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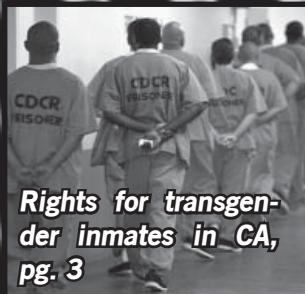
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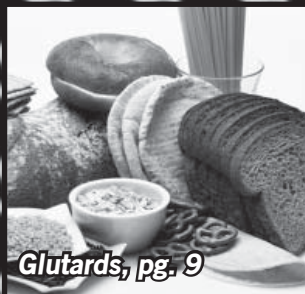
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the paper
vol XLV issue 3



Rights for transgender inmates in CA, pg. 3



Glutards, pg. 9



Pole dancing competition, pg. 15



F&L, pg. 21-22



Chris Hadfield pg. 23

the paper

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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.

So why come write for us? We are a constantly evolving publication, and have been since 1972. We provide an outlet of expression otherwise unavailable to Fordham students. Writers are free to say whatever they want, whenever they want. We are also pretty cool people, to be completely honest. So please come hang out with us. You'll have a good time, we promise.

our aim

the paper is Fordham University's fully student-run, free speech publication. Our aim is to challenge our writers and our readers: we want to make you think. We provide an outlet for all students to express themselves, whatever their passion may be. Whether it's commenting on a social issue, writing a factual news article, making people laugh with a humor piece, composing a personal narrative, giving advice or ranting about something that makes you feel a certain strong way – we have a place for you. Because of our platform as a free speech newspaper, we tend to push the boundaries of university journalism by talking about important social issues, expressing otherwise silenced voices and opinions, addressing Fordham policy and administration, and starting serious conversations about what is important to our student body. Here at *the paper*, we encourage creativity and uniqueness, spark dialogue and discussion, and foster a community where students are free to fully express themselves.

"Who Are You in Hotline Bling?"

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spooky jack

happy jack



GOOFY JACK

cannibal jack



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Sex Reassignment Surgery for Transgender Prisoners is the New Black

by Zoe Sakas

Co-Editor-in-Chief

California is the first state to allow this surgery

As a result of two successful lawsuits by inmates in California prisons, California is now the first state to provide sex reassignment surgery to prisoners. A very specific set of guidelines was put in place to outline what services would be available for transgender prisoners. In the past, hormone treatments were available, but sex reassignment surgery had never been provided in any prison in the United States. In August, California inmate Shiloh Quine, who was formerly known as Rodney Quine, was the first inmate to receive the surgery, fully funded, while still in prison. Shiloh is serving a life sentence, and would have otherwise not had the chance to live in the body that she identifies with.

Before Shiloh Quine, there was one other successful lawsuit concerning a transgender inmate last April. Although she won the case, she was paroled before the surgery was performed. In both of these cases, the inmates were represented by a San Francisco based group known as the Transgender Law Center. In an interview with *The New York Times*, the Center's executive director commented that, "California has set a model for the country. This is care that, for too long, people have been denied simply because of who they are. It's especially important because transgender people are incarcerated at six times the rate of the general population."

With the enactment of this new policy, the state will cover mastectomies and any operations to remove and reconstruct reproductive organs. However, the policy does not allow for services that the state considers cos-

metic which includes breast implants or drugs used for hair removal or hair growth. For each transgender inmate, there will be a review committee of doctors and psychologists who will decide whether to allow surgery based on the prisoner's physical and mental health conditions. The request will be approved if the inmate has more than two years left to serve before parole,

someone who is sure of their sexual identity from the start, but still ensures that those who do fit the criteria will be allowed the operation within two years of observation and review. For someone who is expecting to spend the remainder of their life in prison, this new policy might bring a great deal of hope and is an essential aspect of their prisoner (and human) rights.

not opt to have sex reassignment surgery, but instead prefer hormone therapy alone or less invasive operations such as breast surgery which this policy does not guarantee. No one knows exactly how many individuals this will affect, but regardless, its existence provides a feeling of support and understanding for the transgender community.

As of now, out of the 125,000 inmates in the California prison system, 400 are being treated with hormone therapy because they do not identify as the sex indicated by their bodily organs. Hormone therapy costs anywhere from \$500 to \$3,000 per year, while sex reassignment surgery and the care associated with it for one inmate could cost up to \$100,000. Regardless of how this will financially impact the prison system, it is essential that these inmates have access to this operation. There have been a series of lawsuits around the country that have pushed the prison system to recognize that dysphoria, or the condition of not identifying as the sex of your reproductive organs, is a medical condition that requires these accommodations. In some prisons, hormone treatment is not offered to all transgender inmates, and not all prisons make any arrangements for transgender people to live with the gender they identify with, which puts them at risk for victimization, humiliation, and will likely have a negative effect on their mental health. With the employment of this new health policy, California has set an example for all of the prisons around the country that do not respect the rights and needs of their transgender inmates.



if the inmate has "continuously manifested a desire to live and be accepted" with that particular sexual identity, has had a desire for surgery for at least two years, and have received hormone therapy and thus experienced being that sex for one year.

Although these regulations are relatively conservative, and still make it difficult for an inmate to receive the operation, it is a step in the right direction and they can only progress further from here. The reasoning for these criteria is to ensure that the impact of imprisonment on the mental state of the inmates does not affect their decision to receive this medical treatment. The process is long and tiring, especially for

The new policy was drafted by the California Correctional Health Care Services and the State Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the former of which provides and regulates physical health care within California prisons and the latter of which controls prisoner mental health care. Working together, these two agencies can ensure that surgery is in the best interest of the inmate, and that the inmate is physically and mentally healthy enough to undergo the drastic change in such a difficult environment.

The implementation of this surgery does not mean that all transgender inmates will take advantage of it. There are many transgender people who do

China Disregards Human Rights, Yet Again...

by Ali Glembocki
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The image of “modern China” isn’t exactly rosy. Affordable Apple products are a Western reality because of rapid Chinese industrialization. But that fact is paired with exposé article upon exposé article detailing how those products are manufactured by underpaid Chinese workers in physically and psychologically damaging conditions.

Workers have reported being forced to work for eight days in a row without proper breaks for food and sleep. Suicide rates in Foxconn, Apple’s biggest supplier, peaked in 2013 with fourteen human beings committing suicide. Because of this pattern, Foxconn has installed safety nets in high-risk areas. No institutional changes have been made to ease working conditions to a more humane level.

Even with this information, we will still sprinkle iPhone 5000s in tinsel and give them to our children on Xmas. Compartmentalization and detachment are tightly woven into the fabric of modern Capitalist life.

Despite the tragic tales we sigh over in The New York Times, we like to think that China’s industrialization isn’t all that bad. And it’s not just a selfish sentiment. Unemployment in China has been at a steady 4% for the past five years, dwarfing that of the United States, currently at 5.5%. Thousands of people from rural areas emigrate to obtain jobs in urban areas, and on the outside, it seems like a gold rush to opportunity.

But the mass migration is anything but a dream. The reality is that rural

Also, capitalism is the root of all darkness in the world

workers are forced into cities because there are no opportunities anywhere else. And those rural-to-urban migrants with children are forced to leave their children behind because of strict population control laws and a lack of resources in cities. The Economist recently published an article detailing

title from Slate: “Why Drivers in China Intentionally Kill the Pedestrians They Hit.” It is a common practice for people in a hit and run situation to back up and run over victims again to kill them. By the numbers, it is much more expensive to make payments on an injured person with disabilities you are

lawsuit from a victim versus killing the victim and fleeing is simply not in favor of human life.

For those in China who aren’t in deadly working conditions, displaced from their families, or murdered by a vehicle, there’s still a major crisis at hand: censorship. The free-speech justice organization PEN America has focused their efforts on China after gathering reports indicating the huge amount of journalists and authors convicted for expressing their views. PEN led the effort to boycott last year’s Book Expo America, held in New York City, to support silenced Chinese writers. China sent hand-picked publishers and writers to Book Expo America in order to create a facade of a thriving, happy literary industry.

The damage isn’t just physical for Chinese writers—it is psychological, and it is ubiquitous. Bao Pu, publisher at the New Century Press in Hong Kong, said “Chinese censorship works even before the writer starts writing.”

Fortunately—at least when it comes to Chinese publishing—some strides in awareness and action have been made. Recently, major American publishers have signed a contract asserting that they will not published censored Chinese works, and assuring that works translated into Chinese stay true to the author’s original intentions. This mainstream recognition of Chinese censorship by major publishing houses such as Hachette and Penguin Random House puts pressure on Chinese companies that so badly want to boost their international markets.



this phenomenon with the frank title “Pity the children.” An estimated 61 million kids (of the estimated 70 million total children in China) are left behind in rural areas with family members (who are oftentimes illiterate and unable to provide educational support) or displaced in different cities. These children are coined “the left behind children.”

The disregard for human life in China is at an ultimate crisis. This is further exemplified by this frightening article

responsible for a lifetime, rather than making a one-time payment for ‘accidental’ manslaughter. This twisted phenomenon even has a legal name: “double-hit cases.”

Ultimately, there is no cut-and-dry explanation for this disturbing trend. But after talking to my good friend, who is well-versed and well-lived in Chinese culture, it seems as if China’s population surplus and its lack of value placed on human life are major contributors. Basically, the cost-benefit ratio of a



New York City's Joke Team Now in World Series

by John Murray
Staff (Base)baller

Amazin'. There's no other word for it—the meteoric rise of the New York Metropolitan to the top of the baseball food chain, hold the peanuts and Cracker Jack. Usually the laughingstock of the Big Apple baseball scene, the Mets have had a fire under them since the All-Star break and they show no signs of stopping now, on the verge of their first World Series title in nearly thirty years. This, understandably, has most Mets fans in a tizzy: stop one on the walk to class, and you're equally likely to be heralded with jubilant whoops as struck with a solemn, shell-shocked, "I...I...I still can't believe it..."

Well, ya gotta believe. And if you're looking for a pinch in the arm to assure yourself that this is real, look at the cold, hard stats: A solid 90-72 record for the regular season, a season ERA of 3.43 (2.81 in the postseason), served up by arguably the most dominant starting pitching in baseball, a 7-2 record in the postseason, four of those won by three or more runs, including

This article was published with the express written consent of MLB

an absolutely devastating sweep of the ill-fated Chicago Cubs. The Mets are here, and they're here to win.

A season such as theirs does not come without its memorable moments: rendezvous with the emotional aspects of the game that have united Mets fans over the course of the last couple of months. Most recently, a hard, late slide—though grammarians might call the word "tackle" more appropriate in this case—by the Dodgers' Chase Utley, leaving shortstop Ruben Tejada with a fractured right fibula and igniting the ire of an entire city. On top of a short suspension, poor Chase will never be able to take the subway again.

And who could forget that evening in late July, when infielder Wilmer Flores heard a rumor mid-game that he was being traded to the Milwaukee Brewers, and then sent back on the field. Flores, having left his home in Venezuela at the age of 16 to play baseball with the Mets, began to cry openly on the field. It was a somber moment for a player to realize that he can be traded

away at any time, even in the middle of a game—baseball is a business, after all. But there is something especially cruel about making that player, shocked and distressed, go back onto the field that he's called home for the last eight years and to keep on playing. Whose call was that? Terry Collins'.



Let's talk Terry for a second. At the All-Star break, half of New York City was screaming for his firing, if not his beheading. As for the rest of the season, it seems as if the Mets have made it to the World Series in spite of their manager. Bewildering lineup decisions, misplaced faith in a lackluster bullpen, and just plain poor management skills (Collins admitted to not being aware of the trade, later overturned, when he

kept Flores in the game) have made Mets fans very slow to restore their faith in him.

And yet, here they are four wins away from bringing a few more rings to Queens. All that stands in their way are last year's runners-up, the Kansas City Royals. Sporting a postseason batting average of .271 with a whopping 63 runs scored in 11 games, they certainly are a worthy match for the Mets' stellar starters. Look to the Royals' pitching, though, and we find the same holes in the dike that the Mets have exploited in their previous matchups. They simply do not have the same depth: one or two strong arms in Johnny Cueto and Edinson Volquez, maaaaayyyybe Yordano Ventura, but nothing that can match up to Harvey, deGrom, Syndergaard, Matz, Colon—need I even go on? I'd better not, because the bullpen is another story. But The Mets have already proven that they have the bats to back them up. Sorry, KC, but you might just have to make the most of second place for a little longer.

President Trump: Make America a Meme Again!

by Matthew Whitaker
Staff Meme Enthusiast

As the race for the White House speeds ahead, one candidate stands out from all the rest. That one candidate makes himself stand out, and is the most outspoken candidate in this election. That candidate is Donald Trump, a man of great wealth and business experience, and at 4:53 A.M. on October 13th, he changed the nation. At that exact moment, Donald Trump became the first candidate to use a meme in a presidential campaign, changing the American political landscape for years to come. Trump posted a picture of himself drawn as Pepe the Frog, an honorable meme held in high regard by even the most elite meme enthusiasts. The image showed a bright future where Donald Trump is President and memes have taken over the podium. This is the future I, an American and a meme enthusiast, want to live in, one where hard work will be rewarded with memes. Even my friends who are supporters of Bernie Sanders

Republican candidate one Rick Roll away from office

were impressed with Trump's post, and have gained respect for him through it. It seems many others also appreciated it, as the post received almost 6000 favorites and retweets. Trump included something else in that post, that being a Major League Gaming (MLG) Parody video about himself.

The video, entitled "You Can't Stump the Trump (Volume 4)", proves its title by including several clips of Trump stumping his clearly inept opponents, editing in several MLG memes to emphasize the stumping. It begins with a narrator describing the venomous, aggressive, and successful nature of a centipede, all while showing clips of Donald Trump, demonstrating his power in the political ecosystem. Next, dubstep music is played, and a gun is edited in, shooting at a candidate or interviewer as soon as the target is stumped, then shows a "+420" score notice over the target with the text "#Stumped". The video continues its theme of blazing when it cuts to the CNN debate opening,

where a joint is picked up and promptly smoked. During the debate sequence, Trump easily stumps Rand Paul, and just as effortlessly stumps Jeb Bush numerous times. The video's climax is Trump's debate with a lady about his views on women, where the lady boldly attempts to stump the Trump himself. "Spooky Scary Skeletons", another beloved meme begins to play after she attempts to throw the stump into his court, as if to signify that Trump's campaign could die at that moment. As expected, Trump easily stumps her with a heartfelt story about his mother, and eventually, goes for the double-stump with the one thing the lady forgot to bring to the debate: logic. The video ends with the song "Zero to Hero" from Disney's Hercules, where the song is played while pictures of polls that Trump leads are displayed, comparing Donald Trump to the mighty Hercules. Trump posted this on his official Twitter page, showing that he fully realizes his own power and appreciates a wide

variety of memes.

So, what does Trump's posting of memes mean for America, should he win the general election? I would predict that Trump would follow the belief that hard work should always be rewarded with memes. He might also make memes a deeper part of our culture, creating an American holiday where we all reflect on the greatness of memes, while learning to appreciate different types of memes. Most likely, part of his economic policy would be the creation of jobs in the meme industry, rejuvenating our economy through the booming meme market. Trump's posting of a meme truly highlights his strengths over opponents in the presidential race, proving that one cannot stump the Trump. Overall, if Trump becomes President of this wonderful country, a bright future awaits all of its inhabitants.



FAKER THAN TRUTH

by Siobhan Donahue

Following a recent incident at a Virginia middle school, where a fourteen year old girl threw a carrot at a teacher, Congressional leaders are now debating a bill over carrot control. The bill, nicknamed Orange is the Weapon, calls for background checks for carrot owners and banning carrots bigger than five inches from being purchased for private use. The bill has support from every Democratic lawmaker. However, the bill is facing strong opposition from the GOP.

Outside Capitol Hill, Wyatt Mann (R-OK) said, "This new bill is ridiculous and is evidence of Obama trying to kill freedom. It should be our right to own baby carrots to protect our families. Not to play devil's advocado, but if we ban baby carrots, only hardened vegetable criminals will have them. Is it what you want? I'm a responsible carrot owner. I keep my carrots in a safe. Besides, this bill does not reflect the rural needs for carrots."

So far, there have been 43,000 carrot related acts of violence, resulting in 2000 deaths. A vote is scheduled for next week.



Who Will Be America's Next House Speaker?

by Adam Hamilton
Staff Congressional Intern

In 2010, the Tea Party movement helped the Republican Party sweep the House and allowed for John Boehner (R-Oh) to become Majority Speaker. Unfortunately for the Speaker, this new generation of Republican lawmakers has turned into an insurgent faction that is fighting against the GOP establishment for control over the direction of the party. Many of the more militant Representatives formed the House Freedom Caucus to help spread their message. This caucus of about 40 members was formed in January to help push the Republican leadership to advance more conservative causes. Unfortunately for the Republican establishment, the caucus is aggressively pursuing their goals at the cost of Republican cohesion. The House Freedom Caucus advocates for a more aggressive and assertive party leadership, and it's possible that their plan may work. Still, it looks like Paul Ryan may foil it anyway.

On September 25th, Speaker John Boehner announced his retirement, pending the choice of a new Speaker. His tenure as Speaker had been

"The House Freedom Caucus contains about a tenth of all house members, and has acted as the main voice in opposition to the direction the party leadership"

dogged by a Democratic White House and a freshman Congress that was upset with the pace of conservative reform. Earlier this year, Freedom Caucus member Mark Meadows (R-NC) challenged the Speaker on the House floor by requesting a motion to vacate the chair—an attempt to kick Boehner from his seat as Speaker. This direct attempt to undermine the party establishment, which is seen as too moderate by the caucus, is not their first at-

American Idol is less of a shitshow

tempt to upset the status quo. Before the caucus' establishment, Tea Party backed candidate Dave Brat (R-VA) defeated House Majority Whip Eric Cantor (R-VA) in the 2014 midterm election. Cantor was an establishment position who, as whip, helped manage the party to get enough votes to pass controversial legislation. Upon taking his seat, Brat joined the newly formed caucus. The Freedom Caucus is made up of many of the 87 freshman Republican congressmen who surfed on the Tea Party wave in 2010 to a seat in the house. These new members had grassroots support and had the main goal of cutting discretionary spending, typically money that is perceived as being wasted by the federal government in pet projects. That was almost six years ago, and many in this new generation are starting to find their own political voice.

The anger among conservatives is not just limited to the House. In the Senate, Presidential candidate Ted Cruz (R-TX) has been trying to steer the party leadership to the right, calling Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) a liar on the Senate Floor in July. Republicans are not happy with the direction their party is taking, namely because it is not conservative enough. This is spilling into presidential politics, where candidates who have never held political office and are campaigning as outsiders, such as Ben Carson, Carly Fiorina, and Donald Trump, are collectively polling above 50% of the field. This grassroots display of disappointment failed to manifest itself in the 2012 primary by dividing its support between several candidates while the establishment coalesced around Romney. In 2016, the establishment seems to be the one having trouble coalescing, with Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), Gov. John Kasich (R-OH), and Jeb Bush (R-FL), each trying to claim the mantel.

The House Freedom Caucus contains about a tenth of all house members, and has acted as the main voice in opposition to the direction the party leadership is taking in the House. They want more confrontation with the Obama administration and more substantive change in deciding how bills get moved to the floor. Their anger at

the status quo that many in the Tea Party generation felt manifested itself in the House Freedom Caucus, which helped push Boehner to his decision to resign in September.

The Insurgent Freedom Caucus did not force the embattled Boehner to step down, though it does make his leaving more difficult. Representative Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) was the House Majority Leader, the number two spot in the House GOP hierarchy, but he ended his campaign for Speaker two days after the race started once it became clear that he could not get the support of the House Freedom Caucus. McCarthy was seen as Boehner's right hand man, and his dropping out can be seen as the party repudiating Boehner's leadership. The Speaker must be chosen by a majority of representatives, not a majority of the ruling party. Democrat House Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) has already asked house Democrats to support her bid for speakership. This means that as of now the Republican moderates and establishment supporters cannot count on the Democrats supporting a compromise candidate for speaker and instead must rely on finding a compromise candidate.

Right now that looks like Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI). Ryan, the current Ways and Means chairman and 2012 Republican Vice Presidential Nominee, is that candidate. Despite some misgivings, Ryan seems like he will be able to command enough of the caucus to win the chair. But that may be part of the problem. The Speaker's chair is a thankless job, and Ryan's current position as Ways and Means Chairman is his self-professed ideal job in government. Ryan, a young father, has been reluctant to accept the mantel as savior of the Republican House, saying he would only do so as a unifying figure among the Republican Conference, and if every caucus (including the Freedom Caucus) endorses him. Ryan met with the Freedom Caucus and received a super majority of their support (the committees bylaws state that a candidate must receive at least 80% support from the caucus, Ryan did not). The election is scheduled for the 28th of October.

City Strikes Deal with Firm to Save Stuy Town

by Zoe Sakas
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Next middle-class crisis in 20 years

Last week, Stuyvesant Town-Peter Cooper Village (STPCV), an apartment complex on the Lower Eastside of Manhattan, was sold to the Blackstone Group. In the recent past, the buying and selling of this complex has only induced fear and frustration to its residents. Since its creation, STPCV has been home to middle-class families of New York City. The complex was established after World War II by MetLife specifically to house returning veterans. In return for a large property tax break, the rents were kept low and affordable. Unfortunately, recent buyers have worked to replace longtime, rent-regulated residents with tenants who pay three times as much.

This week's sale of STPCV will preserve almost half of the complex for middle-class families who have rent

stabilized apartments. STPVC, the largest apartment complex in Manhattan, was sold for more than \$5.3 billion to the Blackstone Group, a Wall Street investment firm as well as one of the country's most prevalent landowners. The sale involved a surprising agreement with Mayor de Blasio and his administration, which ensures that a block of 5,000 apartments will be kept affordable for the next 20 years. This means that thousands of middle-class families won't have to worry about having to move because they can't afford their rent anymore, and STPCV will remain full of teachers and firefighters and construction workers rather than a wealthier group of stockbrokers and surgeons who can definitely afford to live anywhere else in Manhattan.

More specifically, under the de Blasio administration's agreement, middle-income families would need to occupy 4,500 apartments in the complex. For

example, a family of three earning up to \$128,210 a year would pay around \$3,000 a month for a two-bedroom apartment which is much more reasonable than other apartments in similar areas. Families making less than \$100,000 a year would occupy an additional 500 apartments. An example of this situation would be that a family of three that makes up to \$62,150 a year would only have to pay around

joy running around outside like children tend to do. They also needed to find an affordable apartment that could comfortably hold a family of four, as they were used to renting a small one bedroom. Stuyvesant Town is in the heart of New York City, between 14th and 20th Street and beginning on Avenue A, and yet when you walk outside your door you see nothing but trees and grass. The complex contains various

playgrounds, parks, fields and courts that give kids the chance to play sports and enjoy the outdoors safely. It is also a block away from the L train and a 10-minute walk from Union Square, making it easy for working parents to commute and for teens to make their way to high school on their own.

When I was younger, the majority of Stuyvesant Town was composed of families with working parents. I went to a school not too far away, and a group of us would

be walked from the school to Stuyvesant Town by a chaperone after school to give parents time to get home from work. The dynamic of Stuyvesant Town is slowly changing, and is now composed more of upper class New Yorkers and NYU students whose parents can afford to pay \$2,000 rent for their child to live in the city. Aside from Stuyvesant Town, New York City in general fails to offer any housing for the middle and working class. STPCV offered hope for a group of people who are gradually being kicked out of Manhattan.

This agreement, although it won't last forever, will give middle class housing activists 20 years to figure out how to keep affordable housing in New York City. It sets a precedent for future contracts, and demonstrates how important middle class housing is to the essence of the city.



HAIKU NEWS

by Zoe Sakas, Arthur Banach
and Matthew Whitaker

Loud People Have Tiny Testicles

Loud monkey, small balls
Say thank you to scientists
Trump must have green peas

-AB

Romantic Jack-o-lantern

Jenna was surprised
At her pumpkin proposal
She'll be married soon

Fall For A New Hair Fad

Pumpkin spice is hot
It now sprinkles people's hair
It makes me despair

Ghouls Night Out

Hosts see artist's ghost
Everyone thought he was toast
Now he's just compost

-MW

Really Old Plague Even Older

Old DNA shows
Plague is five-thousand-years old;
What else don't we know?

Old White Guy is Upset

I'm ashamed, Bush says,
To Fox about politics.
Please stop, no one cares.

-ZS



Clinton, Sanders, and O'Malley Debate Before the Primaries

by Declan Murphy
Staff CNN Viewer

Webb and Chafee.....are just sort of there

On Tuesday, October 13th, four geriatric American citizens, and the one comparatively handsome young person that is Martin O'Malley, took the stage in Las Vegas to find out which of them was the least like Donald Trump.

It would be easy to comment on the parts of the debate that have gone viral. Anderson Cooper assumed you're watching the debate high, or at least within arm's reach of your bong. Jim Webb could kill you with a smile, and cherish the memory. Bernie Sanders is sick of Hillary's "damn" e-mails. (Bernie's hatred of corporate America seems to extend to the CNN censors; look forward to his next campaign slogan, "F**k the Rich".) Lincoln Chafee is just happy to be there. Martin O'Malley tried really hard to make everyone forget he was played by Littlefinger on *The Wire*.

These moments—well, some of them, anyway—are salient points, but they've been discussed ad nauseam. In fact, one could argue that the media's focus on these sillier points is just a way of flouting the real issues. As many of the candidates noted, this debate was extremely issue-oriented, much more than the two Republican debates thus far. What we saw on stage Tuesday were actual politics, not political theater. It's a testament to the strength of these candidates that they avoided name-calling and rhetoric as much as possible in favor of promoting actual agendas (albeit with varying degrees of success).

Take a look at what was actually talked about: Climate change, the "black lives matter" movement, education reform, legalization of recreational marijuana, foreign policy. In the span of two hours, plans were proposed, solutions offered, and records examined. That's not to say there weren't moments of pure rhetoric. Hillary, as always, managed to reinterpret questions to suit her own prepared answers. But beneath all the posturing and maneuvering, there was a sense of realness. Beyond talking points, these candidates had ideas. This early in the game, it's refreshing to see a group of presidential hopefuls that have distinct goals and policy plans to enact, instead of

just mudslinging.

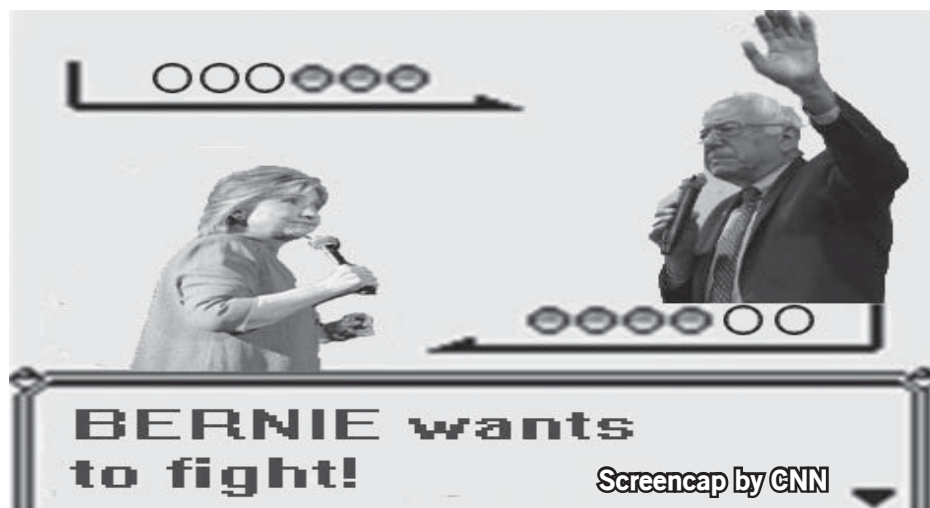
Recent events, too, seem to have shifted the focus of the debate. The number of recent mass shootings—and, indeed, the troubling fact in itself that we are at the point where shootings are so frequent that we need no longer refer to specific incidents—added urgency to the gun control issue. Clinton capitalized on this, exploiting a weakness in Sanders' voting record. On most issues, Sanders seems like the Platonic ideal of liberalism. How-

when discussing climate change, proposing a switch to 100% clean energy by 2050. Hillary Clinton continued to insist on calling it the "opportunity of climate change", as though the ozone had opened up deliberately in order to encourage innovation in the American energy economy. In an increasingly politicized, and polarized, world, it's fascinating to see that climate change is now the safest and least controversial issue. Well, for the Democratic candidates, anyway.

benefits that would proceed from that. Martin O'Malley, far from a frontrunner prior to the debate, spoke clearly and respectfully. He reinforced his experience and his views, proposed ambitious plans on issues like climate change, and exploited vulnerabilities in Clinton's platform. Of all the candidates, O'Malley's performance was the most surprising. Webb and Chafee occupied the periphery, often interjecting mainly to embarrass themselves.

In fact, let's talk about Jim Webb for a minute. He was the source of blunder and chagrin for the entire debate. Too bad ol' Joe Biden wasn't on the podium that night, because his famed "Biden Blunder Meter" would be going off constantly—and, graciously, not at him for once. Webb continued to bumble his way through questions with answers as vague as they were misguided. Asked about affirmative action, Webb stated his unorthodox belief that it is somehow only valid for blacks and poor whites. It's fascinating how a candidate could stand on a stage with a Republican-turned-Democrat (the always-smiling Lincoln Chafee) and still have the most right-wing positions. A week after the debate, to the surprise of no one, Jim Webb announced that he's ending his campaign. I'm sure this came as a shock to the literal dozens of people who just couldn't wait to vote for President Webb, but for the rest, this will certainly come as a relief. (Full disclosure: as a Virginian myself, it brings me great joy to see Webb go, if only so that I don't have to keep explaining that not everyone from Virginia is like that).

Confused Jim Webb aside, the debate was a promising start for the Democratic candidates. Naturally, the race is far from over. Bernie trails by smaller and smaller margins each day. Hillary's campaign will no doubt be reinvigorated by her performance. Chafee may have to withdraw soon, especially given his lackluster financing. (Editor's Note: Chafee has since dropped out). As always, there is the looming threat of Republican rivals. Right now, they are being led by Donald "racist toupee" Trump. Still, if the first Democratic debate was any indication, the Democrats are primed to make this a knock-down, drag-out fight till November.



ever, Sanders repeatedly voted against the Brady Act, and Hillary was determined not to let him forget it. For his part, Sanders defended his votes on the basis of the potential punitive actions taken toward gun shop owners under the legislation. He even attempted the long-standing cop-out of switching the issue to that of mental health, a tactic notably employed by many of the Republican frontrunners in an effort to avoid serious discussion of gun control.

Later, Nevada's own push for legalization of recreational marijuana use was brought to the forefront, despite more pressing issues at hand. On the foreign policy front, Russian air strikes have made Syria a hot-button issue. Sanders, and even O'Malley, used this issue as a way to paint Clinton as a sort of war hawk, eager to launch into military action.

For all the candidates, climate change seemed to be safe fallback. Bernie Sanders even listed it as his top national security threat. O'Malley took his first real distinct position

The inevitable, reductionist question that always emerges post-debate is who "won" the debate. It's probably a sad statement on our culture that meaningful dialogue among presidential hopefuls is reduced to the same results as a Super Bowl or arm wrestling. However, for what it's worth, the general consensus (and my personal opinion) is that Hillary won. Bernie Sanders did fantastically on social media, it's true; but that does not translate into votes. Indeed, subsequent official polling has found that of Democrats who watched the debate, 62% found Hillary to be the winner. Sorry, conspiracy theorists, it's not just Time Warner who wasn't 'feeling the Bern'. Hillary's performance demonstrated her preparation and goals. She adhered to specific plans, dodged criticisms with a masterful touch, and got aggressive with opponents when necessary.

That's not to say other candidates fared poorly. Sanders, for his part, fought well, but ultimately relied too much on his central idea of Democratic socialist reform and the economic



the paper's Resident Glutard Unleashes Dietary Rage

by Caitlin Hufnagle
News Co-Editor

If you can eat gluten, then just eat it, dammit!

Everyone's body is unique, and by some stroke of luck, mine possesses multiple food allergies to things that most people consider staples in their diets. As a Celiac, I can't eat gluten. I'm also lactose intolerant, and have an immunity disorder that causes me to be intolerant to basically everything tasty: eggs, red meat, foods with preservatives and food dyes. This leaves me with a limited amount of foods that don't hurt me, such as chicken, vegetables, fruits and gluten free grains (corn, rice, quinoa). Given my atypical relationship with food, I've naturally done a lot of research into what types of nutrients we need in our bodies, and the different ways of getting them.

This very restrictive diet is first and foremost for my medical health—if I decided to disregard my allergies and intolerances, I'd have a very sad time, to say the least. Because I've had a decent amount of health problems (many of which are related to, or triggered by my allergies) I value being healthy and feeling good atop basically everything else, and there really isn't any situation where I would knowingly put my health in jeopardy. That's why it really bothers me when people mistake my necessarily limited diet as a recent health or lifestyle trend, and therefore treat it less seriously.

To give you a better picture of what I'm talking about, I'm going to have to get a little TMI here. I had a doctor once make an analogy about what it's like to eat gluten if you're a Celiac. Basically, it's like running a piece of steel wool through your intestinal tract. This

obviously has a lot of undesirable effects, and in my case generally leads to pain and prolonged (read: day-long) residency on the porcelain goddess. Repeatedly eating gluten, and thus damaging your intestinal tract for a Celiac is dangerous and not just inconvenient—it can cause malnutrition and stunted growth (I didn't grow for 3 years in elementary/middle school became skeletally thin), extreme abdominal pain, and even colon cancer. These symptoms vary from Celiac to Celiac, but even a minuscule amount of gluten can cause serious damage. Therefore, it would be incredibly reckless to put your health in jeopardy, even if one doesn't experience severe symptoms, by eating or drinking something you know will cause you bodily harm. The same goes for any allergy.

Often times this results in having to be the annoying friend who asks everyone to change dinner plans to a restaurant that accommodates my diet. Sometimes I also have to miss out on certain activities, like going to get ice-cream, but this stuff doesn't really bother me. I know I literally can't eat certain foods, and I am not willing to take any chances. What really bothers me, then, is when people judge me for being so "uptight" about my dietary needs and seem incapable of understanding, even if I explain, how important it is that I know what is and isn't in my food. I don't want to come off as narcissistic here. I want to get this straight: I don't think it's anyone else's responsibility to understand my medical conditions and food limitations, but it would be nice if people

could realize that it's important.

However, the recent diet trends amongst "alternative" communities to are really making it difficult for people to differentiate between those with real medical reasons as to why they can't eat certain foods, and people who are just trying to be "different." Leave it to the hipsters to piss off yet another group of people in an attempt to, in true millennial fashion, be the most unique special snowflake. Lots of people have "gone gluten free" claiming that it's great for their health, and use this restriction as another way to differentiate themselves from the Billboard Top 100-listening, poptart-munching masses. The "oh, I'm I'm gluten free" is turning the new "oh, you've probably never heard of them."

People like me, who have actual allergies or intolerances, are being lumped in with these alterna-trend followers, and therefore are having their medical needs looked at less seriously. I was at a gathering recently where everyone was playing Kings Cup (it's a drinking game, but don't worry mom, I was being responsible!) and I had brought over a bottle of cider than night (beer isn't gluten free, for those of you not in the know). Another one of the girls playing was also drinking cider because she "couldn't have gluten," which made me excited—it's always nice to meet other gluten-challenged people. However, about halfway through the game when she ran out of cider, she switched to beer saying it was going to be her "cheat night." Soon after when I finished my drink, I chose to stop playing, as switching

over to beer just isn't an option to me. Everyone at the table didn't seem to understand, though. If this other girl had just 'cheated', then surly I could to, right? "I think you should be fine if you just had one" one of the people said, but when I declined, I came off as the irrational one. This sort of situation has happens all the time and thanks to the "mostly gluten free," instead of seeming responsible for taking care of my health, I come off as unreasonable and obsessive about my diet.

According to multiple research studies, there's no reason for those who don't have a gluten allergy or Celiac Disease to not eat gluten—it doesn't make them any healthier or thinner. Though the gluten trend has brought some good things my way (such as the plethora of yummy, new gluten free goodies at the supermarket), for the most part, it seems to have given people the wrong idea about gluten free diets. Basically what this whole rant is about is this: if someone says that can't eat something because they have an intolerance or allergy, respect it, and don't try to make them eat something questionable because it's more convenient to you. Also, if there's no reason to not eat something, you're just being difficult by refusing to eat foods that are generally ok for you to eat, and you're making others seem uptight in comparison to your half-assed attempts at unnecessarily cutting gluten out of your diet. Essentially, if you feel better not eating something, then don't eat it, but commit to it—you'll be healthier and feel great all of the time, too.

Love Thine Neighbor, and, If You Don't, Shoot 'Em!

by Lily Vesel

Staff Don't Take My Guns

America is the only economically advanced first-world country with regularly recurring massive killing sprees of innocent civilians. Some gun control advocates think that it is unacceptable that every American can get a gun and potentially go on a bloody rampage if they really feel like it. But, you know, why would anyone think that? Seriously, it's not really such a big deal guys, take a chill pill.

So Bang Bang Bang! Woohoo! Right? Wait – not so fast. Stop swinging around your AK-47 for a sec ya patriotic 'Muricans, and listen to this. With the recent mass shooting at Umpqua Community College in Oregon, the issue of poor gun control has resurfaced in the United States. Well duh – but hold on. That's not it. So far, none of the 14 recent mass shootings since 2009, committed with legally purchased guns, have resulted in any actual increase in Federal gun control legislation. No no, calm down, don't burn your citizenship documents just yet – there's still hope – or is there?

In 2013, congressional lawmakers thought that perhaps we might indeed like to limit the bi-monthly mass murder of the innocent by the psychologically unstable. They thought wrong. Although they did indeed

You can go ahead and recycle your copies of *The Shining* and *The Sixth Sense* because now you can watch real, live horror on CNN.

vote on a bipartisan bill on gun restrictions and requiring background checks on all firearms purchasers, it failed, five measly votes short.

Shockingly, we have experienced seven mass shootings since this bill failed. You can go ahead and recycle your copies of *The Shining* or *The Sixth Sense* because now you can watch real, live horror on CNN.

The only way to end gun violence, is more gun violence

Some politicians, however, are facing this issue head on. In an interview with Rachel Martin from *NPR*, Democratic Connecticut Senator Richard Blumenthal explained that the gun control legislation he proposed in response to the Oregon shooting is a "loophole-closer," meaning that it would close the loophole "that [gun sales] can be made if the background check is incomplete after 72 hours. In other words, the sale can go ahead even if there's

NRA lobbyists and a bunch of other old rich white guys are here to tell you that you're not! And they would know, considering the sixth sense for danger they've honed in their white, upper class neighborhoods. Now you're cooking!

Or maybe Obama's administration will become tyrannical, requiring armed citizens to overthrow it via military coup! What will we gun-less citizens do then, huh? Sit around and watch our tyrannical government

as it was then when the Second Amendment was written. You know, when British Redcoats were coming into people's houses unannounced and killing people. So we must be armed. Upholding our laws is clearly not what modern-day policemen are for, because, quoting Jon Stewart, "apparently we think that killing our citizens is our job."

I mean, c'mon, if stricter gun control legislation won't stop every criminal in the entire country from getting a gun, what's the point? Unless this will guarantee the termination of every last individual shooting, why even bother regulating gun access?

Oh, and let's not forget to thank Dr. Ben Carson, a 2016 Republican presidential candidate and hardcore Second Amend-

How would I, with my pitchfork, be able to effectively defend my family? A gun would work so much better!

ment fan, for enlightening us with his bulletproof (pun intended) logic comparing a gun-less United States to Hitler's Nazi regime. "I think the likelihood of Hitler being able to accomplish his goals would have been greatly diminished if the people had been armed," Carson said in an interview with CNN's Wolf Blitzer, "I'm telling you there is a reason these dictatorial people take the guns first." Sort of ironic that someone who wants to be president is claiming that the government which he wants to head is so powerful and out-of-control that citizens need to carry killing machines to be safe from it.

So yeah, Obama, stop "politicizing" the issue of gun control, because, after all, it's not political. Don't tell me politicians are the only people with the power to change national regulations! So let's continue ignoring the real issues behind the bimonthly massacres of innocent and unsuspecting civilians and leave gun control discussions out of political debates. Let's focus instead on issues such as abortion and immigration, and see how long this pattern of bi-monthly mass shootings persists before doing something to break it.



America, Land of the Free.

no background check as long as 72 hours have passed."

But why would we want to pass legislation that could potentially prevent, or at least curb the large scale assassination of innocent Americans at the hands of the mentally unstable, emotionally troubled, and the criminally insane? After all, we need guns for self-defense! Every single American (yes, even your child!) undoubtedly needs to have, on their person at all times, a firearm capable of gunning down an entire classroom. Yes – a good automatic weapon. It can be so hard for those little ones to reload a handgun.

That's right, until now you might have felt safe grabbing an afternoon Starbucks on your lunch break, but, thankfully, in the name of safety, the

take over? The second amendment, stating that, "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed," obviously applies to individual citizens without military training. How would I, with my pitchfork, be able to effectively defend my family? A gun would work so much better! After all, why else did we establish a democracy in which every official is publicly elected by American citizens in a fair, equal, and well-regulated voting procedure, if not to have our guns ready the moment these officials we elected become bloodthirsty tyrants, requiring us to gun them down like we did to the British over two centuries ago?

It is basically the same situation now

“PostSecret” Exhibit is a Much Needed Outlet for Confessing Truth

by Georgia Pullis

Staff Chamber of Secrets

Secrets can be like leeches: little slimy annoying slugs that cling to your life, slowly sucking it out of you. No matter how hard you shake your leg, they don't budge...persistent bitches. They can be big or small, some even said to be “killer,” but for some reason, each one eats at you until, inevitably, removed. The removal of a secret however is no simple task.

Why is telling a secret so difficult? If you think about it, secrets are more of a universal condition than a problem found in only certain individuals. We all have secrets. We all perfectly understand that there are aspects of ourselves we prefer to keep private, or feel the need to keep private. The problem is that we see these secrets as drawn up images of ourselves that define us, and the only way to let go is to tell, to grab that leech and pull. We might feel better once the blood sucker is gone, but the leech has still left a wound - your secret is now exposed!

The next step can only be to raise your hands to the sky and let the judgments rain upon you. Now, perhaps if everyone was standing in this rain together, hands simultaneously waving in the air, we could look around and see some of our similarities. We wouldn't be judging each other for our secrets but opening up to them; as a means to not only rid ourselves of this burden, but also to better understand a more behind-the-curtain sociology of our culture.

The ‘secret’ business is one of extreme confidentiality, and as of today, there is only one scientist of secrets that has cracked the code to giving people the gift of sharing: Frank Warren. For him, what started as a com-

For when you just really need to tell people all the weird shit you do

munity art project soon turned into a worldwide spectacle for the sharing of secrets. He has asked people of all backgrounds to send him decorated postcards with anonymous se-

of education that one can only receive from special kinds of projects. It doesn't teach quadratic functions or levels of solubility, historic facts or even how to ride a bike! It is an edu-

itself.

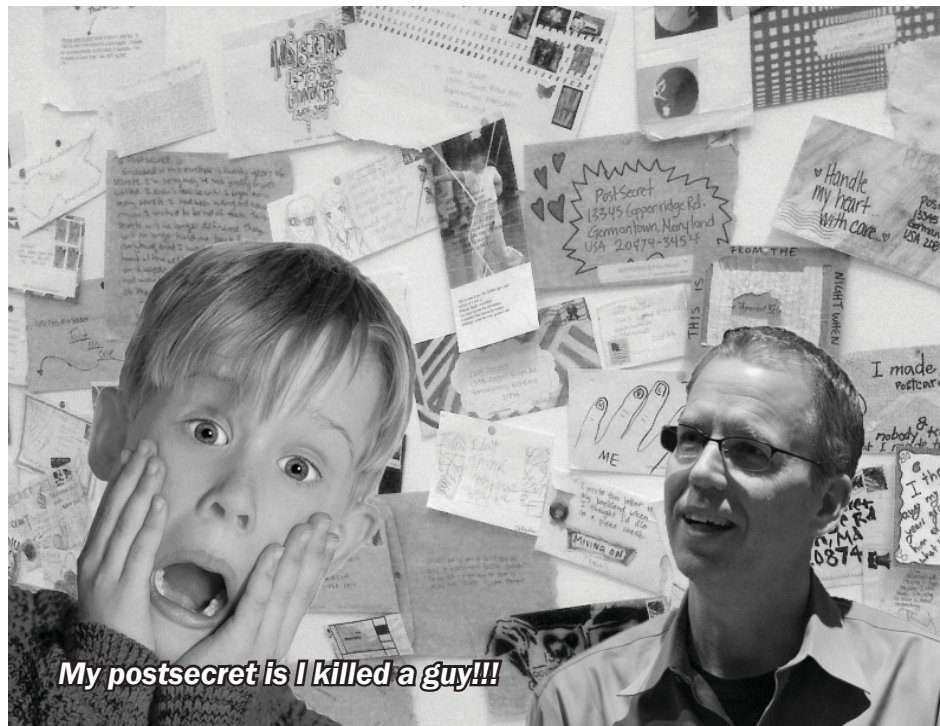
When a secret reads, “I want to say a big ‘Fuck You’ to this whole graphic design thing and move to Africa where I can do something important and beautiful,” we can't help but want the same for ourselves, for everyone honestly, to be able to cut the bull shit and make a difference.

When a secret reads, “Every month I give away \$100 anonymously,” we smile, because that person has just restored some of our faith in the world.

Of course, not all secrets are positive. Some say things like, “I'm prepared for a life alone,” or “I never should have made that mistake. I wonder how long I'll regret that decision.” Knowing the truth behind these words invokes our emotionally capacity to empathize, a part of us wants to say “me too.”

Reading the secret that says “I wasted my childhood trying to be grown-up...Now I'm a teenager and it SUCKS,” we realize that many people struggle with change and maybe that's because we all want to rekindle some innocence.

Frank Warren has really created something beautiful between the pages of these post cards. Because of its depth and meaning, PostSecret will probably continue to flourish and free the souls of secret keepers for many years to come. Have a secret leeching onto you? Not a problem... not anymore. As Frank Warren says, “Terrible secrets don't come from terrible people. Maybe our secrets aren't so terrible after all. Maybe I'm not so terrible after all.”



My postsecret is I killed a guy!!!

crets on them: those they had never revealed. In return, Warren publicly posts their secrets in his books, on his blog or shows them off in art exhibits. “PostSecret” he calls it, a title which is now well-known in many households.

While it may seem strange for one man to be soliciting the secrets of the world, it is actually a rejuvenating form of art for all who participate; whether sending a secret, reading his book or attending an exhibit. Secrets like these, without credentials, aren't harmful. The sender gets to lift the weight of the secret off their shoulders, and the audience becomes educated. This is the kind

of education that one can only receive from special kinds of projects. It doesn't teach quadratic functions or levels of solubility, historic facts or even how to ride a bike! It is an education in understanding what it feels like to be scared, what it feels like to be let down, how to know that life is actually good, how to know that life does completely suck sometimes: it educates with truth, not reason. The compilation of hundreds of secrets is striking because it holds a myriad of truths, words that can now come to life, inspiring others to tell their tales once and for all.

When a secret reads, “I stopped wearing panties to the office weeks ago. Work has never felt so refreshing!” we are not only reassured that going commando - on the down low - is kind of fun, but in a way, also comforted by the humor of the concept

Actually Sleeping at Night Might Be a Good Idea...

by Richard Chao

Staff Morning Owl

“You know them ones. You know them days. You want things to fall in place. While keeping up with this pace. You’re tryna keep a smile on that face...” quoted by Shakka in his song “Say Nada”. I won’t repeat the rest of the song because it has nothing related to what I have to say but those first few lines are kind of relevant to most of us.

Here we are, one and a half months into homework assignments, tests, internships, love, friends, family, and the list goes on is hitting us hard. We’re already making the tough decision to sacrifice an hour of sleep on homework or just bum out on Netflix. Ask the next person you see how they’re feeling and you’re going to get the “Fine, but I’m so tired.” I’m not

I’ll let you know for sure when I’m awake enough to read this

here to throw numbers around because we’re not an 8-digit Fordham Identification Number. We’re each an individual different in his/her own way.

So if I’m not here to throw statistics at you than what I am I really doing? Honestly, I just want to give my own opinion on sleep and why all-nighters aren’t the best solutions in some situations. We only have 24 hours a day which we at first think sounds like a lot, yet we so often find ourselves up at 1 AM or 2 AM writing papers or rushing to finish our work maybe even cramming for a test. Why is that? A lot of us at 4 PM in the afternoon are considering the big question: “Do it now or later?” Then we decide, “Later, sounds better.”

You’re not to blame for that logic.

Mathematically, it makes sense. If you spend one hour hanging out with friends now, you’ll just make up that one hour later at night. But, scientifically, it is a different story. This is because, first of all, our brains are optimal until 9 PM so you’re not on your A-game and you’re prone to mistakes if you’re working at 1 AM or 2 AM. In addition to that, the one hour you thought it’d take you to do your work could actually take you two or three because of you’re more vulnerable to distractions at night. Moreover, it doesn’t sound so bad at first when you’re just sleeping maybe 1 or 2 hours later but on a personal level you feel that difference when you’re in the middle of a science lecture or a literature discussion and you end up taking a little nap in the middle of

the class and end up completely confused while doing the homework or studying for the test. Also, in the situation of tests, all-nighters just add to the problem because after 11 PM it’s so hard to retain knowledge that it’d be a better idea to just sleep earlier.

Like I said earlier in my article, we’re all individuals unique in our own way so maybe all-nighters do work for you. However, if it hasn’t really been working for you maybe consider finishing your work earlier in the day and having fun and sleeping later in the day rather than sleeping and having fun earlier in the day and staying up all night studying and doing homework. In conclusion, what I’m trying to say is that an hour at 4 PM is completely different from an hour at 1 AM.

Yes I Did the Reading, No I Don’t Want To Talk About It

by Kelly Tyra

Arts Co-Editor

5% in Intro to Film. 10% in Electronic Media. 20% in Screenwriting. 20% in Ethical Issues in Media. And a whopping 25% in Environmental History of NYC. This semester my participation in class will account for about 16% of my GPA. While this may not seem like a hugely significant portion, it does raise a significant problem for students suffering from anxiety.

Anxiety recently bypassed depression as the number one mental health condition affecting college

This isn’t just a fear to participate, it is a mental illness, a serious condition.

students. In 2008, 80% of college students said they frequently or sometimes experience anxiety. While some bouts of anxiety are menial, more serious instances can be hell. Someone who suffers from an anxiety disorder such as generalized anxiety disorder or social anxiety disorder may live in a relatively constant state of fear and apprehension.

Participation grades negatively impact students with anxiety

These paralyzing feelings may be caused by a fear of saying something wrong, of being looked down on, or of being rejected. And many of these fears are heightened in the presence of peers and authority figures, making a college classroom one of the most stressful environments imaginable.

In my Environmental History class, where one quarter of my grade depends upon participation, the percentage on the syllabus is accompanied by the phrase “Think on your feet, often.” For someone who suffers from anxiety, that may be a rather daunting request. I mean, participating in class can be intimidating even for someone who doesn’t suffer from an anxiety disorder. Imagine a professor calls on you to explain a reading that you just did not do. You get nervous, start to fumble around with words, you can feel everyone’s eyes on you, feel the disappointment of your professor and the judgment of that hottie in the corner, and worse, you know you brought this stress upon yourself. Now imagine you did the reading, you connected with it, you understood it but you feel the same way when confronted by a professor and even worse, your body

itself is bringing the stress upon you. Anxiety is awful and participating in class is a unique kind of hellhole where your input is judged by peers and a person in power. And not only is a blunder embarrassing, it comes across as a reflection of your intelligence and social grace. In class discussion, a misspoken word could exhibit your misunderstanding of another person’s contribution or even worse offend someone. The list of embarrassing missteps that may be taken in class goes on and you’ve probably experienced one of these situations yourself.

For someone with anxiety, the stress of such situations may be multiplied by ten. This isn’t just a fear to participate it is a mental illness, a serious condition. And while it is highly treatable, only 1/3 of sufferers receive treatment and only 1/5 of teens. (This is incredibly significant; as diagnoses and treatment of such disorders would allow students to register with the Office of Disability Services and you know, receive service that could help in the classroom.) For some sufferers, the condition is not purely mental. It can manifest itself in physical symptoms especially during a panic attack. Which is pretty

shitty. Not just because feeling shitty is shitty but because the fear of this shit occurring can cause it to occur. I mean, shit. Those who suffer from anxiety are also more prone to suffering from depression simultaneously. So, basically, those who suffer from anxiety can’t catch a break especially on college campuses where those two mental disorders are increasingly common.

Given the rise in such issues amongst students, helpful changes should be implemented especially in regards to participation. While some professors’ clutch to verbal participation points as their only way of determining student engagement with material, others have changed the way they monitor it. Online participation has become increasingly common and written testaments of engagement are sometimes utilized as well. These methods take some of the pressure of anxious students who may know exactly what is happening in class but are hesitant or unable to share. Unfortunately, this is not the standard in most classes and thus students suffering from social anxiety continue to be disadvantaged. Obviously, this needs to change.

the paper's View

Transformations

Is anyone else extremely frustrated with the inconsistency of this year's change from summer to winter? What ever happened to the wonderful inbetween that is fall? Yes the trees are all beautiful shades of red and yellow and orange, and there are occasional sweater weather days, but all-in-all the switch has not been too enjoyable. One day it's too hot to wear anything but a short sleeve shirt, and the sun is so bright that you have to wear sunglasses, and the next you go out in a sweater and jean jacket and you start shaking so much that you almost fall over because you feel like your insides are turning into a bag of frozen peas. At night, you fall asleep all comfortable and cozy under your blankets, but you're woken up at 3am because it got so cold outside that the heat has been turned on and now you're sweating bullets. It's been rough.

If you think about it, all transformations, even when they leave you better off than you were before, provoke similar feelings to those of the changing seasons. Puberty, for example. One day you're a kid, innocent and ignorant to what life has waiting for you, and the next your face is covered in pimples and you have hair in new places. Your voice might be high one day and as deep as your 40-year-old teacher's the next. Some days might be better than others, like when you realize you now have boobs and you feel kind of sexy for the first time, but all in all the changes are usually pretty treacherous. And after fall, all we have to look forward to is cold.

We undergo many changes in our lives, most of which occur while we're in that young adult stage. Although these changes might be uncomfortable, and sometimes pretty frightening, they can also be pretty exciting as well. There have been studies done that show that the unknown is a bigger fear of most people than dying, heights, and even spiders. That's one reason why the dark can seem so intimidating. Who knows what's hiding in your closet? Or under your bed?! You can't see anything, so therefore anything is a possibility. These endless possibilities seem scary, but in another mindset, that same feeling of limitlessness can be a great thing. Instead of thinking anything is a possibility in a way that you're afraid you might encounter something negative, think *anything is possible* in a way that lets you recognize the many opportunities that lie before you.

So, in conclusion, instead of hating the confusing weather patterns that have been consuming these last few weeks, try wearing layers. That is our metaphor for the day. Everything is fluid--ride the wave. The possibilities are endless.

-Ali & Zoe

the paper presents Last Minute Halloween Costumes

Still not ready for the weekend festivities? We're here to help! Here's a list of quick and simple costumes for the Halloween weekend!

1. Okapi



2. Lincoln Chafee



3. Quinoa



4. An ironic cat



Screw the Ivies: Brand Names Don't Guarantee Experience

by Claire Nunez

Staff Student Ambassador

Long before any of us started school here at Fordham, we spent countless hours fine tuning our resumes and grooming ourselves to be the perfect applicant with a list of activities that “diversified” us from our competitors. Maybe you listed yourself as the member of a few honor societies, the president of ski club, a cashier at the store where you had your not-so-beloved first job, and a proud volunteer at a local animal shelter. Now imagine your application saying you have traveled all over the country on a campaign trail, interned on the set of HBO's *Girls* with Lena Dunham in Brooklyn, volunteered in one of DC's biggest soup kitchens every Thanksgiving with dozens of cameras clicking away, and your dad is the President of the United States of America. President Obama's oldest daughter, Malia, doesn't even need to write any of those “extracurriculars” on her application to America's most prestigious universities. Every application has a blank space, she just has to write her name.

The eldest of the Obama daughters has been touring some highly-selective colleges, specifically the Ivies—Columbia, Harvard, Princeton, Yale, the University of Pennsylvania and Brown as well as some highly-ranked public universities like UC Berkeley. President Obama recently told a group of high school students that he told Malia that the school's name doesn't really matter, but she still has been touring (and playing beer pong at) some of the most prestigious institutions in the world. As the “most eligible college applicant of 2016,” Malia is going to be given a plethora of options, and she is going to pick the best one. She is probably a hard worker and successful with her studies, but let's be honest here, she could apply to any institution with average grades and get in. Any establishment would kill to have a First Daughter attend.

The school Malia chooses will profit from an influx of reporters and a dramatic increase in social media followers trying to catch a glimpse of her acting like a normal college student

Malia, come to Fordham! We have beer pong here too!

partying again. The students may get a little annoyed that there is always someone snooping around in search of Malia, but they will surely reap the benefits of cool speakers, improved facilities, and maybe the chance to see the President every once in awhile. If she ever came to Fordham,



Michelle would probably be all over the meal plan saying it's not healthy and we need more sweet potatoes in our diets. But, this isn't okay. Well, not the idea of Michelle Obama rushing into the Caf and banishing all of the congealed pizza and lamenting at the lack of vegetables, that would be the most incredible event to happen here— it's the idea that name-brand schools get all of the hype and attention that is concerning.

As a lil' baby ram, I went through the application process just one short year ago. I had some reach schools and safeties, as well as a few that frankly, I would never go to. Initially, I was all about the ranking from U.S News & World Report. My high school was cutthroat; everyone wanted to be better than someone else. We often concerned ourselves with who was on top and where that person would be heading the following year. Conversation seemed to always shift towards the ranking of this or that school. It was oddly consuming. My classmates used to tell me, “That school is not good enough for you,” as I rattled off my list of possible new homes. They'd

often retort, “You're better than that.” As someone who is completely indecisive, it was stressful enough making a choice of this magnitude, it didn't help everyone was poisoning me with their opinions. When it came down to the end of April, I was pretty much stuck between one high-

falls a few more slots on U.S News— this year it fell eight places— and every time we respond the same way. Students complain that the university name isn't going to help with their job hunts, *The Ram* runs a front-page article which blames someone for the recent drop, and some parents get worried that Fordham isn't worth the price. Of course, this is a little ridiculous. On U.S. News, Fordham is ranked as 66 out of at least 200 colleges on the list of National Universities. That is actually pretty decent, even so, it doesn't really matter—it's just an arbitrary grade.

These ranks are just numbers. For U.S News, the data is based off of the array of majors provided and graduate degrees available; for Forbes it's income and debt of recent grads. These sites can't measure the skills you learn from volunteering with kids in the Bronx, what you gain from class discussions, or the joy you have from being immersed in a place and studies you love. It is not just about what your major is, it is about who you mold yourself to be. Employers want you to have skills not just knowledge from a dusty textbook. If you know what metals will react with certain acids, but you cannot utilize that information to discover anything fruitful to society, then what good is that random fact? Answer: it'll only help answer Jeopardy questions.

The college listed on our diplomas doesn't determine our worth. We make our own opportunities with what we have learned in our time here. Malia Obama has to do the same thing no matter what school she goes to. She gets special treatment now because her dad holds one of the highest regarded positions in the world, but she'll still have to work for her grades like we do. Just because someone went to an Ivy, doesn't mean he is any better than we are. Every college student is on the same boat to the “real world” no matter what our background is. Going to an expensive, fancy school with a “prestigious” name tag only makes a slight difference. Fuck the Ivies, be who you want to be, do what you want, where you want.

ly-ranked, name-brand school and a bunch of what my friends deemed as, “lesser” schools. The only thing that prevented me from charging to cow country in Upstate New York was the sticker price. The cost would have caused me much more stress than the actual schoolwork.

On a day that I was extraordinarily torn over the college decision, my friend, who was an overachiever, valedictorian, and decided against going to one of the big-brand schools, sat next to me and asked what was going on. I explained my dilemma between the price and the possible outcome and he returned: “Well Claire, fuck the Ivies. It's not where you go, it's what you do. If you're not going to be happy there, fuck it.” I knew that it would be best to pick a much more feasible option. That was the day I picked Fordham.

Joining this community, I thought the fixation on rank would end, yet people still talk about it. Why can't we just be happy with our school? This constant obsession with staying on top of all other universities is a serious problem. Each year Fordham



Pole Dancing: More Sporty Spice than Sexy Spice

by Melody Knight-Brown
Arts Co-Editor

It's time to change the way we look at pole dancers

Whatever picture you have in your mind when you think of pole dancing or a pole dancing competition, erase it. Strip clubs? No. Nudity? No. Lots of creepy old guys leering at young girls who obviously have daddy issues? Absolutely not.

The Northeast Aerial Arts Championships was held at the Jamaica Performing Arts Center in Queens, New York this past weekend, October 24-25, and more closely resembled a sports competition than a strip club. How is this possible? Well, because of the Pole Sport Organization (PSO) the people who established the competition and set the rules. There are rules for judging, rules for competing, rules dictating what clothing is allowed (no gluteal folds may be exposed), rules prohibiting any explicit sexual moves or gestures, and the competition itself is highly structured and organized.

The competition was organized into six categories (Dramatic, Entertainment, Freedance, Doubles/Groups, Showcase Plus, and Lyra), five levels of experience, and three age groups. The categories are organized into different events that allow dancers to showcase a particular skill e.g., freestyle, artistry, strength. As for the levels of experience, each level is carefully defined in terms of what tricks and moves are allowed and how many points of contact (how many places a dancer's body is touching the pole) must be maintained at all times. The age groups are divided into Juniors (18-29), Seniors (30-39), and Masters(40+) due to the unavoid-

able fact that the younger the dancer, the more they're physically able to push their body thus making it unfair to judge a 45-year-old whose been dancing for 8 years against an 18-year-old who just started two months ago.

All of this is done so that the competition is fair however, setting all these



This isn't easy and neither am I.

rules and regulations serve another purpose. They take the sex out of pole dancing. They distance the sport, if you will, from that thing strippers do. For someone who has never thought of pole dancing outside of a club the idea of removing the sexual aspect from pole dancing may seem impossible but if you ever look up videos of competitive pole dancing it makes sense. The abundance of skin-tight skimpy clothing may still be considered provocative but provocative in the same

way the leotards gymnasts wear are. The focus of the performances is not about trying to be sexy or sexual. The focus is on power, strength, and skill. Pole dancing has been likened to vertical gymnastics and there is even a push to get admitted into the Olympics. The point is to remove the strip club

stigma from pole dancers, and as a pole dancer myself, I must admit questions about being a stripper and comments of "I have a pole you can dance on :)" are at best annoying and invasive and at worst sexual harassment. From a feminist point of view, destigmatizing pole dancing comes with all the additional implications of de-sexualizing the female body. Pole dancing, which has its origins very much in female objectification, has now become a form of female empowerment, which is fantastic or would be if it didn't come at the expense

of losing such a big part of what pole dancing is.

Pole dancing is sexual and its prevalence in strip clubs is a big part of its history and development and personally I don't think it's necessary to try to hide that past to legitimize it as a sport. It's disrespectful to the history and to the girls who started pole as a more mainstream activity, most of whom started in clubs. This "stop the stigma" movement is essentially saying that we need to take the sex out of pole so up-

perclass (white) girls can do it without feeling embarrassed. Even though, let's be honest, the sexual aspect was probably what attracted them to the sport in the first place. That's the other problem with trying to de-sexualize pole. The scandalous aspect is one of the biggest draws to pole. Just because you're not dancing for money doesn't make dancing around a pole any less salacious. Also, with the push to make pole a sport instead of a dance, you begin to see a certain body type emerge - thin, strong, athletic, small. Anyone can pole dance, literally anyone regardless of weight, age, body type, or athleticism, which is partly what makes it so empowering. Granted the sexual aspect is never going to be completely removed from pole dancing. There will always be poles in strip clubs, but the move to make pole a sport is making it more exclusive and more pretentious and there's no need for that.

Pole competitions are fun because it's a way for the community to get together and show off a little bit and celebrate and support one another. But there's no reason why pole can't embrace its sexual origin and still be a legitimate activity. Personally, I'm proud of where pole came from. I have a lot of respect for the girls who are still in clubs and in my mind, anyone who has a problem with that history or looks down on strippers, might want to reconsider their involvement in pole because it may not be the best sport for them after all.

EVENTS

What: Saving a Life to the Beat of the Music

Where: McGinley Lounge

When: Nov. 10th, 5:30pm

How Much: FREE

Why: Might as well learn some basic CPR. Also, FREE FOOD! Please note that this is a demonstration class and NOT a certification class.

What: Trick or Treat Trot: A Hero Run 2016

Where: McGinley Center

When: Fri. Oct. 30th, 4:30-6:30pm

How Much: \$5 registration, \$15 registration and a t-shirt

Why: Watch your peers run through campus in costume and possibly intoxicated!

What: NYC Halloween Parade

Where: Spring St. and 6th Ave

When: Sat. Oct. 31st, 6pm

How Much: FREE

Why: One of the most famous and extravagant parades in the country!

What: Alta Gracia

Where: JMH 108

When: Thurs. Oct. 29th, 6pm

How Much: Free!

Why: Students for Fair Trade host the only apparel company in the developing world who pays their employees a living wage.

How Horror Movies Scare Us: The Safety Assumption

by Matthew Whitaker

Staff R.L. Stine

It is Halloween season again, and that means it is time to microwave some popcorn and put on a good horror movie. What makes a horror movie...well...horrific? Why do people cower in fear while watching some horror movies, but laugh and mock other ones? Some horror movies prey on a certain aspect of the human mind much better than others, that being the safety assumption. What is the safety assumption? Well, to give an example, do you, the reader of this article, assume that the last three people you saw have no intention of killing you? Do you assume that a demented monster is not going to jump out of the nearest crevice and tear you apart? Have you ever seen such aberrations? If your answers are yes, yes, and no, then you are probably a normal person living under the safety assumption. The safety assumption is a human coping mechanism which helps people live their daily lives without hiding in a corner fearing all the unlikely possibilities of their demise. It tells humans that those possibilities are so unlikely that they are impossible. Though deep down, all people know that anything is possible, any terrible, wicked thing. Could you imagine living in a mental state where you thought everyone was likely to murder you at any time? This is how good horror movies want you to feel, unsafe, unsure, and unsettled.

Watching a horror movie is like playing a game, a most devious and evil game, that strips away your sanity as the movie rolls. The viewer and the horror movie are the players, locked in a one-versus-one standoff. Each player has a unique goal. The horror movie intends to peel away at the viewer's safety assumption until the viewer believes that the events of the movie could happen in his or her own life. Conversely, the viewer unconsciously attempts to protect his or her safety assumption, and if the viewer is watching

We know how to make you scream

a good horror movie, he or she almost always loses. This game begs another question. How does the horror movie strip away at the viewer's safety assumption? The answer separates the good horror movies from the garbage.

Shredding a viewer's safety assumption is a tricky and complicated process. If a horror movie just begins with the protagonist being chased by the monster, no viewer will take the movie seriously, let alone be afraid. The key to destroying the ingrained safety assumption is making the viewer believe

finds a box in the attic with a projector and some film reels, which turn out to contain grisly footage of murders. Since the movies "monster," or in this case, murderer, has not appeared yet, the viewer's mind is free to wander, and he or she may begin to consider the possibility of finding such a box in his or her own attic. With that thought, another layer of the viewer's safety assumption has peeled off. At this point, *Sinister* shows the "monster", but not in full, leading to the next most important factor in a horror movie: uncertainty.

While tearing apart the viewer's safety assumption is an important part of inducing fear, it is often not enough to frighten the viewer. The destruction of the safety assumption must work with the element of uncertainty to deliver a truly horrific film. A simple example of this is arachnophobia. If you have this fear, when are you more afraid? When you can see the spider, or when you know it is near you, but you cannot see it? Many people would feel more afraid when the spider is present, but out of sight, as it could be climbing up one's leg. The same feeling is achieved in horror movies. Returning to *Sinister*, the viewer is exposed to the film's "monster"

long before he or she realizes who it is. He is first seen in the murder films, though each film only has a glimpse of him. The viewer begins to question who the strange figure is, becoming uncomfortable and anxious whenever the figure is mentioned or reappears. More strange occurrences happen, like undead children appearing and giving the "shush" sign, but very little is explained, allowing the viewer's mind to wander and create the monster based on his or her own vulnerabilities. The key to uncertainty is to give the viewer a reason to believe something is wrong, without explicitly telling what is wrong. Through the combination of uncertainty and the destruction of the safety assumption, horror movies are able to bring out the inner terror in the viewer's mind, often through his or her own doubts and weaknesses.



the events of the movie can happen to him or her. Thus, the movie must start out in a believable, and most importantly, relatable way. For example, take the movie *Sinister*. It begins with a believable situation which many viewers have previously experienced, that being the protagonist's family moving into a new home. The new home seems perfectly normal at first, though the protagonist is revealed to have an ulterior motive for moving into it. He is a true-crime writer, and the home was the site of a recent murder and kidnapping, which he intends to solve. Now, this begins to make the viewer ask questions like, "Would I move into a house where a murder occurred?" This puts the viewer in the protagonists' shoes, allowing them to relate to the protagonist and be more accepting of upcoming events. Soon after moving into the new house, the protagonist

Annoying People Flock to the MoMA

by Michael Sheridan
Staff Meta-Hater

Recently, I had the opportunity to visit the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) to view the new Picasso Exhibition, "Picasso Sculpture." The show offered an extremely interesting view of Picasso's work in this medium. While the artist is perhaps best remembered for his paintings, his sculpture is just as good if not better. The exhibit traces the artist's career from his early cubist days, all the way until his death, noting the stylistic changes along the way, and relating how the changing time period and changes in his life affected his artwork. However, as enjoyable as my visit was, it was not without the usual annoying people that seem to flock to the MoMA. Here are the top ten most annoying people that visit this museum on any given day.

1) **The Art Historian:** They may have only taken one class of intro level art history, or seen a thirty minute documentary on Netflix, but art historians think they know

it all. Not content to keep this information to themselves, art historians feel compelled to let everyone know everything about the artwork and the artist, even though reading the information plate would have worked just as well and probably been more accurate.

2) **The Hipster:** Hipsters only came because their friends "dragged them" to the museum, but they aren't about to enjoy any of it. The work is all way too mainstream and way too touristy for their taste. While everyone is off looking at Van Gogh's *Starry Night* (which is SO pedestrian), they're off to the side sipping his kale, quinoa GMO-free juice, and combing their man beards hoping not to be caught dead in this place.

3) **The Improver:** Sure, MoMA is filled with masterpieces that have been rec-

And are basically an installation themselves

ognized as some of the greatest works of the 20th century. But Improvers know just how to make each and every artwork even better. Not content with simply enjoying the works on the wall, Improvers let everyone know that they would have added some red in the corner, and maybe toned down the use of negative space.

4) **The Hater:** Haters simply cannot stand modern art. They think modern art pieces are all ugly jokes, and spends the entire time laughing and mocking the masterpieces. They easily "could have done that" and "don't understand why this is considered

paintings and always about to knock over a sculpture. No, it would be best if you simply just left the museum altogether as that is the only way he can save the artwork.

7) **The Person on His or Her Cellphone:** "Yeah I'm just at the MOMA. No it's okay we can talk. WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR YOU OVER THIS CROWD? COULD YOU SPEAK A LITTLE MORE LOUDLY? WHAT'S THAT? I THINK I MIGHT BE LOSING SERVICE!"

8) **The Photographer:** Even though every image in the museum can be found online, the only way photographers will ever see anything again is if they take a picture of every single artwork. The only way they see anything is if it's through the lens of a camera. Oh and would you mind moving? You're kind of blocking his shot.

9) **The People Who Really Didn't Want to Come:** Admittedly, art really isn't their thing. But after one look from their significant other, they suddenly found themselves spending their Saturday being dragged around some museum, but that doesn't mean they have to enjoy it. Instead they'll spend

the entire time moving from bench to bench, checking Sports Center on their phone until they can finally leave.

10) **The Couple:** There's going to MoMA as a couple and then there's THE couple. The couple delights in showcasing PDA their entire visit and feels the need to take selfies next to every single painting in the Museum (#MoMA #Cultured #Bae). However, they rarely look at the actual artwork, as they are too busy trying to adjust their Instagram filter to enjoy the Pollock piece in front of them.

I would highly recommend visiting the exhibition if you have some free time coming up. But if you decide to go, please don't be one of these annoying people. The exhibition runs until February 7th and student tickets cost \$14 with a student ID.



SHOWS

What: ODESZA

Where: Terminal 5

When: Sun. Nov 15th, 8pm

How Much: \$27

Why: Because you love yourself that much. If you don't already know ODESZA you will thank yourself for going.

What: Bassjackers

Where: Space Ibiza

When: Fri. Nov. 6th, 10pm

How Much: \$25

Why: Because you have to go to at least one rave in your life so just go.

#PLUR

What: SoMo

Where: Irving Plaza

When: Sat. Nov. 7th, 8pm

How Much: \$25

Why: Because he has a beautiful voice and "Ride" is probably on your Sex playlist

What: I Fight Dragons

Where: The Studio @ Webster Hall

When: Wed. Nov. 11th, 7:30pm

How Much: \$12

Why: Because chiptune indie rock is a horrifically underrated genre and these guys are the best at it.

Demi May Be Cool For the Summer But She Still Isn't Cool

by Siobhan Donahue
Opinions Co-Editor

To some, Demi Lovato, is a beautiful, vastly underrated voice. To others, she is an annoying, washed up, former Disney popstar. I do not disagree with either opinion. I think she has the talent, seriously she has an impressive vocal range, can write her own songs, and play her own instruments, but needs to market herself better. Specifically, she needs to release the good songs on her album instead of the mediocre ones, and make herself more likable, because her Twitter account sure is not doing that.

Demi is on her fifth studio album, titled *Confident*. Obviously, she has not had the success of singers such as Taylor Swift or Beyoncé. Her moderate success is most similar to that of her frenemy, Selena Gomez. This does not look good for Demi. Let's be real, Demi has more talent in her left pinky than Gomez has in her entire body. There is a reason why Gomez lip-syncs the majority of the time. Judg-

This Disney princess could come out on top if only she tried

ing by talent alone, Demi should have more hit singles. I believe she does, but she does not widely release them. She hides them like a pirate hides precious jewels. See, Selena Gomez typically has two decent songs in a sea of trash album. Her record company widely releases those two songs and shoves them down our throats. Demi has taken a different route. Take her last album, *Demi*. She had beautiful songs on that album such as "Heart Attack," "Nightingale," "In Case," and "I Hate You, Don't Leave Me." Only one of those songs was widely released. And she only released four songs from that album for radio play. Those other three songs though, did nothing for her career. In fact, I think the songs "Really Don't Care" and "Neon Lights," painted her more as a teenage star rather than as a serious artist who we should care about. Her new album has some good songs, which in my opinion are way better than the first two songs she released, "Cool for the Summer" and

"Confident." She did release "Stone Cold," but only time will tell if potential hit "Wildfire" gets released. Based on her past record trends, she will probably release a song that won't connect with the majority of listeners. Nowadays, having a powerful voice or even deep lyrics means nothing. The general populous wants a nice beat to dance to while in the club or to bop its collective head to while in the car. Only later when they are browsing their Spotify will other factors matter.

So, let's pretend Demi's manager reads the paper and starts releasing the more generally appealing songs on her album. That still won't mean much if no one likes her. Demi has two main problems in the image department. First, she does not have a developed persona. Miley Cyrus is the hippie. Ariana Grande is the new Mariah Carey. Demi is the confident woman, who is done with all the BS (except for the times when she says that she's ready to fight). She's someone who will tweet

about being above memes, but then will use those memes a day later. She bounces back and forth with her image. I understand that people are complex, but this is Hollywood, be interesting, but also consistent. Demi also needs to be more aware of what people like and what people find annoying. For example, Demi wants to win a Grammy. Nice goals, Demi. However, she has tweeted and stated in interviews that she WILL get nominated someday. I know she meant to show confidence, but she came off as arrogant. She also constantly talks about her friendship with Iggy Azalea. At least Gomez was smart enough to cling to Swift, who is much more tolerable than Iggy.

I think Demi has a chance to showcase her talent and if she allows for someone witty to tweet for her, she may even seem likable. Her SNL performance on October 17th proves that she has potential. She just needs to use it.

Coming Soon to a Theater Near You: Walking Martian Spies with Jobs

by Declan Murphy
Staff Oscar Hopeful

The 53rd Annual New York Festival completed its three-week stint earlier this month. With its eclectic mix of straight-up indie films, wide-release Oscar bait, shorts, and world cinema, this year's NYFF offers up a varied selection with something for everyone. Here's a guide to the stand-outs of the New York Film Festival, and when and where you can catch these stellar movies in the near future:

1. *The Walk*—Perhaps as notable for its technical achievements as its performances, *The Walk* wowed audiences on the opening night of this year's New York Film Festival. The film tells the story of the French acrobat who walked on a thin wire between the Twin Towers, played by Joseph-Gordon Levitt. Directed by Robert Zemeckis, and with a supporting cast that includes Ben Kingsley, *The Walk* is enthralling and vivid. (This one's worth the extra cost for the 3-D). *The Walk* is in wide release, in theaters

And a peculiar taste for lobster

near you.

2. *Steve Jobs*—The Film Society rightfully put this film as their "Centerpiece" feature, and it's an honor well deserved. I was lucky enough to attend a screening of the film, and was truly impressed. *Steve Jobs* is a frantic masterpiece, with a quick wit and impeccable performances. Aaron Sorkin's script takes center stage here. Sorkin presents the life of the tech genius in a series of three press conferences, in 1984, 1988, and 1998. While this choice seems restrictive, it actually makes the film more dynamic and focused than a general biopic (looking at you, Ashton Kutcher's Jobs). The conflicts come in quick succession, giving us the best character beats out of Fassbender as Jobs, Winslet as Joanna Hoffman, and Seth Rogen in a rare dramatic turn as Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak. Fassbender fully captures Jobs' intensity, ego, and standoffishness. The Oscar buzz is surely already

swelling around his performance (and possibly Rogen, for his uncharacteristically honest performance). *Steve Jobs* is currently in limited theatrical release.

3. *The Martian*—Ridley Scott's newest feature marks a surprising return to form for the director, whose recent works (*Exodus: Gods and Kings*, *Prometheus*, and *Robin Hood*) have been lackluster to say the least. With its focus on hard science, and anchored by the ever-charismatic Matt Damon, *The Martian* manages to turn the comparatively dry source novel into a consistently entertaining work of sci-fi. This is in no small part due to the excellent supporting cast, which includes Jessica Chastain, Kristen Wiig, Donald Glover, and Chiwetel Ejiofor. *The Martian* is currently in wide release.

4. *The Lobster*—From Greek director Yorgos Lanthimos comes this bizarre dystopian tale. In a future where being single is outlawed, the

remaining unwed people are sent to a hotel and given a matter of weeks to find a partner. If they do not, they are turned into an animal of their choosing. The main character, David (played charmingly by Colin Farrell) selects the titular lobster. Dark, surrealist, and funny, *The Lobster* has already garnered great review and taken home the Jury Prize from the Cannes Film Festival, where it debuted. *The Lobster* has a very small limited release, so look out for this one when it's released digitally.

5. *Bridge of Spies*—Spielberg directs this tense period piece, about the exchange of spies between the Soviet Union and the United States during the height of the Cold War. Tom Hanks stars, and early reviews say he performs admirably, but it's far from the flashy heights of NYFF's other main slate films. *Bridge of Spies* is currently in wide release.

[Insert Obscure Gamer Lingo Here] at a Dota 2 Tournament

by Luis Gomez

Staff Noob

On October 3rd and 4th, instead of sitting in my room alone and playing video games, I went to a Dota 2 tournament! For clarification's sake, Dota 2 is a video game. Just so you know. Anyway, I spent the weekend at ESL One New York, an annual Dota 2 competition held in the Theater at Madison Square Garden where eight teams fought over a prize pool of almost \$300,000.

Esports as an industry are in a weird place right now. Tournaments are getting larger and larger each year. This year's League of Legends World Championships is poised to be one of the most watched tournaments ever by the time it wraps up, and Dota 2's The International 2015 had a prize pool of over \$18 million, which is larger than Wimbledon. The growth of large-scale tournaments has led to a massive influx of mid- and top-tier tournaments. ESL One NY is one of those newer, top-tier tournaments. Organized by ESL, an esports league that runs many different events across the globe, the tournament I went to was situated in the Theater at Madison Square Garden. Well, I say situated. I mean stuck. As prestigious as it is to say you're hosting a tournament in MSG, if hosting that tournament means you have to a) not let people leave to get food and forcing them to buy a seven goddamn dollar hot dog or b) cut your final match down from a best of five to a best of three because of "time constraints," then maybe you should look into a different venue. Just a hint.

But while I was at the tournament, eating the most regrettable hot dog I ever bought, I did pick up on a few things that are similar at, well, almost

Get pwned, get pumped

every other esports tournament. So here's what you, dear reader, can expect if you go to an esports tournament.

1. The audience will be overwhelmingly male.

That's not to say that there aren't women there, but by and large, dudes. Dudes as far as the eye can see. The pros are dudes, the staff are dudes, the announcers and on-camera analysts are dudes. Dudes.

2. The audience will be racially diverse-ish

I say diverse-ish because the audience is still mostly white. Granted, that might have just been a New York thing, but that's the reality for a lot of other tournaments in other locales as well.

3. It will get loud.

4. Merch lines are looooooong.

And merch is expensive.

But the stuff does look cool, and has a crazy variety.

5. There will be a metric shitload of jargon and you are expected to know all of it.

Here's the thing about going to a tournament like this: there's an implicit level of understanding between the casters (announcers) and the audience. They expect you to understand what they mean when the Dire side smoked for a wraparound gank into the Rosh pit but got instantly blown up by a Blink-BKB-Epicenter combo, but then the Aegis got stolen at the last second because Naga popped Song of the Siren and walked in, and all the while there's two Radiant cores splitpushing top lane while their support duo tries to stack ancients so their offlaner can get some much-needed farm for their Mek.

Oh yeah, and that differs on a game-by-game basis. League of Legends is

literally based on Dota and has the same fundamental mechanics underpinning the thing, and I don't get half of what LoL casters are talking about.

6. The ads will be, at best, repetitive. At worst, they'll be awful.

Here is the actual text for an actual ad that actually played that weekend. But let me set the scene first. Picture a tall lanky white dude (of course) standing in front of a black background with red accent lighting. Every so often parts of this dudes arm or face would pixelate and go all red and funky. And then he started talking. I kid you not, this is what he actually said:

"I move objects with my mind. I climb the tallest mountains and slay dragons. I defend my galaxy from ruthless aliens. I am never bored. I am stronger. I am faster. I am...G1."

This was an actual ad that was actually played repeatedly. For motherboards. It's an ad for motherboards.

7. The audience will eventually get fed up with these ads and start yelling things at them.

By the time the grand finals on Sunday rolled around, the audience started yelling the 'G1' part of that shitty ad back at the ad. I'm still in disbelief that they played that thing. Hang on I need a minute.

8. The audience also might randomly start cheering for things that don't need to be cheered for.

Okay, there's an ability in Dota called Ice Blast. Basically, one hero can send a giant ball of ice flying across the map. It's very fun to watch. So fun, in fact, that during one game the entire crowd stated ooooooing while the giant ball of ice flew across the map, and then cheering when it hit something. Or when it hit nothing. You had to be there

bro.

9. The most overheard phrase will be "What just happened?!"

This will be due to either disbelief or because someone was looking down at their phone during a teamfight and looked up after everyone died.

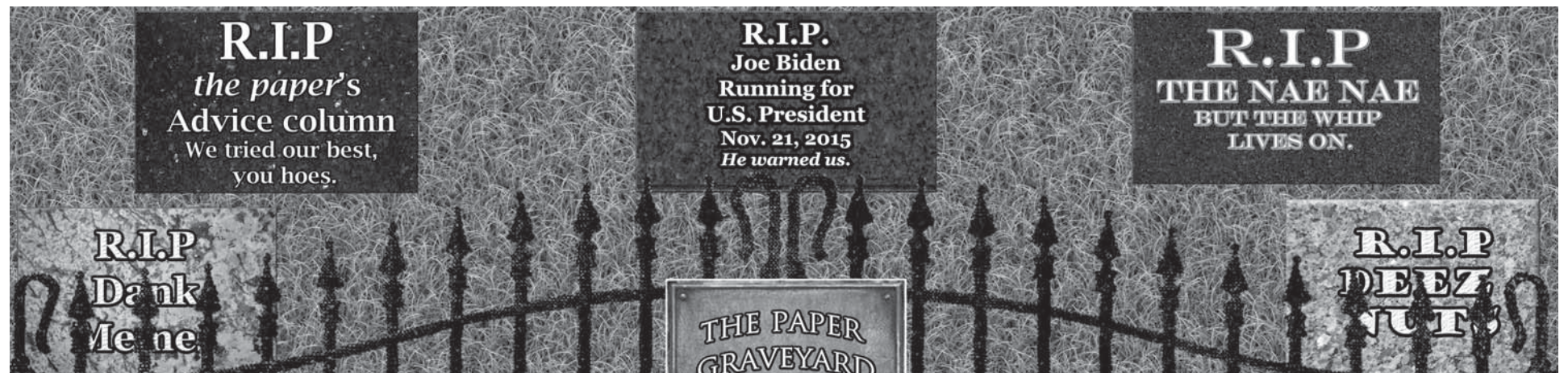
10. If you're lucky, an underdog story emerges.

Let me admit something: I am an American. I like seeing successful teams get taken down by an unexpected challenger. And that's exactly what happened at ESL One with a Russian team called Vega Squadron. After arriving at ESL through the qualifiers, their first match was up against Evil Geniuses, the team that won the huge \$18 million tournament I mentioned earlier. And then Vega beat EG 2-0. Nobody expected that bit. Their next match was against Invictus Gaming, one of the most competitive Chinese teams. And then Vega beat them 2-1. Finally, Vega went up against Team Secret, defending champions of ESL One NY and also a ridiculously good team. And guess what? Vega beat them. It was awesome.

11. By the end of it all, you will be very tired.

But the good kind of tired, the satisfied-with-the-way-the-weekend-went sort of tired.

I'm not saying that a Dota tournament is a good idea for everyone. Enough people still have trouble wrapping their heads around the idea that you can play video games for a living that it'll likely be a while before you don't think of it as a ridiculous way to spend your weekend. But if you like the idea, and you like the game, there's not much like it.





Well, it is official: everything in *Back to the Future* is now in the past. Yeah, how fucking scary is that. And the fact that most of their predictions didn't turn into reality is a tad disappointing. We are not in the world we all thought and hoped we would be in. Oh well. In response to this very important occurrence, here at *the paper*, we have decided to put a list together of what we think will happen by 2045...what the world will look like 30 years from today.

1. SHIA LABEOUF WILL GO TO PRISON FOR CANNIBALISM



2. HOVERBOARDS WILL STILL NOT EXIST BECAUSE SCIENCE FUCKING SUCKS



3. WEED WILL BE VERY LEGAL AND WE WILL EVENTUALLY GET WAY MORE PICS OF MJ STONED



4. FORDHAM WILL FINALLY GET WIFI THAT CAN SURVIVE MIDTERMS WEEK



5. THE CUBS WILL STILL BE IN SPORTS FANDOM HELL. FUCK THE METS, YEAH I SAID IT JULES



6. THE AVENGERS WILL HAVE TO FACE THEIR TOUGHEST CHALLENGE YET, THE RETIREMENT HOME





by the pumpkin spice god

Tis the season of basic bitches! Who doesn't love the delicious flavor of pumpkin spice. With new pumpkin spice products coming out every day, we decided to ask our staff what they want the next pumpkin spice product to be. So grab your Uggs and puffy vests, it's time to make pumpkin spice lattes!

Pumpkin Spice Tidy Cat
by Claire Nunez

Fall is a season full of pumpkin spice, and there is a constant obsession with cats, so why can't we blend both together? Kitty litter can smell a little disgusting at times and the "clean" scents only last so long. Us, pumpkin-loving cat lovers could really use a nice pumpkin spice scented kitty litter. Every time your furry friend uses his or her box, it doesn't have to smell disgusting. A pumpkin spice scent can really liven up any litter box and make it a better place to hang out around. The cool new smell in your cat has may raise a few questions from any guests, but it will surely be a great conversation starter and they'll also want to invest in the product-- even if they hate cats. Cat parents all over the nation would rejoice and throw cute little kitten parties over this potential new invention. If it never happens, we can all just get a Starbucks PSLs to pour in our bleak litters and just hope it doesn't clump too much.

Non-fat PSL with Death, please
by Luis Gomez

Death could use a little pumpkin spice. No, seriously. It's not easy being the grim reaper. It's a 24/7 job, people, you think I get any time off? I can barely get a few seconds of sleep before one of you dipshits stabs someone

or tries to hump a pissed-off shark and I have to go clean up. And any time I walk into Starbucks, it's not "Hi, Death, how can I help you?" it's "No, please, not now, not like this." Calm down. I just want a PSL and some quiet. If you people aren't going to stop dying then I need some caffeine and at least, like, twelve seconds of not moving around with which to enjoy it. And I want that caffeine to be half-caf, no whip. And pumpkin spice. Obviously.



Tis the Season for Pumpkin Spice
by Zoe Sakas

Tis the season for pumpkin spice everything. If I could introduce something to this growing trend, it would have to be the pumpkin spice attitude, also known as the PSA (not to be confused with public service announcements or prostate specific antigens). It's something we all reference, and yet the term just doesn't exist. It can be used in so many ways as well, just like the word "interesting" can easily have a positive or negative connotation depending on how it's said. It can be used to describe those "basic white girls" who wear ugg and northface jackets with

their pumpkin spice lattes in hand, or it can be used to account for taking shots of pumpkin spice vodka and jumping in a pile of fall-colored leaves. Call up Shakespeare and let him know he's got some competition because I think I just coined the next most used work in the English language.

Poet Hates Pumpkin Spice
by Matthew Whitaker

I do not like them, Matt-I-am, I do not like Pumpkin Spice Eggs and Ham. I would not like them here or there, I would not like them anywhere. I would not like them in a house, I would not like them with a mouse. I would not like them in a box, I would not like them with a fox. I would not like them in a car, I would not like them near or far. I would not like them in a tree, I would not like them can't you see? I would not like them on a train, I would not like them in the rain. I would not like them on a boat, I would not like them with a goat. I've heard enough of this sham, I will never like Pumpkin Spice Eggs and Ham!

Spilled Starbucks
by Elena Meuse

We have so many pumpkin spice product these days, but you what we still need? Pumpkin spice Draino. That way, the next time my apartment drain becomes so horrifically blocked that water backs up and overflows onto my bathroom floor, at least my downstairs neighbors will have the delicious aroma of pumpkin spice dripping down onto them. Wouldn't that be nice? If failing spectacularly at unclogging your drain doesn't scream "basic white bitch" loudly enough, now there will be the perfect smell to go along with it. If you listen really quietly, you can

probably even hear me yelling, "I can't even" off in the distance. So there you go, Home Depot, make it happen. And for the people in apartment 4A, I'm so sorry... It probably won't happen again. But if it does, maybe the water damage will smell like pumpkins!

Patriotic Pumpkin Spice
by The NRA

Pumpkin Spice is as American as the European ancestors who stole pumpkins from the Natives in the first place. You know what else is American? Guns! The government has been trying to take our arms away from us. The best way to combat this infringement on our rights, is capitalism. Make guns so popular, everyone will buy it and we will be rich...I mean the government will lose. Anyway, pumpkin spiced AK-47s, handguns, bullets, etc, is necessary for our liberty as a nation. GOD BLESS GUNS, GOD BLESS PUMPKIN SPICE, AND GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Oh God, make it stop!
by Dill Worsey

Here at the paper we ask hard questions. For example, what more things should be pumpkin spiced. The answer nothing. I like pumpkin spice, sure, but I absolutely hate that it's on everything at this time of the year. Fall should be associated with black friday, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and other shit not just pumpkin spice. Fuck you, Starbucks and every other pumpkin spice thing. You're the worst



Chris Hadfield
Space Sessions
 by Luis Gomez

This album was recorded in space. I'm probably going to say that a lot about this record because it is an amazing feat of human engineering that not only could we send some dudes into space, but one of them could bring his guitar and record vocals. While in space. Canadian astronaut and all-around cool dude Chris Hadfield made huge headlines in 2013 when his cover of David Bowie's "Space Oddity," shot and recorded on the International Space Station, hit the internet. Most people only ever knew Hadfield as an astronaut, or from his near-constant social media presence. In reality, he'd been recording for a while before the cover's release; his first song, "Jewel in the Night" was released on YouTube on Christmas of 2012. What I mean to say is that, even if we didn't know it, this album's been a long time coming. How is it musically? Weird. That's the most genuine reaction I can give. Hadfield cowrote much of the music with his son, and the songs are all this sort of folksy-acoustic-dad stuff you'd expect from a mid-50s Canadian and his kid. The lyrics are nice, if pedestrian, and some tracks, like the album opener "Big Smoke," have small samples of mission controllers or whatnot interspersed. None of it sounds particularly ear-grabbing, which is something Hadfield admits to himself, saying that when his producer asked why his vocals and guitar playing sounded a bit off, he placed the blame on it being rather difficult to record decent

vocals while you're in space. All told, even after three listens, I'm really not sure what I think about this album. It's a fantastic novelty, but I'm not sure many people will find much more in it than that. Ultimately, I think I'm glad that this was the first album that we ever got from space. It's nice. I'm sorry, I know you stopped caring about this in the first paragraph, but I'm still geeking out about the fact that THIS ALBUM WAS RECORDED IN GODDAMN SPACE. HOW COOL IS THAT SHIT?



BORNS
Dopamine
 by Connor Smith

October 16th, 2015. A day which will forever be remembered as the release of BØRNS debut album *Dopamine*. The first song I heard off this indie pop album was "Electric Love," released much earlier than the full length album. It came along with a rather strange video that gained him some credibility as he searched for footing for his full debut album. Footing he found indeed. The

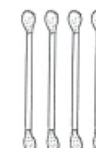
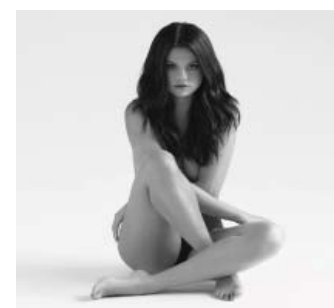
bass riffs behind the vocals in "Electric Love" are fascinatingly catchy. However, my personal favorites are "Dug My Heart" and "American Money." "Dug My Heart" has an electric intro that elicited an uncontrollable foot tapping on my first listen. The vocals in this song are just phenomenal, his range is, well, better than mine. "American Money" is my favorite song of the album lyrically. It tells of finding the girl he sees himself loving forever, but realizes most anything this pure must be bound by temporality. He tries to cherish the time he has in this "paradise," even going so far as to assert, "there's no time to sleep living in a dream." A friend of mine described Garret Borns as "like Lana del Rey, but better." If there is a more apt description, I haven't heard it. Their lyrics have a similar content basis, and their music is clearly vocally concentrated, however, similar or not, BØRNS is drastically better than Lana Del Rey. This album is a solid 4 out of 5 in my book. The lyrical content is a bit too consistent if you ask me, and the album seems to bleed together on about the third listen. However, I do really enjoy every single song on this album and am looking forward to what BØRNS has in store for us in the future.



Selena Gomez
Revival
 by Reyna Wang

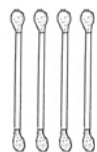
I dove into Selena Gomez's second studio album *Revival* pumped to write a joke review satirizing another post-Disney star brandishing the embarrassment of their more "mature" musical endeavors, and was pretty disappointed to find that I had to write an actual review when I emerged from a listen-through feeling energized, ready to slay, and quite honestly revived. That's not to say that this album doesn't have its fair share of cheesy, eye-roll induc-

ing moments: the all too popular abstract and insightful spoken word intro, for example, that means an impressive amount of nothing, or the Christina Perri-style ballad "Camouflage", which ironically doesn't camouflage at all with the rest of the album's upbeat hype and only serves as a friendly reminder that even people as glamorous as Selena get sad sometimes. There's nothing too wild about the lyrics or vocals, but the production is killer. Especially in terms of the production, working with other notable artists was definitely a good call. The combination of Selena's breathy, Lana Del Rey-esque vocals and A\$AP Rocky's ethereal, bass heavy production in "Good for You" makes for a track that's equal parts sultry and danceable. The jangly piano riff and otherwise synth-driven production in "Same Old Love" perfectly compliment the song's catchy melody and clearly draw influence from Charli XCX, who co-wrote and provided backing vocals for the track. The album as a whole has really impressive diversity. Several of the tracks, most notably "Kill Em With Kindness" and "Me & The Rhythm" borrow and modernize disco-funk and house elements popularized by bands like Daft Punk, creating some serious groove. Then there's the song "Body Heat," which stands out for its intense and distinctly Latin American drums and horns. The album closes with the bizarre song "Rise," which is essentially Selena Gomez's take on traditional gospel music. I still don't know how I feel about those last two tracks, but I can assure you that the rest of the album will enlighten you, make you want to get up and dance, and render you unable to walk without some strut in your step. Don't pretend you're too good for Selena Gomez. Go forth and set the world on fire with this album's flames.



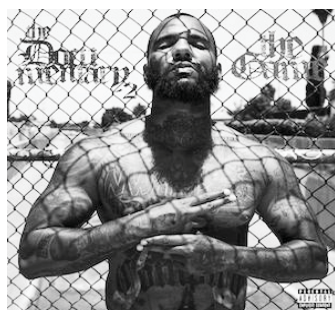
Majical Cloudz
Are You Alone?
 by John Looby

The new Majical Cloudz album made me sad. I first listened to it on a bus ride back from DC, I had a lot of time to myself and this album succeeded in making me think about every failed relationship over those long hours. Luckily, I bought it along with a bunch of new albums, all of them good and super up beat, but holy hell *Are You Alone?* is a straight gut shot to the feels. Much like their first album, this is a minimalist and emotional experience. On the first album, I often caught myself singing along, growing more and more melancholy as the tracks progressed. *Are You Alone?* presents the listener with the same sort of hypnotic grief. The vocals lull you into singing along before you catch on to the words coming out of your math. However, the album does feel a bit more energetic than it's predecessor, Welsh's vocals still draw out the lyrics, but it feels as though the production has drawn him out of the lethargy of the first album. The stand out track of the album is definitely "Downtown" a sort of frustrated love song where Welsh questions his infatuation. It's the sort of thing that crosses everyone's mind during a slump in a date night. The album as a whole feels like a lullaby about loneliness and relationships. If you ever have trouble sleeping after a rough break up, this album is probably the best thing out there. For everyone else, this album is a beautiful thing, but expect to get hit straight in the feels.



The Game
Documentary 2
 by Arthur Banach

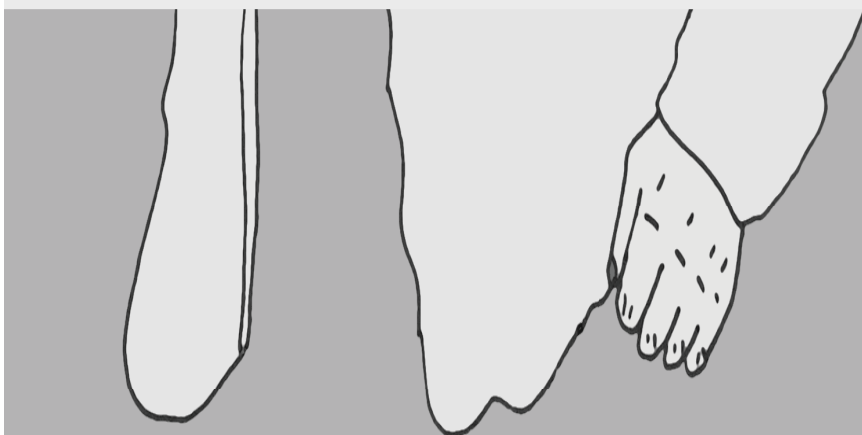
In the past year we've seen an increase in "street" Hip Hop albums being released into the mainstream. It's sad to say a few have come out of an insincerity hoping to profit off of resurgence in Dre and NWA's fandom among young Hip Hop fans. Game's documentary is certainly not that. Compton native and self proclaimed King of California has been "bleeding like a menstrual" since he was a youngin'. It's interesting to see the tone which rappers who've actually been raised by gang violence choose in respect to it. Somber and honest, Game never necessarily glorifies gang violence as much as he lays out what has to be done to survive and prosper in Compton. He also chooses to bring West and East Coast together in an attempt to unify ghettos worldwide. As he points out, "Queensbridge just like Compton, dog and Inglewood n*ggas just like Yonkers y'all". That call for solidarity is an important and honest endeavor, rooted in the reality that the struggles of the poor are the same no matter the region. Game's ability to put together an album bringing together East and West Coast, bloods and crips, and young and old heads is admirable. I'm impressed with the creativity and amount of storytelling that was weaved into this record as Game, while a formidable emcee, is more known for delivering bar after bar. The picture of Compton he gives the listener is poignant and gritty, which is accelerated by the choice of old samples and throwbacks like the Biggie flow and sample on "Step Up".



GET YOUR
 HOTLINE
 BLINGING...



THE INTERNET - GET AWAY
 HIATUS KAIYOTE - BORDERLINE
 MAC MILLER - ROS
 ANDERSON PAAK - LUH YOU
 MICK JENKINS - YOUR LOVE



A Message From Fordham Students United

Fordham Students United (FSU) is an intersectional coalition of student leaders, activists, faculty and alumni. We are united to bring social justice on campus through active campaigns, programs, and actions.

Our Mission is to create an inclusive and safe campus culture for people of color in accordance with Fordham's mission statement and Jesuit values, to encourage accountability from the Fordham community regarding issues of race, and to engage with Bronx community in order to foster more awareness and action concerning the issues of race and systematic oppression on and off campus.

Our Demands:

"Fordham is committed to research and education that assist in the alleviation of poverty, the promotion of justice, the protection of human rights."

1. Amend the core curriculum to include a course on systems of oppression in our society. The course should analyze today's current events through studying the history of oppression against marginalized communities in the U.S. including people of color, women, and the LGBTQIA+ community. Students should be encouraged to reflect on how systems of oppression impact their experiences on and off campus.

"Fordham is privileged to share a history and a destiny with New York City. The University recognizes its debt of gratitude to the City and its own responsibility to share its gifts for the enrichment of our City, our nation and our world."

2. Create a year-long service learning program for all freshmen and transfer students run by the Dorothy Day Center to engage students with the Bronx community and foster the Jesuit ideal of men and women for others. Students should work with a Bronx-based organization of their choice and write weekly reflections on their experiences. This program should coincide with the new core requirement so students can share their reflections and discuss them with other students.

"Fordham encourages faculty to discuss and promote an understanding of the ethical dimension of what is being studied and what is being taught."

3. Mandate diversity and sensitivity training for all faculty and staff, like the Undoing Racism class taught by the People's Institute. Student leaders should be involved in integrating new

faculty into the Fordham community, especially faculty of color and from other marginalized communities in order to build better relationships with students. Professors, administrators, and other Fordham staff members should be held accountable in promoting diversity on campus and actively aim to listen to and serve students above all else.

"Fordham recognizes the dignity and uniqueness of each person. A Fordham education at all levels is student-centered, and attentive to the development of the whole person. Such an education is based on close collaboration among students, faculty and staff."

4. Expand coverage of diversity and privilege in core programming and NSO. Student leaders from clubs like ASILI, the Pride Alliance, and Academia Hispana, and staff from the Office of Multicultural Affairs should be directly involved in leading discussions and activities with students. This will allow new students to get immediately acquainted with students and staff who share their experiences and can provide safe spaces for them.



Use **#fordhamspeaksup** to share your experiences with race and privilege at Fordham, as a person of color or an ally on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or anonymously on our Tumblr. Follow us everywhere **@fustudentsunite** and like us on Facebook for updates.

