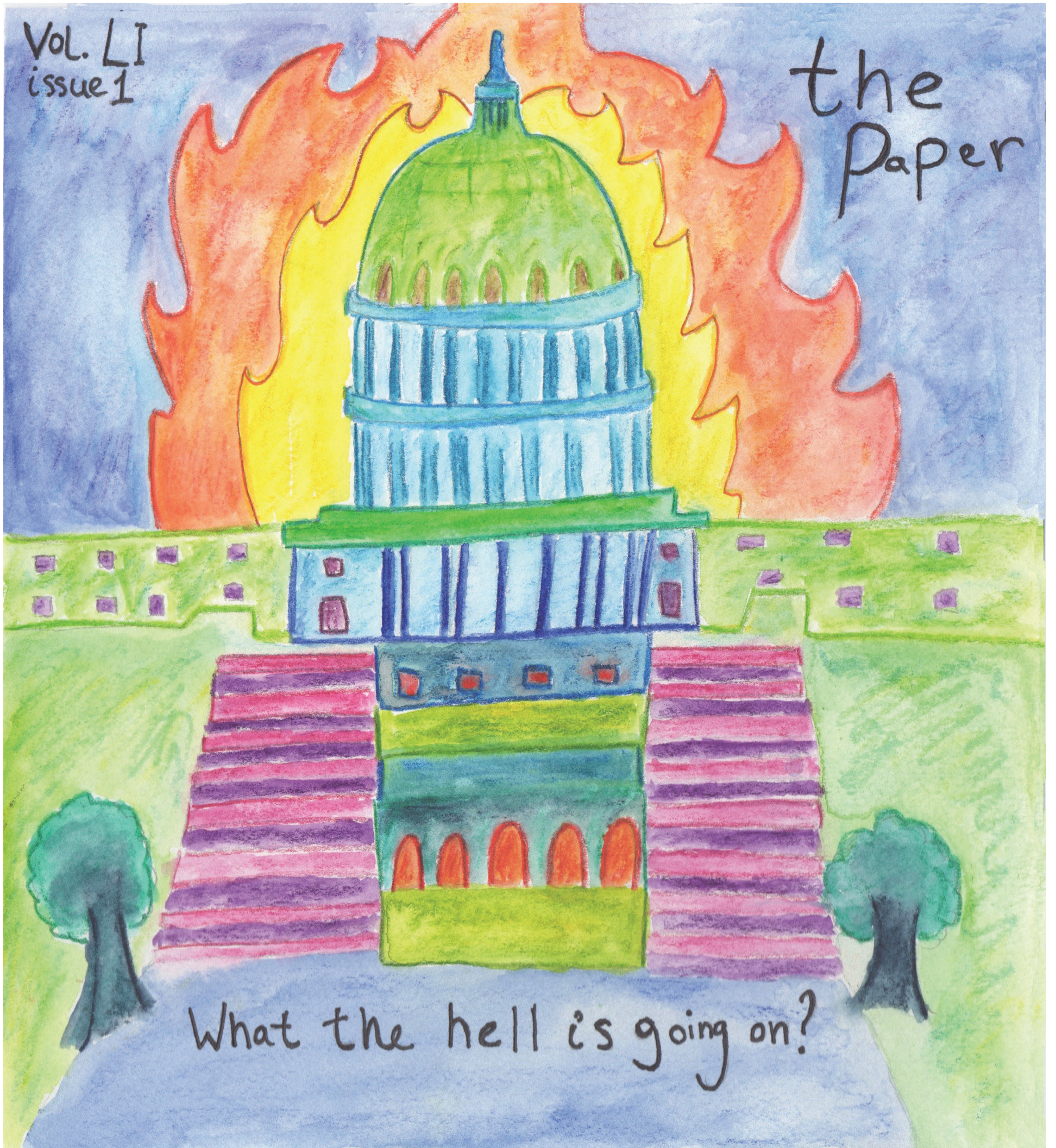


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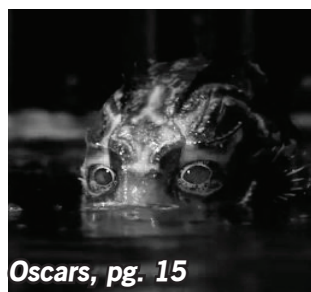
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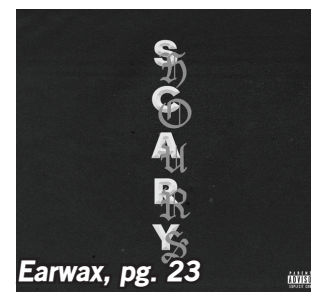
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the paper

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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 Wordpress. Photos are "borrowed" from Internet sites and edited in Photoshop. Open meetings are held Tuesdays at 9:00 PM in McGinley 2nd. Articles can be submitted via e-mail to paper.fordham@gmail.com. Submissions from 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.

"Favorite U.S. President Based on Looks"

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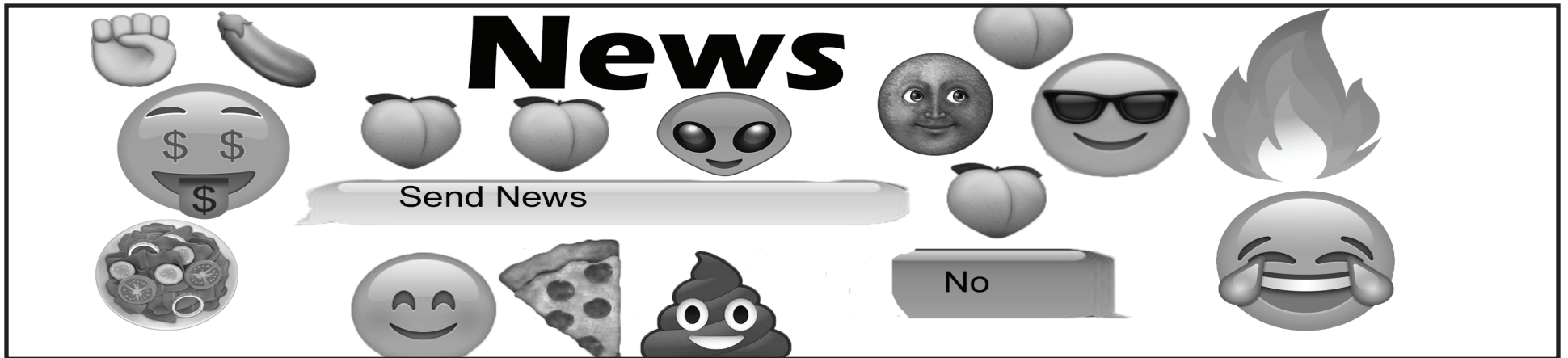
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College Republicans host Non-controversial Speaker

by Christian Decker
News Co-Editor

Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro spoke at Walsh Library

On Tuesday night, I and my co-editor, Andrew went to check out the College Republicans' guest speaker, Marcus Molinaro, over in the Walsh Library auditorium. It wasn't a huge crowd, but the first two rows of the middle were for the most part filled with what I could only assume were the College Republicans. Andrew and I sat near the back of the auditorium on the left side, so we would get a better view of everything going on.

The evening started of with a brief introduction by one of the College Republicans, with the usual pleasantries. After being introduced, Mr. Molinaro introduced himself, made a couple jokes and told us his story. As a young man he was raised in Dutchess County, New York, in a town of around 1,300 residents. He told us that as a young man, he was displeased with the amount of refusals he got when suggesting new ideas to the town board. As a result, he decided that he should get involved in local government. As luck would have it, he was elected to the town board and then ran unopposed to be the town's mayor, becoming the youngest mayor in the country at the time. He later served in the State Assembly and was elected the chief executive of Dutchess County in 2011.

Now as you can imagine, Mr. Molinaro is a Republican, and most of his gripes are against New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat. In fact, most of his speaking time was devoted to attacks on Governor Cuomo. This comes as no surprise when you consider that he announced that he's considering running for governor in the future. It almost seemed like we were a test

audience in preparation for a coming campaign.

Mr. Molinaro was adamant in saying that New York is pretty much the worst

put them in jail. Mr. Molinaro argued that this was not only unconstitutional, but that such things should be left up to local governments entirely.



in just about anything. He pointed to the amount of people leaving the state. The reason for this, he said, was the incredibly high tax rate in the state. His biggest complaint, however, was the lack of oversight by the state government to handle the situation. In other words, the state government would just push off any and all problems onto the local governments. In his words, Governor Cuomo would just take credit for the stuff that went right and blame it on the local governments if things went wrong.

One example he gave was the issue of the Code Blue in New York during harsh cold and snowy conditions. Governor Cuomo's method involves calling all the local governments and telling them to get the police to round up all the homeless people outside and

Mr. Molinaro was also very critical of the Democratic majority in the State Assembly currently. His concern is that there is very little opportunity for constituents to voice their opinions on bills that are being voted on in events such as public forums. As an example of the issue he has, he told us that per session, the assembly votes on around 10,000 pieces of legislation. He then proceeded to tell us that all but one of those bills passed the assembly floor. In his view, this is very undemocratic.

After his prepared remarks, Mr. Molinaro opened the floor to questions from the audience. I have never heard questions so self-righteous and absolutely useless in my life. One guy asked Mr. Molinaro on something to the effect of how you deal with a professor who is a liberal, because "96

percent of professors here donate to Democratic candidates." The answer was basically that you have to deal with it. Another person asked would it be better to combat corruption if more Republicans got elected. What do you think he's going to say?

One good question that was asked was what the assemblyman thought of Governor Cuomo's new college tuition bill that would essentially make it free for lower income students to attend college. Mr. Molinaro's response was that it was a terrible idea that would "implode on itself". His reason for this was that the free tuition would raise the cost of college for people who didn't fit into the income bracket to qualify for the free tuition. He also reverted back to his earlier point that this was done without so much as a town hall to discuss the bill, and with a Republican minority in the State Assembly, there was nothing that could be done to block it.

At the beginning of the evening it was said Mr. Molinaro was a strong voice for bi-partisanship, so I asked him where he saw bi-partisanship in the higher forms of government in this country going forward. His answer was actually somewhat comforting. He told me that now that people are starting to see the nonsense of representatives not getting anything done, representatives would eventually start to actually work together, so he's optimistic.

It is worth noting that Mr. Molinaro advocates for voters to flip sides at the ballot and vote for the candidate that they think is the best rather than just straight-ticket voting. He thinks this is the best way to reach effective government representation.

OutSummit Celebrates Global LGBTI+ Activism

by Robin Happel
Copy Editor

OutSummit is the annual gathering of OutRight Action International, one of just a handful of LGBTI advocacy groups with U.N. consulting status. The group addresses a kaleidoscopic range of issues, from trans rights in Germany, to eco-feminism in Fiji, to the criminalization of gay men in East Africa and elsewhere around the world. Founded in 1990 as the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, OutRight is also one of the oldest LGBTI advocacy groups in the United States, serving as an underwriter to countless crucial human rights rulings, and carries its clout with pride.

The summit opened with two panel discussions, ranging in topics from marriage equality in Taiwan to American media representation of LGBTI people. Karamo Brown, co-founder of 6in10.org, gave a poignant speech on censorship of LGBTI stories in much of the American South. In the United States currently, only California explicitly seeks to include LGBTI people in its public school curriculum, and many other states explicitly censor history and health classes with “Don’t Say Gay” laws. Brown is also a passionate advocate for HIV awareness among black gay and bi men, a demographic still disproportionately at risk of the virus, due in large part to systemic healthcare discrimination.

OutRight’s emphasis on healthcare discrimination is particularly poignant given the Trump administration’s steady rolling back of LGBTI healthcare access with, among other things, the creation of the HHS Department of Conscience and

CUNY Law School hosted summit on LGBTI+ Rights

Religious Freedom within just the past two weeks. These are similar to laws in my home state of Tennessee allowing psychiatrists to turn away LGBTI patients at will. Such a department sends a clear signal that hospitals can, if they so choose, turn away LGBTI people for almost any reason.

Like the former listing of homosexuality in the Diagnostic

is very active in East Africa especially, and American pastor Scott Lively was recently charged with crimes against humanity for his role in inciting possible genocide of gay men in Uganda. The Alliance Defending Freedom, most famed in the states for its role in the infamous Masterpiece Cakeshop Case, has both supported and

thus excludes two-spirit people, for instance, or the brother boys and sister girls of Australia. While SOGIE causes form some of the U.N.’s most controversial, clamorous floor debates, OutRight’s team has won some notable victories. Such progress is necessarily piecemeal in a populist age, however – recently, for example. The U.S. failed to ratify the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child because it could be construed to outlaw so-called ‘conversion therapy,’ the physically abusive practice condemned by almost every leading global health organization, yet still legal in roughly 41 states. (Somalia was the only other member state to turn down the treaty.)

In an age in which the Overton window is moving so rapidly to the right, it seems almost easier to give up, to go gentle into that good night. Yet OutRight still struggles against the dying of the light. From the



and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, such laws show how the healthcare system may at times be weaponized against gay men, intersex people, and others on society’s margins. In Kenya and other parts of East Africa, for instance, intersex children sometimes lack birth certificates, barring them from citizenship, and men suspected of being gay are often subjected to humiliating medical exams, with the price of failure being over a decade in prison. While homosexuality has been decriminalized the United States since the landmark Lawrence v. Texas ruling in 2003. American evangelicals form the backbone of much of Africa’s most virulent homophobia, bankrolling extremists both at home and abroad. Pat Robertson, perhaps most famously,

celebrated efforts to criminalize gay people in Russia, Belize, India, and elsewhere. (ADF claims to support artistic freedom, in short, yet believes Oscar Wilde belonged in prison.) In this way, far from stemming from an innate fear of LGBTI people, many laws criminalizing their existence are simply an outgrowth of imperialism, of conservative American and colonial British values exported abroad.

OutSummit includes two break-out sessions, the first of which covers the basics of SOGIE, or ‘sexual orientation and gender identity/expression,’ the international legal term for LGBT. As Australian activist Siri May explains, LGBT is largely a Western term, and

Yogyakarta Principles, to fighting over footnotes in the Rome Statute, to arguing that the right to sanitation in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights should block future bathroom bills, OutRight mounts a tireless defense of LGBTI lives and dignity in an age when such a shield is sorely needed. While such struggles seem ceaseless, in short, OutRight seldom falters in its spirited attempt to “write ourselves into the script,” quoting Ms. May. In the words of another activist from Egypt whose name is withheld for her safety, “until the lion learns to write, every story will glorify the hunter.” The activists of OutRight seek simply to write their own story, for as long as the world will let them.

Second Annual Women's March marks 1 year of President Trump

by Mary Freeze
Staff Feminist

On January 21st, 2017, hundreds of thousands of women gathered together to protest the inauguration of the newly elected President Donald Trump. On the first anniversary of what is now known as the Women's March, protestors again took to the streets wearing pink "Pussy Hats" in major cities and small towns to protest the 45th president. Trump addressed the march in a tweet, stating that it was a "perfect day to get out there and celebrate the historic milestones and unprecedented economic success that has taken place over the last twelve months. Lowest female unemployment rate in 18 years!" However, the female unemployment rate has been falling steadily since 2012 according

Continued Activism is the key to change, say female marchers

to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Data, but whatever.

The march in New York City was one of the largest with over 200,000 protesters. The smallest march was held in a rural town in Nova Scotia, Canada consisting of 32 people, which is actually double the number of protesters that attended last year. This year, the Women's March protested not only the Trump administration, but also promoted the Time's Up and #MeToo movements. Both movements began as responses to the discoveries of the rampant sexual abuse and assault in the film industry. A major component of the march was also "Power to the Polls," which aims to elect more women and progressive

candidates to public office. Marchers held signs urging attendees to "Grab 'em by the primaries." Other signs included sayings like "Women's Rights are Human's Rights." People also chanted to show their feelings of discontent with the Trump administration and the way the administration views and treats women. Many women showed up dressed as Handmaids from Margaret Atwood's novel *The Handmaid's Tale* to express their fear that Trump is going to infringe on their reproductive rights. Additionally, the Women's March was held only one day after the 45th annual Right for Life, an annual pro-life march held in Washington, D.C. Trump is the first president to address the

march, which further fueled the fire for people who fear his stance on abortion.

In New York City, protestors marched down Central Park West. There was a wide array of ages in attendance, ranging from new born babies to women who had to be pushed in wheelchairs. There were some fathers there, holding signs that said things like "I march for my daughters." Even with some men in attendance, the march was still predominantly female.

While the Women's March does present a unified front against clear impediments on women's rights, which have come very far and still have a long way to go.

Dispatches from the French Homefront: Quick Observations

by Colleen Burns
Editor-in-Chief

1) *Smoking*: It is true! People in France smoke! Like a lot! This isn't really news! MTV worked really hard to educate children in the U.S. about the dangers of smoking, but their efforts were not received well in France because these cancer sticks are clearly still as prominent as ever! It's silly how a country filled with such tasty food is willing to destroy their taste buds (AND LUNGS) for a quick drag. It should also be noted that French people vape. Yes, this dumb as crap social phenomenon managed to make it to the country of croissants and baguettes. More marketing material for MTV!

2) *Bonjour*: Saying hello is a complex aspect of formal etiquette in France. For example, you say "bonjour" to the people you pass in your residence. If you don't, it's extremely impolite; however, you do NOT need to say hello to the people you pass on the street. That is seen as odd and unnecessary. However, you should greet employees with a "bonjour" upon entering a store or else you'll seem super rude and per-

Our Editor-in-Chief is studying abroad, but still writing for us

haps risk less than perfect service. Side note: Bonjour becomes Bonsoir in the evening. You will mess up. You will seem stupid. You may get better.

3) *French people do not pick up after their dogs*: I don't understand why there is dog shit everywhere! Clean up after your dogs! France is a beautiful country with breathtaking cities and architecture, but don't be surprised if you step in a puppy's present outside a delicious patisserie! This observation is particularly confusing because French people seem to value health and cleanliness a lot. Why doesn't this apply to your dog's poop?

4) *Blasé everything*: French people are blasé about everything. So blasé in fact that there is not an adequate English word to describe this prominent French attribute. Here are a few

example that would most likely drive the average American wild: Paying rent does not have a specific deadline and is completed in person. This wouldn't be a big deal if the landlord was actually around during the scheduled times. Also, don't expect a response to any email inquiries right away. Life in France is slower just like its wifi, which isn't always a bad thing unless you have a research paper due Monday. Their blasé lifestyle also explains why places close for hour long lunch breaks and usually close for the day between 6pm and 8pm.

5) *Appearance*: French people do in fact look French. Is it their faces? Is it their cool glasses? Maybe it's their couture sense of style? This still has yet to be determined, but French people definitely have their own distinguishing look that says, "I'm better than you, but let's not make a big deal about it." This

look is extremely useful and applicable to special events or everyday life scenarios such as job interviews, grocery shopping, people watching, pretending to ignore hot guys at Dunkin Donuts, and your little brother's girlfriend's birthday party!

6) *Rudeness*: BREAKING NEWS FRENCH PEOPLE ARE NOT RUDE. If you think French people are rude, you have made one or both of these mistakes: You have not taken the time to understand a culture different from your own OR you spent too much time in Paris. France definitely has its own serious problems surrounding topics of immigration and laïcité and so forth. However, those issues mainly apply to people who live in France, not tourists. If you feel French people are rude, perhaps you are unknowingly being rude as well (see number 2 for example). As for Paris, it is one of the TOP tourist destinations in the world. If you worked there serving annoying unaware tourists, you would be a little snarky too. France has a complex culture and society that should not be generalized as rude.



FAKER THAN TRUTH

By Christian Decker

Meninists start "Men's March" as the Anti-Women's march

Ever since the feminist movement became prominent on the Internet and many social media sites, a new men's rights activist or "meninist" group has sprung up to voice their opinions nobody asked for. Many claim to be advocates for specific issues related to men, but mostly just attempt to troll femist accounts on Twitter and Instagram. Wiht the recent success of the Women's March on Washington, and all around the U.S., the meninists have decided to start their own march to prove how absolutely uneeded their opinions are. Starting on exactly 4:20, neckbeards and fedora wearing men will take to the streets to protest a march that literally does not effect them in the slightest. New signs are said to read "men are better at everything" and "make me a sandwich", as well as a plethora of other horrifically sexist rhetoric. one of the leaders of the "Men's March", Mitch McBride, outlined his goals for this gathering. "Basically I have literally nothing better to do until the next Fallout game comes out, so yeah." Rumoured guest speakers include Mel Gibson, Harvey Weinstein, Steve Wynn, Steve Bannon, and President Donald Trump, himself. The march is said to last about until Sean Hannity is on Fox with about 1,000 basement dwellers expected to be in attendance. Apparently marhces are being organized all over the U.S. with at least 20 people going to each individual event. The march in Washington D.C. is expected to have the most attendants out of all the marches with 200 said to be in fron of the Capitol hill. No word yet on whether police, firemen, or Emergency services will be bothering to attend to help these men in their protests.

You're a Piece of Sh*t, Larry Nassar

by Rachel Poe **Trigger warnings for rape and sexual assault**
Opinions Deaditor

On Wednesday, former USA Gymnastics and Michigan State physician Larry Nassar was sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison for multiple sex crimes against young women in his care in addition to a 60 year sentence for child pornography. Nassar's abuse spanned over 20 years and affected over 150 women. According to *The New York Times*, he was considered the "must-see" doctor for female gymnasts. Prior to his sentencing, Nassar pled guilty to 10 counts of criminal sexual misconduct. The women who accused Nassar of sexual assault include Olympic gold medalists, athletes who attended Michigan State, and a "family friend" who says her abuse started at the age of 6.

The investigation into Nassar reportedly started in 2015, after two gymnasts from within USA Gymnastics came forward. Nassar was relieved from his position that summer. Nassar wasn't removed from his clinical position at Michigan State until 2016 and was fired later that year.

"The army you chose in the late '90s to silence me, to dismiss me and my attempt at speaking the truth, will not prevail over the army you created when violating us."

-Tiffany Thomas

Lopez, softball player at MSU

During the past week, nearly 150 survivors, coaches, and parents came to the sentencing hearing to confront Nassar and share their victim impact statements- twice the amount of those who were originally scheduled to appear. A common theme present throughout many of the statements was that of Nassar's manipulation and abuse of power and trust. Nassar reportedly told parents and other officials that his

victims claims of assault where just "misunderstandings" as the girls were "not comfortable with their bodies" and "didn't understand medical procedures." One coach from USAG told the court of the immense guilt he felt for sending countless girls Nassar's way over the years.

These drastic numbers can also be contributed to the therapeutic words of the victims' fiercest advocate, Judge Rosemarie Aquilina. Judge Aquilina vowed to let every victim who wanted to speak have the opportunity to do so. She even dismissed Nassar's letter which claimed that he could not "mentally handle" four days of victim statements. Additionally, she was making the trial into a media circus to fuel her own ego. Judge Aquilina said Nassar having to sit through a couple days of victims statements was minor compared to the trauma he inflicted on his victims over the past 20 years.

There is no doubt that Nassar is the only one to blame for his horrid actions, but contingently, one has to question how such a high profile individual was able to continue these crimes for so long without any sort of repercussions. Amid Nassar's sentencing hearings, attention has been turned to the institutions who possibly protected him for the past twenty years: Michigan State and USA Gymnastics. Michigan's Attorney General Bill Schuette announced on Saturday that a special prosecution will be investigating Michigan State from "the President's Office down" to find how Nassar was able to continue this abuse for 20 years without any sort of acknowledgement from the administration. "My department... will find out who knew what and when, who took action, who failed to take action, what did or did not happen, and what should have happened," Schuette said, "No individual and no department at Michigan State University is off limits." The investigation reportedly started last year but only now is the Attorney General revealing how far-reaching it will be.

Michigan State President Lou Anna Simon resigned on Wednesday, January 24th, as questions are being raised about the university's handling of the scandal. According to *The New York*

Times, an investigation conducted for the university found no that university administrators had knowledge of the abuse. Yet, the Detroit News reported that at least 14 administrators were aware of the allegations and that Dr. Simon knew of the Title IX investigation against "an unnamed sports medicine doctor in 2014." Unfortunately, Simon has the option to return to an academic position where she can take a 12-month leave of absence for "research." During this leave, she will still be making her \$750,000 salary, which is one of the highest current salaries for university presidents.

USA Gymnastics' board is also set to comply with the US Olympics Committee's request for resignations amid the scandal. Five board members have already resigned. In a recent *BBC* article, the USAG admitted to "dragging its feet" when it came to alerting authorities to Nassar's crimes in 2015 when two gymnasts came forward with accusations. In a statement, USAG acknowledged that it was time for a change within the organization and they were "looking forward" to working with the USOC to improve.

In the end, at least some good came out of these horrendous crimes. Justice was served and the victims were given a platform to speak their truth. As Aly Raisman, gymnast and six-time Olympic medalists, said, "Let this sentence strike fear in anyone who thinks it is O.K. to hurt another person. Abusers, your time is up. The survivors are here, standing tall, and we are not going anywhere."

"Little girls don't stay little forever. They grow into strong women that return to destroy your world."

-Kyle Stephens, family friend

How RuPaul Has Changed Societal Standards

by Claire Nunez
Editor-in-Chief

RuPaul Charles is inarguably the biggest name in drag. There is no question about it. This past week, the premiere of *RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars 3* happened and I have a lot of feelings about it, but I am just here to let you know that RuPaul has changed the world of drag-- for the better.

If you have never seen RuPaul's show, it is essentially a bunch of drag queens from all over the U.S. and Puerto Rico competing in a *Project Runway*-esque, *America's Next Top Model*-ish fashion. It is a beautiful mess of fake eyelashes, butt pads and duct tape. RuPaul's reality television show, which is on Logo TV, the LGBTQ+ network from Viacom; grew a lot faster than anyone expected. There have been nine seasons, three All Stars, and it is currently one of the most watched shows on any of Viacom's networks. No one thought that a drag queen would be able to get so many views. It is absolutely incredible.

No one ever thought the show would be on for as long as it has been, due to the "controversial" nature of the show. Apparently, people were scared of drag queens-- I do not understand why. Maybe it is the concept of a man in a dress that scares them. Or perhaps it is the fact that these queens are just so hecking beautiful. Oh wait, it is absolutely because they duct tape for tucking. That is some scary stuff, I'll admit. I would not want to duct tape any part of my body.

If you went out into the New York drag scene just a few years ago, you would find a lot of impersonators, big-lipped

Popular show has made drag less taboo

personalities, and super voluptuous queens working the clubs. Now, the world of drag is considered a part of the new art scene. After queens like Alaska, Sharon Needles, Sasha Velour Fierce, and my personal favorite, Violet Chachki; drag has become an artform and even more of a pastime. Today, you will find pieces of art working in drag clubs. They are some of the most incredible people you will ever meet and they are transforming the way we see



drag queens. Some of them are not even remotely-female looking; they are just eccentric characters with very specific personalities and looks.

Drag has transformed from a somewhat taboo job that involves secrecy and danger to a pathway to fame. RuPaul has provided an outlet for some of the most-talented drag queens to show a greater audience their talents. This in turn has made drag less taboo. All of the queens from the past nine seasons have provided examples for people ashamed of their identities. The celebrity status of these queens has given those who consider themselves different someone to look up to.

Every queen who has been on *Drag Race* is unapologetically herself and changing the face of drag in her own way. These drag queens have also opened up a political discussion. During the 2016 election, RuPaul and her gang made a huge ruckus on the television show and on social media. Many of them could also be found advocating for the rights of marginalized communities at rallies, their shows, or on social media. This has been another way that drag queens have been changing the world for the better.

Drag queens take extraordinary risks to serve as role models for a great majority of people. These incredible humans spend so much money to make themselves into the most beautiful women anyone has ever seen, to buy wigs, to buy the amazing costumes they wear for their shows. They also go through a lot of emotional trauma. Many drag queens on *Drag Race* discuss how their families do not accept them, or how they have to perform drag in secret. These queens have overcome such adversity and, earlier in drag history, these queens struggled even more.

RuPaul has changed the social status of drag in the mainstream. His show has changed the way we see drag queens and has transformed the drag scene in general. It is not the same. It is a true artform that is changing with each new season of *Drag Race*. It is also incredibly beautiful to see how our world is changing with each season of this show. It is actually unbelievable that a simple reality show about a drag queen is making real social changes. Now, let's just hope the Kardashians don't suddenly shake up our societal standards.

Realer Than Fact

By Claire Nunez

Chickens deserve obituaries too.

Everything is bigger in Texas, including the love of chickens. The other day, *The Eagle* newspaper published an obituary for the late, Big Mama, a six-year-old Rhode Island Red. I am not entirely sure as to what that means, but like, she was a good looking chicken I suppose. She had a lot of fluffy feathers that made her look super regal and powerful.

The thing about Big Mama is that she was a really good egg of a chicken. She grew up in a tiny apartment and the family who owned her did not want to keep her so they were going to euthanize her. It is so sad! So the vet was like, "hey, I will take this chicken and find someone to love her!" And guess what, the vet found a loving family.

Big Mama was then adopted by the Sword family. Big Mama then was given the best life ever. She could walk around and play in the grass and just live life as a chicken should. The interesting thing about Big Mama is that she was spayed and couldn't lay eggs. Even though she was different, she was accepted by the Sword family's flock and she led a very fulfilling life. She was basically a companion chicken, which I find super interesting because...who the heck has a companion chicken? Big Mama passed away in her sleep and the family then submitted an obituary to their local newspaper. Big Mama was a well, hecking, loved chicken and she deserved to be recognized.

Big Mama, you will not be forgotten-- even by us chicken-less editors in New York City. May your feathery legacy continue on into the far future, and may your time clucking in the afterlife be

With Steve Wynn, No One Wins: Finance Chair Resigns From RNC

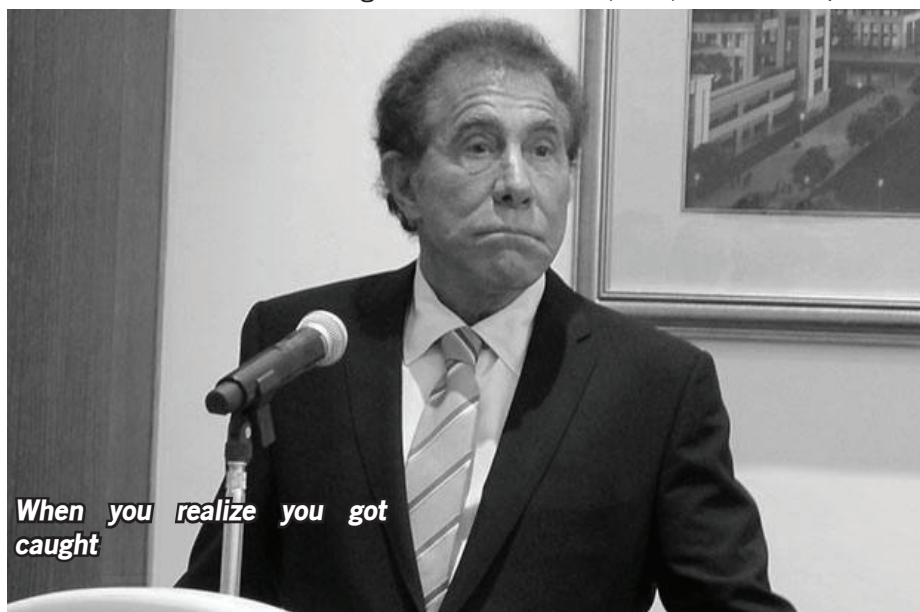
by Andrew Millman
News Co-Editor

Casino billionaire Steve Wynn accused of sexual harassment and abuse

Last week, *The Wall Street Journal* published a report on casino mogul Steve Wynn, after speaking to over 150 current and former employees. The article accused Wynn, one of the most prominent casino owners in Las Vegas, of sexual harassment and abuse of multiple women over many years. The report also detailed Wynn's \$7.5 million settlement with a former employee, who accused him of coercing her into having sex with him in 2005. Wynn is accused of harassing numerous employees. The Journal reports that female employees would have nervous breakdowns, hide in bathrooms, or outright refuse when Wynn requested to see them.

The Journal has reported that these allegations go back decades, and the article details a horrific workplace environment in which the harassment and abuse took place. Wynn, who is the CEO and chairman of Wynn Resorts, is accused of regularly pressuring some employees to perform sex acts with him. The main targets of Wynn's harassment were the casino's massage therapists, whom he would regularly have in his office alone with him. According to the Journal, the billionaire's German Shepherd dogs, who were trained to respond to his commands in German, were ubiquitous in his office and intimidated many of the women. Wynn has denied all of the allegations, claiming that they are the work of his ex-wife Elaine Wynn, with whom he is in a prolonged legal battle over her shares in his company. However, Wynn Resorts' stock value dropped over 10% on Friday when the article was first published. This took over \$2 billion off the company's market

capitalization. This means that his wife lost a substantial amount of money as well, so it would not make sense for her to have been the source of this. Furthermore, the Journal contacted over 150 people for the article, none of whom reached out to the newspaper first. Also, the Wynn Resorts board of directors has launched an investigation



into the actions of their chairman. The revelations are the latest in the ongoing #MeToo movement, which has been a focus of national attention since the allegations against Harvey Weinstein were made public. Steve Wynn is probably one of the most prominent and influential people to be accused of sexual misconduct. In addition to being a billionaire casino mogul, Wynn is also the finance chairman of the Republican National Committee, and responsible for the party's fundraising operation. Wynn has previously donated to both parties, a necessity in the highly-regulated

Nevada gambling industry. He shifted to primarily supporting Republicans after the passage of Obamacare and was a top financial supporter of Donald Trump's presidential campaign. He was the co-chair, along with fellow casino magnate Sheldon Adelson, of Trump's inauguration committee. He has also been a top donor to Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) and the Republican

Party's various fundraising groups, including the Republican National Committee, Republican National Senatorial Committee, and National Republican Congressional Committee. Democrats have already seized on the opportunity to criticize Republicans, who vocally called for the Democrats to return all of Harvey Weinstein's donations, or donate the money to charity. In October, RNC Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel said, "if you stand for treating women well and you stand for the respect of women, you shouldn't take money from someone who treated women with the absolute highest level of disrespect," about Democrats who accepted donations from Weinstein.

Many Democrats donated amounts equivalent to their Weinstein donations to charity. The Republicans have so far been silent on the Wynn scandal, highlighting the growing divide between the two parties' reactions to the #MeToo movement. Democrats accused of harassment, including Senator Al Franken (D-MN) and Representative John Conyers (D-MI), have been forced to resign. Republicans, on the other hand continued to support Roy Moore's failed senate campaign after several credible allegations of child molestation. Rep. Pat Meehan (R-PA) had been a top supporter of the congressional effort to combat harassment, until it was recently discovered that he sexually harassed a staff member. He has since announced that he will not seek reelection.

Since the start of the #MeToo movement in October, revelations of sexual misconduct have come out against one senator, Al Franken; and seven congressmen, including Conyers and Meehan, in addition to Blake Farenthold (R-TX), Trent Franks (R-AZ), Alcee Hastings (D-FL), Ruben Kihuen (D-NV) and Eric Massa (D-NY). There have also been allegations against dozens of state and local officials in at least seventeen states. There also remain the nineteen women who have accused President Trump of sexual misconduct. On Saturday, January 27th, Steve Wynn resigned as the RNC's finance chairman, but that will not be the end of the Republicans' problems. Wynn gave millions to Republican candidates, including vulnerable incumbents such as Dean Heller. Also, if credible allegations of sexual misconduct are enough to force the RNC finance chairman to resign, then equally-credible allegations should have some consequences for the president of the United States, but that has not been the case so far.

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The Hygge Life is the Best Life: How to be Danish at Home

By Kirsten Nolan
Staff Great Dane

If you are like me and spend an embarrassing amount of time stalking lifestyle bloggers on social media, you are bound to have come across the Danish word “hygge.” Or maybe you saw it on a hardcover book in Barnes & Noble, and intrigued, you picked it up only to learn that the small book costs a whopping twenty dollars and it is ridiculous to put that price tag on something like hygge, which really should cost no money at all. Whether or not you have heard of the word “hygge” before reading this article, you are probably confused by it. Hygge cannot be easily translated into English, but some Danish people have described it as being “consciously cozy” or something that is warm and intimate. I just came back from studying abroad in Denmark for four months, where I lived with a Danish family in the suburbs outside of Copenhagen, so I like to think I know a thing or two about hygge. I have basically become an American ambassador for hygge and I am here to impart my Danish knowledge on your ignorant American brain.

First of all, when trying to pronounce the word, throw everything you know about pronouncing things out the window. It’s pronounced like “hoo-gah.” Not “hig-gee.” Not “high-gee.” But “hoo-gah.” I will never be able to pronounce the word exactly, because Danish people swallow their vowels when they speak, and it is an accent I find impossible to mimic, but I know that saying “hoo-gah” is as good as our American tongues are going to get at it. There is also an adverb form of the word: “hyggeligt,” but even after

Hygge honey, is the best thing ever

trying to make my Danish host mom to explain it to me, I have no idea when to use which version of the word, so I am sticking to the now-Americanized “hygge.”

To create a hygge atmosphere, there are some essential elements. You want the lighting to be dim in order to set the mood. Fluorescent lighting is an absolute no-no, so if you are trying to turn your dorm into a magical hygge enclave you will have to buy some fairy lights ASAP and never turn your light switch in your room on again. Maybe even defy Fordham Res Life and light yourself a few candles. Just please do not set your dorm on fire. That would not be very hygge. Next, you should have your closest friends and/or family around you and your electronics should be tucked away. Phones, laptops, iPads, television, etc. all diminish a hygge atmosphere. I will admit that many of my hygge nights while I was abroad were documented on my Instagram story, but I am conscious of the fact

I have basically become an American ambassador for hygge and I am here to impart my Danish knowledge on your ignorant American brain.

that documenting my hygge night on social media took away from the hyggeness of it all. Instead, being present and partaking in good conversation with the people you’re closest to is what makes an environment more hygge. Drinking a hot cup of tea, coffee, or maybe a having a few beers with your friends also contributes to a hygge setting. Indulging in a delicious pastry is also a major key, if you let me quote DJ Khaled. Finally, wearing comfortable clothes (think thick woolen socks and cozy sweaters) while tucked under warm blankets is the icing on the hygge cake.



Now, you should not try too hard to create a hygge situation. A lot of American bloggers try to come up with all different ways to “be hygge” and they market their brands as “hygge,” but really hygge is more of a feeling than a product. For instance, a few weeks

ago an ad came up on my Instagram for what this company was calling hygge workout attire. I scoffed because working out and hygge are essentially opposites. I’m sure the workout clothes are softer and cozier than your average Lululemon leggings, but they are certainly not hygge when the concept of working out stands against some of the best parts of a hygge atmosphere—sitting and eating desserts.

It is really quite simple to create a hygge environment for yourself and I highly recommend it. And truthfully, from what I could tell at least, Danish

people basically call any good time with friends “hygge,” but the specifics of a hygge atmosphere are fun to create. If you want to have an authentic hygge experience, turn on your electric kettle, pour yourself a cup of tea, sit with your closest friends and/or family and just chat away about nothing and everything. Hygge is all about being comfortable, warm, and having a nice

time. It is the perfect escape from the mind-numbing hours that we (or maybe it’s just me) spend scrolling through Instagram, mocking the fake perfect lives of people who think there can be hygge workout clothes.

The Worst Fans in the WORLD

By Jack Archambault
Opinions Co-Editor

It's rare that *the paper* ventures into the world of sports. And by rare, I mean almost never. But as a dedicated fan of Fordham basketball who also has access to a printing press, it is my constitutional duty to put everyone on blast for the apathy that surrounds the basketball teams at this school. I understand that not everyone is going to share my enthusiasm for middle-of-the-road college hoops, but a 3,200-seat gym should not be as hard to fill as we make it seem here at Fordham. Furthermore, I truly believe that a packed house at the Rose Hill Gym would make for one of the more unique and electric environments in college basketball.

I was at the men's game against Rhode Island last Wednesday, and I have to say, we almost got it right. The "white out" was a fun idea from the athletics department, and even if the shirts were objectively terrible, it did seem to result in more students at the game. Even if half the fans were cheering for URI, seeing the gym 70% full was refreshing, and it created a big-game atmosphere. Still, I did say we almost got it right, because the students who showed up at the game seemed like they would rather be anywhere else. With that, I'd like to present my rules for attending a Fordham basketball game:

1. No leaving at halftime

I know, I get it, sports are looong, and booring, and...Wait! I don't get it at all! There's a reason I'm writing this article about basketball games and not football or baseball. If you

Like, go sports or whatever

think football and baseball are too long, fine. I might disagree, but I won't argue. But that argument falls flat when it comes to basketball. Games last two hours, max, and unlike football or baseball, basketball is a



very accessible sport. By that I mean everyone pretty much gets it. There is no reason to leave a basketball game early. None. At halftime on Wednesday, students were flocking for the exits like someone just told them Vineyard Vines was having a half-off sale in the lobby. What's even worse, IT WAS A CLOSE GAME!! We had played a top-25 team extremely tough in the first half, gutting through some big injuries to keep it within single-digits. You can't leave yet! You don't know what's going to happen! If it's halftime and the game is still within reach, you can't leave.

2. At least act a little excited

I first realized this during last January's game against VCU (a game Fordham won, by the way) when we were leading late in the second half and each Fordham basket was greeted by a polite round of applause. For Fordham basketball, having a

chance to beat VCU or URI is as good as it gets. So when that happens, I don't know, maybe stand up and yell. Or at least do something other than sit on your hands. Seriously, Fordham students at a basketball game are

like people in London watching football when the NFL first started playing games there. They just don't seem to fully understand what they're watching and end up cheering for all the wrong things. Like pizza. Speaking of which...

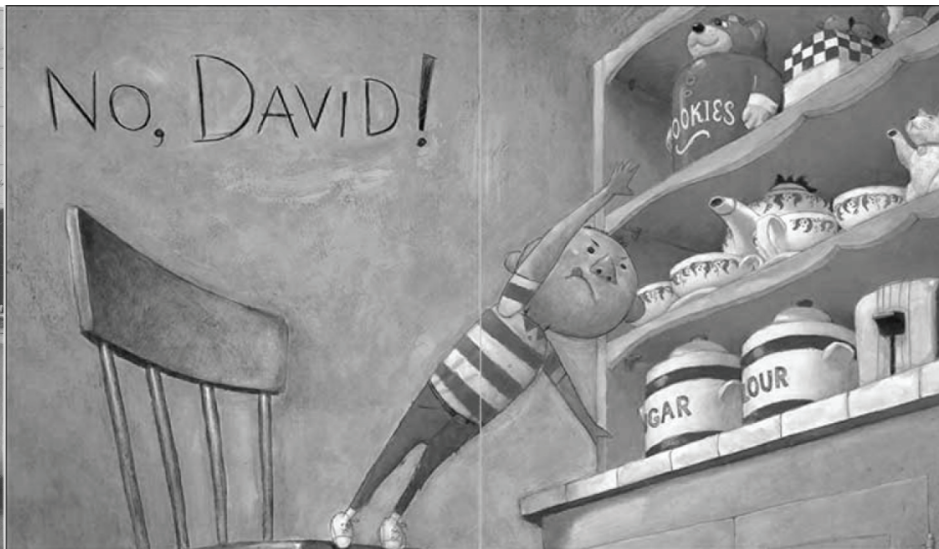
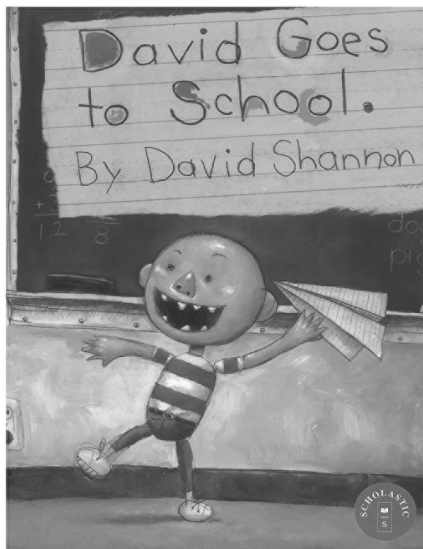
3. You can't be at your loudest during the Pugsley's Pizza Giveaway®

This one is hard for me because I love pizza, too. But if you're at a basketball game, the whole idea is to root for your team. Therefore, it would be nice if the fans who are absolutely rabid during the pizza toss would show a similar level of enthusiasm when Perris Hicks drains a 3 from the corner.

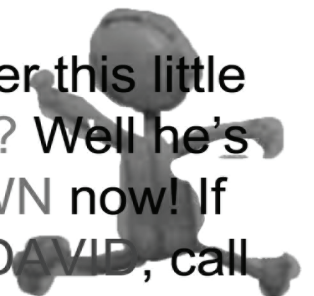
If you really hate basketball, fine. I can't make you like it. But I know for a fact that there are enough basketball fans here to give the games some kind of atmosphere. And I also understand that rooting for Fordham men's basketball can be tough sometimes ... Okay, try borderline impossible. The program hasn't

made the NCAA tournament since 1992, and since then has finished with a winning record only twice. Its only NBA player in that span was the immortal Smush Parker, a player most famous for oversleeping and missing a Lakers team flight, being hated by Kobe Bryant, and y'know, being named Smush. To cap it all off, head coach Jeff Neubauer is most famous for cheating on his wife with a woman named Martina who he met in Prague. None of this is to say that people shouldn't go to the games, but I can understand the reluctance to embrace a team whose coach has more mistresses than winning seasons. But that argument hits a wall when applied to the women's team.

I know there is a weird stigma attached to women's sports, that they are somehow less entertaining and enjoyable to watch. While you won't see anyone dunking at a women's game, you probably won't at a Fordham men's game, either, so what's the difference? The Fordham women, though, are 16-5, and 3rd in the Atlantic 10 with a real chance to win it. G'mrice Davis and Bre Cavanaugh are two of the best players in the conference and have a nice Shaq-Kobe vibe. My point is, if it's a good team that fans want, they've got one in the Fordham women. They're a team that deserves better than the turnout they get, so get out and #showyaluv for the Rams.



Remember this little RASCAL? Well he's all GROWN now! If you see DAVID, call 1-800-BAD-DAVE, and bring this RASCAL to justice



The Feminist Pro-Life Movement is Real and It's Everything

By Hillary Bosch
Opinions Co-Editor

Have you ever heard of the feminist pro-life movement? Probably not. It's incredibly niche and often overshadowed by its more vocal Bible-thumping, shame-shouting counterparts. Although the progressive pro-life movement shares an end goal with the rest of the anti-abortion movement, it dramatically differs in its mission and offers a modern, compassionate perspective to a 45 year old issue that has divided the country.

As millennials who grew up in conservative households reach college age, many grapple to reconcile their pro-life upbringing with modern social justice movements. As a graduate of an all-girls Catholic high school, the pro-life cause was drilled into me with graphic testimonials and even more graphic photos. It became cool and almost expected for people to join the Pro-Life Club, and even cooler if you were able to snatch a coveted spot on the bus that drove up to the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. My high school friends and I have had countless discussions over the years about finding our place in current social movements; can we march in the women's march but still be pro-life? Can we argue for refugees, immigration reform, and other typically "progressive" issues while harboring what our university colleagues would call a backwards or hateful opinion?

That same annual march was held last week on January 19 and, despite

Breaking news: empowering women is important

the relative lack of media coverage, was a massive success with hundreds of thousands of attendees. Although many in attendance hailed from churches and conservative activist groups, it would be wrong to stereotype all marchers as members of these groups. Every year, feminist pro-life groups bring thousands of their supporters in only increasing numbers, including the Fordham Respect for Life club.

If your goal is to help women in desperate situations (which it always should be??), then the goal should not be to make abortion illegal but entirely obsolete; this means not fighting the women involved, but fighting the reasons they have to make such a heart-wrenching choice in the first place. The feminist pro-life movement, as described on the Feminists for Life webpage, is "dedicated to systematically eliminating the root causes that drive women to abortion — primarily lack of practical resources and support — through holistic, woman-centered solutions." Basically what this means

The main goal of the progressive pro-life movement is not to make abortion illegal ASAP, but to end the economic, social, and cultural pressures that drive women to that decision in the first place.

is that people are realizing that overturning Roe v. Wade tomorrow will not end abortion, but rather just make it dangerous and set us back half a century. Shocker.

Instead, the progressive pro-life movement is focusing its efforts on three fronts: preventative, post-natal, and social. On the preventative side, they work to provide access to birth control, real sex education, and fighting rape culture. According to the Guttmacher Institute, 75% of women seeking abortions live in poverty, meaning that one facet of ending abortion is also working to help women (and men) out of poverty.

This ties into advocating for improved post-natal resources as well; no parent should ever be forced to choose between their pregnancy and financial survival. Childcare, post-natal medical bills, and simply the day-to-day necessities of caring for a newborn add up to a hefty bill. A common critique of the pro-life movement is that it purports to be pro-life, but often is only "pro-birth," and honestly this assessment is warranted based on the current message being blasted by pro-life leaders (@realDonaldTrump).

However, many pro-life organizations are realizing this and trying to tackle this problem. For example, the Sisters of Life in New York offer free daycare services for working mothers, and also has an office dedicated to helping pregnant women get the information and resources they need. Additionally, they have an office solely

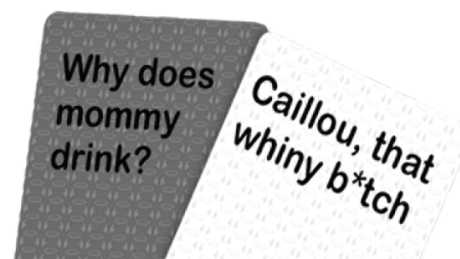
for helping women recover from abortions because anyone who knows the reality of abortion, pro-whatever, can recognize it as a human tragedy and potentially one of the most distressing experiences one can face. Colleges and universities around the country are also working to offer more resources such as childcare and family friendly environments.

It also means everyone, Bible-thumping pro-lifers including, working to create a world "in which pregnancy, motherhood, and birth are accepted and supported." This includes more breast-feeding friendly businesses, working for paid maternity AND paternity leave, and treating women with unexpected pregnancies with the respect and dignity they deserve at every point in their lives. That means not gossiping about the girl from high school that "got knocked up," but empowering her. That means not shaming young mothers but rather offering warmth and understanding. The goal of changing the "hearts and minds" of society is perhaps the most difficult, but arguably the most important if we are to end the social pressures and expectations that push women into abortion.

I get that this was a lot of information, sorry not sorry. But to recap, the main goal of the progressive pro-life movement is not to make abortion illegal ASAP, but to end the economic, social, and cultural pressures that drive women to that decision in the first place. Isn't that everyone's goal, pro-choice or pro-life?



(This is a real movement. People hate this kid. Like why he's a lil bald Canadian kid let him live)



What's the Deal with this Tide Pod Challenge?!

By Cadila Vaz

Staff Laundry Lady

Most people usually start a new year off by aiming to accomplish certain goals, like working out more, traveling the world, or actually staying on top of their homework assignments for once. These are all good natured, self improving goals to look forward to in the first weeks of the year. After all, a new year is a clean slate. Alas, now January is almost over and I'm already slacking off on my homework. In spite of that, I'm fine with bringing my old habits into the new year, because in the grand scheme of things, not doing your homework in a timely manner isn't the worst thing. But you know what really should have been left in 2017? Tide Pod memes. Sure they were funny at first, but they quickly got out of hand and led to the birth of the Tide Pod Challenge.

If you're unfamiliar, the last few weeks

Tide Pods: Not Even Once

of 2017 sparked a fascination with "forbidden snacks," colorful objects that are not meant to be consumed, but meant to serve their purpose, such as doing laundry (Tide Pods), enhancing your bath experience (Lush Bath Bombs), playing board games (D&D dice), or forming rocks (lava).

I love a good meme, and I honestly thought everything was going fine at first. Then I heard my local news channel talking about the dangers of something known as the Tide Pod Challenge. I hate my local news channel, so I try my best to tune out their newscasts, but this caught my attention. Normally the news only brings up old news, but this was my first time hearing of the Tide Pod Challenge, and if reading this article is your first time hearing of the Tide Pod Challenge, bless you.

Now it'd be nice to imagine that this is just a challenge to see who can wash

more laundry with fewer Tide Pods. If that's what you thought it was, I have sad news for you. In this challenge, kids aren't trying to get their chores done faster, they're actually attempting to eat Tide Pods. Yes, people are deliberately eating Tide Pods, despite warnings on the packaging and common sense. Surprisingly, putting a packet of chemicals in your mouth isn't all it's cracked up to be.

Some have drawn the connection between the bright colors of Tide Pods and childhood snacks like Fruit Gushers. Being attracted to bright food is a natural instinct to differentiate between ripe and unripe foods. However, I don't see the appeal of Tide Pods. They're just blue and white or orange and white squares, Out of all the things you would try to eat, Tide Pods are lackluster. While I understand that Tide Pods must be fairly accessible

(although I've never seen a Tide Pod in real life), it'd be cooler to try eating a nice warm bowl of lava, or munching on a bath bomb. Actually planning to eat a Tide Pod, filming the experience, and then uploading it to the Internet once you have flushed enough of the chemicals out of your mouth seems a bit extra.

I have some questions in regard to the Tide Pod Challenge: Why is it exclusively Tide Pods? Are there no other detergent capsules? Is this a PR stunt by Procter and Gamble? Are they working alongside the government to brainwash the youth and administer brain control technology with swiftness (cum celeriter for all my Latin homies)? Or is it a form of population control?

If you are genuinely considering consuming a Tide Pod, you might as well pour yourself a nice cool glass of Clorox Bleach.

I've got 95 Problems and Martin Luther is One

By Katelynn Browne

Features & Lists Co-Editor

I am so tired of hearing about Martin Luther and his 95 theses. Like, look. I get it. It was revolutionary and important because of how fast it was circulated due to the advent of the printing press, the formation of Protestantism as a massive religious force, calling the Catholic Church out on its bullshit, and it allegedly being a form of proto-social media. I get it. He did some pretty revolutionary stuff. But oh my God. I get it.

Having gone to Catholic school my whole life (sixteen years and counting), I grew up learning about Martin Luther quite frequently, and that it was his fault that there are Protestants. And while I have no problem with Protestants (because why would I?) I was not a tremendous fan of Martin Luther as a child because I hate when changes such as massive Church schisms occur. But he always confused me, because he had some good ideas - like having the Church not sell indulgences, and that priests should all be educated in the same way so they don't teach blasphemies to the uneducated German pauper. And, so when I was in high school, I thought, hey, maybe

Martin Luther is my Toby Flenderson

Martin Luther isn't so bad - he was just a guy who saw a problem, wrote his opinion on that problem, and tried to spark positive change in the world. What's so wrong with that?

But then I got to college. And turns out, Martin Luther is highly problematic. For example, he was a massive anti-Semite, which I learned in both required theology courses I



Kinda ugly too, tbh

took here. He wrote a book called "On the Jews and Their Lies," in which he encourages Christians to burn the

homes, synagogues and schools of Jews, and to show them no mercy. Yikes.

Aside from the Anti-Semitism, I'm tired of hearing about Martin "Problematic" Luther because somehow he seeped into my communications courses, more specifically, into my Social Media course.

This was it. This was the line. It's one thing talking about his importance as someone who altered the Catholic Church and changed the course of Western religion in theology class and relevant historical discussions, but when Martin Luther comes up in my social media course I McFreakin' lost it. (Martin Luther in MY social media class? It's more often than you think.) The writer of the article we read for class argued that Martin Luther's nailing his 95 theses to the door of that Church was like him posting his opinions on someone's Facebook wall, and everyone buying pamphlets of it was like people sharing his post. Which is an interesting idea but it makes me very irrationally angry! Because I cannot! Escape! Martin Luther! Everywhere I turn he's there!

He's like the Geico Gecko, always watching me, always waiting to slam dunk his 95 theses into my skull.

Hearing about Martin Luther has become similar to my hatred of the band Foster the People (they sang the Pumped up Kicks which is a good song and they are a good band and the reason I hate them is because when I was a freshman in high school, my friend's grandma drove us 1hr 45mins down to New Jersey to meet our favorite author, who didn't show up to the meet and greet because he got sick, and he was not a massively famous author or anything so there was no way for the bookstore to notify us, so we drove home, and the whole time on both trips, my friend played her Foster the People CD, and also did not talk to me that much because she was in the front seat with her grandma, leaving me alone in the backseat.)

So, I can't listen to the Pumped Up Kicks without shuddering mildly, and soon, too will I not be able to be taught about Martin Luther without my mind yelling a soft, Michael Scott "No, God please, no. No. Noooooooo." at the return of Toby Flenderson.

Ask Bob and Judy

Giving advice to a lost generation

Q: What is lube and how do you use it?

Bob: Well kids, if you want to know about changing your car's oil, you've come to the right place! I've been taking care of my wood-paneled station wagon for years now, and I'll tell ya, she just purrs. Knowing how to change your oil is a lost art, and as Judy will tell ya, nothing turns a woman on like a man who knows his cars. I hope that answers your question, kiddo.

Judy: Lube is for floozies. Get a Bible. You know what goes down nice and easy? The word of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Q: My boyfriend and I have been together for 4 years. How do you keep the spark in your relationship?

Bob: Get a nice hobby. Mine is automobiles. Whenever Judy is nagging me, I just go out to the garage and play with my dipstick. I'm depressed as hell, and cars give me a way to run out the clock on my life.

Judy: Oh Bob, what a jokester. For me, I like to make a nice weekly meatloaf and canned pea soup. Really gets us... going if you know what I mean. And sometimes I'll buy something a little *sexy* like a nice sweater vest from Dress Barn or J.C. Penny's. He'll notice, trust me.



the paper's view

So I am the captain now.

Hey, so my name is Claire. I am one of the new Editors-in-Chief. My co-editor is Colleen. Colleen is in France. I miss Colleen. She is a good egg and I have not seen her in a year because I was living in Amsterdam. That was cool, ya know? But here I am with Michael Jack. We are currently just sitting with our new baby editors trying to get this print edition out. These new editors are some good eggs. I am excited and proud of them! Go you guys!

Oh wait, I didn't introduce myself. I am a junior. My majors are Political Science and New Media & Digital Design. That pretty much means I can talk about stuff and draw stuff on the computer. I like cats and I can cook a real mean and lean sweet potato. Michael Jack, how mean is my sweet potato cooking? Sorry, MJJM can't come to the phone to answer that question right now. Oh why? He's too busy eating the sweet potatoes I cooked for our staff.

So this is our view on stuff that is going on. I just want to say I think the world is kinda on fire and it is not in the good Jesuit way. I do not think anyone went forth and set the world on fire purposely. Our government shut down, Donald Trump really just keeps messing things up with Tweets and words, people are angry with *RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars 3*, and we just keep getting more disappointed with people in power for sexual harassment. I have to say a lot has happened since I last stepped into the print shop, but really not a lot has gone on this week.

Is that a good thing? A bad thing? A thing? I don't know.

I just want to say, I think no news is okay. I mean not for me because it is my job to get news to the people. For the world, it is fantastic. I just think that for my *paper* purposes, it sucks. Does that make me selfish? Of course. Do I care? Of course. Am I going to try and change the way I think? Of course. I think what I am trying to say is, people need to be held accountable. We all know this, but we need to take care of it. Our government needs to make decisions in the interest of everyone. Our president needs to think about his words a little more often. RuPaul needs to hecking not mess up her show. And I, have to stop being a lazy bean. We are all accountable and we should ask our friends to slap us if we don't act like the humans we think we should be.

Make 2018 the year that you are going to be the best human you can be. Yes, it is late for resolutions, but make like Dua Lipa and make some New Rules. Don't let yourself down!

Get out there and set the world on fire...in the good way.

xoxo,
Claire
Editor-in-Cheese

Woman Priests: The Final Female Frontier

By Meredith McLaughlin
Arts Co-Editor

I was born and raised in the Catholic Church, and have been going to mass for the past 19 years of my life. I'm actually really thankful that I was raised with this spiritual influence in my life, and I'm proud to be a part of the Catholic faith. However, ever since I was a kid, I've always been confused by one specific aspect of my religion. Why aren't there any women priests in the Catholic Church yet? This question came up recently while talking to a friend of mine, and they pointed out that the Church had theological reasoning for women to be barred from the priesthood. I wanted to look into the reasons the Church has for only male priests, because, as secular culture continues to move towards gender equality, the Church looks more and more archaic. I don't think it's unreasonable for members of the Church to expect and demand equality. However the reasoning that the church provides makes it difficult for real change to happen, since the men only standard has some convenient theological backing.



The website "catholicstraight-answers.com" opens their article on the patriarchal dominance of the priesthood with, "In our politically charged world, the debate over the restriction of ordination to men alone too often focuses on the political rather than the theological." I feel it's wrong to substitute "political" issues for women's issues. This phrasing makes it sound like people who are arguing for female priesthood are confusing government policy regarding women's rights for spiritual issues, when in reality they are advocating for equal ability to serve God. Many of these men only defenders

have this frankly condescending view that we just don't understand that this is really what God wants, and the belief that the church is denying the "right" to become a priest is incorrect because being a priest isn't a right, it's a calling. The Church holds that people don't choose to be priests, but that God calls them to the role. However, this brings up troubling questions about how God Himself views men and women. Why would God, an omnipotent divine being, see one human as being worthy of becoming a priest over another? Pope John Paul II said in his letter "On Reserving Priestly Ordination to Men Alone" that "...the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgment is to be definitively held by all the Church's faithful." This argument cleverly shifts the blame away from the Church; instead of saying that the Church won't use its power to let women be priests, the pope instead makes it sound like the Church hasn't been given the authority by God, again bringing up the unfortunate implication that God sees women as being for some reason unfit for priesthood.

One of the biggest arguments for men only priesthood is that Jesus was a man and all the disciples were men, so therefore only men should be priests. My initial reaction to this argument was that Jesus is a part of the Trinity, thus making him divine, and thus beyond our human definitions of gender. What is important to his existence is the fact that He is God and human at once, and being of the male gender is irrelevant to that. If He had chosen to live as a woman, the effect would be the same: a being who is God and human at once. Him being a man is only important if we interpret it as being important. The Church could just as easily not make a huge deal over Jesus taking the form of the male sex (as other churches do) yet by choosing to do so they are able to deny women the priesthood. The Church's reasoning extends into the mass itself, claim-

ing that the priest must be male because he is "in persona Christi," or in the person of Christ. This means that during the blessing of the Eucharist, the priest is acting as Jesus, and since Jesus was a man, it would be impossible for a woman to be chosen in persona Christi. Again, the focus on Jesus' gender is arbitrary. Following this logic, one could argue that only 30-year-old Israeli Jewish carpenters could become priests, because that's what Jesus was.

Some feminists argue that Jesus had to take the appearance of a man, because the patriarchal society he was working in wouldn't have taken Him as seriously if he appeared as a woman. This theory applies to the disciples as well, since it's likely that they wouldn't have been taken as seriously in a society where the religious leaders were all men. I think this argument has legitimacy, as it's important to consider the historical and societal contexts of all religions. The core values of Christianity can be applied to any time period, however we should still recognize that Jesus had to adapt to his time period in order to best preach his message.

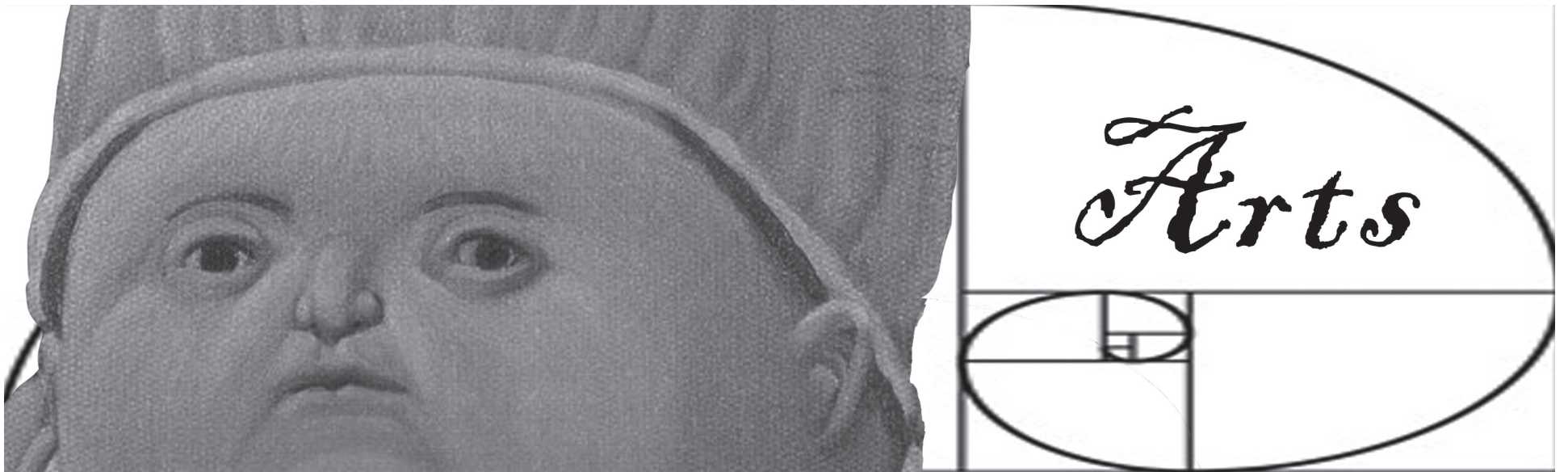
"The way I see it, women are excluded from priesthood either because human men have cultivated an unfair institution that excludes women based on outdated stereotypes and beliefs OR God legitimately sees some humans as being inherently inferior to others."

The Church's response to this argument is that Jesus acted against the social and government order in many ways, and associated with women (especially sinners) where society wouldn't, and if he wanted to bust the patriarchy he would have. I won't deny that Jesus went out of his way to resist social norms and assist those whom

society ignored. In fact His rebellious nature is integral to His teachings.

The church also insists that by making the priesthood male only, they are just continuing the tradition laid out by Jesus. However, this ignores the fact that women were important figures in Jesus's ministry as well; Mary Magdalene, among other things, informed the apostles of Jesus' resurrection (something only SHE witnessed) and was disbelieved. While the Church insists that following the disciples there have never been female clergy, St. Paul says in Romans 15 "commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae... Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus. They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them." Not only does he call one woman a deacon (a clergy role that comes before priesthood) but he also calls two women his "co-workers in Christ Jesus." The women in this passage, Priscilla and Phoebe, have clearly devoted their life to the Word. Further research reveals that Priscilla was responsible for instructing another evangelist in the Word of God. For St. Paul to recognize a woman as an instructor and co-worker and to name another women "deacon" shows that even in the Bible, women were given more ability to instruct and work in the church than they are 2000 years later.

The way I see it, women are excluded from priesthood either because human men have cultivated an unfair institution that excludes women based on outdated stereotypes and beliefs OR that God legitimately sees some humans as being inherently inferior to others. It's time the Church let go of this sexist tradition, and admit that as an institution they are fallible. The Church insists that they view both men and women as equal, but when a Vatican theologian thinks "men are more likely to think of God in terms of philosophical definitions and logical syllogisms" its clear that's not the case. Portraying what is clearly human imposed tradition as sacred fact is manipulative and unhealthy, and hurts the Church almost as much as it hurts its women members.



Oscar Predictions: 90th Annual Academy Awards is Anyone's Game

by David Kennedy

Copy Editor

The 90th Annual Academy Awards are here. That means that in between all the uncomfortable jokes about Kevin Spacey, we're going to try to recognize the best and brightest Hollywood has to offer, probably just to be proven wrong years later. Jimmy Kimmel's hosting this year's Academy Awards in the wake of Seth Meyer's outspoken address at the Golden Globes. If that was any sort of indicator, we're going to see a lot of cleansing self-righteousness at the podium. So, while Hollywood takes this much needed opportunity to exorcise its demons, I'll just try to enjoy the show.

I'm actually kind of looking forward to this year's Oscars. I've never been much for award show pageantry; I just want to see who wins and this year has some definite favorites. It's been a terrible year for Hollywood, but a great one for movies. There are nine Best Picture nominees and about half of them seem like they could win. It's a daunting task to make predictions this year, but here goes.

First I'll just air out my own bias. I think *Three Billboards* should win all the awards, including the ones it isn't nominated for. I think every man, woman, and child in this country should be strapped into the *Clockwork Orange* chair and forced to watch it all the way through. I think this movie makes everyone who watches it a better person. Go see *Three Billboards*. All that being said, *The Shape of Water* is probably going to win Best Picture. I don't understand it, but *The Shape of Water*

Who will take home a lil' gold statue man?!

is nominated in more categories than anything else. It's a feel-good movie which tackles contemporary social issues and it has a firm basis in Hollywood tradition. It was made for this year and made for the Academy. My bet, out of the nine nominees for Best Picture: it's definitely between *Three Billboards* and *The Shape of Water*.

Daniel Day-Lewis is retiring from movies this year so Best Male Lead is a pretty sure thing for him. There's also just very little competition. Gary Oldman won the Golden Globe though, so he may win again. Honestly, I'd be happiest to see Daniel Kaluuya from *Get Out* take it home, but I'm doubtful because *Get Out* strikes me as the kind of movie that won't win Oscars because of its association with the horror movie genre.

Best Female Lead is a much better race this year. Frances McDormand and Saoirse Ronan both gave incredible performances as women we've all met who don't usually make it into

the movies. Meanwhile, Meryl Streep in *The Post* is impossibly talented as usual. Meryl Streep seems like she was built in an underground lab by a group of scientists whose only ambition is to win Oscars. I think Streep is too obvi-

Harrelson is still a possibility and even though I didn't like *The Shape of Water*, I wouldn't mind if Richard Jenkins took it home.

Likewise, I think best supporting actress is anyone's game (mostly because I haven't seen most of the movies), but Laurie Metcalf is my definite favorite. I think Allison Janney also has a solid chance since *I, Tonya* was such a performance-driven movie. Lesley Manville might also win, since she's an unknown working with Paul Thomas Anderson.

Best Director is yet another toss-up. *Phantom Thread* won't win because it came out too late and Paul Thomas Anderson is too weird. *Dunkirk* is my probable favorite for this one. It's a dynamic war film with an unorthodox narrative structure and an impressive ensemble cast. It pleases crowds and it's a Christopher Nolan movie. Out of all the nominees it's easily the most carefully coordinated. *The Shape of Water* could win—as much as I wouldn't like to acknowledge it. *Lady Bird* was wonderful, but it's directing was certainly not the best thing about it. Again, I would love to see Jordan Peele win for *Get Out*, but I don't really expect him to. *Get Out* balanced its uncanny performances with a very sharp use of surrealism, but I still think it's just too avant-garde and too much of a genre-piece to win Oscars.

At the very least *Three Billboards* has to win Best Original Screenplay.

ous a choice to win, but it's a distinct possibility. Margot Robbie carried *I, Tonya*, but I think the movie's reception is too mixed for Robbie to win.

I'd guess Willem Dafoe for Best Supporting Actor. He showed a different side of himself this year and I think it'll pay off. Sam Rockwell's chances might be shot because of the controversy surrounding his Golden Globes win. Woody



EVENTS

What: “Being Black At Fordham” Panel

Where: McGinley 237

When: Fri. Feb 2nd @ 6 PM

How Much: FREE

Why: A great opportunity to hear students, faculty, and alumni speak vulnerably about their experiences.

What: Lecture: “Debt and Disaster in Puerto Rico in Historical and Political Context”

Where: Flom Auditorium

When: Fri. Feb. 9th from 11:30 AM to 12:45 PM

How Much: FREE

Why: Educate yo’self!

What: Cinevents Presents: *Crazy, Stupid, Love*

Where: Keating 3rd

When: Mon. Feb. 12th and Wed. Feb. 14th

How Much: FREE

Why: You’re single and bitter and want to enjoy a movie about love alongside other lonely people.

Inaugural Season of The Overwatch League Thrills Audi-

by Michael Jack O’Brien
Executive Editor

Tensions were high on the OWL stage, the series had gone to a fifth tiebreaker map and the reigning juggernauts, Soul Dynasty, were looking shaky, as the young guns of NY Excelsior looked to prove that the bigger they are, the harder they fall. On the last map, Dong-gyu “Mano” Kim of NYXL carried his team with masterclass tank play, securing the victory, and proving that nobody in the OWL was invincible; it was electric.

Yes, we are fully aware as to how unorthodox it is to see sports news in the paper, even if those sports involve videogames. However, the action and excitement in these first three weeks presented some of the most compelling evidence that Blizzard Games, the creators of Overwatch, have cracked the code on turning their multimillion-dollar shooter franchise into a serious e-sports contender. The OWL introduces a novel concept into e-sports that by its very nature generates excitement as a spectator event. Instead of naming teams based on their parent organization, teams are named for cities and regions. From the aforementioned “New York Excelsior” previously known as the Korean team “LW Blue” to the “Houston Outlaws”, fans will finally have a way to root for the home team as they do in traditional sports. The city-based teams of OWL, along with color coordinated in-game skins which fans can buy, add flavor to the viewing experience in a way that has previously eluded competitive Overwatch.

One of the main barriers to watching competitive Overwatch is the pace at which team fights and engagements play out. Overwatch tends to turn into

E-Sports??? In the paper??? Blasphemy.

a brightly colored chaotic mess of different heroes’ abilities, ultimates, and projectiles culminating into a visual experience akin to a shed of fireworks burning down. While for the teams the fights are a highly coordinated set of engagements and strategic executions, this point was oftentimes lost on the spectators. Blizzard recognized this problem, and starting with the 2017 Overwatch World Cup, introduced a brand new spectator API (Application Program Interface) which switches all abilities, ultimates, and projectiles to a single team color. For example, if the London Spitfire (blue and orange) are playing the Miami Mayhem (yellow and red), all of London’s abilities and actions will be colored blue. In addition, the OWL introduces the concept

league in a professional and respectable manner. While this might not seem like a tall order, we must recognize the fact that a large majority of the professional Overwatch scene is comprised of extremely young players, with most competitors being in their early 20s. As a result, players will oftentimes find themselves in hot water for behavior that the league has deemed unbecoming of a professional. For example, Dallas Fuel player Félix “xQc” Lengyel was fined \$2,000 and suspended for the remainder of OWL stage 1 for making homophobic remarks about an opponent on his livestream. xQc is known for his high octane personality and has often been accused of toxic behavior in the past. While at one point these actions would have been met with collec-

Blizzard has made it clear with these high-profile suspensions that being “young and reckless” is not an excuse for poor behavior.

In the first three weeks of the OWL we have seen some of the best Overwatch play in the game’s



of home and away teams to e-sports. As a result, the “away” teams abilities will always be colored white. This new spectator API improves the viewer experience dramatically, painting a more coherent picture of the events during the match.

Despite these vast improvements to the viewer experience, the OWL is not without flaws, and one of the key issues for professional Overwatch is one that’s largely outside of Blizzard’s control: the players. Because the OWL is a “professional organization”, meaning that the players are paid salaries for their participation in the league, players are expected to represent the

history, and despite some teething problems, the future looks bright for this league. The beginning of feeder leagues (competitive leagues in which new players can prove themselves) like the Overwatch Open Division and Overwatch Contenders, assures that there will be a steady stream of new talent for the league. This competition is still very young, but one thing remains certain, the OWL is the new standard for professional Overwatch. With mainstream appeal, exciting teams, and even more exciting matches, we can be sure that the OWL is just getting started.

What in Tarnation?! They're Remaking *Heathers*?!

by Gabrielle Curran
Staff Angsty Teen

If you're anything like me, you're sick and tired of remakes. When a movie is unique and compelling enough on its own, the idea of rebooting it seems more like a transparent cash grab than anything else--and nowhere is this more apparent than in the trailer for Paramount's TV adaptation of *Heathers*.

A brief summary of the original film: *Heathers* is a 1989 movie starring Winona Ryder and Christian Slater. Ryder plays Veronica, a cynical student at Westerberg High School and a recent recruit of the school's most popular clique, the Heathers. The Heathers

consist of three beautiful, venerated girls, all aptly named Heather. Though Veronica enjoys her distinguished status at school, she secretly resents her newfound friends, particularly their ringleader Heather Chandler. Enter J.D. (played by Slater), a cryptic and rebellious student new to Westerberg with a penchant for extreme behavior. When a finally fed

up Veronica decides to turn the tables on Heather Chandler, J.D. is more than happy to help. Things go south, however, when a mostly harmless prank Veronica intended to pull on Heather leads to the latter's death. In order to cover up the murder, J.D. and Veronica forge a suicide note, making it look as though Heather killed herself. The movie then follows the aftermath of Heather's "suicide", including the accidental murder of jocks Kurt and Ram, another Heather's rise to power, and the romanticization of teenage suicide by Veronica's teachers and peers. While the movie wasn't a blockbuster, it has developed a cult following since then, even spawning a musical adaptation in 2014.

Since I first saw it in high school,

Hey, Paramount, who gave you the right?

Heathers has always had a special place in my heart. As a cynical teenager myself, I related to Veronica's jaded perspective and sarcastic attitude. I loved how no-fucks-given the movie was about going *there* and taking risks in plot and character development. The writing is idiomatic, but not cringy. The characters are flawed and at times abhorrent but somehow relatable, and the premise turns the cliché of teenybopper high school movies on its head. Its ending left questions unanswered for sure, but not to the degree that it would warrant a sequel or remake.

So imagine my surprise when I opened up Tumblr last week to a slew

because they seemed capable and willing to do anything to get their way. The new Heathers are laughably unthreatening. J.D.'s character went from an unreadable sadist to a caricature who suggests to Veronica that they "snort Adderall, make out, and kill Heather." J.D.'s original character was a nonconformist, someone who was so emotionally distanced from society that he could turn his own murders into a social experiment. The new J.D. acts more like a 12-year-old Redditor trying too hard to be edgy. The trailer was clearly trying to endorse a message that typically unpopular kids can be popular, which was never the point of *Heathers*. In fact, the

original did practically everything it could to break down the conventional teenage stereotypes that were so common among the contemporaries of its genre. (And hey--if you want to make a movie in which traditionally outcast kids are the popular ones, more power to you. Write your own plot and leave a perfectly fine cult classic alone.) The clos-

est the trailer got to replicating the bitter satirical tone of the original was in the teachers' detached reaction to their students' "suicides". Don't even get me started on Shannon Doherty (Heather Duke in the original) being involved in all of this--I don't know what she's doing there either.

I'm not alone in my anger towards the trailer--it currently has a whopping 28,000 dislikes to 8,000 likes. The series is set to premiere on the Paramount Network on March 7th. While I might sample the first episode when it comes out, I don't have high expectations for it. For now, all I can do is rewatch the original and hope that my fury towards this remake is just a spoke in my menstrual cycle.



SHOWS

What: The Butterfly Conservatory

Where: The Museum of Natural History

When: Now - May 28, 2018, 10 AM - 5:45 PM

How Much: \$10.00 (for students)

Why: Who doesn't love butterflies and moths?

What: Survival Research Laboratories

Where: Marlborough Contemporary, Chelsea

When: Tue-Sat @ 10 AM-6PM

How Much: TBA

Why: See robots do things they're normally not meant to!

What: Target First Saturdays

Where: Brooklyn Museum

When: Sat. February 3, 2018, 11 AM - 11 PM

How Much: FREE

Why: There's free music, art lessons, and a screening of the 2017 documentary *Whose Streets?*

The Greatest Showman is a Great Show, Man

by **Katelyn Cody**
Staff Circus Fan

P.T. Barnum's "Greatest Show on Earth" finds new life again in movie theaters as the story of the circus' creation is told through music, dance, and the occasional high-flying acrobatic trick. Hugh Jackman captures the charm and charisma required of a great showman and plays Barnum wonderfully. The actor's Broadway background definitely helped him in this performance. One of my favorite characters was Anne Wheeler (Zendaya). I was amazed by the stunts she performed, and found myself yet again wishing that I was the least bit flexible and graceful. The duet she shares with Phillip Carlyle (Zac Efron), "Rewrite the Stars," is one of my favorite songs from the movie, and definitely one of my favorite scenes. During a recent interview on the Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, Zendaya shared a video of her and Efron colliding while rehearsing their duet.

Music is great, though minor characters deserved more

My least favorite part of the movie was the Jenny Lind storyline. Although I understand the inclusion of this plot point- Barnum's sponsorship of her American tour demonstrated his ability to take risks, and having Jenny show romantic interest in him added a bit of drama- I just could not get myself interested in her character, and was not the biggest fan of her song, "Never Enough." I was also disappointed to find out that the actress who played Jenny did not sing her own songs. One of my biggest pet peeves is when actors, especially those who we know can sing, do not do their own singing in movie musicals (I'm looking at you Zac Efron in the first High School Musical movie). There are plenty of other actresses who could have played the part just as well, but also contributed their own singing voice. I wish that the filmmakers had instead taken this time to expand more on the performers

in Barnum's circus. They are what made Barnum's circus "the greatest show" and deserve the screen time to reflect that. While Settle's character, Lettie Lutz, performs the most popular song from the show, I don't think she deserved to be treated as such a minor character. The growth in confidence that she has during "This is Me" is one of the most important parts of the movie's theme of loving yourself for who you are.

Composers, Benj Pasek and Justin Paul did a remarkable job writing music that would appease both musical fans and non-musical fans alike. Pasek and Paul are amazingly versatile composers who are not confined to one genre of music. The music in the film, while very musical theater-like in style, infuses modern pop music in a way that will appeal to all audience members. Settle astounds audiences with the moving ballad, "This is Me," a song that has already gained

a Golden Globe Award and an Academy Award nomination. As a Broadway alum, she is no stranger to powerful ballads, notably "I Didn't Plan It" from *Waitress*. The duo has enjoyed a lot of mainstream success over the past year with the release of *La La Land* (for which they won both a Golden Globe Award and an Academy Award) and *Dear Evan Hansen* (for which they won a Tony). If you loved *The Greatest Showman* I highly encourage you to check out the rest of the composers' work. The film definitely has a distinct Broadway flare to it. It was even workshopped like a real Broadway show prior to production.

When it all comes down to it, *The Greatest Showman* is a family friendly film that is entertaining, inspiring and warms the audience members' hearts. The beautiful music is an added plus that was probably one of the strongest motivators for me to see this movie.

Slayer: A Retrospective

by **Christian Decker**
News Co-Editor

On Monday, Slayer announced on their official Instagram that they would be performing one last world tour. Starting in May in California, Slayer will embark on their final North American tour. The news has shocked the metal community. There were even rumors, perpetuated by lead guitarist, Kerry King, that a new album was in the works. Needless to say, the news has surprised and saddened metal fans across the world. Slayer isn't the only band announcing their retirement either. Norwegian black metal titans Satyricon, and progressive rock legends Rush, also announced their final tours this week. Slayer will welcome groove metal aficionados Lamb of God, fellow thrash pioneer Anthrax, blackened thrash demons Behemoth and thrash metal lords Testament, to accompany them on this legendary final tour.

Slayer started headbanging in the early 1980s as the glam metal acts were out being disgraces to music. Its members have remained mostly constant in their almost 40-year career.

Legendary pioneer of Thrash Metal calls it quits

The line-up consisted of vocalist and bassist Tom Araya, guitarist Kerry King, guitarist Jeff Hanneman, and drummer Dave Lombardo, until Jeff Hanneman's heartbreaking death in the late 2000's. Hanneman was replaced by Gary Holt, a founding member of the thrash metal band Exodus. Slayer quickly grew to popularity and has been melting faces and opening pits to hell in all of their mosh pits and outdoor venues.

With their debut album "Show No Mercy", Slayer introduced lyrical themes of Satanism, demonic entities, and otherwise stuff that people didn't normally discuss in music in the 80's. This caused an insane amount of controversy. Various religious groups tried to get the band banned or to boycott their music. Re-

member, this was also around the time that Tipper Gore led the crusade for the Parental Warning labels for music that the government deem, offensive, or inappropriate. Nevertheless, Slayer carried on and amidst the adversity, and managed to have one hell of a career.

Slayer have had their share of excellent and critically acclaimed albums, their most famous being "Reign in Blood," an undisputed thrash masterpiece according to most metal enthusiasts, with their signature tracks "Raining Blood," which is literally about overthrowing heaven, and "Angel of Death" about a notorious Nazi doctor of the same nickname, which as you can imagine caused a lot of controversy. Other noteworthy albums include "God Hates Us All" with the blood-

pumping track "Disciple" and "South of Heaven" in which Slayer slowed down a lot of their sound with classics like their title track, "Seasons in the Abyss". This track contains my favorite song "Dead Skin Mask," a song about notorious serial killer Ed Gein, who the movie "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre" was based off.

Slayer is also one of the "The Big Four", along with Megadeth, Metallica, and Anthrax, who are all credited with creating and developing the thrash metal sound. Slayer's accomplishments are numerous, and it is with a heavy heart that we must say goodbye to this band. Slayer was actually one of the bands that got me into heavier music in the first place. Hopefully many of the metalheads who read this article, including myself, get a chance to see them before they end their performing careers for good. Their closest tours to New York are in New Jersey and in Connecticut in June, and I would hurry up and get tickets because I can't imagine there will be a lot left very soon!



Ally Coalition Talent Show Raises Money and Spirits for a Good Cause

by Olivia Langenberg
Features and Lists Co-Editor

The Ally Coalition hosted its 4th annual Talent Show on January 24th. The Ally Coalition was formed back in 2012 by the band Fun and designer Rachel Antonoff with the mission of promoting equality for LGBTQ people. The Talent Show is held annually to benefit homeless LGBTQ youth in New York City. Previous years saw Carly Rae Jepsen, CHVRCHES, Charli XCX, Sara Bareilles, and Elle King as musical guests, as well as a variety of famous comedians such as Fred Armisen and Hasan Minhaj. This year's show took place at Town Hall in Midtown Manhattan and featured performances from musicians, Lorde, Kacey Musgraves, The National, Shamir, Spoon, Andrew Dost, and Bleachers and comedians Aparna Nancherla, Phoebe Robinson, Jacqueline Novak, and Mike Birbiglia.

I found it interesting that this show took place at a venue in the middle of Times Square. I'd never heard of Town Hall, nor had I ever been before, so I decided to do a little research about the venue's background. The League for Political Education commissioned the space with the intention of educating people about important political issues of the time. When it was first being built, the group was fighting for women's suffrage, and by its completion, the 19th Amendment had passed. The building became a symbol of this victory and for an optimistic future. The famous phrase "not a bad seat in the house" is attributed to Town Hall due to the lack of box seating. I can attest to the truth of this statement because I was in the second to last row of the upper balcony and still had a good view. I'm not sure if the organizers of the show chose the venue for its history of hosting activists and educational pro-

Oh my Lorde, this sounds like a grand ol' time

grams, but I think it was suitable for the event's cause.

Kacey Musgraves was the first to take the stage. The show was primarily acoustic so she simply sat on a stool with her guitar and allowed her vocals to be the main focus. I've never really listened to her music before, nor am I much of a country music fan, but I actually enjoyed her performance. Set times were capped at around 10 minutes so she only had enough time for three songs which I think she chose well: two new songs, and one of her most popular songs, "Follow Your Arrow". The funny thing, though, was that Kacey forgot the words during "Follow Your Arrow" and had to ask people in the front row what came next. I felt uneasy that the show began with a performer who forgot the words to her song, but the way she played it off made the atmosphere lighter.

After Kacey's quick acoustic set, I was surprised to see Aparna Nancherla take the stage. I knew there were some comedians in the lineup, but I hadn't expected one to appear after just one musician. I wasn't familiar with her work either, but was pleasantly surprised. I tend to gravitate toward dry humor, and Aparna had me hooked with quick one-liners and self-deprecating jokes. She told a joke about how people become shapes in the winter because of how many layers they are forced to wear, and the entire room erupted in laughter. I personally related, as I often feel like a giant circle when I'm clad in my puffy winter coats. Supposedly, Aparna was named one of "The 50 Funniest People Right Now" by *Rolling Stone*, which is super cool. I enjoyed her fresh take on stand-up and she was definitely my favorite comedian of the night.

After Aparna ignited the crowd, non-

binary artist Shamir came out, the first to declare membership in the LGBTQ community. Once again, I wasn't familiar with Shamir's work, but from the second he started singing about straight boys ruining his life, I was on board. Shamir's performance felt the most intimate and raw, while simultaneously remaining lighthearted. His second song, "90s Kids", featured lyrics giving props to college kids, acknowledging their struggles and how their problems can be de-legitimized by older generations. It was definitely a highlight to see a LGBTQ person of color perform at the benefit.

At this point in the show, I started to space out until Lorde took the stage an hour later. Jacqueline Novak did a weird stand-up routine about french fries, which stopped being funny about two minutes in, but unfortunately lasted for eight more minutes. Spoon played a few songs that all sounded the same and didn't really capture my attention. Phoebe Robinson performed a stand-up routine that definitely went over the time limit. She was funny at some points, and at others I found myself staring intently at the back of the guy's head in front of me. Mike Birbiglia talked about his experience at a fertility clinic, which was also funny at times and trying too hard at others. The National performed a few songs, which didn't wow me that much, but they did have some horns to accompany the piano.

Just when I thought I would fall asleep before I ever got to see Lorde, she finally came out! She was dressed in a white billowy top that made her look like a cloud princess. Jack Antonoff sat alongside her at the piano; the two played a few covers and a few songs off Lorde's *Melodrama*. I don't get to hear Lorde

acoustic enough, and it was a great opportunity to hear her voice in its truest form. Lorde and Antonoff wrote Lorde's most recent album together, and it was refreshing to witness their friendship live. Unfortunately, though, their performance was interrupted by a heckler, who shouted "Israel is nice!" likely due to Lorde's cancellation of her performance there. Antonoff quickly jumped to her defense, shutting him down and reminding everyone why we all were really there. This concert was to benefit homeless LGBTQ youth. While it's great that so many talented artists came to showcase their art, it was really about raising money. Lorde was obviously my favorite part of the night, since I'm a little biased towards her. I enjoyed that Antonoff was with her, though. It made me imagine what the process of making *Melodrama* was like.

The night ended with a performance by Jack Antonoff and his band Bleachers. They began their set with a performance of the song "Dreams" in tribute to the late Dolores O'Riordan of The Cranberries, followed by original material. Antonoff and his band closed out the show with a cover of Fleetwood Mac's "Go Your Own Way," urging the night's earlier performers to come out and join them. It felt like an appropriate way to end the night. I believe the show was a success. The Ally Coalition raised \$193,000 for homeless LGBTQ youth in New York City, and that's what really matters. In hosting this show annually, more exposure is granted to people who don't always have a voice in the media. LGBTQ people and allies can come together and stand up for equality, while enjoying music and comedy. Each year the show seems to grow and I'm excited to see what the Ally Coalition will do in upcoming years.





Which Forbidden Snacc Are You??



Egg

- eat it
- egg



Dr. Eggman

- you a SNACC
- you got long ass giraffe legs, ready to gallop to class at any moment ur prepared to run
- u rotund but look like a broom at the same itme



Bath 2 Bomb

- distracted easily by bright colors and strong smells
- constantly walking around with a fist full of sweet tarts in your left pocket
- more excited by bath bombs than relaxed by them



Laundry Detergent

- haha trendy
- will do anything for attention
- even eat laundry detergent
- youthful spirit



Cookie Doh Ice Cream

- does all the readings on time but can't remember what they read when they get to class
- dresses mostly in primary colors



Polly Pocky Clothes

- squish squish bish
- adore early 2000s clothing
- look like you're about to fight minimum wage workers at any given moment
- but actually v kind



Wow! Another year of misery and hardship has escaped us. We can all agree that 2017 was garbage, so we decided to celebrate the self-deprecation and silliness of the memes that got us through another year. Here are the paper staff's favorite memes of 2017:

**“Nice of the Princess to Invite Us Over for a List, Eh Luigi?”
by Matthew Whitaker**

As a professional meme researcher, I can say that my favorite meme of 2017 is without a doubt the “Eh Luigi?” meme. This meme originated from a cutscene in the game Hotel Mario, which was the result of a licensing disaster for Nintendo. The meme uses the cutscene in which a poorly-animated Mario and Luigi walk into the Mushroom Kingdom, with Mario exclaiming “Nice of the princess to invite us over for a picnic, eh Luigi?” The meme consists of pasting Mario and Luigi onto an image to make it look like they are walking into a different situation, often with a relevant caption. For example, I made a version for Meme Monday where Mario and Luigi are walking into Keating with the caption “Nice of Father McShane to invite us over for a class, eh Luigi?”

Our “President” is a Meme

Donald Trump’s “presidency”. Because if an inflatable orange troll squeezed into golf shorts like a

flabby, racist sausage; a Twitter-happy, illiterate sociopath feverishly consuming Fox News after a bedtime story from Steve Bannon; a tiny-handed, small-minded egomaniac with a masculinity more fragile than the leg lamp in Christmas Story with access to the United States’ nuclear codes is not the most tragic, pathetic, terrifying, and yet utterly comical meme of 2017 then I don’t know what is...

**Wow, My Brain is Huge
by Staff Big Head**

My favorite meme of 2017 was the expanding brain meme, in which you see a human brain becoming brighter and more weird and cosmic looking, with different variations of things progressively becoming “smarter” options. For example, there was one with the brain completely dark that read, peeing and making noise, followed by a brighter brain that read “peeing on the side of the toilet and making no noise,” and then progressively getting weirder over the course of several pages of brains that looked like they reached Nirvana. I think the best part of this meme was that it was incredibly absurd with the kinds of things that you could consider being smarter things to do. I think the meme is still making its rounds on the internet, so that just shows you its longevity.

**Myself
by Sad Boi TM**

My favorite meme is the one I see everytime I look in the mirror. Everytime I stare at myself. It’s not a popular meme, but one day it will be. I want to take a pic of myself and put it up on a message board. Because I am a meme and my life is a meme. Even my roommates call me a meme. When they see me staring into the mirror for hours on end, they know it’s a meme. THEY REALLY KNOW. Everyone knows, like that one song. That song is also a meme. I wrote a song about being a meme once. It was really deep and depressing. My parents were crying. They told me they weren’t crying at it being bad, because it was good and deep. So yeah, that’s my favorite meme.

**Come and Visit this Jungle, bb
By Resident Meme Queen**

While 2017 was for the most part a shit-show, it was without a doubt a prolific year in terms of its meme yield. Among its superiors is an unfortunately short-lived meme, “Why Not Visit?”, that paved the way for a new form of internet jokes: the biomeme. This meme has so many variations and possibilities that it’s almost impossible to make two of them that are exactly the same. The creative and ridiculous names that people have come up with to describe the

wildlife of locations ranging from the forest to Bikini Bottom are some of the funniest things I’ve read all year. Some of my favorite terms include “Brother Abernathy” to describe moose, “Wanted Men” to describe jellyfish, and “Benevolent Carpet” to describe floor stalagmites. All in all, 10/10 would recommend this top notch quality creative meme.

Favorite 2017 Meme? I don’t know her.

By Claire Nunez

I literally do not care about memes. I mean, I do, but my excuse is that I just didn’t live in the country for a majority of 2017. Yes, I am that person that will use my time living abroad as an excuse. Shut up.

IT’S NATURALLY BLINKING WHITE GUY MOTHERFUCKERZ

by Nick Peters

SO LIKE LET ME GO OUT ON A LIMB HERE. Blinking white guy is my fav meme. Why? Because it’s my favorite thing in the world. A podcast/website I really love and have followed for years, called Giantbomb.com, is where the meme came from. You cannot imagine my amazement at seeing Drew Scanlon from Giantbomb, from a livestream I WATCHED, become a meme. A personality I have followed for years. And now his face is everywhere. It was an amazing, fascinating moment.



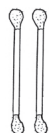
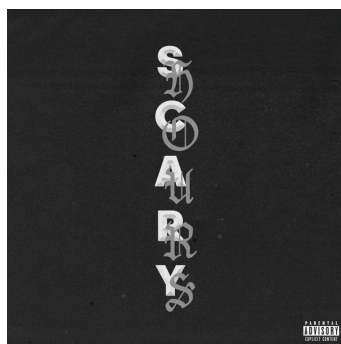
Drake
Scary Hours
 By Claire Nunez

I am not a Drake fan— all of his music sounds the same to me, and that is exactly how I feel about his new EP, *Scary Hours*. The two songs released, “God’s Plan” and “Diplomatic Immunity” are essentially little diary pieces from Drake, which is cool and all, but all of his music just kind of sounds like “Hotline Bling” to me. I wish I could say that his new music is revolutionary (mostly because it breaks some streaming records on Spotify and Apple Music), but it is just not for me.

Scary Hours is very electronic and heavy, making me feel as though I’m walking around a dark, gray city. To be fair, I am, but I don’t like the sound of it. I also just can’t relate to Drake’s famous lifestyle. In “Diplomatic Immunity”, he raps about people taking advantage of his fame. I am not famous yet, so I am just like, “whatever.” It is also too slow for me. I like “God’s Plan” a bit better because it is more upbeat and bop-y. I can totally chill with that. He also has a line that goes, “I only love my bed and my momma, I’m sorry.” Now *that* is relatable content.

That being said, I am still underwhelmed with Drake. I don’t care how relatable his one line is, his new EP is nothing special or overtly revolutionary. I do appreciate that he just released music instead of waiting for a new album— I think more artists should do that.

Favorite Song: “God’s Plan”



BØRNS
Blue Madonna
 By Olivia Langenberg

BØRNS’ kicked off the new year with a new album! I’d consider myself a casual BØRNS fan, and by that I mean I could maybe name three of his songs. I definitely didn’t know he was coming out with a new album, so I went in with no expectations. This new release, *Blue Madonna*, had me feeling really out of touch with my body. I actually felt like I was in the middle of a lucid dream while I was listening to this album. I haven’t decided what that means exactly, but let’s just say that this album is full of some incredible sounds. These tracks are psychedelic as hell, but sometimes it’s a little too much for my delicate ears to handle. Believe me, this album is no “Electric Love.”

Blue Madonna starts off with a crowd pleaser, “God Save Our Young Blood,” featuring teen favorite Lana Del Rey. This song would be good for a late night drive, but I wouldn’t listen to it for any other reason. The first few

songs are pretty good, though, and they definitely tell you what’s going to happen with the rest of the album. They introduce those *Alice in Wonderland* acidtrip kind of sounds, mixed with that same honey-like BØRNS voice we’re all familiar with.

I got lost in the middle of the album and felt like I was floating in a weird way, but the last few songs brought me back to Earth. There’s nothing special about the lyrics on this album, it’s a lot of the same ‘I loved you, I lost you’ stuff we hear in most love songs. The ending song, “Bye-bye Darling,” was the most creative one, but otherwise it wasn’t anything I haven’t heard before.

Overall, this album is decent. I’d recommend listening to it in some Beats headphones for a truly transcendent experience, but don’t strain yourself for it.

Favorite track: “Second Night of Summer”



Tune-Yards
I Can Feel You Creep into My Private Life
 David Kennedy

It’s been a while since we’ve heard anything from Tune-Yards. Their last release, “Nikki Nack” came out four years ago, me more than enough time to forget they existed. Tune-Yards is the experimental pop project of Merrill Garbus, a singer and multi-instrumentalist originally from Connecticut, with Nate Brenner on Bass.

What initially attracted me to Tune-Yards on their second album “Nikki-Nack” was a paradoxical balance of childish exuberance and technical

precision in the music. Something about them feels like elementary school arts and crafts. They play with sound unrestricted, even though everything is also obviously very consciously composed. Vocals shift from yelpy sing along choruses, often reminiscent of jump-rope rhymes, to meandering sing-song verses. All the while meticulously arranged harmonies jump in and out of the mix. African drums and clap hands mix with fuzzy basslines and synthetic percussion to create rhythms which are both scattered and carefully syncopated. You can imagine how some of these qualities can make

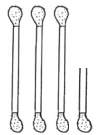
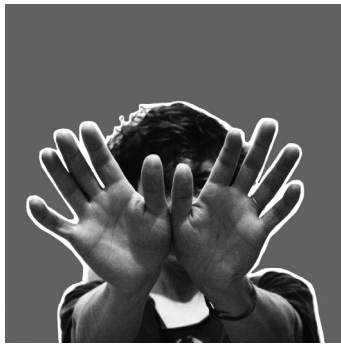
Tune-Yards both fun and irritating on the same song. In general, this represents them at their best: totally unrestricted. In the new album, they’ve done away with some of the organic elements to take a more straight forward pop approach to their music. At its best this results in the same schoolroom eclecticism stripped down to its sharpest hooks. Such is the case with the singles, “ABC123” and “Look at Your Hands.” Both of which are upbeat tracks, loaded with hooks, and a playful energy, belying themes of anxiety and violence in the lyrics. Cultural anxiety is a prevalent theme for Tune-Yards, particularly on this album. On the song “Colonizer,” Garbus airs out her guilt over drawing influence from traditional African music in the past (an influence whose absence is felt on this album). They’ve sung about this sort of anxiety before. It can be a potent place to draw inspiration from, but on “Colonizer” it results in a track that is at best dull, at worst annoying, and on the rest of the album it results in a more subdued, less energetic Tune-Yards.

It’s worth a listen, but anyone interested in really off-the-wall pop music should checkout “Nikki-Nack.”

Favorite Song: “Look at Your Hands”



Tune-Yards Continued....



It discusses emotions related to the handling of varying degrees of fame and success, before deciding none of it matters, except that he is “sticking with” his partner. Although this song is also somewhat forgettable, and the first track’s sound may even, as it initially did for me, deter you from listening to the rest of the EP, “Scary Love” and “Heaven” come to the rescue as tracks I will definitely coming back to.

Favorite Track: “Heaven”

abandon the sound that made them special, and “change with the times” so to speak by revamping themselves as EDM groups disguised as rock bands. It’s a disappointing change, and when onlookers say that “pop-rock is dead,” this album and many others only confirm our worst fears.



**Bahamas
Earthtones
Annie Muscat**

Canadian singer and songwriter, Afie Jurvanen, more popularly known as Bahamas, has completely departed from the folk melodies which characterized his previous work in his new album, Earthtones. It had been nearly four years since the artist had released new music. His immediate prior album, Bahamas is Afie, received the Juno Award for Adult Alternative Album of the Year in 2014.

Bahamas’ Earthtones demonstrates heavy R&B and hip-hop influence, sounds which white artists have appropriated from pioneering and renowned black musicians like Ray Charles and R. Kelly for decades. However, it seems as if Bahamas pays sincere homage to the genre as opposed to claiming and repurposing it. A majority of the album was recorded with members of jazz fusion musician D’Angelo’s ensemble which further lends to the authentic R&B and hip-hop feel.

Not only is Earthtones Bahamas’ most eclectic album, but it also oozes sensuality. “Bad Boys Need Love Too” juxtaposes breathy female vocals with a deep sultry male voice. Jurvanen tries his hand at speak-singing in a

a style more reminiscent of slam poetry than of rap. “No Wrong”, the first track released off the album, is a soothing piano ballad accompanied by guitar riffs and female background vocals. The song incorporates the catchy rhythm of soul music and the pained lyrics of the blues.

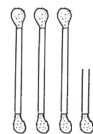
The album is a meditation on identity. Bahamas grapples with issues of white privilege, depression, and love lost. There are particular lines throughout the album which appear to be “fake deep” and cliché, but after multiple listens, Bahamas’ lyrics are revealed to be a sort of poetry: simple yet poignant. Despite the gravity of the messages, these tunes are definitely groove-worthy. Earthtones is full of ~funky beats~ and is a prime album for side-to-side head bopping, toe-tapping, and shoulder-shimmying.



**The Neighbourhood
To Imagine
By Mario Pineda-Bermudez**

Californian alternative indie band The Neighbourhood has released their fifth EP, *To Imagine*. The EP, coming after their 2017 release, *Hard*, was released on the 12th. Its first song, “Dust,” which addresses climate change, begins with an ominous tone, talking about waterless lakes and fish growing wings to escape. The buildup leads to a pre-chorus with isolated vocals that seem to direct criticism at corporations and politicians, followed by a high-energy chorus.

The next song, “Scary Love,” is the first single from the EP, premiering worldwide by Zane Lowe on Beats 1 Radio on December 4, 2017. “Scary Love” deals with Jesse Rutherford’s relationship; it specifically follows a lover who feels his significant other is out of his league, expressing both his desire for her and his fear of losing her. Its fast pace, eerie vibe and emphatic chorus makes it one of the favorites on the EP. “Heaven,” the third song on the EP, also has lyrics showing passionate emotion. The beat is more low-key, but presents a sensual energy that would not feel out of place on a song by The Weeknd. This is especially true in the second verse, where the singer catches the beat just right, complementing the bass. The next song on *To Imagine* is “Compass.” The song makes an analogy between a girl and a compass, saying, “I keep you in my pocket to use / You’re my only compass / I might get lost without you.” The song is nice, but honestly forgettable at a short 2 minutes 30 seconds. “Stuck With Me,” the final song on the EP, has the most substance lyrically.



**Fall Out Boy
Mania
MJJM**

After listening to the new Fall Out Boy EP, *Mania*, I have a few takeaways. First: This album is bad, and second, this album isn’t Fall Out Boy. I won’t pretend that *Mania* is the worst thing to hit my ears this year. I won’t even pretend that the leading single in the EP “Young and Menace” isn’t extremely catchy despite being a generic EDM banger. However, this album still falls extremely short, as this album shows that pop-rock and the alternative genre from which the band was a mainstay in the early to mid-2000s is a shell of itself. On a majority of these tracks, the “rock” roots of Fall Out Boy are barely present, with the band instead choosing for a synthetic, nocturnal pop-EDM sound, with screeching bass lines and tinny, trap inspired high hats on a majority of the tracks. While the old band does pop out occasionally, like on the anthemic “HOLD ME TIGHT OR DONT,” songs reflective of the bands typical sound are few and far between. By doing this, Fall Out Boy has followed in the steps of many 2000s rock bands before them: from Linkin Park, to Coldplay, to Maroon 5, all of

THE FIRST EVER PAPER CHALLENGE

So here's the deal:

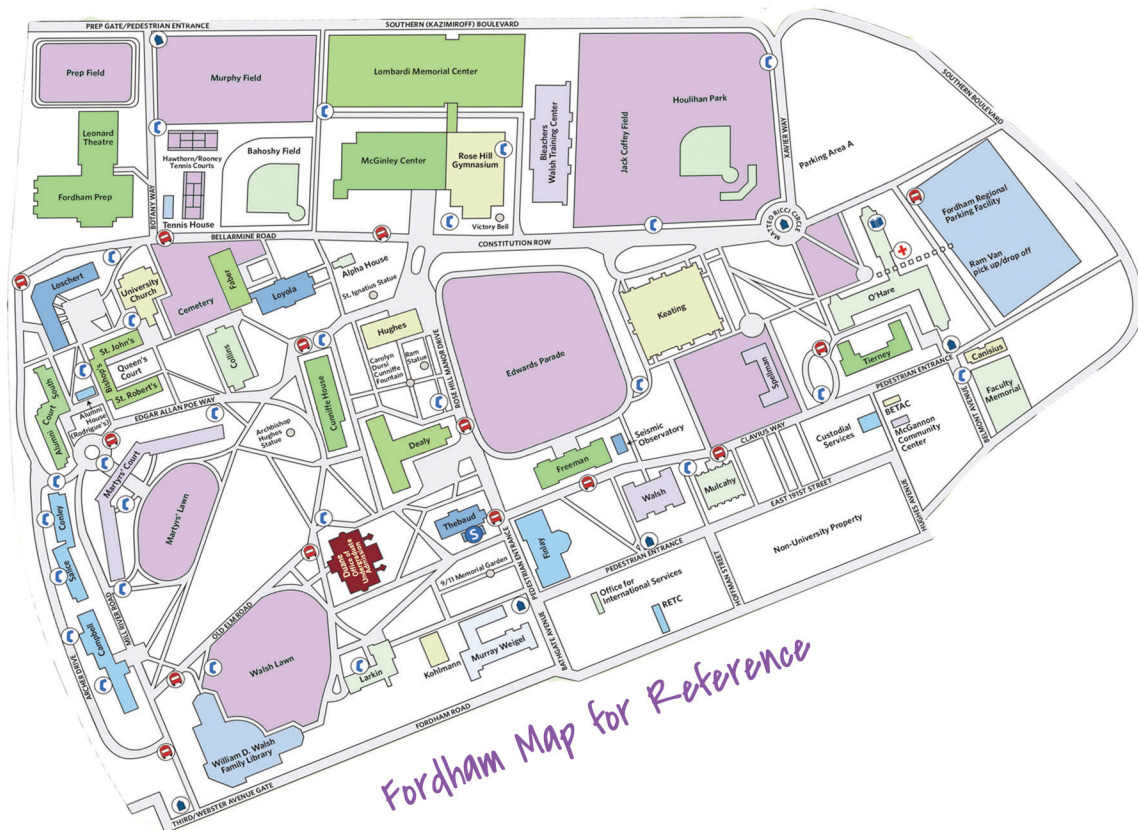
We're going to give you some clues, you gotta find our logo at that space on campus, and you need to bring them for us to get a t-shirt prize! The challenge starts 2/1/2018 and slide into our DMS when you find them.



Visit our facebook for all official rules.

Here's Our Clues:

1. Somewhere near the mailroom where people puke a lot
2. You can hear sports broadcasted, but this you know this as the love shack
3. This is the road to hell...and there is also a raccoon here.
4. You go to play "frisbee" back here and it smells like a skunk.
5. Bees? I think there's some here?
6. The final logo is in Milk and Honey in the place of books.



Fordham Map for Reference