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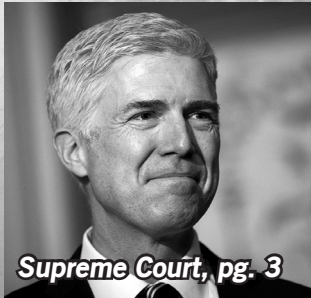
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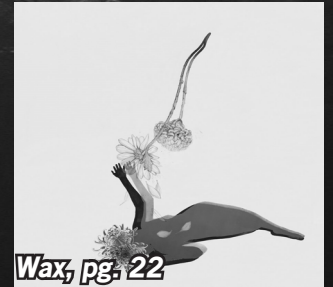
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the paper

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the paper is Fordham's journal of news, analysis, comment and review. Students from all years and disciplines get together biweekly to produce a printed version of *the paper* using Adobe InDesign and publish an online version using Weebly. 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 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 e-mail 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 e-mail 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.

"Cocktails You've Definitely Never Had While Underage"

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M E E T I N G S
T U E S D A Y 2 9 P M
M C G I N L E Y
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Nuclear Option Allows Gorsuch Appointment to the Supreme Court

By Michael Jack O'Brien
Features and List Co-Editor

Congress continues to prove to be just the worst

For the first time since the sudden passing of Judge Antonin Scalia in February of 2016, all nine seats of the Supreme Court have been filled. In Justice Scalia's place is Justice Neil M. Gorsuch, a staunch conservative and constitutionalist who braved a political firestorm as Democrats and Republicans in the Senate brawled over his confirmation. Justice Gorsuch's confirmation is nothing if not contentious, Senate Republicans needed to enact an unprecedented rule nicknamed "The Nuclear Option" to break Senate Democrat's filibuster of the confirmation. This rule change, which will be used as a blueprint for all future SCOTUS confirmations allows the Senate to lower the vote threshold for a justice's confirmation from 60 votes to a "majority vote" regardless of the margin of that majority.

Predictably the vote for Gorsuch's confirmation was a tight one. All but three Democrats voted "no", and Republicans voted "yes" unanimously; the final margin of victory ended up as 54 "yes" votes to 45 "no", confirming Gorsuch to the Supreme Court. Despite the controversial rule change, this confirmation is the very first legislative victory for Donald Trump's young administration, and arguably the longest lasting in his potential legacy (as painful as that is to say for a large amount of us), as Supreme Court Justices serve for up to 30 years before retirement. So, who is Neil Gorsuch, and what can we expect from his time on the Supreme Court?

Justice Gorsuch's resume is standard in terms of Supreme Court nominees

(that is to say it's pretty goddamn impressive). He holds a BA from Columbia, and Doctorates from both Harvard and Oxford. He went on to work at prestigious Washington law firms and as a clerk for the Supreme Court. After



that he joined the United States Court of Appeals 10th circuit in Denver Colorado, where he has served since 2006. During his time as a judge, Gorsuch gained respect for being a staunch advocate of Constitutional textualism, a style of interpretation that champions the meaning of the Constitution as its original drafters intended. This style of interpretation, which is very similar in nature to Constitutional Originalism, rejects outside sources or present interpretations of constitutional clauses, and instead attempts to discover what the founding fathers *truly* meant by their writing instead of relying on what we *think* they intended. Gorsuch is in many ways a reflection of the late Antonin Scalia, who was also an advocate of textualism. Conservatives champion this style of judgement for a number of reasons, one being that because the Judge is interpreting the constitution

as they believe it was "originally intended", there is less wiggle room available for interpretation in the present.

Gorsuch is a notable advocate for religious freedom. He has made judgments based on a broad interpretation that champions religious freedom even in the face of federal law. In the first three days of his time on the Supreme Court, Gorsuch is expected to pass judgement on a case that will set far reaching precedents for the separation of church and state. The case, named *Trinity Lutheran Church vs. Comer*, No. 15-557 is based upon the argument that states should be allowed to decide whether to give public funding to religious groups; in the Missouri State Constitution, allocating public funds in the aid of religious groups is banned. If Gorsuch votes in favor of *Trinity Lutheran Church*, the Supreme Court could change how far state governments can legally distance themselves from religion.

Justice Gorsuch would be given the tie breaking vote on this and many more cases, on issues from fair housing policy to corporate suits for human rights abuses abroad. Much like the *Citizens United* case of 2010, which allowed corporations to spend unlimited sums of money on elections, this ruling would determine large corporation's accountability in the eyes of the law, an issue that the Supreme Court is ideologically divided on. Depending on Judge Gorsuch's decisions, the direction of Constitutional interpretation could dramatically shift to the right.

Questions have been raised about Gorsuch's impartiality to the wishes of

the president. Donald Trump, a man not known for discretion or procedure, could potentially influence the Justice's decisions (or at the very least, he might believe that he can). During the 20 hour hearing before his confirmation, Gorsuch claimed total impartiality to the President's opinions, claiming that he would judge cases in the eyes of the Constitution, and no other. This statement is in many ways a reflection of Gorsuch's dedication to textualism and originalism, indicating that lawmaker's opinions on the interpretation of the constitution will not be a factor in his decisions. While this might be a relief to Democrats, one must take into account that Gorsuch will serve much longer than the President, and could easily dissent from the opinions of liberal thought, if such a decision was in line with the Constitution as Gorsuch interprets it. Aside from this, the Senate hearing held last week did not give much insight into the mind of the new Justice. Gorsuch presented himself as relatively untouchable, even in the face of a political barfight in the Senate. Nothing much of substance was said, as the new Justice withheld his opinions on several important issues, even if such questions were deemed important by key Senate Judiciary Committee members.

In the end, only time will tell as to what the Supreme Court will look like in the very near future. Will Gorsuch invite a new era of conservative interpretation of the Constitution? Or will he soften on his textualistic ideologies in order to reach across the aisle? The only thing that we know for sure is this; the time of Supreme Court deadlock under eight justices is now over for the foreseeable future .

Republicans Are Totally Okay With Selling Your Internet Secrets

by Declan Murphy
Features and List Co-Editor

Your private internet history may no longer be private, thanks to Republicans in the Senate. The GOP voted last week to not enforce Obama-era rules concerning what internet providers can do with customers' data. It's a scary breach of privacy with wide-reaching consequences. But what does this really mean for us?

These new regulations—or, more accurately, *deregulations*—put sensitive information in jeopardy. Broadband providers may have access to users' health data and, through their cell phones, where users go, what time they wake up, and so on. In a world where everyone's connected all the time, the sheer amount of data available on each and every one of us is staggering. Now imagine that telecom companies have the power to harness that information. You can stop imagining that now, because under these new rules, that's the unfortunate reality. Not only can internet providers collect this information, they can also *sell it* to advertisers, bolstering their profits at the expense of user privacy.

The Obama administration, and its FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler, had been championing privacy and net neutrality. Under the Obama administration, net neutrality was narrowly upheld. The new administration, however, has no such intentions.

This is the first action that the now Republican-controlled Senate has taken with regards to the FCC, and it does not bode well. Rolling back privacy is not a win for the users; it's a win for corporations. Users were not demanding these changes be made. Rather, this is a result of lobbying by telecom companies who want access to even more

Time to delete your porn folders, everybody

user data. It's indicative of a Republican-controlled Senate that has the interests of corporations at its heart.

This is, in fact, only the first action in a set of proposed deregulations. Already there is talk by Republicans of stripping

bandwidth to certain sites to promote them over others. For example, if Verizon chooses to slow down your friend's jewelry website but privilege Etsy, users will prefer to use Etsy. It's a subtle but insidious way to change

a *program* of deregulation instead of a single action. Trump's FCC chairman, Ajit Pai, has already rolled back Lifeline, an FCC subsidy for low-income households to get Internet access. Pai is sympathetic to Republican objections to net neutrality, which seems like the next step. Beyond simply stripping away regulations, this also means there's little hope of proposing new regulations—meaning the power of corporations can continue to grow.

There's some hope that these changes won't hold. Already, the Senate's vote to not protect users' privacy has drawn outcry from constituents. (Cards against Humanity creator Max Temkin has said that as soon as the data is available, he will buy the Internet histories of every Senator who voted for these deregulations.) And, as net neutrality was ruled to be legal in a federal appeals court last year, there is hope to preserve net neutrality through the Court system.

Fortunately for us, it will be some time before the deregulations take effect. Most corporations were not collecting the full range of data that they can now, so it will take a while before they start doing so. Also, in theory, telecom companies will allow users to opt out of this data collection. However, skeptics worry that such options will be intentionally hard to find. Users can also choose to use VPNs to hide their data from companies, but such workarounds can be risky or expensive.

There's no way around it: this is a scary invasion of privacy. If it continues as proposed, the level of surveillance by private companies will be truly unprecedented. And if deregulation continues as it has under Republicans, net neutrality may be next. So start worrying and watch what you search: Big Brother may be watching, and he looks a hell of a lot like Donald Trump.



down net neutrality, which was confirmed as law merely two years ago. Net neutrality is the principle that all internet providers have to treat all traffic the same. In other words, if you get Internet from Verizon, Verizon can't choose to make its own websites load faster than, say, Netflix. You legally get the same speeds browsing Amazon as you would a friend's blog on their own domain. If net neutrality were removed, corporations could grant more

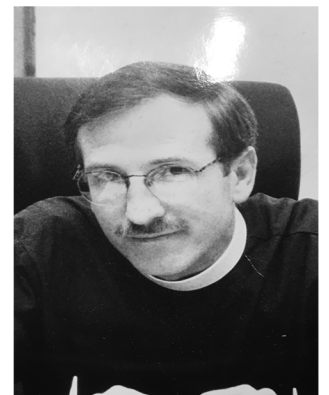
behavior. That is meant to be a light-hearted example, but the problem itself is quite serious. Telecom companies already have a near-monopoly on services, and customers suffer as a result. (Seriously, try calling Comcast customer services, like, ever.) Empowering them further is not only inconvenient, it's outright dangerous. Again, it's important to view this as

Seeking President of Jesuit University for Interview

Post Date: 2003-7-1, 3:29PM PDT

President of Jesuit University in New York City needed for comment on literally any news story. No contact has been made in years. We are in dire need of an interview. Anything will work.

Contact us at paper.fordham@gmail.com



Fordham's Adjuncts Campaign For Proper Representation

by John Looby
Co-Editor in Chief

Photos courtesy of Luis Gómez, Co-Editor in Chief.



On Saturday, members of the student body and faculty of Fordham University gathered at the Lincoln Center campus to protest the treatment of contingent professors.



Non-tenured professors are vital to Fordham's community

Contingent faculty members are both part- and full-time professors who are non-tenured like adjuncts.

The protesters aimed to force the university to address its ongoing efforts the questionably low wages paid to its adjunct faculty, and to interfere in the deliberations of the contingent faculties' attempts to unionize and



The protest occurred during the span of Lincoln Center's Spring Preview in an effort to show prospective students just what they're getting into should they decide to attend this university.

The chants of the protesters called upon Father McShane directly to an-

swer for the allegations against the Jesuit University. By many accounts, Fordham is currently failing to live up



to the Catholic ideals that should define it. Many see the lack of fair wage and the right to unionize to be acts that unjustly take advantage of professors.

For those involved in the protest, students come to this institution for an education, the quality of which de-



pends upon the rights held by those who instruct them. A professor forced to work at multiple other institutions simply to make ends meet cannot give students the attention they pay for and deserve.



Fordham's First Model United Nations Conference is a Success

by FORMUNC
Staff Global Savors

This past weekend, Fordham University held its first Model United Nations Conference, otherwise known as FORMUNC, at our Lincoln Center campus. Three high schools from the tri-state area came to discuss world issues like the Zika Virus, global security, and maternal health in order to formulate socially innovative solutions. Fordham students staffed the conference, something that is pretty unique to the world of Model UN. Most conferences aren't staffed by college kids, which is another reason why FORMUNC I was so different and successful. Both the high school delegates and FORMUNC I's staff, learned and grew from their experiences at Lincoln Center.

Inspired by the Sustainable Development Goals set forth by the UN, FORMUNC encouraged its delegates to get creative with their responses to different global problems. FORMUNC's staff had to get a bit creative too when it came to planning and holding the conference itself. The Secretariat, headed by Secretary General, Domenico Pi-

Hey! Take a look at this awesome thing one of our Editors did!

etromonaco (GSB '19), and Director General, Lala Kumakura (FCRH '19), faced roadblocks when it came to getting support from Fordham to push FORMUNC off the ground. The Secretariat depended on the guidance of its changemaker, Carey Weiss, Director of Sustainability Initiatives, to really get the ball rolling.

Under Secretary General of Crisis, Kacie Candela (FCRH '19), and her crisis team created scenarios that ranged from a missing scientist with the Zika vaccine to Raul Castro just bein' Raul Castro to some rogue Fortune 500 CEOs with off-shore accounts in the Cayman Islands. The crisis team also dealt with a rowdy bunch of high school delegates, but thankfully, FORMUNC I's chairs were well-prepared and even a bit excited to deal with all of the chaos. By the end of the weekend, everyone could agree that the crisis committees really came up with some unique solutions to some of the biggest world problems.

In the General Assembly committees, led by Under Secretary General

of the General Assembly, Rosalyn Kutsch (FCRH '19), Chairs and Assistant Chairs focused on maternal health and the rights of women. Both committees met separately on the first day of the conference, but once Chairs realized delegates never received the background guide for what was supposed to be the second topic: water; everyone had to get a little inventive. The final day of the conference culminated with both GA committees meeting together to discuss women's rights and problems in a "Women's Summit." Delegates thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to swap ideas.

The conference was super successful despite all of the little issues presented to the staff this past weekend. Delegates loved having the opportunity to work with other students from the local area as well as having a lot of personalized feedback. Since this was FORMUNC's first run, there were only about 45 delegates in attendance. This allowed for the students to get personalized feedback from their respective chairs and to really have more of an op-

portunity to talk in committee. At a lot of other Model UN conferences, there are hundreds of delegates in committee which makes it difficult for everyone to get a word in. FORMUNC I really encouraged everyone to speak up and make their voices heard.

Overall, FORMUNC I was successful despite all of the obstacles the Secretariat and staff faced. None of it would have been possible without the work of Director of Operations, Claire Nunez (FCRH '19), and Director of Business, Brendan Batcheller (GSB '19). Their team was the one that really made sure everything ran smoothly. The conference wouldn't have worked as well without them.

The staff and delegates were overly excited about FORMUNC and many are excited to return next year to work under Secretary General, Christian Hoban (FCRH '19). FORMUNC I's success can really be attributed to its staff and the Secretariat would like to thank them all, so congrats! You did it!

If you would like to work on FORMUNC II, email choban1@fordham.edu.

FAKER THAN TRUTH

By John Looby

Member of the Fordham Alt-Right Community Explains Pre-Flight Rituals

Ryan Spencer, Gabelli '18, is the first subject in our new series "How do you deal with your crippling fear and how can we use this to aggregate page views?" Mr. Spencer, a self-described "Trumpeter", apparently unaware of the musical instrument, described to us his phobia of flying on an aircraft with even just one part crafted in a foreign country. According to Spencer "you just can't trust foreign aviation equipment. Human flight was made in America and that's where it belongs." After our reporter lost twenty minutes trying to determine if one can be racist to a plane, he asked Mr. Spencer how he copes with his fear. Spencer, it turns out has quite the ritual that unsurprisingly seems to be a desperate attempt to compensate for deep-rooted insecurities. First no matter what seat he has been assigned Spencer insists that he has the right to board the plane before the rest of the passengers. His justification being that after he starts working in finance, like his father, he'll be flying first class so why does he have to wait now? Second he "mansplains" to the nearest flight attendant his "top-notch" knowledge of American aeronautics history. By many reports, Mr. Spencer is entirely unqualified to be doing this. Third, he prays to the "correct" god. When pressed on which one that is, Spencer said "mine." Finally, Spencer phones his Congressmen and calls him a "cuck" for supporting Democratic bills. At this point, our reporter left the interview, as Mr. Spencer was "just fucking insufferable." Look forward to the next installment of this series!

Two Attacks, 3600 Miles Apart, Linked By ISIS

by Luis Gómez
Co-Editor in Chief

A truck drove through a crowded street in Stockholm on Friday, April 7th, crashing into a department store and killing four people, with over fifteen injured. One suspect, an Uzbek man who had been denied asylum to Sweden, was arrested in connection to the attack.

The attack was carried out when a man stole a beer truck while the driver was conducting his delivery. The driver attempted to stop the hijacker but ultimately was unable to. The attacker then drove the truck down one of Stockholm's primary shopping streets, traveling about 500 meters before crashing into the front of the Ahlens mall. The hijacker fled the scene, and a fire broke out.

A manhunt began immediately, with the suspect arrested in connection the same day. The man, a 39-year old from Uzbekistan who had arrived in Sweden in 2014. He applied for permanent residency in 2014, but his application was denied in June 2016, and he was given two months to vacate the country. In February, his case was handed over to the police to deport him.

Two days after the attack more than 20,000 citizens took to the streets as part of a memorial demonstration that took place only a few blocks away from the site of the attack. Many left flowers and cards. Stockholm's mayor, Karin Wanngard, spoke at the event, saying "Fear shall not reign. Terror cannot win."

Four victims of the attack were named: two Swedish citizens, a Belgian, and a British man. The British man, later identified as Chris Bevington, was a senior manager at Spotify. Daniel Elk, the founder and CEO of Spotify, said in a statement that "There are no words for how missed he will be or

Attacks in Sweden and Egypt cause chaos

for how sad we all are to have lost him like this."

Oddly enough, the Ahlens mall tried to reopen on Monday to sell "damaged goods," which according to CNBC went over exactly as well as you would expect. Nice going, Ahlens mall. Great PR move.

This is the fourth attack in Europe to be committed using a vehicle in the last year. Previous attacks in Nice and Berlin had also involved trucks, while the most recent attack in Westminster was committed with a car. However, the attacks in Nice and Berlin coincided with major holidays, while these two most recent attacks seem to be nonspecific in their target or goal, other than inciting mass panic.

Daesh (more commonly known as ISIS) claimed responsibility for all the

extremist violence.

In other horribly depressing acts of terrorism, two Coptic churches in Egypt were bombed on Palm Sunday, killing over forty worshippers and police, while injuring almost a hundred people.

Daesh immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, and stated that it would continue to carry out more attacks in the future.

The first attack took place at St. Mark's Cathedral in Alexandria, where an attacker detonated a suicide bomb outside the gates of the church. The second attacker managed to get past security and move towards the front of a church in Tanta, and detonating a suicide bomb. Images from inside the church show destroyed pews and blood staining the floors and columns.

Many of the victims were children and families attending the Palm Sunday services.

In response, Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, the Egyptian president, announced he would create a special counter terrorism task force. He also declared a three-month state of emergency, a move that some critics saw as authoritarian, and evidence of Sisi's strongman tactics.

Coptic Christians

are a minority in Egypt, and have been the target of several terrorist attacks in the past six years. The most recent attack, in December, killed at least 25 people.

The attack drew consternation from across the globe. Representatives from Turkey and the UN condemned the attack as an affront to religious liberty, while Pope Francis reached out to the victims, and to Coptic Pope Tawadros II, who was leading the mass at St. Mark's Cathedral, and with whom Francis is meeting later this month. President Donald Trump tweeted in response to the attack, saying that he "has great confidence that President Al Sisi will handle [the] situation properly."



Mourners in Sweden

attacks mentioned above. While it is not yet known whether the suspect in the Stockholm attack was influenced by Daesh, Jonas Hysing, the Swedish national chief of police operations, stated that the suspect had expressed sympathies for various extremist organizations.

The continual rise of extremist-based violence in Europe has caused some concern among officials in the US. James Clapper, the former director of national intelligence, said in April 2016 that "We continue to see evidence of plotting on the part of ISIL in" Britain, Germany, and Italy. President Trump campaigned on a growing sentiment of fear towards migrants, refugees, and

Syrian Chemical Weapons Attack Horrifies World

by Hillary Bosch
Staff Help the Refugees

This past Tuesday on April 4th, the Syrian regime led by Bashar al-Assad was accused of using chemical weapons to bomb the rebel-controlled Idlib province in northwestern Syria, close to the Turkish border. At 6:30 am, an airstrike hit the town of Khan Sheikhoun with poisonous gas—one witness recalls seeing the blue and yellow from the plane. Minutes later, other parts of the town were bombed by three more airstrikes, although there is no evidence of poisonous gas in these attacks.

When medics arrived on the scene, victims were showing symptoms of poison by a neurotoxic agent—the nature of which has yet to be confirmed. Experts suspect Sarin gas was used. Depending on the extent of exposure and inhalation, symptoms ranged from headaches, nausea, and blurred vision to paralysis, loss of consciousness, and deadly respiratory distress. Several hours after the initial attacks, hospitals and medical camps that were set up to treat victims were

also targeted and bombed, rendering them ineffective and unable to continue to retrieve and treat victims. Abdul Hamid Youssef, a survivor of the attacks, says he lost 25 family members to the bombings including his two 9 month-old twins, Ahmad and Aya. Though information is still coming in, estimates show that at least 70 men, women, and children were killed in the attacks, mostly of asphyxiation.

The Syrian government, who signed the 1925 Geneva Protocol banning use of such weapons, denied their involvement in the airstrikes and claimed it was carried out by terrorist groups. Although the United States military has radar evidence linking Syrian planes to the location of the bombings, Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem denounces the data, saying that Syria has never, and will never, use chemical weapons against their own citizens. Syria claims that at 11:30 am (5 hours after the airstrikes), they bombed a

US foreign policy changes in an instant

terrorist arsenal and munitions compound which may have contained chemical weapons and thus caused the disaster. The Russian Foreign Ministry supports Syria's response and condemns leaders for assuming Assad's regime was behind the attacks, asking for an investigation into the situation.

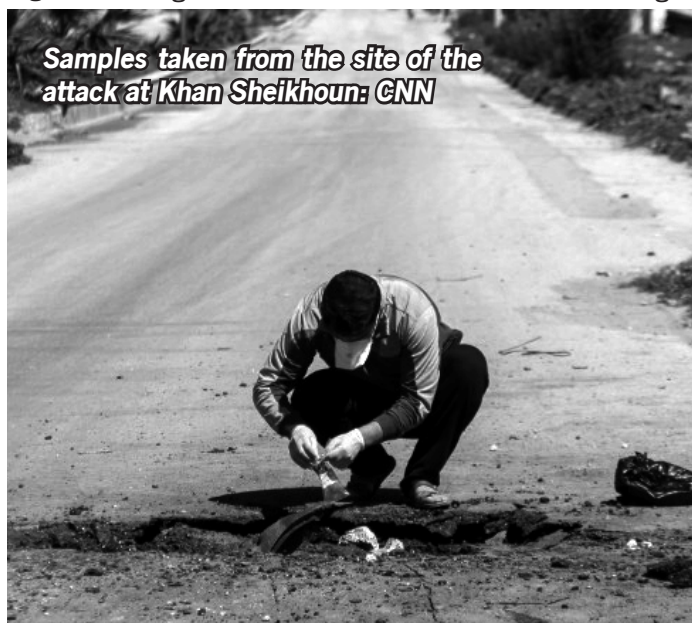
World leaders such as German Chancellor Angela Merkel, British Prime Minister Theresa May, and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan have condemned the attacks

approval before considering actions in Syria. During his administration, Trump has and is still making multiple attempts to ban refugees fleeing from the violence in Syria, and other countries afflicted by war and terrorism, from entering the United States.

But now, Trump calls the conflict "horrific" and "an affront to humanity," apparently enough to merit military action he condemned only a few years ago. In response to recent events, Trump says "my attitude toward Syria and Assad has changed very much." While the Trump administration says their general foreign policy approach will remain unchanged, these new actions open the door for increased military presence in the region. Before this week, Trump expressed that his focus was on ISIS, not the Syrian regime. Does the presence of chemical weapons shift his administration's focus or expand it to include more opponents? Will Trump increase US military presence in Syria or was this a one-time retaliation? In addition to military action, humanitarian groups, such as the International Rescue Committee, are pleading

for the US to foster peace talks and congruently increase diplomatic relations in the region. So far, the administration has said that it will increase sanctions, but pledges no further action. On Sunday, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley commented on the attacks, claiming Trump is "prepared to do more," as she thinks peace through diplomacy will be unlikely with the Assad regime in power.

The Syrian war and growing humanitarian crisis demands greater diplomacy and peace in the region, yet does it require US military intervention? With Russia sponsoring Syrian military forces, every action the US takes—military, humanitarian, or diplomatic—must be carefully evaluated in how it will affect the many players in the conflict. Though the Trump administration has been tight-lipped and vague in its policies towards Syria, one thing is for sure—this is not a conflict we can overlook anymore. We are involved and cannot go back.



Samples taken from the site of the attack at Khan Sheikhoun: CNN

as caused by the Syrian regime. However Prime Minister Theresa May has asked for an investigation to prove Assad was behind it.

US President Donald Trump responded with more than words on Thursday afternoon when he ordered 60 American Tomahawk missiles to be fired from a Navy destroyer stationed in the Mediterranean, targeting a Syrian airbase. This marks a change from Trump's foreign policies, which are pulling out of international agreements and ceasing to be the "policeman of the world." His actions also contradict his tweets and comments from 2013 when he condemned Obama for threatening military force if Syria used chemical weapons on its citizens, in which he said "what will we get for bombing Syria besides more debt and a possible long term conflict?" He criticized the past administration for not seeking congressional

Reader Than Fact

By Rachel Poe

High Schoolers Prove the Importance of Student-Run Publications

The student-run publication at Pittsburg High School, The Booster Redux, had only intended to write up a profile on their newly hired principal, Amy Robertson, when some important facts didn't line up. During a conference call with Robertson to gather information for their featurette, Robertson "presented incomplete answers, conflicting dates, and inconsistencies in her responses," the Booster Redux reported. Robertson claimed to have obtained her masters and doctorate from Corllins University so the students dug deeper. While searching for more information about Corllins University, they found that not only did the school's website not work but it was not registered with the Department of Education. Alongside with the Kansas City Star, the students found multiple articles that referred to Corllins University as a "diplomia mill."

The Booster Redux published their findings that questioned the legitimacy of Robertson's degrees and four days later, she resigned from her \$93,000 a year position only weeks after she had been hired. While the newspaper has received some dismissal of their claims, their community and many others across the country have been praising them for their hard and careful work.

Apparently, Robertson had been the most qualified person for the job with the Pittsburg Community Schools' Board of Education posting, just a day prior to the newspaper's finding, a statement titled "Dr. Robertson Brings Decades of Experience to PHS." Ironic, isn't?

Bill O'Reilly at Center of Five Harassment Settlements

by Rachel Poe
News Co-Editor

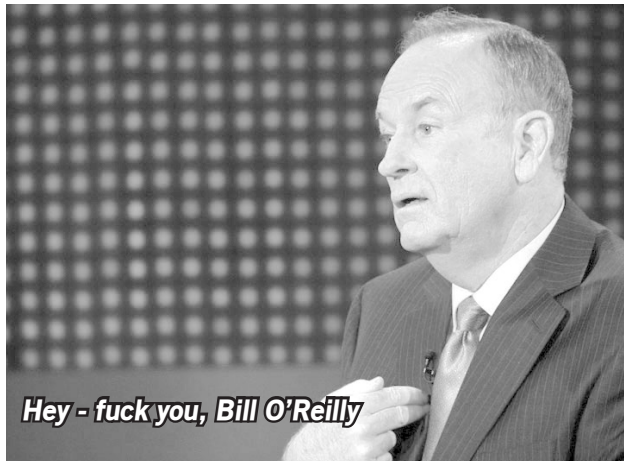
Bill O'Reilly has been a staple on cable TV for almost as long as I've been alive. For two decades, The O'Reilly Factor has not only raked in billions in ad revenue but has been the "No. 1 Program in Cable News" for most of that time. But Bill O'Reilly now is on the verge of falling from his conservative pedestal as a The New York Times investigation found that O'Reilly, Fox News, and their parent company, 21st Century Fox, have collectively dished out \$13 million in settlements since 2002. These settlements, The Times reported, were to ensure that five women did not speak out, press charges, or pursue further litigation in regards to their sexual harassment allegations against O'Reilly. These women have either worked for O'Reilly or appeared on The O'Reilly Factor. Two of the five were previously known.

These allegations cover a wide range of inappropriate behavior on the part of O'Reilly which includes verbal abuse, lewd comments, unwanted advances, and phone calls during which O'Reilly might have been masturbating. According to The Times, there seemed to be a pattern to his actions. Since O'Reilly is an influential figure at Fox News, he used that power to his advantage, creating a bond with the victims, offering them advice, and promising to help them professionally. Once a professional relationship was established, he would attempt to "pursue sexual relationships with them, causing some to fear that if they rebuffed him, their careers would stall."

Of the previously known settle-

O'Reilly blames his fame when he really should be blaming his ego

ments, the first happened in about 2004 which came to about \$9 million with a producer. The second, which was settled last year, involved on-air personality Juliet Huddy. Documents of the settlement reveal that Huddy was paid somewhere in the high six-figures for her silence and agreement not to sue. O'Reilly's lawyers denied her claims of harass-



Hey - fuck you, Bill O'Reilly

ment. The three newly discovered settlements involved two sexual harassment claims and a verbal abuse claim related to an encounter between O'Reilly and a young producer in which he "berated" her in front of newsroom colleagues. In addition to the five women who have reached settlements, two other women have spoken out against O'Reilly. 21st Century Fox is already preparing for more allegations to surface.

O'Reilly's statements on the matter say that his fame has left him vulnerable to attacks just like this. He claims his decision to settle came from the desire to protect his children and did not stem from any sort of guilt. These sexual harassment accusations against O'Reilly were revealed not long after former

Fox News chairman, Roger Ailes, was dismissed for his position last summer due to his own sexual harassment scandal. Fox News has so far reached settlements with six of the women with claims against Ailes but a significant number of women have come forward with similar accusations, including former Fox News host Megyn Kelly. During that scandal, Fox News said that they had no tolerance for behavior that "disrespects women or contributes to an uncomfortable work environment."

Clearly, regardless of 21st Century Fox's statements, there is a pattern here of men in influential positions within Fox News taking advantage of that power for their own sexual exploitation.

21st Century Fox has stated that it "takes matters of workplace behavior very seriously," but "denies the merits of these claims." According to them, none of the women used a company "hotline" to report the abuse and harassment. Former Fox News anchor Alisyn Camerota, who now anchors CNN's New Day, said on air on Thursday that this "hotline" does not exist. It is a very real possibility that these women felt like they could not go to Fox News or 21st Century Fox, out of fear that the issue would have been swept under the rug in favor of the more prominent member of their community. Current and former members of the network have expressed their concerns with the media and with legal counsel regarding Fox News and its parent company's ability to handle workplace sexual harassment. Lisa Bloom, who represents Wendy Walsh, one of the five women who have reached a settlement, is calling for an independent investigation.

Still amid all this controversy, O'Reilly's \$18 million contract has

been renewed. Or, at least, it is no longer due to expire at the end of this year. This is mostly likely a show of support from Fox without having to explicit about it.

The backlash was almost immediate after the story broke right at the beginning of April. According to CNN, upwards of 21 companies have pulled advertising from The O'Reilly Factor, including Mercedes-Benz, Hyundai, BMW of North America, Allstate and Esurance, and Credit Karma. On Thursday's episode of the The O'Reilly Factor, they only ran seven ads during its 60-minute run time. The show pulled in nearly \$250 million in ad revenue from 2014-2016.

The latest person to weigh in on the situation was President Trump who defended O'Reilly. During an interview with The New York Times, Trump said that he believed O'Reilly wasn't guilty of any wrong doing, but "shouldn't have settled." Trump himself has been the center of a number of sexual harassment scandals, most notably his "locker room talk" conversation with Billy Bush from 2006 in which he described grabbing women "by the pussy." It's unclear as of right now what long term effect this will have on O'Reilly's career. If other cases of this nature are any indication, these settlements will only be a footnote. Just look at Trump, he still became president regardless.

Sexual harassment by male colleagues and superiors is a chronic problem women face in the workplace. This is not a new phenomenon. Women in every profession, from the media to our military, struggle to establish their credibility in a male-dominated society. Women are more than just their looks and their sexuality. If anything, hopefully this scandal will remind companies that sweeping sexual harassment claims under the rug will only end up blowing up in your face in the long run.

ORGANA ERSO 2020

"Somebody has to save our skins,
into the garbage chute, flyboy!"





Sexual Harassment is Rampant and We can Work to End it

by Anonymous
Staff Tell-All

I think that most people can agree that sexual harassment happens way too frequently. So many of my friends often just write off unsolicited dick pictures and hide their feelings of discomfort. I have received too many pictures from men that I have not wanted to see. I have often felt immense pressure to respond or coerced into sending a picture back. Not until recently, have I chalked up these pictures to sexual harassment. I never reply to unsolicited pictures now and I usually block the sender. I try to keep my head up whenever I see a sender around, but the other day I found myself feeling uncomfortable around a former sexual harasser. It was not because of his presence but instead because he is now dating a woman that I have known since freshman year.

I met the man who harassed me through a mutual friend. I didn't think anything of his contacting me at first. It was somewhat flirty. He asked me on a date, but I politely denied. All of a sudden, his messages to me became sexually explicit. Messages turned into Snapchats and it began to get dicey. He would send me pictures of his erect penis every day. It was excessive. I was overwhelmed, but I tried to make light of the situation to my friends. My best friend pressured me into feeling complimented by this man's willingness to send me a nude picture. I didn't have warm and fuzzy feelings-- I did not want these Snapchats. He constantly messaged me saying he wanted me to come to his apartment. Every day, I would get a Snapchat message simply saying,

An unsolicited nude will not make me come over. Please know this.

"come over". I sometimes didn't answer but more often than not, I would. I'd just say "I'm in class" or "no".

He never got the memo. He kept messaging me. I always thought I had to answer. I really should have just blocked him. One day he just stopped sending pictures of himself and I went through my day without that feeling of unease. It took me a little bit to

community. We have a lot in common. I have always admired her for the passion she has for others. I was utterly shocked to hear that she was dating someone whom I considered to be a complete asshole. How can someone so kind be with someone who just tried to get me to have sex with him with pictures of his dick?

This discovery threw me into a tail-

just write it off as just a minor thing but also because I am petrified of his retribution. I really don't know how to approach the whole situation, but I do know that sexual harassment is often overlooked on college campuses. We all freak out when someone famous is a sexual harasser, like Bill O'Reilly or Mr. President Trump, yet we tend to overlook smaller cases of sexual harassment that happen on a daily basis.

People need to stop sending unsolicited nudes. It is very hard for me to understand why anyone sends pictures of themselves in an attempt to get the receivers in bed. Also, it is another problem that senders will sometimes pressure the receiver into sending a similarly styled picture back. This has always been the worst part for me. I used to be a very weak person, always putting someone else's wants in front of mine-- yes, even in the case of strangers asking for nudes.

Sending nudes is dangerous and if they are unsolicited, they are considered sexual harassment. I just want people to recognize that they 1) shouldn't send compromising images of themselves to people if it makes them uncomfortable, and 2) have the power to end the cycle. By blocking my former sexual harasser, a weight was lifted off of me. I gained more control over this awful situation.

For those who do not feel that they cannot shake their sexual harasser off, contact Public Safety or the NYPD. Title XI protects students from sexual harassment and requires university admins to conduct an investigation.



Explicit content is not wanted

recognize why I was feeling better. It was obviously because this random acquaintance of mine was no longer sending me penis shots. A few weeks later, I found out that he was dating a girl I have always been fond of.

As a rising senior, I have known this girl for several years. We have had classes together and she is so sweet, is absolutely hilarious, and cares a lot about social issues that plague our

spin. Do I tell her? Does she know? What do I do? I never told her. I just couldn't bring myself to inject myself into the life and relationship of a woman I just casually know. Whenever I see either of them though, I do feel pangs of guilt and waves of discomfort.

I don't think that I could ever tell her what her boyfriend did. It may just be because I am afraid she will

Fordham's Contingent Faculty is Angry and Rightfully So

by Joshua Rosen
Staff Professor Liason

Over fifty percent of Fordham University's faculty population is contingent faculty. A contingent faculty member refers to someone who has either a full or part time position that is non-tenure. At Fordham, these community members are currently being exploited. They have no job security, no worker benefits, and are paid criminally low wages. While tenured faculty have job security and representation through the Faculty Senate, contingent faculty have no such form of organized voice. Due to this underrepresentation, many of Fordham's contingent faculty have been fighting for something similar to the Faculty Senate. In hopes of gaining this representation many have joined the group Fordham Faculty United. For the past two years Fordham Faculty United (FFU) has been transparent with Fordham in their attempts towards

Fordham's actions are not only unjust but show an evident disconnect between administration and a majority of our faculty members.

worker rights. One such example is an open forum that recently occurred at the Rose Hill campus. The purpose of the forum was to achieve compromise between school and faculty; both contingent and tenured faculty attended the discussion. Even student repre-

We pay a lot of tuition only for our professors to not be paid enough

sentation was present. The only piece of the puzzle missing was a university presence, as Fordham administration completely ignored the invitation.

Fordham administration has either been dismissive or completely ignored all efforts made by their contingent fac-

tions." What would happen after FFU's filing could not have interfered more with their two years of deliberations.

In an attempt to continue contingent faculty's unacceptable working conditions, Fordham University filed an objection shortly after the FFU's attempt

contingent faculty in a standstill and preventing any progress towards their goals. Fordham has achieved this by creating an objection that is filled with lies and inconsistencies. More specifically, an objection that is in direct contradiction with Fordham's claims to support social justice initiatives and in direct conflict with Catholic social teachings regarding worker rights. In my opinion, Fordham's actions are not only unjust but show an evident disconnect between administration and a majority of our faculty members. Remember, this is a group of faculty members that are essential and necessary for everyday instruction and operation around its campuses.

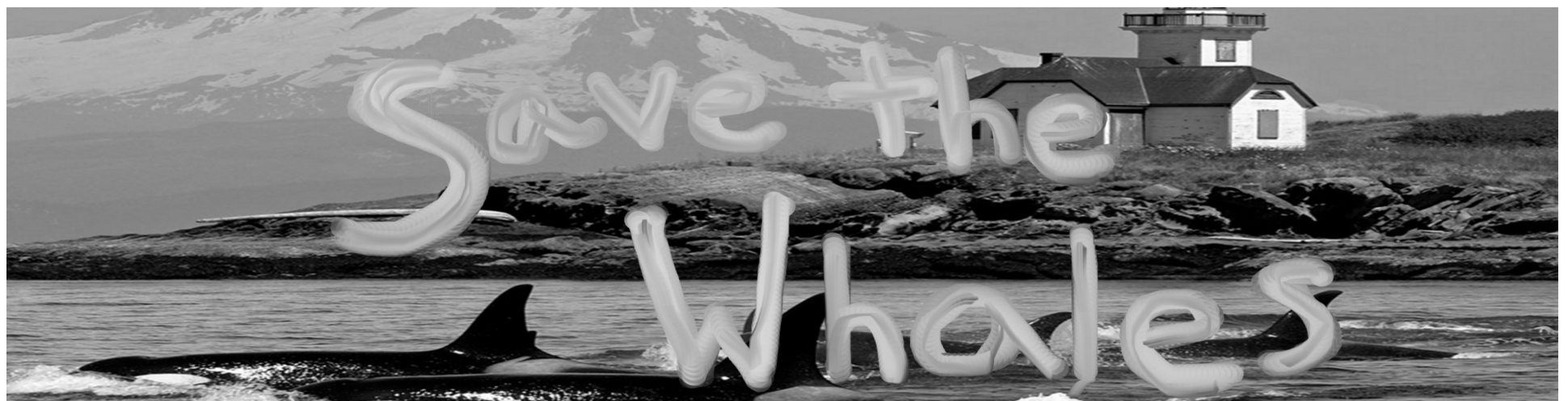
More than anything else, the FFU would like Fordham to come forward with their own offer; one that supports and structures contingent faculty and does not involve the NLRB. This is unfortunately not in Fordham's interest. So, rather than playing by Fordham's rules, the FFU has decided to pull their filing from the NLRB because they have no desire to fight in this war through endless litigation and now wish to pursue their goals through public campaigning. The FFU believes this to be the best and most beneficial step for all of its members. Going forward, they wish to keep this issue in front of Fordham and draw attention to the problems they see and are facing. The FFU has taken away Fordham's ability to send the conflict away to the NLRB. This means that the NLRB is no longer playing a key role in the future of contingent faculty affairs. Rather, the Fordham and NYC community have taken on this role.



ulty. Fordham University representation can be quoted via email claiming their contingent faculty wages are "industry standard." This corporate language is constantly being used to disregard half of its faculty's needs. For this reason, FFU has recently turned away from seeking a compromise to filing a form to unionize with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). This filing hoped to give FFU the organized voice they so desperately need. However, Fordham's response was quick. Before filing to the NLRB, contingent faculty requested to meet with Father McShane, but this meeting never even occurred! In fact, Father McShane's response was, "I do not wish to interfere with your delibera-

to form a union. FFU was not expecting this challenge after Father McShane's email. It's obvious that Fordham has been doing its research. Aspects of their objection have clearly been drawn from similar cases. In a statement from Fordham, it is clear that they fully oppose any organized contingent voice. The objection attempts to claim religious freedom. This would justify and prevent any contingent faculty voice and continue the exploitive relationship between Fordham and its non-tenured faculty. It places a clear distinction between contingent faculty and tenured faculty.

Fordham administration's goal is to tie the FFU up in litigation, putting



The Hypocritical Hegemony of Gay Culture

by Reyna Wang
Earwax Editor

This piece has been edited for length. The full version appears on our website. Go read it there, nerds.

In the U.S., 7% of millennials ages 18 to 35 identify as LGBT, which is almost twice the amount of the estimated U.S. adults that do so. It seems that at least in the more “liberal” areas of the country, there has been incredible progress among young people in terms of accepting their LGBTQ+ peers. At Fordham, I feel very lucky to be surrounded by people who encourage others to be proud and vocal about their sexual orientations and gender identities. There’s even a sort of tangible pressure to identify as LGBTQ+ that’s derived from the pride associated with these identities, though I don’t think there is anything wrong with the sort of peer pressure considering pressure to be straight that’s derived from the shame associated with being queer, imposed by systemic heteronormativity and mainstream culture.

What I am starting to feel uncomfortable with is the peer pressure in queer social circles to be a certain type of queer, a type that is associated with a specific aesthetic, a specific type of dialogue, a specific sense of humor, and a specific set of interests. To some extent, talking about how you label yourself in terms of sexual orientation is liberating for yourself and everyone else; it combats stigma by forcing mainstream society to confront the existence of queer people and humanize their conception of the LGBTQ+ category, and it creates

Even non-normative cultures have meaningless, self-imposed rules

a more comfortable space for other queer people to stop hiding their sexualities from the public. However, I so often hear my queer friends say, especially on social media, “You look so gay” any time anyone wears a plaid flannel, or highlight their appreciation for, say, cats or a certain musical artist as a mark of being “gay.” These statements can be damaging in that they reinforce the belief often held by mainstream society that the choices and interests of queer people are products of their sexual orientation, depersonalizing them and lumping them into a category that is intrinsically incompatible with mainstream culture.

It can be crucial for marginalized groups to develop a shared culture as a facet of their liberation movements. Certain hairstyles popular in communities of ethnic or racial minorities can serve as important methods of resisting the pressure to assimilate to white Western culture. Tastes in music that are characteristic of certain marginalized communities can be an effective way to unify these communities and imbue them with a sense of pride, making their fights for liberation stronger and more spirited. However, the gay culture that increasingly saturates my social life and social media feeds, seems more ornamental than personally meaningful, more hypocritically hegemonic than diversely expressive, and more a form of self-indulgence than a means of resistance. Gay liberation has always been about empowering shameless self-expression, yet more and more often, people’s expressions

of the gay identity feel like forced reminders that they do indeed meet the unstated qualifications for being gay and thus maintain their esteemed position in queer social circles. I often hear the phrase “iconic gay,” referring to a queer person who is “very gay” because they exemplify the dominant gay culture and thus hold a more prominent and solidified social position within the gay community. Even the term “gay,” used as an umbrella term used to describe gay, lesbian, and bisexual people, can be imbued with biphobic connotations, as the iconic gay is understood to be monosexual, and thus bisexuals are considered somehow less queer.

Lesbian, gay and bisexual identities is not like other marginalized identities concerning race, gender, and class in that they not assigned to you by the external world. They are identities that only you can perceive unless you choose to share them with others, though you are oppressed by them whether or not you decide to share. So when there is a normative standard for gayness, that encompasses preferences and actions beyond those directly related to sexual orientation, queer people who do not fit this cultural standard are often accused of experimenting or exploiting “real” gay people by merely trying on the identity. The standard can intimidate these queer people from opening up about their sexual orientation and prevent them from receiving the support of others in queer social circles. Increasingly, I am being invited to events and spaces which explicitly deny access to straight people. Again,

I don’t find this a problem in itself since queer people have been and still are denied access or admission to many resources and spaces, so sometimes the only way to guarantee queer people’s needs come first is to establish a purely queer space. I am, however, troubled by gay-only social gatherings, which are often only by invite yet have no inherent relation to queerness, since people must out themselves, as well as conform to normative gay culture, in order to feel accepted and included by their gay friends. An identity based in the virtues of inclusion, creative expression, and self-love is at risk of becoming divisive and fostering conformity and insecurity if it has not already.

The only utility the direct expression of gayness holds is to make the gay identity a source of pride and visibility, to resist the shame and erasure that mainstream heteronormative society imposes on queer people. The ultimate goal of any liberation movement should be to destabilize the duality-based identity itself, as it was invented and is enforced by hegemonic culture in order to oppress. Is it productive, then, to reinforce the gay identity within the gay community itself? Does this promote self-esteem in both longstanding and newer members of the community? Is confrontation an effective form of resistance, or does it work with the shackles with which heteronormative society has chained LGBTQ+ people? I don’t have definitive answers to these questions, but as queer people united in our liberation, we owe it to ourselves to give them some good thought.

peace. love. lent.
give up hotdogs



Why My Roommate Should Let Me Have a Pet Tegu

by Anna Passero-Koennecke
Copy Chief

I think reptiles are the cutest little cuddle bugs to grace the surface of the Earth. Since my roommate has previously shot down Komodo dragons (apparently their specialized manner of hunting with a unique bacteria/venom combo “does not count as adorable talent”) and my request for a king cobra was met with a muffled scream into a pillow, I have decided to make my case for a tegu, specifically the Argentine red tegu.

Some of you may have seen videos of these lizards going around, likely of the tubby MacGyver snuggling up to his owners and eating a wide variety of food. Tegus are omnivores, and don’t require live feeding, which is good since my roommate likes rats and doesn’t want to see them fed to my future scale baby. Male red tegus can reach four and a half feet in length and have the cutest jowls known to Earth, so it’s not like we would lose him! A red, dog sized creature is hard to misplace, but they are not too big to be put into a carrying case when riding public

The rest of the paper staff does not share this love of tegus....

transportation.

Tegus are very smart lizards and can be trained, and who doesn’t



want to see a little red jowl monster come trotting over when called? Anyone can get a cute little puppy to come to them, but it would be a much more impressive if you shouted “Mr. Stewie!” (my roommate is currently yelling that this is “a crap name” but I am ignoring all this negativity) and everyone expects a golden retriever to come scampering in but instead a large lizard rolls up into the joint

to be rewarded with some grapes and belly rubs. However, lizards are cold-blooded and prefer to spend a

lot of time laying in one place sunbathing. This is about the most we will have to do activity wise, which means a tegu will match our life style much better, since lying about is my preferred activity as well.

Now there is some concern over the fact that tegus prefer a tropical climate, and New York State is

not exactly South America, the origin home of tegus. However, with global warming going at the rate it is, soon the tegu will be happy anywhere. In the meantime, since the dorms are kept at approximately the same temperature as the first layer of the sun, the tegu will probably enjoy Fordham housing more than anyone else ever has.

Tegus are also clean little darlings,

enjoying the occasional shower, which is more than I can say for my dog (I love you Athena, even if you are stinky pup). So no, they are not gross, and yes, I am ignoring that most of them carry Salmonella. After all, we should make sacrifices for those we love, such as our future lizard overlords of cuteness.

Tegus will also be great conversation starters, and probably the best wingman ever. No need for awkward small talk about majors and classes when you have a giant ass lizard sitting next to you. Especially when said lizard looks fly as hell in the new accessories I bought it. It’s impossible to be boring when you travel with a suave red lizard in a bowtie and top hat.

So this is my case for why my roommate should let me get a tegu lizard. I trust this request will be given much fairer consideration than my other pet requests have been, and can see no possible way my roommate will turn my request for a tegu down. Who could look at those big, grape eating cheeks and say “no”?

Follow up: She still says “no”

Hollywood, When Will You Realize Romance is DEAD? Because it is.

by Meredith Mclaughlin
Copy Editor

Everyone loves romance, right? It’s just such a wonderful thing to be in love with the right person. The one thing that can almost replicate that feeling for those like me who are romantically illiterate is watching two characters in a show or movie get together. When romance in a show is done well, it can be a great part of the plot that really helps the characters shine through. But I’m sure I’m not alone when I say that sometimes these TV love affairs can feel really forced and out of place. While a good romance can make a show work, a bad romance has two times the opposite effect. I am here today to take a stand against dumb romances in shows and movies. It’s time Hollywood realized that it’s sometimes ok for the main characters to remain friends.

Dating is dumb. Stop making me watch people fall in “love”.

I’ve found this problem in the show *Archer*. While I really enjoy the show and love all the characters, I don’t think the show is serious enough for me to expect a real relationship from it. The main character is egotistical and insensitive. I know this is far from a problem, but his personality makes it difficult to believe one of his colleagues would have deep feelings for him. The show keeps trying to push Archer and Lana as a couple on me; they’ll shove in scenes where one of the characters will say “I don’t like Archer/Lana, right?” Meanwhile, another character snorts, climbs through the screen, puts the viewer in a headlock and whispers “Of course they do. They are really very in love and should ‘just screw already.’ This is something you’d like to see.” *Archer*’s problem is that it expects the viewer to support a

relationship between two people who just seem to hate each other. It doesn’t matter if they say they’re “friends” if they don’t show it. I couldn’t care less about their relationship. Their “love” feels out of place and messes up the flow of the show. And every forced romance is like this. The show would be the same without that specific plot point, so why bother?

The worse a forced romance is, the more obvious it is to the viewer. A good romance shows chemistry rather than tells it; it usually does a good job of making the viewer want the characters to get together. However, sometime the best romances are the ones that aren’t there at all. Can you imagine how much better *Captain America: Civil War* would be if there wasn’t that obnoxious romance subplot between Steve Rogers and his old girlfriend’s niece, Sharon Carter?

That monstrosity is a perfect example of terrible, trite romances. No one asked for them to get together, no one wanted to see them kiss, but they did! Who’s idea was it to have him date his old girlfriend’s niece? I can not iterate how little it matters to me if they get together in the comics because that’s one of those things that should have stayed in the comics. It added nothing to movie, and the only thing it served to do was to make *Captain America* look like an even bigger asshole. If the romance in your movie can be taken out with no change on the story, then it is best left taken out. People don’t want to sit through mushy dialogue with no heart when they could be watching sick action scenes. If you’re going to have a romance in your film, you have to commit to it and make it work (just like in real life, apparently.)

the paper's View

There's A Whole World Outside Eddie's

Oh shit guys it's above 61 degrees fahrenheit, better grab Kan Jam, a legion of dudebros, and sit in a circle listening to that playlist you spent hours making so it would sound just like everyone elses. It's like Woodstock except totally irrelevant to the world at large.

Now let's turn back the clock a few years.

Suburban Mom: "So why, Fordham, hun?"

Dudebro: "I want to be in NYC."

Suburban Mom (hiding fear of separation) : "That's sounds like so much fun for you."

Dudebro proceeds to spend 4 years on campus grassfield

Sound familiar? It's the Fordham vicious cycle. The desire to exist in the culture of New York at large, but the overwhelming laziness that results in many of us just staying in our dorms or sitting in the middle of campus, until we finally go out three blocks from campus on the weekend. We've all been guilty of this: the conversation about going out in the city that ends with you standing in Mugz's watching people fueling the next day's regrets. Next time just go into the city. Try some fancy restaurant that'll make your wallet weep. Go to Brooklyn, get a tattoo, and disappoint your mother. Anything but the usual. We're only here for four years, why not make the most of them? I mean the subway is not that gross lately. Naming the rats really adds a nice homey touch to the slowly decreasing level of filth. Hopefully we can casually avoid eye contact with each other on the train in the coming weeks.

Paperly,
John Looby



Literally the least interesting part of New York

H O R O S C O P E S

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

Your birthday will suck. Have fun eating cake by yourself! LOSER!

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

You're too fucking lazy & stubborn to do shit. So when you fall in a ditch tomorrow, you won't do anything

Gemini (May 21 – June 20)

Pick up some concealer because both of your faces will break out this week. Yikes.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

No one will value your creativity this week...grab a tissue box and stay indoors as much as you can.

Leo (July 23 – August 22)

Congrats on being full of yourself! It'll bite you in the ass on Wed. when your roomie smashes your mirrors

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

Hope you like ass tattoos because you're getting one Friday against your (sober) will!

Libra (September 23 – October 22)

Your friends are going on a trip without you. Sad! Too bad for you; sucks to suck, you sensitive bean.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)

You're a bitch and a hoe. You know no one likes you but you don't care. Kudos to you!

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21)

Literally, not figuratively, no one will laugh at anything you say this week. Or next week. Or ever.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)

You know nothing actually. Have fun failing life for the next few days. The stars don't lie.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)

This week you'll finally tell your crush you like them, but you'll puke all over yourself after. #RIP

Pisces (February 19 – March 20)

You will not be left alone and you will be swarmed with bees Saturday. Hopefully, you're not allergic

A Look at the Commuter Lifestyle as told by a Former Resident

by Adam Hamilton

Staff Commuter Advocate

Half of my time here at Fordham has been spent commuting. My freshman year, I was told there was not enough housing. The school determined I didn't need it since I lived close enough to commute. When I applied, I hoped for guaranteed housing for four years, but, as it wasn't meant to be, I jumped feet first into the commuter lifestyle. The school picked my schedule first semester and gave me an 8:30 everyday. I struggled to juggle a social life, schoolwork, planning travel on my weekends, and running for President of the CSA freshman board. The whole time, all I could think about was that my schedule was exactly like it was in high school, taking the same bus every day to head into the Bronx for school. Despite my best efforts, I lost the CSA election. I was crushed. Then, my luck seemed to turn around. Come second semester, the school found a spot for me on campus. After experiencing a hell of a semester, I figured I should take the opportunity.

Living on campus after commuting was night and day. My nights were less about trying to memorize the Bx12 schedule and more devoted to studying for my exams the following week. I had friends. Not temporaries or passersby, I had neighbors that I ran into on a regular basis. Weekend outings no longer needed an itinerary; I could just get up and go. Stuff just happened—people would invite me to play pickup basketball, or want to go grab a bite later. I now had the opportunity to be impulsive. A weight was lifted off of my shoulders.

The biggest change was dinner. Instead of being at home with my family, I formed a new family. The dining room (living room with the TV on) was replaced with a noisy and lively caf. The after dinner activities changed too. Instead of fighting over the television with my brother, my mates and I would get on Xbox together for tournaments, or go bother somebody down the hall. If they wanted to watch something I didn't, I could just mosey over to Eddie's for a quick breather. I could be social after five.

Sophomore year I continued to stay on campus. It was nice to choose my roommates and plan out my own

Fordham should help its commuters to be more involved on campus

space. I had time to dedicate to extracurriculars. I started writing for the paper and began tutoring. My grades improved, and I was fortunate to receive a summer internship. I met new people, including some of my best friends. It was a good year for me. I was content to go on as things were; I wanted this to last forever. But life always has other plans. My sister started college, money was tight, and so we decided that it made sense for me

however I was sorely mistaken. After the loss in November, I was crushed again. To add insult to injury, I still had trouble connecting on campus. I felt I did not have a place: not a home, not a dorm, but a place at Fordham.

On a daily basis, the commuter has to work overtime to achieve one of the fundamental challenges of the college experience—finding a sense of connection to something greater than him or herself. It blows my mind that a

self-confidence. As of now, mainly residents are attending these late sessions. Those who travel long distances are excluded. My former position on the College Democrats E-board allowed me to watch commuters slowly fade out of club meetings because of the late hours.

Second, Student Government needs to be more representative. As of now, none of the 20 USG senators are commuters despite commuters being 20% of the student body. Most kids do not even know they have senators, especially commuters. USG senators are supposed to be representative of their class year, but with the low voter turnout and the large number of resident voters, there is currently little reason for them to reach out and address these commuter issues.

Third, there needs to be more commuter-friendly spaces on campus. The student center in McGinley is colloquially referred to as the commuter lounge for a reason; however, it closes early, 8:00 at night. There is little where else to go. They even got rid of the Dealy lounge, a space I often found solace in. Residents get 24-hour lounges, and the guest policy prohibits commuters from getting the same. The lounges and study space of the dorms should be accessible to commuters without needing someone signing us in. Currently, these areas are often under used and would be another opportunity for commuters and residents to bond and better get to know each other.

With these proposed changes, the freshman commuter would most certainly be better off. The engagement between commuters and residents would build Fordham camaraderie, brotherhood, and sisterhood, and help uphold Fordham's commitment to multicultural, interdisciplinary, and intersectional learning—learning that is constructed from many voices and inclusive of all the experiences that make up our one community.

Next year is my senior year, and I will proudly wave my commuter flag. I will not give up. And, with my head held high, I will fight for any student who is looking for that place to call home at Fordham, because he or she is a reflection of me.



to come back home. I traded comfort for affordability.

I began commuting again. To add to the mix, I started working three days a week at the Clinton campaign in Brooklyn. Travel was horrendous. Without a space of my own at Fordham, the campus culture eluded me. I had to stop going to club meetings, including the paper. The seven-hour wait between my class and the club meeting did not fit my schedule. I carried all my books for all my classes at once. In my spare time, I drifted in and out of the library and the various lounges here on campus which all close by 8 p.m. I was a nomad at Fordham. I still had the friends I'd made the previous years, but I wasn't on campus enough to see them as much as I wanted. I told myself it was one of the sacrifices of working for Hillary;

portion of people could feel so separate from campus culture when they are so integral to it—20% of the Fordham student body is made up of commuters! CSA did a great job of helping commuters to connect to each other, but there is still an experience of separation from the resident community.

There are a few changes that need to be made at Fordham to improve the commuter lifestyle, changes that will help all students, commuters or not, build greater community and connection:

First, from my conversations with fellow commuters, we all agree that the club times are held too late, including club sports teams. Practices and meet ups start as late as eight or nine o'clock. These clubs are a major missed opportunity because they offer networks of friends and help build



13 Reasons Why* Starts a New Era for Teen Dramas *SPOILERS

by Rachel Poe
News Co-Editor

Right at the end of March, Netflix dropped its original series *13 Reasons Why*, based on the bestselling book, and I binged it in about a day. This isn't Netflix's first attempt at creating a full-length series based off a bestseller. A *Series of Unfortunate Events* dropped earlier this year and I'm a big fan of this new trend. The best way to transfer a book into the screen is a serialized show, there's no way around it so keep 'em coming, Netflix.

Now, before we get into my analysis of the show, I just want to give a brief trigger warning. *13 Reasons Why* deals explicitly with suicide, depression, bullying, verbal and physical abuse, and rape. So, take caution, please.

13 Reasons Why starts off roughly a couple weeks after 17-year-old Hannah Baker's suicide. Our protagonist, Clay Jensen, is still reeling from the events himself but seems to be dealing with it in his own way. But whatever progress he has made is quickly thrown out the window when a set of tapes get left on his doorstep. The tapes, thirteen of them, are from Hannah and they explain the reasons why she killed herself, more specifically, the people she blamed for her death. The basic premise of the tapes is if you receive them, you are one of the reasons why. You have to then listen to all the tapes before passing them on to the next person and if you don't, the second set of tapes will be released and everyone's dirty little secrets will be revealed. Obviously, this can only spell trouble.

The show is pretty much just a drama

Netflix starts an important discussion on mental health.

fest for there on out. It's clear early on that Clay's been in love with Hannah or at least had a major crush on her since he met her at the beginning of their sophomore year. They seem to have a normal, positive friendship that started from working together at the local movie theater. At first, that's the biggest question: why Clay? Ultimately, Hannah reveals that Clay shouldn't even be on the tapes but deserved to know why she did what she did. Which, yeah, I thought was kind of a cop out but did play along with the character the creators had been building so I let it slide.

Hannah's tapes pull no punches. She's explicit about what happened to her, how she felt, the things she saw, and the revenge she wanted. It is this intricate web Hannah builds of stories, relationships, and possible lies of these seemingly average high schoolers that that kept me watching. No one is completely innocent of wrongdoing. Not only just the people on the tapes, but the person she trusted the second set and even Hannah herself all could have "done more." Which I thought made the show all more realistic.

Perfect people don't exist, so neither should perfect characters.

The tapes reveal piece by piece how Hannah's life began to crumble. It started with an unflattering picture and rumor and ended with a rape. Yeah. It's a rollercoaster. Shows about high schoolers often show bullies doing something so obviously identifiable as bullying.



What happens to Hannah is subtle but still completely soul crushing. On the surface, people seem to like her, but in the end, no one cared about her or her feelings. Or at least, as she put it, they didn't care enough.

It seemed that everyone was willing to throw Hannah under the bus to save their own skin.

On the flip side, there were people who were there to help Hannah. Her parents were supportive but she felt like nothing more than a burden, especially financially. She had Clay but she burned him too. He didn't understand why Hannah was pushing him away so he just let her. On the last day of Hannah's life, she tries to go to her school's counselor but Hannah has a tendency to reach out for help in the most noncommittal ways. It's basically

her last lifeline but she can't even get the words out. Hannah mentions her sexual assault but won't give up the name and the counselor can't really do anything. She expected the counselor to save her, but really it came down to Hannah to make that first leap to save herself.

Parallel to Hannah, Clay is also going through his own bout with mental illness. As he listens to the tapes, Clay experiences his own depression, mostly out of guilt, and it's not a carbon copy of what Hannah went through. Hannah is what I would call a high-functioning depressed person. It's very hard to tell she's going through anything because she keeps up this happy appearance. Clay, on the other hand, is more visibly falling apart.

13 Reasons Why doesn't shy away from the gruesome reality of suicide, sexual assault, and mental illness. The showrunners chose to explicitly show the sexual assaults and Hannah's suicide, in graphic detail; to prove their point that there is nothing glamorous about suicide, nothing to romanticize about it. This show handles mental health in a way that I've never seen in any sort of media really. I think it reminds us that everyone is fighting a battle that no one else knows about. Outwardly, someone can seem completely fine just like Hannah did. This show forces you to think about society's perception of depression and suicide as well as the causes and doesn't trivialize it. If you're in the mood for an emotional journey, it's definitely worth the binge.

EVENTS

What: Speakout for Survivors of Sexual Assault

Where: Rodrigue's Coffee House

When: Wed. April 19th @ 8 PM to 10 PM

How Much: FREE

Why: You can learn about a very serious issue.

What: RHA Quizzo

Where: Dagger John's

When: Wed. April 19th @ 9:30 PM to 11 PM

How Much: TBD

Why: You'll have plenty of fun competing in RHA's trivia competition.

What: Autism Speaks 5K

Where: Rose Hill Campus

When: Fri. April 21st @ 5:30 PM to 8 PM

How Much: FREE

Why: You can help spread awareness.

Wrestlemania: Episode XXXIII - Return of The Undertaker

by Scott Saffran

Copy Editor

WrestleMania 33 has come and gone and there is a lot to talk about. It was a damned marathon lasting nearly seven hours. Comprised of thirteen matches in total (ten of which I'll discuss), the event – branded as the Ultimate Thrillride – definitely came through as promised with a rollercoaster of emotion and quality.

The main show opened with a pair of “grudge” matches: one between AJ Styles and Shane McMahon and the other between former best friends Kevin Owens and Chris Jericho. Styles and McMahon put on a diverse match, showcasing some chain wrestling, a series of reversals, and some incredible daredevil dives from up top. Styles came away as the well-deserved winner after a mistimed Shooting Star Press from McMahon. Owens and Jericho kept the momentum rolling with their match. The pair dueled back and forth, both trying to execute Jericho's signature Walls of Jericho. Owens escaped with the win and Jericho's United States Championship after breaking a submission hold via a single finger on the ropes and powerbombing Jericho to the ring apron.

Bayley successfully defended her Raw Women's Championship against Charlotte Flair, Sasha Banks, and Nia Jax in a high-speed match that saw a series of quick eliminations. Bayley capped her win with a Savage Elbow to Charlotte. The Raw tag team titles were to be defended in a triple threat ladder match, but it turned into a four-way fight after the shocking return of former multi-time champions, the Hardy Boyz. The surprise was executed perfectly, to the elation of the 75,000-plus in attendance. John Cena and long-time girlfriend Nikki Bella triumphed over

Another great Wrestlemania goes by...

Miz and wife Maryse in a mixed tag team match, punctuated by a heartfelt in-ring proposal. With Cena and Bella primed for a sabbatical, I saw no reason for their victory. However, Miz and Maryse lost no steam as they returned on Tuesday night as popular and as potent as ever.

Seth Rollins and Triple H squared off in an unsanctioned match, pitting former mentor against former mentee. Grandiose entrances aside, this was a very solid match with a handful of well-done foreign objects spots. Dastardly

old Brock Lesnar for the Universal Championship. Goldberg had shocked Lesnar at Survivor Series with a sub-two minute victory and at the Royal Rumble with a near-instantaneous elimination, but would fall to the Beast Incarnate here. The match was, as expected, fairly short, but it succeeded in filling its limits with high-octane action and a series of signature maneuvers from both men. Both men did a lot with the limited resources they had, successfully removing their awful WrestleMania XX encounter from our memories.

This followed up by a quick, but fun SmackDown Women's Championship contest between six of SmackDown's premier female talents that saw hometown girl Naomi reclaim her title belt. And then, it was time for the Main Event.

The Undertaker: a man, a myth, a living legend. Roman Reigns: the Chosen One. At 52 years old, many expected this to be the end for the Deadman. And it was. This was a very hard match to watch. Taker was clearly in pain from bell to bell, and he evidently had difficulty executing certain moves. While both men had their time in control, it was clear Reigns was toying with the aging icon by the match's end. Legendary commentator Jim Ross had returned for this match, his voice only adding to the drama of the proceedings. Reigns pinned Taker clean and left the Deadman staring at the lights as he walked the ramp, fists held high in victory. The Undertaker eventually made his way to his feet and left his signature hat, coat, and gloves in the middle of the ring before descending back into the smoke from where he came. His hand, too, was held high in victory. A career spanning over thirty years, a legacy that no man or woman could ever hope to match. He will be missed.

WrestleMania 33 was, in sum, very good. It felt larger than life—the spectacle it should always be. There were, of course, a few bumps along the way, but none that even came close to derailling the “Ultimate Thrillride”. A new season of the WWE begins in the coming weeks, and after an incredible 2016/2017, there is a lot to live up to.



heel Stephanie McMahon, who had accompanied her husband to the ring, went through a table and distracted Trips just enough for Rollins to execute a Pedigree and escape with the win. This was followed up by the far-and-away most disappointing match of the day as Randy Orton and WWE Champion Bray Wyatt clashed. On the grandest stage of them all, Orton and Wyatt had a very sluggish match that ended far too quickly with Orton's pointless victory further burying the young star. Not a good look for the WWE.

One of the several main events was 50 year-old Goldberg against 39 year-

A Night with Artist Yoshitomo Nara

by Anne Muscat
Staff Artist

Last Tuesday, Yoshitomo Nara, a contemporary Japanese artist, delivered an informal lecture entitled “From the Depth of My Drawer—My Works, My Childhood” at Columbia University. In the modestly sized presentation space relatively full of students, professors, and fans of Nara’s work, I noticed a middle-aged man in the corner, dressed casually in a gray zip-up jacket with tousled hair and broad-rimmed reading glasses, peering at a laptop.

It took me longer than I care to admit to realize that I was looking at Nara himself. I guess I’d imagined the artist to look overly eccentric or even slightly kooky (think Andy Warhol) as this would “match” his artistic style. But Nara appeared nonchalant, chatting in Japanese with a woman who would later serve as his translator. A woman briefly introduced the artist, asking that everyone refrain from taking pictures or thanking the man with gifts after the talk. This clearly didn’t stop numerous people from stealthily snapping pictures; although I’m sure this was to be expected due to Nara’s popularity and renown.

For those who aren’t familiar with Yoshitomo Nara, he’s considered one of the most prominent figures in the Japanese Neo-Pop art movement. He’s famous for his bold yet simple portraits of animals and children, characterized by their oversized heads and exaggerated features. Many of these paintings give a sinister or mischievous impression.

Since the 90s, Nara’s works have been exhibited globally in small, independent galleries and acclaimed museums alike. His paintings, sculptures, and drawings bear resemblance to Japanese anime and manga (Japanese comics). Nara’s biography can be found all over the internet; however, his lecture revealed more about his upbringing, creative process, and inspira-

Punk rock, methodless creation, and innocence

tion than a Google search ever could.

Nara began by projecting images of a shelf in his studio, neatly organized with frontward facing vinyls, DVDs, and books. He mentioned his fascination with 60’s and 70’s punk and classic rock, proudly showing off his many albums including “Morrison Hotel” and “Buffalo Springfield”. The artist told the audience that these records were what he listened to while he worked and the song lyrics and melodies often influenced his pieces. For example, Nara’s “Light My Fire”, an acrylic sculpture of

spoke fondly of his parents and their experiences, recalling how they generously funded his first year of college-level schooling even though he spent most of the money traveling around Europe for three months.

Halfway through the talk, Nara started explaining his ventures into the art world. He admitted that he enjoyed writing poetry and had originally wanted to study literature, although he confided that he was a poor student. Nara also loved music, but after his talent was recognized by many, it was ultimately art that he pursued. One of his paintings he showed depicts himself torn between his passion for music and painting.

Unlike other artists who have a consistent creative process, Nara confessed that he doesn’t have a go-to method. However, he told the crowd that he often paints many different images over each other on one canvas until he feels a connection with one. To the group’s delight, Nara displayed a never-before-seen painting of a sly child which he ended up covering because it didn’t feel authentic. He described the initial work as feeling somewhat like an imitation of his own

style. Although viewers may identify many of Nara’s figures as female, Nara shared that he saw them as genderless. In fact, he revealed that he regarded some of his characters as self-portraits, claiming that his mother would agree.

Yoshitomo Nara remains relevant and admired inside and outside of the artistic sphere. His paintings possess a child-like innocence yet are haunting in essence. He puts forward a certain sense of non-conformity, much like the teen angst and punk rock that inspires him. While scholars and critics can speculate about the motivation behind and purpose of an artist’s repertoire, hearing it directly from the mouth of the person behind the canvas is as real as it gets.



a child holding a flame, may be a nod to The Door’s well-known song of the same title.

After spending a generous amount of time praising his favorite albums, Nara went on to thoroughly describe the northern Japanese town of Hirosaki where he grew up. He emphasized the immense cultural differences throughout Japan and showed black and white photographs of his hometown, pausing to comment on his nostalgia for his childhood.

The lecture was anything but serious. Nara’s sense of humor shone through as he joked about naked pictures of himself as a baby being pornographic and mocked his teenage self’s eagerness to paint a nude model who, much to young Nara’s disappointment, turned out to be an old woman. He

SHOWS

What: *The Tempest*
Where: Collins Auditorium
When: Fri. April 21st @8 PM, Sat. April 22nd @8 PM, Sun. April 23rd @2 PM
How Much: TBD
Why: You can enjoy a great play by the Theatrical Outreach Program.

What: Fordham Flava Showcase
Where: Rose Hill Gymnasium
When: Sat. April 22nd @7 PM to 10 PM
How Much: TBD
Why: Fordham Flava has a fire performance prepared for you.

What: Spring Week Concert at Rodrigue’s Featuring Japanese Breakfast and Yucky Duster
Where: Rodrigue’s Coffee House
When: Tues. April 25th @8 PM
How Much: TBD
Why: Come listen to some good tunes at Rod’s.

Girls' Sixth Season Delivers Disappointment

by Claire Nunez

Opinions Co-Editor

Anyone that knows me at all knows that I love the show *Girls*, not only because it is hilarious but also because it scares me. I don't want to end up like any of the characters of that show, but I cannot keep myself from watching. I am obsessed. My profile picture on Facebook is me cropped into the season 6 poster.

Speaking of season 6, I am utterly disappointed. This season is undeniably Hannah-centric, so pretty much every episode has Lena Dunham in it. I personally love Dunham— but only for her art. She is a pretty controversial figure in the real world; no one should ever say they wish they had an abortion essentially for the sake of having a story to tell. Anyway, this season is way too centered on Dunham's character.

Something really big happens for Hannah and it is really confusing for her, I won't spoil; but at the same

Can its last two episodes save the series?

time, I want to see Shoshanna's story arc dragged out more. Hannah is dealing with something that will seriously change her life and she may have to put her dream on hold, but that doesn't mean the other characters don't exist anymore. They haven't all suddenly moved away. Marnie is still dealing with the dramatic divorce that has been occurring since season 5 and I don't know, I'd like to see what happens with her and her really awful husband. Maybe, Jenni Konner and Lena Dunham can do that for us? Yeah, probably not.

There are like so many loose ends and I am nervous to see how they are all going to tie together. I kind of hope that they aren't tied up all nicely because life doesn't tie everything together, ya feel? I just want to

see the other main characters' stories developed to a point that I know they're doing something. Like, what is Shosh even doing? She has a big power job, but other than that, where is she living? What is she wearing? All I know is that Hannah is alive and working. The show is called *Girls* not Hannah's Life. I just need to see what the rest of them are up to.

I feel like Lena Dunham may have gotten so caught up in what she wanted her character to do, that she and the other writers lost sight of what the show is really about: female bonds in a time of confusion, growth, and discovery. The most important aspect of *Girls*, at least to me, is the bonds that the women have with each other and themselves. At this point in season 6, we are only seeing the personal

growth of the characters. It seems as though the bonds between the women are deteriorating. Maybe this is what Lena Dunham and Jenni Konner had in mind while they were writing this season. It is just the way the few instances of dialogue are done. They are so brief and abrupt. The audience is left thinking, "what? Where did she even come from? Wait, where did she go?" It is just confusing.

Honestly, as much as I love *Girls*, I am utterly disappointed with the way this season is coming together. As the final season, I was hoping that I would not be able to wait for the next episode, but I find myself not caring at all. I just hope the last two episodes can really bring it together or at least show us how the relationships have changed. Like, seriously, get it together...I need to know if Jessa and Hannah are ever going to be friends again!



The Lord of the Rings: A Beginner's Guide

By Jack Archambault
Staff Hobbit

I just read *The Lord of the Rings*. I did it because I got tired of all my nerd friends talking about it and having no idea what they were talking about. So I read them. I still haven't seen all the movies because they're just too long. (Yet somehow with all that length they couldn't find time for Tom Bombadil.) But over the course of roughly five months, I powered through *The Lord of the Rings*, as well as *The Hobbit*, in a reading blaze that would make you lose your pee.

I didn't expect to like these books at all. From everything I had heard, it seemed like a pretty dense set of books that could be off-putting to someone who isn't obsessed with dwarves and hobbits and elves, and really fantasy in general. Since I am not, I expected to get about a quarter of the way through and quit. But I didn't! And they were pretty great! And don't worry, I won't spoil anything, just in case you also want to spend a few months reading these fun tales by yourself in college!

First, for the unenlightened, *The Lord*

Introducing the land of Middle Earth through literature

of the Rings is a set of three volumes: *The Fellowship of the Ring*, *The Two Towers*, and *The Return of the King*. Each of these is split into two books, but apparently the entire thing is one giant story. Which makes it very confusing when *The Two Towers* starts on page 530. It isn't a trilogy, it's actually a single novel with six books, published in three volumes, to make everything more convenient. And now I will also get unreasonably upset every time someone refers to it as a trilogy, because I feel like that is my duty now that I am a nerd too. *The Hobbit* was published about

18 years before *The Fellowship of the Ring*. *The Hobbit* is also a film trilogy, but about seven hours of those films are completely unnecessary. It is truly a Hollywood cash grab at its finest.



One tale to rule them all

First, what I didn't like. To start, it did feel a bit slow in a lot of parts. If you prefer reading things that are fast-paced and keep you on the edge of your seat the whole time, then maybe this isn't for you. There are a lot of songs and tales told by elven maidens, and you just have to be really into that kind of stuff to enjoy it. Second, the names are more con-

fusing than calculus. This is especially true in *The Hobbit*, when there are thirteen dwarves that all have names that sound extremely similar, like Kili and Fili, Dori and Nori, and Bifur and Bofur. I also thought that Merry was a girl until about halfway through *The Fellowship of the Ring*, because Merry, or Mary, or any variation of it, is in my experience an exclusively female name. But now that you know he is, in fact, a he, maybe you'll have an easier time than I did. But I'm really nitpicking here. I found that there is so much to like about these books, if you can make the commitment.

Simply put, it is a fantastic story that brings you into a world you wish you could live in, with the exception of the dark lord that seeks to destroy everything that is good and happy. But other than that, Middle Earth seems pretty rad. If you've ever wanted to read *The Lord of the Rings*, I say go for it. Unless you don't want to, then I can't make you do anything.

Editor Can't Stay Quiet about New Exhibit at the Guggenheim

by Michael Sheridan
Arts Co-Editor

I think we can all agree that despite our love of New York, this city can be overwhelmingly noisy. When is the last time you've experienced true silence without a siren in the background, the rumbling of garbage trucks, or the shouting of people walking through the Walsh Gate (yeah that's right, those of us on the lower floors of Walsh have to put up with you each and every night). Well, after visiting the Guggenheim to see the solid gold toilet that I wrote about a few issues ago, it's time to return to the museum for something even more spectacular.

The artist Doug Wheeler's installation, *PSAD Synthetic Desert III*, which is described as a "semi-anechoic chamber," allows visitors to experience near total silence. The room is covered with a material, known as BASF, which causes almost all outside noise to be completely drowned out, allowing the room to exist at a range of 10-15 decibels. To put this in perspective, the average New York City restaurant is 90 decibels, the subway is 80 decibels, and even what we would normally consider silence is only a mere 30 decibels.

I myself recently had a chance to visit the room and it was quite the unique experience. In order to keep the noise level as low as possible, only five visitors, with one security escort, are allowed in the room at any time. The group of visitors I was with got a brief explanation of the etiquette of the room first, as there are a few rules in place to keep the space as quiet as possible. All phones and electronics had to be stowed away before entering in order to prevent any unexpected noise (and also to prevent photographs

New exhibit leaves people in silence

from being taken as they are prohibited).

Finally, we were escorted through two hermetically sealed rooms which transitioned us into the final exhibition space, where we were allowed to stay for 10 minutes. My first impression was that the room was much smaller than I

with a purple light to give off a very serene ambiance.

At first, I was completely overwhelmed. After listening to several people's experiences of the room, I had extremely high expectations. However, my only initial reaction was that it was a quiet room. It didn't even seem

isolated from the outside world. I really began to relax and focus on just myself and my own thoughts. While I didn't go so far as to meditate like some of the visitors, by the end I felt completely peaceful and relaxed, which was amazing as I had been stressed about several different things before entering. I

became so engrossed in myself that in the final minutes, I realized that what I had thought was water rushing through the plumbing was actually my heart pumping blood through my body. It was a very strange sensation to experience. When our escort very quietly whispered that the ten minutes were up, it felt like she was shouting. After leaving the installation, I was more self-aware, and I noticed the noises I was making as I walked around much more acutely. I cannot wait for another opportunity to visit the space.

Entry to this installation is free with admission to the Guggenheim, however a timed ticket is required. Reserved time slots have been sold out through May and June tickets won't be sold

until May 1st. The best way to experience this piece is to get to the museum before it opens to wait in line and try and get one of the walk up ticket slots, which are offered every day the museum is open.



thought, although it was definitely visually interesting. The space was covered with geometric pyramids, also made of the same BASF material which kept the room so silent. It was also dimly light

that quiet as I could hear water rushing through the museum's plumbing.

The more time I spent, however, the more I really began to appreciate the work. It is so silent that I felt completely

Peeps

No one likes them, but we know you'll buy them for Easter anyway.



Alex Jones needs your help!

The Globalists have hidden their biggest secrets in this word search!

Help defeat Crooked Hillary by finding the hidden words!

Send a picture of you completed word search to @fupaper on Twitter and you get a sweet prize!

- Word Bank:**
- Hot Blooded
 - Gay Frogs
 - Third Dimension
 - Lizard People
 - Goblins
 - Pizzagate
 - Flouride
 - Benghazi
 - Chemtrails
 - Illuminati
 - Beyonce
 - Emails

Z I P H M B N X H E N V P T L Q J A Z N
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The Big Easter List



Nothing says “the Lord is risen” quite like a delicately crafted basket of sugary sweets and tissue paper. Here at *the paper*, we’re all craving a little something more: love, freedom, socks. Here’s what the paper wants to find in their Easter basket this year!

The (Moth)man of my Dreams by Meredith McLaughlin

All I want in my Easter basket is tons and tons of Cadbury Flake Bars, 80 rolls of Cherry Lifesavers, the Nintendo Switch with The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild, and the Mothman’s phone number.

Go Diego, Go! by Rachel Poe

My first answer would be Diego Luna, clearly, but like, yeah. I’m used to being disappointed, so I’ll just settle for Rogue One on DVD and more instas of Diego Luna throwing major shade at Trump. Literally all I want. Plus some free chocolate. No peeps. They’re gross.

Dragon Egg Hunt by Anna Passero-Koennecke

My Easter basket requests are fairly simple, traditional, and easily attained. First, of course, would be chocolate, at least a year’s supply. Then, of course, eggs. Specifically dragon, phoenix, and griffin eggs, because nothing says

it’s spring time like the beginning of my mystical army to conquer the nine worlds. I would then like at least five winning Powerball tickets, because feeding dragons costs a lot of money, and also I am a materialistic fuck. Finally I would like a controlling share in Barnes and Noble, with access to never ending books. A job offer would also be appreciated, but I don’t want to seem greedy.



Chocoholics Anonymous by Staff Chocolatier

Every Easter basket should be filled with chocolate. EVERY SINGLE BASKET. If your food allergy prevents you from eating chocolate, I am truly sorry. I can think of nothing worse because honestly, chocolate is not just a staple for Easter baskets. Chocolate is necessary for every holiday. Since I live my life like every day is a holiday, chocolate is essential to the daily antics I call living. But back

to Easter: Chocolate is preferred in egg form or bunny form on this gracious day. There is nothing better than popping a chocolate egg in your mouth until it melts or maniacally biting off the ear of a bunny pretending you’re the monster of your own family friendly horror movie...totally normal and acceptable stuff. If my Easter basket doesn’t have chocolate than my life doesn’t have meaning.

Stop Complaining 2: This Time It’s Personal

by An Orthodox Christian

What do I want in my easter basket? People to understand Orthodox Lent. I hear all this complaining about, oh I can’t eat meat on Fridays. Boo hoo. I cant eat fucking shit. No oil, cheese, meat, wine, dairy. It gets worse and worse as it goes on. They take away fish from me as time goes on. FISH! I’m literally starving on this campus right now. Shoutout

to Sodexo for being more accommodating to me than Aramark. IM PRAISING SODEXO. THIS IS WHAT THIS HOLIDAY IS DOING TO ME. I also want lamb, but I’m probably gonna get that. Money too. That would be cool.

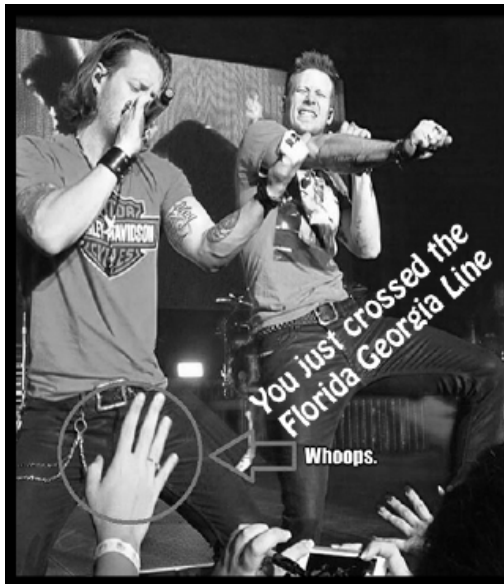
Basket-ception

by Siobhan Donahue

I just want Easter Baskets in my Easter Basket. Like Easter Baskets are just so pretty and well weaved together and, in the words of my personal hero, Sharpay Evans, I. Want. More. So, Mr. Easter Bunny, just put baskets on baskets on baskets. Seriously, the more baskets the better. I also need a case to hold all of these baskets. I love basket cases. My love life is terrible.

The Opposite of a Foot Fetish by Claire Nunez

All I want in my Easter basket is a ton of socks. My cat literally eats every pair of socks I own. There are teeth marks and holes in everything I own, but it is a huge pet peeve pf mine to have holes in my socks. I wear socks all the time because I am self-conscious of my toes. I don’t want people to look at them, or touch them, or anything. It sucks. Now, don’t you all feel bad for making fun of me for wearing socks and Birkenstocks? Probably not, but you should all still get me some socks.



Future Islands
The Far Field
by Declan (Donuts) Murphy

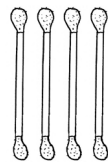
There's a really haunting quality about the music of Future Islands that sets the band apart from other electropop groups. The growling vocals make the synth beats sound somehow even more hollow. That's not to say that it is entirely unsettling, or even hopeless. Rather, there's a depth and a sadness to the music of Future Islands, even at its cheeriest. It's not a weakness but a strength—there's an inherent pathos to these songs that really anchors them in a way not replicated by, say, the lighter fare of Electric Guest.

Their newest effort, *The Far Field*, admirably demonstrates this quality. It turns simplistic lyrics like "The sea was large today, just like any other day" into something profound instead of banal. And it makes the whole somehow better than the sum of its parts.

The Far Field can feel disjointed at times. Tracks don't blend into one another, which can be jarring. It's tied together more thematically than sonically—the somber love story and sea imagery unite songs as disparate as "North Star" and "Cave." It's not quite unified, and some songs clearly read as singles instead of pieces of a larger whole, but it hits the mark more often than not.

Some high water marks include the pseudo-love-ballad "Aladdin," the angry, growling "Cave," and "Shadows," a duet with featured singer Debbie Harry. But my personal favorite by far

is the stellar "Time Is On Her Side," a sad meditation on lovers who can't bridge an age divide. This is peak Future Islands—echoes, mellow synth beats, and just a hint of madness. *The Far Field* can feel like a trance at times, but it's a trance worth having.



The Chainsmokers
Memories...Do Not Open
by Luis (Flan) Gómez

Oh, The Chainsmokers. How little I respect you. Fresh off the wild success of "Closer" and the thorough disappointment of its follow-up "Paris," The Chainsmokers have returned, this time with their debut LP in hand.

It's okay I guess. I mean the first track doesn't inspire confidence so much as

a general sense of oatmeal-colored contentment. It's a fine ballad, and they added a bass drum to it. "Something Like This," a collaboration with Coldplay, is also pretty good, in the same way that drinking Budweiser with a hot dog is good. It's exactly what

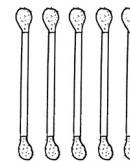
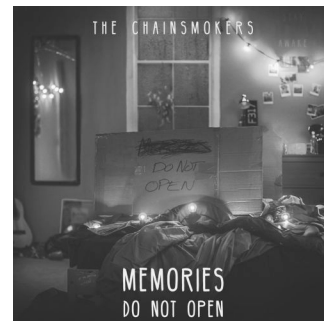
you'd expect it to be, not much more.

That being said, there's some genuinely moronic and/or bad tracks on this album. "Break Up Every Night" has some of the most insipid lyrical writing since, well, since the last Chainsmok-

ers track. Plus, the album's closing track, "Last Day Live," features terrible, annoying country band Florida Georgia Line. I don't know who thought this was a good idea. Who asked for this? Nobody. Nobody asked for this. I hate it.

Also, let's talk a little bit more about the writing. The problem with The Chainsmokers is that they can't really pull off that faux-emotionality that other electronic artists rely on. Saying nothing is a staple of modern electronic music, but you have to at least make it *feel* like you're saying something. Which they don't do. Every Chainsmokers track sounds like it was put through a grey sieve before being added to the album. And, as a result, every badly written line really, really sticks out.

Oh, another thing: Andrew Taggart keeps insisting on singing. He shouldn't.



Various Artists
The Get Down
by (Cadet) Kelly Tyra

If you're not watching *The Get Down* you should at least be listening to *The Get Down*. The Part II debut of this rising star-studded series examines the dying world of disco alongside the growing kingdom of hip hop through the eyes of two young loves, Zeke "Books" Figuero and Mylene Cruz of the Soul Madonnas. The Bronx serves as an inspirational space between their two life stages where the diverse music of the late 70s blends into the

background noise of destruction, Bee Gees mixed with bullet holes. But even at the darkest moments, *The Get Down* picks you right back up and proves that hip hop is a symptom and a solution of the struggle. Every time The Get Down Brothers take the stage, they showcase a sound that strikes both the B-Boys and the binge watchers using songs that range from timeless and out of time (think Sugarhill Gang Apache) to trash made treasure with records are punched out of sugar-y cereal boxes. As always, the music is a message, a message that it is time to embrace the "young, gifted and black," a message that "if you know better, then you gotta do better." And while rhymes and rhythms are always central, some of *The Get Down's* most exciting musical moments are allusions to future movements. Boys II Men type soul, fearless female MCs, baby Beyoncé trills, and talent at every turn make *The Get Down* soundtrack a stand-alone star.

Father John Misty
Pure Comedy
by (Father) John Looby

Father John Misty, with the release of *I Love You, Honeybear*, cemented himself as my favorite artist. That album was the reason I bought a record player. I don't even know how many times I've listened to it. Needless to say, after the announcement of *Pure Comedy*, I was excited, and by that I mean I pre-ordered the deluxe edition of this album the day it was revealed.

Pure Comedy does not disappoint. The album is a sprawling masterful satire of the modern age. The modern condition is under constant scrutiny throughout this hour-long musical journey. The production may feel a bit more stripped down compared to his previous albums at times, but the lyrics are what really matter on this album.

The writing is a shining example of wit. It's going to be a real shame when ass-



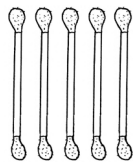
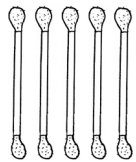
hole hipsters ruin the lyrics by tattooing them on themselves.

If you've felt out of place in our constantly shifting world order that always seems to be on the brink of collapse, this album sets that anxiety to music. Tracks like "Things It Would Have Been Helpful to Know Before The Revolution" feel like the actualization of every college-age liberal's dread. The album is an ultimately cathartic experience to sit through. If you're feeling stressed about where we are as a society, I'd suggest you turn off the lights and sit through this album. *Pure Comedy* is a genuine masterpiece in an age where society is becoming a satire of itself.



The beats are more subdued than aggressive. They reflect Joey's previous style while showing musical progression. Joey's rap flow sails smoothly over the production, as he clearly expresses what he is saying.

This album just works. Great writing, great production, great rapping. It all comes together as a cohesive project that shows a much more mature Joey.



Joey Bada\$\$
ALL-AMERIKKAN BADASS
by Nick (NONONO) Peters

In the lead-up to this album, the initial singles, which seemed to be made for the radio, indicated an abandonment of both Joey's old-school New York boom-bap sound and perhaps of Joey being a conscious rapper. Later singles did ease my worry, but I was still concerned about this album.

Joey delivered. This album is great. It's singularly focused. It is heavily political, with a clear cut message. Joey is reacting to and discussing the status of the black community in an increasingly hostile America. He is reacting to the police brutality, President Trump, and the systemic racism that the black community faces. This is a protest album, a deeply philosophical album, a political album, and a reflection of Joey himself. Joey is young. Joey is angry. Joey has something to say. Joey has always been a great lyricist, and that skill is expressed here now more than ever. Joey's writing shines.

However, all of this would not be effective without great music. Where one would suppose that this would be a loud, aggressive album, given what Joey is trying to express, it really isn't.

Charli XCX
Number 1 Angel
by Regana (Number 1) Alicka

Charli XCX—born Charlotte Emma Aitchison in Cambridge, England—first made a name for herself performing in London warehouse parties since her mid-teens and by age 24 has developed into something of a dark horse in the pop music industry, having dropped 2 albums, 3 mixtapes, and 2 EPs as a producer, singer, and songwriter. Charli's brilliant approach to pop music and uncanny ability to craft infectious hooks has garnered commercial success with "Boom Clap" off *The Fault In Our Stars* soundtrack, "I Love It" with Icona Pop, and "Fancy" with Igloo Azalea. Given her commercial appeal, Charli surprised many (myself included) with 2016's *Vroom Vroom EP* which packed a variety of hard-hitting and experimental sounds in just 4 tracks.

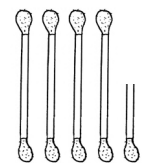
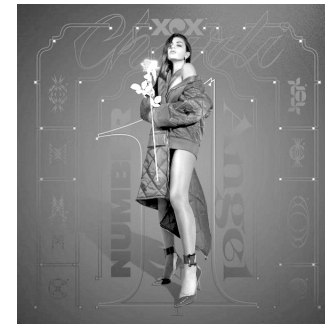
When *Number 1 Angel* was announced, fans wondered whether Charli would abandon the feel-good, bubblegum pop sound she'd perfected on previous records and lean into the

tougher sound she'd been exploring. On her Tumblr, Charli describes the new mixtape as having a mixture of the two different vibes, and the ten-track project definitely makes good on that promise. While the topics covered are pretty standard for today's pop music (partying, sex, drugs, heartbreak, etc.) and there is little variety in song structure (verse, hook, verse, hook, bridge, hook), this mixtape is on a different level than most other recent pop releases.

It's frustrating when projects by talented and intelligent female pop artists feel strongly influenced by the will of profit-driven record labels and are packed with filler tracks that are designed to appeal to mass markets. The distinctive styles of the producers who worked on *Number 1 Angel*, which include PC Music's A.G. Cook and Sophie, do not overpower the attitude and creative energy that Charli XCX brings

to the table. In general, the agency imbalance that some male producer-female pop singer collaborations reek of are not present in Charli XCX's work.

This collaborative spirit that Charli is known for is also shown by the fact that the mixtape is packed with features from an all-star team of up and coming female artists including CupcakKe, ABRA, Uffie, MØ, Starrah, and Raye. This mix of influences results in a mixtape that has something for everyone, from the mellower tracks like mid-2000's pop R&B tinged "White Roses" to the raunchy and ridiculous "Lipgloss" to the club banger "Roll With Me".



The Lame Party Playlist
by Claire Nunez

1. "Falling (Duke Dumont Remix)"
HAIM
2. "Green Light"
Lorde
3. "Criminals"
MS MR
4. "On the Floor"
JLo and Pitbull
5. "Hotter than Hell"
Dua Lipa
6. "Fashion of His Love"
Lady Gaga
7. "Run Away with Me"
Carly Rae Jepsen
8. "Dynamite"
Taio Cruz
9. "Electric Feel"
MGMT
10. "Dancing on My Own"
Robyn





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Reports of freshman drug use rising

Residential Life suggests increased drug documentation a result of RA crackdown

By PATRICIA AMBROSINI

The office of Residential Life has recently documented an increase in the number of students charged with marijuana usage on campus. This increase, shown particularly with members of the freshman class, nearly triples the number of freshmen cases documented for the entire '95-'96 year.

Michele Cavanagh, Director of Residential Life, has already met with 42 freshmen for drug related incidents. Of those 42 students, 33 were found in violation of Fordham University's drug policy. Last year only 16 freshmen were found in violation.

The problem may not necessarily be an increase in drugs on campus rather an increase in the documentation of drug usage. Recently a workshop was held with Resident Assistants (RAs) in an effort to train RAs on duty. The session detailed methods that may be useful when RAs smell marijuana, or find related materials. RAs were also taught how to counsel students regarding drug usage before students are documented in the act.

Megan Mores, CBA '97, is an RA in Alumni Court North. Mores explained that during the January workshop, RAs watched a video regarding the harmful effects of marijuana. They also discussed different ways to relate drug information to the freshman class.

Mores believes that no matter how much students are advised against using drugs, "students don't want to hear it. I think the increase in documentation of drugs is to be expected. It goes in cycles, and in the past couple of years drug use has been down. I definitely do not enjoy reporting students," she said.

The room entry policy explained in the student handbook allows RAs to enter a room after knocking twice. If the student does not respond to the knocking and the RA has reasonable suspicion concerning drug usage, the RA is then able to key into the room.

While in the room, RAs conduct a visual search. They look for drug paraphernalia such as bongos, marijuana cigarettes and even towels placed by the door to

Freshmen vs. Upperclassmen Total drug documentation

School Year	All other classes	Freshmen class
Fall Semester of 1996-1997 School Year (53 cases)	21%	79%
1995-1996 School Year (55 cases)	71%	29%
1994-1995 School Year (67 cases)	63%	37%

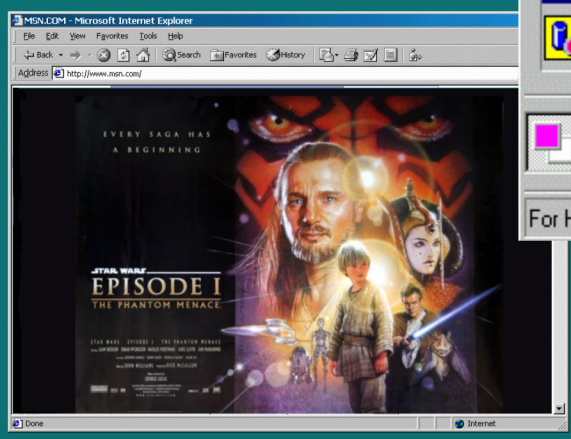
John Heidecker and Jim Olschick / RAM

See Drugs, Page 4

Theft from local bars increases



HOW NAIVE WE WERE



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