



the paper c/o Office of Student Leadership and Community Development Fordham University Bronx, NY 10458 paper.fordham@gmail.com www.fupaper.org

the paper is Fordham's journal of news, analysis, comment and review. Students from all years and disciplines get together biweekly to produce a printed version of the paper using Adobe InDesign and publish an online version using Wordpress. Photos are "borrowed" from Internet sites and edited in Photoshop. Open meetings are held Tuesdays at 9:00 PM in McGinley 2nd. Articles can be submitted via e-mail to paper.fordham@gmail.com. Submissions from all students are always considered and usually published. Our staff is more than willing to help new writers develop their own unique voices and figure out how to most effectively convey their thoughts and ideas. We do not assign topics to our writers either. The process is as follows: have an idea for an article, send us an email or come to our meetings to pitch your idea, write the article, work on edits with us, and then get published! We are happy to work with anyone who is interested, so if you have any questions, comments or concerns please shoot us an email or come to our next meeting.

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"Opinion on Internet Browser Tabs"

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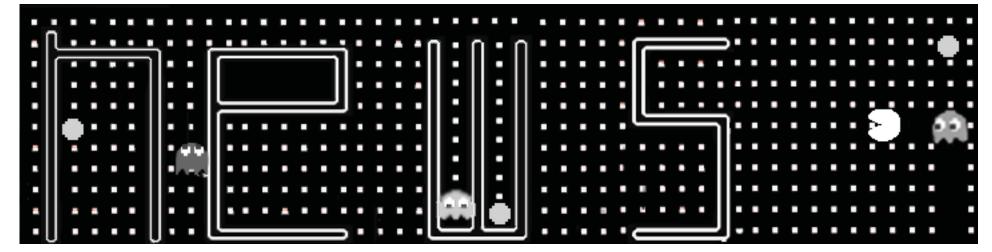
Features and List

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The Chinese President Visited But No One Really Noticed

by Adam Hamilton Staff Wallstreet Journal

Chinese President Xi Jinping's six day state visit last week made big waves as the leader of the world's second largest economy tried to make a good impression in the world's first. Yet, in the media, this trip was largely overshadowed by Pope Francis's own five day visit state-side, and Obama and Putin's tense meeting at the United Nations. It should not have been that way. President Xi used this trip to show how he wants the relationship between the United States and China to develop. He did this by clarifying the Chinese Government's role in cybercrime, acting to improve business relations with Silicon Valley, and expanding China's commitment to embrace its role as a great power.

President Xi's story is one uniquely Chinese. Xi was born on June 15, 1953 as a "princeling", a term used to describe officials who are thought to owe their position to family connections. In Xi's case it was his father, Xi Zhongxun, who was considered one of the Chinese Communist Party's founding fathers until he was purged. After spending a few years politically blacklisted after his father was expelled from the party, Xi studied chemical engineering at the prestigious Tsinghua University in Beijing, where he began to work for the party at the local level. After finishing school, he began to serve in minor party positions, where he established a reputation as a crusader against corruption. Xi's prominence rose to the point that in 2007 he was placed on the powerful Politburo Standing Committee, the effective political decision making body of China. By the next year. Hu Jintao (the previous president and

chairman) had Xi elected Vice President, his presumed heir. On November 15, 2012, Xi was elected to General Secretary of the Communist Party, and made leader of the Chinese Communist Party and effective head of government. He was later elected the ceremonial title of President in March of 2013. Xi has used his office to launch

far reaching anti-corruption reform as well as to assert Chinese interests more aggressively abroad, such as in this recent trip to the United States.



One of the biggest diplomatic obstacles that the United States and China face is the large scale cybercrime that the U.S. Federal Government accuses both Chinese corporations and the government of committing. The Center for Strategic and International Studies, a K Street think tank, said that in 2013, the Chinese Government alone stole \$100 billion dollars in intellectual property. This large scale theft has helped accelerate Chinese economic growth at the cost of reducing America's competitive advantage. On the 25th, President Xi and President Obama announced a cvbercrime truce, in which both countries

pledged not to engage in economic espionage. China still maintains that it does not engage in commercial espionage. This announcement shows a potential willingness to change, and if followed through, could remove a significant source of tension in Sino-American relations.

Jinping worked towards strengthening US-Chinese economic relations

Xi's focus on smoothing over the tensions between the American business community and China also extended to building personal relations with some of the major U.S. players. In Seattle, Xi

made sure to meet with corporate leaders at a round table discussion organized by the Paulson Institute, a University of Chicago think tank of 30 leading American and Chinese executives. This discussion focused mostly on Chinese regulations which limit American access to the Chinese market, as well as opportunities for future collaboration.

Notably, Chinese censorship law bans Facebook and other American social media, which leaves Silicon Valley left out of a market of 600 million internet users. On the 24th, Xi said that the Internet can exist in China, but only in accordance with "national realities," or state censorship. Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, Amazon's Jeff Bridges, and Apple CEO Tim Cook were among the tech leaders to meet with Xi and discuss the issues they have when doing business in China. Currently, China's 600 million internet users are still blocked from using Facebook and Windows 8 while Alibaba has cornered

the online retail market.

But Xi's jam packed cross country tour did not just focus on China's relation with America. During an address at the United Nations on Monday the 28th, Xi pledged to have China play a bigger peacekeeping role in the UN. Xi pledged a permanent 8,000 man peacekeeping force, as well as \$1.1 billion, split between \$100 million for the African Union, to develop an immediate response unit for emergencies, and \$1 billion for a general peace and development fund. This announcement can be seen as countering the narrative of China shirking its responsibilities as a world power. China does regularly deploy soldiers in peace keeping missions, but at a much smaller rate than countries with smaller defense budgets such as Pakistan and Bangladesh. This announcement may indicate a change from China's previous policy of supporting peacekeeping missions when they align with more material objectives-like the 700 man team in South Sudan that protects mostly Chinese owned oil fields.

Xi Jinping got to see America last week, and America got to see Xi Jinping. This national tour may not be as popular as the Pope's, but the impact it will have will probably be more substantial. The changes that Xi Jinping has promised in cyber security alone could be huge, if genuine. The inroads that he has made into America's corporate community strengthen our trading ties. Possibly most importantly, the expanded role that China wants to play in the world could make it easier to maintain peace. President Xi Jinping certainly has left us with something to think about.

Californians, Be Jealous! Mars Has Flowing Water!

by Matt Whitaker Staff H₂O Enthusiast

On Monday, September 28th, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) announced that water has been found on Mars. That should be rephrased. It was announced that flowing water has been found on the Martian planet. It was already known that water exists on Mars, though in frozen form, mostly around the ice caps. So, what's so special about the water announced on the 28th? This water is liquid...you know, like the stuff you drink, unless you're the type of person who likes to chew on ice cubes or inhale (water) vapor. Why is it important that this water is liquid? Well, that's because liquid water is the state

necessary for life to exist. Whether it be trees, bees, bunnies, the majority of living organisms need liquid water. The discovery of flowing water on Mars is significant because it points to the possibility of life there, even though it may be microscopic.

Now, how does this water stay in liquid form on Mars? The aver-

age temperature on Mars is well-below freezing, the highest temperature at the equator is a balmy seventy degrees, and with so little water, wouldn't most of it get absorbed into the thin atmosphere anyway? Well, this water contains perchlorate salts, which greatly lower the water's freezing point, and also prevent the water from being

NASA reports that our red neighbor likely has water in summer

ists on Earth in Antarctica, at Don Juan Pond, which is entirely made up of liquid water despite the freezing temperatures of that region. The water in the pond has such a high concentration of calcium chloride salt that its freezing point is extremely low, thus it acts as a penguin swimming pool throughout the year. Due to its high salt content, the liquid water on Mars flows across the surface, creating streaks which are named "recurring slope lineae", of which thousands have been spotted by NASA. Though, this brings up another question-where is the water coming from?

Scientists are unsure of where the



three theories have been proposed. One suggests that the water is coming from Mars' atmosphere, condensing into the ground. The scientific community considers this theory very unlikely, as Mars' atmosphere is thin, and its water concentration is nearly nonexistent. Another theory is that the water is somehow coming from the ice caps,

els to the regions containing recurring Yet, humans seem to care more when

slope lineae is still a mystery. This leads to an additional theory of the possible existence of underground aquifers which supply water to the surface. For the most part, the surface water's journey begins from one

of two directions, up or down. Thus, the liquid water is either coming from the atmosphere or from underground. As the likelihood of atmospheric originating water is unlikely, the most likely theory is that the water originates in an

> unknown underground source.

> The presence of underground water sources bodes well for the existence of life on Mars, as such an area would provide an excellent shelter from Mars' harsh surface conditions. While life on Mars would most likely be simple microorganisms, it would still allow us humans to shout "We found

aliens!" and pat ourselves on the back for being the first species to discover extraterrestrial life. Yet, humans still have not discovered a huge percentage of Earth's oceans. There's some crazy, creepy things down there, and humans are looking for microorganisms on Mars. Ever heard of abyssal gigantism? There are cooler, more interesting organisms on our own planet.

...there is evidence

that the planet had

a system of lakes,

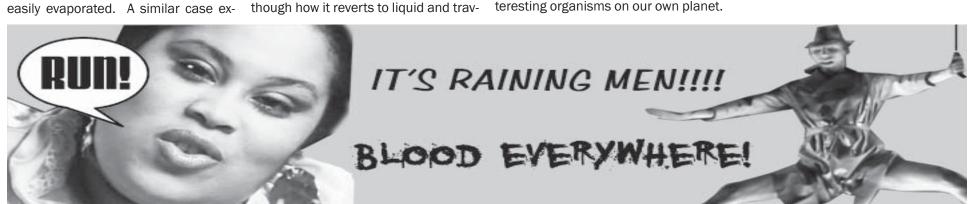
rivers, and possibly

oceans in the dis-

tant past...

a drop of water is found on the Martian planet. On top of that, this is not the first announcement of there being liquid water on Mars, as there is evidence that the planet had a system of rivers, lakes, and

possibly oceans in the distant past... like, billions of years ago. It is possible that life existed on Mars at that time, but has now mostly dried up. (Ha, like the water, see, I made a pun, as the water got dried up by the sun. And yes, that rhyme was intended.) As for the liquid water announced on Monday, it is unlikely that it could sustain life, as its high salt content makes it difficult for organisms to survive in it. So, despite the announcement, don't go booking your vacation on Mars just yet. The plan for a Mars resort that I created in 7th Grade will have to wait for quite some time. There are many more steps in discovering the hospitability of Mars, both for humans and extraterrestrial life. Even though Disney has probably begun planning a park there (Walt Disney Galaxy), it is unlikely that humans will ever populate Mars. It is also unlikely that humans will find bulbous alien creatures with white polkadots, red hide, and stalked eyes. In addition, it is even more unlikely that humans will find half-plant half-animal hybrids which live in onions that orbit Mars at night. Though, it is possible that microorganisms may be found, but this discovery is many years away. buried in the red dust of Mars. As for Jupiter's moon Europa though...that's another story.



"What are you Studying?" "Anthropology...It's Relevant I SWEAR!"

by Alex Gaylord **Staff Anthropologist**

As a student of anthropology, I am constantly asked what my place will be in the work force, what an anthropologist even does, and most often, if anthropology still really matters. For me, these questions are easily discounted by recent events that have taken place.

In early September, scientists discovered a new species in the genus homo while doing research in a cave in South Africa. Hikers had led paleoanthropologist Lee Berger to where they had seen fossils in the Rising Star Cave just north of Johannesburg. According to National Geographic, this discovery of a new species of the genus homo, now called Homo naledi, is a major move towards a shift in the knowledge we possess about human evolution and the chain of events leading up to what we are now-Homo sapiens. The new specimen, with its clearly distinct differences separating it from all species previously discovered, may lead to a restructuring of the stages of development previously thought to

Why a senior anthro major thinks you should care

have occurred leading up to the arrival of the Homo sapiens.

This discovery was just the most recent of many important findings that have occurred within the Anthropology community in the past few years. In September 2014, just a year before the Homo naledi discovery, archaeologists leading an excavation on Stonehenge revealed that the ancient and highly important historical site is ac-

tually much larger and far more complex previthan ously thought. These discoveries remind us that there is a vast history and understanding of humanity that

is still yet to be discovered. As human beings, our knowledge of the past is far from complete. As Lee Berger said in a press conference that took place last

Daraprim is essentially a one of a kind

treatment. The drug has a monopoly

on the market and as we all know who-

ever is winning in monopoly immedi-

ately becomes a power mad asshole

who doesn't even deserve or need to

pass go. Shkreli is somehow worse

than the guy with hotels on every prop-

erty. Douche Bag Mcfuckface took the

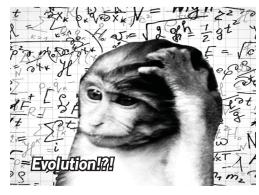
month to announce his history-molding discovery, this new knowledge should remind us of a few important things. "I think that many people quit exploring" but that the new species naledi proves, "that there is no substitute for explora-

What does this means for us? Well, the ways in which we developed, and the knowledge that we have of these occurrences, have shaped how we

> think and how we approach our culture. Today, culture is steeped in globalism and ever-growing need for economic growth and development. We tend to forget the importance of furthering our knowledge of

the past and of our own lineages. As we continue to strive for excellence in industry, technology and education, we are moving further away from acknowledging the impact new knowledge of the past still has on our future--not only as a society and culture, but also as individual human beings. As anthropology is the study of human beings, including the development of culture and all the things we view as important in today's society, we must embrace the ways that the past can influence and help the shaping of our future. As our knowledge of the development of humanity shifts with new findings, we must take advantage of the opportunity to re-examine our place within culture and humanity.

This is what anthropology allows us to do: pursue knowledge of our past, in order to redefine and remold our understanding of who we are and why we are the people we have come to be today. Without being open to shifting our opinions and understanding of how we came to be, and of how the earth has shaped us, we will never truly be able to exist in a world that constantly demands for us to continue towards prog-



Asshole CEO Raises the Price of AIDS Meds So He Can Make \$\$\$

by John Looby **Opinions Co-editor**

Recently, the drug Daraprim (an antitoxoplasmosis pill), which is an essential treatment for those with cancer. AIDS or severly suppressed immune systems, underwent a price increase of over 5,000 percent. This bold move of dickishness was under the direction of Turim Pharmaceuticals CEO/ vaguely human shaped piece of shit

Martin Shkreli. While many rich white douche bags do seemingly hate the poor, it's refreshing to see one actively attempt to be a super villain in much the way that it's refreshing to get in a car accident on your 2 hour commute. To say the very least Martin Shkreli is the human equivalent of a UTI. Nobody wants him and he just exists to really fucking hurt the

people who come in contact with him. Besides being a gigantic asshole, Shkreli has a unique opportunity to kill

price of the only medical option that these already desperate people had, and raised it from 13.50 to 750 dol-

the poor with a money murder hold.

Corporate America proves that greed has no bounds

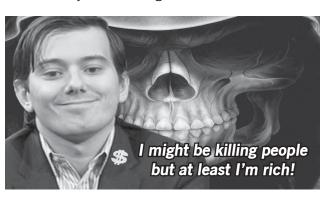
Keep in mind these people are already paying the full cost of the medication for their illnesses which alone is enough to bankrupt a family. For them letting a sociopathic hedge funder have total control over the price of their medication is a big old fuck you from the system of financial regulation in this country.

> The production cost of this drug (for anyone curious of the extent of Shkreli's dickery) is at most one single goddamn dollar. To clarify that 750 dollars isn't for one bottle of the medication it's the price for one pill. ONE PILL. Mr. Martin MurderForMoney is really going for that extra mile of douche baggery. The attempt to justify Lex Luthoring this situation is the supposed "cost of mar-

keting" this drug. Shkreli's argument seems to forget that these people need the medication to you know not die and

they have no other alternative-- what more convincing do they need? Given the price raise I'm assuming the commercial is a voice over of Sir Patrick Stewart telling them they're going to die without the medication while Bugattis detonate on screen.

While I'm certain most people could quickly assume Martin Shkreli is a dickbag in all aspects I'm going to explicate just how shitty of a person he is because god damn I hate this man that I've only known about for a week. In the 2000's, after he was broken up with by a women (who presumably realized she was dating a sociopath) Shkreli gave it a few years and then attempted to bribe his ex into "a sex act" and also messaged her saying that for the last five years every time he got off he was thinking of her.



FAKER THAN TRUTH

Mistaken Identity by Siobhan Donahoue

This weekend, all the talk was about Hurricane Joaquin after he absolutely destroyed The Bahamas. Understandably, Hurricane Joaquin has been receiving a ton of hate mail, especially from Bahamians. This has proven frustrating for Hurricane Joaquim. Hurricane Joaquim, like Hurricane Joaquin, is a category four hurricane. However, Joaquim did not hit land. Joaquim says he's not that type of hurricane.

"I am very respectful of human beings and their habitat. I would never intentionally flood the Earth and cause destruction, especially in this economy. Along with that, there's those crisis' in the Middle East and Eastern Europe and at the end of the day, life is hard for human folk, so I won't contribute to the misery," Joaquim said outside of his cloud abode, located in Sky, Atmosphere.

Meanwhile, Joaquin has decided to contribute to human suffering. So far, Hurricane Joaquin has caused massive floods and has knocked out power and cell service across the islands of The Bahamas. Yet, people are sending death threats to the wrong hurricane. Due to having a name that is one letter different than Joaquin's, Joaquim has been receiving a lot of the previously mentioned death threats. However, he says he understands where they are coming from.

"I know at the end of the day, they are not really directed at me, so I do not take it personally," Joaquim says. "However, the constant letters and tweets are getting annoying, so I'll be ignoring them. Hopefully after Joaquin dies I can clear up the confusion and make good with humanity."

Apple Attempts to Abolish Annoying Ads

by Luis Gomez **Staff Realist**

On September 9th, Apple held its yearly "Look at us, we've gone and made a new iPhone and also some other things" event. While much of the event was focused on the fancy new iPhone 6s (cool!), a brand new iPad line (hey!), and a fancy magic pencil thing that works with that iPad (confused!), one of the most impactful moments from that event came during the presentation on iOS 9. In it, Apple announced that they'd add support for certain content blockers on the App Store. In this case, "content blockers"

is a fancier term for ad blockers. This sounds like a little piece of cool news, but the truth of the matter is that the inclusion of content blockers is a way bigger deal than your average person will figure out or admit.

Firstly, here are some fancy stats on ad blockers. A fairly recent report by PageFair and Adobe pointed out a lot of fancy statistics: Ad block usage increased by 48% during the past year, about 181

million people use ad blockers around the world, and that number is only going up. It is expected that by 2016, ad blocking will have cost the global ad industry about \$41.4 billion by the end

If Google and Apple.. end up squaring off... there's going to be a... battle

of 2016.

To many people, ad blockers make perfect sense. I'm also guessing that a solid bunch of you, dear readers, have no idea what the hell I'm talking about. Ad blockers are normally browser extensions that you tack on in order to get rid of annoying pop-up ads and whatnot. The most popular ones are Ghostery (run by an ad agency ironically enough) and AdBlock Plus (which has a deal with certain publishers to let certain ads through). The most

Even though they suck, ads are necessary

common reasons people end up using ad blockers, or would chose to use one in the future (again, according to the PageFair/Adobe survey), are either that people believe that the data collected by advertisers is being misused. or that there's just too many freaking ads and maybe they just want to read a New York Times article in peace.

So why is the Apple announcement such a huge deal? Well, for a whole bunch of reasons. First, ad blockers have always had a tiny impact on mobile, due to the App Store's lack of support for them, and the Google Play



ing to be a very long, very protracted

technological battle between two of the



creators really can't be understated. Small one-person ventures are almost entirely reliant on ad revenue. Web comic artists are often hit hard by this, being forced to ask people to remove their ad blockers so they can get a more constant revenue source than merchandise sales. The argument

Store's relative lack of them, and the against advertisements is often some form of "adapt or die," but statements like that are often uninformed about the realities of creating content on the web. So far, there's only one way they can "adapt" with regard to advertising, and services like Patreon and Kickstarter are only successful in rare cases. Eventually, the argument goes, users will have to face a choice between advertisements or encountering

> paywalls at every site. It might be hyperbolic to claim that we're at the start of a new era in Internet history, but I don't think that's an unfair assumption. The ethical and legal questions regarding ad blocking are only going to get stronger as more and more companies try to cling on to an older business model in the face of rapid innovation. The likelihood of a protracted technological arms race between Google and Apple isn't. Maybe in the future, all advertising will be native advertising. Perhaps it will not. Either way, there's a long road ahead.

Windows Store's literal nonexistence of them. Secondly, most of the ad revenue made on mobile is done through apps themselves, leaving mobile web developers free to make as many shitty, time-wasting, data-hogging, pop-uppy ads in existence.

There is a bigger battle here. Apple's biggest source of revenue is still the iPhone, but its biggest competitor has shifted in the past few years. The devil in Apple's crosshairs used to be Microsoft. Now, it's Google. Google is a company that's primary revenue stream is ads. This is about as direct a shot at Google's revenue stream you could get without packing Tim Cook into a car, driving over to Google HQ, and flipping off Larry Page. If Apple can meaningfully cut into Google's ad revenue and data gathering through the use of thirdparty apps, they're going to be in a fantastic position.

If Google and Apple really do end up squaring off on this issue, there's go-

Boehner Resigns Amidst Congressional Unrest

by Matt Johnson Staff Speaker of the House

On September 25th, current Speaker of the United States House of Representatives John Boehner, a Republican from Ohio's 8th congressional district, announced that he would be stepping down from the position of Speaker and retiring from Congress on October 30th. Boehner has been a member of the House for almost 25 years, spending the last five as Speaker following the GOP regaining control of the House in 2010. This announcement came just one day after Pope Francis spoke to a joint session of Congress during his trip to the United States. Many viewed John Boehner as a weak leader and evil Republican, however, the informa-

tion and speculation following this announcement is leading many to believe that he really wasn't such a bad guy after all.

His resignation doesn't come as a surprise. The Speaker planned to step down in 2014 but decided to remain following House Majority Leader and heir apparent Eric Cantor's defeat in his district's GOP primary election. Speaker Boehner planned to announce his retirement on his upcoming birthday on November 17th, but last Friday, he announced that after meeting with Pope Francis and hear-

ing him speak, "this morning, I woke up and I said my prayers...and I decided... today's the day I'm going to do this."

This decision was also hastened by news of an impending shutdown over disputes regarding funding the federal government, with specific debate over the federal funding of Planned Parenthood. Many Republicans do not want the organization to receive federal tax money following allegations of corruption and of selling fetuses following the release of some undercover videos, generally regarded to have footage taken out of context and edited. Boehner angered other Republicans when he proposed that they DON'T shut down the government and did not include a budget proposal that denied Planned Parenthood funding. Yet, for trying to

....it's pronounced "Bay-Ner"

prove that the GOP can actually govern responsibly, he created for himself a dilemma in which a legitimate outcome would have been the loss of his position as Speaker in an election without votes from House Democrats, which would likely not improve his image as a leader in his Party. Boehner is also known to not be a fan of the Tea Party, nor are they of him. In July, Rep. Mark Meadow (R-NC) attempted to get Boehner to vacate his seat, saying, "People feel that Washington, D.C., should be representative of their voice and not just a select few inside the Beltway." To be fair, John Boehner can be portrayed as a Washington insider: a pro-small government, golf playing,



smoking Reaganite elected during the Bush 41 administration under the Speakership of Newt Gingrich. But, as we look at the alternatives, that's not always a bad thing.

The Speaker of the House is the first mentioned officer in the Constitution, thus we can assume that it was intended to be a big deal. Since the start of his tenure, the GOP has seen an increase of elected officials more interested in waving the "Don't Tread on Me" flag than playing the cooperative game that is policy making. And frankly, John Boehner is just as sick of the divisiveness and partisan extremism as the rest of us, and no one can blame him for wanting to get out of, as one columnist put it, "Chaosistan." You can say he was a weak leader, but how

much could you expect of him given what he had to work with. Vince Lombardi, legendary NFL coach (and Fordham grad), wouldn't have been able to make the playoffs if his team consisted of a few good, focused football players but also a botanist, the Egyptian curling team, and a guy too busy calling Roger Goodell a Muslim to play the sport. The same goes for politics.

At the start of the Obama administration, Republicans were better off (for their party strategy, not necessarily the greater good) by being solidly against the President. It gained them historic election victories in 2010 (the largest victory of a party in a House midterm election since 1938), 2012, and 2014.

Yet now that they have their majority, the extremism didn't stop. Republican lawmakers aren't even scared to cause government shutdowns; they are credited with doing so in 2013 and, instead of being punished, they took control of the senate in 2014. Since Boehner's resignation, he has not held back his true opinions on issues and people because he can. The worst that could happen to him now is that he angers the farright Republican base and loses reelection, but he's not running again.

As far as Boehner's replacement, the leading candidate seems to be House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA). McCarthy will have to deal with the

same divisive lawmakers that Boehner did, and will likely start off at a disadvantage as those lawmakers will still be basking in the glory of their "victory." A few Republicans said Friday that the remaining month before Mr. Boehner steps aside should be used to deal with the most pressing unresolved problems that so readily annoy conservatives: funding a highway bill, renewing the Export-Import Bank and even increasing the federal debt limit. Mr. Boehner noted that there was a lot of work that needed to be done. "I plan on getting as much of it done as I can before I exit." I wish Mr. Boehner all the best in retirement and sincerely hope the GOP can find a Speaker that can organize and unify the Party.



by Zoe Sakas, Arthur Banach and Caitlin Hufnagle

AK Seeks Money to Save Town

Eroded village On coast of Alaska moved Because, climate change

Bad Cook Burns More Than Meal

Explosion kills one In a Brooklyn apartment Linked to their gas stove

Michigan Farmer Flnds a Thing

A mammoth was found By a curious farmer In Michigan field

Some Millenials Quit Coke

Since 1990 Soda consumption decreased By 30%

A Silent Night Out on the Town

Deaf theater presents The play Spring Awakening Without the music

-ZS

Florida Monkey Eats Mail

Monkey business sent To me by express mailing... I ate your tax forms

Sticky Class Lessons in CA

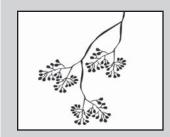
Sex ed is for kids But California Is not This ought to be good

-AB

Plane to Rome Delayed 2 Hours

Italian man late
For plane. Calls in a bomb threat,
Then gets arrested.

-CH



House of Congress Votes to Defund Planned Parenthood

by A. Glembocki & Z. Sakas Puts millions at risk by potentially withholding needed health care Co-Editors-in-Chief

Congressional Lack Of Hearing by Ali Glembocki

Sept. 29's congressional hearing putting Planned Parenthood's funding into question managed to reveal—somehow—more about ourselves than the organization. Public opinion, as well as press reactions, ranged from "Planned Parenthood is Satan" to "Our Conservative Congress is Satan" with very little middle ground:

"Planned Parenthood CEO Cecile Richards to Testify at Hearing on Aborted Baby Sales Scandal" (LifeNews. com)

"WATCH: Every Single Time a Republican Interrupted the President of Planned Parenthood" (Slate.com)

Combing through press reactions is a dizzying process, by nature. But I came across a gem of a thinkpiece from the Dallas Morning News, of all places:

"Congressional Witch Hunts Targeting Planned Parenthood are about Promoting Lies, Not Truth"

In the article, columnist Jacquielynn Floyd expresses that the real issue shouldn't be pro-choice or pro-life: it should be pro-truth. And the truth is, the hearing was full of outright lies. Botched statistics and fuzzy TMZ-style doctored videos dominated the conversation, a mess resulting in a verdict in favor of defunding Planned Parenthood.

The congressional decision is only preliminary, but it unearthed some concerning sentiments. Moderator Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah) opened the hearing with an emotional monologue about his wife's involvement in breast cancer treatments, lasting minutes upon minutes without even mentioning Planned Parenthood. He ended his speech with the idea that the dollars being wasted on Planned Parenthood could be allocated towards a more worthy cause: cancer research and care.

Chaffetz's tactics are what my high school debate teacher would call "an attempt at pathos" (aka being emotionally manipulative) and a "red herring argument" (aka an irrelevant distraction from the topic at hand). Let's take the cancer-care-funding-leech argument seriously for a second: it's not true. According to Planned Par-

enthood's 2014 comprehensive list of statistics, Planned Parenthood performed 487,000 breast exams, along with providing other forms of care and support for cancer patients. For scale, that's more than the number of safe abortions Planned Parenthood performs annually (327,000). For even more scale, none of those abortions were paid with government funds. It is illegal for abortions to be funded by the government, except in the specific case of rape and medical complications, but only under Medicare (The 1977 Hyde Amendment).

So, what's the issue here? Where is Congress getting their facts and figures? As a prize at the bottom of a box of Frosted Ignorance-Os?

The lack of factual evidence presented during the hearing is unacceptable. Frankly, I'm frightened to live in a nation strongly influenced by people who think this is acceptable behavior. And, frankly, I'm frightened that I'm not surprised by it all.

No matter how you paint it, this isn't a matter of pro-choice vs. pro-life. This is a matter of facts.

And the fact is that Planned Parenthood provides affordable and essential health care resources, including STI testing, cancer screenings, and birth control, to hundreds of thousands of Americans a year. The fact is that Planned Parenthood gets most of its funding from the government—cutting off that funding would hurt the organization dramatically. The fact is that Planned Parenthood's health and education services have made teen pregnancy rates lower than they've been in years.

And, technically, this is my opinion, but I honestly can't see the issue any other way: everybody deserves access to a safe abortion.

Take action: PlannedParenthoodAction.org

Planned Parenthood is Crucial And Here Is Why by Zoe Sakas

Since 2007, when the first of nine congressional votes to stop funding of Planned Parenthood was held, Republicans have been on a mission to destroy America's largest provider of women's health care. However, what the conser-

vative mindset of the Republican party does not attend to is the undying love of Planned Parenthood by the majority of Americans.

Just last week, an NBC/Wall Street Journal poll was released, and 61% of those who were polled strongly opposed cutting funding to Planned Parenthood. In addition, the organization had the highest favorability rating with 47% of people reporting that they "felt good" about the organization.

Just a bit lower down on the poll was Barack Obama at 46%, and the Democratic Party at 41%, both of which strongly support Planned Parenthood. At 40% was Vice President Joe Biden, a very religious Catholic who has outwardly stated that he believes abortion is always wrong. And yet, Biden still currently supports Planned Parenthood due to his understanding that Americans should have the right to privacy and the freedom to make their own decisions. From these numbers, it is clear that most Americans not only support Planned Parenthood, but also have "good feelings" about the organization and all the powerful politicians who support it.

It is not hard to figure out why Americans love Planned Parenthood either. Every year, Planned Parenthood affiliates provide sexual education programs to 1.5 million young people. Since my freshmen year at Fordham, I have been teaching high school freshmen in the Bronx public school system health workshops. Through this experience, I am constantly interacting with teens who lack essential information about sexual health including methods of birth control, what certain STD's look like, where to go to get medical help when it involves sexual health, and the social and emotional impacts of pregnancy and teenage parenting. I also personally went to a conservative Catholic middle school and high school, so my sexual education came solely from friends, media and the few advanced biology classes I took.

Sexual health education is an essential aspect of growing up. Reaching sexual maturity introduces many decisions to young, inexperienced men and women. Unfortunately, many of these young adults don't have access to com-

prehensive sexual education in school, and most don't feel comfortable talking to their parents either. Planned Parenthood attempts to reach these teens, and give them access to information and resources that might make these difficult decisions a bit easier.

Aside from sexual education, Planned Parenthood also provides high-quality women's health care. Annually, their services include 400,000 Pap tests, 500,000 breast exams, and 4.5 million tests and treatments for STI's (including 700,000 HIV tests). Millions of Americans have relied on Planned Parenthood for reproductive health needs that they may have not had access to otherwise. The positive perspective and accepting attitude of Planned Parenthood provides a safe environment for those who may feel too vulnerable or reserved to seek help from anywhere else.

Within all the amazing things that Planned Parenthood does, and the services that they offer, their largest impact focuses on the prevention of unintended pregnancies. Over 80% of clients at Planned Parenthood are there for prevention services. This means that 80% of the people this organization helps are trying to avoid abortions. Is that not what all these conservative politicians want anyway? According to their website, only 3% of services at Planned Parenthood are abortion services. All the other services are in place to avoid abortions, and to promote positive sexual health especially among young women.

Unfortunately, despite our constant fight for equality, we still live in a patriarchal society. In my personal opinion, this aggression against Planned Parenthood is a result of powerful men's fear of women's sexual freedom. The facts I have brought up in this article show the immensely positive impact that Planned Parenthood has on Americans. As a young women, I am both angry and afraid that we live in a country where the personal values of those in power have the capability of limiting my access to very necessary health services.



First Sighting of Master Splinter In Years Raises Important Questions

By Claire Nunez Staff Rodent Enthusiast

As you round the corner of Fordham Road onto Grand Concourse and you begin to descend the dimly lit D line subway stairwell, you are overcome by the incredible stench of urine, alcohol, and as always, a hidden mystery scent. The overwhelmingly hot corridor, questionable liquid beneath your feet, and the exciting joy of seeing someone vomit up last night's party is always a part of a grand journey through the boroughs. No subway ride is complete without someone either dancing or singing with the hopes of someone handing over a few dollars. On September 21, a new subway star was recognized and brought to fame: the Pizza Rat-this is not one of your average subway performers, but a fuzzy, disease carrying little vermin of the underworld.

A comedic yet disturbing video of a brave-hearted and determined rat scampering with an entire pizza slice down the stairs has earned nearly 2 million views in 24 hours. The Pizza Rat is the pinnacle example of subway station cleanliness or the lack thereof. There's garbage everywhere you look. Trash, trash, nothing but trash, big pieces, little pieces, all of this trash. Now, New York's state comptroller, Thomas DiNapoli, is seeking to add more trash cans to our stations. Okay, so more garbage cans would maybe help, but only to a certain extent. This plan is slightly ironic considering he is the one that piloted a program to remove waste bins from subway platforms. This initiative also reduced the amount of full bags removed from stations. Removing the bins was meant

How much filth is too much filth for the MTA?

to encourage subway riders to bring their trash with them, instead of tossing it into overflowing cans which would encourage unsightly vermin to snack, now it's a casual event to see cockroaches, rats, and mice eating a half-empty bag of chips just two feet away.

has been proven ineffective by his own reports. This 2015 report states that 97% of stations do not receive the recommended amount of cleanings and 88% get fewer than half of the suggested cleanings. 12% of the vacuums used to clean the subway tracks are broken and have not been



DiNapoli's grand idea only encouraged people to toss their leftover food on the train tracks or to just puke all over the concrete. Our closest subway station is also particularly disgusting at times, especially on a Sunday morning. There is definitely a difference between the cleanliness of the 4 and D lines at least. Maybe the City of New York should consider standardizing the cleanliness of all stations before just propping up a few garbage cans. The 4 Line is kept much cleaner, possibly because it is a highly trafficked line as it leads to Yankee Stadium and it connects multiple lines to each other, but every line should be kept to the same standard of neatness. Is that too much to ask? Why can't every station be equally sanitary?

Apparently yes, DiNapoli's campaign

used in the past year. This would explain the empty soda cups and various food-covered wrappers that forever pollute the lines and attract not-so-friendly little buddies. The actual subway trains are much cleaner than the stations themselves, but the platforms are new riders' first impression of the system. When I first rode the subway, I stepped into the mysterious river of liquid as I walked down the stairs and thought to myself, "I should really put these shoes in a vat of Purell." It's discouraging to tourists to use a mode of transportation that is so unsanitary when there is the allure of a taxi right outside. Unfortunately for us germaphobes on a budget, we just have to swallow our fears and take the subway anyway, but that doesn't stop us from cringing about it.

If this is how one of the most populated American cities presents its most used mode of transportation, what does this say about our city as a whole? New Yorkers aren't dirty, but the way we present some of our establishments suggests we are. As citizens of New York, it is our duty to try and keep our city pristine, but then again, it is our city's job to do that as well. The MTA should attempt to keep these areas clean to promote mass transit, which would boost New York's economy and reduce the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere from cars or buses. Di-Napoli's seemingly sudden interest in the cleanliness of our stations is also extraordinarily frightening. It shouldn't take the immense bravery of one tiny little plague-carrying creature to open anyone's eyes to the grime of these stations. The MTA needs to take some kind of action to fix this incredibly huge and underplayed problem. Yes, the layers of dirt and chewed gum gives stations a bit of "character," but is this something we need during our daily commutes? Of course not, we do need to be protected from rats though. Getting bit by one would be a serious problem for both parties.

Thanks to the Pizza Rat, we may finally see some change, even if it starts with just trash bins, it is a step towards cleaner subway stations. It will definitely take an immense amount of time because that's just how everything subway-related goes. Until then, everyone should be sure to hold their pizza slices carefully to prevent another viral video of a rat scurrying away with a grandiose prize.

America: Same Racism, New Reagans

By Kyle Zarif Staff Racist-ist

Ahhh xenophobia, you relentless motherfucker. Why is it you seem to pop up in the American political sphere during the times your presence is anything but needed? You are a constant reminder that the home of the free is populated by quite a few ignorant assholes that often ascend to the heights of our governmental and media positions, and spew their horse shit from the highest of mountaintops. You seem to appear in the most vile and insidious ways, hellbent on derailing legitimate political discussion with racist hate-mongering. As a nation founded on the literal fucking enslavement of one race and the near utter annihilation of another, it's insane how we react with shock whenever xenophobic language enters our political debates. We sat around outraged when decorated theologian Ben Carson said that Islam is incompatible with the Constitution, but failed to reflect on why these xenophobic views have gained such support in this country. Recently, xenophobia catwalked back into the mainstream Republi-

White supremacy has flourished in this country since its inception, so stop reacting with shock when it manifests itself in our culture.

can playbook when Syria began to bleed refugees from its bloody Civil War. Full disclosure: my father is an immigrant from Syria, and his sister and her family are currently seeking refugee status in America after fleeing Syria about four years ago. Talking to them painted a true picture of Syrian refugees: PEOPLE who have experienced the complete destruction of their country, who have seen unspeakably horrific crimes against

Ushering in the next era of assholery

humanity, who just need help regaining a sense of normalcy. Unfortunately, my view is not one that is shared by many in the Republican party. The merry bunch of misfits known as the GOP candidates for the presidency have been making this abundantly clear. Failed tech CEO Carly Fiorina recently stated in an inexplicable case of verbal diar-

own personal spin on this uniform characterization, saying, "We have to continue to be vigilant to make sure those coming are not affiliated with the terrorists. But we can do that." If you're wondering where the rest of the candidates stand on this issue, I'll save you some depressing research and assure you that they, for the most part, speak on



rhea that, "We are having to be very careful about who we let enter this country from these war-torn regions to ensure that terrorists are not coming here." Failed water drinker Marco Rubio decided to hop into the debate, "adding" that we should refrain from letting "people who were, you know, part of a terrorist organization that are using this crisis" enter the country. Wildly successful islamophobe Ben Carson decided. "fuck it," and stated in an interview with ~Fox News~ that it would be "foolishness to take in people from a region where we don't have any way in making a determination if this person is radicalized already or potentially radicalized." Dracula impersonator and aspiring McCarthyist Ted Cruz decided to spew his

this with the same issue-dodging and near blatant racism that these four cuties have exhibited. If you think the mainstream xenophobia stops with these clowns, you are RIGHT, just kidding you're fucking wrong and you knew that already. John Oliver recently did a segment on international coverage of the crisis, and showed a ~Fox News~ segment which utilizes a video which they failed to note was uploaded in 2010 showing a group of supposed refugees chanting "allahu akbar" or "God is great" on French public transit. The headline underneath this bullshit reads, "TERRORISTS INBOUND? Taking Refugees Could Open Door to Jihadists." The newscaster who seemingly majored in denying obvious implications followed this by clarifying; "To be clear, we're not saying that any of those people are terrorists, or in any way affiliated with a terror group, but it does highlight just how many of these refugees who are fleeing violence in Iraq and Syria are Muslim". I am glad she clarified because, personally, I had no idea that the majority of refugees from a nation that is 90 fucking percent Muslim would be Muslims themselves! Thanks Fox News :)! Fox's viewers presumably responded to this with complete fear of the scary brown people who are clearly coming to Western countries to denounce our benevolent Christian God and shit all over the Constitution. Just as a reminder to all of those mentioned in this article, these refugees are FUCKING PEOPLE, not robots automatically programmed to hate democracy and blow shit up. Terror is not intrinsically tied to being Arab, just the desire to enslave entire races of people is not intrinsically tied to being white. I know this because I'm both, and it sickens me to think that people who could one day lead this country would look upon my Syrian relatives fleeing oppression with suspicions of terrorism. Furthermore, white people commit acts of terror all the damn time. The growing number of far-right hate groups in the U.S. and Europe and the horrible act of racist terror in Charleston make that fact abundantly clear. Another reminder to everyone else: white supremacy has flourished in this country since its inception, so stop reacting with shock when this manifests itself in our culture. Complaining about oppressive power structures means nothing unless you fight to change or dismantle them. Instead, respond by actively supporting refugees and by calling out your fellow citizens on xenophobic nonsense. Lastly, education is the best tool against oppression. Talk to refugees, hear their stories, and read in to the actual facts surrounding the impact of refugees on Western nations. Counter bullshit with fact, as facts (mostly) always win!!

Girl Runs Out of Data, Ponders Existential Crisis

By Georgia Pullis Staff Confused Pilot

As I sit in the airport, patiently awaiting my flight to Chicago, I cannot help but glance at the multitude of people around me. People watching at the airport has always been a favorite pastime of mine and La-Guardia never disappoints; however, today I was sent to a classier, cleansmelling corridor ominously titled "Terminal A". This small section of the never-ending LaGuardia nightmare was a pleasant surprise when I realized it was decked out with lounge-style leather chairs and endless outlet stations to provide comfort for even the wealthiest of fliers. I pondered purchasing a pre-flight first course, only to be chilled when I see that the average price of their high-class meals are way out of my price range. And suddenly, as I am no longer awestruck with the brilliance of LaGuardia's secret hospitality, I realize that I have no place being here.

With my cracked IPhone 4 sitting next to me, proudly sporting my favorite hamburger shirt, I counted the briefcases resting next to their ambitious owners: at least twenty, maybe more. To my left I spy a beautiful Michael Kors handbag, and to my right, a pompous pair of Louis Vuitton pumps. People like this, successful adults let's call them, tend to keep to themselves in public situations. "No need to talk to that dirty college student over there, huh Norma." "No Frank, we are far too prosperous to be conversing with a peasant. Hahahaha." Although, sometimes I'm thankful for this 'polite' ignorance simply because they're right! I live in

Career Services sucks, just go to the airport instead

a different world.

College is a world of wonder, where your future is supposed to be laid out like the yellow brick road in front of you. We are destined for greatness they say, but hell... I'm not

from seeping through your tight knee length skirts? Not for me. Plus, their clever financial schemes and brutal confrontation are more than I could handle. As I look at each woman, furiously noting something on a laptop,



sure if I can pave the way to the rest of my life right now. How did these people do it? What bridges the gap from being a poor college student to successful?

When I look at the business women around me, I KNOW I could never do that. Endless power point presentations? Trying to hide your leg sweat I can see I am not cut out for that cutthroat lifestyle, even if it means I will never get the chance to own designer heels.

Now, my eyes fall on a woman sitting across the way. She wears a black shirt with black knee high socks and jean shorts that let the tattooed word "divine" peak out

from underneath. In her bag, I see she is carrying a portfolio, several drawings and what looks to be a set of charcoal pencils: the makings of an artist. "That's so cool!" I think to myself, "She's going after a dream." I've always wanted to be courageous enough to follow my heart and pretend that money doesn't matter. But when I look at her droopy eyes and tired lips, it's clear that the struggle of doing what you love is tough. I suppose most people don't go to college to do what they love. We come here to learn to love what we do.

So what can I learn to love? I'm not quick-witted enough to be a lawyer, not intelligent enough to be an engineer, and definitely too squeamish to be a doctor. As I listen to the woman behind me detailing to her cellphone how angry she is that she's had to work overtime the past few weeks, I'm not sure I want to have a big girl iob at all!

Perhaps my perception is solely based on my juvenile fear of entering into the real world. This fear, it rolls and crashes like the waves of the sea, only disintegrating into little foamy bubbles for a moment before coming back for more. My free-time is often overcome with thoughts of "what kind of job should I have in ten years," or "hopefully I even have a job in ten years," and "is the rest of life as hard as buying groceries?" but, nevertheless, answers can unexpectedly present themselves.

"Flight 2459 to Chicago...Now boarding." As I grab my bags and head to my plane, I think, "Hmmm, maybe I'll be a pilot!"



Advisor, Come Back, I'm Lonely... and I Have to Register Happy Feet more enticing than expected

By Madeline Johnson **Staff Fur Seal**

After multiple "friendly reminders" and location changes, my first core advising meeting of sophomore year was set for Monday September 14 at 1:00. No, 1:30. Actually, let's switch it back to 1:00. Thanks! I begrudgingly sat in a room with a total of 5 other students as my advisor said that he was sorry to admit that he probably wouldn't be much help to us this semester. He explained that he was going on sabbatical and conducting research on penguins in South Africa. Scheduled to leave that Thursday. As in three days from this under-tenminute meeting. He would be studying penguins for 6 weeks, and while he would have access to email most of the time, we should expect a bit of a delayed response. We can totally still reach out to him though! Except for 8 days when he'd be secluded on an island with no human contact. Not then. While his expertise in the biological sciences department is admirable, this inconvenience is, in short, unacceptable as I begin slowly

panicking over major declarations. courses that would best benefit me, and how to start an internship search. I asked for a backup contact advisor who we should contact with questions, and was assured that he would follow up the meeting with an email containing pertinent information (no email was received). I stayed after the meeting to ask about how to get started with internships, and the response was literally, "Oh, I don't know. Maybe ask a professor." Okay.

Disgruntled and not sure of who to reach out to, I contacted the Assistant Dean for the Sophomore class, Dean Lenis. A brief email explaining my concern was immediately answered with a scheduled appointment time, and later that week I hauled ass up three flights in Keating to the unknown land of the Dean's office. Punctually called in by an assistant right at the time of my appointment, Dean Lenis immediately impressed me as a professional woman who could, in short, get shit done. Already a bit relieved, I told her why I would prefer an advisor who is accessible and actively on campus. Without batting an eye, she offered to personally help me in whatever way needed throughout the rest of the semester. Questions about studying abroad? Shoot her an email. Concerned about scheduling? Book an appointment. After expressing a genuine interest in my intended major, she advised me further on how to get involved in my field of study. She was thorough, friendly, and while we met for the same ten minute time period as my academic advising meeting, I left her office feeling confident in my semester. While not my academic advisor, Dean Lenis is truly my academic angel.

I'm not trying to demonize my academic advisor, who is very accomplished in his field and held in high esteem throughout the biology department. While he is involved, he is not the root of the problem in this situation. The system of core academic advising is clearly flawed, as my personal experience has showed. It would have been easy to split up and reassign 6 students to different advising groups with people that would have been actually on the continent. It would have been easy to possibly try to match these students with advisors and professors with similar fields of study to their intended major. This was pure laziness. The core advising program that boasts to prepare students for, "major declaration, study abroad programs, undergraduate research, internships, and all other opportunities you will receive that Fordham." Yes, the official fordham.edu core advising website says "that" and not the grammatically correct "at," I'm not misquoting here. The lack of effort in this situation concerns me. Fordham is supposed to be assisting students with furthering their academics and preparing them for the real world. How am I supposed to "go forth and set the world on fire" if my personal advisor is unreachable by anyone other than a penguin?

We Have Decided Not to Burden This Article With A Name

By Blu Donation Staff John Doe

In conventional society there are usually two types of names for a person to be referred to as. These are nicknames and given names. Given names represent legally who we are, who we were born as and who we've become expected to be. With this level of importance in mind it's understandable that any additional names might add complexity that most would rather avoid. This does not mean however we should keep only one name.

Names are in the simplest terms labels, they are used to identify something. However a name reveals very little about a person. After all the name Susan Schmitz could be your friendly grandmother who has the world swimming record, or the couch potato who never graduated high school and anywhere in between. Unlike scientific names, human names do not stem from characteristics about the creature it labels. A giiven name is generally received at birth before a persons true

I don't even know why we have names!

nature and achievements are shown. This does not mean that names themselves do not have meaning and in fact the name Susan translates to graceful lily in its Hebrew origins. However whether a parent's child becomes this graceful lily is impossible to predict at birth. If names did affect behavior, the name "Brutus" would come with a better warning label.

Nicknames are different, they are not dependent on a persons parents but themselves. When someone earns a nickname it becomes an easy way to refer to a known individual in a way that's more enjoyable or comfortable than their real name. It can even display some achievement one wants known to the world. When someone wants another name this is generally what they receive. It is a defining label which unlike a person's given name defines how a person is viewed at least in part.

Here is where it all gets taboo though, with the self-proclaimed name. This is a name not written on a piece of paper in a legal office or on the back of one's football jersey. It's not official. It is often seen as a signal of a person who has some self hatred or desire to hide, but this is not true in all cases. Just as Johns refer to themselves as Jacks, a self-proclaimed name can simply be a substitute for one's name. For example, at home Jack is called by his given name of John, his whole family knows him as John so all achievements associated with the name are listed in respect to his Family. Jack, however, is a name most in the outside world associate achievements to. Jack is the name of the school basketball player whose always pulling pranks on his team, not John. Still while both names have origins and meanings, neither definition truly describes John/Jack as a person, however each individual label has now in the same person acting the same ways earned two completely separate achievements

associated within them. While not the label of one man, it is that of another, and it remains simply a label. It is not a meaning like a nickname but reference, to how people see and associate with a given person. Without needing to act different or hide anything a person who chooses to refer to themselves other than the title they are given gains re spect and associations within the realm of where it is used.

While treated as some holy idol given names only differ from self proclaimed names in their chooser and legal representation. However by one not being given by another individual does not make it fake, as in the end a name is not who a person is but what we are associated with something others come to know. So before you clamor to find that origin of a person remember, whether they are Susan, Mary, Rosetta, or Pink, they are the same person, and the person is who you know.

the paper's View

Real Consequences

Remember the days when all that mattered was if you got put in the same class as your best friend? Or what mom packed you for lunch? Or if the swings were open when you got to the park? Unfortunately, those days are long gone. Now, every situation we encounter seems to hold much more gravity. We have to make difficult decisions, some so difficult that we consult with friends and family and whatever useful resources we can get our hands on. And those decisions we make, for better or for worse, have consequences.

Especially as seniors, there are many exciting yet terrifying decisions that have been coming up in the past couple of months. What to do after we graduate being a big one, but even smaller choices like whether or not to go out one night or which class to take in the spring all of a sudden seem really important. We are in the mindset that decisions lead to consequences, and those consequences are important. No matter how big or how small, they will impact who we are and where we end up.

As we enter into this whirlwind of maturity, and "real life" becomes close enough that we can almost grasp it, it is important to remember that these decisions might not be as important as we presume. The things that are most important will stand out, and that's what we should focus on. It's a shame to waste so much energy on imaginary consequences that might not have the huge impact that you think they will. Energy can be spent on things that you know will matter, like your relationships with others, your values and perspectives, and what truly makes you happy.

What is really important to you? Rather than putting your effort into smaller everyday decisions, or even into those big decisions like what you want to do with your life, spend your time on developing who you are as a person and on figuring out how you can have the greatest positive influence on yourself and those around you.

College is overwhelming—and it's not just classes and activities that bog you down. This is the time where we're rapidly growing and changing the most. When we're kids, growth and change are imposed upon us—our bodies changed without our input, and largely, without our understanding. Our parents and authorities ruled everything around us. And now, we're growing just as much, but we have much more agency over that growth. We can question the authorities and systems we used to be dependent on. We can look at ourselves and decide to give ourselves the freedom to change, to ask ourselves the questions that we rarely even consider when we're younger: what makes me comfortable? What makes me happy?

That power that we have over our own lives is stressful, but it's also exciting, necessary, and fulfilling. When you get overwhelmed, make sure to remember how necessary it is to take the conscious time to question and reflect. Take that nap. Take that walk. Write that poem. Meditate that meditation. It's anything but a waste of time.



-Zoe & Ali

The Paper's DAD-VICE



Have you ever been puzzled by the enigmatic nature of the universe? Feel free to ask our resident Dad Joe Swanberg anything, but mostly sex stuff.

Q: How do I break in my baseball glove?

A: Well sport, when I was your age we were too concerned about the Russians for sports, if I were you I'd steal a slightly used glove and blame Marxism.

Q: How do you not disappoint your wife?

A: I have no idea.

Q: How do you change your oil?

A: Is this one of those sex euphemisms?

Q: I mean didn't intend it to be one, but I guess maybe?

A: Do you want to do the birds and the bees thing?

Q: Not really, my car broke down can you please help?

A: How does that have to do with sex?

Q: What? How do I change my oil?

A: Be sure to wear a condom.

Q: I don't see how that helps.

A: It always helps.

Trust Is A Two Way Street, Even If One of You Lives In it

By Rowan Hornbeck Staff Trust Fall

It was one of the hottest days in July in downtown South Bend, IN and I was just trying to get to my car in the parking garage so I could go home for my hour lunch. I'd taken to walking with my key between my knuckles, occasionally checking for someone behind me when I walked to my car. It could have just been paranoia, but I considered it survival instinct. Don't talk to strangers, stay away from people who talk to things that aren't there, don't give money to the homeless because they're lying to you. That's how I was raised.

On my brisk march to my car, a man caught my eye. I kept walking but he followed, shouting after me, holding out a wallet. For a minute I thought he thought it was mine. I paused and let him catch up to me.

He opened the wallet and hurriedly started telling me who he was before I could get away. He was a veteran and had been sleeping under a bridge. He had hemorrhoids. He was in pain. He just needed ten dollars for bus fare to a shelter a few towns away.

I nodded along to everything he was saying and contorted my eyebrows in concern, all the while trying to figure out how I was going to get away from this guy. I genuinely wondered if I had any cash on me, but didn't trust him enough not to rob me and didn't even bother to check before telling him I had nothing. I settled on a compromise because he seemed trust worthy enough for that. I told him I was going home for lunch (true) and that I would bring him some cash when

One girl's struggle to give away her money

I came back (also true) because I didn't have any on me at the time (false). He asked me how long I'd be because he needed to catch the bus. I told him I'd only be thirty minutes

When I sat down in my car I opened my wallet and found ten dollars in

"I don't wan't your money,

It has house on It's

back. I told him I would come back. I was going to keep my word.

But he wasn't there.

When I walked out of the parking garage after my lunch, he was gone. I searched the side street, the soda sweating in my bag and a sick feeling gathering in my chest. He had left be-



time. I could have helped him right away, but I didn't trust him enough to open my purse in front of him. I couldn't just forget about it though. I drove home, determined to come come back. I felt a sticky sort of guilty gathering in my gut because I felt like I had lied to him. He didn't trust me. The tables had turned.

Trust falls require two people. One

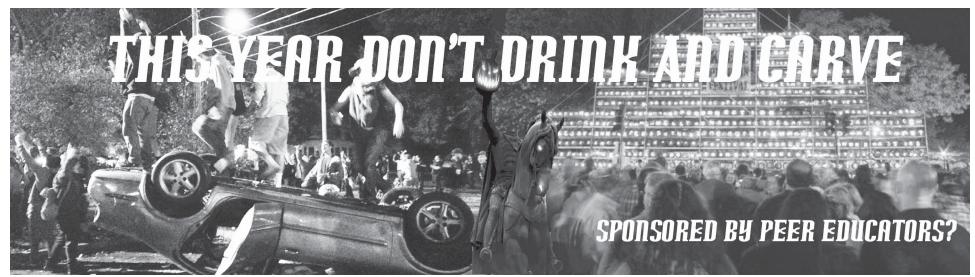
to fall and one to catch, and both people have to trust one another for the exercise to work. I felt hurt and guilty when he didn't trust me to come back, but I realized that he must feel that all the time. I didn't trust him enough to pull my wallet out in front of him. I didn't trust him enough to feel confident he wasn't lying about his situation. What would it feel like to really need something, but not be trusted enough for anyone to help you? How many times had I lied and told someone I didn't have any cash? How many other people had told him they had nothing? How many other people hadn't come back?

Whether I had gotten the chance to give him the money or not, I was never going to find out if he was telling the truth. Maybe he would have used the money to get where he needed to go. maybe that money would get him the treatment he needed, maybe it would save his life, but maybe it wouldn't. What did I really have to lose though?

I never saw him again. I kept looking for him through the rest of the day. Maybe he made it to the shelter after all. Maybe someone else gave him the money he needed. Maybe he was lying. Either way, he knew that I hadn't trusted him, and I knew that he didn't trust me and so neither of us had the chance to impact one another's lives.

I still walk past people asking for money and help without giving them a second glance. Social interaction is a trust exercise, and maybe it's time I learned to trust.







Taylor Swift: Pop Princess or Indie Icon?

by Declan Murphy Staff Wildest Dream

Near the end of September, folk rocker Ryan Adams released a cover of Taylor Swift's platinum-selling album 1989, in the style of The Smiths. If you're only familiar with one of the artists, it's statistically likely that it's Taylor Swift-and you're not alone. Swift is ubiquitous, a powerhouse singer with a national tour. Her album 1989 remained in the Billboard Top 10 for a stunning 48 weeks. (Interestingly, as of this writing, Taylor Swift's 1989 has dropped to the Number 11 spot-with none other than Ryan Adams' 1989 at Number 6). It's not surprising that an indie artist, especially one with Adams' range, would try to cash in on that success with their own tributes. What is surprising, however, is that all of this was done with Swift's blessing.

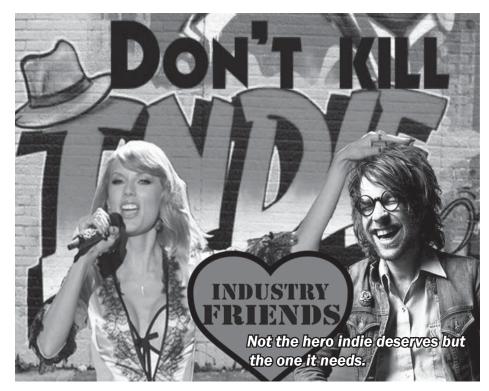
This is symptomatic of a larger change in the attitude of the pop icon. Increasingly, Taylor Swift welcomes collaboration with and offers support to other artists from all genres. Just look at the variety of artists represented in the "Bad Blood" music video—pop peers like Selena Gomez, but also alternative artists like Ellie Goulding or Paramore's Hayley Williams. It's worth noting, also, that Swift is evidently a big fan of Ryan Adams; an interview with EW in 2010 revealed she owns many of his albums.

Swift's most recent tour included a number of guest stars, becoming something of a trademark for the singer. These ranged from the expected (Cara Delevigne) to the bizarre (Lisa Kudrow singing "Smelly Cat?"). But,

T-Swift has your back forever and always

one of the bigger upsets was when, during a show in LA, Swift brought out Beck and St. Vincent to perform Beck's hit "Dreams." Beck is a star on the rise, for sure, after his win for Best Album with last year's *Morning Phase*. But awareness of Beck is still much lower than Taylor Swift. Keep in mind, after

perform with them, and showed genuine admiration and respect for their work. Swift was, as always, wildly enthusiastic about the performance on social media, praising St. Vincent's guitar solo and mentioning how honored she was to collaborate with the two fellow artists.



the aforementioned Grammy win last year, #whoisbeck was trending on Twitter. As for St. Vincent, she took home a Grammy for her recent self-titled album, but her album sales pale in comparison to T-Swift's. Both undoubtedly can be labeled as 'indie' artists, in stark contrast to the highly-publicized Swift. Nonetheless, she was happy to

In fact, Taylor Swift has even deliberately poised herself as a defender of indie artists. In her open letter to Apple following the announcement of Apple Music, she explicitly pointed out how it would disproportionately affect smaller or emerging artists. She notes that while her own success will likely not take a hit from the move, she is deter-

mined to champion those who may seriously take a loss from this—and who don't have enough exposure to voice their concerns. "This is about the new artist or band that has just released their first single and will not be paid for its success. This is about the young songwriter who just got his or her first cut and thought that the royalties from that would get them out of debt," she said in the letter, entitled "To Apple, Love Taylor." Better yet, she actually won. Apple backed down, agreeing to pay all artists royalties during the 3-month free trial period of Apple Music.

This is not to say that we should expect Swift's new album to be a synth-pop or post-rock masterpiece. Taylor Swift is a pop singer, and she knows it. But she's also an artist, a member of the informal union to which all creators of music belong. Instead of being content to stay at the top, she's seeking to elevate all musicians.

And really, shouldn't we expect this from more artists? The music industry is not a zero-sum game. Shouldn't all artists want others in the industry to succeed? Taylor Swift has come to embody the attitude of being someone who is so assured in their success and only wants others to do better. It's philanthropic, to be sure, but it's also communal. The implication is that artists do better when they work together. It's not a revolutionary idea, and it's not a new one. But it is one that Swift has embraced wholeheartedly. Musicians, rejoice; you couldn't ask for a better champion.

EVENTS

What: Bonnie and Clyde:

The Musical

Where: Collins Auditori-

When: Oct 8th-10th @ 8pm.

Oct 11th @ 2pm

How Much: Free Opening Night, 5 with a Fordham

ID, 12 without

Why: A love story set to the tune of gunslingers and bank robbers. Come support Mimes! You won't regret it.

What: CSA De-Stress With **Fitness**

Where: McGinley Ballroom, 2nd Floor

When: Thurs, Oct 16th,

4pm-6pm

How Much: FREE

Why: Because midterms suck more than working out.

What: Fordham Halloween Ghost Stories

Where: Rodrigue's Coffee House

When: Wed. Oct 28th. 12pm - 10pm

How Much: FREE

Why: Because the Fordham ghosts will haunt you if you don't

It's not only Parks and Rec fans who

Amy Poehler is Incredible and Deserves All the Awards **ALL THE AWARDS!!**

by Kristen Nolan **Staff Pawnee Goddess**

"Winning is every girl's dream. But it's my destiny. And my dream," Amy Poehler declares in the season 2 episode "Woman of the Year" of the critically acclaimed NBC mockumentary, Parks and Recreation. Of course, Poehler is not speaking as herself when she says this, but as her character, the passionate, intelligent, and hilarious Leslie Knope, the series' beloved protagonist. Though the line was a work of fiction written for Leslie, it certainly wasn't far from the truth for Poehler. After being nominated for "Outstanding

Lead Actress in a Comedy Series" by the Television Academy every year since 2010, and not winning once, it seemed like winning it in 2015 was Poehler's destiny. Welp, the Television Academy apparently had other ideas and gave Poehler a big, fat "Knope," yet again at this year's 67th Annual Primetime Emmys, which aired Sunday. September 20.

With Parks and Rec's wrap this past February, this was Poehler's

last chance to clinch the award she so deserves. However, the Television Academy instead presented the honor to Julia Louis-Dreyfuss—a hilarious and talented actress in her own right, but also the winner of seven Emmys, four of which have been snagged consecutively since 2012. She's beat out Poehler each time. To Parks fans everywhere, winning the award this year would have been special, especially since it was her last shot. It would have been great to see Poehler recognized for her fantastic portrayal of Leslie, who was the female character the world needed on TV. Leslie worked hard, loved her job. and proved that a woman can have a healthy love life without sacrificing her career. Not only that, but she was an outspoken feminist and her refreshing friendship with Rashida Jones' character, Ann Perkins, portrayed a positive female friendship. The two never tore each other down, but supported one another and lifted each other up.

are disappointed in Poehler's lack of Emmys, but her peers and coworkers as well. Mike Schur, one of the cocreators of Parks, spoke to "Entertainment Weekly" in July and expressed his dismay over Poehler's absence of Emmy awards.

"It's one of the great Hollywood tragedies that she hasn't won an Emmy yet," Schur said. "No one can do what she did better than she did it. It's hard to complain-Julia Louis-Dreyfus is a national treasure-but at the same time, I just hope and pray that somehow or another, this is Amy's year."



Unfortunately, Mr. Schur's hopes and dreams were shattered and crushed this year when Poehler didn't walk away with that coveted golden trophy. However, it's important to recognize Poehler's feelings about being nominated and winning - or in her case, not winning. In her 2014 book, Yes Please, she dedicates a chapter to award shows and how she handles them without fixating too much on winning or losing. As she talks about award shows and nominations, she calls the awards "pudding," and admits, "The worst part of being nominated for any award is that despite your best efforts, you start wanting the pudding."

In order to combat any craving for the "pudding," she decided to start doing bits every time she's nominated for an award.

"I decided to distract myself in that awkward and vulnerable moment the 'winner' was announced," Poehler said. "I decided to focus my attention on something I could control."

We saw this strategy exercised at this year's Emmy Awards when they announced the nominees for her category. She was slumped in her seat, sporting a gray hoodie, sunglasses, and had an "IDGAF" look on her face. Because she had control in this situation, she probably really didn't GAF.

The nonchalant attitude toward the award Poehler showed on camera poses the question, should we even care that she didn't win if Poehler herself doesn't seem to care very much? Maybe yes, maybe no. I care because I think she deserved to be recognized

> for playing Leslie Knope so well. She made the character seem real. I know I'm not alone in feeling inspired by both Amy Poehler and the character Leslie Knope. The Academy lacked creativity in giving the award to Louis-Dreyfuss for the fourth year in a row. You don't get the same excited feeling watching someone receive an award they've already accepted four or five times before.

On the other hand,

when Poehler won her first Golden Globe last year for her work as Leslie Knope, her utter surprise and shock at winning was so enjoyable to watch. Had she won an Emmy this year, I'm sure her astonishment and delight would've been just as fun to see. I'm sure she would've had a kickass and hilarious acceptance speech. I'm sure we would have seen some adorable pictures of the Parks and Rec cast genuinely excited for Poehler and celebrating her win with her. And I'm sure she would have been extremely thankful for the honor.

With that said, I also know that Julia Louis-Dreyfuss is a good friend of Poehler's, so she was probably delighted to see her friend win. And for Poehler, doing her funny bit was more important than the actual award itself. So I guess Poehler fans will just have to rest easy and know that even though Poehler didn't get the "pudding" from the Emmys, just playing Leslie Knope was probably a dessert in itself.

"I'm a Good Reviewer Because I'm Human"

by Arthur Banach Earwax Editor

The world of music reviews has undergone a gang of change in the past decade. With the popularization of You-Tube and blogging, the average person's musical opinions have become more relevant. The influence of major label promotion teams and national music publications has decreased in the wake of this changing era.

I'm not even necessarily talking about the rise of websites like Pitchfork, I want to highlight the influence of the "small businesses" in music review. One of my favorite groups in that regard are Dead End Hip Hop; comprised of Kinge, Feefo, Beezy, and Myke C-Town. A group focused not only on reviewing Hip Hop releases but opening dialogue on whatever issue they feel the need to lend their voice to. I had the blessing of being able to talk to Myke about his process while reviewing albums. I was also curious how he feels being part of a well-known platform for Hip Hop based discussion. What really peaked my interest was how the original intent was not to make Dead End Hip Hop a review centric channel but rather just a platform to talk about the genre. That's not a goal that has disappeared either, as their DEHH Conversation videos remain very popular. That being

Artists often don't hear regular people's opinions even though, they make up the majority of every artist's audience.

said, a lot of my questions related to how Myke approaches their reviews, as his musical background is more varied than the other members of DEHH. He comes from a more punk-centric background, listening to Hip Hop, falling out of love with the music and having the love reignited later in his life. That break without a doubt influenced the way he takes in new Hip Hop music today. Myke mentioned how he tends to not discuss music with people who lock themselves into their own bubble of a

DEHH member Myke C-Town shares his process

genre, sub-genre, etc. I have to admit that's a sentiment I share and without exposure one wouldn't naturally find themselves listening to artists like P.O.S or Death Grips, who bend genre borders.

We spoke at length about the head-

grounds bleed into the music we love, that's why someone like DEHH's Feefo, growing up in Miami, leans towards music that's a lot more boisterous and dance-ready, while Myke gravitates to music that's a lot more experimental



space he's in while reviewing a project, and how despite fan's annoying requests, it hurts to formulate a tangible opinion of an album too early. There have been numerous projects for Myke where it didn't click until seven or eight listens, after which he loved it e.g. Aesop Rock's *Skelethon*. Additionally, there's some contention when Myke feels as though he has to listen to an album he would normally swerve, for sake of a DEHH review. That feeling of being forced into listening to a project ultimately doesn't help the opinion he's going to hold on the album.

What really struck me as a thoughtful analysis, whether or not Myke intended it to be, was when he stated: "I'm a good reviewer because I'm human." This ties into my original point that music review, especially within Hip Hop, needs an honest voice. We don't benefit from reading agenda driven drivel from faceless names. We want to know the person writing the review, so we understand why they might have a particular type of opinion. Our backand touches ground in the multiple genres he loves.

The fact that I am able to have a genuine conversation with my favorite music reviewer about our favorite artists alone speaks to the sense of honesty that DEHH brings. Their existence, and the work that Myke puts in, believe it or not, is insanely crucial to the balance of music industry. A pertinent point he brought up was how artists often don't hear regular people's opinions even though, they make up the majority of every artist's audience.

The existence of forums in Hip Hop and music in general will continue to be relevant, and supporting these types of mediums is an important endeavor. Make sure to check out Dead End Hip Hop on YouTube, and on all the social networks. As well as Myke C-Town's personal YouTube channel.

You can go visit Myke's personal website mykectown.com for more info and videos.



What: Adam Lambert, Rachel Platten, PHASES, and A Great Big World

Where: Madison Square

Garden

When: Thurs, Oct. 8th How Much: \$20

Why: Because you know at least one song by at least one of these artists to pretend you know the words to when it comes on the radio.

What: Owl City
Where: Irving Plaza

When: 7pm Sat, Oct. 10th

How Much: \$34

Why: Because they are much better than Owl

Towns.

What: Smallpools
Where: Webster Hall
When: 7 pm Thurs, Oct.

15th

How Much: \$32.30 **Why:** Discover your new favorite indie band.

What: Ty Dolla \$ign **Where:** Highline Ballroom **When:** 8pm Mon, Oct 26th

How Much: \$20

Why: "I would get stupid to Ty Dolla \$ign." -Earwax Editor Arthur Banach

The Kardashian Apps are Everything You Didn't Know You Needed

by Camille Derderian **Staff Takes Miami**

I have a guilty pleasure. It's the Kardashians. The clothes, the hair, the plastic surgery rumors, what's not to love? So, when four of the sisters launched their own personalized apps. I was crazy excited just to try them out. Now, for the sake of journalism, I have downloaded them all so that you don't have to.

One email and password account got me into every app. Upon logging in to my seven day free trial, I was notified that when my trial period is up, I will be charged a \$2.99 subscription fee per app per month. Every time you enter your email and password into a new app, you are subscribing to that specific app. If you're really committed to these apps, you'll be shelling out \$12 per month to get an exclusive look into the Kardashian lifestyle.

The interface is extremely userfriendly, with a simple swipe up, down, left, right, design. Upon entering the

But you still probably don't need them

app, you can swipe left for new content, swipe up for more information, swipe right to go back, and swipe down to see the major categories in order to narrow your search when you're looking for something specific. Each app has the same basic format, with four or five main categories which feature categories like life events, clothes, makeup, and other things they simply can't live without (like silk pillow... thanks

Of course, each app has personal touches to emulate the style of each of the sisters. Kylie's app is filled with her signature teal color. She has a Music section which features a significant amount of Tyga, a Glam section for her makeup tips, a Looks section for her clothes, and a Lyfe section which includes her family, friends, and evergrowing collection of small dogs.

Kendall's app also has a Life section. as well as Style, Model, and Travel sections. The travel section evokes some jealousy because I can't afford her fancy blankets and private jets, but a girl can dream. Khloe's app has a Khloe XO blog section, as well as sections called Glam, Fit, and Video. It features lots of workout and makeup tips. Kim's app is the least personal of all, and has Beauty, Style, Obsessed, Behind the Scenes, and Q&A sections. Mostly, Kim iust focuses on how famous she is. Suprise, suprise.

If you're on the fence about whether or not to buy the apps, here are some pros and cons.

Pros: The apps are super easy to use. A small child could successfully navigate them with little to no problem. They update the apps very frequently. so there is always new and exciting content for the Kardashian enthusiast to catch up on. My favorite part of all the apps is the "copy my look" section. The sisters create affordable outfits that mimic their expensive, high-fashion ensembles. For anyone looking to

find thousand-dollar designer looks for less, this is the app for you.

Cons: The price. It takes some commitment to pay \$2.99 per month per app. Also, with the Kardashians' presence on every form of social media, their reality show, multiple spin-off shows, and general news media presence, is an app really necessary? A lot of this information can be found for free on their show or by following their Instagram accounts.

You may be left with one remaining question... where is Kourtney?? She may be the only sister without an app, but not for long. Rumor has it she is still fine tuning her app, further proving that she is the perfectionist she portrays in the show.

Subscribe or not, these apps are definitely worth the seven day trial period for an extra glimpse into all things Kardashian.

Partying with HIGH Schoolers: My Experience at the A\$AP/Tyler Concert There is a pun in there, just you wait

by Brennan Honaker **Features and List Editor**

A\$AP Rocky, Tyler, the Creator, Danny Brown, and Vince Staples. A line up so legendary its hard to fathom. Located at Madison Square Garden, the event was a once in a lifetime opportunity to go absolutely nuts. Two weeks ago, I attended this legendary concert with my partner in crime Andrew Clark and here is my story/review of the entire experience.

There are two things I must get off my chest before I divulge into the acts themselves. Number one, I am a huge Rocky, Brown, and Vince fan. (Go fuck yourself, Tyler.) So, I may be a tad biased and I understand that great music may not be for everyone. (Gus, I'm looking at you.) But I will try to be as honest and forthright as possible.

Second, how does one prepare for such a concert? If you have read anything I've written before or have met me in general you know that sobriety is not my favorite state of being. I mean, who likes being stone cold sober? Nobody, it's true. However, one cannot be too fucked up at this concert. As a reader you may be wondering: "Why, Brennen?

Getting fucked up at an A\$AP Rocky concert may be the best way to experience an A\$AP Rocky concert." And you know what? You may be right. But, I wanted to remember this concert. So, one day when my son or daughter listens to "Suddenly" or "Summertime" for the first time I can say honestly that I saw those assholes live and I can remember it. So, with that in mind, Clark and I decided on three mixies and two pot brownies each. The combination was so brilliant that the concert, which was awesome to begin with, became like one hundred times better.

So, let's talk about the concert. Vince was the first act, so we shall start with him. He was brilliant. Sprite has just signed him making him one of rap's brightest stars (the last guy they signed was a dude called Drake) and honestly, you can see the potential. The dude's got some bangers. When "Norf Norf" came on it was hard to see the stage because so many people were wild'n'out. Rocky also brought him on stage later in the show for "Senorita," which you should probably check out on YouTube, it's just that crazy.

Danny Brown, the second act of the night, was also awesome. If you know anything about Danny Brown concerts there were no blowjobs given on stage. However, the dude still went all the way. (That was a pun.) He was awesome. "Dip" live was so much better than the studio version. Which is unreal because "Dip" is such a hard song to do live. But the man crushed it.

One day when my son or daughter listens...I can say honestly that I saw those assholes live.

Okay, now Tyler. I know I said fuck Tyler in the beginning but the dude was unbelievable. He owned the crowd. I mean, seriously, by the end of his set I literally loved the weirdo. His act had pace and great timing which is something you rarely see at a rap show. He started with bangers, then kind of calmed the crowd down, and right before Rocky came on, he iolted the crowd awake with some truly great songs. (I'm looking at you, "Trouble on my Mind")

Then the main attraction came out to a roaring crowd. A\$AP Rocky is rap's next big super star and man, can you feel it. The dude was in sweatpants and I have never been as cool as he was that night. Clark, a die-hard Tyler fan, told me after the show, "Bren, Rocky just destroyed every other act." Clark was right. I thought Tyler was unbelievable until Rocky came out.

Alright, before I end this very poor description of a great concert I have to clear something up. Why is the title called partying with high schoolers? The answer is a simple one: because I partied with high schoolers. I know, a little weird, but a group of Fordham Prep kids literally sat next to us. They had loads of blunts and they just passed them to Clark and I (and these two odd twenty somethings nearby) during the entire show. Just realized that "High" Schoolers is also a pun too. So, shout out to those kids whoever you are. Glad to share this campus with you.

Young Adult Novels are Special and Important, Okay??? by Lisa Calcasola A formal screw you to all literary snobs

Staff Caulfield

Literature is dying. Well-written, respectable, lyrical prose like, "We loved with a love that was more than love" is being replaced by atrocities such as, "I must be the color of the Communist Manifesto." Okay, that last E.L. James quote isn't exactly borrowing from the Young Adult (YA) genre, but you catch my drift. It is bemoaned by old and young readers alike that in today's world, excellent writing is getting harder and harder to find. And given today's hyper-obsession with instant gratification, where even the most serious news stories are subject to public eyes before facts are even verified, the ultimate proof of our generation's preference for speed over accuracy, is it really surprising that literature seems to have taken a turn for the worst?

In some ways, it is easier to claim that we live in a true literary democracy, what with the sudden explosion of personal blogs and the clamor of self-publishing. But this expansion brings equally powerful consequences. It's debatable that, as of right now, the world is filled with shittier books than ever before. It has become more difficult to be taken seriously as a credible author, now that virtually anyone with access to a computer can voice his or her opinions online. This is not to say that well-written books aren't being published year after year - of course this is not true. It's just to say that in today's world, it is easier than ever for anyone to publish a piece of prose, whether they're necessarily qualified to or not.

Book publishing has changed so drastically in the last fifty years - hell, in the last five years - there's no sign of it slowing down anytime soon. Agents and publishers are racing to keep one step ahead of another, scoring deals and scouting fresh talent, scrambling

to get their hands on the next great American novel, resorting to young people, celebrities and YouTube stars in hopes of hitting some sort of profitable niche market. There are hundreds of books being published - in genres that didn't even exist fifty years ago -at such rapid speed, all in the hopes of one thing: the promise of a steady paycheck. And surely this is where common sense begins to disappear. At what cost are we running this publishing free-for-all? Surely the quantity of books published each year does not reflect literature's quality.

But I digress. The reason I'm writing this article is because YA — that is, the new-ish book genre of Young Adult fame - has gotten some fire lately, and I'm here to defend the likes of some contemporaries (such as John Green, Suzanne Collins, Veronica Roth, Rainbow Rowell, Meg Cabot, James Dashner, Jenny Han, Lauren Oliver, E. Lockhart. David Levithan. Sherman Alexie. Matt de la Peña, Scott Westerfeld, and J.K. Rowling), as well as the OG YA authors (J.D. Salinger, Lois Lowry, William Golding, S.E. Hinton, Stephen Chbosky, Judy Blume, Robert Cormier, Ray Bradbury, and Douglas Adams, among others). The list of authors and books goes on and on, but what these novels have in common, despite their ever-diverse plotlines that range from dystopian scifi to paranormal to action-adventure to romance, is that they all deal with some irreversible change in the lives of young people. Here are the classic coming-ofage tales that have always been popular, and for good reason: because we can all relate to them! We've all at one point in our lives been forced to make a choice that would change us forever. whether or not we knew it at the time. We lost innocence and gained experience. Whether it's moving across the country, having our heart broken by our high school crush, finding out we're a witch/wizard, or getting thrust into the Hunger Games, we can all relate on some level to what these similarly through.

So is YA any different than the hundreds of shitty new books out there. being rushed to the printer for the sake of boosting sales numbers? Does this genre, a category that didn't even exist before WWII, deserve to be on shelves with the likes of Dickens and Tolstoy? Certainly the lack of "proper" language warrants some criticism. Sure, lots of similes and metaphors abound, but they're often so cliché or blatantly obvious, they erase any need for the deeper between-the-lines reading required of more eloquent texts.

Most, though not all, of YA these days seem to follow an unofficial set of rules. Many are written in first person and most are plot-based. They have shorter sentences and obvious phrases. Some claim that this style of writing is the downfall of modern literature.

However, YA is only deceptively simple. It has a quiet confidence of a story easily read and digested at the surface level, but with a truly powerful meaning underneath. YA may lead characters on a plot-based journey, but the real journev comes from the inside.

Here's what YA does at its core: it tells emotional truths. And isn't that, when you strip away all the flowery language and fancy metaphors, the whole point of art? Art makes you feel something. Simple flattened words on a page can make you laugh, scream, sob. That is the magic of art. That is the magic of words, books, and stories. And that is why we should never look down upon one genre or another, because the point of all stories is to get some reaction from you. Books, no matter the type, spread ideas, promote empathy,

and remind us that for all our outward differences, we are all, on some level, of the same mind.

Most importantly, YA forces readers lost and confused characters are going to interpret the events of the story however they see fit. That is what YA is ultimately about: laying out plot, and letting the reader take whatever personal truths they may from the story. YA isn't afraid to sound a little more colloquial: it isn't embarrassed to use words that are a little less fancy. It is easier to read YA and to forget that you're reading a story, unlike some other genres where the paragraphs are so dense you could read something a hundred times and still not know what's occurring.

> I know this is the whole point and beauty of literature: the complexities of language, of words weaving and twisting around each other, forcing the reader to acknowledge that yes, this is not only a story but a work of art, a stringing together by some desperate author of some frustrating, complex but beautiful tale.

> YA will never be old Victorian literature, nor should it try to be. The two are incomparable. Of course The Hunger Games will never read like Pride and Preiudice, nor should you expect or necessarily want it to. If you're in love with classic lit, that's great. We need to read the greats of the past to move forward into the future. But if you're back from school or work or whatever, and have a little down time, and you don't feel like reading something that feels more like deciphering hieroglyphics than providing a simple escape, crack open a YA novel. There is no shame in reading "simpler" styles of writing. Read whatever sets you afire, be it romance novels, sci-fi, fantasy, classic lit, or YA. As long as you feel something when the book ends, you've made the right choice.

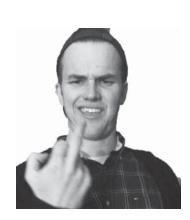


Hi I'm Brennen, the Features and List editor for *the paper*. On weekends I sometimes drink and maybe smoke a joint or two. When I'm in this drunken state I tend to give terrible advice. So, I am pleased to announce the first-

Terrible Drunk Advice

with Brennen









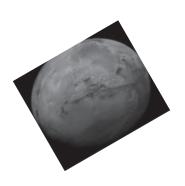


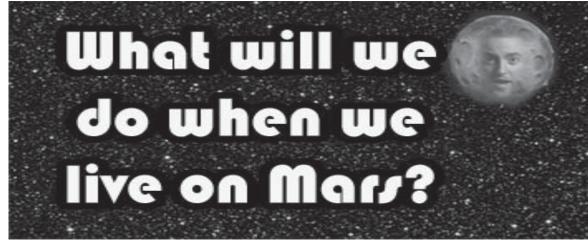


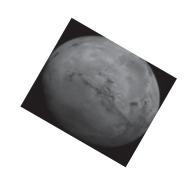




^By the way this is from Jaws 2...Never seen the movie but I have to say the shark looks almost unbelievably fake. Also how is the bitch still alive/functioning. She is literally in a sharks mouth







There is Fucking Water on Mars By the list guy

So guess what? They found fucking water on Mars. I know this is old news but fucking water. Nobody seems to be half as excited as I am. Nobody is seeing the bigger picture. Mars is going to be the retirement destination for the millennial generation. How sick does that sound? I mean think about it. Warm weather, check. Lots of space, check. Investment opportunities, you bet your ass there is. I mean it's kinda hard to get to but who gives a fuck. I'm sure space travel will advance greatly in 50 years. I guess Christmas may be lonely but being 80 playing golf with the boys makes up for shitty family holidays. Also, your old and when I'm old I'll be reliving a second college. Drinking every night is a must and in 50 years pot will be legal on Mars so with my medical marijuana license I'll be blazing all day . Fuck you Palm Springs. So now that you know what I would do on Mars we asked the Paper staff to give there own take on the subject.

Leave Mars Alone By Zoe Sakas

HI am going to take a chance here and say something that a lot of people might not be too happy with. Personally, if given the chance to live on Mars, I wouldn't. The human race has already fucked up one planet, what makes us think it's a good idea to take on another? Aside from the plethora of environmental issues that we've created, global warming included, our social structures aren't too impressive either. With inequality, oppression and violence running rampant, I think aliens would probably come closer to international peace than we are. I just don't feel right subjecting our universe to another version of Earth. Mars would

probably be better off without us. Take that as you will, but unless you're only bringing the best of humans onto Mars, like maybe some ingenious sustainable design engineers or global justice advocates or Beyoncé herself, I think we should stay away.

Mo Money on Mars...Bitch By Matt Whitaker

If I was to live on Mars, I would immediately begin looking for the business opportunities of the planet. First, I would search for valuable natural resources to sell. As Mars is not owned by anyone, I would be able to harvest these resources for no charge and sell them for a handsome profit on Earth. After scavenging Mars' natural resources, I would begin taking high-quality photographs of the planet, and then I would create a chain of photobooths that would insert the user(s) into one of my copyrighted Mars photographs, \$2.00 per picture. Using the money made from my photobooth business, I would begin development of the Mars resort idea I had in 7th Grade. Eventually, after my Mars resort succeeds, I would sell it to Disney, who would turn it into Walt Disney Galaxy, and I would be a billionaire.

Humanity were just a bunch of fucks By Illuma Nati

Ever since Cain killed Abel, humanity has proven time and time again that death and destruction is a part of us. If we were to make Mars a planet of peace, then we would be abandonning what distinctly makes us human: the ability to be absolutely horrible. That is why I think we need to make the Martian planet a horrible place to be as soon as possible. Why should Earth be stuck with all the poverty, racism, and despair? Let's bring it to Mars! Let's commit Martian genocide! Mwah-

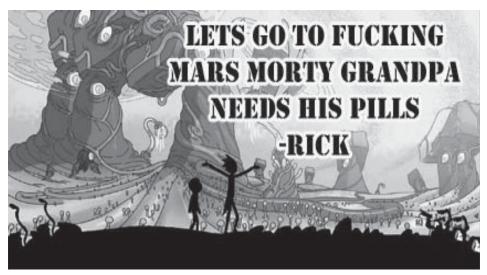
hahha! Please don't show this to my employer.

Liberal Mar's Loner By Elena Meuse

If it were me I'd probably hot box the liviSo apparently Mars has water. And I am just ecstatic because I've had it with this planet. There is just no freaking hope at this point. I'm getting out. Donald Trump is a leading presidential candidate. DONALD TRUMP! And did you hear about Wesleyan? There are students trying to get a newspaper banned, because someone wrote an article that hurt their feelings. PEOPLE ARE JUSTIFYING CENSORSHIP WITH THEIR FEELINGS. (Yet interestingly, no one has tried to ban Donald Trump despite him hurting most of the world's feelings.) And don't even get me started about Planned Parenthood (seriously, what is so terrible about women's health care?!) I just can't deal with this stuff anymore. I'm going to Mars, and none of you people can follow me. You're not capable of behaving logically. I'm starting my own, personal colony and no one else is invited. I just need to be alone for a while.

Mars You Red Bastard By John Looby

When we live on mars I assume it'll go to shit almost immediately. Basically right away. We step off the ship and just instant death. I've seen science fiction movies. I've done my research. Space is fucked. There isn't even air out there. It's just death and that fucking robot NASA exiled. Skynet probably wipes out the earth because we shot his cousin into god damn space. Leave space alone. That water on mars, probably fucking poison or that Prometheus goo that space melts you into a demon. Fuck off Mars, you big red bastard. I'll live here on earth where I can die a normal earth death from earth diseases. Us on mars No Bueno. If we contact alien life we will be racist to it, because fuck us and then boom they laser us to death. Humans don't need to live on mars. Stop your god damn shit NASA.



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milo So The Flies Don't Come By Michael Byrne

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There's a lot to unpack in Wisconsinbased rapper milo's new LP, so the flies don't come. He seems to be dealing with a lot. He has just relocated from Los Angeles, he's feeling exploited and taken advantage of, he's increasingly pissed off about issues dealing with race. When examining milo's lyrics I have to admit I carry an ounce of confusion. He often references philosophical jargon and tends to speak in abstract terms. milo has heard this criticism before and addresses it in the song "@ yomilo": "Yo milo why you always rap in passcodes? Cause they assholes who don't deserve the whole, so they fiddle with their portions, I fiddle with my organs on parchment." What we call cryptic, milo considers personal and is disappointed that we wouldn't take the time to piece together the message. milo certainly has been evolving. His lyrics have gotten more pointed and, in his words, confrontational. His flow, while still spoken-word-esque, is much angrier. His lyricism has grown less naïve and more complex, but he still seems comfortable referencing The Addams Family and Greek mythology one after another. The beats on this album are exceptional. Kenny Segal produces every song on the album and he utilizes a combination of jazz samples and glitch hop techniques to create a stunning sonic landscape. This is different from mile's last output, a toothpaste suburb, which focused on creating an ethereal, outer space-like vibe. milo is a young artist. He evolves

with every release and is constantly searching for new perspectives and ways of articulating the stream-of-conscious monologue in his head. so the flies don't come leaves us enchanted by milo's skill and annoyed with the society he has just finished accosting.





The Underachievers Evermore: The Art of Duality By Arthur Banach

The Underachievers remain as an example for suggesting artists who are bringing back the New York sound in Hip Hop. However after listening to *Evermore*, I would disagree, but most definitely not in a negative way. When I think of New York Hip Hop I think of flows and rhyme schemes reminiscent of a coked out saxophonist jamming on a cold backstreet in Harlem. While The Underachievers' previous releases e.g. *The Lords of Flatbush* came closer to hitting that sentiment, with gritcaked soul samples, drowned by tough drums

and strong flows, Evermore takes an entirely different approach. The project's motif is quite obviously duality as clearly expressed in the title and cover art. However, it's how they implement that rather basic motif into the music which makes it a successful endeavor. The instrumentation is something I would not have expected to hear these emcees over. Most of them feature organic melodies that are compounded with more familiar-to-rap drum sounds. It easily harkens to producers like the late great Nujabes. As for the emcees themselves, I have no complaints and never have. Their writing is always spot on and with this interesting choice in production, their flows play into the tracks like another piece of instrumentation. I can't necessarily speak to the concept itself as it is something that is pretty trite across all genres, but theres something to be said about artists being able to find a new way of executing something that has been done a thousand times over. Overall The Underachievers have managed to breath new life into the New York Hip Hop scene by taking this somewhat odd step sonically, and their efforts shouldn't go unnoticed. It's not necessarily a perfect album but they deserve props for pushing their own envelope.





Disclosure Caracal By Luis Gomez

Disclosure's presence in the pop scene is not to be understated. Their first album, Settle, was a humongous success, driven by the outsize success of "Latch", the album's first single featuring Sam Smith. Their second album, *Caracal*, acts as a sort of recognition of that first success while also evolv-

ing where they can. Overall, the album is upbeat, and has a lot of big name features on it, from Sam Smith again on the track "Omen" to (most importantly) "Magnets" with Lorde. When they aren't sampling their famous friends, Disclosure brings in more than a few smaller artists, most interestingly NAO, a singer who I literally couldn't find anything but a Facebook page for. Apparently she's from England. While these features often result in some interesting tracks, more often than not the vocalist ends up sounding very similar. While Sam Smith had a humongous presence on "Latch" he's almost understated on "Omen," plus at least three of the other features artists sound almost exactly like him. When there isn't a featured artist on the song, the music is fairly good, vibey dance music. Most of it is thoroughly forgettable, but definitely enjoyable. Actually, that's basically the whole album. The album sometimes shines through while listening to it, but my only memory of it afterwards is 'Hey, Lorde!'





CHVRCHES Every Open Eye By Caitlin Hufnagle

After listening to this album, I knew writing a review of this would be hard. I specialize in reviewing terrible music, so I have some trouble when I am confronted with an album that I really like. Like, really, really like. Though not as good as their 2013 debut album "The Bones of What you Believe," Chvrches recent follow-up is still Every Open Eye is still a great record which oozes more of the cool synth-pop vibes that can only be described as "chvrcheseque." Lead singer Lauren Mayberry's beautiful voice is the highlight of the record. It is unwavering and strong,

but still soft and pure. Her melodic and lyrical creations portrays someone who both exudes self-strength and badassery, but is vulnerable and raw. This creates an interesting effect of relatability. Emotional depth, and catchyness which many pop artists attempt to create with their music, and Chvrches hits it out of the park in all these categories. Somehow they manage to deal with the deep, and sometimes sad, intricacies of relationships in a way that portrays songs in an upbeat and dance-y way. This is perhaps most evident on one of the strongest songs on the album "Bury It," where Mayberry sings about a broken relationship in her paradoxically robust and delicate voice -- "I never promised you anything I couldn't do/ we tried to bury it and rise above." Similarly, the opening song, which starts with a punch of some high-energy synth-y drumming, Mayberry sings "here's to running off the pain...Here's to never ending circles/ and building them on top of me." Despite the somewhat heavy lyrics, though, this is a total dance song which will make you feel something (a rarity) and leave you shouting out the lyrics as you bop around the room. I could go on about every song, but I'll just give a shout out to one more—"Afterglow." This song is so much different than the typical Chvrches song. It's much more toned down, and takes place towards the end of the album, giving the listener a little break from the near constant high-energy excitement. Basically, check this album out for when you need a dance party that's not devoid of emotion-the music is fun to listen to but also be able to connect with it.

Wavves

By Ali Glembocki

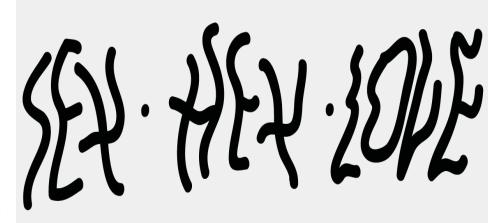
Self-loathing is a dish best served bright, and surf-punk-pop band Wavves serves it up like sun on a plate. Wavves' fifth studio album V (not counting their recent collab with Cloud Nothings) is more of a continuation of their third release King of the Beach than of their fourth album Afraid of Heights. That's true both sonically and thematically. The gritty sandy garage vibes of King of the Beach (produced by rock production legend Dennis Herring) smoothed out and glossed up on Afraid of Heights (produced by pop master John Hill). The grit comes back on V in spadesspare production and thrashing guitar riffs match the album's general feeling of being terribly, horribly overwhelmed and powerless (some track titles for reference: "Way Too Much," "All The Same," "My Head Hurts"). It feels like the inevitable hangover from King of the Beach, where angst was paired with playful lyrics and cartoonish cover art. Beach had a savory sense of balance between life's extremes-though, with the help of surf, sun, and drugs. V, while still impossibly catchy and inevitably fun, dives right into the emotions previous albums have hinted at and swirled with acid, or slick sonics. With that said, V is severely lacking in dynamics--it feels like the long scream you let out during finals. I was hoping for the type of journey, literal and figurative highs and lows, and experimentation that they exercised in the past. Still, I can't help but appreciate the album's unrelenting, unflinching battle with feeling.









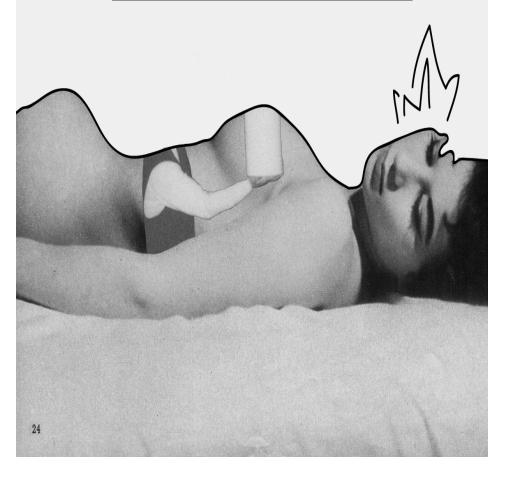


Kendrick Lamar // These Walls

Hiatus Kaiyote // Borderline With My Atoms

The Internet // Get Away

NxWorries // Suede



the paper's





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