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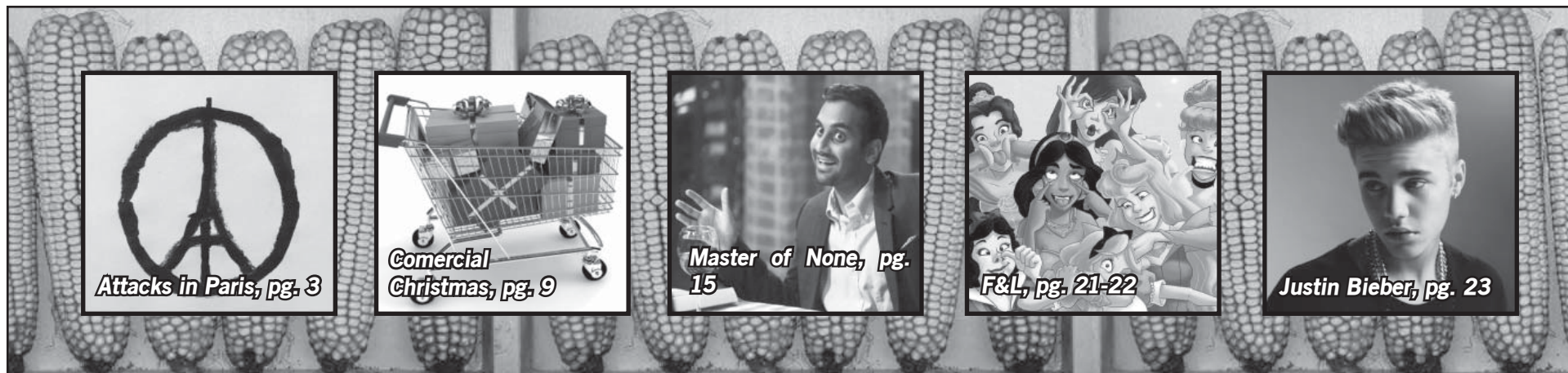
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## the paper

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Fordham University  
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paper.fordham@gmail.com  
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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.

"Favorite Thanksgiving Tradition"

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### Contributors

Claire Nunez, Marcus Milk, Adam Hamilton, 1D, amaretto sours, Blue Donation, Justin Bieber, Matthew Johnson, vertebraes, Lily Vesel, Alina Bills, Starbucks, McGinley cats & kittens & raccoons, Michael Sheridan, Estrelitas, Dunkin, Kirsten Nolan, Kelly's mom, the GOP, Georgia Pullis, almond milk, Maureen Shelley, Joe Biden, pretty leaves, turkey, Reyna Wang

## BREAKING NEWS: RACCOONS TAKE OVER MCGINLEY CENTER

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## Paris Under Attack, World Comes Together as ISIS Threatens More

By John Looby  
Opinions Co-Editor

The world has come face to face with another terrible tragedy. In the past week, ISIS led a violent assault against the people of Paris, killing over a hundred people and wounding many more. The attack marks the transformation of ISIS from a regional force to an international force of terror. The world's sympathies lay with France as they suffer through the worst attack in Europe since the Madrid bombings. In the age of modern globalism, we can't help but feel touched by every instance of violence.

The attacks began Friday night with a coordinated strike on heavily populated buildings in Paris. The worst of the violence happened at the Bataclan concert hall where American music group Eagles of Death Metal were playing. The band was playing to a sold out crowd in what should have been by all measures a normal and enjoyable evening. Instead, four assailants violently unloaded onto the concert hall, using AK-47s to kill innocent men and women. The attackers would end up taking hostages before the police could arrive. When the police did get on the scene, most of the attackers detonated suicide vests, although one died in a shootout with the police. The majority of the night's casualties came from the carnage at this venue. Elsewhere in the city, violent attacks were unleashed on restaurants and suicide bombings occurred outside the stadium of the Germany-France soccer match. The president of France himself was in attendance at the game when the attack occurred; he was quickly evacuated. Witnesses at these attacks all describe

### Prière pour Paris

them as sudden and surprising acts of savagery. Nothing could have prepared them for an attack like this.

In light of the attacks, the city of Paris is in a state of lock down. Most major sites in the city are closed to the public, the schools are closed, and the presence of the tragedy haunts the city. As



the identities of more and more victims are released, it is becoming more and more apparent just how violent and far reaching this attack was. Victims of numerous countries have been identified including at least one American. It's unfortunate that so many countries are being brought together, not in celebration or comradery, but in mourning of our collective dead.

Across the world, citizens of other countries are turning to social media

in order to show their solidarity for the people of France in their time of suffering. It's a dark reminder of the support France showed to the American people some fourteen years ago. The governments of many of the world's top nations have made a point to release statements in condemnation of these

savage acts. Even Russia, a nation marked by tension with the rest of Europe, was quick to stand with the people of France. Statements by ISIS have been made suggesting that attacks are planned for the rest of Europe. Russia has been explicitly threatened in releases by ISIS. As it stands right now, England and other nearby countries are at a state of high alert. Most assume that another attack on the people of Europe is in fact very likely.

Time will tell if the people of Europe will be forced to suffer another instance of brutality.

Moving forward, it appears to be an almost guarantee that military intervention will happen in the Middle East to handle the threat of ISIS. The violence is progressively becoming a more global threat. The fact that they've attacked a major global hub for tourism is an eye opening moment. The Western world can no longer claim a degree of separation from the bloodshed in the Middle East. The suffering has arrived at our door step and the violence in Syria demands some sort of help for the region. As the leaders of NATO and various other foreign countries meet to address this issue in the coming days, it's important that they give this issue the attention it deserves. Hundreds of people have died and have been dying across the world. On the same day as the Paris attacks, over forty people were killed in Beirut. Suffering on this scale can't be ignored especially if just because it isn't in a Western city.

In the wake of the attack on Paris, the world has a lot to reflect on. A force of extremist violence is spreading, refugees are fleeing by the millions. Can the powers of the world sit idly by? Whatever the response will be, it must be effective and thought out, not complacency or worse, a heat of the moment decision without thinking of the long term consequences. However, it goes to show that the people of the world need to stand together in solidarity. We can't let ourselves be made numb to the violence of the world just because has become routine. The time is coming to break the cycle.



# Congress Manages To Not Shut Down the Government

By Alex Lee

Staff Congressional Intern

Despite more than three years of Congressional deadlock and chaos within the Republican Party, Congress scored a rare victory two weeks ago: it successfully passed a budget.

In America's current hyper-partisan politics, the Congressional budget has become the focal point of political brinksmanship. After the budget crisis and government shutdown two years ago, expectations were incredibly low for 2015. But surprisingly, the new budget was passed relatively quickly, and even with bipartisan support.

On its own, the new congressional budget is actually quite modest. It increases spending by \$80 billion over the next two years, alongside an increase of \$32 million towards the military (something many Republicans chafed against, although it is a drop in the bucket when compared to whole \$4 trillion dollars that make up the whole budget). In order to offset these expenditures, there are also planned cuts towards Medicare doctors and providers. But even these cuts were put in place with Democratic support because they do not weaken Medicare. In fact, the reduced payments actually strengthen the government program, as Medicare premiums were previously expected to spike up in cost. By reducing this expenditure, the budget keeps Medicare prices stable and consistent over the short term. But most significant of all is that the budget increases the federal debt ceiling, rendering another repeat of the sixteen day government shutdown impossible.

The Bill's passage was a rare vic-

## They still haven't all been voted out.....yet

tory for a few factions of the House: Democrats, moderate Republicans, and former Speaker of the House John Boehner. The Democrats, of course, gained notable concessions in the deal by minimizing cuts to government programs, and moderate Republicans were able to prevent another bruising of the party's image.

opposition. About two thirds of all Republicans in both the House of Representatives and the Senate voted against the bill. The 38-member Freedom Caucus led the charge, declaring in a joint statement that the deal was "an affront to open, accountable, and limited government." Many of the Republicans against the bill were par-

from both House and Senate Democrats, bolstering the Republican leadership and the moderates.

The inflexibility of the Freedom Caucus and other Republicans shows that Congress still has not deviated too far from gridlock. What made the process of this particular budget so interesting was not only that it had bipartisan support, but that it was also passed without the input or approval of the Freedom Caucus. Although the group is relatively small (its members make up less than 10% of Congress), it has been able to consistently grind Washington to a halt because it is still large enough to prevent a Republican majority in the House of Representatives. And after forcing both John Boehner and Kevin McCarthy to step down, they gave only tentative support to Paul Ryan's bid as Speaker. Thus, Congress will still remain frozen for the foreseeable future. But at the very least, the American people and international observers can collectively sigh a breath of relief. As Harry Reid claimed after the vote, "Today's vote is a victory for bipartisanship and for the American people." Now Paul Ryan can focus on more current domestic issues without being weighed down by an immediate crisis. One particularly interesting item on his agenda as speaker is to change the whole process so that negotiating the budget and the debt ceiling are no longer down at the same. But for now, the economic nightmare and international embarrassment of a debt crisis and government shutdown has been averted. Just two more years until the next one.



Without a doubt, however, the biggest beneficiary was John Boehner. After announcing his resignation in September, one of his top priorities became tying up as many legislative loose ends as possible. As he explained in a CBS interview, "I don't want to leave my successor a dirty barn. I want to clean up the barn a little before the next person gets there." With the haggling over the debt ceiling put off until 2017, Boehner ends his career and his legacy on a high note, and maintains a more positive legacy.

Of course, there was still significant

particularly incensed that the budget was made without their input. Representative Peter Roksam complained that "it was put together behind closed doors and once against puts today's problems off until tomorrow." Even the Republican nominees spoke out very loudly against it. Ben Carson was particularly unsympathetic, declaring that with him as President, "[he] will make it very, very clear that there will not be any budget signed that increases our debt ceiling. It will have to be done." As a result, the budget was only able to pass because of unanimous support

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# FYI It's Not Just Syria Having Serious Internal Conflict

By Adam Hamilton  
Staff Anderson Cooper

The war against ISIS in Iraq and Syria has galvanized many in the West, but the struggle in the Central African Republic (CAR) deserves some of the spotlight. The current (now four year old) conflict is just one chapter in a novel of tribalism and violence in the Central African Republic. The CAR has undergone intermittent violence for the majority of its history. French decolonization grouped together a large Muslim population with a large animist-Christian population. These incompatible neighbors only functioned as a state under the rule of strong authoritarian leaders. Right now, the country is fighting its second civil war within this decade. This conflict started when Seleka, an Islamic rebel movement, led an uprising to overthrow Christian President Francois Bozizé and install Muslim Michel Djotodia as President. Politics in the CAR often amounts to violence, with political power measured by the number of men you can rally, which leads to violence and human

## Central African Republic on a genocide binge

rights abuses. The Lord's Resistance Army of Kony 2012 fame joined in coalition with Seleka to overthrow Bozizé in 2013. The cycle of violence and retaliation that plagues the CAR has led to an international response—French President Francois Hollande has deployed several thousand troops to protect French Nationals—but overall this has had little effect on the conflict.

In 2012, Seleka launched an offensive taking major towns, cities, and other population centers and put intense pressure on the Bozizé government and eventually seized control of the capital Bangui and declared Djotodia president in March, 2013. The conflict worsened and since then pro-Bozizé forces have been fighting to overthrow the Djotodia government. Anti-Balaka, the pro-Bozizé Christian militias, have been accused of increasingly brutal attacks on Muslim civilians. Reports of massacres, forced conversion, and even cannibalism has led Amnesty International to warn of potential genocide. Eventually a Ceasefire was nego-

tiated on July 23rd, 2014.

This story of strongmen fighting for control of the CAR is not new. After Independence from France in 1960, the country was ruled by a series of authoritarian rulers—and briefly an Emperor—until elections were held for the first time in 1993, but democracy did not survive the first government. In 2003, Bozizé overthrew the previous government and continue to rule for the next decade, which was interrupted only to put down rebellions against his rule. Tension with the Muslim community and disagreements over the implementation of a previous Ceasefire led to Sekela's renewed offensive in 2012.

Understandably, the consistent political instability has prevented the country from developing economically. The CAR is resource-rich, but boasts one of the highest poverty rates in the world. Djotodia arranged for Catherine Samba-Panza to take over as acting President of the CAR until elections can be scheduled. Samba-Panza is the first woman to hold the position of

President of the CAR and has been vocal in her calls for an end to the conflict. Unfortunately, the government is not the source of power in this country, as Djotodia has the support of the Militias that helped overthrow Bozizé and intends to run in the upcoming election for president. Bozizé has announced his intention to run as well.

The African Union, France, and the United Nations have all sent soldiers to the Central African Republic in a peace-keeping role. Despite these efforts, the Lord's Resistance Army (Kony), Anti-Bakalas (Bozizé), and Sekela (Djotodia), and the dozens of other paramilitary political movements that plague the CAR continue to operate. The ethnic nature of the conflict has led to displacement, with the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center reporting 369,500 internally displaced citizens and 419,000 external refugees of a total population of 4.7 million. For scale, more than 4 million Syrians have fled the country since that conflict began. Still, CAR needs more attention.

# The Republicans' Bizarre Love Affair with Ben Carson

By Declan Murphy  
Staff Political Surgeon

There was a time when we asked, full of hope, who could wrest control of Republican voters from the tyranny of Donald Trump. The people wanted clearer heads to prevail. There was a time when it seemed that anyone—anyone—would be a better frontrunner than Donald Trump.

And then there was Ben Carson.

In a remarkable turn of events, Ben Carson has taken some of the lead as Trump's wave of support slowly recedes. In Iowa, Carson now leads; in other states, the gap between Carson and Trump is closing. The 'mainstream' Republicans—conventional candidates like Jeb Bush, Ted Cruz, and Marco Rubio—still trail the two outsiders.

It's not just the Iowa polls. Using a variety of alternative polling methods, Google Consumer Reports found Carson to be ahead of most of the Republican field, and fairly close with Trump. In a hypothetical scenario in which

## IT'S NOT BRAIN SURGERY

Trump is not in the race, the number of respondents who'd select Carson skyrockets. Carson's push towards the lead may, in fact, be more substantial than current polls show.

With Carson's growing popularity, too, comes a growing conservative orthodoxy. Carson has changed his stance on minimum wage to fall in line with other candidates. Prior to the most recent debate, Carson was quoted as being for a minimum wage increase. But his stance has changed, with him now unambiguously against such increases. In his own words, "Every time we raise the minimum wage, the number of jobless people increases"—a statement since disputed among leading economists. Less outright contradictory, but perhaps equally as tell-

ing, has been Carson's toughening on foreign policy, including increased calls for actions against ISIS.

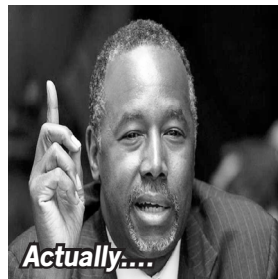
Worse than flip-flopping, however, have been Carson's outright fictions. While Ben Carson lacks the outright hate speech of Donald Trump, he's prone to gaffes, errors, and empty claims. He has a noted tendency to bring up Nazism and slavery in his anti-abortion rhetoric, which he boldly claims has in fact endeared him to Jewish people. A number of anecdotes, both from speeches and his autobiography "Gifted Hands" have been fact-checked and proven false, including his claim to have received a "full scholarship" from West Point. (Turns out, he never even applied). He even once claimed that "nine out of ten non-profits fail", a number which has no basis in reality.

It's a bad omen for democracy when we turn to political outsiders to save

us. Now, it seems, the majority of Republican voters are willing to look outside Washington for the next President, whether it be Trump or Carson. Maybe we shouldn't be surprised. In recent years, Congressional approval ratings have plummeted, consistently less than 25% in the last five years. As many have noted, a large part of Trump's support came from his anti-establishment rhetoric. The people are dissatisfied, and this seems to be their solution.

The problem, though, is experience. Simply put, he's not a politician. While that may be precisely what appeals to Republicans, it's also what makes for a bad president. A president is a consummate politician. As a diplomat, as one trying to set a legislative agenda, and as a representative of the American people, the President must be, to some degree, a politician.

Plus, did you guys see that god-awful rap ad he made? Yikes.





## FAKER THAN TRUTH: HAIKU EDITION

by Zoe Sakas, Matt Whitaker and Caitlin Hufnagle

Election update:

Ugly cat enters the race,  
Looks shouldn't matter.

Novel invention

Now finally helps pigs fly.  
Trump wants to invest.

Turkeys disappear

One week before Thanksgiving!  
All dinners cancelled.

-ZS

Disney announcement:

Prince Eric going to jail,  
Sixteen year old love.

Waldo has been found,

His parents are very glad,  
Little kids are sad.

PETA now loves plants,

They will no longer eat them,  
Now they ingest rocks.

-MW

Cell phones become self-

Conscious as bandwidth widens.  
They start working out.

Scientists declare

Pluto a planet again,  
Then recant. Sorry!

Girl believes Onion

Article. Starts selling uggs  
And bows for the cause.

Taylor Swift is no

Longer dancing on her own.  
Long Legs got too tired.

Starbucks adds empty

Cup to diet menu. Look  
Cool but maintain weight.

-CH

## O'Malley Tries To Team Up with Taylor Swift

By Claire Nunez  
Staff VP of Authenticity

America is the land of brave, the free, and apparently of the kooky vice president. Our current vice president, Joe Biden, constantly jokes on social media platforms through Vines of him promoting Michelle Obama's fitness and health initiatives and comical pictures of him and President Obama. Biden is a light-hearted, politically experienced, intelligent man which allows us, as a young generation, to identify with him easily. I identify with him so well because he is a truly authentic man and acts like a real person unlike some other politicians. He has endured great familial losses when his wife and 1-year-old daughter died in a tragic car crash in 1972, and he lost his son Beau earlier this year to brain cancer. He embodies, at least for me, the qualities of an incredible politician and citizen. His speeches, like his recent announcement that he will not seek the presidency in 2016, are full of passion. Other people have taken notice of this quality: citizens of all ages, politicians, and even current Democratic candidate Martin O'Malley.

As the former governor of Maryland, O'Malley passed multiple laws that were— and still are— considered very progressive such as the legalization of same-sex marriage in 2012, and the extension of eligibility for illegal children immigrants to get in-state college tuition aid. Also, during his mayoral terms in Baltimore, he worked to ease the racial tensions that the city faced. He enacted change as a governor and decided it would be best to use his experience at the national level. O'Malley has caused some very effective legislative change in Maryland, and he does not have any significant or well-known scandals either; however, O'Malley is currently polling in last place behind front-runner Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders.

### He's got nothing on Uncle Joe, though

Because of this, it appears that he is making new plans to hold a different, somewhat less powerful position.

Martin O'Malley has begun emulating Biden-esque actions. Last month, O'Malley was interviewed on The View and he performed an acoustic (as well as an awful) rendition of Taylor Swift's "Bad Blood" on his guitar. O'Malley also made a dig at Katy Perry's support for Hillary Clinton when he said, "Katy Perry, I'm told, is doing a benefit concert for one of my opponents in Iowa, so in response I thought I'd offer this

always say that current politicians are crooks and we need some new blood in the government; on the Republican debate stage, several of the candidates prided themselves on being "outsiders" in Washington. There is a general fear of "insiders" which would explain why the candidates from both parties are proving they do average people things. Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump have both made satirical music videos based on Drake's "Hotline Bling," Hillary Clinton has acted in skits on SNL and The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.

Elections are not just about the policies anymore. The way candidates dress and carry themselves is important to the way we, as voters, perceive them. Some historians attribute the victory of former President John F. Kennedy in 1960 to his handsome, youthful appearance. In the first-ever televised debates, JFK was tan and handsome in comparison to the older and sickly Richard Nixon. We still seem to value appearances over policy today. Hillary

Clinton and Carly Fiorina have to have makeup on at all times and all of the male candidates have to have the perfect tie color. Twitter constantly floods with comments from young people, journalists, even from Donald Trump about what the candidates look like.

As a nation obsessed with our own appearances, it is natural that we care what our politicians look like and act like. Martin O'Malley may be putting himself out there a little bit so someone like Hillary says, "C'mon aboard and be my VP!" or he may just be doing it to show he could be one hip prez. Either way, authenticity will continue to affect the way we pick candidates on the ballot.



Haters gonna hate.

up for Taylor Swift." He is totally trying to join the newly iconic Bad Blood Crew and to get on stage with Taylor during one of her shows for some much needed publicity. His misremembrance of the words and his slight twang made him seem like he's just a dad slightly up to date with the current pop culture news— which he is, but he just wants everyone to know he's a cool guy, alright? He seems to be saying that he is capable of being a fun, authentic, and real VP like Biden. He may not be able to be the chief executive in the White House, but he seems to be saying that could be a great second in command.

Authenticity is an important quality to the American public. My older relatives

# China To Allow One More Bundle of Joy

By Melody Knight-Brown  
Arts Co-Editor

## Nation still not ready for middle children

After 35 years of legally restricting the number of children a family could have, China has finally relented and ended its infamous one-child policy. On October 29, 2015, the policy, that's restrictions have been slowly lifting since 2013, was thrown out in favor of a two-child policy, although it will not officially take effect until it is ratified next March.

For those of you who are either internationally oblivious or incredibly sheltered, the one-child policy was a law established in 1980 that made it illegal for a Chinese family to have more than one child. Immediately upon its inception, the one child policy came under criticism from the global community for a multitude of reasons, the most obvious being government control and lack of personal autonomy in a deeply personal decision. What the government did not anticipate until a few years after the policy was enacted were the social repercussions that such a law would have. China, as a deeply patriarchal and misogynistic culture (not trying to be controversial, just a fact), socially values having male children over female children, so in the years following the enactment of the one-child policy, China saw an exponential increase in the

est population of any country in the world. Population control may be controversial and unpopular, but the fact of the matter is, the earth, let alone China, cannot sustain the rate at which the human population is growing.

So, why did China lift the one-child policy? Was it because they finally realized it was wrong to interfere in the personal lives of its citizens? Or was it because China saw the increasingly large population of children in its orphanages and felt bad enough about it to lift the policy that caused the majority of them to be abandoned? No

the number of people reaching the age of employment is not equal to the number of people retiring, and this is bad for economic growth. China needs birth rates to go up if it wants so sustain its development as a world power.

But will changing the one-child policy to a two-child policy work? Certainly birth rates will rise somewhat but to what extent is unknown. The popularization of small families since 1980's means that many families will continue to have only one child.

And there is another question concerning the ending of the one-child



**THIS IS FINALLY NOT CRIMINAL!!**

number of male children being born, a trend that has continued to this day leading to an incredibly skewed male to female ratio. Families with more than one child already or families that had a girl but desired a boy instead, were forced to either abandon their daughters or pay exorbitantly high fines. This led to the growth of orphanages throughout the country, a problem that has only been minimally alleviated by the popularization in other countries around the world of adopting Chinese orphans, most of which, again, were girls.

All that being said, there was logic behind China's one-child policy. China was the first country to surpass a billion citizens and it still boasts the larg-

est population of any country in the world. Population control may be controversial and unpopular, but the fact of the matter is, the earth, let alone China, cannot sustain the rate at which the human population is growing. So, why did China lift the one-child policy? Was it because they finally realized it was wrong to interfere in the personal lives of its citizens? Or was it because China saw the increasingly large population of children in its orphanages and felt bad enough about it to lift the policy that caused the majority of them to be abandoned? No and no. China's decision wasn't one of social freedom or good faith. It was an economic one. Despite its many flaws, the one child policy has managed to slow the population growth of China and this is a problem for the country as the population grows older. As many people like to say, China is running out of wives (like that's a girl's only function). A consequence of that is that by 2020, there will be an estimated 30-35 million more men of marrying age than women. While evening the gender ratio is certainly an added bonus, it is again not the main reason China is finally allowing families to have two children. The main reason is that China needs workers. The number of people in China's workforce is declining since

the number of people reaching the age of employment is not equal to the number of people retiring, and this is bad for economic growth. China needs birth rates to go up if it wants so sustain its development as a world power. But will changing the one-child policy to a two-child policy work? Certainly birth rates will rise somewhat but to what extent is unknown. The popularization of small families since 1980's means that many families will continue to have only one child. And there is another question concerning the ending of the one-child policy. What will happen to all the second children that were already born? Not the children who were abandoned and reside in orphanages, but rather the children whose parents decided not to give them up. Under the one-child policy, the act of having a second child was subjected to heavy fines that were generally set at three to ten times the average income of the local area. Unless

these fines were paid, the child would have no rights. In fact, they would grow up legally nonexistent. Such children are unable to see a doctor, get married, leave the country, obtain health insurance, etc. The sudden abolishment of the one-child policy and the acceptance of second children do nothing for the second children who were already born and their families, many of whom are still struggling to buy their rights. It would be nice if China gave these children full rights without having to finish paying off these fines, but it is yet to be seen if these children will be affected at all by the change in policy. Regardless, it will be interesting to see what happens in China socially and economically in the upcoming years.

**R**eal**e**r

**T**han

**F**act

By Caitlin Hufnagle

Pastafarians of the world, RE-JOICE! The ultimate interpreter of law and justice in all the land of these fine United States, the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, has decreed: Pastafarianism MUST be respected as a legitimate religion. FINALLY! A female member of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster was placed in a position of distress after the all powerful RMV denied her of her FIRST AMENDMENT CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT to freedom of religious expression when she was not allowed to wear her religious headdress, a colander, in her official identification photograph. Uninformed RMV workers did not allow Lindsay Miller to wear the pasta strainer, and justified it by ignorantly stating that the RMV does not allow head coverings in license pictures unless they are religious. Miller was, thus, discriminated against when her religious beliefs were not deemed "valid." If you are also an uninformed RMV worker, or just plain uninformed, I will briefly define the great and TOTALLY REAL religion of Pastafarianism. Pastafarianism is a secular religion that, through its beliefs, emphasizes a light-hearted view of religion and stresses the importance of scientific facts. Pastafarians profess a belief in an all-powerful creator, the Flying Spaghetti Monster, who created the universe after engaging in some heavy drinking. Followers of His Noodliness are encouraged to wear colanders on their heads in ID photos to assert their rights. The American Humanist Association helped Miller file an appeal to the RMV and Miller was later allowed to wear the colander in her state ID. Truly, this is a triumph for Pastafarians and religious freedom in general.



# Mizzou Student Movement Brings Attention to Campus Racism

By Siobhan Donahue  
News Co-Editor

## Other universities follow suit with increased activism

From Kent State to Tiananmen Square, college students protesting is nothing new. Recently, there have been protests on campuses across the nation which stemmed from the student-led movement at the University of Missouri in Columbia, MO.

Before divulging into what this movement stands for, let us look at the events which drove it. The University of Missouri-Columbia, known as Mizzou, was founded in 1839. Records from that period seem to hint at slave labor, although the school has never confirmed this to be the case. However, slavery in Missouri was not abolished until 1865, twenty-six years after the university's founding. Then in 1935, Mizzou erected a memorial, known as the Confederate Rock, which was dedicated to the Confederate soldiers of Missouri. The monument moved in 1974 to the Boone County Courthouse because seriously, what why would any school want a monument memorializing slave-defending rebels? Anyway, in 1950, Mizzou had to be forced into admitting black students via a court order.

Moving forward into this century, in 2010, two white male students were arrested for scattering cotton balls outside of the campus' Black Culture Center. Then on September 12th of this year, Peyton Head, the student body president who happens to be both black and homosexual, wrote a Facebook status after he was called the N word, the second time this has happened to him since entering Missouri. His status also detailed instances of bigotry, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia which have taken place in or near his school. He asks his constituents "Is it weird that I think that I have the right to feel safe here, too?" Twelve days later, students complained that officials at the university did very little to address Head's concerns. The lack of response from administration led to the "Racism Lives Here" rally on October 1st. Three days later, there was another racist incident when a drunk white student yelled racial slurs at the Legion of Black Collegians while they were preparing for homecoming. During the homecoming parade, pro-

testers blocked a car carrying the university system president, Tim Wolfe. President Wolfe did not respond to the students and later, his car clipped some protestors, although nobody was hurt. Fourteen days later, there was another incident of hate when a swastika is found in a residence hall. On October 26th, a student group, Concerned Students 1950-named for the year black students were first allowed to the university-met with Wolfe and handed him a list of demands, which

leges and universities. Many college students on Facebook posted statuses of support, the most popular one saying: "To the students of color at Mizzou, we stand with you in solidarity. To those who would threaten their sense of safety, we are watching. #Concerned-Student1950 #InSolidarityWithMizzou." The events at Missouri also coincide with the nation-wide Black Lives Matter movement. In fact, Twitter accounts connected to BLM have tweeted supportive messages to Mizzou student

media often portrays people of color in negative ways, they did not trust the media to accurately tell their story. To be fair, they are right about the race problems within the media industry. This anti-media edict led to a viral video of a student journalist being pushed by an adjunct professor at the school's journalism school. This led to a debate over first amendment rights. Eventually, the protestors allowed media into their encampment. Meanwhile, many conservative media outlets published stories saying that the Mizzou movement was based on lies after Head posted a Facebook status about the KKK being on campus, a story that was false. In Head's defense, he reacted to what he thought were true accounts and as student body president, wanted to ensure the safety of his classmates. He did delete the status and apologize and directed students to MU public safety resources. There was obviously no malice intended. Still, these conservative media stories claimed that incidents such as the swastika and the racial slurs yelled at Head are false and that Head should be impeached, expelled, and arrested. However, documents have since emerged proving that these hate crimes mentioned before did happen. After the Paris attacks, many conservatives blast Mizzou students for not appreciating their life in America. How dare they complain while people are dying of terror attacks? Most logical people agree though, that as tragic as the Paris attacks are, the fact that they happened does not negate the existence of institutional racism and oppression. In fact, pitting tragedies against each other to belittle people's experiences is oppression.

All in all, much work needs to be done. The movement at Mizzou showed that complacency does not lead to change (students have complained about racism on campus for years). The movement also showed that there is much work to be done, as evidenced by racist news articles trying to invalidate and spread false rumors about the activists. As college students across the country stand in solidarity with Mizzou and as BLM continues on, perhaps change is just a generation away. Until then, we must fight.



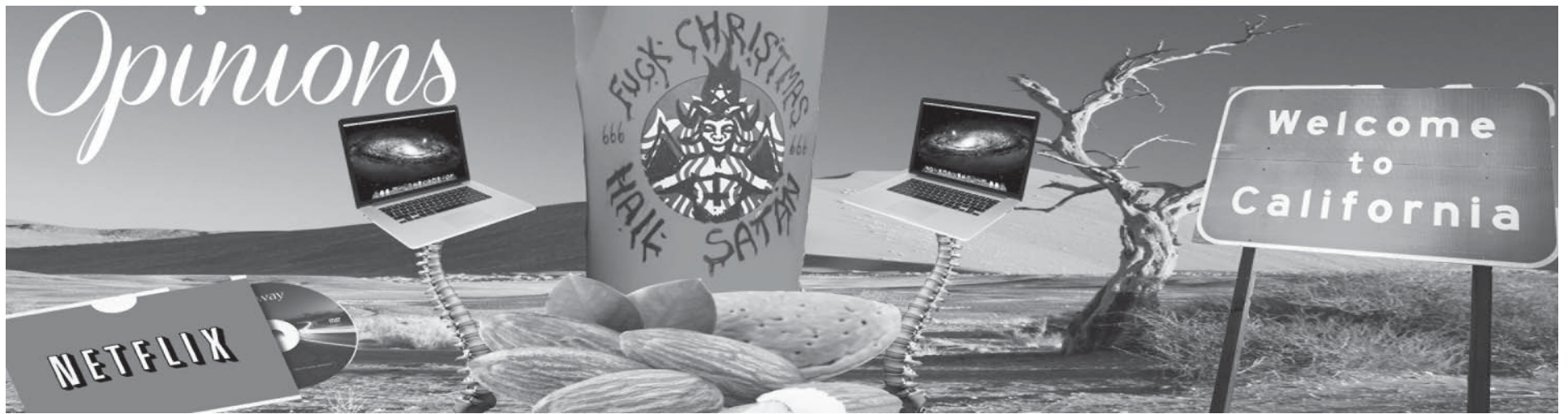
include a more inclusive curriculum and his resignation. He rejected them all. As a result, student leader Jonathan Butler began a hunger strike on November 3rd that would last until Wolfe resigned. A student boycott in support of Butler started the next day. On November 8th, black football players refused to play and practice until Wolfe resigned. They were supported by their coaches and teammates. As the protests were happening, many threats against students of color were made on campus and on Yik Yak, culminating in one arrest. Wolfe resigned on November 9th. Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin also stepped down.

While Mizzou student activists proved that direct action is effective, work still has to be done to mediate the tensions on campus. This activism, though, has spread to other col-

activists. Essentially, both movements share the same message that people of color DESERVE to have their humanity respected. Obviously, eurocentric courses and administrators who do not immediately respond to incidents of racism showcase why these movements are important. Unfortunately, there has been much racist backlash to MU student activism.

As stated before, there were many threats made towards students of color on social media. Many tweets from MU students indicated that they felt afraid to go on campus. There was also controversy over the camp that activists set up in a campus quad. Basically, they originally disallowed media personnel from entering the space, despite the fact that legally, journalists had the right to be there. However, there was a sound reason to this. Since the news





## Christmas As Brought to You By Ayn Rand

by Matt Whitaker

Features and List Editor

In late October, while searching the aisles of my local grocery store for Halloween candy, I was overjoyed to see one of my favorite treats, Gingerbread Pop-Tarts, resting atop a Christmas-themed display. At first, I was filled with joy, as if I had been reunited with a loved one after not seeing each other for a whole year. Suddenly, it struck me, it had not been a year since I last saw my beloved Gingerbread Pop-Tarts. I had purchased them back in January, quite a few actually (15 boxes), so what were they doing in the store before Halloween? On top of that, why was there a Christmas display in the store before kids had even gone trick-or-treating? Upon thinking this, I was filled with holiday rage, as my favorite holiday, Halloween, had been steamrolled over to celebrate Christmas two months early. This begs the question, why does only Christmas get to start so early? Why is it that people do not start celebrating Saint Patrick's Day in January? The answer is that Christmas is actually comprised of two holidays, one in which all people of capitalist societies partake.

There are two different Christmases: Economic Christmas, and True Christmas. Economic Christmas is a scheduled fiscal period for modern economies where sales are guaranteed to rise and certain goods are exponentially more likely to sell. Firms across the globe plan their production schedules for the season, as consumers' spending restrictions are lifted during the Christmas season. For example, Nintendo usually releases its new

### If you want holiday cheer it'll cost you extra, guy

game consoles in November, as they are expensive items which parents are more likely to purchase for their children closer to Christmas. Companies unite to lengthen the sales season by pouring Christmas-themed merchandise into stores in October, causing consumers to begin feeling the "Christmas spirit" early, and in turn, increase their spending. The culture



of Christmas, like the themes of snow, lights, and the beloved Santa Claus, plays into corporations' hands as they propagate it to speed up sales. Corporations use the culture to play towards consumers' holiday emotions in their marketing, hoping to trigger impulse buying. It is likely that you, the reader of this article, have had your opinion of a corporation improved during the Christmas season, perhaps because of an emotional commercial or a public call for charity. Ask yourself, if the same corporation attempted a similar marketing action in July, would your opinion be as likely to change? Many would answer "no," which signifies the holiday mentality people gain when corporations announce that a

jolly prowler dressed in red is on his way. Of course, economic Christmas could not exist without its source, True Christmas.

While Economic Christmas is celebrated unintentionally, True Christmas is a holiday of the people, one which people choose how and why to celebrate. It has its own generally-accepted culture, like the stories of Santa Claus, the call for charity, and the relation of all media to Christmas. It is a time when people spread love and cheer throughout their communities, giving freely from their hearts. The meaning of True Christmas is best summarized by the selfish Eddy in *Ed, Edd, n Eddy's* "Jingle Jingle Jangle," where, after doing a simple act of kindness, Eddy exclaims, "Christmas ain't about what you find under a tree, it's about what you find in your heart!" True Christmas is a time to explore one's own heart, appreciate the goodness in others', and spread that goodness. Some of this goodness can be spread through gift-giving, which has become a staple practice of the holiday. As opposed to what some corporations might have one believe, the size of the gift does not matter, as what truly matters is the thought behind the act of giving. For example, in the *Codename: Kids Next Door* Christmas special, Numbuh 4 initially does not get his friend, Numbuh 3, a Christmas present, deeply saddening her. He later makes up for this by giving her some French fries, which, though small and simple, over-joys her, as she appreciates the act of giving from her close friend. The timeless message that any act of giv-

ing is significant, seen in Numbuh 4 giving Numbuh 3 the French fries, or Eddy replacing the broken bulb on a forgotten Christmas tree, is integral to the meaning of True Christmas. Unfortunately, this message is heavily distorted by consumerism.

Many corporations would have one believe that giving something insignificant is not giving at all. Some may even go as far to suggest that insignificant gifts are rude to give. This distortion of the act of giving is fueled by materialistic desires, which large business entities often strive to breed. Economic Christmas is a byproduct of True Christmas, as the holiday's need for gift items allows its counterpart to grow. While Economic Christmas is important to True Christmas, it is not necessary, as the ability to search one's heart and spread its inner goodness with others is innate. Sadly, Economic Christmas tries harder each year to plant its roots in the meaning of True Christmas. Corporations will often attempt to quantify a gift's value and thoughtfulness in people's minds, encouraging them to ignore all factors except the price tag. This corrupts the meaning of True Christmas, because in truth, it is always the thought that counts before anything. The thoughtfulness of a gift is what naturally resonates in people's minds, and is what spreads the joy and love of the season. Economic Christmas may disappear as the world changes, but as long as people remember and protect the meaning of True Christmas, the beloved holiday will never fade.



# America Easily Distracted By Even Coffee Cups At This Point

by John Looby  
Opinions Co-Editor

While most of the world continued about its normal way this past month, global coffee corporation and known communist sympathizers Starbucks moved to abandon Christ in a bold and pagan manner. Rather than adorn their cups in the blood of the lamb and assure the ascension of the righteous through the gates of St. Peter, the vindictive espresso heathens went with a minimalist red ombre and green accent. Understandably a select few of God's most chosen and beloved flock are outraged but what can only be a sinner's brew served in these forsaken cups.

**Buy a cup just to see if God strikes you down with great vengeance and furious fire.**

In years past Starbucks has walked in the path of the lord. Typically their cups had at least a goddamn snowflake on it, it may not be a stained glass beauty of the Virgin Mary but at least it was like festive or something. Now what do you expect Glen Beck and Bill O'Reilly to drink out of? Seriously Starbucks, are you trying to not actively fuel hate and vitriol in the name of merciful and loving God? Or maybe this was just a simple design decision. Maybe this would just allow them to serve these seasonal cups past the actual day of Christmas without looking tacky. Maybe we shouldn't fucking care.

At what point can a decision be made and rationalized without being

## Come on guys seriously?

a slight against what if we're going to be honest is not really a martyred group anymore. The war on Christmas isn't a war. A cup design is not a fucking drone strike. This is a non-issue. You can still drink Starbucks Christmas blend. That is a thing. Christ is in the coffee so to speak. Has the piece treaty for "the everybody cater to me" war been signed yet?

All these talks of boycotting Starbucks aren't really going to hurt them.

ald Trump threatening them on his Twitter which means that thousands of rational human beings will be spite purchasing Starbucks. You'll probably buy a cup just to see if God strikes you down with great vengeance and furious fire. There's nothing that makes a human being more curious than when someone is flipping the fuck out.

You know what will probably happen in the next few weeks? Starbucks will release a holiday cup, and the

in this country waging on constantly that get stuck in the background so we can hear about a red coffee cup.

We've taken the 24-hour news cycle too dearly to heart. No story can seemingly go on past the constraints of 24 hours, and because of this the media feels the need to generate the litany of new and useless stories. Why cover the struggle for civil rights in this country for more than a week when we can just talk about the fact that a coffee cup changed today.

I really fucking hate this coffee cup. Not because it got rid of the Christian symbols that it never even had on it to begin with but because it just shows the state of our culture. It's a country of people who just want to hashtag about an "issue" for a day and then go about their merry way. It's a bunch of people online screaming into the cyber void so they can feel like they were heard. Please Tweet more about incidental bullshit. Let's just make it even easier to ignore the prolonged issues that our actually impacting the world in a horrific manner.

Whenever some bullshit starts picking up steam maybe just maybe we, as human beings should not give it all the attention we can and forget what we were actually trying to do. These stupid fucking issues don't even do anything it's just social white noise. How about we actually try and make a difference and say I don't know reform any of our broken systems in this country before we complain about the next coffee cup. Let's not become a bunch of easily angered and distracted idiots running around complaining that someone rearranged the furniture while the house is burning to the ground.



Getting the demons out

Sure some zealots might get their caffeine elsewhere, but in reality all this issue has actually done is saturate Starbucks in a blanket of white tears and free publicity. Everyone is talking about Starbucks coffee and all they had to do was change the color of the cup and have it be slightly less festive.

Now they've gone and gotten Don-

"victims" will come running back feeling as if they've actually won something. The whole issue is just fucking stupid and we're stupid for giving it so much attention. At this point all you have to do is vocalize some half-cocked complaint and thousands of people whose sole hobby is seemingly to be outraged will flock behind your banner. There are legitimate issues

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# Thirsty Fellow Just Can't Get His Mind Off Nuts

by Matt Johnson  
Staff Almond Enemy

## Hopeful that water becomes less important for survival

The humble almond. If you're as big a fan of getting a good helping of your daily riboflavin and niacin as I am, it's probably the first nut you turn to in the mornings. It has become one of the latest crazes for health food. Maybe it's already a part of your favorite breakfast cereal, or maybe you're part of the growing number of people that have taken to consuming almond milk as an alternative to average cow milk (shout out to *the paper's* homeboy Marcus) or soymilk. But did you know that every time you consume an almond product, you're actively murdering my friends and family? Because in case you haven't noticed, the West Coast is desperately in need of water. Now you might ask: "Hold on, what does this have to do with almonds?" Well let me break it down for you.

First, let me describe California. I'll focus between the central and southern part because that's where I'm from, and it's likely the part you think of when you picture the state. If you're from there, you're probably picturing a hot concrete slab with few skyscrapers, brown skies, the Valley where you have to REALLY like that friend to go visit, and those nicer parts such as Redondo, Hermosa, and Manhattan Beach (yes, we stole the name from the NYC borough, true story). If you're not from there, you're picturing GTA 5. I know you are because y'all always ask me how accurate it is. And, well, it's actually pretty accurate, so you can keep that image. What you AREN'T picturing are luscious green lawns, large rivers, and dense forests. Any trees you imagine are probably palm trees,

because, although not native to the area, they survive pretty decently in what is more or less a desert climate and the same reason you see them in places like Israel and Jordan. And as we've established, the Golden State is in a drought, which is bad anywhere, but especially in a state with about 39 million residents, most

you're right. But you, wet East Coast citizen, are not helping. Because a very large part of the parts between LA and San Francisco consists of agriculture. And almonds use A LOT of water. Anyone that has taken any economics course knows about supply and demand, and in the last couple years, the demand for almonds

almonds requires 1.1 trillion gallons of water every single year (another stat says one gallon per nut, which is also ridiculous). This, you almond-loving bastard, is why my friend in Palmdale, California, is legally required to average three minutes or less in the shower PER DAY, and why the state is telling my parents that people will think they're cool if they have a brown lawn. Well, the actual word the state-wide campaign uses is "golden" but dead lawns don't turn golden, they turn brown, and it's also our Governor's name so it works better that way. To put that shower rule in perspective, 1.1 trillion gallons is the equivalent of taking a 10-minute shower every day for the next 86 million years. All because you are bought over by a magical talking almond on TV that tells you almond milk tastes good. Meanwhile, my people back home are literally spray-painting their lawns green.

To be fair, it's not 100% your fault. China buys a lot of those almonds, and the state legislature is pretty bad with allocating water among those that really need it. And almonds aren't the thirstiest plant they grow out there, but it is the most popular, which is why it gets a lot of the bad rap. But seriously, America, let's calm down with the almond use. If you're one of those people that can't have dairy milk, I encourage you to use an alternative such as soy or hemp (it's a thing) milk. Find another equally healthy snack. Or unhealthy, I'm not your dietitian. But what I am is thirsty and someone that has to go home for Winter Break, and I'd like to shower while I'm there.



*Yeah, Fuck You California*

of which own lawns and/or pets. All of those things need water. In fact, state officials have been thinking of adding a fifth level to the current four-tiered drought scale, which currently rates 99% of California as "abnormally dry."

"Well, that's their fault for trying to heavily populate an area that doesn't get much rain," you might say. And

and their various forms has skyrocketed, so naturally the farmers in Central California are planting them faster than Jordan Belfort can sell you a bad stock. In fact, California is single-handedly accountable for 80% of the WORLD's supply of almonds, a nut that isn't even native to the area (it's from the Middle East and Mediterranean.) Providing that many



# Stress Induced Netflix Binges Plague College Senior

by Zoe Sakas

Co-Editor-in-Chief

As a college student, my time is very precious. In trying to survive classes, socializing, internships, clubs, and volunteer work, every hour counts. I find myself planning out the days hour-by-hour, even minute-by-minute when things get really rough. Sure, my time is managed as efficiently as possible, though I still find myself spending at least an hour every night (usually more, if we're being honest) watching Netflix.

I haven't thought much about this in the past, and have just accounted the odd paradox of feeling like I have no time to get things done and still wasting time watching *Friends* for the fourth time on irresponsible procrastination. However, I have a hunch that there is more to this phenomenon

## She assures us that it is natural for everyone

than pure laziness. For many, I feel like Netflix is more than just an entertaining activity one enjoys during



their free time. Instead, it's an activity one uses to fill up their not-so-free time as a result of the overwhelming levels of stress that come from the pressure of being a college student. For a while, I was spending my days almost shaking with anxiety trying to focus my attention on the (seemingly) millions of things that I had going on in my life. A new internship, graduate school applications, biology exams, adapting to a long-distance relationship, and trying to enjoy my senior

year all at the same time just didn't seem possible to me. To escape this whirlwind of stress and sadness, I would return to my room after a busy day of getting almost nothing actually accomplished and get under my covers and watch Netflix.

The Netflix tab on my computer comes first, before Google, my email and my.fordham. It became almost instinctive to click on the little red "N" as soon as I opened my laptop. In this way, I see my extensive use of Netflix almost as an addiction. I use it as an escape from reality, and a way to calm myself down. And once I start watching it, it's nearly impossible to stop. If I had the choice, I would watch some of my favorite shows every once in a while, but in a way that was purely recreational instead of

necessary to survival.

The source of this addiction, I think, comes from the insane amount of pressure put on college students. We aren't praised for taking time to relax and putting effort into our mental health, but instead are discouraged from wasting any time on something that won't lead to some sort of accomplishment. Because of this, Netflix has become somewhat of a rebellious activity used to escape reality. Not that I want to stop watching Netflix or anything of the sort, I love eating dinner in my bed, all cuddled up with a good show on. I just wish I didn't associate it with being overwhelmed and needing a getaway, and knowing that I am only watching Netflix because I feel like I need it to get through a rough day.

# Keyboard Protests Lack Actual Protesting #Slacktivism

by Alina Bills

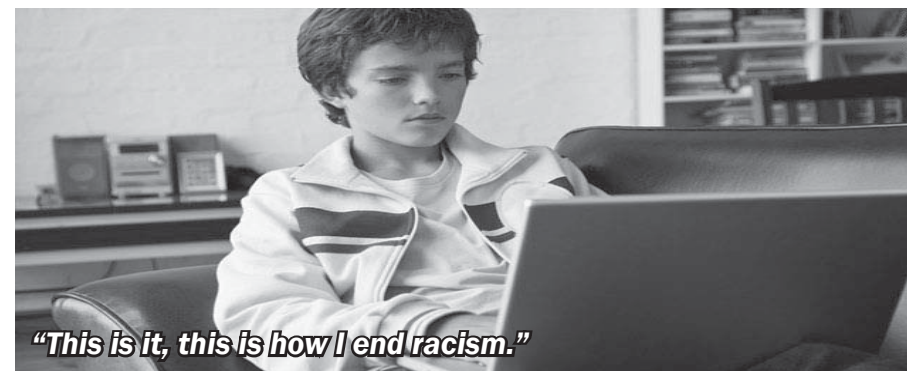
#StaffProtest

Before social media infiltrated the English language, what the millennial generation calls a "hashtag" was more commonly known as the number sign or the pound sign on the telephone. Now, a hashtag is a tag used on social media sites to link certain tweets, pictures, or messages with a specific theme. Through the introduction of Twitter (2006) and Instagram (2010), hashtags have become an alleged method of enacting social activism. Maybe our generation is so obsessed with instant gratification, we feel as if using a specific hashtag affects change. Yet, what we fail to realize is typing out a hashtag does not count as social activism – there is a difference between participation and social activism.

In 2014, the hashtag "yes all women" (#yesallwomen) was used to combat Elliot Rodger's retribution towards women. Rodger killed three females and two males near a sorority house in an attempt to punish women who rejected him and men who were more sexually active than Rodgers. One of the more popular hashtags, "Black Lives Matter" (#blacklivesmatter), calls for an end to police brutality and the deaths of

## You can bring your phone to the march, we swear

African Americans within the United States. This tag originates after the acquittal of George Zimmerman, a neighborhood watchman who killed Trayvon Martin in 2012. The hashtag



"Black Lives Matter" saw an increase in trend after the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri and Eric Garner in New York.

The use of hashtags as a way to shed light on certain political issues is not just a national idea. In Sydney, Australia, after a gunman held 17 people hostage in an Islamic café, Australians started tweeting hashtag "I'll ride with you." Instead of Islamophobic responses, Australians started tweeting pictures of themselves or wearing stickers that said "I'll ride with you," so Muslim in-

dividuals could feel comfortable riding the subway or walking the streets of Australia following a terrorist attack. More recently, on October 10 of this year, students of color at Uni-

versity of Missouri were endangered by death threats. Fellow students at various universities are tweeting and hashtagging "In Solidarity With Miz-zou." #InSolidarityWithMizzou may not have occurred internationally, but students and people throughout the world have come to recognize these hashtags and make use of them.

I am not trying to diminish the importance of the different causes that hashtags embody, but as Malcolm Gladwell says, "the civil rights war that engulfed the South for the rest of the decade happened without e-

mail, texting, Facebook, or Twitter." The internet and social media has redefined what it means for individuals to become involved. This idea of more involvement or participation means less activism is actually occurring. Thus, a hashtag may be viewed as social activism in that it does draw attention to a serious issue in society, but does the activism fade as soon as we scroll through our Twitter or Instagram feed? Where's the substance behind the hashtag beyond our Twitter/Instagram/Facebook timelines?

Personally, I find that hashtag activism provides individuals with a sense of service without actually doing anything. Behind a computer screen it is easy to support anything by tweeting certain hashtags or sharing posts. Sure, you can bring attention to a problem, but using a hashtag does not change the world in which we live. Real support is partaking in protests, contacting your senators and congressmen and women, or proposing legislation. So instead of joining the social media's network of hashtags, take action, and make a lasting impact that is worth more than 140 characters.



## the paper's View

What do we do when tragedy strikes? All we know for sure is that we feel strongly, so strongly that we're paralyzed. We're numbed by an overwhelming onslaught of thoughts and emotions, and the unbearable feeling that we lack agency in any of it.

We can't really avoid this reaction. We can't duck under it. We can't jump over it. We can only go through it.

And a part of going through it is analyzing a lot of tough realities that we have the luxury of ignoring on a daily basis. I would love to say that, despite the destruction and terror that tragedy invokes, that tragedy brings us closer. That tragedy brings out the best of humanity, that the hatred and violence is balanced out, in perfect measure, by the human capacity for love, strength, and solidarity.

I would love to say that's true, and sometimes it's almost believable. Shiny case studies of hope and empathy feel like salve on an aching societal wound. We can almost believe that it's all going to be okay—that Newton's Third Law of Motion can cleanly apply to human behavior.

But unfortunately, hate breeds more hate. And tragedy highlights the hatred that has been existing under the calm surface for so long.

I'm not trying to paint this dark picture because I'm hopeless. I'm painting it because I'm hopeful. Because I believe in people. I believe in progress, but only if the real can be distinguished from the fake. A lot has happened recently—the terrorist attacks in Paris and Beirut, leaving hundreds dead and wounded. The racially-charged hate crimes at Missouri, Yale, and other campuses across the nation created a climate of fear among people of color. And those are just the media's top stories.

With tragedy, it's easy to get tunnel vision. It's easy to try to rank tragedy by perceived intensity and immediacy. We rank things and label things in a fumbling, very human attempt to gain a sense of control over things we really don't have much control over. But we need to realize the very fundamental, very destructive flaw in that practice. We need to stop doing the things that are comfortable, the things that are easy. By separating and ranking tragedy, we're ignoring the fact that all tragedy is connected.

Racism, hatred, and the ignorance of the inherently oppressive systems that dominate society lead to tragedy and violence. And in light of that, it is crucial to separate terrorist groups from religions, racial backgrounds, and cultures. It is crucial to not let hate breed more hate.

There's a lot we don't have control over. But there's a lot that we do, and we can't lose sight of that powerful fact. We need to make decisions every day that reflect the world as we want it to be. That takes an active effort, and it doesn't fall onto any one person's shoulders. Tragedy is a chain. It's a massive linked chain of how much we can take, how much we can let slide. It's letting your friend's racist joke slide. It's letting scrawled hate speech on campus slide. It's letting the gentrification and displacement of our communities slide. And on and on. Indifference creates a space for tragedy to grow.

As much as we each can, we need to practice radical love. We need to react to the things we see. We can't let them slide.

-Ali & Zoe

## FIVE THINGS TO DO IN NYC FOR UNDER FIVE DOLLAR\$\$\$

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No need to break the bank to have the unique and interesting New York City experience that all New Yorkers crave. Thanks to this nifty list, your wallet can ride happily in your pocket for the rest of eternity.

### Fall into an Open Manhole

Always wondered what lies under those manholes covering NYC streets? This is the activity for you! Unmarked and uncovered manholes are not too difficult to find, so if you seek them out, you will eventually find one into which you can easily fall.



### Adopt a Subway Rat

Always wanted to be a true New Yorker on a budget? Own a real city pet like those rats you find in the subway. Not only do you not have to pay for them, but they will probably eat anything you feed them, saving you pet food costs! We recommend using gloves to handle your rat as you could get bitten and develop one of many deadly diseases.



### Get Bitten by a Dog

This one is so easy! Just make sure you ask ahead of time if the dog has its rabies shots, because otherwise this could get expensive.



### Get Stuck in an Elevator

Luckily for you thrifty adventurers, New York City is ridden with ancient elevators! You don't have to stray far to find one that regularly breaks down at random floors. You may even find one at Fordham! It can be fun to count how long you are stuck until help arrives. Also you could bring pillows and other fort-making accessories and see how elaborate an elevator fort you can construct before the elevator guy comes to the rescue.



### Get Mugged in Central Park

This one is self-explanatory. Just make sure your wallet has under \$5 in it.

# Keep Your Filthy Spines, If You Mattered You Wouldn't Need Them

by Blu Donation  
Staff Spine-Haver

## From the desk of a presumably soon to be invertebrate

Due to the rapid loss and deterioration of most major ecosystems and organisms, environmentalism has been a growing branch of science in the modern age. Another common trend of this age however is apathy, a common trait found in most individuals and often joked about with some belief behind the laughter. Rather than let something get us down, it takes a lot less energy and emotion to just not care. That's why those who do care, in this case speaking of environmental activists, are seen under two major and vastly different categories. This is someone to be respected, a hard working hero, or someone to ignore, a get lost you hippy freak. Whether or not one is respected as an environmental activist tends to fall on the appeal of what they are preaching. For example, someone comes up to you and asks you to donate money to help them afford tools to help build habitats for Pandas. This would sound relatively appealing. However, if the same person told you it would be better to donate money to help them build habitats for the eels, you would likely feel a lot less inclined to donate. Though, what is so different about the importance of an eel in your mind as opposed to a panda's?

Start by looking at some of the basic concepts of a Panda. The four most worthwhile ideas about a panda are their cuteness, their cuddly appearance, their intelligence, and their relatability to humans. Much like a dog or a cat, the panda is a creature easy to anthropomorphize, or see human feelings and reasoning in. They can appear happy or sad,

smart or stupid, and nice or mean just like us. Now look at the eel, it has little to no cute appeal, a slimy and cold appearance rather than a cuddly one, an intelligence roughly above fish level (which is pea brain), and almost zero reliability to humans. These facts all have one weird thing in common.

The big secret is, a spine! That thing old people in movies complain about and others forget to use so

and different. The more differences in the number of features between the animal and humans the less appeal it tends to get. Warm blood also plays a factor as psychological studies on infant apes has indicated that people enjoy warmth. It's a comfort thing and puts us at ease. Slimy and cold however has been evolutionarily wired as inedible and possibly dangerous things to be touched. Lastly due to the evolution of species inver-

why even if we need to change our ways, we still feel right about most of our developing distinctions between animals and us. However the way we view evolved overlooks two key features, evolution is not a straight-line but a branching process and just because one species evolved into a new group doesn't mean the old group just stops evolving. Furthermore this does not mean there is a completely right way to evolve, and two evolution does not mean a species becomes more important to the world, as some organisms can remain essential to an ecosystem for millions of years without need for evolution, and others can evolve but with negative attributes added to it in the process.

The point is invertebrates, a group of animals we see as different and unevolved, are not in fact such. They constitute 95% of all animal species, they do jobs from pollinating plants, to breaking down other organic materials, to such complex jobs not even a bio major can always follow to make any and all ecosystems work yet most of our attention goes to the loss of animals like panda's. Panda's are wonderful, but as compared to the *Acropora cervicornis*, staghorn coral, they are extremely unimportant and to the creation of the reality that allows and caused you to exist. Thank that spider you killed for your existence, and the fish who sits in the ocean. He may not be smart like us but he's done a lot and he deserves, a reason for you not saving him more than because another animal was cuter. This isn't to say don't save the pandas, but don't forget about the bees along the way.



we can slouch in chairs. Animals are either vertebrates, those creatures which have/develop a spine such as birds and mammals, or invertebrates, those that do not such as fish, some reptiles, and insects. The first apparent difference between these two groups is what their features are. Vertebrates, like pandas, have 2 arms, 2 legs, 2 eyes, and a head separate from it's body. Though most vertebrates like cats and dogs have four legs, these limbs are still similar enough to us that we can see them as parallel to our own. Animals like snakes lack these limbs altogether and are thus scary

tebrates came first and later evolved into vertebrates, making us seem by comparison the more evolved set of animals. Evolved is a nice word as it is often seen as a synonym for better or more intelligent. Human's are good because we are evolved, just like a panda is evolved just less so than us. Since a fish is still an invertebrate it is seen as quite unevolved. This may in fact be the most important distinction between the two.

Humans have pride in the fact that we are evolved, it makes us feel like the world is up to us, on our shoulders and revolves around what we do. It is why our needs come first and







## Ansari Teaches Acceptance in New Comedy Series

by Kristen Nolan

### Staff Jack of All Trades

Warning: In the first episode of Aziz Ansari's new Netflix original *Master of None* you'll see a chicken parm sandwich from the Upper West Side restaurant, Parm, that looks so good you'll have no other choice but to immediately hop on a Ram Van and go get one for yourself. But besides for just making you crave delicious looking Italian food (Aziz's character has an affinity for pasta), *Master of None* will also make you laugh, cringe, and laugh some more.

The series, created by Aziz along with former *Parks and Recreation* producer and writer Alan Yang, debuted its first season on Netflix on November 6. *Master of None* stars Aziz as Dev Shah, a struggling actor living in New York off the residuals from a popular Go-Gurt commercial he starred in. Like most comedies about young adults in New York, Dev is trying to find his place in the world. But unlike most comedies about young adults in New York, *Master of None* features a refreshingly diverse cast and touches on many important issues that affect people today, such as racism and sexism. The show even explores issues that often aren't discussed in Hollywood, like the experience of having immigrant parents, which Aziz and Yang both have in real life as well as on the show.

*Master of None* definitely serves up the truth when it comes to social issues, and it does this through hilarious dialogue. For instance, in one episode Dev is showing his Indian friend, Anush, different clips of actors in brownface. His friend, completely shocked by find-

### Netflix and...think about social issues?

ing this information out fearfully asks, "Is Mindy Kaling real?"

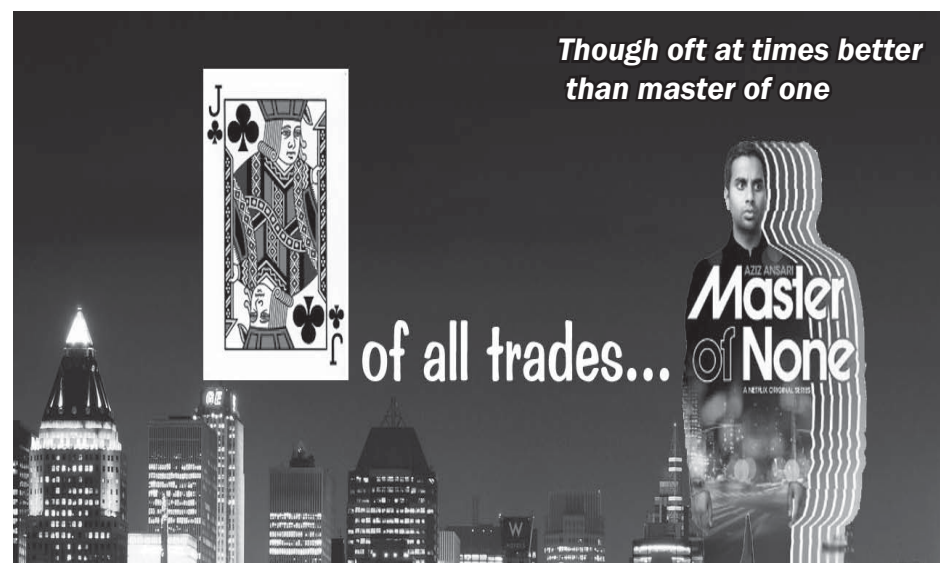
In the episode "Ladies and Gentlemen," gender equality is explored. In a scene from the episode, Dev and his friend Denise (played by actress Lena Waithe) execute a citizen's arrest on a creepy dude they see performing a lewd act on the subway. Instead of the funny part simply being the gross loser on the subway, the characters

of the season, "Indians on TV," shows Aziz's character Dev coming face-to-face with offensive racial stereotypes when auditioning for a role in a new TV show. The episode begins with a montage of clips from different Hollywood films, television shows, and commercials that feature brownface and Indian actors in traditionally stereotypical roles. One of the clips is fairly recent — a 2012 Pop Chips commer-

ter of *None* premiering with rave reviews, hopefully the world will see more diversity throughout Hollywood.

So yes, *Master of None* is excellent because it isn't just another show about white people getting into shenanigans. It addresses real world problems with a comedic spin. But what really made the show for me was not its social commentary, but Aziz's parents who he cast as his character Dev's parents. These two were charming and funny from the start — specifically Aziz's father, who had slightly more airtime because his childhood story was featured in the second episode, "Parents." The underlying message of "Parents" was that children of immigrants should spend more time listening to the experiences of their parents, and everyone, not just children of immigrants, should put in more effort to visit their parents on occasion. Aziz himself took this lesson to heart, posting a selfie of him and his dad on Instagram. In the caption, he included that his dad mainly took the part on the show so that he could spend more time with Aziz, and now Aziz wants to take more time to visit his parents.

If you ever find yourself staying in one night and want something you can quickly binge-watch on Netflix, *Master of None* is highly recommended. Not only will you be laughing out loud and appreciating the wisdom imparted by Dev and his friends, but also your mouth will be watering for some Italian food, and luckily, Pugsley's is just a phone call away.



recognize his behavior as being unacceptable and do something about it that is as hilarious as it is heroic. *Master of None* takes an otherwise awful experience and finds a way to make it something you can laugh at while encouraging ordinary people to be active bystanders when they see something not-so-chill happening.

In terms of addressing racism, specifically racism that occurs in the entertainment industry, the third episode

cial with Ashton Kutcher appearing in brownface, using a fake Indian accent and wearing traditional Indian clothes. The episode is comedic but honest. A television executive tells Dev that he won't hire both him and his friend Ravi because he thinks having two Indian actors starring in the same show would make viewers think it was "an Indian show." Unfortunately, this is how much of the entertainment world seems to operate. But now with a show like *Mas-*

## EVENTS

**What:** Thanks-Give-Away 2015

**Where:** McGinley Center, Second Floor

**When:** Mon. Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30-9pm

**How Much:** \$2 or 2 cans

**Why:** To help support Part of the Solution (POTS), a local soup kitchen. There will be food, entertainment, and lots of prizes that will be raffled off!

**What:** RJ Mitte

**Where:** Keating 1<sup>st</sup>

**When:** Tuesday December 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30

**How Much:** Free

**Why:** Come listen to an inspirational and motivational lecture from an actor from the Emmy Award winning tv show *Breaking Bad*. The lecture will be about how Mitte overcame obstacles like his cerebral palsy and being bullied, to achieve his success as an actor.

**What:** Insuh Yoon Solo Show: Flowerland

**Where:** Superchief Gallery NYC, Brooklyn

**When:** Fri. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 7-11pm

**How Much:** Free

**Why:** In his first solo show, Korean born, New York bred photographer Insuh combines elements of soft beauty, the female body, and kink.

## Spectre Looks to 007's Past to Bring Him Forward

by Melody Knight-Brown  
Arts Co-Editor

Wait for the car chase. That's when the latest Bond film starts to get good. As a huge James Bond aficionado, it pains me to say anything bad about the newest installment in the 007 franchise, but if I'm being honest and objective, the first maybe third of the film was just okay. Why wasn't it spectacular? I'm still trying to figure out exactly what the opening was lacking. I mean it should have been incredible. Just the scale of the production and the set were impressive. The costumes and the cinematography were fantastic as well.

From the opening scene in Mexico City to Rome to the Austrian Alps, to the city of Tangier, the film is breathtaking. So why did it take almost 50 minutes for the film to pick up? Maybe it was the script. The dialogue was unconvincing and the plot felt choppy, disjointed, and hard to follow, although, admittedly in retrospect, it is easier to make sense of.

The film opens in Mexico City during the Day of the Dead, and jumps right into action as Bond shoots two men planning to blow up a stadium and in the process destroying a city block. Bond then proceeds to chase a man named Sciarra through the Day of the Dead parade, which culminates in a crazy helicopter fist fight between the two men, Bond snatching a ring with a stylized octopus from Sciarra's finger, and Sciarra being tossed out of the helicopter into the middle of the parade below.

The film then cuts to the opening sequence and I'm not going to go over that too much because with the couple of expectations the Bond opening sequences are notoriously bad, although I will mention between the fireballs, octopi, and naked women, there were flashes of people for the three previous Daniel Craig Bond films. Foreshadowing ftw. Also, it was interesting to see there seemed to be more silhouetted asses than boobs. Here's to the changing times, I suppose.

I'll try not to get to spoiler-y here but it is soon discovered that Bond was

## Shoutouts to Vesper, Dench's M, Silva

sent after Sciarra by the former, now deceased M and following the octopus ring lead to Rome, Bond meets and hooks up with, Sciarra's not-so-grieving widow, who tells Bond about the organization Spectre of which her late-husband was a part. This leads Bond to a secret meeting and brings him face to face with the head of Spectre, Franz Oberhauser aka Ernst Stavro Blofeld. Surprise, surprise, although really, who didn't see that coming given the name of the film. Bond is then chased from the meeting and takes part in an epic car chase through the streets of Rome.

time as Bond refer to each other, creating a somewhat continuous narrative, something that has never happened before under the previous Bonds, save for the running threat of SPECTRE during the Robert Moore days.

Q and Moneypenny also played their roles admirably after being reestablished in the series in *Skyfall*. While there are hints that Moneypenny may be getting tired of her position as an overlooked secretary, she still proves her worth who helps Bond by providing important information when needed.

The younger, sexier, techsavvy Quartermaster had a larger role than the Q of old, who was resigned to giving Bond his signature gadgets and berating him for never bringing anything back in one piece. This is a pattern I see persisting as the Bond films continue into the modern technological age, and Q's computer skills will become more and more crucial.

Speaking of modernization, Bond faces opposition from home as MI5 and MI6 are merged and Max Denbigh, code name C, head of the privately funded Joint Intelligence Services calls for the abolishment of the OO program, citing

it as obsolete in the modern world. C, played by Andrew Scott (did anyone else have problems seeing him as anyone other than Moriarty? #Sherlock) also advocates for Britain to join "Nine Eyes" a global surveillance and intelligence initiative that would allow any of the nine member states to access the surveillance of all the other members. M, however, believes the benefit of the OO program lies in the agents' human judgment to make decisions. As M says, "A license to kill is also a license not to kill," and M correctly notes how a machine would not be able to make that choice. This theme is reiterated several times throughout the film as Bond fights to remain relevant in an ever advancing world.

All in all, *Spectre* might not be the best installment in the Bond franchise, but you can't not see it. We all knew *Skyfall* would be a hard film to top and for what it's worth, *Spectre* was a good film and is worth watching.



This is when the film begins to pick up pace and the rest of the film lives up to the promise of a James Bond production.

For example, the Bond girls were of course beautiful, and the film gets points for political correctness as Monica Bellucci became the oldest actress to play a Bond girl. Bellucci looked fantastic despite being two years older than Craig, proving that female actors don't always have to be half the age of their male counterparts. Take that, Hollywood. That being said, the main Bond girl was played by a younger actress, Léa Seydoux who both looked and performed stunningly as Dr. Madeline Swann.

Swann, it is discovered, is the daughter of Mr. White, a key character from previous Bond films from the Daniel Craig era, and her parentage is not the only time *Spectre* looked back to *Casino Royale*, *Quantum of Solace*, and *Skyfall*. In fact, all of the films from Craig's



# Alive and Kicking, the Dead are Back!

by Georgia Pullis  
Staff Deadhead

“Dude...the DEAD man...they’re coming back man!”

“Oh dude...we gotta go pay our respects man...they’re like...legendary man!”

And so it spread: the news that the Dead were not actually hanging up their microphones and saying adios to the world of musical performance. They are willing to offer up one more tour under the name of newly created musical group ‘Dead and Company’. In this case, the team includes veteran band members Bob Weir, Mickey Hart and Bill Kreutzmann leading the way, with extras Oteil Burbridge on bass, Jeff Chimenti on keyboard, and of course John Mayer, taking over lead guitar for famed artist Jerry Garcia, who died in 1995. Garcia’s death, while definitively marking the end of an era, hasn’t kept the other members from continuing to perform, giving people like me – the younger generation of hippie enthusiasts who still believe in the same passion for musical inspiration – a once in a lifetime experience.

Thousands flocked to Madison Square Garden over the weekend of Halloween in anticipation of being jammed out by one of the most influential bands of all time; and I don’t think anyone left the arena unimpressed or disappointed.

As the concert began, the arena billowed with little puffs of smoke and faint flickers of light were seen moving across the audience. We had stepped up to our seats just in time for the first song, “Samson and Delilah,” to kick in. Immediately, the whole crowd was moving: it was a massive sea of people, each one dancing in his or her own wild way, but ultimately appreciating the same string of notes that were melting into the hearts and souls of

## Grateful dead revives as dead and company

what seemed like infinite listeners. The mood of the music was often palpable. I could watch as the band would take us through levels of musical consciousness, like in the movement of “Sugarree.” We swayed to Mayer’s buttery voice as the song began with a slow jam, but soon went wild, reveling in a completely radical guitar solo. I was particularly pleased to hear my two favorite songs “Scarlet Begonias” and “Fire on the Mountain” played one after another; AKA “Scarlet Fire”. It felt authentic with Weir on main vocals

centered on opinion, but I would say that what I heard that night was the most beautifully truthful creation of music I’ve ever been given the chance to witness. Not because they were perfect, making no mistakes and sounding exactly like a recorded version, but because their music is real, their talent is raw, and the slight pull of give and take between instrumental solos seemed effortless. Each player not only did his part, but was able to go into some other realm of internal musical instinct and connect with his partners on a new level, including John Mayer.

While many longtime Dead Heads were initially indignant to the replacement of their cherished guitarist Jerry Garcia, whose style and intimate musical intelligence is more than difficult to imitate, Mayer didn’t take long to prove his worth. His groovy confidence and love for the blues helped him blend into the roots of the band, bringing back the sound that Garcia created. A man sitting a row in front of me had even exclaimed, “Man, he is killing those Jerry solos!” Mayer was able to improvise as well as color within the lines of

what the original Dead had drawn out. Perhaps this is thanks to Bob Weir’s mastery of music and dedication to the band, which did not go unnoticed by the crowd. From left and right I’d hear people shout, “Yeah, you go Bobby!” as if they were old high school friends. It’s a special relationship this fan base has with its creator. They never stop appreciating the music.

At the concert, we were sitting behind some men who had gone to some of the Dead’s very first shows in the late 60’s. “How cool,” I thought, “that we can cross-generationally love music.” And then, when he passed us his joint, being a part of the Dead cult had never felt more like home.

Now, musical preference is of course



*Garcia is gone but Mayer proves himself to be a worthy substitute*

and I liked how Mayer easily sang the higher harmonies in both songs. They also seemed to collaborate their playing styles into undoubtable combined awesomeness, making a great duo for center stage. The whole band rocked a number of hits including “Friend of the Devil,” “Uncle John’s Band,” and “Shakedown Street,” to name a few, but none could top their encore of “Ripple.” This light, pretty song that bubbles with every plucked string is an acclaimed favorite. It felt like a dream listening to each poetic verse, and finally joining in with the rest of the audience to sing, in unity, the la da da da’s that peacefully brought the show to a close.

## SHOWS

**What:** Dolfish and Trace Mountains

**Where:** Rodrigue’s Coffee House

**When:** Friday November 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:45pm

**How Much:** Free

**Why:** Come to you’re favorite (only) campus coffeehouse for a fun acoustic show that will hopefully make you laugh or cry and involve absolutely no mosh pits

**What:** Expressions

Dance Alliance: GOLD

**Where:** Collins Auditorium

**When:** Fri. Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> @ 9pm

**How Much:** \$3 with a student ID, \$8 without

**Why:** Expressions fall showcase featuring the Satin Dolls and the Ramblers. See three of Fordhams performance groups in one show

**What:** Vanessa Carlton

**Where:** City Winery, New York, NY

**When:** Mon. Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, Doors @ 6pm

**How Much:** \$25

**Why:** Because you’re lying if you say “A Thousand Miles” wasn’t THE song when you were in elementary school.

## Kids, Just Say Yes to Pizza and No to Renoir

by Michael Sheridan

### Staff Protester of Protests

Art has the power to be controversial. Starting in 730 with the iconoclasm movement in the Byzantine Empire, which saw widespread resistance over religious symbols, art is something that has been protested, criticized, and debated across the world. Increasingly, the past decades have seen controversial pieces created by many artists that have invoked criticism from religious, political, and cultural groups.

Yet a new wave of protests have sprung up against the seemingly harmless French impressionist painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir. Despite mainly painting café scenes and the nightlife of fin de siècle Paris, protestors are demanding that Renoir paintings be removed from art museums across the nation. The movement is organized by the group Renoir Sucks at Painting (RSAP), which was recently founded by Brooklyn native Max Geller. Apparently, the RSAP finds Renoir painting offensive because Renoir simply sucked

## Pretentious art criticism reaches new highs, or perhaps lows

at painting. They find his artwork way to decorative, fluffy, and “fuzzy.” They don’t believe that his works deserve to be shown in museums as examples of fine art. Instead, the group has suggested pieces by artists such as Paul Gauguin or Mary Cassatt.

The group first emerged in Boston, to protest the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA)’s decision to display six paintings and two sculptures by Renoir. According to a statement on the groups Instagram account (@renoir\_sucks\_at\_painting), “The MFA’s decision to hang Renoir paintings, considering the fact the museum has masterpieces by actually talented artist [sic] in storage, is a curatorial failing, and amounts to an act of Aesthetic Terrorism.” Holding signs that read “God Hates Renoir,” “Re-NO-oir,” and “Take ‘Em Down! Renoir Sucks,” the protests received mixed reviews from museum visitors. While some patrons found the protest amusing, others were offended. Regardless, RSAP has pushed forward

with its “movement of the people,” visiting the Chicago Institute of Art and starting a petition on wh.gov asking President Obama to remove all Renoir paintings from the National Gallery.

Their campaign, however, has yet to offer any real results. Their petition on wh.gov remains at 15 signatures, and not one Renoir painting has been removed as a result of the group’s protests. The director of the MFA even released a statement in response to the protests, in which he praised the talent of Renoir and reaffirmed the Museum’s commitment to maintaining and displaying the works it currently owns by him. Even Renoir’s great, great granddaughter, Genevieve Renoir, chimed in online, commenting that as Renoir’s paintings sell for millions of dollars at auction, the group is wrong in their claim that he is not a real artist. Recently, also, counter-protests have begun to form. Although smaller and less organized, these protestors have been seen carrying signs such as

“You can take our Renoir when you pry it from our cold dead hands” and “Je Suis Pierre Renoir.”

Despite the absurdity of these protests, and the fact that the media isn’t taking the movement seriously, Geller maintains that he is being serious in his goals. Elaborating further, Geller states that art critics single-handedly control the art world and have thus forced this “untalented” artist onto the masses, brainwashing us into believing that Renoir is talented. However, it appears as if most members of the RSAP are far less serious and may only be showing up for the free pizza.

The group continues to grow in popularity and establishing a sizable online presence, with just over ten thousand follows on Instagram. While it is highly unlikely that the RSAP will ever be successful in its goal of removing all Renoir paintings, it might make a dent in the popularity of Renoir, who remains one of art history’s most famous and popular artists.

## Marina and the Diamonds are a Girl’s Best Friend

by Caitlin Hufnagle

### News Co-Editor

On the evening of November 10th I made my way to Terminal 5 to have Marina and the Diamonds grace us with her ethereal, bubblegum pop presence during the last stop of her Neon Nature tour. After we rode our way down to Manhattan on our trusty steed, Ram Van #11, we walked over to 56th street and happened upon a obscenely long line filled with concertgoers wearing sparkly makeup, fruity headdresses and, of course, their hearts on their cheeks. Upon making my way inside, it became even clearer that this crowd was different from any other crowd I’d witnessed at Terminal 5, or any of the other Bowery Presents venues—it was generally more upbeat and cheery... think the personification of some glitter. Hip glitter, but glitter nonetheless. The Bowery Presents focuses, for the most part, on organizing concerts with indie-rock artists and, therefore, their customers tend to exert a more “chilled cool” vibe (think vans, neutral colors and PBR) than the cynical pop star aesthetic that Marina embraces.

## Editor suggests this diamond does more than just sparkle

The show itself was organized in a really cool way, especially for someone like me, who had never seen Marina live before, and therefore was hoping to get a broad sampling of her musical best as opposed to a polemic for her most recent album. Marina split her show into three different “acts,” each of which focused on one of her three albums. During each of these acts, Marina took on the appearance of the specific version of pop star that composed each of the albums; with the three background screens showing a cartoonized portrait of Marina slowly morphing into the next album’s persona. For example, while she changed from the first act to the second, the portrait changed from the tanned skin, dark haired Marina circa “The Crown Jewels” into her Electra Heart persona, complete with, yes, a heart on her cheek.

These screens also projected cool images that added to the overall feel of the show, such as a series of emoji’s during “Oh No!” or neon lips during “Bubblegum Bitch”. The screens

particularly contributed to Marina’s performance of “Primadonna” when they projected famous pop-art images which would have speech bubbles appear in tandem with the backing vocals of “wow!” and “yeah!” during the chorus. This was not only a nice touch and gave the audience something to look at besides the gorgeous and incredibly talented Marina, but also emphasized Marina’s take on pop music itself. Pop music is often thought of as vapid and meaningless, but Marina challenges that with her carefully curated image and the intelligence she brings to the writing and performance of her brand of pop. To a degree, she is an oversaturated pop star, complete with over the top costumes, colorful “pop-y” visuals, and songs with titles such as “Primadonna,” “Bubblegum Bitch” and saccharine melodies found on “Froot”. This is, however, Marina’s way of challenging the pop star paradigm, as she makes these overtly pop star things unquestionably meaningful and biting as she infuses her dance-y, giddy music, complete with all the synths

and costumes and dance moves of the stereotypical popstar, and also manages to (somewhat paradoxically) infuse them with a layer of reality.

I know this review might be a little different from others, as I choose to focus on the image Marina perpetuated through her show, rather than the elements of the actual show, but I think this was the point. The Neon Nature tour was the quintessential pop tour—it was an all-encompassing sample of Marina’s image. Marina was playing with the fact that pop-music is often more visual than other genres, creating, in a smart way, a type of “pop” art (quite fitting that she projected pop art on the screen behind her, now isn’t it?!). Many pop artists make quality music, but few manage to impart the emotional and almost operatic vocal range Marina does, while still retaining the accessible, lighthearted feel of the genre. On top of this, Marina is able to comment on the very concept of pop music and how it is represented in society, and this was never more evident than during her performance.



# Shia LaBeouf Watching Shia LaBeouf is a Better Love Story Than Twilight

by Maureen Shelley  
Staff LaBeouf Enthusiast

On Tuesday November 10th, 2015, Shia LaBeouf decided he wanted to be relevant for a few days. For his latest artistic endeavor, Shia "I Am Not Famous Anymore" LaBeouf sat alone in a tiny New York City movie theater to watch his life's works in reverse chronological order, a la Benjamin Button, appropriately titled "#ALLMYMOVIES". He was kind enough to invite the public to join him in the theater, and for those who could not attend, he was even kinder to set up a 24 hours a day livestream video recording himself watching videos of himself on screen. I've never seen Inception but I think that's what it's about.

The event took place over the course of three days with no breaks and was held at the Angelika Film Center, a kitschy gem of a theater that opened in 1989. LaBeouf, alongside partners Nastja Säde Rönkkö and Luke Turner, reportedly informed the Angelika that he would be coming, but no formal date had been set for his arrival. When he showed up Tuesday morning, staff members were quick to make arrangements around the actor/artist's newest performance piece which would last until Thursday evening. One staff member said he had been working since 9:00 A.M. Tuesday and was not leaving until 6:00 P.M. Wednesday.

I was one of the many who rushed to the Angelika in an attempt to partake in the event, hopeful to catch a glimpse of LaBeouf. When I arrived at the theater, it was almost 2:00 P.M. There was a line of about 60 people outside, and nearly 100 inside, which at the time didn't seem too bad. To get in, you waited in line and when a seat inside the theater became available, the

## Apparently narcissism is okay if you're sexy and famous

next person in line would be allowed in. Admission was free, and my afternoon was eventless, so after two hours of waiting, I decided to stick around despite warnings that I may still wait a few more hours before getting in.

A TV displayed the livestream alongside the line showing an increasingly tired-looking LaBeouf slouched in his

Hours had gone by and those of us in line began to make light conversation with the people around us; "How did you hear about this?", "What time did you get here?", "How long have you been waiting?", "Isn't Holes, like, the best movie ever?" Yes, it is.

Eventually, the barriers of social courtesies had been broken along with

ority over those less willing to persist, testing the limits of the human spirit. We connected with LaBeouf in those hours spent waiting, reflecting on our own lives as he reflected on his a floor below us.

By 1:30 A.M., I was finally granted passage into the theater as a chorus of cheers from those left waiting erupted each time another person was let inside. After a quick scan with a handheld metal detector by a security guard, I found myself sitting mere seats from the mastermind behind it all, LaBeouf himself, watching *The Greatest Game Ever Played* (a film in which LaBeouf plays a lot of golf). Sitting in the tiny theater which only seats around 30 was a rather surreal experience, but everyone was surprisingly calm with the presence of celebrity, and I was rewarded with the sense that I had gotten to fully participate in LaBeouf's work.

Although at times monotonous, never did I not feel completely captivated by LaBeouf's introspective performance. LaBeouf's persistence was mirrored by that of his fans, and the inclusion of the public diminished the narcissistic overtones of most performance art in a manner James Franco has yet to achieve despite his best efforts. This latest work by LaBeouf is almost unpassable as art at a first glance, but his self-awareness and the contrast of character between the actor on screen fighting Nazis and robots and the man in the theater mark this as not only art, but a cultural phenomenon of this day and age. If LaBeouf never makes another film again, he at least has a promising career in performance art, and he has #ALLMYATTENTION.



seat, hood pulled over his head, and an occasional snicker or flash of embarrassment crossing his face by something happening on screen.

Inside, I joined a roped-off line snaking around the theater's lobby and café area where three people sat with stacks of cardboard and a few markers, encouraging people to make masks with the materials, and sit behind LaBeouf as a form of light mockery. Art within the art.

our spirits as the line stagnated. I befriended a few people around me, including an English photojournalist and a film director donning an official Indiana Jones fedora, as someone passed around a bag of gummy worms. We waited for hours, eventually dubbing ourselves "Shia's refugees," postulating that perhaps the real art was the experience of seemingly endless waiting and the formation of hierarchies that came with the feeling of superi-



# DISNEY CHEAPQUELS

## Aladdin 4: A Whole New Lamp



Jafar finds a new kind of magical lamp, and experiences a whole new world. Featuring songs like, “420 Arabian Nights” and “One Joint Ahead”, there’s something for everybody in this family-film.

## Winnie The Pooh And The Honey Treatment



With his addiction to “Hunny” only growing stronger, Pooh’s friends stage an intervention to get him off the stuff for good! The official Disney blog *Oh My Disney* actually parodied this idea, calling Pooh a “Honey Fiend”.

Remember “The Little Mermaid II: Return to the Sea”? Of course not. Does it exist? Yes, Disney released it as a direct-to-video film in 2000. Was it any good? Certainly not, it was one of Disney’s infamous “cheapquels”.

In the late 90’s and early 2000’s, Disney made sequels to popular Disney films cheaply for direct-to-video release through its low-cost animation house, Disney-Toon Studios. These films are notorious for their low animation quality and laughable plots.

This practice was ended with the change of Disney’s C.E.O. in 2005. Here are four examples of movies that could have been produced had the practice not stopped.

## The Little Mermaid 3: Under The Age



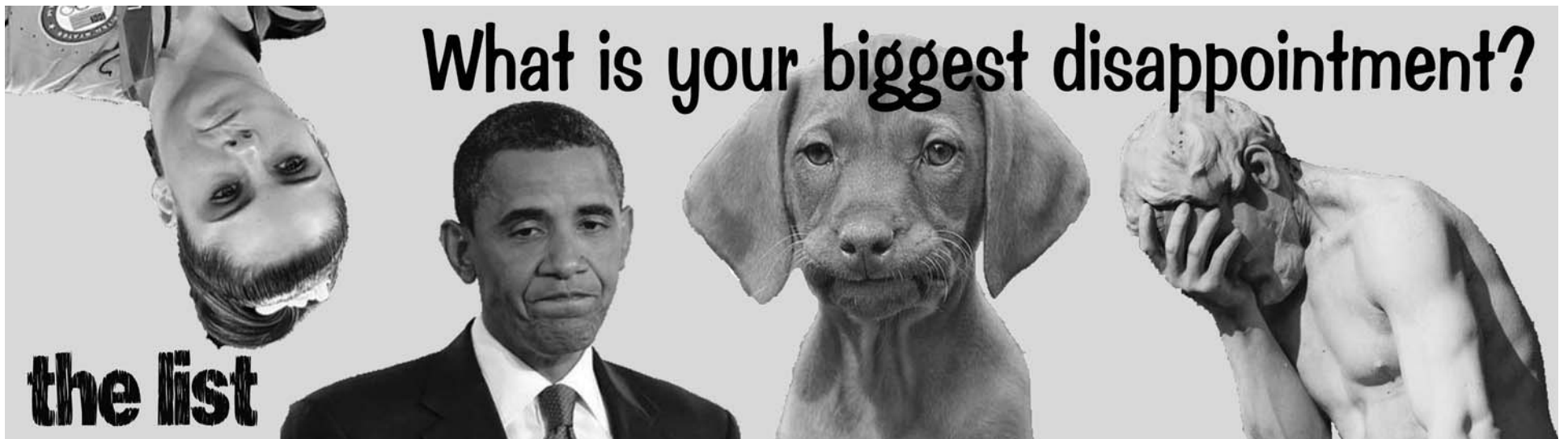
Prince Eric learns the consequences of dating a 16-year old. With fun new songs for the whole family like, “Under the Age” and “Don’t Kiss The Girl”, this film is guaranteed to give you the same wet fun as the past two!

## Bambi 3: Deforestation



In addition to taking his mother, the humans are now taking his home in this new family-feature! Watch as Bambi and his friends are ousted from their forest and have to live in a small nature preserve near the new suburbs.





# What is your biggest disappointment?

## the list

### by a very disappointed paper staff

From movies we thought we'd like, to concerts we thought would be good, to Fordham's ability to be an open and accepting community, disappointment is just something we can't avoid. It's something we all confront at one point or another, unless you're Beyoncé and literally the whole world would do anything to impress you.

#### The Twilight Series

by Zoe Sakas

I have often been made fun of here in the print shop for my previous obsession with, yes you guessed it, the *Twilight* series. My Facebook statuses from those days are more embarrassing than you can imagine, including gems like: "I have OCD: Obsessive Cullen Disorder!!" It was a dark era in my life, spending all my time after school snuggled up in bed reading about Bella's crazy love story under the illumination of only fairy lights. After months of dedication, I finally finished all the books, and all of a sudden I didn't know what to do with my life anymore. I wasn't satisfied, I wasn't impressed. There were such high expectations, and I don't think any ending could have met them. I guess that was a lesson learned the hard way, but my naive heart just wasn't prepared.

#### Video-game: Pikmin 3

by Matthew Whitaker

My biggest disappointment was definitely the Nintendo video game, *Pikmin 3*. In 2004, *Pikmin 2* was released, and it quickly became one of my favorite gardening/combat-themed games of all time. I am a gardener myself, so I enjoy that genre. It had a plethora of content, exponentially more than the first game. Unfortunately, a nine year wait for the third game awaited me, and in that time, I grew into a young

man, dreaming about *Pikmin 3* all the time. I expected greatness from its seven-year development period, considering how wonderful *Pikmin 2* was when that took two years to make. In 2013, the game finally released, and I soon found that the game had barely half the content of *Pikmin 2*. It was short, too easy, and less funny. I was never more disappointed in my life. At least *Pikmin 4* is coming.

#### The Dead Moth

by Elena Meuse

My greatest disappointment happened so recently; I still feel sadness inside when I think of it. Last Monday, a large moth flew through my kitchen window while I was eating dinner. Frustrated, I initially tried to murder the moth by spraying it with Windex, but overtime I began to grow rather fond of it. After two days cohabitating peacefully with the moth my roommates and I decided to affectionately name it Bertrand, and thus began a truly beautiful relationship between us all. We spent time talking with him, and learning about his unique moth culture. I felt a great bond between he and us. Then, on Thursday, just one day after getting acquainted, I discovered Bertrand's lifeless form sprawled out on my living room floor. My dear friend had moved on. What could have been a long and beautiful friendship ended far too soon. Alas.

#### The Dead Moth II: Redux

by Bertrand

All I wanted to do was spend some time in Lorillard Towers. I heard that they were fancy as fuck. I decided to enter through a window on the fifth floor. I was immediately greeted by some Windex. How rude. Soon enough, I was welcomed by two of the inhabitants. They shared with me their hu-

man customs and I shared with them my cultural practices as a moth. I soon was bestowed a human name, Bertrand. I quite liked it as it flows better than my actual first name, Xxyzz. It's pronounced don-ald-tr-ump. I decided to give my human friends moth names in return, Horst and Felicity. They never used them. As I spent more and more time in the Towers, I realized I was deceived. As nice as my hosts were, the building itself was not fancy. Disappointed, I died. Thus, my short life ended with no fanciness.

#### Kanye (No Surprise Here)

by Arthur Banach

My biggest disappointment was Kanye's album *Yeezus*. Filled with sub par synths and Cudi level crooning, the album was far from deserving of a deity based moniker. Featuring the grossest butchery of "Strange Fruit" which was thrown under verses about fucking a girl while on Molly. If that wasn't grueling enough, Kanye Stans would tell me about the controversial nature of "I Am a God". There's nothing on par with the revolution churning chant, "Hurry up with my damn croissants". This one time I accidentally made a cover of the album when I forgot to take my coins out of my pockets before throwing my pants into a washing machine. I think somewhere around the rinse cycle I heard a better sampling of Marilyn Manson that Kanye managed to cook up. It's extra sad too because his fans don't give a rat dookie about holding him to a certain level of quality.

#### FU Fordham Housing

by John Looby

Sometimes things end up going poorly, like that time Fordham Housing was a thing. It's freshman year, I'm leaving home for the first time, I open the door to my dorm room, and it is complete

and utter shit. It was tiny, cramped, and in the fucking disgusting basement of Martyr's Court Jogues, known to most as "where human joy goes to die a terrible brutal death." I was expecting my first year living at college to be great, but instead I was forced to live like a trash person. My parents tried to tell me it wasn't going to be that bad when I moved in. They were wrong. It was and is a permanent source of disappointment. I can't help but imagine that whoever is forced to live there this year is openly weeping right now as they kill the thirtieth cockroach in the showers. Fucking Shower roaches, Fordham housing you are a disappointment.

#### M & Ms

by Ali Glembocki

Literal M & Ms are such a disappointment. Since I'm allergic to nutz, I was forced to avoid the little chocolate lie-coated candies when I was a kid. My mom was afraid that, since it "shared equipment" with my kryptonite, that I might get a reaction. And as Roland "Halp" Barthes used to say, "the lover's fatal identity is precisely this: I am the one who waits." I waited for years and years, watching Colorful Sentient Chocolate commercial after Colorful Sentient Chocolate commercial, until I eventually convinced my mom that I was willing to take the chance. She gave me the bag. I grabbed a little green one. And it tasted like cheap chocolately plastic. As Roland "Srsly Halp" Barthes used to say, "Plastic has climbed down, it is a household material." Plastic has climbed down into my friggin' mouth. Now I know better than to be fooled by animated anthropomorphic chocolate sirens. At least when it comes to things that taste good.



**Justin Bieber**  
**Purpose**  
by Ali Glembocki

As the weather gets colder, the layers of irony that encase my life get harder to shed...And by that I mean I've finally come to terms with the fact that I love Justin Bieber. I really, actually do! More specifically, I love New Justin Bieber. Platinum Blonde Justin Bieber. Skrillex-Scented Justin Bieber. More Adult And Emotionally Centered Justin Bieber. Ever since Justin Bieber dropped "What Do You Mean," something clicked with us. The previous Bieber-hype that used to invoke eye-rolls from Teenage Me suddenly made sense—the dude has a beautiful voice. He has the moves. He has the jams. I showed my hairdresser a picture of him as a reference for my latest haircut. Justin Bieber's latest album *Purpose* invokes just that—a needed sense of sonic and thematic focus that he lacked in previous albums. And in his life too, to be honest. But hey, he's 21. It all comes with the territory. *Purpose* opens with "Mark My Words," a warm attempt at sincerity that he sells pretty well. Justin's not only trying to comfort and seduce his lover-in-question, but the general public as well. Dispelling his douche-boy public persona while seeming emotionally genuine isn't an easy feat to pull off, but the decision to showcase his voice with lowkey production lets his vocal talent do all the talking. Skrillex produces several of songs on the album, which, on paper, seems



like Justin Bieber is going for a cacophonous party record. But that couldn't be farther from the truth—*Purpose* is dominated by ballads, and even the Skrillex tracks highlight the producer's melodic capabilities. The album's best moments (that aren't his singles, which I already love a lot, and you know it!!!) are Halsey collaboration "The Feeling," Ed Sheeran collaboration "Love Yourself," and the two central tracks that are collaborations with Big Sean and Travis Scott, respectively. Bieber brings out the best in his collaborators on this album, and in turn, his high-profile collaborators are co-signing his brand. I'm loving how symbiotic it is. So, Justin Bieber, here's a message from me, at least: you're forgiven, I guess! But you never really needed my validation to find your wings in the first place.



**Ellie Goulding**  
**Delirium**  
by Luis Gomez

Ellie Goulding is awesome. Her first album was so great they had to release it twice. Her second album was...well, not as great, but it was still really good. And that got released twice too! So now, we have *Delirium*. The best way to describe *Delirium*, I think, is as unsur-

prising. But it's unsurprising in a very good way; this album is basically peak-Goulding. There's something close to zero songs on this album I'd call bad. Seriously, every album usually has at least one or two songs that aren't good, or are just kinda meh compared to everything else. Here, the closest thing to the album's weak point is probably "Around U" which has an odd beat. Kind of. Even "Love Me Like You Do," which was made for the unbearably terrible pile of crap that was the *Fifty Shades of Grey* movie, works. Absent the horribly awful movie it was made for, the song is a catchy, fun piece that serves to send the album into its second half and gets to create its own identity. The rest of the album is a blast. Every track, from the lead single "On My Mind" to the lower-tempo "Army," is delivered with polish, a healthy dose of synths, and Goulding's trademark soft-spoken vocals over it all. This is the most consistently good album I've encountered in a long while. Still, the consistency could be interpreted as Goulding losing a necessary element of variety. And it's true that a lot of these songs do tend to blend together on the first listen. I didn't really care though. This album took me for a ride that I was happy to go on.



**One Direction**  
**Made in The AM**  
by Siobhan Donahue

One Direction's fifth studio album is their first one without demi-god Zayn Malik. In fact, many speculate that the A.M. part in the album's title—*Made in the A.M.*—stands for after Malik. This will be the last 1D record before they take their hiatus in March. This inevi-

table goodbye is seemingly referenced throughout the album, with the lyric "don't let me go" being used more than once. Before the tears start pouring though, let's see if 1D went out with a bang like a firework or fizzled out like a cheap fire cracker. This may in fact be their best album yet. This comes as no surprise to Directioners, who have been tracking 1D since July 23, 2010. One Direction has literally been getting better with each new album. They started out being a typical pop boy band ala 'NSYNC, but ever since their third album, *Midnight Memories*, they have been heading towards the pop rock genre ala Coldplay. The album opens up with "Hey Angel", where girls are heavenly creatures and 1D are devils. The best way to describe this song is ethereal electronic dance music. Following "Hey Angel", is the hit single "Drag Me Down". This song is one of my favorite 1D songs of all time and really shows their potential as a rock band. "Perfect" is a perfect response to Taylor Swift, who has three songs which are rumored as being about Harry Styles. "End of the Day" has a super catchy chorus which was followed by the saddest 1D ballad ever, "If I Could Fly". "Olivia" joins "Diana" and Georgia Rose (from "Best Song Ever") as names 1D fans will name their daughters. "Love You Goodbye" was about one last night in bed before the breakup, which is exactly what this album is. "I Want to Write You a Song" was the simplest song on their album, yet was very charming. "History" is a song that was confirmed to be about Zayn. The album ends with "Home" where 1D promise us that they'll "make this feel like home". They sure did.



**Beach House**  
**Thank Your Lucky Stars**  
by Reyna Wang

So here I am again, reviewing dream pop duo Beach House's "newest new" album, *Thank Your Lucky Stars*, which was released less than a two months after the previous one with basically no warning. Beach House calls this "an al-



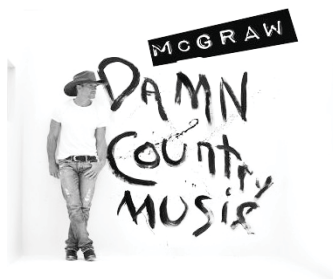
bum being released the way we want” and clarifies that “It’s not a companion to *Depression Cherry* or a surprise or b-sides,” though it’s safe to say this album came as a pretty big surprise to most people, and as a pleasant surprise to me stylistically. *Thank Your Lucky Stars* is actually an unexpected dark turn in the brighter, clearer direction Beach House seemed to be heading with its last few albums. There is a shift toward deeper, fuller-bodied, sometimes rougher synths as well as toward a greater presence real drums and guitar, most notably in the track “One Thing.” This shift chips away at the band’s polish and exposes a rawness that sounds shoegazey in some ways and that harkens back to the pre-*Bloom* days in others. One of the things that sets Beach House apart from other dream pop bands is its propensity for nostalgic, romantic, melancholy chord progressions and melodies, and if their other albums made you want to cry in a bed of flowers, *Thank Your Lucky Stars* will guarantee that you are sobbing. This is perhaps the greatest strength of the album, rife with unexpected modulations in tonality that show off Beach House’s careful



craftsmanship and technical awareness of music. In the ethereal track “She’s So Lovely,” for example, the verses are broken up intermittently by a synth tune that modulates from pentatonic, to major, to minor, and probably more modes I’m not technically knowledgeable enough to name, resulting in moments that immediately and consistently hit the home of your emotional vulnerability. A combination of Beach House’s return to a darker, dirtier sound and their improved niche for wistful melodies, *Thank Your Lucky Stars* seems to be the band’s acknowledgement of their own musical evolution. Beach House took “you do you” to a whole new level with this album, and it will make you feel all of the feelings.

**Tim McGraw**  
**Damn, Country Music**  
 by John Looby

Well fuck, it happened. I listened to Tim McGraw from start to finish, so I could give it a bad review, and in a move that surprises no one, I fucking hated it. From the first twang I was cringing. Albums like this are why everyone thinks America is just one big fucking Texas. This shouldn’t be a part of the culture we put out into the rest of the world. Fuck you Tim McGraw, you’re a badge of shame. I’m definitely not the intended audience for this album, as I have taste. I’ve never held out more dearly in hope of deafness than when the track “Losing You” came on. It’s the second track. It is really fucking bad. He deserves to lose her. Also what the fuck is there a god damn check list for country music? How many times can you fucking talk about your truck or the moon? Does the sun not rise in whatever hellpit spawned Tim McGraw. Why is every goodbye a long goodbye in the south? Why the fuck is it always a midnight drive? Are country singers afraid of good visibility? Is it so women can’t see their stupid fucking hats? By the way, the album is called “*Damn Country Music*”, yeah damn it straight to hell. This album could not feel more rigidly constrained by genre norms if it wanted to. The moment it crawls forward haunting your ears your body tenses as some part of you knows exactly how awful it’s going to be. Fuck this album for existing.







# #FIGHTFOR15



On 11/10, hundreds of protestors took to the New York City streets to fight for a \$15 minimum wage and workers' unions.

**Everyone deserves a liveable wage.**

Those in industries such as food service, retail, and construction, as well as adjunct professors (including our very own at Fordham), struggle to make ends meet and are forced to take multiple jobs, rely on food stamps, or go without.

Join your fellow Fordham students in the fight for 15!  
Contact [pleclair@fordham.edu](mailto:pleclair@fordham.edu) for details on how to get involved on campus.

Visit [FightFor15.org](http://FightFor15.org) for more information about the movement.

Facebook: Fight For 15 // Fordham Faculty Forward  
// Fordham Students United

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Take Action:  
[fordhamstudentsunited@gmail.com](mailto:fordhamstudentsunited@gmail.com)

Meet with us Wednesday, Nov. 18  
in McGinley 2nd at 7pm to learn more!

