



the paper has dysentery.

Vol LIII Issue 4

Date: April 3, 2019

Weather: rainy

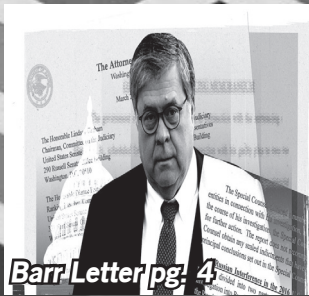
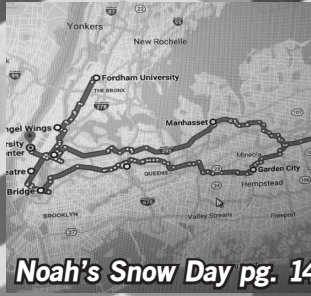
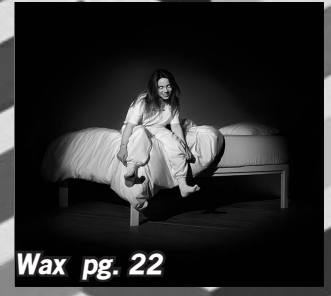
Health: poor

Food: 825 pounds

Next landmark: 19 miles

Miles traveled: 285 miles

Press SPACE BAR to continue

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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.

"Which Disney Channel Star are You?"

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Come join our kickball team!

Tuesdays @ 9 PM
McGinley 2nd



News

I did not collude with Russia
I did naaawwwwt



The Scoop on the Green Party Primaries

by Marty Gatto

Wax Editor

Most people this election season will be focusing on Trump and the ever-growing pool of democrats. As politics become more prevalent in social and other media, it can feel a bit overwhelming. Having to hear the same things about the same people can be painfully redundant. This is why it might be nice to see what the Green Party and its primaries look like.

Before decisively researching this, I truly had no idea how third party primaries worked. Even after, the method seems somewhat ambiguous. For the most part, the Green party deals in state level elections, where it has a chance to snag a seat or two. Because the green party does not accept corporate donations, federal elections, and especially the Presidency, are difficult in a number of ways.

First and foremost, the Republican and Democratic parties both have quite a high threshold for campaign donations. Their public reputations are known well nationwide, as they have been for years. The kind of P.R. they do requires large donations. This affects the Green party in that their people-sourced budget and advertising have difficulty overcoming the cacophony of the dominant two-party system.

Part of the consequences

It isn't always easy being green

of this is that the process of appearing on the ballot becomes more complicated. Ballot access laws, and the legal system in general, statistically tend to be run by people affiliated with one party or the other in some capacity. Furthermore, with the green party particularly, appearing on the ballot can become a litigious issue.



During the midterm elections, Democrats filed suit against the Secretary of State in Montana for allowing the Green party candidate to appear on the ballot for the senatorial election. The suit came at a time when the democratic seat was under threat. The state had gone to Trump in the presidential elections, so Dems wanted to do everything they could to aid the election of the senate. This included getting the Green party off the ballot to assure all non-Republican votes went to the Democratic candidate. In Montana, a candidate needs 5,000 signatures in order to

appear on the ballot. The Green party acquired these signatures, but their validity were later contested by Democrats.

Some of the mentality surrounding the Green party, as well as other minor parties, is that of siphoning or undercutting Democratic candidates. For example, when Al Gore lost Florida by just under 600 votes, the green party received lots of backlash. Democrats felt if Green party votes had gone to Al, he would have been elected president.

Ballot access laws vary from state to state, and tend to give access either through paperwork, petitions, or a combination of both for independent candidates. Many states, however, make certain exceptions for prevalent minor parties ballot status. In 2016, the Libertarian party was listed in all 50 states. The Green party was listed in 44, with write in status in three others.

For Green party candidates, primaries work somewhat similarly to Republican or Democratic primaries. A series of caucuses and state conventions will be held. During such events, Green party voters elect delegates to represent various potential nominees. A simple majority of the 400 total delegates is required in order to win the Green party nomination. Furthermore, the Green party must formally

recognize the nomination in order for it to be valid.

Voting processes may vary from that of the two major parties. In the past, the Green party has utilized mail-in voting in which the voter ranked the candidates from most to least preferred. The party argued that this process was more democratic. Opinions on all candidates are accounted for in such a process for each individual, and so when a voter's favorite loses out, their opinion on other candidates is still reflected in the nomination.

This election season, there are at least two green party candidates in the running for the nomination. In late December last year, the co-chair of the Green party, Ian Schlakman, declared his presidential campaign. Schlakman is running on a "socialist and anti-imperialist" platform, and hopes to grow the size of his party.

Last month, after having formed an exploratory committee, Dario Hunter declared his campaign. Dario Hunter is a lawyer, rabbi, and current Green party candidate. Hunter won a write in position for a board of education position in 2015 in Youngston, Ohio. He had been affiliated with the Democratic party and won via write-in. After being elected to this position, Hunter transitioned to the Green party.

Mueller Report Completed ... But Not Yet Released By Barr

By Christian Decker
News Editor

At the close of the 2016 Presidential Election, it was revealed that the Russian Government attempted to hack our elections and tamper with the results. All of the U.S. intelligence agencies concluded that this had occurred. The only real question was

Barr letter summarizes 300-page Mueller Report in 4 pages

released to the public as of yet. Questions have arisen as to why that is, and why Republicans on the Hill have voted not to release said report. Rumors have circulated that someone somewhere has something to hide. Of course, as of now these are unsubstantiated claims.

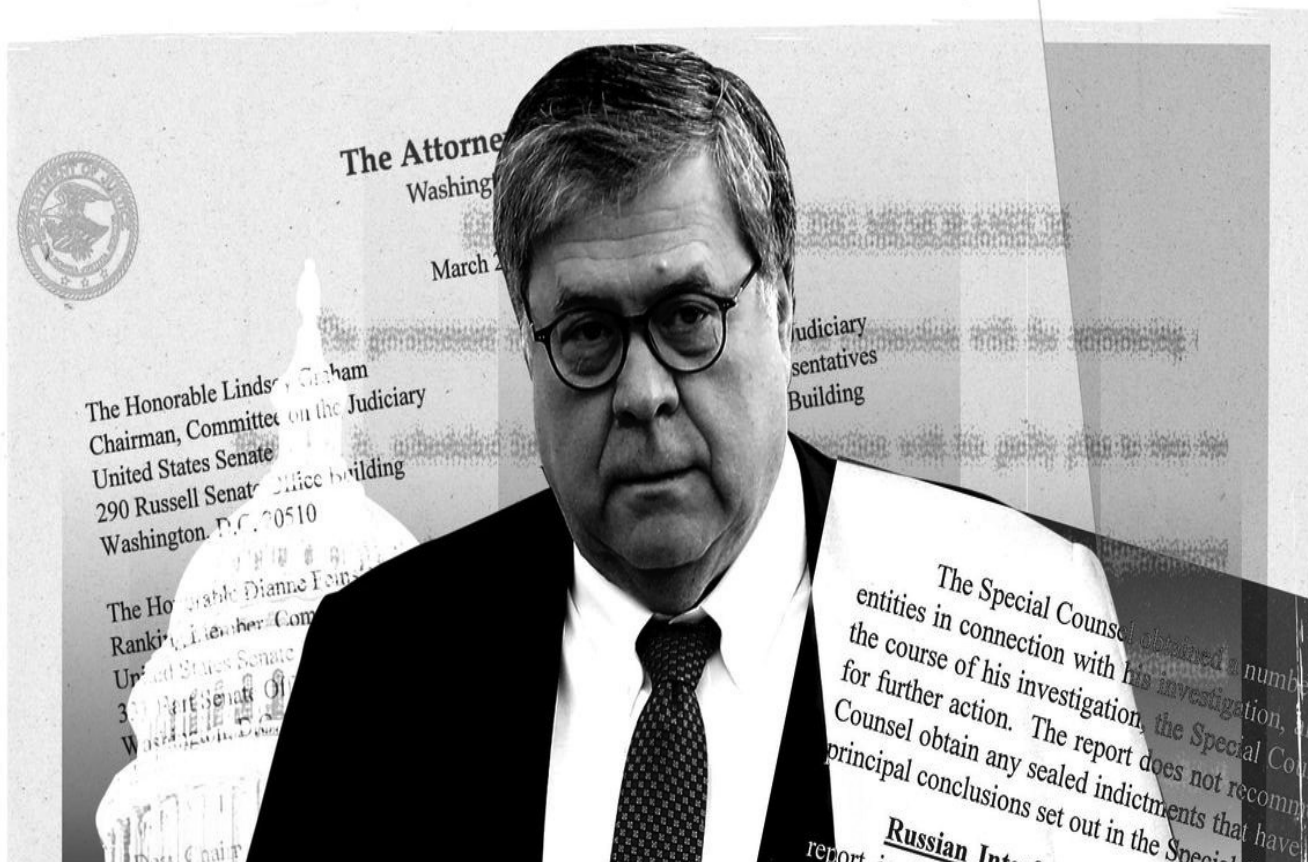
The summary concluded that

but as the day fast approaches, it's unclear whether or not it will be released in time. Nadler told CBS that "The special counsel, Mueller, spent 22 months investigating this and these are some of the central questions before the United States Congress and the American people

somebody is going to look at that." Comey was "confused", according to CBS, that the special council was unable to find a case of obstruction of justice and that he remanded the case to the Justice Department for further consideration. He added that "I also question how Barr came to the conclusion without knowing (Mr. Trump's) intent." Questions have also arisen, both from Democrats and others as to why the Special Counsel never subpoenaed President Trump, in an investigation about his ties to Russia.

Despite the controversy with the Barr report, the American people actually

"The special counsel, Mueller, spent 22 months investigating this and these are some of the central questions before the United States Congress and the American people and it is unacceptable if we don't see the full report"



who knew about it. Almost two years ago, special counsel Robert Mueller was appointed to investigate the extent which the Trump campaign knew about this attack, and to what extent, if at all, that they helped the Russians, or if they obstructed justice. During these months, many subpoenas have been issued, indictments given, and people have been charged with crimes. This is including former Trump campaign advisor Paul Manafort, who will be serving three years in federal prison. About two weeks ago, that investigation came to an end.

On Thursday two weeks ago, Mueller submitted his report of the investigation to Attorney General William Barr. In response, Barr released a four-page summary of what was in the report, or so we think. In fact, the Mueller report has not been

there was no collusion between Trump and the Russians, but it did not rule out possible obstruction of justice claims. According to the Chicago Tribune, President Trump has felt vindicated by this latest report. In his own words, "It could not have been better." He reportedly told GOP senators that he had "a clean bill of health" in regard to his relationship to Russia.

House Democrats have reportedly sought out Barr to testify before the House Judiciary Committee about his findings in the Mueller Report. House Judiciary Chairman Jerry Nadler is quoted as saying that Barr would be testifying "reasonably soon", according to CBS News. Although the Committee will most likely be getting this testimony in the near future, concerns have risen over the fact that the full report has not been released yet. House Democrats have given Barr until April 2nd to release the full report,

and it is unacceptable if we don't – the Congress, certainly, and the American people – don't see the full report and he wouldn't commit to that... We are not happy about that to put it mildly." If the full report is not released by the deadline, Democrats have reportedly vowed to call both Barr and Special Counsel Mueller to testify and will even use subpoenas if necessary.

Former FBI director James Comey also weighed in on the Barr report. Comey was fired from being FBI director for leaking supposedly classified memos and it was speculated that the real reason he was fired was for prying too deep into the Trump Administration's ties to Russia, with even the President alluding to this. Comey reportedly said that "I thought that's potentially obstruction of justice and I hope

stand pretty united on the issue. According to a CBS poll, 3 out of 4 Americans want to see the full report released, although they differ on their view of what that report means for the President. Most Republicans think the report exonerates the President as expected, and most Democrats don't know and want to hear more, as expected.

Regardless of the outcome it's important that people realize that this is the process by which we find the truth. Even if right now we don't have all the information, we soon will, as enough people are talking. No matter the outcome it's important to consider the role that impartial investigations have in making sure that our leaders stay honest. We must accept the findings of this report, that is when we have it.

Is A Recession Coming?

By Suresh Hanubal
News Editor

Come this July the current economic expansion will be the longest recorded in modern American economic history. Our current expansionary period began in the aftermath of the 2007 - 2009 Great Recession and although it's been slow growth economic growth wise in relation to previous expansions, it has still delivered mild gains for the American Middle and Working classes; but with most gains going to the wealthiest Americans. Now, although expansions don't die of old age, recent signs are signifying an economic slowdown in the near to mid-term.

Most recently, and worrying to many economists, the yield curve just inverted. Now what this basically means is that short-term rates on Treasury securities have moved above long-term rates for the first time since 2007. The Federal Reserve typically does this in order to forestall inflation and in anticipation for future slowing

Recent economic indicators have indicated a slowing economy

growth. Historically, with only one exception since the end of the second world war, this has meant that a recession will follow at some point within the next two years. However, as this economic cycle has bucked many

wage growth has flattened once again. Also, the economy has witnessed severe volatility due to the government shutdown and its resultant decline in government spending.

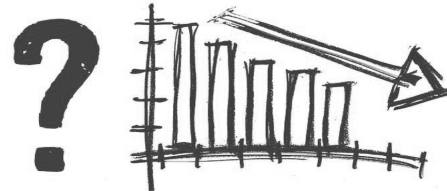
The bad economic news continues, as global economic growth has seemed to flatten within the last few months. Italy already entered a recession in the fourth quarter of 2019, and growth in the rest of Eurozone is expected to fall sharply as well. Specifically,

economic growth in Germany, the economic powerhouse and center of the Eurozone, is expected to only about one percent for the year. Eurozone area growth overall is expected to be between one and two percent. In addition to the projected slowdown in Europe, growth in the world's growth

engine for the past decade, China, is expected to slow down significantly as well. This is at least partially a result of the recent rise of US-China trade tensions, but also due to domestic imbalances as well. Since the 2008 Global Recession, China has been able to sustain constant high growth due to a combination of targeted government subsidies and stimulus, but that program seems to be coming to an end.

Although this news may seem dire at first, underlying economic indicators actually remain quite strong. As such, there does not seem any reason to really worry about the foundation of the economy and fear for a recession just yet. But with the amount of crazy things that have gone in the last few years, who really knows what will happen in the next year?

RECESSION



historical patterns, this may be not the case this time. Notwithstanding, this is a worrying sign for the economy.

Other domestic economic imbalances have also come to light recently. In December 2018 the stock market fell precipitously, nearly entering a Bear Market. In addition,

New York Will Ban Plastic Bags, so Why Isn't Anyone Happy?

By Jack Archambault
Editor-In-Chief

When you go grocery shopping this time next year, make sure to bring your reusable bags. New York lawmakers agreed Friday to a ban on single-use plastic bags from retail sales, making it the second state to enact such a ban after California, which did so in 2016. New York's ban will go into effect March 1, 2020.

Governor Andrew Cuomo proposed the plan a year ago in what has been a steadily evolving stance on single-use plastics. In 2017, Cuomo signed a bill that killed a New York City law that would have placed a 5-cent fee on plastic bags, arguing that the fee would act as a tax on poorer consumers.

The new bill does make exemptions for certain types of plastic bags, such as food takeout bags from restaurants, bags used to wrap deli products, trash bags, and newspaper bags. Additionally, counties will be able to opt in to a 5-cent fee for paper bags, the revenue from which will go to New York's Environmental Protection

The measure is expected to take effect in 2020

Fund. WIC and SNAP recipients will be exempt from the fee.

The bill should be a victory for environmental organizations that have long advocated for a ban on plastic bags as a way to reduce plastic pollution. But, environmentalists are not as pleased with the news as might be expected.

Some environmental groups, such as the New York Public Interest Research Group, feel that the ban is incomplete. While New York will offer an optional 5-cent fee, the lack of a mandatory fee has left the group feeling like the ban will only lead to paper bag litter as opposed to plastic. They said in a statement that "The state should have learned from other areas that also only banned plastic bags without a paper bag fee - they just don't work."

The food industry is also unhappy with the ban. The New York Food Industry Alliance, an organization which represents the majority of the state's grocers, says it costs more to ship paper bags than plastic since

they take up more space. This increase means consumers could have to pay more. Mike Durant, the organization's president, criticized the decision to allocate the revenue from the fee to environmental funds, saying, "The failure to give even a portion of the

bill incomplete, it is still a necessary and significant step in reducing plastic waste. According to the Wall Street Journal, over 100 billion plastic shopping bags are consumed in the U.S. each year. Of these, Waste Management says only 1 percent are returned for recycling. In addition, plastic bags pose a major risk to wildlife when they are not disposed of properly.

While this bill is but another small step towards tackling the much larger problem of plastic pollution, it is a necessary one. When you go grocery shopping, bring reusable bags, and if you must use plastic bags, make sure to recycle them. Despite the potential cost to businesses that this bill would have, it is a small price to pay in the fight to end the use of single-use plastics.



5-cent fee back to the stores, makes this an untenable mandate for many of our members who operate within finite profit margins."

So, who is happy about this? Frankly, everyone should be. While environmental groups have called the

FAKER THAN TRUTH

By Suresh Hanubal

British Voters Reject Brexit

24th June 2016

LONDON, United Kingdom – Yesterday, the voters of the United Kingdom rejected Brexit by a landslide 60% to 40% margin. Voters remained unconvinced by the arguments of Vote Leave. Many people stated that these arguments were at best far-fetched and at worst knowing lies. This view by the majority of voters was supported by the factual reporting of mainstream British news outlets such as *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Daily Mail*, and *The Guardian*. These outlets maintained a remarkable commitment to calling out factual inaccuracies in the run up to the vote; with editors from all major papers stating that as the vote was so important, that they did so in the interest of national security.

Prime Minister David Cameron further stated that handing a decision that important for the people to vote on was a mistake, and pledged not to do so in the future. With this now over with, British politics will likely go back to normal, with the government no expected to focus on issues facing the United Kingdom ranging from rising income inequality to reforming the National Health Service (NHS).

Everybody and Their Mother is Running in 2020

By Courtney Bergsieker
Staff Political Analyst

The field continues to balloon to upwards of 20 candidates

The 2020 presidential race is heating up fast, and it seems like every democrat is looking to throw their hat in the ring, but just how many hats can one proverbial ring take?

So far in the early stages of the 2020 presidential race, sixteen democratic candidates have officially announced their campaigns. According to the New York Times Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), former Rep. Beto O'Rourke (D-TX), former Gov. John Hickenlooper (D-CO), Gov. Jay Inslee (D-WA), Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT), Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA), ex-San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro (D-TX), Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI), former Rep. John Delaney (D-MD), Florida Mayor Wayne Messam (D-FL), author Marianne Williamson (D-CA), former tech executive Andrew Yang (D-NY), and South Bend, Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg (D-IN) are competing for nomination by the Democratic National Convention.

Other Democrats that are expected to announce their campaigns include former Vice President Joe Biden (D-DE), Gov. Steve Bullock (D-MT), and Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA).

In the Republican Party, solely former Gov. William Weld (R-MA) has announced his campaign, stating that he intends to run against President Trump (R-NY) for the Republican nomination. However, there are some indications that Gov. Larry Hogan (R-MD), Gov. John Kasich (R-OH), and Sen. Robert Corker (R-TN) may also join the race. Their participation in the primary will be likely contingent on the state of the economy over the next few months, with a worsening economy likely portending further challenges to Trump.

Although he has not yet announced his official candidacy, recent polling data from

RealClearPolitics puts former VP Joe Biden (D-DE) in the lead with 30% followed by Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT) close behind with 25%, followed by Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA) with 10% and Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) with 8%. The rest of the Democratic candidates each share comparable numbers with Gillibrand (D-NY) and Inslee (D-WA) trailing the pack.

Responding to recent events, polling centers and political analysts have already begun weighing the possible influence of the Mueller Report on the Democratic Primary. A recent staff interview by

Mueller Report in their trademark fashion of attacking the media. He argues, "[The] instinct to attack the media and the group of people who started the Russia investigation will be reinforced by this report ... I think a big part of Trump's 2020 campaign will be an anti-institutional argument. Which he was making in 2016 too, I suppose, but the anti-media, anti-"deep state" part will be even more aggressive."

Beyond professional analysts, many regular citizens who support the Democratic Party are making it clear that they desperately want a

candidate who can take down Trump. At a rally for candidate Elizabeth Warren, NPR's Asma Khalid interviewed Marilynn Leggio, an Iowa Democrat and supporter of Elizabeth Warren. While she is confident that Warren would be an excellent President, Leggio stated, "I think there's a lot of men out there that would never vote for a woman." Leggio continued that removing Trump from office is ultimately the most important thing. "I want somebody to get Trump out of there," she said. "Big time."

The concern is obviously warranted for this upcoming election with Democrats not presenting a united front against a seemingly united Republican front. In Congress, Democrats have been struggling to find a consistent message besides "impeach Trump", the issues have not been as much in focus, with notable exceptions in Elizabeth Warren's recent political speeches and town hall on CNN. As it grows closer to the election, Democrats hope to come together on major issues to combat the strong opposition presented by the party of Trump. Only time can tell what will happen because at this point it's anyone's game.



FiveThirtyEight projected that the Democrats will begin a political fight until the full report (not just Attorney General Barr's summary) is released for review. Perry Bacon Jr., a writer for FiveThirtyEight, argues that Democrats should fight for the full report to be released due to likely evidence of the Trump campaign/administration's attempted obstruction of justice. He states, "I think the Democrats can only gain from the Mueller report's release. I'm not saying that it will change anyone's vote in 2020 necessarily, but it will be useful for the Democrats to have the details out there."

Perry also predicts that Republicans will respond to the

Apple Lauches Range of New Products

By Neil Khilwani
Staff Apple Genius

They plan to revolutionize the world once again

With iPhone sales remaining stagnant over the past few years, Apple has been pushed to tap into other markets to increase profits. On Monday March 25, 2019, Apple announced its plans to do exactly that with a video streaming service. They also intend on entering the world of media with its own news service, and change the world of gaming with Apple Arcade. At the end of these announcements, Apple had another surprise: the Apple Card, which is Apple's take on the credit card that according to them, "Is a new kind of Card that completely rethinks the Credit Card." The Apple Card, which is set to launch this summer, will be available for consumers to use digitally on iPhone through Apple Pay or physically with a titanium card featuring a powerful microchip for places where Apple Pay is not accepted.

In need of a bank to support this card, Apple has partnered with Goldman Sachs to create the Apple Card, marking the first time Goldman Sachs has ever issued a consumer credit card. When made available, users can simply sign up for the credit card through iPhone's built-in Wallet app with Apple Pay.

In terms of security, the aesthetically pleasing titanium card will show no numbers, not even a CVV. There is a credit card number, but it can be changed at any time

through the app. In the case of loss, or separation as the credit card people like to call it, the card can be cancelled through the iPhone and Apple will ship a new one your way. Purchases done through the phone will be secured with Face ID or Touch ID, meaning that even if someone stole your iPhone, they could not use

be tracked to the exact location they were made. Apple even takes the effort to categorize purchases such as those for food and shopping. Apple Card even offers a daily, weekly, and monthly summary of spending habits.

Unlike other credit cards, Apple Card prides itself on its lack of fees. There are no annual fees, late fees (though interest will increase on late payments), or over the limit fees. When it comes to interest rates, Apple Card offers the normative APR from 13% - 24% depending on credit worthiness. Interestingly enough, Apple Card offers no sign-up bonus, which is unusual for credit card companies today.

Perhaps the most notable aspect of Apple Card though is the incentivized daily cash rewards. For example, when buying directly from Apple, users will receive 3 percent cash back, 2 percent back when purchasing through Apple Pay, and 1 percent back when the

physical card is utilized. To add to all of this, there is no cap on the amount of cash back. All you need to do is make sure you do not exceed your spending limit.

Overall, Apple Card is a power play by Apple that not only encourages users to make digital payments through their phones but is also a tactic to secure iPhone users to stay with Apple while simultaneously generate new profits for the company.

it for purchases. Anytime a purchase is conducted, Apple will immediately notify users. Any suspicious transactions can simply be reported through Wallet and Apple will take care of the rest. As a bonus, there is a support texting service that answers questions pertaining to fraudulent spending and any other questions relating to Apple Card. For those concerned about giving up data to Apple, the company has assured that they will not collect customer data related to purchases.

On the app, transactions can



Reader Than Fact

By Christian Decker

You've heard of Groundhog Day, where Punxsutawney Phil looks at his shadow and tells us if there will be an early spring or more weeks of winter, now check out the bears who predict elections. Meet Buyan the brown bear, who picked the incumbent president of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko to win reelection. According to the Huffington post, Buyan has predicted outcomes before, apparently last years FIFA world cup, but unfortunately, the big guy got it wrong.

This time, a crowd gathered round Buyans enclosure in a zoo outside of the Russian city of Krasnoyarsk. In the enclosure, the zookeepers placed three squashes with flags of the Ukrainian candidates in front of Buyan's home. Buyan slowly padded out and walked over to the squash with the flag of Yulia Tymoshenko, former Prime Minister of Ukraine who is predicted to come in last. Buyan promptly knocked it over. He then proceeded over to the squash of Ukrainian comedic actor Volodymyr Zelenskiy. Buyan had no interest. By the time Buyan got to the flag of Poroshenko, he removed the flag, and promptly ate the squash.

How wonderful it is that we can now predict political elections with the help of lovable large and fluffy mammals in zoos rather than looking at polling data. Experts hope that Buyan's prediction will help people come to a decision in choosing a candidate to vote for. However it does seem kind of ridiculous because Buyan got the FIFA prediction wrong so can we really trust him.

My Spring Break With Al Gore

By Robin Happel

Copy Deaditor

.Those of you who know me know I'm from Tennessee, and those of you who don't know me should know that I will always stan Al Gore. Al Gore is almost unique among Tennessee politicians, and among Southerners in general. (In his words, "I'm the only vegan cattle rancher you know.") Until our dearly retiring, deeply Republican Senator Lamar Alexander decided to roll out an ambitious ten-point climate plan earlier this week, Gore was largely a lone voice. (For folks not from here, 'global warming' is right up there with 'gay' in g-words you can't say as a Tennessee politician.) Nevertheless, our pal Al has been fighting the good fight since even before he technically won in Florida, and yes I will die on that hill, which coincidentally may be one of the few hills left in Florida if predictions of sea level rise are accurate.

Over the course of three days, Al Gore, Rev. William Barber II, Robert Bullard, and other luminaries of the Southern environmental justice movement spoke on climate justice and their own journeys as activists. Pete Davidson, in a surprise cameo, also urged us to take urgent action. "Pretend the climate is a girl you're in love with - she's engaged now, but there's still time!"

Getting up at 8:00 am on a Saturday in the middle of spring break was admittedly a struggle. I did

Minds in the South continue to change in regard to climate change

get a certificate, a pin, and a bunch of Al Gore-approved vegan food, which is not a bad haul considering the training was free. With almost two thousand people attending, this was also one of the largest Climate Reality Leadership Corps trainings to date, an encouraging

sign that the South is finally coming around on climate change. My corner of Tennessee has been living the environmental version of Final Destination for the past couple

years with historic droughts, followed by deadly wildfires in Gatlinburg, Hurricane Florence, and finally ongoing floods throughout the state. Gore spoke poignantly about how his ranch was currently flooded, and how many other parts of the South have recently gone through multiple once-in-a-thousand year downpours from Hurricane Harvey and other storms.

Globally, extreme rainfall now occurs four times more often than in 1980, and Americans could see an additional 400% increase in extreme downpours by the end of this century, which is the kind of thing I can now rattle off after

having Al Gore and Ken Berlin talk at me for over six hours straight. (This is not a complaint - as an environmental law student, Ken Berlin is our Beyoncé.) But, sadly, a lot of what Beyoncé and Al Gore had to say was pretty brutal. If we haven't already hit critical climate tipping points, we're probably about to.



One possible reason why Florence was so devastating is that the jet stream is changing course due to climate change, which held the storm in place longer.

Already, parts of the Middle East and India are approaching temperatures too hot for humans to survive outside. Experts predict that heat waves and other extreme weather events could create hundreds of millions of climate refugees by the end of this century.

It's easy to get caught up in the doom and gloom and the mental image of rambling around Flintstones-style in some post-apocalyptic future, but it's also important to remember that climate change isn't something we're powerless to stop. Rev. Barber II, one of the leaders of the modern Poor People's Campaign, is incredibly optimistic, and his sermon in Ebenezer Baptist

Church was an uplifting reminder that our generation should stop feeling sorry for ourselves, and remember that activists across the South have historically done more with less. "Harriet Tubman got five hundred people out of slavery - she didn't have Twitter!"

Originally Dr. King's home church, Ebenezer is hallowed ground for the civil rights movement, and Barber and other ministers spoke poignantly about how communities of color have been disproportionately burdened by pollution through various forms of environmental racism. Carrying the torch of Bayard Rustin and Dr. King, Rev. Barber II is a thunderous voice for tolerance throughout the rural South, and spoke powerfully of how environmental degradation, voter suppression, and other social evils intertwine, and how his moral fusion coalition can counteract each of them. "If your lights go out because you can't pay your light bill, we're all black in the dark," he quipped, echoing other calls for affordable, clean energy throughout the South. "If we close the division, we will deliver the nation."

Maybe it's naïve to believe that the South can change, but the momentum I've seen in the past few months is unlike anything in living memory. And, after spending spring break listening to a vegan cattle rancher and a pro-gay Southern Baptist preacher, it really feels like anything is possible.





Why 500 Days of Summer is the Best Rom-Com of All Time

Gabby Curran
Executive Editor

It's like really deep, man. So many layers.

Truth be told, I'm not a big fan of rom-coms. The only ones I do enjoy watching are for their nostalgic value, i.e. 13 Going on 30 or A Cinderella Story. I was in high school when I first saw Marc Webb's 2009 rom-com 500 Days of Summer. Being the oh-so-cynical edgelord teenager that I was, I immediately dismissed it as a stupid romance that I'd hate and proceeded to make fun of every trope I saw in it until the two friends I was watching it with told me to please shut up. Little did I know that as I was mocking director Mark Webb for using these tropes, they were being deconstructed before my very eyes.

For those of you that haven't seen the movie, here's a quick run-down of the story: hopeless romantic Tom Hansen (played by Joseph Gordon-Levitt) is a greeting-card writer in Los Angeles when he meets the more nonchalant and laid-back Summer Finn (played by Zoey Deschanel). Finding that they surprisingly have quite a bit in common, they strike up a friendship, which quickly turns into a romance of sorts. However, Summer and Tom's drastically different definitions of the term "relationship", coupled with their differing views on love, often put them at odds with each other and ultimately lead to Summer breaking things off with Tom. The film chronicles the span of their entire relationship, from the day they first meet to the day Tom finally moves on from Summer.

While I didn't like the movie much in high school, I ended up giving it another chance in college. I was surprised by how much I liked it but didn't think

much of it until my second or third rewatch. As I watched it again (and again, and again), it became one of my all-time favorite movies. So, without further ado, here is a condensed list of why 500 Days of Summer is, in my humble opinion, the best rom-com of all time:

1. It's (brutally) realistic about how love and relationships work

It's rare to find a rom-com that's completely honest about the nature of relationships. Sure, they include the sadness and grief that accompany heartbreak, but the way those emotions are depicted often feels too exaggerated and melodramatic for me to completely relate to them. 500 Days of Summer, however, is much more realistic in its treatment of these emotions. A great example is one of the more famous scenes of the movie wherein Tom is invited to a party at Summer's apartment several months after they break up. Tom attends with the hope of getting back together with Summer, only to find out that she is engaged to somebody else. The scene is told via a split-screen, with the party playing out as Tom had expected it to on one side, and the way it actually unfolded on the other. The emotions conveyed by watching Tom's fantasy get deconstructed this way are rawer than they would have if we had only seen Tom attend the party and had Summer's engagement dramatically revealed to the audience. Don't get me wrong--the scene is still dramatic in its own right, but it's dramatic in a way that feels realistic for the audience. Seeing Tom's internal

thoughts and expectations as he finds out about Summer's engagement prevents the scene from getting too unrealistic because we as the viewers are put in Tom's place, as opposed to just watching his actions from the outside. The way the story is told in the film, too, adds to its realism. The first few scenes of the movie are mostly focused on Tom and Summer's happier moments. As the film progresses, the darker and more difficult times in their relationship take over. This nonlinear narrative reflects the realistic way most of us think back on past relationships: we remember the good times first and sugarcoat every moment, until we level with ourselves and realize that certain elements of our relationships weren't as great as we made them out to be.

2. The little things matter

500 Days of Summer takes no detail for granted. Pretty much everything, if closely looked at, will tell you more about a character or a scene or an idea the movie presents. Take Tom's job as a greeting-card writer throughout most of the film. Tom is idealistic and has a dangerously whimsical notion of what love is and how it should feel. As he ends up realizing later in the movie, Tom accordingly makes a living regurgitating empty platitudes for people to buy. The scenes of Tom and Summer in Ikea are another great example of the film's attention to detail. As we watch them frolic around the furniture displays, we as the viewers realize that it's a reflection of Tom's understanding of his relationship with Summer: idealized, polished, and shallow.

3. It always has more to say

There's a quote by an author named Italo Calvino that I'm a big fan of: "A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say." While 500 Days of Summer is obviously a movie and not a book, I feel like this quote sums it up pretty well. Webb's movie is made to be watched more than once. Every viewing makes you notice something new and different that adds to your understanding of the story. Most viewers tend to side with Tom and villainize Summer on their first viewing, as I did. For instance, there's a scene where Tom punches a guy who hits on Summer at a bar and denigrates Tom by saying "I can't believe this is your boyfriend." Summer gets angry at Tom for doing so, which always confused me. Why would she get mad at someone for defending her? She's such a bitch to Tom! Then I realized it was because Tom standing up for Summer, coupled with a stranger calling him her boyfriend, made the relationship feel too real for her. She constantly tells Tom that she wants nothing serious, yet here she is confronted with the fact that they are, in a way...serious. All of this is to say that Tom and Summer are complex characters, and you don't really get a full understanding of them until you watch the movie more than once.

So, there you have it. 500 Days of Summer is different in its treatment of love than others among its genre--and I'd highly recommend watching it if you haven't already.

Betsy Devos Hates the Special Olympics, Loves Charter Schools

Katelyn Cody
Copy Editor

Worst Education Secretary ever becomes rich villain stereotype

During a congressional budget hearing this past Tuesday, March 26th, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos defended the proposed cuts in funding to programs such as Special Olympics, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, and the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults. The 2020 Department of Education budget proposes a \$17.6 million cut to Special Olympics. During the hearing on Tuesday, Rep. Pocan stated that this budget cut would result in 272,000 children with disabilities losing the support they receive from the organization. Thankfully, in the past Congress has blocked these proposed slashes in special education program budgets. However, the deeper problem here is not the lack of funding itself, but the willingness to cut funding to public programs that support students with disabilities. When money is tight and "tough decisions" need to be made (as DeVos claimed during the budget hearing), special education is often the first to be thrown on the cutting room floor.

alternative solution to the problems that are paramount in the public education system currently. However, charter schools come with some downsides, they are unregulated and have a 25 percent failure rate. So, while Betsy DeVos continues to channel money into failing charter schools, the public school system in America loses funding and therefore doesn't have the ability to build itself back up.

do not receive adequate services, which they are technically required to receive under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In the public school system, any student who qualifies for special education services must receive them. Although, the quality of those services is a whole question and debate that you don't need to get me started on right now.

but then realized what a blessing her daughter was once she was born. Working in special education, I see these blessings grow and learn every day, just like their "normal peers." However, I do not feel that the current administration sees people with disabilities the same as do, hence the willingness to cut the programs that provide them with much-needed assistance. Reading the stories from the Special Olympics World Games this past week has been so inspiring, especially because I hope that some of my students can make it there one day. But they won't get that opportunity if they don't have a federal government and an education system that is in their corner. We need the bigger picture because the teachers can only do so much if they and the programs they work with are not receiving adequate funding. I love my special education students and I am willing to do whatever it takes to fight for them and advocate for them, but until we have a society that cares about public education, and special education, in particular, we are not going to get very far.

Cutting a program like Special Olympics means cutting the support and empowerment this program offers individuals with intellectual disabilities. It means cutting the network of support offered to the families of these individuals to help them live their lives to the fullest. It means cutting awareness of intellectual disabilities and educating the general public on how to be more inclusive and accommodating of



So why is this money being cut? So Devos can have more room to fund charter schools. Increased funding for charter schools has become almost synonymous with DeVos' term as Secretary of Education. Charter schools operate independently from the public education system, but unlike private schools, charter schools are still publicly funded. Charter schools have been thought of as an

So why am I (and so many others) so upset that DeVos' is favoring spending on charter schools rather Special Olympics and other programs for students with disabilities? Because charter schools do not have a good track record with special education. The fact that they are independent of the public education system and unregulated, means that most special ed students in charter schools

people who don't behave just like them. The Special Olympics World Games were just held in Abu Dhabi from March 14th-21st and I loved reading all of the personal accounts from participants and their families through the Humans of New York Page. One of the stories featured was from a young mother who felt a sense of grief after being told her baby would have Down Syndrome,

*At the time of publication, President Trump has announced that his 2020 budget will no longer propose cuts to Special Olympics. I am thankful that the increased criticism has helped reverse this matter and I hope that going forward with this Democrat-controlled House we will see fewer budget cuts to public education and special education.

*paid for by the Fordham language department.

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Fake Melania Trump Conspiracy Takes Nation by Storm

Erin Stehler
Staff Conspiracy Realist

Fake News or Fake FLOTUS?

The internet has stricken the Trump family yet again. The fake Melania Trump conspiracy theory has returned with a vengeance and investigative Twitter is thrilled. For context, back in 2017 photos surfaced of Melania Trump looking rather unlike herself. The conspiracy is that this woman is not Melania at all. People believe that when Melania gets fed up with Donald's shit, she sends in her double to attend events in her place. At first, it may seem ridiculous; however, it makes significantly more sense if you think about the dynamic of their marriage. For the first few months of the presidency, Melania did not even live at the White House. Now that she does, they are the first couple since the Nixons to sleep in separate bedrooms. It is no secret that Melania is not thrilled with the idea of acting head-over-heels in love with Donald in public. For example, her response of a tear jerking, "Yes, we are fine." when asked if she loved Donald. I encourage everybody to search a video of Melania repeatedly rejecting Donald's aggressive handholding. There are many good videos, including a compilation by the Huffington Post on YouTube. Excellent content. If she is truly as miserable as she appears in photos and videos, it is far from insane to believe the Trumps hired a double.

Let us jump into the latest appearance of the suspected body double. In early March, the Trumps traveled down to Alabama to visit a memorial dedicated to tornado

victims and the internet did not take long to detect inconsistencies in the press photos published shortly after. In the pictures in front of the memorial, Melania appears noticeably shorter than usual. Her nose, mouth, and chin shape also appeared different under closer investigation. At this point, we may ask ourselves how they can get away with this deceit if the facial details are indeed so obviously different. Well, every time there is a suspected double, Melania is wearing

to skip once in a while. Can we really blame her? Anyway, this eliminates the need for this person to sound like Melania; they would only need to look like her. However, if such a person exists, who could this mystery woman be? It would be difficult for her to have been an actor since people would have been able to track her down easily. This woman would have to be completely under the radar.

Conveniently enough, one of Melania's Secret Service agents

out of character for a person whose job may require them at any time to run at a dead sprint and push the first lady out of the way of a car or the path of a bullet. People suspect this to mean she is ready to step in as understudy at any given moment. On the other hand, maybe she is just a woman who excels at running in heels. This, in turn, begs the question if Melania gets to go home or if she has to follow this Secret Service lady around all day and pretend to be her. Personally, if I was an exhausted First Lady given the option, I would choose to be a fake Secret Service agent.

Despite the striking resemblance of the agent, many argue that the woman is far too short to effectively stand in for Melania, even in heels. There have also been pictures of the First Lady's face from later that same day in Alabama that look more convincingly like the real Melania. For these reasons, many discard the conspiracy as just that: a conspiracy. Even Trump himself tweeted saying, "The Fake News photo-shopped pictures of Melania, then propelled conspiracy theories that it's actually not her by my side in Alabama and other places. They are only getting more deranged with time!" It is unclear which news source he believes spends their time slightly photo-shopping the mouth on Melania pictures, but I'd like to know. If nothing else, the theory really pissed Donald off and we couldn't ask for more than that. Essentially, it is possible that this theory is true; however, it is probably fake, and it is definitely funny.



large black glasses that completely conceal her eyes. Differences in the mouth and nose could be blamed on makeup or lighting, but unless her eyes are visible it is extremely difficult to discern. Melania also rarely speaks to press unless she needs to; most of the time she just stands silently by Donald's side. No wonder she wants

looks a lot like Melania. In fact, she looks suspiciously like Melania. No information has been leaked about the agent's identity, so there are only a few photos of her standing directly next to Melania for comparison. The public noticed that in several of these photos the security agent is wearing high heels, which seems strangely

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Did the Mueller Report Exonerate Trump? Fake News!

by Zahir Quader

Features & Lists Editor

Good news everyone! Donald Trump is not guilty of treason. As you know, the President was cleared of colluding with Russia... according to the four-page Barr report summarizing it. While charges for obstruction of justice are still up in the air due to the full report not being released yet, one thing is for sure: Donald Trump is still a dick. President douchebag may not be guilty of this one crime but that does not change who he is as a person.

First of all, he is a not-so-closeted racist, which has been made apparent from housing discrimination against black people in the 1970s to recent comments about Mexicans, Jews, Muslims, Native Americans, and many other ethnic groups he has made. In addition, his bigotry has a dash of misogyny as well. Be it bloody eyes or cat grabbing, he is always one word away from a sexual harassment lawsuit. But wait... he has several of those

Another Trump rant from the paper? Groundbreaking.

too! Good thing the people of America trust the free press enough to keep



him from going extreme... NOT! Every time THE DONALD hears something he does not like, he immediately calls it fake news. He could say "I do not like puppies" and when the news reports Donald Trump does not like puppies he says "FAKE NEWS!" Anytime anyone questions anything he says or does he immediately labels them as the enemy of the people. Be it a government official, a news organization, writer or a random citizen, whoever gets in his crosshairs at that moment

immediately gets labeled as such.

Now this would not be a big deal if he were just some rando on the street, but this fascist pumpkin has had a cult form around him. He has convinced people down on their luck that he, the orange devil, is the messiah that will return the country to the "golden age" of the 1960s. He has convinced a lost group of people that their lives are in danger from colored people and non-believers whose wills destroy their lives with environmentalism and social programs. He has brainwashed them into believing that a billionaire that has allowed them to say the N-word again is the voice of the downtrodden. He plays off of people's fears in order to satisfy his ego and assert himself as a king. He tells them the enemy is at the gates we must build a wall. We are being replaced, we must fight back against the foreign invaders by any means necessary. This man's assholery is spreading! He called NAZIS very fine people

for god's sake! His rhetoric is spreading and corrupting even the youngest members of our society as his cultists are brainwashing them as well. From the douchebaggery of the Covington kids, to the hatefulness at his rallies, to the dumpster fire of Twitter (let's be honest though, Twitter has always been a dumpster fire) Donald Trump is not a good human being. While he may have done some good things, I'm pretty sure some of the worst dictators in history volunteered at a soup kitchen from time to time. It's like, "Hey I know I threw a bunch of people out of a helicopter, but remember that time I gave money to a homeless shelter!" A small act of good does not erase a lifetime of bad. Donald Trump may not be a treasonous asshole but, that does not change the fact he is a shitty human being. Just because a man didn't betray his nation does not mean he did not betray what it mean to be a decent human person.

How to Spot Arrogant Professors Before it's Too Late

Anonymous

Staff Crybaby

That's it! I've had it! I am SICK and TIRED of selfish, arrogant professors who feel the need to flex on their students rather than teach. I can't seem to escape them. But what else can I do other than post multiple bad reviews on ratemyprofessor.com until the site's moderators suspect I'm a bot? I'm writing this article to inform our community about how to spot the exact professors I'm talking about, so you can escape quickly from a semester of frustration.

Let's say you've just started a new class, and you're still on the fence about whether or not your professor is an arrogant a-hole or not. No worries, here are some sure-fire ways to spot one.

For starters, on the first day of class, these professors will dedicate most, if not the entire period talking about themselves. In fact, the goddamn syllabus includes their personal biography. "Before we start, let me tell you a little about myself..." they say. A LITTLE? Be prepared to spend hours listening to personal anecdotes, extremely opinionated or

They need to be stopped

controversial statements, or a cocktail of the two. Oh, and I can't forget the cliché "It's very hard to get an A in this class," or "Not many students pass my class without a lot of hard work." Wow, we are very impressed that you're bad at your job!



On the topic of syllabi, these professors either have one similar in length to Webster's dictionary (remember they need space for their biography) or none at all. Maybe you'll get it next class, sorry they had

to make a few changes. Oops! The class is three weeks behind because we spent the last 7 classes having discussions (aka listening to their rants about the state of American politics) and now they have to re-write the syllabus. That paper that's due on the 5th? Now it's due on the 30th. Good luck trying to figure out what the readings are for next class xoxo.

Blackboard? Never heard of it! You can "get a feel for how you're doing" in their class not by viewing the grades that will never be posted, but instead by basing it off of that one writing assignment they gave at the beginning of the semester and graded quickly to show how great of a professor they are.

Or maybe they'll send you BB announcements at 1 a.m. Make sure you read this 30-page document by 8:30! Don't forget, the syllabus is always subject to change! Sometimes they'll even spam your Blackboard feed with dozens upon dozens of links to "suggested readings" that actually

appear on the next exam!

A definite way to spot an arrogant professor, my absolute biggest pet-peeve, is if they always go over class time. My blood boils just thinking about it. How self-centered and arrogant does one have to be to believe that their class has priority over any other? The minimum amount of time allotted in between classes is ten minutes, and to those who take their classes consecutively without large breaks in between, every minute counts, especially when you need to trek across campus! If your professor does this from the start... RUN! Otherwise you will literally be running in between classes.

I write this as we prepare to register for the Fall semester. Please rate your professors. Please. Warn other students, or maybe encourage them to take a class with a really amazing professor. Don't be selfish. Don't be like those professors. Choose wisely! Even if you do end up with a shitty professor, push through! There's so many wonderful, passionate educators to make up for it.

the paper's view

Two weeks ago, Soulja Boy was arrested for violating his probation after the LAPD found him to be in possession of ammunition in his California home. In early February, a woman claimed the rapper kidnapped her and held her hostage in a garage. Last week, Soulja Boy was cancelled as the main act for Fordham's Spring Weekend.

And people are upset with...CAB? The Office for Student Involvement? Well, they certainly can't be upset with Soulja Boy, the guy who has a litany of weapons-related charges against him and may have kidnapped someone.

Never mind the fact that CAB quickly replaced Soulja Boy with Sean Kingston, who, if we're being honest, is much better. Barstool Fordham continued their legacy of top-notch content production by encouraging students to spam Dean for Student Involvement Cody Arcuri's email with complaints about the decision and posting their favorite emails on Instagram. (P.S. Barstool, Jeff Neubauer didn't get fired, so maybe take down the post saying that he did.)

But shouldn't we be blaming the person whose fault this actually is? You know, Soulja Boy? At a certain point, there are actions a person can take that make hosting them at your university problematic. A list of weapons-related charges dating back to 2014 and a kidnapping allegation seem to fall into that category.

I would have liked Soulja Boy to perform at Spring Weekend as much as the next person. But it's his fault that he's not, and trolling OSI isn't going to change that.

And really, how hard is it to just not kidnap someone?

Jack

Welcome back, Rams! We at the paper hope that you all had a fun and restful spring break. The weather's getting warmer, the days are getting longer, and we've got less than 50 days to go before we're officially out of school for the summer. While Soulja Boy's appearance at Spring Weekend getting cancelled certainly put a damper on things, we got what I believe is the next best thing (KINGSTON!).

Fordham's spring weekend decision actually reflects something all of us at Fordham have had to do throughout our college career. Sometimes, things don't work out, and we need to adapt. Whether it's choosing "Fire Burning" over "Crank Dat" for...security reasons, choosing a different class during registration because your first choice was full, or realizing that sometimes, you just can't do it all and you need to put your well-being before all of the things you want to commit to. Sacrifice and acclimatization are vital skills that college trains you for, and Fordham is no different.

Somebody call 9-1-1,

Gabby

Ask Brett & Bryttneigh

Giving advice to the Less Fortunate

Q: What're your thoughts on Sean Kingston replacing Soulja Boy for Spring Weekend?

Brett: Free Soulja Boy! PC culture has gone too far this time. First they came for Louis CK and I said nothing because he's not that funny. Then, they came for Roseanne Barr and again I said nothing because I did not know who that was. But this time, "cancel culture" has gone too far because now I'll never hear "Pretty Boy Swag" live. Thanks to those commies at CAB (Communist Advocacy Bros). Personally, I think Sean Kingston framed Soulja just so he could take all the glory of being Fordham University's Spring Weekend performer. Someone call Joe Rogan because this conspiracy theory needs to be told to a wider audience than this second-rate publication.

Bryttneigh: I had my first kiss to "Fire Burning" at my middle school dance. Sister Mary Catharine told us to "leave room for the Holy Spirit" while dancing, but Jeremy didn't listen to that bitch. Which one of you boys want to be the new Jeremy at Spring Weekend? Please apply in my insta DMs (@its_bryttneigh), but please no thirsties. Anyways, I just know Sean's going to bring out Justin Bieber for "Eenie Meenie." They're still friends, right?

Q: What's your zodiac sign?

Brett: Zodiac? You mean that movie starring Tony Stark, but he was some lame journalist instead of Iron Man. Haha, I'm just kidding bro. I actually put in some effort this issue and google'd it. Apparently, I'm a Scorpio and that's so accurate because no one really understands me. I'm very deep, bro. I downloaded this app co-star and it's crazy how much they get me.

Bryttneigh: I'm a Leo, but you could probably already tell that. I have to be the center of attention all the time and fuck Bridgette for posting that picture of us that I was going to. She only got so many likes because I was in it anyways.

If you have any questions for Brett & Bryttneigh, email *the paper* at paper.fordham@gmail.com



the paper's Bachelor Recounts His Snow Day Escapade

By Noah Kotlarek
Copy Editor

82 miles of adventure, danger, and manicotti

'Twas 10 PM on a Sunday night in Loyola Hall when the announcement was made. Classes were to be cancelled the following day, Monday, March 4th –snow day. With my homework complete, I would be afforded an extra twenty-four hours to live my life exactly as I pleased. Adventure, not sleep, was what I desired. I pulled up Google Maps on my laptop, scanning for “nearby” towns to visit, and my eyes landed on Montréal. Previously, I had spontaneously ventured to Coney Island and New Haven on school nights with my friend Ben. Québec could not be that much further. Besides, my cousin goes to McGill, perhaps there would be enough room in her apartment for an overnight guest. On the Greyhound website, I found a bus leaving from Penn Station in an hour. I could make it. But alas, my Canadian adventure was cancelled. Unfortunately, my passport was in Houston.

Despite this terrible inconvenience, my hunger for adventure would not go unquenched. I left the lounge, went up to my room, and began preparation for tomorrow's snow day expedition, a 7 AM to 10 PM seventy-mile cross-borough and trans-Long Island bicycling bonanza. Once the jackets, gloves, helmet, and speedometer were collected, I went to bed.

The next day I arose at 6 AM. Descending the icy stairs of my humble abode, Hotel Loyola, I worried about the slippery sidewalks I was soon to cycle. With no particular path in mind, I unlocked my mountain bike and set forth upon my indirect route to Hicksville, Long Island. What a fool I am.

Spinning, sliding, and slipping are all verbs I familiarized myself with as I bicycled southbound down Grand Concourse. It was truly a new experience in my cycling career. Pedaling on ice and snow is a constant fight to keep the front wheel straight and a test in forearm strength. But once you've gotten the hang of it, it becomes quite exciting. It requires only just enough concentration that you can easily forget how slick the

road really is and are quickly reminded by a brief vasoconstricting bronchiole-dilating wheel-sliding scare.

Once I reached the Bronx-Manhattan border, I crossed into Harlem via the Madison Ave. Bridge. Down 5th Avenue southbound I continued as my wet-from-slush toes entered hypothermia. Nonetheless, there was a smile on my face, expectant of the uncharted New York boroughs and Long Island villages I would tour that day.

Though Fordham was closed, the city was not asleep. At 8 AM, through the slush and snow couriers, delivery

my toes in a Starbucks. I pedaled through Queens towards Flushing Meadows-Corona Park where I crossed Grand Central Parkway on a snow-covered pedestrian bridge, admired the lake and Soviet-like New York State Pavilion and indulged myself to some puddalage. Few experiences provide the same childlike joy as bicycling through puddles at full speed. It's a complete experience: the speed of the bike, the reeling sound of the sprocket, the splashing muddy water, and the carefreeness of it all and it exemplifies the freedom of the bicycle. In the puddles, there is

As I road along the snowy sidewalks of the Long Island Expressway's feeder roads at 10 AM the sun came out and my toes thawed out. Soon I was in the Garden City, then a less populated area with a lack of civilization and restrooms...

At this point in the journey, my life was at most risk. My bladder demanded relief and with no restrooms, I had to take extreme measures. I found a seemingly deserted park and a tree. During the relief a car roared by, its horn blaring. I finished and began walking towards my bike which I had left closer to the road. When I was half way to my bike I noticed my glove forgotten by the tree and a car quickly reversing towards me. To reach the glove I would have to pass by the reversing car, afraid it was the honking driver my body began to quiver. As I passed the car, the window rolled down. I turned to it expecting a sawed-off shot gun pointed at me. Instead, a calm librarian-looking lady: “You dropped your glove.”

By 3 PM, I was in Hicksville. I charged my dead phone at the gas station and ate \$8 Manicotti in the parking lot. Finally, it was time to return to Fordham. I headed northwest from Hicksville as I planned to enter the Bronx via Throggs Neck. I rode through Westbury, Roslyn, and Manhasset. But once I hit Great Neck at 6PM, my situation quickly decayed. The sky turned black and my phone died. After failing to follow the directions of three gas station attendants I abandoned by Throggs Neck approach and headed towards the illuminated Manhattan riding along the waters of Flushing Bay. I passed by LGA and Astoria, unable to find a crossable bridge to Manhattan. After many dead ends and much stress, a sign for Roosevelt Island appeared. I hopped on the tram, landed in Manhattan, rode to LC, and drained all the cash in my wallet and enjoyed an 11PM Monday-night feast in an empty Italian restaurant. A huge grin was plastered on my face.



bicyclists, and recreationalists joined me at my flanks in the 2nd Avenue bicycle lane. Together, we endured the cold splashes of icy water erupting from beneath the wheels of metro buses and the blaring honks of anxious taxi cab drivers.

On 1st Street, I took a left crossing the Williamsburg Bridge out of Manhattan and into the unknown: Brooklyn. Brooklyn was nice; from there I headed vaguely northeast towards Nassau County after warming

no concern nor rules. The clothes can be washed later.

But the bliss soon turned into concentration, analysis, and tactical decision-making and I searched for ways to cross Meadow Lake into Long Island. There appeared only be highways for automobiles to traverse this lake. After pointlessly pedaling up hills and regrettably riding up highway ramps my denial of passage ended when I found Meridian Road, left NYC and entered Long Island.



Jordan Peele's Latest Horror is Absolutely Psychologically Terrifying

Christian Decker
News Editor

tbh i'm scared to copyedit this article...

If you were to tell me 4 years ago that Jordan Peele, co-star of a sketch comedy show, who made ridiculously funny jokes and satire, could make a truly scary movie that would completely screw with us, I would have laughed in your face. After the release of "Get Out", I have never been so happy to be so wrong about something. Jordan Peele is a master of horror, with only two horror movies out and now the "Twilight Zone" on the way, he has already distinguished himself as a forerunner in the genre.

"Us" is a fantastic, spooky, mind-boggling film about facing our worst enemy, ourselves. In the interest of full disclosure, SPOILERS AHEAD! So, if you don't want the movie ruined for you should stop reading now or I can't help you.

The story takes place in Santa Cruz, California, at the vacation home of the Wilson family. Adelaide Wilson, played by Lupita Nyong'o, is apprehensive because of an experience that she had when she was a child at the same Santa Cruz Beach that her family is visiting. When she was younger, she wandered away from her father, who was supposed to be watching her, into a hall of mirrors, where she encountered a girl who looked exactly like her, and it traumatized her from then on.

From that point on she went on through her life with the feeling

that her doppelganger was coming after her. As it turns out her fears were correct. The first night of their vacation, the Wilson family are attacked by another family who looks exactly like them, albeit more twisted and wearing red. The rest of the movie involves the Wilsons fighting off their doppelgangers and trying to make it to safety. As it turns out, the doppelgangers were actually sort of a secret program, called "The Tethered", in which doppelgangers would have been used to control their real-life counterparts. The Tethered, lead by Adelaide's doppelganger, Red, seek to take their turn on the surface of Earth, rather than the underground in a demonstration that is a twisted remaking of the Hands Across America campaign during the 80s.

The movie's pacing is great, it starts off with the slow build up, showing Adelaide's childhood memories and then cuts into the present, with her as an adult. As soon as shit hits the fan, the movie doesn't really slow down from there and it really gets your heart pounding

as you've now become invested with these characters. What it lacks in say, conventional jump scares like "Get Out", it makes up for in fantastic storytelling and psychological horror that makes you question everything.



I usually go to see these kinds of movies with my dad and my brother and let me tell you that we were discussing the movie thoroughly afterward, trying to figure out all the symbolism in the different objects, figuring out the timeline, and deciphering the surprise twist ending. A filmmaker that can really get you thinking in a movie like that, especially a horror film that can often be lost and trying to get cheap scares out of an audience, or just overwhelm them with blood and gore, is a feat that few others can say they've achieved, and I think Jordan Peele certainly has.

The detail in which the symbols were chosen I think is something special

as well. I believe the scissors that the doubles used to kill their victims with were a symbol of the "untethering" so to speak, that they would use these scissors to cut themselves off from their counterparts, both literally and figuratively. The rabbits that the doubles were forced to eat in the underground lab, could symbolize lab experiments, as rabbits are among animals frequently tested on, and by extent represent the doppelgangers almost "test tube" status. I have still not been able to figure out what the red jumpsuits symbolize. My brother suggested communism, or maybe perhaps it represents the colors of the Republican party, after all, Hands Across America was under Ronald Reagan. But that's the cool thing about this movie is that there is so much to unpack and think about.

Not enough words can express how great of a job the cast did in portraying their roles, especially Lupita Nyong'o. It takes plenty of acting chops to be able to play two characters in the same movie, who are so similar to each other but yet are so incredibly different. Honestly, I think she should win an Oscar for this, it was impeccable.

Overall Jordan Peele delivers masterful sophomore effort into the horror genre, with great pace, great performances, and a spectacular psychological effect that will surely last with me.

HOROSCOPES

**This Week:
Signs as 2020 Candidates**

Aries: John Hickenlooper
“Keep your eyes on the stars, and your feet on the ground.” - Theodore Roosevelt

Taurus: Donald J. Trump
Just because you can doesn't mean you should :/

Gemini: Elizabeth Warren
Embrace your roots, but not too much.

Cancer: Suits 2020
Be the change you want to see in the world.

Leo: Kanye 2020
Check your goshdang ego!! Just because you think something doesn't mean you should say something!!

Virgo: Kamala Harris
People are counting on you. Please. Don't fuck this up.

Libra: Corey Booker
Sometimes being real is more important than having harmony in your environment.

Scorpio: Hillary Clinton, still chilling in Cedar Rapids
Sometimes the best thing you can do is nothing...

Sagittarius: Pete Buttigieg
Remember who are, Simba <https://www.peteforamerica.com/meet-pete/>

Capricorn: Beto O'Rourke
Walking is an option, too. Try not to show off so much.

Aquarius: Kirsten Gillibrand
Go hug a tree and get a metal straw to feel like you're doing something to save the planet.

Pisces: Bernard Sanders
Haters are your motivators. Keep running.

Good Morning America is Fake News and Our Morning was Terrible

by Jack Archambault
Editor-in-Chief

Every once in a while at *the paper*, we get emails about fun goings-on in New York City. Being *the paper*, these are usually right up our alley, meaning they're any combination of quirky, fringe, and downright bizarre. My favorite of these emails are the ones we get every week from Kostas Salomidis, a publicist for the Greece-based death metal band Lachrimae, and a man who I believe is actually *the paper's* resident metalhead Christian Decker in disguise. While I will probably never know how an obscure Greek band found out about an obscure American newspaper, that's beside the point. These emails are appreciated because they give us an opportunity to go into the city and see shows and exhibitions we otherwise would not. I wish we could go to all of them, but alas, we have a small staff and it just isn't always possible.

In January, however, we got an email from Good Morning America, saying they would love to have our group at their show. It had to be a mistake, I thought. There's no way in hell that GMA would want us at their show. But, I also thought, what if we got invited and *The Ram* didn't?? But despite the fleeting (and certainly false) sense of superiority I got from this email, it turned out I was right. GMA did not want us at their show. And they were going to rub our faces in it.

I sent GMA three follow-up emails saying yes, we would be interested in attending a taping of their show, but was greeted by silence. Assuming the email was sent by a bot or by mistake and needing to back up the premature promise I made to the rest of the staff that we were going to meet Michael Strahan, I decided to request tickets the regular way.

The regular way, for anyone who doesn't know, involves going on 1iota.com and putting in a request for tickets. You can get free tickets for all sorts of events this way, such as Late Night with Seth Meyers, The View, and even Pickler & Ben (which I've never seen, but based on my knowledge of Kelly Pickler from American Idol, consists solely of her trying to pronounce 'calamari').

3 Simple and Not At All Confusing rules for GMA

Well, I got the tickets and we were eight dedicated individuals ready to leave Fordham at 6 a.m. to head down to Times Square. Trudging through temperatures in the teens and a ferocious crosswind, we finally made it to the studio exterior at 6:44, one minute before our check-in deadline of 6:45. I think now would be a good time to mention that we had priority tickets, which essentially means you are privy to an early entrance period, from 6:15 to 6:45, before the general ticket holders. So, you can imagine my shock when we arrived and were greeted by a man named Peter, with whom I had a conversation that went something like this:



“Hi, we have priority tickets for the show, did we make it in time?”

(Peter, not even humoring a glance at his watch) “Well, unfortunately...”

(Peter leaves to talk to another group that was evidently a greater priority. A woman walks over to us.)

“Hi, what was he saying to you?”

“He just said, unfortunately. That doesn't sound too good.”

“No, it doesn't.”

(Peter returns)

“Yes, unfortunately, we're all full for this showing, but if you let me scan your ticket, I can make sure you have priority tickets to another showing.”

“We already have priority tickets to this showing.”

“I'm sorry, but you really should have arrived at least an hour earlier.”

“But on the ticket it said between 6:15 and 6:45.”

“When you come back, arrive at least an hour earlier. The people who

got in have been waiting since 5.”

“That's really sad, and if you have to show up at 5 why does it say between 6:15 and 6:45 on the ticket?”

“I'm sorry, but I can offer you priority tickets to another showing.”

“Do you know what the word priority means, Peter?”

“It means arrive at least an hour earlier.”

And so it went. We didn't get to see Good Morning America, and I can't talk to anyone named Peter for another month, maybe two. But at least now I'm wise to their game, and I can pass along that wisdom. If you are planning on going to see GMA, make sure to follow these three rules:

1. Arrive at 5:30, but really 4:30 just to be safe.

Coaches of sports teams love the saying, “If you're not 15 minutes early, you're late.” I always thought this was stupid. Just tell people what time they should show up and stick to it. GMA does not agree with me and even takes that saying four steps farther. Whatever time it says to arrive on your ticket, subtract an hour. Then another, just to be safe.

2. If you arrive too late, Peter will tell you to wait outside because apparently, sometimes Robin Roberts comes outside and says ‘hi’ to the crowd.

We didn't wait to find out, but I can promise that this is a lie. More likely, Robin steps outside, asks where the priority ticket holders are, and then ignores them and greets everyone else.

3. When you inevitably show up too late and Peter tells you that you can't get in, there's a nice diner a few blocks away called The Red Flame. Eat breakfast there.

We did and we had a wonderful time. The food was great, the staff friendly, and the bathroom glistening.

If you keep these three rules in mind, you should have a great experience at GMA. When you get there, tell Peter I say hi.

P.S. If anyone from ABC reads this and I end up applying for an internship or job at Good Morning America, consider this my cover letter. And don't worry, now I know to arrive at least an hour early for my interview.

Why *Billions* is Totally Binge-able

by Andrew Millman
Opinions Editor

I didn't know this was even a show until last week, but let me tell you this show is batshit crazy in the best possible way. I was sick for most of spring break so I needed something to do and watching *Billions* seemed like the best available option. The basic premise of the show is a rivalry



between Axe, a billionaire hedge fund manager, and Chuck Rhodes, a federal prosecutor in New York who wants to take him down. However, things are complicated because Chuck's wife Wendy works for Axe as their psychologist. Chuck also has ambitions for political office that would benefit from taking down a high-profile figure like Axe.

I cannot recommend this show enough. The corruption and abuse of our financial system is one of the biggest factors driving unsustainable levels of inequality in this country. At the same time, it shows precisely why the government is unable to hold them accountable for their actions. Petty bureaucratic politics, fear of defeat hindering one's public image, and the constant opportunity for a large pay-out to work for the very

It's Truly One in a Billion

people you're trying to put behind bars all hinder federal prosecutors' ability to do their job properly and hold people like Axe to account.

The show functions as a Rorschach test of sorts. Whether you root for Axe or Chuck in the show, that says something about you. Axe is the type of person that Gabelli students

aspire to be. He's a scrappy guy who came from nothing (apparently, the show considers Yonkers to be emblematic of working-class grit) and didn't go to an Ivy League school, but is still one of the wealthiest men in the world. Never mind that he made his first billion

off shorting the stocks of airline companies in the wake of 9/11. Chuck is the mirror opposite. He was born into wealth and has a trust fund that allows him not to worry about the financial pressures that most of his subordinates face. He seems to have a genuine desire for justice, but that motive is often paired with personal career advancement or an equally-compelling desire for revenge. He's the ultimate stereotype of the petty bureaucrat.

The first season was a bit slow, but the last few episodes give a better sense of how the show will be going forward. For example, in one episode, Axe praised one of his employees, "Dollar" Bill, a bigamist with a secret second family, for not giving him up to prosecutors and excitedly tells him "I'm going to make

you so fucking rich, you'll be able to afford three families!"

Two of the best characters on the show are Taylor and Wags. Taylor is a new employee of Axe's in the second season and seems to possess the same ability to read the markets that made her boss a billion if not a greater ability. They is also the first non-binary character on an

Chuck is the mirror opposite. He was born into wealth and has a trust fund that allows him not to worry about the financial pressures that most of his subordinates face. He seems to have a genuine desire for justice, but that motive is often paired with personal career advancement or an equally-compelling desire for revenge.

American television show. That's not just a great representational victory, but their presence also poses an implicit challenge to the jocular and almost-completely masculine culture of Axe's hedge fund.

Conversely, Axe's second-in-command Wags is unabashedly an old-school eccentric with a twisty mustache and goatee combo that makes him look like the villain in a western. But, a villain who knows he's crazy and acts like a demented carnival barker.

I've only watched two seasons so far, but the show is currently in its fourth season and I can't wait to watch it all. The best part of the show is that all of the characters are completely awful people who let petty grievances get in a way of their success. And, like, same.

EVENTS

What: Last Comic Standing

Where: Keating 1st

When: Tuesday, April 9 @ 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

How much: Free

Why: Everyone is invited to perform 9 total minutes of stand-up material. Sign-ups at the door. Two finalists will get the chance to open for the Spring Weekend Comedian!

What: Battle of the Bands
Where: Rodrigue's Coffee House

When: Saturday, April 13

How much: Free

Why: Come watch ten talented Fordham student bands battle it out for the chance to play at Spring Weekend. The winner of the Battle will get the chance to open for the Fordham Spring Weekend performer, and the runner up will open for the Rodrigue's Spring Week concert.

What: Mo Papers Mo Problems vs. Maxwell House (Kickball tournament)

Where: Coffey Field
When: Saturday, April 7 @7:00pm

How much: free!

Why: Come support the members of this wonderful publication in their endeavors to fight fascism and bring down CAB.

Greta Entertains But Falls Short of Expectations

Courtney Bergsieker
Staff Spook Reviewer

Starring Chloe Grace Moretz as Frances and Isabelle Huppert as Greta, Neil Jordan's *Greta* follows the story of a young, naive girl who falls into the psychotic trap of a lonely, old woman living in New York. While Huppert delivers an excellent performance and the film makes an interesting connection between the psycho-thriller and rape culture, Moretz's performance and an exhausting plot rendered most of the film unconvincing and frustrating.

The story begins when Frances (Moretz) returns a misplaced purse from the subway to Greta (Huppert) and accepts her invitation to a cup of coffee in her Manhattan home, tucked away in a courtyard complex with ivy-covered brick walls. Frances, new to the big city and struggling with grief over the recent death of her mother, is keen to be a friend to the lonely woman who has lost her husband and seems

We really out here being spooked though

neglected by her daughter. Frances' roommate, Erica, questions their odd relationship, but Frances believes it to be innocent. Until, of course, she discovers that their meeting was no coincidence and she is not the only young woman to return a purse to the quiet Manhattan home. Thus begins a heinous, maddening chase where the obsessive Greta stalks Frances and the full threat of the lonely, old woman is revealed.

While the film delivered on its promise to raise the hairs on the back of your neck, Moretz's acting is perhaps the scariest thing in *Greta*. While possibly the result of poor direction, scenes where Frances is fearful or upset (most of the film) are half-hearted, making Frances' character look incapable and dumb. Paired with a plot that rests on her character making naive decisions, Moretz makes Frances look like an idiot who would take candy from a middle-aged man in a rusty van that

has a bloody handprint smeared on the window. Huppert's portrayal of Greta, however, is flawless and bone-chilling.

The plot of the film similarly stunts its allure. *Greta* rests on the naivety of Frances' character, so the plot becomes one easily avoidable mistake to the next. Frequently traveling alone in the dark, going back to the old woman's house, and returning a purse to a stranger's house instead of just leaving it on the subway in the first place are but a few examples of Frances' lapses in judgment that make the viewer think, "It seems like you really want to be murdered."

While frustrating, *Greta* retains interest with its minor details. The most thought-provoking aspect of *Greta* is the subliminal commentary on rape culture embodied by the supporting character Erica, Frances' best friend, played by Maika Monroe. After Frances decides she no longer

wants anything to do with Greta, Erica advises her to treat the situation in the same way she deals with obsessive guys. Using terms such as "taper" and "slow fade," Erica helps Frances gradually attempt to leave Greta, but these tactics only make her more pushy and aggressive. The girls then decide to try "it's not you, it's me", hoping that the predatory Greta will move on to some other girl; scenes later, the psychotic woman drugs and kidnaps Frances. The movie ends with the best friend saving Frances from her captor by using her own methods against her and powerfully stating, "This time you get roofied".

Although stunted by poor acting and a plot of easily avoidable conflict, *Greta* offers a sinister look at the fears and potential consequences of young women who want to be polite and trusting in a culture that is plagued by violence against women.

Why Go to MoMA When You Can Go to the Keating Basement?

by Noah Kotlarek
Copy Editor

The next time you're waiting for your next class in the basement of Keating Hall get up from the squishy lounge chairs and take a walk around the perimeter. Look at the walls and consider your peers' artwork, some of it is quite good. One particularly good display is the pencil sketches from Professor G. Brown's Drawing I class. The human body and torso sketches are quite impressive and beautiful. The praying hands and Mother Teresa are strong. Professor G. Brown claims another wall for the Visual Thinking class. Taped upon this white wall are black pieces of paper intricately cut into the profiles of peoples faces. To create these works must have taken a lot of time and snipping. It would be a shame if one of the thin pieces of papers got ripped. Though these pieces of art truly are impressive, I most admire their creators' patience.

Next on the basement walls are the scalable abstracts. The exhibit, or wall, follows the creative process from sketch to sculpture. On the left

We have some seriously talented people here

of the wall are pen drawings and on the right are the realized Styrofoam architectural structures. Most of the pieces are a combination of pavilions, endless staircases, and pure abstraction.

Another section will have you salivating. One student's painting features two large red tomatoes. Delicious, the tomatoes are great. The complementing piece next to it shows a close up of a lush kiwi. Such artistic genius can only come from one source of inspiration, the Fordham Marketplace (cafeteria). For the protection of the student I recommend the two pieces be taken down before Aramark files a law suit. It's a surprise they haven't already as viewership of these tomato and kiwi paintings are sure to have cut into meal swipe transactions. With these two masterpieces up there is no longer any need to eat at the cafeteria.

On the collage walls, you'll find my two favorite pieces. The fire hydrant with the person cascading out of its port is a special treat. It's aesthetically

pleasing, humorous, and simple. My other favorite also involves water leakage. This one is five drawn faces of a boy with his head in the CPR head-



tilt chin-left position and tears pouring out of his eyes. It is easy to imagine the drawing on the cover of a musical album.

A more provocative set of paintings features a grotesque hairy-arm-pitted female rockstar surrounded by other divas, tattooed characters, and skeletons. Another piece in the set is a portrait of the rockstar with blood dripping out of her body and a snake coming out of the corner of the sheet of paper. Very goth, very edgy, very graphic.

At Lincoln Center there is also an art exhibit, which is in fact more active than the one at Rose Hill. Upon my last visit, on view were Fordham Professor William Conlon's abstract designs featuring bright colors and amoeba-like shapes. These same designs were the drafts for "floor art" in elevator lobbies in New York City apartments. Interestingly enough, the same professors' work is on permanent display in the lobby of the Fordham Law School, a gift to the school after his 35-years of teaching at the institution.

Please, when you find yourself walking in the Keating Hall basement, take a moment to take in the art. It was put up by people who spent a considerable amount of time making it, so pay your respects and look at it. The student's work may even spark a creative fire within your own mind. Have a nice day and enjoy the gallery.

Grand Tour Delights Car Enthusiasts

George Kite
Staff Car Enthusiast

Amazon Prime, Amazon's own streaming service, released the third season of popular car show *The Grand Tour* back in January. For those unfamiliar with *The Grand Tour*, imagine a show about three middle-aged British men who drive cars, make crude low-brow jokes and offensive comments, make up stupid competitions, and just talk. This third season is just that.

And it's absolutely beautiful.

Let me first state that even if you are unfamiliar with this show or *Top Gear*, you will love it; not because of the cars but

because of the three hosts: Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond, and James May. They are a trifecta: best friends, each equally brilliant and stupid in their own respects, with differing tastes and quirks on everything from driving, food, fashion, and more. Their dynamic is expressed through their love of cars, which dominates the whole show. However, as strange as it may sound, one can even hate cars and still love this show, despite the fact it's about cars. Though it is in some sense a "car show", the entertainment comes from the hosts - the

But is it as good as Disney Pixar's *Cars*?

cars just provide the material.

The first episode of the season starts out with the three hosts in Detroit, Michigan—a city that most people will associate with urban decay, crime, and the hollow shell of the



American car industry. They manage to drive three prime, modern American cars - a Ford Mustang RTR Spec 3, a Dodge Challenger SRT Demon, and a Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 Hennessey Exorcist Edition - and breathe life into the Motor City. They drive around, having drag races on the streets, making an abandoned factory into a racetrack, and simply showing that the spirit of Detroit lives on in both the city itself and the cars it puts out.

You can expect more like this in the thirteen, hour-long episodes of

the third season. I don't want to spoil the rest of the season, but *The Grand Tour* takes you to faraway places like the volcanoes of Colombia, grand superhighways in China, frozen lake racetracks in Sweden, beautiful highland vistas of Scotland, and many other places all over the globe. What else would you expect from a show called *The Grand Tour*?

What do you get out of all this travel? For one, amazing cinematography of natural and man-made wonders that the trio drives around. If you can, watch this show with a 4k HD monitor or television, because every pixel makes it that much more beautiful to watch. Even the cars themselves are filmed at amazing angles and edits that would make an Amish person want to put the pedal to the metal.

For a majority of episodes, the adventures are spaced out with other things in the middle. There is always "Conversation Street", where the three hosts just, well, have a few conversations. Topics include cars, insulting each other's fashion tastes, commenting on what's going on in the episode, making stupid analogies, insulting each other's driving habits, discussing developments in car companies, and insulting various political ideologies.

Then there are individual car reviews. A new car, typically a very fast one, is chosen, and a host gives it a

drive around an unused airport, describing their likes, dislikes, statistics, comfort, practicality, and other quirks of the car. You'll see hypercar behemoths like the McLaren Senna and the NIO EP9 along with tuned-up luxury cars like the Jaguar XE Project 8 and the BMW M5. Don't worry if you're not a millionaire, they occasionally review cars you can realistically expect to own in your lifetime. Not in this season, though.

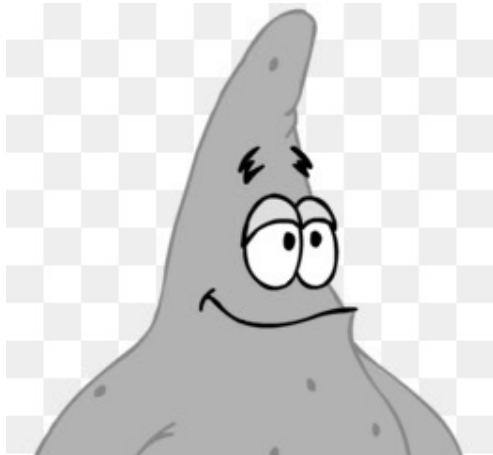
But on top of all that, you should enjoy the humor of the show. I will say this: if you have a certain dislike of British humor, there's a good chance you might not like this show. However, if you don't, then this show will by far be one of the funniest you ever watch. Whether it's the cheeky remarks, expertly done pranks and gags, or the simple ridiculousness that goes on in the show, you will find your time well spent watching *The Grand Tour*.

All in all, *The Grand Tour* is one of my favorite shows of all time, and by far my favorite show that is ongoing. It never gets old - there are always new cars to drive, new jokes to make, and new places to go for Jeremy, Richard, and James. There is just a certain magic to it that draws you in. It's fun to watch alone or with friends, on a lazy Saturday or between studying, when you just wake up or right before you go to bed. It is, in every sense, absolutely wonderful.



THE PATRICK WARS

We set out to answer the ancient question: Which Patrick is the best?



Patrick Star

1. Buns of Steel
2. Wumbo
3. Star of the Show



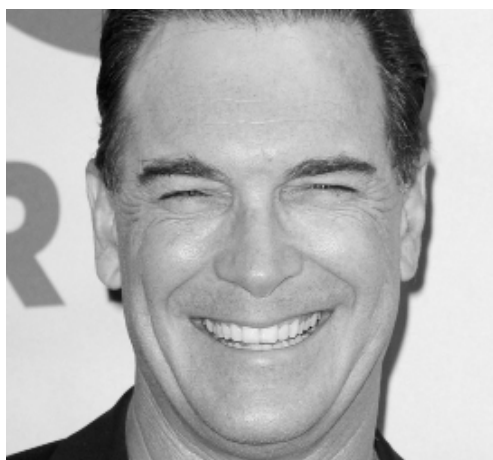
Patrick Swayze

1. Hips don't Lie
2. Chippendales
3. Sexiest Man Alive 1991



Patrick Stewart

1. Nartural Leader
2. Master of Space and Mind
3. SIR Patrick Stewart



Patrick Warburton

1. Best Voice Actor Ever
2. Brock Samson
3. Could win a fight just by narrating it



(Neil) Patrick Harris

1. Suits
2. Singing
3. Had an entire series where he literally charmed the pants off of people



St. Patrick

1. Invented a Holiday just for drinking
2. Makes you Feel Lucky
3. Still Thinking about him in April



Elements Make Everything, Which One are You?

I got kinda lazy this month, so Saturday night I was sitting around and thought about what question to ask my fellow editors. What is the best dinosaur? Which potato is your spirit guide? And other stuff like that. Eventually I read an article on elements and settled on a question that I thought would be pretty fun to write about... What element on the periodic table represents you?

SO METAL
by OZZY

I would definitely be the element osmium. According to random science answer sites that I've found online, osmium is the most dense and heaviest metal of all the elements on the periodic table. To keep up with my edgy death metal aesthetic, of course I have to identify with osmium. There is no way I could possibly be another element, except maybe sodium, because I get salty

about a lot of stuff. Osmium is so powerful. You can't break that shit it's so dense, just like my love for all things metal. It's an element, which means it can't be broken down. Badass!

'Meridium Bro
by Brett

Definitely Americium, the best element named after the best country in the world. I'm definitely not Francium or Europium. Bunch of socialists over there. They should just name all the elements after great Americans. Reaganium. Trumpium. Maybe one day we could have Brettium. Idk bro, I think science is kind of bullshit anyways.

K
by a Banana

I am so potassium. I'm elegant and cool, but know when to react quickly when I need to. Plus, like Potassium's "K," I'm probably the only thing you remember from Chemistry class xoxo. I can be a pick me

up snack to save you from passing out after a workout, and I'm the thing that holds all your smoothies together (even if you can't taste me). I'm bright and shiny, but don't let that fool you. Keep me on your best side for your own good; you don't want to see me oxidize.

Radioactive
by a Fallout Boy

If I were an element I would be Uranium because I am Radioactive! I feel it in my bones. Enough to make my system blow. I'm Radioactive Radioactive. I raise my flag and don my clothes. It's a revolution so I've been told. I'm breaking in, shaping up, then checking out on the prison bus. Welcome to the New Age.

Toxic
by Spears

I would most likely be Arsenic because baby can't you see I'm calling. A guy like you should wear a warning.

It's dangerous. I'm falling. There's no escape. I can't wait. The taste of your lips I'm on a ride because you know that you're toxic. Well I am because arsenic LOL.

A Burst of Energy
by the The First

If I were an element on the periodic table, I think I'd get to be hydrogen. It's a very explosive gas, and I have a tendency to get random bursts of energy sometimes. It's also the lightest gas, and I am a very (v.) smol person. I found out doing research that it can apparently become a liquid metal when enough pressure is applied to it, so that's pretty cool. Also, I haven't taken a chemistry class since my junior year of high school, so it was one of the only periodic elements I could recall. $\sqrt{\quad} \sqrt{\quad}$

**“Bloody Nose”**

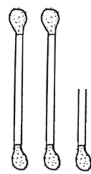
Lil Xan
Angelina Zervos



Get ready Xanarchy! Lil Xan has just released his latest single “Bloody Nose.” The 2:15 track has only two, six line verses and a repeating chorus. Lil Xan has expressed in previous songs the state of his physical well-being, such as “my voice fucking gone!” in his single “Shake It.” Xan tells the listeners in this song that he wrote it with a bloody nose, which may explain why the rapping in this song differs from his usual upbeat style, and also leaves me concerned.

My favorite line, which also happens to be the chorus is: “Get that money fuck them hoes/ I like girls with pretty toes.” It just really resonated with me, especially considering that I’m a girl with toes, and I enjoy money. While I’m not a member of the Xanarchy, I didn’t find myself hating this song. Instead I was a little scared. For starters, the big cartoon bloody nose on the single’s album cover reminds me of a first aid instruction video I would have watched in elementary school. Other

than that, the slow beats and Xan’s monotonous, spaced out lines give off some eerie vibes. The repetitiveness of the chorus especially creeped me out, but I’m one who enjoys getting the creeps, like people who like watching scary movies. I’d recommend listening to this song when you’re walking alone late at night and want that extra adrenaline rush to get you home faster. Or if you’re not a fan of spooky stuff, listen to it when you need a little boost of encouragement, because Xan offers an amazing piece of advice “Don’t give up, you got this hoe.” You can be that hoe. You got this.



Tell Ya
Soulja Boy
Jack Archambault



As disappointed as I am that Soulja Boy has been cancelled for Spring Weekend, it had to be done. While it’s strange that it happened after he violated his probation and not after he literally kidnapped a human person, the end result is one that felt inevitable from the moment he was announced as the main act in January.

But none of this has stopped Soulja (Mr. Soulja? Mr. Boy?) from putting out new music, and his most recent EP, *Tell Ya*, is...good.

Soulja Boy’s music is great, and I won’t apologize for saying that. He is often described as a one hit wonder, but in truth he has four: “Crank Dat”, “Kiss Me Thru the Phone”, “Pretty Boy Swag”, and “Turn My Swag On”. None of the songs on *Tell Ya* come close to matching these masterpieces, but that does not make the album a lost cause.

The release includes three songs, “Pocket Rocket”, “It’s Up”, and “Started Out”. None of them have quite the bounce of any of Soulja Boy’s hits, but “Started Out” comes the closest. It’s not that either of the others are bad, it’s just quite impossible to make out any of the words he’s saying. If you don’t believe me, just try, and if you can prove to me that you can understand any of what he’s saying on “It’s Up”, I will pay you money.

The greatest tragedy is one that Soulja Boy is not alone in falling prey to. Somewhere along the way, someone got the idea that mumbling your way through a song sounds good. It doesn’t, and it shows on this album. The one song on which he stops mumbling and uses his outside voice is “Started Out,” which is by no coincidence the best song on the album. It’s a shame he had to go kidnap someone. I would’ve liked to hear it at Spring Weekend.

Best Track: “Started Out”



The Valley
Whitechapel
Christian Decker

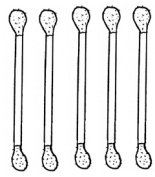


Deathcore isn’t a metal sub-genre I’m incredibly fond of. Often to me the songs, riffs and vocals get too repetitive and I lose interest. Generally deathcore fans can be a little too edgy for me. Once Rings of Saturn was one of my favorite bands, but after a disappointing set when I saw them live it just kind of turned me off from them. However, this new Whitechapel album kicks some major ass.

Rather than just having the same chugging in all the songs, the band uses a lot of minor tones and minor scales to create this really creepy atmosphere. It’s somehow melancholic, which is a cool new aesthetic for a deathcore band. It gives off the feeling of being in a dark forest alone; I felt like I was in that Netflix movie, *The Ritual*. Another good innovation was the band’s use of clean singing. Now this is definitely something you don’t hear in a deathcore band at all. You would expect it from the metalcore guys.

On the song “Hickory Creek,” the singing is almost entirely clean. The song appears to be about loneliness. It’s really haunting and beautiful, even when the growling comes in an anguished rather than angry tone. We see it again on “When a Demon Defiles a Witch,” which is both killer and has cool tones to it. For the normal deathcore fans, they still have some headbangers like “Black Bear” and “Brimstone,” as well as “We Are One.” The last song, “Doom Forest,” combines creepiness and heaviness into one atmospheric headbanger. A great album for Whitechapel and for the metal world.

Best Track: “Hickory Creek”



When We All Fall Asleep Where Do We Go?

**Billie Eilish
Ashley Wright**



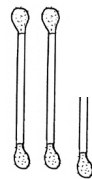
Billie Eilish's new album, *When We All Fall Asleep Where Do We Go?*, can briefly be described as an emotional rollercoaster, both lyrically and musically. When you first listen to Billie's music, she evokes the vocal sincerity of several other established artists in the up-and-coming "feminine emo" genre, such as Lorde and Halsey. This album is especially interesting, as Billie very clearly tries to connect to her fans through her vulnerability and self-affirming messages. The emotional impact of this, however, seemed overpowered by the occasional cacophony of sound.

While I applaud Billie's attempt at redefining her music, I feel like the execution could've been better. While I felt some songs fell flat, like "xanny" and "goodbye," I plan to include the bangers such as "all good girls go to hell" and "my strange addiction" to my daily playlist. I'm disappointed to see so much techno, electronically manufactured music in this album except on a few songs. Billie has such an incredible range and I wish they displayed that more.

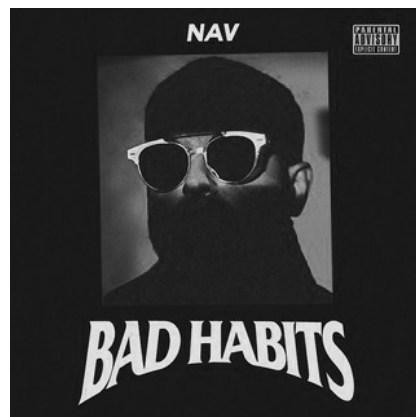
I still like "don't smile at me" as well as some of her single releases

such as "lovely," "bored," and "six feet under" way more than any of the songs on this album. Overall, I'm not as thrilled as I thought I would be with this album and I wish Billie wasn't as popular as she's become over the past couple of years, as I feel like that is partly responsible for this album being a tad disappointing. I still love Billie nonetheless but I would compare this album to *Sweetener* by Ariana Grande—it wasn't great, but I'd still take it over nothing. Ariana also came through with *thank u, next* which is an album that's full of nothing but bops, so hopefully that's what we can expect to see from Billie next.

Best Track: "listen before i go"



**Bad Habits
Nav
Mackle J**



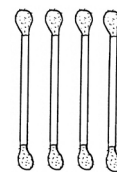
I never thought I would say that my favorite rap album at the time is by Nav. That's no disrespect to the man, in fact I've always been more of a fan than most. I understand why people hate on him: he looks like a grown man who never lost his baby fat and still thinks it's a good idea to rock a bowl cut. Not to mention his vigorous usage of auto-tune. But if you listen to trap music in 2019, beggars can't be choosers, and believe me, I am certainly one of those bums.

However, Nav's new album *Bad Habits* is like finding five bucks on the floor. It's not a penny, nor a quarter, nor a dollar bill... and it's

certainly not a ten or a twenty. *Bad Habits* is enough to get you excited, and maybe even make your day (a bit), which is really much more than a lot of the rap music that has been released lately. For one, the album has a very cohesive and developed sound that has some solid replayability. Maybe I am the outlier who still looks for a solid rap album to enjoy from start to finish. Most of the albums coming out seem to be made with only a few hits to be slapped on your "Punta Cana Bangerz" playlist.

Nav does both, putting together an album with some hitters along with tracks that really hone in on his style. This is in part due to his active role as a producer throughout, rather than delegating the composition to Metro, Southside, Tay-K, or any other producer that is actively saturating rap (but that's a different topic for a different rant). All I can say is I have listened to it consistently for a week now, which really means a lot nowadays. It's short but not too short, super catchy, very melodic, takes some risk, has top-notch features (including a bizarre line from Young Thug), and is even getting some buzz from OG's like Nas.

Best Track: "Snap"



**PUNK & POST PUNK
ESSENTIALS**

1. TOTALLY WIRED - THE FALL

2. FILLER - MINOR THREAT

3. VIOLENCE - PARQUET COURTS

4. WAITING ROOM - FUGAZI

5. HUMAN FLY - THE CRAMPS

6. WELL DONE - IDLES

5. MANNEQUIN - WIRE

6. EVER FALLEN IN LOVE - BUZZCOCKS

7. SAILIN ON - BAD BRAINS

8. BIG MOUTH STRIKES AGAIN - THE SMITHS

9. ONCE IN A LIFETIME - THE TALKING HEADS

10. MARQUEE MOON - TELEVISION



**Here lies
Soulja Boy**

(He told 'em)

Press SPACE BAR to continue