the show managed to make it seem boring is quite the achievement. With a color palette of dust, concrete, and tree bark, Karl Lagerfeld (the head designer and creative director of the brand), picked literally the most boring colors that one could possibly find in nature. Was he taking inspiration from a garden that has dried up and died just like his soul?

Now, we're not saying that ALL of the pieces were ugly. Just a solid 90% of them.

Even the two dresses that were colorful still somehow managed to be boring.

The depressing color palette was part of an effort to create a more "en-

Karl, you magnificent bee-loving vampire, what's good?

vironmentally friendly" show, which included wood chips used as beading and models wearing bee earrings and brooches to raise awareness that "bees are disappearing". We're not positive, but we're pretty sure a couple of bee-themed accessories aren't going to solve the plight of the bees? But maybe the next time a bee feels the urge to sting Karl (which seems unlikely because he doesn't look like he

show is that couture fashion is inherently wasteful. Hours upon hours of work go into every single design that walks down the runway and most will never be worn by an actual human in the real world. This is mostly due to the fact that the price tags on all of these custom creations are ridiculous. Like, you know the feeling of going into a store, finding a shirt you like, looking at the price tag and immediately dropping

ing hideous.

Now, we're not saying that ALL of the pieces were ugly. Just a solid 90% of them. And the cause of this ugly is a plague that starts with a "T" and ends with "WEED" (no, it's not a drug, assholes). It's the plant-based monster known as tweed and it's fucking RUINING America. I mean, we get it, Chanel and tweed were great friends for a long time. Some would even say tweed is one of Chanel's signatures. But, alas, all friendships must come to an end. At this point, Karl is just manipulating the tweed to a point where it doesn't even recognize itself anymore. All the other fabrics are worried. Tweed is not a couture fabric, so to make looks out of tweed and call them couture is blasphemy at this point in the evolution of fashion. Need to know what couture is supposed to look like? Just Google Elie Saab and look at anything he's ever made. Do it. You absolutely won't regret it. That's how you do earth toned couture, damn it, Karl.

If we have learned anything from this collection, it is that even great designers can royally fuck up. Karl is an (undead) legend, but he should maybe accept that nature is just not his thing. Yes, it must have been a shock for him to see such beauty after hibernating in his coffin all winter and he probably can't see colors through his sunglasses. And yes, we have considered the possibility that tweed is the only texture he can feel with his cold, dead hands, but these are not good enough excuses for this colossal failure of a collection. Karl needs to stick to what he's good at: the indoors. The outdoors doesn't need a beige, tweed pantsuit to make it majestic. Nature can be majestic all on its own.



goes outside much, probably because he's a straight up vampire) it will realize that he is the supreme protector of the bees and will then obviously (accordingly) not sting him. The collection is really just Karl's defense against the bee overlords.

The problem with Chanel attempting to create an eco-friendly vision for this

it because holy shit it's \$150 and that's way too much for a t-shirt and you need to leave the store immediately because the t-shirt might be worth more than you are? Yeah. Imagine that hard pass but multiply it by about 1000. And that still might be an under reaction. Plus, you'd have to be literally insane to drop that sort of cash on clothing this freak-



Move Bitch, Get Out The Way

by Rachel Poe

Staff I'm Walking Here

I'm going to start this piece off with a little story of mine that inspired this opinion article of mine. It was a little before 1:30 last Tuesday afternoon. The streets were filled with nasty gray slush, puddles that looked like oil, and snow banks that were basically ice. To say I was in a hurry is a bit of an understatement. I'd left my off-campus apartment a little later than I should for my philosophy class because I like sleep too much. My usual route is a walk down Belmont Ave, before cutting across the TD Bank parking lot, and heading in through the FMH gate. Even though the snow banks were too high for my short cut through the parking lot, I managed to cross the street just before the time on the crossing signal ran out. My timing was pretty on point and it looked like I was going to get to class on time.

Until I ran into The Douche.

I don't know who The Douche is, never seen him before in my life, but he fit a stereotype so perfectly that I had no choice but to hate him. I was walking in front of that medical building right next to FMH, you know, the one with the re-

A manifesto regarding slow walkers who need to get with it

flective glass people usually subtly try to check themselves out in, when The Douche stopped me in my tracks. The sidewalks were only half the size they usually were due to the snow and The Douche and his ego managed to take up the whole path. He was trying to do that stupid swagger walk where he kinda bounces and dips his shoulder. He reminded me more of Kate McKinnon's Justin Bieber than an actual real-life person. The Douche thought he was hot shit as he blatantly checked himself out in the windows of the medical building. I'm pretty sure my eighty-nine year old grandpa with a bum knee could have run circles around him at the pace he was moving. It was pathetic and irritating and making me late for class. Because the world hates me, it took me too damn long to get around The Douche and I barely made it to class in time.

Why is it that every time you are in a rush somewhere, there is always someone who doesn't know how to move their goddamn feet? I'm not talking about disabled people, no. These are people with no excuse to be moving slower than molasses down 42nd

street in the middle of the day. It's ridiculous. From suburban high schools to college campuses in the middle of the countryside to the streets of New York City, people just don't know how to walk. The people manage to take up entire pathways and strategically place themselves in a way that is impossible to weave through. It baffles me. They move like cows.

Why is it that every time you are in a rush somewhere, there is always someone who doesn't know how to move their goddamn feet?

So I would like to offer some advice to these slow walkers, these people that act like no one else is trying to get anywhere in a timely fashion.

First, stick to one side of the path. Usually this should be the right side like

when you drive. Use common sense, don't be stupid.

Second, don't take up the entire sidewalk. If you are walking with multiple people or just yourself, do not walk down the middle like you own it because you don't.

Third, if you're going to stop and smell the roses, actually stop. One of the biggest mistakes a person can make while walking somewhere is keep walking when they are distracted by something else. Whether something catches your eye or a text, take a second and step to the side of the path out of the way of traffic. This way you can do what you gotta do without the possibility of missing a step and tripping. People can move around you easier when you're not bumbling your way down the street.

And finally, if you are walking during a busy time, you better walk like you actually have somewhere to go. Nothing is more irritating than people who can't keep up the pace during a time of heavy foot traffic. Whether it be in between classes or heading to a five o'clock appointment in the city, it's a good habit to walk with purpose.

Don't be The Douche.

Bernie Sanders Hasn't Convinced Me Yet

by Luis Gomez

News Co-Editor

Bernie Sanders has captured the hearts and minds (and donation dollars) of, well, everyone. If you define "everyone" as "white educated liberals under-25s," because that's basically where 90% of his support is concentrated and nowhere else and here's why I'm not feeling the Bern. Yet, anyway.

First off, his platform has basically no actionable goals. What he does have are some very nice buzzwords about how the rich are all satan-people with pitchforks made of money and income inequality is the genesis of all our problems—oh, and also free public college. Never mind the political unfeasibility of said college plan, but his funding plan for his college plan is actually even less feasible. Sanders wants to input a 0.5% fee on stock trades, and use the revenue from that to fund the program. The problem

You say you want a revolution, well, y'know, explain how it works.

with that is that, especially given the proliferation of high frequency trading (a system where robots smarter than I will ever be make thousands of trades per second), a 0.5% fee on trades is going to add up, fast. To the point that people don't trade as much. Which will mean less money gets raised. Which means the program doesn't work. Bernie also wants to spend \$1.3 trillion on American infrastructure, because American infrastructure is crap. But he hasn't explained where that money will come from. Plus he really, really, really doesn't like trade, which any Macro 101 textbook will tell you always benefits both parties involved. His dismissal of it at all costs reads less like a policy decision and more like Bernie not facing up to the realities of living in a global economy. He also hasn't done a good job of explaining any particular foreign policy or military goals, which are

basically the only two aspects of governing a President has near-complete control over. Sanders is also a big fan of saying he'll break up "too-big-to-fail" financial institutions, which also doesn't make sense. If the financial crisis proved anything, it proved that nothing was too big to fail. Plus, what determines whether or not something is 'too big to fail'? Number of acquisitions? Assets? Quality of free mints given out when you open a checking account? Sanders needs to move beyond attractive liberal-leaning catchphrases and buzzwords and start delivering specifics.

Not that I'm altogether in Hillary's camp either. She has a bunch of credibility issues that, artificial or not, I need to work through before I trust her more than 'only slightly.' Plus, as backwards as Sanders is on trade, Clinton is hilariously out of touch regarding the death penalty and net

neutrality. And given today's political climate, it's entirely possible that her more centrist take on politics and the world won't lead to any sort of legislative action. eveningdawn

But she has an unmatched level of experience. Sanders is a House rep and senator from a non-contentious district. Hillary was Secretary of State, and whether or not you give a shit about her emails, the fact of the matter remains that she knows what to do under ridiculously high-stress situations. There's a big gap in political experience and the nature of said experience.

Maybe I'm just too cynical for the Bern. When push comes to shove, I don't want a principled idealist who's stuck to his guns all these years. I mean, it's great that Bernie hasn't budged on anything ever, apparently, but I'm not convinced he'll win. I want someone who's going to win.

***the paper's* Hot Topic: New Years and Expectations**

Well, the free trial run of 2016 is now over. Don't like the New Year so far? Too bad, we're stuck with it for another eleven months. Now, I believe that we, as a race, must be optimistic about the future. However, this optimism must be balanced by realism.

Let's begin with what the New Year is all about: a fresh start. Maybe last year was horrible, but gosh darn, this New Year will be better, despite the lack of action plan on how to make the New Year better. That's the biggest issue involving these resolutions. We say "I'm going to find love this year" and "I'm going to pay off my debt", but how many of us actually draw up a course of action which will allow us to achieve these goals? Honestly, not that many of us. To be fair, who has time for that? In lieu of a plan though, I say we continue making goals, but maybe not get our hopes up? If we learned anything from 2014 and 2015, it's that we like to set ourselves up for disappointment.

Case in point, remember 2014? Especially the last few months, when there were a lot of protests over the fact that America was still racist? Also, that school shooting which killed 22 children? Also, there was that Ebola outbreak. Remember how horrible that all was? Yet, we told ourselves that 2015 would be better. Except that it wasn't. Race problems continued, along with mass shootings. Also, ISIS became a more urgent threat.

Now it's 2016. ISIS is still around. Race issues haven't been resolved. There's another global health crisis. Also, if you thought 2015's Kim Davis and her followers were ignorant, get ready for the flat-earther's of 2016. Also, back in 2015, we told ourselves that the U.S. Presidential race would get more "normal" as we moved closer to the primaries. We were really wrong on that one.

Hello, I am the new Editor-in-Chief of *the paper*, and I do not mean to worry you. This is the "Money and Punny" issue, and with that, there's a lot of angst. Money is a touchy subject. Puns are the bane of everyone's existence. Eventually, all the worrying and cringing leads to having an existential crisis, which makes one question everything. So, happy 2016, everyone. Don't get your hopes up. Time is an illusion and nothing is real. Carry on, *paper* readers.

XOXO,
Sio



How To Become a Pole Dancer

1. **Decide you want to be a pole dancer**
2. **Get drunk and look up videos/pictures of people pole dancing**
3. **Feel shitty about how out of shape you are.**
4. **Decide you want to get "in better shape"**
5. **Realize you can barely do a pushup without sweating**
6. **Go buy ice cream to make yourself feel better.**
7. **Decide you want to try anyway.**
8. **Google pole studios**
9. **Change your mind when you look at class prices.**
10. **Change your mind again when you look up more pole videos.**
11. **Perform an arcane ritual to summon a vaguely slutty ancestor to ask for advice**
12. **Worry about what your parents will say.**
13. **Worry about what your friends will say.**
14. **Worry about what your SO will say.**
15. **Worry about what your future employer will say.**
16. **Decide you don't care.**
17. **Find a pole.**
18. **Dance.**



Macklemore is a Hypocrite and Not that Good of a Guy

by John Looby
News Co-Editor

Full disclosure I fucking hate Macklemore. Something about his face just fills me with a deep rooted rage that I imagine probably isn't healthy but fuck that guy I had to hear "Thrift Shop" so many times, too many times, so many times that if it were designed to brainwash people I'd be a brainless husk. Seriously why the fuck was that song so popular? A Grammy win over Kendrick? I'm still pissed off about that one. What is the point of Macklemore's career? He seems to think he's some bastion of social progressiveness making the world a better place through his fucking insufferable music. He acts like he's this shining light illuminating the darkness of suffering in the world but in reality he's just another white male looking at the problems of minority groups and feeling as though they can only be validated if a white man speaks on their behalf.

His latest effort "White Privilege II" sounds like about 9 minutes of don't worry I'm a "cool" white guy. I imagine he probably had good intentions but the man just seems to be co-opting cultural issue after cultural issue. He's a white guy awkwardly injecting himself into the struggles of every group under the sun. (Side note fuck Ryan Lewis' production style. It's bland and awful.) A lot of these issues that Macklemore claims to march for are the sort that ultimately never impact him and for him to be grabbing the spotlight on them is pretty shitty. There are other voices speaking on these issues that are being blocked out so that Macklemore, another generic white man can be given a position of power to speak from.

His growing efforts to be the epitome of the social justice are honestly

No, but seriously, he's a piece of sh*t

getting to the point of just fucking baffling me. Macklemore calls out Iggy Azalea for cultural appropriation while still himself being Macklemore, the embodiment of Cultural Appropriation. While this "diss" has been getting plenty attention in the media already I feel like I should throw out my opinion that both Macklemore and Iggy Azalea can go fuck themselves. Both of them have culturally appropriated. Granted Iggy is much worse in

the same song as if the dead man and almost insane woman were going to hear or care about his opinion of their careers.

I'll give Macklemore credit for acknowledging the fact that he walked into life several steps ahead just by being a white male. But admitting that you had an unfair advantage doesn't exactly absolve you of that problem. If someone beats you horrifically in a game and then says don't worry I

awkward ballad explicating the issue isn't a giant step of social progress; it's more of a painful reminder that "hey being a white male makes everything easier even art forms created by

There are other voices speaking on these issues that are being blocked out so that Macklemore...can be given a position of power to speak from

those of different ethnicities".

I can't imagine Macklemore will become any different anytime soon; the man keeps on churning out his bland identical music and taking up the mantle of whatever issue of the week he wants to "validate" with his presence. Everything about his image is this problematic image of appropriation from others. I just really fucking hope that the rest of the musical community puts him in a corner and leaves him there alone and let the voices that matter be heard. No one should have to hear whatever catastrophe is going to follow up White Privilege II. I imagine the next track will be titled "I'm not a racist" or "I acknowledge Cyclical Poverty", basically anyway Macklemore can jump even harder into issues he can at best hope to empathize with. Macklemore needs to fade away and let the rest of the Rap community speak for themselves and get the awards and attention that they deserve I mean seriously that Grammy fucking belonged to Kendrick.



just about every metric a human can be measured by, but he can't critique her for basically being his female equivalent. The idea that Macklemore sees himself as some sort of policing force for white musicians is just ridiculous. I mean seriously the man called out Elvis Presley and Miley Cyrus in

cheated the whole time you wouldn't exactly thank them for that admission. It's not that brave to admit you participated and took advantage of a rigged system in order to achieve success. Everyone knows Macklemore as a white male had an intrinsic advantage in our society and having a 9-minute

EMAIL paper.fordham@gmail.com with your "preferences" and we'll send you an ebook of customized Donald Trump fiction. Prices are negotiable.



Zayn Is No Longer Constrained by Simon Cowell and Modest

by Claire Nunez

Features and Lists Editor

On March 25th, 2015, the world faced an incredible music tragedy, comparable to the likes of Kurt Cobain and Yoko Ono supposedly breaking up The Beatles: Zayn Malik walked away from the One Direction—inarguably the boyband that revived the concept of boybands. His leaving caused millions of girls to have broken hearts and the fandom split into the Zayn lovers and the #zaters. Ultimately, the fate of the rest of the band was unknown, but they continued on without their bandmate. Zayn entered a musical hiatus, sprinkled with cryptic Tweets, but he broke his musical silence on Friday, January 29th, with his sultry single, “Pillowtalk.” The single’s sexy artwork features a shirtless Zayn that leaves nothing to the imagination over what he is talking about. He explicitly said the song is about sex—and it is very obvious that he is pushing away from the thirteen year-old screaming fans that typically follow One Direction. The nudity in his music video and his liberal use of “fuck” definitely shows that he is making big boy music now. No more love-sick cookie cutter pop for Zayn. “Pillowtalk” compliments Zayn’s velvety voice, that One Direction usually reserved for high notes, with a subdued electronic background. The song does not have an ultra repetitive chorus and with each listen, you hear his emotion. “Pillowtalk” is everything that I would have imagined Zayn to write. It is raw and tell-all. His song may not be anything new to the current music scene, but it is refreshing to see Zayn,

One Direction Can’t Contain Zayn’s Reign

who was trapped by what he thought fans wanted to hear, create something true to who he is as an artist. Zayn’s new style is not at all surprising to even the biggest of already big 1D fans. He has been dubbed as the “Bradford Bad Boy,” since his X-Factor days. His eclectic array of tattoos, love of spray paint-

just gave it a go because it was there at the time and then when I realized the direction we were going in with the music, I instantly realized it wasn’t for me because I realized I couldn’t put any input in; I couldn’t give my opinion on this or that because it didn’t fit the grain of what we were as a band

care, they were just blindly buying and listening to 1D’s albums. When I saw the band at MetLife Stadium this past summer, I sported a tie dye t-shirt with Zayn’s face featured on it. I received so many disgusted stares and odd looks. I thought it was hilarious, but no one else seemed to think that. Can 1D fans not take a joke? Obviously not. On top of that, the band was awful. Every fan in the stadium seemed to blindly freak out whenever Harry Styles moved. It was so obvious to me that Louis Tomlinson didn’t even want to be there, Liam Payne was over-compensating for the loss of Zayn, and Niall Horan was high on something. They just didn’t seem that into being at that performance. Meanwhile, every fan in the stadium was more excited to be breathing the same air as Harry than to hear the band’s music. It was a major disappointment. The band seems to have lost its enthusiasm for the music they perform, but not every fan has recognized this. It is revitalizing to see Zayn creating music he loves and all of the genuine feedback (not just “Harry give me your gravy”-esque comments) he is receiving from his fans. Maybe the best lesson to take from Zayn’s leaving One Direction and creating this awesome single is you do you. Never let anyone define who you are as an artist, musician, student, and most importantly, person. If you let someone prevent you from being who you really are, you will probably lose your zeal. The truth is that people would rather see the authentic, real you rather than your fake outer shell.



ing, and the rumors that he cheated on his ex-fiancée, Perrie Edwards of the girl group, Little Mix, while on tour, all bolster his mysterious bad boy persona. Zayn has always seemed to be a misfit in the band, just itching to launch his own solo career. He said in an interview with Zane Lowe on Thursday, “I think I always kind of wanted to go. From like the first year really, I never really wanted to be there in the band. I

or what we represented.” Zayn was trapped by what the band’s management thought the fans wanted—sappy songs about love and the loss of that love in the most PG way possible. I used to love One Direction more than any other group or artist, but as they kept pumping out albums, everything began to sound the same. They didn’t create authentic music anymore. What’s even worse is that the fans didn’t seem to

EVENTS

What: Hiroki Tsukuda
Enter The O

Where: Petzel Gallery

When: Feb. 2nd to Feb.
20th

How Much: FREE

Why: Because you're probably not familiar with Contemporary Japanese Art and you should change that about yourself.

What: Smorgasburg

Where: Industry City

When: Saturdays and Sun-
days 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.

How Much: FREE

Why: Because food? Like do I really need to spell it out for you? Because I will! F.O.O.D. There, you're welcome.

What: Art Talk with Lisa Blas

Where: Trestle Gallery

When: Tues. Feb 9th, 6:30
P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

How Much: FREE

Why: Because art is neat as heck but, let's be real, we don't know dick about it. Go learn yourself some art things, kid.

Battle of the Businesses: Music Festival Edition

by Kirsten Anastasio

Staff Festival Enthusiast

Instinctively, we stereotype those who attend music festivals. Women are categorized by their distressed high-waisted shorts, wavy hair accessorized with plucked daisies, and face paint. Most men seem to sport some bright colored tank top, if wearing a shirt at all, with hair tied up in the infamous man bun. While this generalization is of course ridiculous and not in any way representative of a large, heterogeneous group of music lovers, it alludes to a well-defined demographic that is subject to commercialization.

On January 11th of this year, AEG, the organizers behind the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, officially announced that its forthcoming festival would be held on Randall's Island, NYC from July 22nd to the 24th. This announcement confirms hearsay of the juggernaut company's plan to bring its wildly successful festival know-how to the East Coast. While this sounds great to the aforementioned festival-goers, considering there are only a handful of comparable events in the city, there is an underlying issue. For the past couple of months, the creators of the Governor's Ball Music Festival have publicly petitioned for NYC mayor Bill de Blasio to reject AEG's location and time proposals for Panorama. Both festivals share the same location, identical-genre draw, and are only a month apart; therefore it is perceived as a malicious attempt to drive out the homegrown, New

Corporate Raiders VS. Grassroots Group

York native organizers behind Gov Ball. To further this juxtaposition, Founders Entertainment, the company that birthed the established festival, is considered to be one of the last independent music promotion companies compared to the mass-corporation AEG, or the power engine behind one of the highest-grossing music festivals. "The timing of this corporate-run festival would threaten our ability as a small business to...showcase the best artists, create hundreds of local jobs and put millions of dollars back into the city's econ-

festivals to peacefully coexist. So why does this all matter?

Since Woodstock and the advent of the three-day festival, a cultural atmosphere typified by "peace and love" has dramatically changed. Corporate capitalization overrides the spontaneous and grassroots nature of such events. Today, these large-scale gatherings are populated by people, including myself, who plan their outfits weeks in advance and obsess over the documentation of performances on platforms like Snapchat and Instagram. AEG is

just one of many companies that have realized how much consumers are willing to pay for aesthetic gratification. While this is true in many cases, this is also an extreme generalization.

Whether live or digital, music is a universally consumed good. Yes, in addition to costly food and merchandise, admission is overpriced. Festivals have lost genuineness in financial gain, as exhibited by AEG's alleged attack against a small-business of New York natives. However, this does



omy," said Founders partner Tom Russell. And his fears are justified. At the steep \$300, will a consumer go to both summer events, and if not which one will he or she choose? The seventeen-year-old Coachella is more established, resourced, and reknowned festival. For that reason, Panorama will not be subject to the difficulties that many emerging festivals face like booking popular artists, gaining sponsors, and receiving media attention. However, despite this, there is a possibility for the two

not negate the fact that these gatherings foster a sense of community and cultural immersion in a way only a multi-day music festival can. Further, if the competition does not kill off the other, perhaps the two can offer a unique experience of good music, art and people. So the question arises as to whether an event like Panorama can add to the cultural landscape of a colder coast. This will be answered in July; the lineup should be announced in the coming weeks.

An Ancient Attraction at a Campus Near You

by Michael Sheridan
Features and List Editor

Have you ever been in the mood to go to an art museum, but not in the mood to walk six blocks to the subway or squeeze into the back row of the Ram Van? Don't want to pay outrageous admission fees but still want to see world class artwork? Then look no further than Fordham's own Museum of Greek, Roman, and Etruscan Art. Often overlooked by Fordham students, this small museum is located on the first floor of the Walsh Family Library.

The collection was mostly donated by William D. Walsh, the same man who donated the majority of the funds to build the library. Thus, it was only natural to locate the museum in the very building that he helped construct. The museum features works such as sculptures, coins, vases, mosaics, and glassware, among other items. One of the highlights

is a drinking cup which prominently features the head of a ram, making the vessel very appropriate for Fordham.

The collection has many great stories associated with it. For example, the coins found in the museum were not discovered by an archaeologist, but instead a soldier who found the coins in a shell hole in Italy during the Second World War. The soldier later donated the coins to Fordham University, where they have been cleaned and put on display. Another object, known as the Hut Urn, was discovered to be an object that had been looted without the knowledge of Mr. Walsh. The ownership of the urn was returned to Italy, and the object today is officially on loan to the Fordham museum and will eventually be returned to Italy.

What I like about the museum is,

A blast from the past you can get to fast.

while small, it contains objects from many different areas and time periods throughout the ancient world. It is interesting to see the variations that occurred throughout the ages and how different time periods and societies affected the art.

Virtually all objects feature an in-depth museum label which helps teach about the object and makes the museum more approachable. There truly is much that can be learned from this museum's collection not only about the artwork and culture of the ancient world but about the history of the ob-



*Great Scott!
This museum has a lot!*

jects themselves.

Almost all of the works found in the museum have never been displayed publically. While a few objects have been published and written about, the only place to physically see the majority of these objects is the Fordham Museum, making the collection even more special.

Another popular feature of the museum is that it contains an area to study and do homework. It is a great place to study, as the museum is quiet and contemplative. It is a nice alternative to the rest of the library, as it can be assumed that most people would rather study surrounded by fine art instead of stacks of books. The space is rarely crowded, making it the perfect spot to study, especially when all the study rooms are taken. Just don't bring any

food with you, as food is not permitted in the museum space.

The museum has been curated by Ms. Jennifer Udell since it opened in 2007. Ms. Udell is full of stories about the museum and even teaches a class in the space. The class Museum Studies in Ancient Art aims to teach students about the various aspects of running a museum, including how best to display objects and how to write effective museum labels for artwork. The fact that we have such a museum for this class to practice with a hands-on approach shows how lucky Fordham is

to have such a great collection contained on our campus. The class will be putting on an exhibition of the highlights of the museum at the end of the semester. The show will feature various objects throughout the museum that were chosen by Fordham students for either being

interesting visually or culturally.

Our museum is so special that even the *New York Times* has written about it. Just this past month, the *Times* listed it as one of the top attractions in this neighborhood of the Bronx. This press has recently caused an increase in visitors to the collection. Thus, we are lucky we have this collection. I would strongly recommend that everyone should visit the museum at least once in their college career. You don't have to be an art history or classics major to enjoy the museum, as it is here for everyone. The museum is free to enter and is open during the regular hours of the library. You'll feel cultured just for going and won't even need to change out of your pajamas. Visiting the Fordham museum is truly a win-win situation.

SHOWS

What: Lupe Fiasco, Billy Blue

Where: BB King Blues Club

When: Fri. Feb. 5th

How Much: \$45

Why: Because Billy Blue is scary and may or may not harm you if you do not attend.

What: Lianne La Havas

Where: Rough Trade

When: Fri. Feb. 5th

How Much: \$40

Why: Rough Trade is a rad venue, and Lianne is a rad artist, therefore you can have a really rad night. Rad.

What: Talib Kweli

Where: Irving Plaza

When: Fri. Feb. 12th,
10:00 P.M.

How Much: \$20

Why: Talib still puts on a wild show and what else are you going to do? Sit inside and listen to Drake? Bruh. Please.

What: O' My's

Where: The S.O.B.'s

When: Fri. Feb 26th

How Much: TBA

Why: Because good Jazz in the modern sense is so scarce and the O' My's are like a new panda baby in their rarity.

The ASAP Ferg Show Was Not G-Eazy to Sit Through

by ASAP Polack

Staff Concert Connoisseur

This past week, I had received a great opportunity to cover the ASAP Ferg & G-Eazy show for my internship. Although I'm not really a fan of either artist, I thought it'd be fun to attend the show even as someone simply observing. Oh boy, was I in the wrong. Now, in retrospect, I had a decent time. Everyone that performed put in a good effort, and DMX showed up without crack which is a big step in the right direction for him. However, that's about where the positives end and the negatives start piling up. First off, while standing in line to get into the venue, a group of shitfaced white girls surrounded me like vultures with shitty eyeliner and bottles of Stella Artois. "You're here alone? You should hang with us" squawked one of the creatures. "Oh no, I'm fine, I'm just here covering the show." One of the vultures inched forward with a

Vultures, bad words, and alcohol....oh my!

barrage of questions, finally ending with her insisting I post her covers of Elvis songs on the site. I was more than hesitant and this prompted her to make a shoddy attempt at seducing me to do so. It didn't work and I went back to my spot in line with a frostier deposition than I had before.

Once we finally crossed the threshold and stepped into the venue, things started to look up. I walked in halfway through Nef The Pharaoh's performance that was decent enough, but I could've done without his waistband sitting at his knees. Not really being interested in staring at Nef's ass, I scanned the crowd out of boredom and good Lord was it weird. Supreme hats and Bape Hoodies were spread around like Natty Ice at a frat house. White girls ran around screaming for no apparent reason. It's possible that they were participating in a mating ritual induced by alcohol and terrible

weed. I hung back, leaning against a supporting beam to avoid this quash-mosh pit.

When Ferg finally came on to perform, the crowd blew up like a powder brush thrown at a wall...and this is when it got really bad. He decided to play "dump dump" and asked the crowd to sing along with the hook which goes "I fucked your bitch, n*gga". With a mayonnaise looking crowd, you'd expect them to cut it short...but they didn't, and if anything they stressed the word as hard as they could. Yes. Preppy-ass white kids who probably took the train down from their Connecticut mansions were screaming the N word. While this was happening, I glanced around the crowd in disgust until I made eye contact with Nef who was sitting on the balcony after his show. We shared a sigh and went back to watching this weird-ass crowd act like

Ferg was their one black friend telling them, "yeah ugh fine you can say it..." As if the scene wasn't already reaching unparalleled levels of discomfort, a couple next to me started to make out like sloppy tweens during "Shabba Ranks". In what dimension is that song even remotely romantic? The only possibility I could surmise was that they were influenced by a lethal mixture of ecstasy and a shared fetish of reggae/dancehall artists. Writing all of this down has left me confused as to how I made it out of the venue without suffering a stroke. I guess I'll end this with saying that if you fit the description I reiterated a few times, then you'll probably have a great time at a Ferg show, at the expense of the mental health of the other attendees.

Accessing Alternative Attire and Apparel

by Blu

Staff American Apparel

Just because Lady Gaga is normal now doesn't mean you have to be! Within the walls of fashion exists a wide range of possibilities. Outfits can be made by mismatching clothes or putting together shirts and shoes of different styles, drastically changing a person's look. Given that Fordham's winter style is predominantly simple black coats with jeans, now may be the best opportunity to explore alternative fashion, which contains many subgenres one could explore. Pep, goth, punk, cyber-punk, steam-punk, and hipster are a few that come to mind as fashion genres with many variations of their looks.

Due to the large volume of black clothing, the best category to start with would be goth style. Despite the portrayal of goths in media as

From capes to tails, fashion is never stale!

a black and purple clique of slightly depressed individuals, there are actually over twenty-five different looks. By mixing colorful shirts with a black base, one can become peppy goth. With the addition of long dreadlocks and fluffy knee-high socks, one's way of life can be switched entirely by becoming a cyber goth. For those who were inspired by David Bowie, there is Faerie goth, a look combining long and styled hair with strange outfits or features, like rose covered shirts or excessively long coats. Being goth in style does not mean one has to be depressed or live in a world of darkness. It means appreciating the use of darkness and mixing it with what interests us to create a unique look, whether that is mysterious or peppy, dark or full of energy, or just curious.

Switching focus, of the many

styles the public has yet to hear of, none is more obscure yet rising in popularity than the steampunk look. Inspired by combining advanced technology such as guns, robots, and cars with the old American look of steam engines, steampunk is the best mixture of future and past. The movie *Mad Max* is an example of steampunk style. The style is often seen with goggles, zipper-covered coat, and accented shoulder pads, as well as many gears. Guns in the style are made out of pipes, gears, and tubes, similar to the *Ghostbusters'* devices. This style is not for the faint of heart, but is for those who want to get a little kooky, a little different, and are full to the brim with the desire for adventure and fantasy.

Overall, it is hard to just grab an entirely new look and feel

comfortable walking around in it. This does not mean one should avoid trying new styles; rather one should slowly explore their curiosity. For this purpose, accent pieces are the way to go. The whole outfit is important, but there are always certain pieces which grab our focus, love, or disgust. These include the goggles of a steampunk warrior, the fox tail of a playful punk, the colorful pink coat or white shirt of an upbeat peppy, or the fake bullet covered belt of a metal goth. Trying a new style can help one gain attention and affection from his or her peers, or just allow them to have a little silly fun with goggles and a tail. You can always keep your favorite black coat and make a new look with it. All it takes is a little thought and maybe a new pair of pants.

X-Men Serve As Example For Prejudice Against Muslims

by Rachel Poe
Staff X-Woman

Books, movies, TV shows, plays, musicals, no matter what content you experience, there has always been underlying themes of deeper societal issues. For many authors and writers, commenting on the truths of society is why they write. This is why we find ourselves writing ten page papers at two in the morning about books that we totally didn't skim through and look up the major plot points on Sparknotes. In our mainstream culture today, it seems like it is a groundbreaking notion for movies and shows to talk about race, religion, or sexual identity. Many mainstream hits aren't that complex. A lot of their content comes at face value, allowing very little room for any sort of critical thinking. Though when I watched the *X-Men* movie series from the early 2000s over winter break, I was reminded of the fact that this series is more than just a couple silly superhero movies. This particular continuation of Marvel's *X-Men* universe holds deeper meaning as it is representative of the struggles of the LGBT group in American society. The *X-Men* franchise as a whole was originally created as an allegory for racism in America, but director Bryan Singer decided to take it a step further.

Conversely, the intolerance against the LGBT group in society is not the topic I'd like to focus on in this article and by saying this, I hope not to discredit the importance of gay rights. Discrimination against any underrepresented group is unacceptable, especially from our leaders. It seems that in the height of the presidential race, we see the opposite. We see politicians arguing about policy that would have no direct impact on their lives, but would affect the lives of countless others and lack

From racism to heterosexism to Islamophobia, X-Men covers it all.

basic human empathy. So what resonated with me the most was the constant battle between politicians of the *X-Men* universe about whether or not mutants were a danger. They blatantly ignored the fact that mutants had lived peacefully with humans for decades. For those who aren't familiar with the *X-Men* storyline, mutants are humans with a slight evolution in their DNA that

with external forces, but also internal subsections working against the image of the religion as a whole. Like the mutants in the movies, most American Muslims- like 99.9% of them- live peacefully within America. They have jobs, families, nothing about them, religious beliefs aside, makes them any different than an average American. The politicians of the *X-Men* universe

the culture of fear we live in almost 15 years later. But acting irrationally out of fear is not a new notion. Every decade there is a new group to ostracize- Native Americans, Black Americans, Japanese Americans, LGBT Americans, and now Muslim Americans.

Race, religion, gender, and sexual orientation are all traits that do not define whether or not a person is good or evil. What makes a person good or evil is how they treat those different from them. Why is it that these comic book movies understand that better than our real life leaders? There are always going to be people who do terrible things and people who try to stop them in any and every subcategory of humans of which you can think. But no matter what race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation one is, those who wish to do harm to others always have the loudest voices, but they don't represent the majority of the group. By believing there is a larger number of these "radicals" than in actuality, we help progress their narrative. This is why we need more content that provides a way to talk about discrimination and the fear of the unknown that can't be labeled as a "black movie" or a "gay show." Even though many of us would like to think that we are past these kinds of labels, I would have to disagree. If the only way we can have an honest conversation about suppression and intolerance is through fictional minorities, then that's just something we have to do. Movies like the *X-Men* series are silly, but they may just be able to make people more comfortable with the conversations we need to have. But who knows? I just kinda want to see Magneto kick Trump's ass.



gives them abilities (i.e. superpowers). A main aspect of the plot is the fight between peaceful mutants and aggressive mutants to have their voices heard about the way the world should view them as a societal group.

For me, it was like being on the outside looking in on the Muslim community. Especially during the latter half of 2015, Muslims not only had to deal

proposed a Mutant Registration Act that was eerily similar to Hitler's roundup of German Jews. Watching these politicians of a fictional universe discuss a registration act legitimately made my skin crawl. The act proposed is also similar to Trump's plan to force Muslim registration and the surveillance of mosques throughout the country. These movies seemed to understand





They're the true mascots of Fordham.

Everyone loves the little kitties that mooch for food outside of the McGinley Center. Aren't you wondering which one you are?



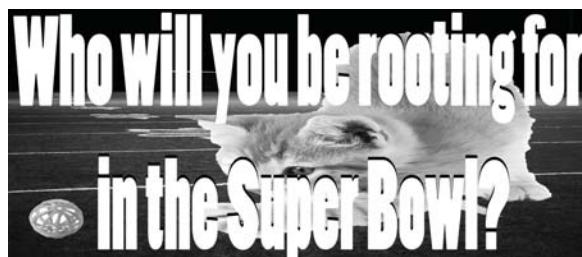
- A) I hate people more than I hate Nickelback
- B) I talk to random people on the subway platform
- C) I love people and they LOVE me more...I think



- A) I am sinning right now
- B) Only on your birthday
- C) NEVER



- A) Let's make America great #Trump
- B) I wanna chill with Hill
- C) Feelin' the Bern



- A) Denver Broncos
- B) Carolina Panthers
- C) Yaaaaas Coldplay



- A) Raw chicken
- B) Peanut butter and apples pudding
- C) Chipotle burrito bowl, with extra E. Coli



- A) *Making a Murderer*
- B) *Master of None*
- C) *The Great British Bake Off*



Mostly A's You are Skipper!

You are the rabid cat that typically hangs out by the gym windows, mesmerized by the rainbow lights. You're mean and probably do acid. The other cats have exiled you mainly because of the rabies and the acid.



Mostly B's You are PBJ!

Named after your fave sandwich, you typically hang out by the caf waiting for someone to bring you some Sodexo chicken. Everyone loves you. Basically you are the riot of the clan.



Mostly C's You are Alf!

You think you're hilarious and cute, tumbling around in the mulch as students walk to the squash courts. But, really you're not funny nor are you cool since, that's what kittens are for.



By the paper
STAFF OF GAL PALS

Ahh, February, the month of love, chocolate and groundhogs, but everyone forgets the most important holiday, Galentine's Day. February 13 is a day you spend with all your gal friends watching movies, eating chocolate and embodying the phrase, "uteruses before duderuses."

Bad Blood Squad
by Taylor Swift

My ideal Galentine's Day begins with my precious cats, Meredith and Olivia, waking me up and begging for food because I often forget to feed them. Just kidding! The real fun begins when I invite all of my #squad over to my trendy, Tribeca apartment that I pretend isn't a certified mansion. We spend our all-girls, all-fun sleepover baking cookies and reenacting scenes from my hit music video "Bad Blood." We have a temporary dilemma when Selena brings up Justin, but no worries, because the problem is quickly solved with a full blown "We Are Never Getting Back Together" dance party. And then we gram it.

THE BEST DAY EVER
by Leslie Knope

Galentine's Day is the BEST day of the year. As the founder of this amazing idea of a day, I am seriously looking forward to this year's day of festivities. The first thing I plan on doing is eating a whole stack of waffles with my beautiful sunfish of a friend, Ann Perkins at JJ's Diner in the best town on Earth: Pawnee, Indiana. Then, I will throw an amazing, glitter cake surprise party for all my best gal friends and my mom in my favorite park in Pawnee. Lest we forget the parade and the sleepover/pizza/pool/combined birthday party. We're going to have so much fun making macaroni statues of each other too! Oh, I'm so excited! This year is going to

be the best one yet, at least until next year. February 13th is all about the love of friendship and the importance of ovaries before brovaries. Happy Galentine's Day friends!

#LovetheWineYou'reWith
by Your Basic Sorority Bitch

The only acceptable way to spend Galentine's Day is to spend it with my

getting brunch with all my young supporters! I'll even look the other way if you want to order some alcohol. I'm a cool president! Maybe after we can all get high and listen to Beyoncé! That's what you millennials are into right? Make sure to watch for my email! I'll send it through my private server so no one else finds out. We don't want those boring state department officials



Sisters before misters.

sisters getting wine-drunk on ten dollar Barefoot moscato, obviously. First, we have to take pictures with everyone so that we can post something on Insta tomorrow morning to let like the world know we made it through the night. Once we're sooo wasted, we're gonna order pizza, take Snapchats of it with the halo emoji or #blessed, and then like not eat it because carbs. Finally, we end the night with a text from a cute frat bro telling us to come over. And it's totally okay for us to go over because it's like two in the morning and no longer Galentine's Day. #laterbitches

Brunch 2016
by Hilary Clinton

Bill is busy with one his staffers this February 13th, so I think it would be so much fun to spend my Galentine's day

Instagram, trying to think about how many flowers Kanye will buy me for Valentine's Day, all while the nanny takes care of the babies. I hope that North has fun with all her gal friends and her cousin, Penny, this year, because she's the only one that is allowed to enjoy her time with her buddies. Oh, well. I can always just buy more shoes.

Tweet
by A Bird

No one thinks that birds have friends or feelings for that matter. This year, my friends and I will fly around pretending to be love birds for the lame couples celebrating Valentine's day too early. Sometimes we'll shit on them or their food. The girls always scream, the guys always laugh. It's hilarious. I love doing this every year. Sometimes we'll go to a vineyard and steal some grapes to kinda wine and dine at the same time!!! It's awesome. If you're ever looking for something to do with your friends on this awesome day, I totally recommend shitting on couples, especially if you're not in a relationship. Nothing feels better than making fun of people in love. It would be weird if you did this as a person, but nothing else is better.

I. Hate. Galentine's.
by Grumpy Cat

I hate friends. I hate everything about friendship. February sucks for this reason. All you see are hearts and lovers and chocolate and flowers. It's awful. No one needs love. This Galentine's day will be spent scowling at people, walking down the street with their friends. I'll also spend a majority of my time sleeping on my owner's bed and puking in her friend's shoes because they're loud, annoying, and taking up too much space. I hate Galentine's day more than anything else and people who celebrate it are stupid. I'm not even going to condone friendship. The only friend you could ever need is yourself. You don't need to celebrate that.

finding out about our brunch! Everyone who attends will get a free red pantsuit! Can't wait to see you all there!

A Dashing Galentine's
by Kim Kardashian

Let me get one thing straight: Kanye does not approve of Galentine's day. He thinks that I should not be spending anymore time with my sisters or any of my gal pals. He thinks that their poor style choices will influence me to dress myself. Unfortunately, this Galentine's day will be like all of the others. I'll probably be spending all of my time taking selfies for my next selfie book... deets to come out soon! I may go out to brunch with Kourt or Kylie, but Kanye will probably just force me to stay in with North and Saint. That means I will be doing a hard ab workout, scrolling



Freedom Kids
Donald Trump Theme Song
 By John Looby

Donald Trump has a theme song and it is exactly as fucking awful as we'd all expect; the song, featuring three young girls destined to be haunted by this decision for the rest of their lives, violates the soul. Before this, I'd never heard the phrase "Ameritude" and I really hope to never again. This is next level propaganda. Three girls dressed in slightly too revealing American flag outfits reveals that yes, Trump acknowledges his own desire to become the totalitarian dictator of the United States. The song is so cringe-inducingly bad as to make most members of the crowd honestly ask themselves "Do I really hate Mexicans this much?" Nothing about this song is good. I hope whoever wrote this is ashamed of themselves. I hope that however much money Trump spent on this monstrosity plagues him until he drops out of the race and bankrupts another Casino



before doing another season of *Celebrity Apprentice*. On the crowd members who seemed super into the performance, I hope they understand that they are everything that is wrong with America with their political views and their ability to clap along with what is by all measure the musical version of a mortal sin. If the Trump Trio of Travesty

go on to release an album, I can assure you that every copy sold is a year closer to the end of mankind. Do not listen to this, do not vote for Trump, listen to and vote for literally anyone else I beg of you.



Panic! at the Disco
Death of a Bachelor
 By Luis Gomez

At some point between 2009-ish and now, Panic! At the Disco stopped being a band and instead became front man Brendon Urie's solo venture. I don't mean that metaphorically - Brendon Urie is literally the only person technically left in Panic! It also means that the band's new album was a particularly difficult challenge, as it was entirely written and more than a little

recorded by Urie himself. However, it succeeds completely. On every level. No, I'm not joking. Stop judging me.

Death of a Bachelor, which is a weird title until you understand that it's supposed to refer to Urie's recent marriage and the death of his bachelorhood (get it?), is a multilayered experience. Prior to its release, Urie assured fans that

there'd be a bit more old-Panic!-type songs on the new record, and tracks like "Don't Threaten Me with a Good Time" and "Crazy=Genius" harken back to the band's earlier releases. That doesn't mean that Panic! isn't willing to move in different directions, as evidenced by the Sinatra-inspired title track and album closer "Impossible Year." And then there's "Emperor's New Clothes," an upbeat, crazy track where Urie reminds us all that he has a million-octave vocal range and knows how to use it. The album's only real disappointments are "LA Devotee," coming midway through and committing the unforgivable crime of being only mostly good, and "House of Memories," the album's penultimate track, which is just kinda there. Beyond those two, the album is a quick, entertaining jaunt.

It's honestly kind of refreshing to hear this level of musical variety from a band like Panic! because their track record for variety has been a little off-kilter since their second album, when an attempted shakeup in musical styles led to a quick retreat to a more bombastic third album. Still, *Death of a Bachelor* proves that after sixteen years, (side note: Panic! has been around for sixteen years. Let that sink in.) their music can still grow in many new directions. Panic! At the Disco has wowed me before, and they did it again on this album.

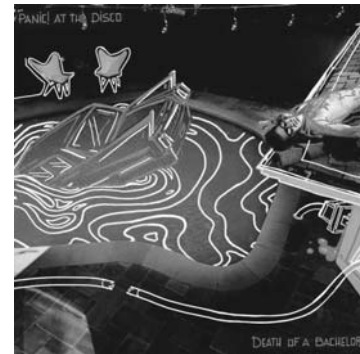


David Bowie
Blackstar
 By Reyna Wang

David Bowie made his life a work of art, an unpredictable and constantly morphing projection that was nevertheless always a deliberate representation of himself, part human and part alien. With his parting gift, *Blackstar*, Bowie writes a reflective conclusion to his human life while immortalizing the alien-

esque individuality that has and will continue to inspire countless artists around the world.

He opens the record with the title track, which start and ends with ghostly, chant-like vocals seeming to lead someone to their "day of execution." But in the middle, the track transitions to a more classic Bowie sounding inter-



lude, which talks about the resurrection of the executed figure as not a "gangstar" or a "film star" or a "pop star," but a "blackstar." This is very representative of Bowie's own career in that he was never just a musician or an actor or a style icon, but a sort of artistic

spirit, a blackstar, if you will, that lives on past life in the physical world. The lyrics of "Lazarus," "Dollar Days," and "I Can't Give Everything Away" also contain death-related themes and are narrated from the perspective of someone who is reflecting over the regrets and accomplishments of their life trying to come to terms with their own mortality. Though some of these judgements may be the product of hindsight, it is pretty safe to say that Bowie created the album anticipating his own death and choosing to memorialize it with art, as he has done with every other aspect of his life.

Interestingly, rather than being the trailblazer, Bowie seems to be paying tribute to today's trailblazers of experimental hip-hop and jazz in *Blackstar*, perhaps as a gesture that represents a passing of the torch to the future generation of influential musicians. The album is one of the most significant stylistic departures of his career, and he reportedly drew influence from Kendrick Lamar and Death Grips' most recent albums. Producer Tony Visconti told Rolling Stone that he and Bowie "loved the fact that Kendrick was so open-minded and he didn't do a straight-up hip-hop record," and that their own "goal, in many, many ways, was to avoid rock & roll."

Bowie certainly accomplishes this stylistic goal with *Blackstar*. The 10 minute title track, backed by spooky drums and glitchy synthetic bass, melts together house, funk, art rock, and Middle Eastern styles in a way that still fascinates me with every listen. The prevalent use of horns in every track

on the record clearly harkens to the instrumentals of *To Pimp A Butterfly*, and they pair amazingly with Bowie's vocals. Every song on the album has its own distinct character, and it's difficult to describe each one due to how genuinely original their melodies and collections of sounds are. "Girl Loves Me" is one of my personal favorites. Though Bowie has always basked in swagger and is sometimes said to have created the idea of swag, this track, with its dissonance, driving bass, house-influenced drums and synths, and lyrics inflected with the Nad-



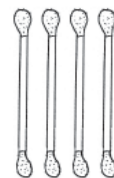
sat slang of *A Clockwork Orange*, expresses a darkly glamorous confidence that I haven't seen from him before. This ability to surprise audiences at every turn even after almost 50 years of music is part of what makes Bowie a truly remarkable artist.



as if Pusha put all the better songs towards the front of the album as there is a definite loss of momentum. The later songs are not awful; they are, in fact, quite good, but they don't stand out like the tracks on the first half of the album. Still, despite its flaws, Pusha T has given us a great album/EP/prelude thingy. I have definitely been bumping this album non-stop and am very excited that there is still the actual album coming out, so Pusha T accomplished what he wanted to do with this.

Finally, after announcing that he was working on another album titled *King Push* about 2 years ago, Pusha T has finally released this album. Sort of, not really. This album is merely a prelude (as Pusha puts it) towards his still forthcoming album *King Push*, which gives this album, *King Push - Darkest Before the Dawn*, a strange feeling to it. However, on its own, this is a fantastic, albeit short (standing at 33:13 minutes), 10 track record.

Pusha T
King Push – Darkest Before Dawn: The Prelude
 By Nicholas Peters



Pusha T has stayed consistent with what made his previous album, *My Name is My Name* great: vicious and dark verses, great production with an almost minimalist feel, and a very grimy overall vibe. This album does suffer from some problems, though. The hooks are hit or miss. Many of them are catchy, but some of the latter ones feel a little unnecessary. Another minor but more disappointing thing about the album is that "M.P.A." is both fan-

tastic and a letdown. When I saw the song names, I noticed that this song features both Kanye West and A\$AP Rocky, which made me very excited. However, they are only relegated to the hook, and while it is still one of the better hooks on the album, it is disappointing because it feels as if Pusha could have done more with them on the song. He could be just saving them for the forthcoming album, which is a very real possibility and a really smart move if true.

The major problem I have with this album is that it does get a little stale past the middle of the album. It feels

DEATH IS INEVITABLE

