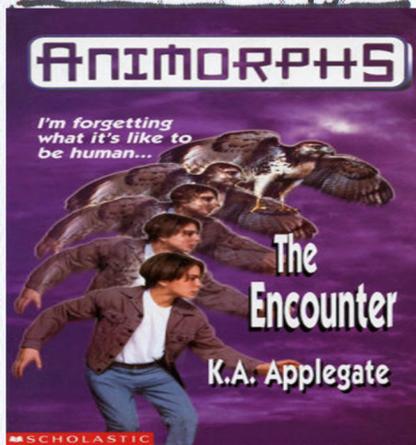


the paper

Vol. L1 issue 4

pg 3



Boy turns into bird on Campus.

How did this happen? Some say it had to do with an email chain gone rogue. Is this true? The Health center says no, but our hearts say yes. Fly safely young man. We love you!

Everything you need to know about the CLITORIS.



1. It does not exist and is in fact a liberal

lie. Do not believe her when she calls you out on this fact. Call your local statesman to call for clitoral reform.

pg. 6



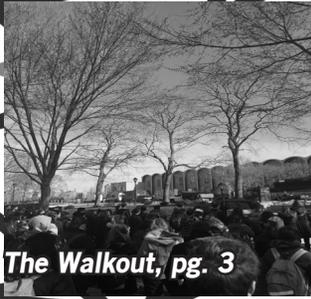
Who said this is okay?

Supposedly, CAB is getting Rascal Flats for Spring Weekend. Yes, you read that right, but the catch is that they all have to dress up as Cars characters. I already know someone will pass out from heat exhaustion.

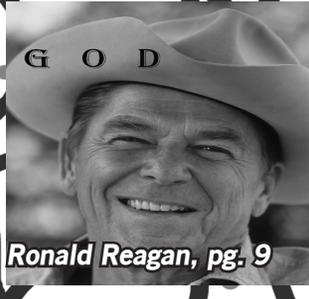
pg. 9



the paper editors won our t-shirt contest? Surprised no one did it? Don't be. We're losers.



The Walkout, pg. 3



Ronald Reagan, pg. 9



Jessica Jones, pg. 15



F & L, pg. 21-22



Earwax, pg. 23

the paper

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the paper is Fordham's journal of news, analysis, comment and review. Students from all years and disciplines get together biweekly to produce a printed version of *the paper* using Adobe InDesign and publish an online version using Wordpress. Photos are "borrowed" from Internet sites and edited in Photoshop. Open meetings are held Tuesdays at 9:00 PM in McGinley 2nd. Articles can be submitted via e-mail to paper.fordham@gmail.com. Submissions from 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 character are you?"

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You won the Super Bowl what are you gonna do next?



I'm gonna go to the paper's next meeting on Tuesday at 9pm in McGinley





Fordham Joins National Walkout against Gun Violence

by Gabby Curran

Copy Editor

It was a chilly, but cloudless day, on March 14th, when members of the Fordham community--following in the footsteps of over 30,000 other students across the nation--gathered on Edward's Parade to commemorate the one-month anniversary of the shooting that took place on Valentine's Day at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. As the Keating bells struck 10, crowds of students and staff members filed out of classroom buildings and clustered by the fence facing the Lombardi Center to stand in solidarity with the victims of the shooting, as well as the students actively fighting for urgently-needed gun reform laws. The atmosphere was chatty and social, yet solemn--this was not, after all, a casual get-together put together by CAB. There was symbolism behind this gathering; there was a message to be conveyed, if a representational one. Ten minutes later, two student speakers took to the top of the Lombardi steps to thank everyone for coming out, and to read off the names of the 17 students and staff members whose lives were abruptly cut short on February 14th. 17 minutes of silence ensued, punctuated by 17 rings of the Fordham Victory Bell.

This sequence of events is unfortunately nothing new--with 17 killed and 17 more wounded, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School massacre clocks in as one of the deadliest shootings in American history, only third behind the Virginia Tech massacre and the Sandy Hook shooting. The perpetrator, 19-year-old former student Nikolas Cruz of Margate, Florida, was arrested and taken into custody while hiding amongst a crowd

Thousands of schools held walkouts demanding change

of students evacuating the school and The situation is made all the more tragic considering Cruz's less-than-veiled penchant towards violence.



Several of his former classmates commented on Cruz's reckless personality, and he reportedly had behavior issues that began in middle school. Disturbingly, in September 2016, Cruz posted a Snapchat of him harming himself and threatening to buy a gun. The state investigators, clearly in a stroke of qualified wisdom and justice, concluded that he was "at low risk of harming himself or others." A YouTube account under his literal name was also found leaving violent and threatening comments on videos such as "I'm going to be a professional school shooter." To make matters worse, the AR-15 Cruz used was obtained legally. Cruz's own parents knew about it, and misguidedly thought that all it took to prevent their son from misusing it was to establish rules about keeping it in a lockbox. To say that this tragedy was preventable

would be a vast understatement.

Thankfully, students are refusing to stay silent in the wake of the massacre. Marjory Stoneman Douglas High

heads high, others looked down at the ground, all silencing ourselves for the same cause. I couldn't tell you what every single person was thinking during those 17 minutes. They never really tell you what exactly to think about during a so-called "moment of silence." I personally thought about what had happened, of course, but also about my days in high school, how our own professors would hold yearly lockdown drills that nobody really took seriously. I don't think it was because we were heartless, or ignorant; I think the severity and terror of the situation we were preparing for was just too scary to genuinely contemplate. We were lucky to never have had to huddle in the back of a classroom in true fear, hoping the door the professor had just locked would hold up against a shooter's fists or their artillery.

School's own students--most notably Emma Gonzalez, whose speech at a Fort Lauderdale rally shortly has gone viral since its publication online--are spearheading the movement for gun reform, and letting nobody get in their way. Fordham University's community, too, has joined the ranks of young citizens who refuse to accept the government's callous value of the archaic Second Amendment over the lives and futures of America's youth.

When the 17 minutes of silence began at approximately 10:10, an earnest and solemn silence fell over the students in attendance. We would be lulled into a moment of deep contemplation for 59 seconds before the intermittent clang of the bell would remind us of another student lost to a preventable tragedy. There was barely a sound as we stood in the cold, hands in our pockets. Some of us held our

When the 17 minutes were up, another student speaker stepped to the top of the gymnasium steps and thanked everyone for coming. However, he rightly stressed, this is only the first of many steps that should be taken towards preventing something like this from ever happening again. He then urged Fordham students to start letter-writing campaigns, contact their representatives, and continue to actively speak out against gun violence.

This walkout was the calm before the storm. This walkout should be the calm before the storm--a moment for us to grieve what happened, and to remember the lives of those unjustifiably taken too cruelly and too soon. This walkout should, as the student speaker reminded us, be but the first step we take, before we take actions that are direly required of us for this to never happen again.

Democrat Conor Lamb Wins PA Special Election

by Andrew Millman
News Editor

On Tuesday, March 13th, Pennsylvania's 18th congressional district held a special election to replace former Representative Tim Murphy, who resigned last October. Murphy, a member of the Republican Party, had reportedly encouraged his mistress to abort a pregnancy and had several other ethical issues. The sex scandal had been a brief embarrassment for the party of family values and particularly for Murphy, who had claimed to be pro-life. House Speaker Paul Ryan and the rest of Congressional Republican leadership quickly convinced Murphy to resign, and the incident was quickly forgotten. The district was not expected to be in contention, because Donald Trump had won by over twenty points in the 2016 presidential election, and the Cook Partisan Voter Index, which measures the partisanship of congressional districts, rated the district as R+11. The eighteenth district is composed of the affluent Pittsburgh suburbs within Allegheny County and three predominantly-white counties in southwestern Pennsylvania on the state border with West Virginia. The district had been gerrymandered to elect a Republican congressman in 2011 when the Republicans controlled the state government after the 2010 midterm wave election. Just a few weeks before the special election, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that the gerrymandered congressional districts violated the state constitution and created a new district map for the midterm elections, effectively eliminating the district. However, the special election went forward to choose who would represent the district's constituents for the next year.

Former prosecutor won a Trump-backing congressional district

The Republicans chose state legislator Rick Saccone, who had been in public office for several years and won his seat from an incumbent Democrat, while the Democrats chose former federal prosecutor Conor Lamb. As the race tightened, national Republicans frequently criticized Saccone as a bad candidate with a "porn stache" and attempted to portray Lamb as really a conservative, because he is pro-gun, pro-tariffs, and anti-Pelosi. He is also personally pro-life, but pro-

able to differentiate himself enough from the national Democratic brand, which is toxic in places like Southwestern Pennsylvania, to pull off one of the biggest political upsets in recent memory, perhaps only rivaled by Doug Jones's victory in the Alabama special election.

The race went down to the wire and was incredibly close. Lamb defeated Saccone by just over six hundred votes, or about 0.2% of the roughly

margin among the affluent Pittsburgh suburbanites, winning back many white working-class voters that the Democrats lost to Trump, and also bringing new voters to the polls. Lamb's victory was seen as a major rebuke of President Trump by the national media. Trump is still deeply unpopular across the country, and his multiple campaign trips to the district did not help Saccone and may have even hurt his candidacy. With Trump's unpopularity, Congressional Republicans face a daunting task ahead of them in trying to maintain their hold on both the Senate and the House of Representatives in November's midterm elections. There are almost 150 congressional districts across the country that Trump won by less than his margin the Pennsylvania's 18th district.

While the district that Lamb just won will not exist this time next year, Conor Lamb will be an incumbent congressman, and will run in a newly-created district that is leans much more towards Democrats and includes more of the Pittsburgh suburbs. Saccone, meanwhile, plans to run again for another district that will be slightly-less Republican than the district he just lost to Lamb. Despite this, it is very likely that these two political enemies will both be serving in Congress together this time next year. The election result is just the latest sign that a "blue wave" could potential come in the 2018 midterms, in which Democrats are poised to retake both the House and Senate, as well as multiple governorships and state legislatures.



choice when it comes to public policy. However, this misses the fact that Lamb was against the Republican tax bill, supports entitlements such as Medicare and Social Security, and pro-ACA, in addition to supporting gay marriage and most other major liberal litmus tests. Lamb tailored his policy agenda to fit his constituency and focused more on the values and culture that he shared with his constituents, having been born and raised within the district. He was

227,000 votes cast. Late in the night, Lamb was declared the apparent winner by most major media outlets, but a recount and legal challenges are expected from Saccone and the Republicans. Saccone did not concede on the night of the election and remained defiant, walking off stage to Eminem's "Not Afraid," which was...something. Lamb won by increasing Hillary Clinton's

Trump to Make Talks With North Korea

by Katelyn Cody
Staff Foreign Policy Expert

On Thursday March 8, the world got a little bit weirder as the North Korean delegation to the U.S. announced that their supreme leader (are we living in a superhero action movie?), Kim Jong-un, invited U.S. president, Donald Trump, to meet with him in North Korea. It got even crazier when the White House released a press statement later that day stating that the president had accepted the invitation. Now the two super villains of Earth's very own real life comic book will be meeting, and plotting world domination?

According to the press release from Washington, which we know is a lot more legitimate than a 140-character Tweet, the meeting is set to happen by the end of May and that they are looking forward to the "denuclearization of North Korea." What makes the White House think the North Korean government will give up its nuclear missiles, when regular

Trump and Kim Jong Un to meet in May

American citizens will not even give up their assault weapons?

Assuming that the meeting goes on as planned, the event will join a list of historic beginnings of U.S. relationships with communist countries, including Ronald Reagan's meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev in 1985, President Nixon's visit to China in 1972, and President Obama's move to restore relations with Cuba. This would also make our only two contacts with North Korea, Donald Trump and Dennis Rodman, which I think says something about the state of the world in itself.

It will be especially unprecedented as the U.S. and North Korea are two countries that have repeatedly threatened nuclear war upon each other, sometimes in the form of 2 am Tweets. Now I see two possible outcomes for this meeting. First: one of them storms out of the room (let's be honest, probably Trump)

and a scary red button is pressed very soon after, plunging the world into chaos. Option two: these grown men act like two kindergarten bullies on the playground who decide to team up to make every other kid's life a living hell, then two scary red buttons are pushed and the world plunges into chaos. I kid, but I sincerely hope that the outcome of this meeting leads to a little bit more peace in our world. Maybe we won't be woken up to Tweets about Kim insulting Trump by calling him "old" when Trump would never stoop so low as to call Kim "short and fat." Doesn't this sound like kindergarten bullying to you? In another one of the president's infamous early morning tweets, he referred to Kim Jong Un as "Rocket Man," which is absolutely offensive to the 1972 classic rock masterpiece that is "Rocket Man (I Think it's Gonna be a Long, Long Time)" by Sir Elton John.

However, all joking aside, this could really be a signifier of decreased

tensions throughout the world with North Korea. This announcement from the White House of Trump accepting an invitation from Kim came very soon after the groundbreaking decision for both North and South Korea to compete together at the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang under a unified Korean flag.

We can only hope that something good will come out of this meeting. Perhaps, this will open North Korea up for talks with other nations, ending their long period of isolationism. Maybe even leading to more acceptance of Western ideas and culture, so their country no longer seems like they are using George Orwell's 1984 as a guidebook. Perhaps, it will in fact lead to the nuclear disarmament of the country, allowing those living in South Korea, Japan, and Hawaii to breathe a sigh of relief.

Fordham Students Rally Against White Supremacy

by Annie Muscat
Arts Editor

On Monday, March 12 at 1 pm, a relatively small but impassioned group of Fordham students and faculty assembled in front of the Cunniffe fountain to stand against white supremacy at the university. Students held posters, chanted, and few expressed their frustration into a megaphone. Some signs read "Zero Tolerance for White Supremacy: Neo-Nazis Must Be Held Accountable" and "Racism is a Social Sin" in bold, confrontational letters.

The protest was organized by Fordham Students United (@fustudentsunite), which advocates for social justice by raising awareness about pervasive issues on campus that disadvantage marginalized people. The anti-white supremacy demonstration occurred in direct response to the recent surfacing of a photo depicting Fordham students posing around a Kekistan flag, which emerged as a white nationalist meme and has been flown alongside the Nazi war banner at neo-Nazi gatherings.

Not only did the picture itself incite

Controversial Photo sparked campus-wide outrage

distress, but Fordham administration's negligence to condemn the students also exacerbated tensions. Fordham Students United shared the uncensored photo along with a lengthy caption on Facebook, posing the question: "How can minorities feel safe on campus when white nationalist groups empowered by militarism and state violence are actively harming POC, LGBTQ folks, immigrants, Muslims, Jews, etc.?" The post garnered substantial attention with over 1,300 comments, ranging from stark disapproval to finding humor in the action.

Two of the pictured students are members of Fordham's College Republicans, who last semester, engaged in a campaign at Rodrigue's Coffee House, during which students wearing Make America Great Again hats were accused of violating the

coffee house's safe space policy. The altercation between the students and Rod's co-president was filmed and widely circulated, even being featured on Fox News. Consequently, the Rod's co-president and the coffee house in general received violent threats from across the nation. It was later found

that the event was instigated by members of Fordham's College Republicans as a ploy to defame the apparent left-leaning coffee house.

During Monday's

demonstration, fliers were distributed to passersby, exhibiting the image of the Fordham students with the Kekistan flag and outlining the demonstration's purpose and concerns. At its peak, the demonstration included around 30 participants; yet they made up for their modest size in sound. Enthusiastic chants of "Black Students Matter"

and "No Justice, No Peace" echoed in between mostly impromptu speeches delivered by students and faculty.

Students walking by responded to the protest in various ways. Some yelled out words of encouragement, while others ignored or even sneered at the group.

"I think [the reactions were] pretty exemplary of the typical Fordham apathy I see," commented protestor Claire Del Sorbo (FCRH '19), "people just aren't invested enough in how their school is treating students of color and students who speak out against the university."

The demonstration came to an end after a little over an hour. The participants slowly dispersed, but not before joining hands and reciting Black Liberationist Assata Shakur's call to action. While this specific protest may have been confined to one hour on a chilly Monday in March, Fordham Students United and others have made it clear that the fight against racism at Fordham is far from over.



FAKER THAN TRUTH

By Andrew Millman

Trump brings back Myspace

The country was in shock this week when Twitter finally banned Donald Trump, the President of the United States, from its platform. The social media company initially suspended his account after a series of defamatory and incoherent tweets directed at Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Malala Yousafzai, among others. He also said that the country needed a new flag because the current one “sucks” and preferably it should “have gold, lots of gold like my buildings.”

After conservative backlash, the account was temporarily reinstated for less than two hours, during which time Trump tweeted that Twitter “is run by crazy social justice warriors and violent Antifa militants.” He was officially banned from the platform after that tweet. After that, the president was in a bad mood and considered firing a few more staffers and cabinet secretaries to make himself feel but was distracted from that when his son-in-law Jared Kushner and policy advisor Stephen Miller suggested that the president set up a Myspace account.

The task of setting up his account on the outdated platform was difficult for the technologically-illiterate septuagenarian, but with the help of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, he was able to do so. Once the president figured it out, he was back to tweeting in his normal, erratic manner. The end result has been better for everyone. Trump can post crazy shit online to his heart's content and most people can just ignore the irrelevant site. Well, almost everyone, poor Justin Timberlake sold his ownership share in 2016, before Trump's account brought millions of new white supremacists to the site and inflated the company's value.

Move Over LSAT: GRE Now A Part of Law School

by Cadila Vaz
Staff Grad Assistant

The SAT and ACT are well known standardized tests that play large roles in the college application process. For some college students, a bachelor's degree will complete their educational career but on the other hand, many go on to pursue other degrees by choosing to enroll in graduate school. Much like the undergraduate application process, graduate programs require students to submit the grades they received on a standardized test as well as their GPA. However these tests can be a bit more specialized than the SAT and ACT.

There are four main graduate school admission exams: the GRE, MCAT, GMAT, and LSAT. The MCAT and GMAT are admission tests for medical school and business school respectively. The Graduate Record Examination, commonly known as the GRE, is accepted by many schools to enroll in their masters and doctoral degree programs. The LSAT has been the admission test necessary for law school applications that is, until recently.

Offered four times a year, the Law School Admission Test has existed since 1948, and was taken by a hundred thousand people in the last year. The LSAT has held a monopoly over the law school admission process, but its hold is loosening. This year, several law schools have announced that they will begin to accept GRE test scores if students wish to submit those scores instead of LSAT scores.

During the past year, the University of Arizona was the first law school to make this change, effectively admitting students in this fashion. The school went through a process of examining the GRE scores

Top law schools begin accepting GRE Tests

of students who were admitted based solely on their LSAT scores in 2016, and they deemed that if they were to have reviewed their applications based on their GRE scores, those students would have been admitted under those circumstances as well. Following the example of the University of Arizona, many schools have said that students can apply by submitting their GRE scores, including several of the country's top law schools, like Northwestern, Georgetown, Columbia, and Harvard, recently announcing this change in their admission process.

their school setting. Dean Minow said that, “All students benefit when we can diversify our community in terms of academic background, country of origin, and financial circumstances.”

This seems like a motive coming from a place of well meaning, but is there more to this change than beneath the eye?

Expanding their pool of applicants may also be a way for law schools to raise their numbers. When comparing the number of LSAT takers throughout the years, schools can see that there has been a great decrease

of test takers. The hundred-thousand students who took the LSAT last year is a bit less than the hundred and seventy thousand students who took the LSAT in 2009 and 2010, so surely law schools have felt their pockets getting tighter through the years. While there are over two hundred law schools in America today, many smaller law schools have buckled under the pressure.

It is important to note that GRE scores are also valid for a total of five years. This means that it is possible for students already enrolled in a graduate program or, who have already graduated, to apply to law school if they wish to do so,

as long as they are applying within this five year period when their test scores are still valid. There is not necessarily a specific major required or preferred for consideration into law school in order to bring together future lawyers in an environment where there is a student body with a diverse educational background. In a likewise fashion it may benefit to have students with bachelors and master's degrees learning with each other.

Since the acceptance of GRE scores in lieu of LSAT scores is very recent, it will be interesting to see how things will play out for law schools: will this process actually diversify the student body? Or just pad the total number of applications submitted to each school? I'm sure we'll find out in the following years.



GRE

Accepting GRE scores will make applying to graduate school easier for students. For example, if a student is on the fence of attending law school or another graduate school program that requires GRE scores, that student will only have to focus on one exam. Moreover, students have more opportunities to take the GRE, as it is administrated about once every month. With this flexibility in their schedule, students can take the exam when they feel they will be the most prepared.

Additionally, only having to take one standardized test will allow students to allocate money to perhaps use for tuition costs, as they would be saving at least \$180, the cost of taking one LSAT. Harvard Law School Dean Martha Minow has described this tactic as a means of diversifying

Betsy DeVos Exposed on 60 Minutes

by Emma Cassidy
Staff Educator

Education Secretary gets an education

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos faced heavy criticism after her *60 Minutes* interview last week in which she was unable to answer questions about schools in her own state. DeVos sat down with veteran journalist Lesley Stahl to discuss the steps she has taken in the past year and to weigh in on recent issues surrounding gun control.

During DeVos' thirteen minute interview, the education secretary was stumped in the face of questions about school choice and campus sexual assault. DeVos' also seemed to lack answers to questions asked about the performance of schools in Michigan, DeVos' home state.

Lesley Stahl: Have the public schools in Michigan gotten better?

Betsy DeVos: I don't know. Overall, I— I can't say overall that they have all gotten better.

Lesley Stahl: The whole state is not doing well.

Betsy DeVos: Well, there are certainly lots of pockets where this— the students are doing well and—

Lesley Stahl: No, but your argument that if you take funds away that the schools will get better, is not working in Michigan where you had a huge impact and influence over the direction of the school system here.

Betsy DeVos: I hesitate to talk about all schools in general because schools are made up of individual students attending them.

Lesley Stahl: The public schools here are doing worse than they did.

Betsy DeVos: Michigan schools need to do better. There is no doubt about it.

Lesley Stahl: Have you seen the really bad schools? Maybe try to figure out what they're doing?

Betsy DeVos: I have not, I have not, I have not intentionally visited schools that are underperforming.

Lesley Stahl: Maybe you should.



Betsy DeVos: Maybe I should, yes.

DeVos failed to answer many of the journalist's questions, or did so with little research and statistical background. As one of the richest and most controversial member of President Trump's Cabinet, her responses added fuel to her enemy's fire.

DeVos took to Twitter to defend herself from critics of her interview and attack *60 Minutes* for cutting out some of her school statistics. She tweeted, saying: "also missing from @60Minutes: students at charter schools in Detroit are doing 2x better than their peers. The reforms are helping, but there's so much more to do. We must help all students be better prepared for strong futures."

Along with questions about the status of Michigan schools, Stahl also asked DeVos questions about the recent

Florida school shooting and whether or not teachers should be armed.

With the social media movement that has uprooted due to the deadly school shooting in Parkland, Florida. DeVos has often found herself staring down the barrel of angry students. 17 people were killed at the school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, and now people want answers to their questions about gun reform.

With little over a year passing since her Senate confirmation hearing, DeVos has collected no shortage of critics. From the start, Democrats and some Republicans were hesitant to welcome President Trump's choice of cabinet member with open arms due to DeVos' lack of experience as a school administrator or as an elected official.

Critics of DeVos fear for what her reforms will do to public education. DeVos is a known advocate and donor for private and charter schools and has little-to-no interaction with public schools. She said, "we should be funding and investing in students, not in school buildings, not in institutions, not in systems."

Many believe the reason Betsy DeVos wanted to be secretary of education was so she could promote school choice, offering parents options other than traditional public schools, such as private and charter schools. She has proposed massive cuts in public education funding and wants to shift billions to alternative players like private, parochial and charter schools.

Last week, President Trump is expected to appoint her as head of a new commission on school safety charged with developing policies to prevent school violence.

Reader Than Fact

By Claire Nunez

Chipotle Streak is Over

So, a man from Ohio named Bruce Wayne, yes, the Batman name, ate Chipotle for 500 days straight. That is a lot of Chipotle shits— too man if you ask me. Like, why would anyone willingly put themselves in the position to have a burning bumhole for 500 DAYS?! That is far too long, but this guy did it.

You may think this is weird. I do. Batman ate burritos and bowls for 500 days straight with no rest. The cool thing is Batman did it to break a record. The previous record for the longest Chipotle streak was 426 days. Also, too long in my humble opinion. but Bruce Wane was out to break this very random record— it is probably the easiest record to break. Let's be honest.

Chipotle actually donated \$4,260 to a Seneca-based Financial Assistance for Cancer Treatment group. They did this amount because Bruce Wayne actually spent an average of \$10 a day at Chipotle. He mostly ordered bowls, according to his Instagram (follow our dude: @mrwaynethbat). I cannot even imagine how much sodium he has consumed in the past year and a half. That is horendous.

Well, Batman is done with eating Chipotle for now. He is totally ready for something new and is about to begin a new journey sans the Mexican food chain. *the paper* sincerely wishes Bruce Wayne luck out there. We wish we had your stamina to eat all of the beans and rice.

You're Fired!: Tillerson Out as Secretary of State

by Christian Decker
News Editor

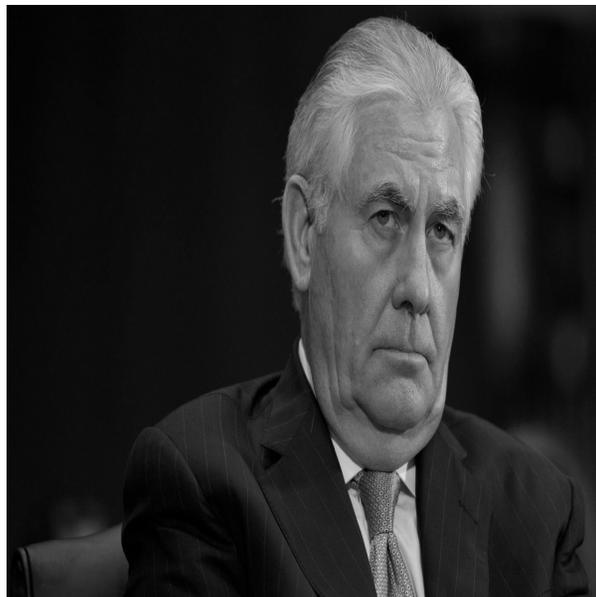
The latest casualty of Trump's March Madness was fired while on the toilet

At what seems to be a daily occurrence at this point the White House is involved in yet another controversy. Secretary of State Rex "Every Evil Oil Baron in Western Movies" Tillerson was fired by President Trump. According to sources, Tillerson didn't even know he was fired until the President, in his infinite wisdom, tweeted about the firing. According to this tweet, CIA Director Mike "I Get Off to Torture" Pompeo, would be Trump's choice for Secretary of State with Gina Haspel becoming the new director of the CIA, the first woman to do so. Here's the full tweet: "Mike Pompeo, Director of the CIA, will become our new Secretary of State. He will do a fantastic job! Thank you to Rex Tillerson for his service! Gina Haspel will become the new Director of the CIA, and the first woman so chosen. Congratulations to all!"

This hiring and firing comes on the eve on the President's meeting with the North Korean dictator Kim "I Can Violate More Human Rights Than My Dad" Jong Un. This has raised some eyebrows because it is crucial that you have a good representative at this meeting to ensure that things go smoothly. Having a former CIA director as the face of the U.S. foreign policy might not send a great message to the North Korean government. Furthermore, Mike Pompeo is also a proponent of waterboarding and other torture techniques used at prisons such as Guantanamo Bay on terrorists or suspected terrorists. Sending someone who likes torture could also send a red flag along with him.

Apparently, Trump thought this was the right time to fire Tillerson as illustrated from this quote from

CNN: "Trump "thought it was the right time for the transition with the upcoming North Korea talks and various trade negotiations," a senior administration official said, adding that Trump asked Tillerson to step aside on Friday. A senior White House official later clarified that chief of staff John Kelly told Tillerson that he would be replaced but did not specify the timing."



This comes at an apparent stretch of long disagreements between Tillerson and the President, with Trump citing the Iran Nuclear deal as an example. This firing also comes off the back of comments Tillerson made about the death of a former spy dying. Tillerson inferred that the Russian poisoned this spy. Surprisingly, the firing occurred just a day after these comments were made, according to sources surrounding the White House. And of course, who could forget when it was reported that Tillerson had allegedly called the President a

"moron" behind closed doors. The media sure had fun with that one.

According to CNN, Tillerson had never really seen eye to eye on any issues in the first place. He also didn't have many allies in the White House except for possibly Chief of Staff John "What Sexual Misconduct?" Kelly and Jim "Stop Calling Me Mad Dog" Mattis. It was rumored that the three had formed a "suicide pact" in

which if one of them was fired, then the other two would quit on the spot. It seems that this is not the case however. Trump felt that Tillerson and himself "did not see eye to eye" on most issues. It was also reported that Tillerson did not agree with Trump on anything and wanted to do things his own way, according to CNN. "I have a lot of confidence in my ability to create the conditions for successful negotiations between two very disparate

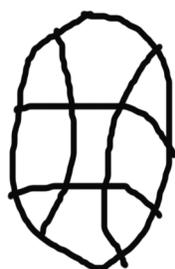
parties," Tillerson said, adding that he and others were working to prepare Trump to deal with Kim. "But I'm not the only guy working on this. Others are working on this as well. We have an obligation to prepare the President for that meeting and I think there is some ground work we can do ahead of that that will help with that preparation.", quoted from CNN. It has also been seen that the biggest reason for Tillerson's departure is the North Korea situation, Unsurprisingly, the President and the Secretary of State did not agree on a proper method of dealing with the North Koreans. The President felt that Tillerson

hasn't been strong enough with Kim Jong Un and hopes to have a "strong team" ready for when the meeting in May arrives.

Trump has reportedly had a better working relationship with Mike Pompeo, and reportedly has wanted him in the position for months. Supposedly they are "on the same wavelength on many issues." Presumably, these issues include how to approach North Korean and Kim Jong Un as well as how the country should handle terrorism and well as interrogation tactics.

Although it seems that the timing for this firing is bad, it looks like Tillerson's tenure as Secretary of State is not going to be missed. Reportedly, experts on both sides of the aisle criticized his State Department as underperforming. According to CNN, "Tillerson's cost cutting has led to the agency's senior tiers "being depleted at a dizzying speed," and "a decapitation of its leadership ranks," Amb. Barbara Stephenson, president of the American Foreign Service Association (AFSA), a union for US foreign service personnel, wrote in her group's publication. "There is simply no denying the warning signs that point to mounting threats to our institution – and to the global leadership that depends on us," Stephenson wrote."

While the ousting of a Secretary of State seems like a big deal, it is only one of a string of resignations and replacements that have been going on at the White House recently. It also brings into question of whether Education Secretary Betsy "The Principal You Hated in High School" DeVos is competent enough to continue working. These questions come after a disastrous interview in which she could not answer basic questions about the education system. Only time will tell what is next for this White House.



McMaster

Carson

Kelly

Zinke

Presidential March Madness



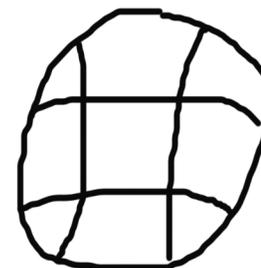
DeVos

Shulkin

Sessions

Putin

Who Will Be Next?





An Ode to Ronald Reagan, America's Greatest Union Leader

By Jack McClatchy
Staff Gipper

When I think of the working class and who really has their best interests at heart, a single name keeps crossing my mind and I can't stop seeing their smiling face.

It's not César Chávez, who organized migrant farm workers in California and Florida in the 1960s and 1970s.

It's not Eugene V. Debs, who founded the American Railway Union, the Socialist Party, and the Industrial Workers of the World, either.

It isn't Bayard Rustin, an openly gay black man who was the organizational mastermind of the Civil Rights Movement and the March on Washington.

It's not even Mother Jones, who co-founded the Industrial Workers of the World, and was an organizer with the Knights of Labor and United Miners Union.

No, there's a person who stands head and shoulders above them and has been shunned by almost everyone who believes in a minimum wage, collective bargaining, or a right to strike.

Who is this titan of organized labor, who really stuck it to the fat cats of industry and always stood up for the little guy?

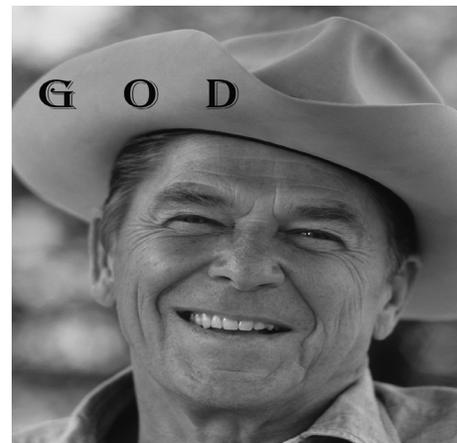
It's Ronald Wilson Reagan. Or at least that's what the Department of Labor thought when they added him to their Hall of Honor, which "posthumously honors those Americans whose distinctive contributions to the field of labor have enhanced the quality of life of millions yesterday, today, and for generations to come".

Satire must truly be dead. Reagan was probably one of the most anti-

Old Ronnie is finally getting the recognition he deserves

organized labor president in recent history, if not all time, and this decision by the Department of Labor cheapens the work of everyone I just mentioned and dozens more.

The Secretary of Labor, R. Alexander Acosta, cited Reagan's stints as leader of the Screen Actors' Guild (SAG) in the 1950s and 1960s and added that he is the only President to lead a union (which is true, I'm shocked whenever this Administration tells the truth in spite of itself).



In a News Release on the Department's website, it wrote:

"From humble roots, to Hollywood, to Sacramento, to Washington, President Ronald Reagan left a lasting impact on America," said Secretary Acosta. "President Reagan was deeply committed to the 'heroes' (sic!) of the American workforce. He will be remembered in our nation, across the globe, and throughout history for his unwavering commitment to the fight for liberty. I am proud that President Reagan's signature will remain honored

and cherished from this day forward in the U.S. Department of Labor's Hall of Honor."

Leaving the quotes around "heroes" alone, let's take a look at just how Ronnie left that lasting impact on organized labor.

First, let's get the good out of the way before I get the mountains of hate mail that Republicans send whenever their patron saint is criticized in any way.

As leader of the SAG, Reagan did organize a strike over a dispute about payment for reruns of previously recorded films and television shows. Hollywood executives relented, and now actors who have anything in syndication can thank him.

Now that that's out of the way, let's now look at how Reagan screwed over workers, members of his own union, and anyone who stood for workers' rights in any way.

There was that time when he was an FBI informant and handed over a list of names of people in Hollywood who were either communists or communist sympathizers. That looks bad, but I'm sure he did that because he wanted to be sure that only he would defend the worker and not those dirty pinko commie bastards.

There was also that time when he was Governor of California and vetoed the Agricultural Labor Relations Act in 1974. Who was organizing for that bill? Why, it was César Chávez, the one and the same who sits with Reagan in the Hall of Honor.

As if those two times show how Reagan shouldn't be in the Hall, there was also that one time when he was

President and the air traffic controllers went on strike in 1981. When Reagan was running for President against that filthy liberal Jimmy Carter, he courted and secured the endorsement of the air traffic controllers' union which meant he would listen and negotiate with them in good faith, right?

Wrong. He ordered them back to work in 48 hours, and when over 11,000 did not he fired ALL of them and arrested the organizers. He said that they violated federal law by walking out on their federal jobs, never mind the fact that this exact thing had happened almost forty times in the preceding two decades. He also spent billions of dollars to get air travel and the FAA to its pre-strike levels, which was a whole hell of a lot more than he would have spent if he had just, you know, listened to the striking workers and maybe raised their wages a little?

That's right, the great union leader St. Ronnie Reagan was a strikebreaker and used scab labor to replace the thousands he fired. That doesn't sound like a good union leader or even remotely pro-organized labor.

I guess since we're adding decidedly anti-labor people to the Department of Labor's Hall of Honor, how about we name Jeff Sessions and Mike Pence as some of the greatest LGBTQ+ advocates, George Wallace as an ally for civil rights for blacks, or maybe Pat Buchanan as a vanguard for women's rights? Maybe they are all just misconstrued as being opposed to the issues, just like the Great Communicator.

The March Madness Holiday America Needs

By Jack Archambault
Opinions Editor

As I write this on March 16th, I am in the middle of the second of my two favorite days of the year. I am talking, of course, about the two days on which the first round of the NCAA basketball tournament (March Madness) takes place. Over the course of these two days, 32 basketball games are played, and I need to watch every. single. one. It is no coincidence, then, that these are also the two days of the year when I am at my least productive. I'm not going to explain just how bad that got this year because I think my parents read this, but as a hypothetical let's say that I have to read a 220-page book by Sunday and I haven't started it yet. My lack of productivity is roughly equivalent to that hypothetical lack of productivity.

People have proposed holidays for opening day of the baseball season, or for the day after the Super Bowl, but neither of those days are nearly as important as the third Thursday and Friday in March.

When it comes to class, well, you can just forget it. Oh, I'll go. But only so that I can watch basketball on my laptop for an hour and fifteen minutes. There is something magical

Being in class = March Sadness

about looking around at people's computer screens and seeing 60 percent of them populated by images of a game between Cincinnati and Georgia State. I feel a sense of kinship among all the people who are holding their breath, hoping that Loyola-Chicago can upset Miami, knowing



that we all have minor sums of money riding on the outcome. Nobody will remember most of these games in two years, let alone two months, but one thing is certain: right now, the entire world revolves around them, and professors be damned, I am going to fully immerse myself in the experience. But wouldn't it be great if I didn't even have to damn professors to enjoy these two days? Wouldn't it be nice if the world, or America at least, could actually revolve around March Madness?

Enter, the new high holiday for basketball fans. March Madness Weekend. People have proposed holidays for opening day of the baseball season, or for the day after

the Super Bowl, but neither of those days are nearly as important as the third Thursday and Friday in March. There are a few reasons why we need this holiday. First, nobody who cares about March Madness is even relatively focused or productive on these days. I'm not focused at school,

and while I've never had a job during March, I am certain that it would be a similar story. Second, March Madness Weekend would be non-disruptive to our existing structure of school breaks. This year, Fordham's spring break runs from Thursday, March 22nd to Monday, April 2nd. That is roughly a week and a half, and it encompasses Easter. What I propose is this: start spring break on the Thursday when March Madness begins, and have it run through Easter. Of course, this would require moving Easter to the last Sunday in March, and sure, this would fly in the face of thousands of years of Catholic tradition, but my idea can't be any more confusing than our current

system for deciding when Easter is. As for how March Madness Weekend would affect employed adults, my solution is simple. Just give them the two days off. For a country that already offers its workers among the fewest paid vacation days in the world, how much would two days off really hurt?

So how could anyone object to March Madness Weekend? I can think of a few ways, but the main one is that such a holiday would only further the worship of athletics and the exploitation of college athletes. To the former I say, we have holidays for plenty of people who don't deserve one. Would a holiday celebrating Coach K. really be so bad? I mean, we already gave one to Columbus. As for the latter, it's high time that big-time college athletes got paid. Maybe having a holiday based around college basketball would speed up that process.

My only worry with March Madness Weekend is that we may have missed our opportunity. After all, wouldn't the time to start it have been during Barack Obama's presidency? If any President were to establish this holiday, wouldn't it have to have been the one who loved basketball and filled out a bracket every year? Alas, even if it is unlikely that The Donald will be our March Madness savior, we can still look to the future. When LeBron James makes his inevitable run for the White House in 2032, America can rejoice in knowing that March Madness Weekend will be at the top of his to-do list.



Woes of a Budding Intern

By Katelynn Browne
Features and Lists Editor

Back in December, I began the extremely taxing process of writing a resume, and started my search for a summer internship. Unbeknownst to me, I set my hopes too high because I really hoped that I would land a paid internship - knowing to a degree that it was unlikely, but I didn't realize how difficult it is to even get an internship, period.

As someone who has been working a paid job since the age of 15, I had learned from an early age that I deserve to get paid for the work that I do. I've lifeguarded at minimum wage for about four years, and I've worked as a swim instructor at a few dollars above minimum wage for two years now, and despite my age, (and my complaints about my job), I was treated as someone worth paying for my skills - even if the skills were things like being able to stare at water for hours on end, or never mastering putting on rubber gloves quickly enough to tend to a child's skinned knee, the child's mother watching me with ridicule and anger at my incompetence.

Now as I enter the "Real World," it has become evident to me that employers do not value the work that young people provide them. If employers have the opportunity to legally not pay their workers, they often will opt not to pay them, because, you know, capitalism. They pride themselves by saying they offer us "valuable experience" and offer us credit. However, just because

"Those snot rags are lucky we take them in" - employers, probably

experience is valuable, it does not mean that good work from your interns should go unpaid. They are giving up their time and their means to make money in order to work for you and better your company.

Most of students are in debt, and the summer especially is the time that students make most of their money. I usually make a couple thousand

grateful for the opportunity to work where I'm working, but I'm lucky enough to be able to afford to work an unpaid internship. My parents are able to cover my expenses.

However, there are people who are not as lucky as I am. In order to get a job these days, you need to go to college, an incredible commitment of time, as well as money - money

for that company. Any young adult in this country knows this.

The problem is that not everyone can afford to work a summer, or any semester for that matter, without pay, which can later affect certain students' ability to find good jobs after they graduate because they will not have any "relevant experience." This demonstrates that unpaid internships are inherently classist, which provides an unfair playing field for poorer students. In addition, it further perpetuates the debt issue for all students with loans. How on earth are you supposed to start paying back your loans, when you have no choice but to work without pay?

I can't imagine any of these employers would want to work a forty-hour work week every week for three months for free. I can't imagine they'd want to commute to Queens 2-3 times a week for a job that does not pay, then work 20-25+ hours at a job that pays minimum wage. Employers need to empathize with their interns, rather than think them to be whiny, entitled little assholes who are lucky they even took us on in the first place.

This country needs to continue to work on its labor laws. Many states, such as New York, are heading in the right direction by raising minimum wage to a living wage: \$15/hr. Now, I believe that it is important for legislators to work on passing laws that protect young adult workers - by paying interns a wage. Please stop exploiting the youth.



dollars working over the summer, which helps me pay back my loans. Luckily, my unpaid internship is part-time. Unluckily for me, it's in Queens, and I'll be driving probably a little over an hour each way (total driving time looking something like two and a half hours per day I go into the office.) And don't get me wrong, I'm extremely

which a lot of people do not have. Then while you're in college, you have to get an internship, the majority of which are unpaid, and in the case of the rare paid internship, you are unlikely to have the skills, required year or previous experience to earn that internship. Most paid internships require that you have previous interning experience in order to work

Metallica Butt Plugs

Metal up your ass!!!!



Hey Professors, Stop Calling on Me

By Olivia Langenberg

Features and Lists Editor

I'm trapped in Faculty Memorial Hall on a Thursday morning, shifting uncomfortably in my seat every two minutes, unable to stop thinking about breakfast sandwiches. I'm copying down the notes from the PowerPoint, tapping my pen against my chin, and drawing random lines in the margins of my notebook. The professor asks the class a question, and I do everything in my power to slip into the void to remain invisible. The lines in my notebook are suddenly the most interesting thing I've ever seen! But then, it happens. A giant spotlight shines down from above and hits me directly in the eye. There's nowhere to run now. I've just been randomly called on even though I've done nothing to suggest that I want to answer this question.

As a person who is both easily startled and exceptionally nervous,

I'll raise my hand when I'm good and ready

there are few things school-related that I dislike more than being singled out by a professor. As you can probably imagine, small parts of me crumble off and die when I see participation being 10-15% of my grade when I get a syllabus. This is for a couple reasons. One: I hate the way my voice sounds and every time I speak out loud in front of a bunch of strangers, I imagine them internally laughing at me and making fun of me to their friends after class. Two: I naturally assume I never actually know the right answer, so I have to be absolutely certain that I know it before I ever raise my hand. Three: Why on earth would I ever want 20 random people's eyes on me at 10am on a Monday? And four: perhaps the most important one, if I didn't raise my hand, I don't want to answer the question. Simple as that.

I understand why professors do this.

They're probably half as nervous as I am when they ask a question and no one responds. Quick problem solving would encourage you to just pick on Megan in the front row who happened to be making eye contact with you at the time. But what if Megan actually had no idea what the answer was? Now everyone is twice as uncomfortable, and poor Megan has to stammer out an "Uh, I don't know.." and deal with the shame of admitting you're lost in front of the whole class. I've also heard from professors before that sometimes they call on people who don't tend to participate in order to give them a delicate push. Well, here's the thing, Professor Smith, there's probably a reason that student doesn't participate, and I can guarantee that your delicate push was more of a forceful, terrifying shove.

Before anyone comes at me saying

that I'm too sensitive or that I need to get past my fear of public speaking, let me tell you this. It's one thing to be in a conference room with people you work with every day, talking about your job that you presumably know how to do. It's an entirely different thing to be in a core class with 30 people you've never talked to before, being singled out to participate when you don't want to.

I'm slowly learning how to overcome my anxiety in classes. I'm beginning to participate willingly, and I'm trying to be more confident in my ability to answer questions. However, that process is interrupted every time my name is drawn from a handful of cards, or I'm "randomly" called on to participate. Please, I'm begging. Stop calling on me if I haven't raised my hand. I will when I'm ready.

Journalism Has Betrayed Me, It's Okay I Guess

By Hillary Bosch

Opinions Editor

This past week, a publication (we do not speak its name here at *the paper*) published an article about me. I think it was intended to be complementary? Perhaps even admiring? However, upon reading it this past Wednesday, I found it to be insensitive, inappropriately toned, and: here's the kicker. It was written so poorly and edited so haphazardly that it accidentally implied I was both sexist and racist. It did not explicitly call me a racist, but it could be inferred through misleading pronouns. Misleading pronouns: you know, that thing you learned not to do in middle school grammar class.

As if that weren't enough, the writer misinterpreted quotes, fabricated a quote, and even miscredited a sexual harassment acknowledgement/survivor support movement to the wrong people! I told the writer the right names, I guess she just liked other ones? It's as if they had a bonfire using the textbook on journalistic ethics to make marshmallows, burnt the marshmallows, wiped them on a piece of paper, and then published it.

Although the 24 hours following its publication were the most emotionally

Who needs a positive public image when you have haikus?

distressing and heartbreaking of my college career, I have officially moved through all the stages of grief. Anger was the worst, mostly for my roommates and boyfriend. Sorry y'all. But now I have reached acceptance since they pulled the article from their website. Thanks guys, didn't want to have to explain that in a job interview 15 years from now.

Rather than continue to crap on this publication which is run by genuinely

good and compassionate people (and is really well done 90% of the time), I figured I'd write a bit more misleading stuff about me. My print media public image is already shot so why not take it a step further? Please enjoy my revised article and feel free to reach out to me with any questions about my #cool habits and hobbies:

Hillary Bosch is an FCRH junior swamp monster who hails from the semi-submerged city of Metairie, Louisiana. She survives solely on

nutrients she gains from eating street trash, which is why college in New York was such a big draw for her. She has a pet ocelot in her dorm that only eats frat bois and discarded Under the Tent tickets.

In her free time she is the President of T.O.P., Two Orange Pandas, and a member of F.E.T., Flamboyant Energetic Trains. She also writes poetry, but only haikus about slurpees. She has included her finest work below:

*Oh sweet cola ice
What a perfect drink mixer
I stay up all night*

*Oh dream of sugar cold
Home at 7/11
Is my aching heart*

*How I long for you,
It's 20 degrees, and yet
It's your touch I crave.*

Moral of the story: vigilant journalism is imperative, and anything less than honesty is worse than haikus about slurpees.



the paper's view

Love is stronger than hate.

There has been a lot of controversy with schools lately. From the white supremacy scandal on our own campus, to the fact that young people can get guns so easily and bring them to school; there is a lot of hate in our world. People do not pay attention to the needs of others. It is rather upsetting to many of us here at *the paper*. We are constantly in awe of what is going on in our own country and we cannot do anything to really make a difference at times. We try our best to influence our writers to act in solidarity, but are we successful? Not always.

One thing I strongly believe in is that love is in fact stronger than hate. We should all strongly condemn hate. It is much easier said than done. We can send our thoughts and prayers, but that does not make a true difference in our world. We need to get down to business and take love more seriously. Love each other. It seems so simple, but it isn't. I know it isn't

We have this guy, Stew, who writes *the paper* all the time. Stew has no affiliation at all with Fordham. He didn't go here. He didn't teach here. He really just likes writing us letters to the editor— sometimes he even addresses them to me, Claire. Picture it: "Dear Claire". Anyway, Stew wrote us about love and how dudes should pick girls. Despite the weird undertones of the article, Stew made a point: we should only surround ourselves with people who are nice and caring. Forget money and fame. We need to support those who support love.

And that is all I want to say this issue. Love more. Love freely. Love proudly.

xoxo,
Claire
Editor-in-Beef

Hello Fordham! Dr. Journalism here to give some spicy hot tips on good journalistic practices. Today's lesson is on interviews! Interviews are a form of journalism where a writer asks subjects a question and then documents their responses. As such, it's quite easy to give accurate accounts about what transgressed. After all, the only thing you need to do is write exactly what the interviewee said! Of course, you might run into some roadbumps; for example, you might completely fabricate quotes and pretend as if the subject said it verbatim. Other mishaps could include sensationalizing childhood trauma for shock value, or (and this is a big no no) you could insinuate that the subject has been accused of bigotry, even if this has never occurred. You see, in the journalism world, this is what we call "slander," and should be avoided, generally speaking.

I don't mean to startle anyone with these these tips, these mistakes are very uncommon, and would only happen if a publication had their head very far up their own ass. Most importantly, I trust you to make the best decisions about your writing, and I can rest easy knowing that any reputable publication would see these mishaps from a mile away. After all, that's why we have journalistic ethics in the first place!

I hope that these hot tips help you in the future! And remember, if you wanted to make up stories, you could have just written a novel.

love,
MJJM
Doctor of Journalism

Ask Bob and Judy

Giving advice to a lost generation

Q: Hi B & J, I recently got a new roommate, and it's been difficult. How have you managed to live together for 30 years?

Bob: You know what helps take the edge off? Spending a little extra time at work and getting a little something on the side (*wink wink*).

Judy: Well after a while, I just got used to his hands smelling like other women's feet. He's a masseuse. And if he bothers me, I just scream "I COULD HAVE PICKED MIKE" and he leaves me alone. Pence. What a babe.

Q: I'm looking to have healthier eating habits, gotta get fit. What to you eat to stay healthy?

Bob: Every morning I sit down to a nice midwestern style breakfast: cornbread, corned beef, creamed corn, regular corn, cornmeal, candy corn, popcorn, corn chips to dip in my creamed corn, a glass of high-fructose corn syrup, all while listening to Korn

Judy: Carrots, turnips, and hot juicy stinky hot dogs. And mustard plops all over my shirt! HelllllYeahhhh

Do you have a question for Bob and Judy? We're ready to give advice to you damn snowflakes. Email us at paper.fordham@gmail.com for life advice and a cool hat.



Fordham Should Invest in the Planet, and Not Just by Buying Flowers

By Robin Happel
Copy Editor

In recent years, fossil fuels have become something of a pariah in American politics. Class action suits, most famously *Juliana v. United States*, echo the lawsuits that broke the tobacco trust. Spearheaded by either youth activists or coastal cities, such lawsuits argue that Big Oil should be liable for the damage it has done to the planet. And, like Thalidomide or Big Tobacco, it should pay for its public deception about the true danger of its products, as its decades-long campaign of climate denial finally collapses.

Once thrown out, such suits are now more and more mainstream, signaling something of a sea change in the courts. This month alone, the Ninth Circuit unanimously ruled that the *Juliana* plaintiffs had standing. Chevron's \$9.5 billion dollar damages ruling is currently being reviewed in Canada, and potentially across every continent Chevron has offices in. BP is still paying perhaps the largest corporate settlement in American history for its oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. And, should the *Juliana* plaintiffs someday win their constitutional claim, the U.S. government itself could be called upon to divest from fossil fuels.

In a recent interview with *The Ram*, Fordham's Chief Investment Officer Eric Wood stated that Fordham only indirectly invests in fossil fuels, and such investments are a relatively small portion of the overall endowment. Like many schools, Fordham invests conservatively, and prefers not to sell or shift portfolios when possible. But is investing in fossil fuels – even indirectly – really the safest option?

As more class action climate suits succeed – which, given the current momentum, seems almost a foregone conclusion – the effects on investors could be catastrophic. Following a false claim that they were paying damages for the Bhopal disaster, Dow Chemical stocks lost \$2 billion in market value in a little over twenty minutes. Although the share price rebounded once the announcement was revealed as a hoax, someday such rulings may start to stick. When

Divesting from fossil fuels is the path to sustainability

they do, investors should be prepared to pick up the tab. And, even beyond such financial losses, there is the public relations perspective.

Boycotts often begin slowly, but build rapidly. From the current campaign to cut ties with the NRA to how colleges divested from South Africa during apartheid, there are countless examples of how a fringe cause can become front and center within weeks, or even days. While divesting from fossil fuels may seem unrealistic now, it would perhaps be better to divest before public pressure mounts, and ties to fossil fuels become a potential liability. If Reagan's tacit support for apartheid drove so many deans to divest in the 80's, what will Trump's clamoring for coal jobs do? The outrage over pulling out of Paris may well be a watershed moment, much like the Dirty Dozen campaign in the early days of the environmental movement. Recently, for example, Governor Cuomo and NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer announced that they hope to divest their roughly \$390 billion in combined assets, and "decarbonize" public pension funds. The World Bank is phasing out funding of oil and gas exploration. The Norwegian government recently proposed pulling one trillion dollars out of fossil fuels, claiming that future returns are too risky. Even the family that founded Standard Oil is now selling their stocks, and calling fossil fuels "morally reprehensible." Which side of history should we choose?

Already, colleges across the country have begun to divest from fossil fuels, and countless more are considering selling off their shares. By being a bit ahead of the curve, Fordham arguably gains in PR what it lacks in financial rankings. (Notably, according to a report compiled by the American Association of University Professors, our Moody's bond rating is below Notre Dame, NYU, and Villanova, and our endowment has been performing worse on average than the S&P 500 since 2010, resulting in potentially hundreds of millions in losses. Compared to other colleges, our yearly returns since the 2008 crash vary widely, but seem mostly middle of the pack according

to rankings from the National Association of College and University Business Officers.) While Fordham's endowment is obviously unable to compete with the likes of Harvard and Yale, in short, perhaps we could chart a new course, and become a leader in socially responsible investing. Additionally, our relatively lower rate of return means there is a lessened opportunity cost in switching to such ventures. Compared to some other schools, we can perhaps afford a slightly higher degree of risk.

In finding additional investment firms that support sustainable power, Fordham can truly live out the ideals of Laudato si. We can put people and planet over profit, and carry on our code of cura personalis in all we do.

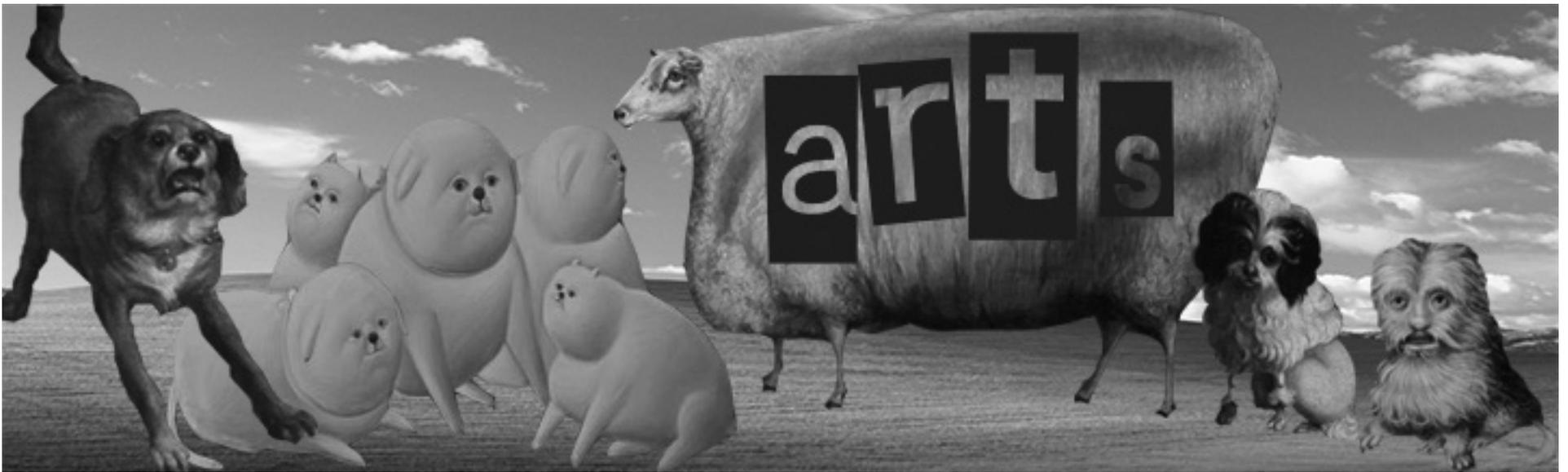
Through impact investing practicums in the Social Innovation Collaboratory and countless classes in the IPED program, Fordham teaches its students that the free market can be instrumental in social change. Shouldn't administrators practice what they preach? By expanding the existing 50-30-20 program and investing 20% or more in socially responsible causes, the administration can lead by example. In finding additional investment firms that support sustainable power, Fordham can truly live out the ideals of *Laudato si*. We can put people and planet over profit, and carry on our code of *cura personalis* in all we do.

This is not to say that investing in clean energy is necessarily unprofitable, however. Renewable energy is currently growing much faster than fossil fuels, and countless investment firms, from Bill Gates' Breakthrough Energy Ventures to the over \$4 billion firm Riverstone, are hoping to cash in on the inevitable market switch as coal collapses.

By 2016, solar was growing faster than any other form of power, and Bloomberg predicts that the global market for green energy will only continue to increase. Trump's tariffs cannot fight the market forever, and neither should we.

By transferring more of our endowment into mutual funds that foster clean energy start-ups, Fordham can plan for long-term returns, rather than continuing to put its chips on coal and other dying industries. (Currently, it should be noted, fewer Americans work in the coal industry than work at Arby's.) Additionally, publicizing divestment would encourage more green initiatives on campus, and perhaps even spur undergraduate and faculty research into renewables. By creating a campus climate favorable to clean energy, Fordham can potentially profit more than by maintaining something of a culture of silence around our own investments. Columbia University scientists have been instrumental in the development of catalytic converters and coal scrubbers – who knows what our own faculty is capable of, with the right encouragement?

Assuming, in the absence of more detailed financial statements, that Fordham is indeed largely divested from fossil fuels, it should pressure its sister schools to similarly divest, and invest more actively in renewables. For years, the Alternative Investments Club, Fossil Free Fordham, and other student societies have pressured the administration to invest more in green initiatives on campus, and Fordham's participation in PlaNYC has been a great success. By publicizing the current scaling down of fossil fuel investments, and working more openly with the Sustainability Committee to review our current investments, Fordham can lead the way among Catholic colleges in fulfilling the Pope's vision of a Church committed to combating climate change. We can become a paragon of people over profit, and planning for the future of the planet beyond our gates.



Jessica Jones: Certified Fresh by Michael Jack Jack Michael

by Michael Jack O'Brien
Executive Editor

They do Trish dirty though

Ahhh Netflix, you narcotics dealer you, you know exactly what you're doing when you release an entire season of Jessica Jones at the same time, you know that I'm a college student and therefore I'm obligated to stay up until 3am and binge watch the entire thing. I'm beginning to think that Netflix wasn't built by people looking to make money, but instead by time vampires hellbent on depriving the world of sleep and productivity. Well, congrats Netflix, it worked.

Jessica Jones season 2 starts off in traditional fashion with our titular protagonist taking pictures of something she shouldn't be taking pictures of and then giving a noire style voice over as smooth sax plays in the background. She is then paid for some menial P.I work and proceeds to drown her sorrows at a bar. Jessica, in her true form, is clad in a leather jacket and blue jeans with Doc-Martins; an outfit which, despite it being the middle of the summer during the show, she will never take off. One starts to wonder if she's constantly wearing this getup because she's still haunted by her past, or if she's just doing it as a political statement, because it's 90 degrees out and she doesn't CARE if you want to wear your romper to work, BLACK LEATHER FOR EVERYONE, BITCH.

Of course, this all changes when as this show usually goes, a demon from Jess's past is dug up, and with her adoptive sister Trish, she must go on

a detective adventure to uncover the truth. Throughout the season several common themes are played out through three unique and oftentimes separate plotlines. Jess, battling with her past, struggles to shake her "lone wolf" attitude and become more trusting of others help. Trish, half celebrity and half investigative journalist, must battle with ghosts of a child star past of sexual abuse and drug addiction. And the strong but sometimes ruthless attorney Jeri Hogarth must come to terms with what her accumulation of power really means in the face of life altering events. These plotlines

come together extremely well and breathe life into a show that could be criticized for being too formulaic. Watching *Jessica Jones*, I understand why these particular stories were reserved for longer series instead of blockbuster films, the difference in tone is palpable, and in addition, the development for these plots is a much slower burn than that of a "Marvel Movie", it's why Daredevil works as a series, but an Iron Man TV outing would most likely not go over well.

While each woman in the series has their own struggles in life, there is a visible sense of solidarity between

them, and the show does not shy away from reminding you of this constantly. From Hogarth helping Jessica with legal troubles, to Jessica literally punching a hole straight through a sex offenders Tesla. Each girl has their own style and methods, learning from one another to deal with an oftentimes hostile world, it's all very #MeToo, and I'm sure this was completely intentional. I'm also

sure that there will be no shortage of "die hard Marvel fans" (read: assholes), that are itching to jump on twitter and complain that the series has been oversaturated with the feminist agenda or something similar. As a word of

advice, if you want to enjoy the show, just ignore it.

While Jessica Jones's story is compelling, its antagonists/antagonist leave something to be desired. In the beginning of the series, we're introduced to Pryce Cheng, a rival P.I and all-around douchebag who I assumed was going to be Jessica's male counterpart in a "battle of the sexes" kind of way. However, five episodes in and he's still used sparingly, mostly as a punching bag for the rest of the cast instead of a capable rival to Jessica. As for the series other villains, the shadowy IGH organization

which Jessica spends most of her time hunting down is interesting enough; however, it can never truly be "great" as it stands in the shadow of Kilgrave, the mind controlling man in purple played by David Tennant (WOOOO) in the last season. By no means am I saying that these characters are bad, as a plot device IGH works well in the story because for most of the season, we only hear about the good deeds that the organization did, adding sympathy to what could have easily been a bog standard "evil corporation", but compared to the shows former big bad, it's simply lackluster.

All in all, I highly recommend *Jessica Jones* season 2, with the caveat that you watched the previous season, and for that matter, a fair number of the previous Marvel Netflix series. Multiple plot points and character motivations would be confusing if the watcher hadn't been informed in the past, and to this point, the family of shows works much better as a larger body of work than as single, isolated vignettes. Whether or not this is a turn off is up to one's interpretation of good television. Do you like short, well rounded stories that are tightly wrapped up? Or do you enjoy longer winding television, slower burns? That choice is up to you. Despite this, I had fun with the series, Jessica is always a joy to watch, and her supporting cast do a fantastic job of rounding out the series, creating a great adventure to binge-watch.



EVENTS

What: NYC Feminist Zinefest

Where: Barnard Hall, 4th floor, 3009 Broadway

When: Sunday March 25th 12-6 pm

How Much: Free!

Why: It's a pro-women, trans positive meetup for all ages!

What: TEDxFordham: Breaking Down Barriers

Where: Fordham Prep, Leonard Theatre

When: Wed. April 4th, @ 5:30 pm

How Much: Free but spaces are limited

Why: Features speakers of various backgrounds talking about how they broke barriers to succeed

What: Washington Sq. Spring Fair

Where: Washington Sq North from 5th Avenue to University Place

When: Sunday, March 25

How Much: Free!

Why: Outdoor fairs are always a ton of fun

Bluegrass Is A Valid Music Interest And Here's Why

by Claire Nunez
Co-Editor in Chief

I am a little afraid to be writing this right now. Will this change the way people view me? My reputation is already questionable. I am totally going to lose respect because of what I love... and that is bluegrass. I love bluegrass music. I was once totally ashamed of it, but now— I still kinda am. Why am I afraid to tell the world that I am infatuated with banjo strums and raspy voices? Well, the answer, my friends, is not at all simple.

My music choices are not often considered to be "good." Actually, I listen to pretty basic and lame songs and artists. I have been described as a "pop music hoe" by people who think they know what they are talking about (they may actually have an ear for musical notes and tones, but I think all of this is very subjective). I listen to the likes of Katy Perry, an inarguably terrible artist; the Jonas Brothers, Lady Gaga, and literally whatever is playing out of the radio at work that only gets one station. My only redeemable fanhood would probably be Hozier—and I don't even know the last time he came out with new music. I listen to "Take Me To Church" probably a hundred times a week. Isn't that sad? Someone sign me up for What Not To Listen To because I could use a music-style makeover.

Bluegrass is different to me. I listen to it when I am just hanging out or studying. I just like the sound of it. The soft strumming of a guitar or the soothing yet abrasive voices give me some sense of calm. I am not from the bluegrass country, but I am instantly

This is the hill Claire will die on

transported into the soft, crisp grass of the mountainside; the fresh air blowing my hair gently into my face as I play a fiddle with a floral print dress on. That is probably just a weird bluegrass fantasy I have, but that is the vibe the music gives me.

So why is it that I keep my love of bluegrass in the dark? To be honest, I am a bit scared that people will either 1) think ill of me for being a fan of bluegrass or 2) think ill of the genre for having me as a fan. Either

music. There is just something about a guy singing, with a straw cowboy hat on, about tractors and beer that makes me incredibly angry. How can a genre squeeze out so much money on tractors and wagon wheels? It is ridiculous. I cannot stand country music or the Instagrams of people who go to those summery concerts wearing flannels and cowboy boots in 95-degree weather. It is an absolute NO from me.

But bluegrass is different. It is not as pompous. It is more low-key and calming. There are no exclamations that beer is in fact the best beverage on earth, nor are there professions of love to a scarecrow. Bluegrass is more folksy and relaxing. Whenever I listen to it, I either feel really calm or like I want to do some light dancing—yes, light dancing. I love the way it makes me feel when I listen to it, and I think it is time for me to let people know that I love bluegrass.

I am very much done with caring about what people think. If you decide to criticize me or bluegrass because I like it, that is very so much a you problem. I am going to live my life and listen to my banjo music and have a bluegrass band at my wedding and maybe even learn to play the fiddle. I am coming out of the bluegrass closet. I will not care if people think it's weird. I really think people have the capacity to be tolerant enough to let me listen to my damn bluegrass music whenever I want to. It is cool. If you don't like it, oh well. I am going to keep bopping along to the smooth strums of the guitar.



way, I am scared of the perceptions of others. I am generally a very confident and independent woman who does not give a flip about what people think, but for some reason, bluegrass gets me.

Maybe it is because I somewhat associate bluegrass with country music and I hate, HATE country

Mary-Kate and Ashley is a Lie and So is Your Childhood

by Colleen Burns
Co-Editor in Chief

Paris, Rome, London, New York City, the Bahamas, and a nonspecific desert in Mexico. What do all these fun, romantic places have in common?! They are all settings of prime Mary-Kate and Ashley movies that you once held dear to your childhood. As you get older, you may feel a need to be #retro and re-watch some of these twin classics, especially if you are spending a semester abroad.

But beware; I bestow upon you my most heartfelt warning:

If you do not wish to ruin your childhood memories and innocence, for the love of all sparkles do not re-watch any Mary-Kate and Ashley movies. There are only two types of people who should re-watch these once thought to be glorious movies: 1) If you enjoy reading the redundant plots and predictable outcomes of Sarah Dessen books and are blind to nauseating cinematography 2) If you take great joy in mocking art, bad acting, and the failures of other people.

Only these people will be able to successfully watch Mary-Kate and Ashley movies without feeling their childhood slip away.

Before delving into how Mary-Kate and Ashley became walking money machines, something needs to be said. Something that might make you feel betrayed. Something that might make you question science itself. I'm only going to say this once: Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, daughters of Jarnett and David Olsen, are fraternal twins... HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE? THEY LOOK IDENTICAL.

I respect science. My parents are scientists. I'm pursuing a minor in Environmental Studies aka climate change is real. That's how much I believe in science! But come on, someone had to have messed up

They're just not realistic, okay?!?!?

here because there is just no way two different sperms fertilized two different eggs, and both girls just happened to get the same face.

They do not look like just sisters. They look like the same person. ARE THEY THE SAME PERSON? Ok, I won't go there. Of course there are two of them, but what else could they be lying about? If they are lying about the identicalness of their identities, they ought to be lying about something else.

And you know what else is a lie? THESE MOVIES. Every single movie is set in a different, romantic place with



an unrealistic (and usually shallow) reason for why the twins are there. They all contain what I am going to call the Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen Movie Trifecta: adventure or mystery, sisterly hate or love, and boys. See below for examples (spoilers ahead, not that you care).

Passport to Paris: Mom and Dad ship the girls off to Paris to visit their grandfather over Spring Break in hopes that the girls will become worldlier, as they have been acting out and disrespecting authority! Love Interests: two French boys of course! Adventure and Crime: Exploring Paris is not enough. In this blockbuster, the girls

end up in police custody for trespassing on private property. Have no fear, this is not the only time the fraternal twins find themselves in jail.

Holiday in the Sun: This one opens with the twins angry with their parents for surprising them with a private jet and a vacation in the Bahamas! How completely inconsiderate of their parents to not respect the twins' wishes to go to Hawaii with their friends. Love Interests: One twin battles Megan Fox for hottie Jordan. The other twin is fascinated by cute but dumb Scott, who—you guessed it—is being coached by family friend and secret admirer Brian! Adventure and Crime: I told you jail was not a one-time thing. They land themselves in jail trying to solve the mystery of stolen and smuggled *artifacts*.

The Challenge: Set somewhere? in Mexico, the twins are forced to reconnect on a dual reality TV-show/scholarship program (where can I sign up?) after not speaking to each other for TWO WHOLE YEARS. Hating each other from the start and fighting through most of the plot, this movie takes the cake for the “we look the same but have completely different personalities” twin trope. Love interests: One twin secretly dates another contestant, and the other twin secretly dates an intern. Forbidden love is the best love! Adventure and Crime: This reality TV-show is basically Survivor. Enough said.

Seriously, the list goes on: Winning London, When in Rome, Our Lips are Sealed. All of the movies are essentially the same. Just slap on a different name for each twin, new city, love interest, and EITHER sister or parent drama. Let's not get crazy. Suffice to say, these movies do not uphold the same values as Full House. If you really want to re-watch a Mary Kate and Ashley Movie, watch *New York Minute*. It is the only one that made it to theaters.

SHOWS

Where: MMAA Spring Alumni-Student Cabaret
When: Sunday, April 8th at 2-3:30 pm
How Much: \$15 suggested donation
Why: Watch performers relive their favorite shows!

What: The Orchid Show
Where: New York Botanical Gardens
When: How Much: \$15
Why: Who doesn't love seeing gorgeous flowers in a cool green house

What: Broad Comedy
Where: Soho Playhouse
When: Monday March 19 2018 - Monday March 26 2018
How Much: \$20
Why: Enjoy hearing these women give biting commentary of our society through song and dance.

Please God Let Ganondorf Be in the New Super Smash Bros

by Meredith McLaughlin

Arts Editor

At long last, Nintendo Switch owners have finally gotten the ultimate boon: *Super Smash Bros.* for the switch. In the most recent Nintendo Direct, the newest edition in the beloved franchise was teased, while promising to include the Splatoon characters in the new roster. While all of this is very exciting, I am concerned that my own personal interests won't be met. The trouble starts with the fact that they clearly showed they'd be using the Breath of the Wild design for Link in place of his *Twilight Princess* design. Now I love *Breath of the Wild*, it's a fantastic game and I understand why they're using it for the new SSB. While I think that using the updated design is the right choice, my real fear is that I won't be able to main Ganondorf anymore because he technically wasn't in *Breath of the Wild*.

For the uninformed, Ganondorf is the main antagonist of the *Legend of Zelda* series. While in most of the games he's like this 8 ft tall green wizard thief

I know my fears are irrational but if he isn't there my life is over

man, sometimes he attacks Hyrule in the form of Ganon, a horrible pig monster. *Breath of the Wild* opted to push Ganon's design a bit further by making him a half robot spider, half ghost demon pig that inhabits Hyrule Castle until you decide to face him. So obviously, the *Breath of the Wild* iteration of

Ganondorf would be hard to play in a party fighting game. His best design is inarguably from *Twilight Princess*, so the best thing SSB could do is just keep that and update Link and Zelda.

Ganondorf has been a playable fighter in SSB since *Melee*, unfortunately he's gotten a bad rap for being one of the worst characters to play as. Ganondorf

was a last-minute addition to *Melee*'s roster, so the game devs just gave him all of Captain Falcon's moves, but made a bit more heavy and powerful. When *Brawl* came out, Ganondorf was incredibly slow, and his most powerful move, Warlock Punch, took so long to charge that it was nearly unusable.



He could also barely jump, making him vulnerable anytime he was in the air. As a result Ganondorf was placed dead last on the *Brawl* tier list. Of course these are all

complaints that weak, undedicated players make about Ganondorf. *Twilight Princess* is my favorite game of all time, and after playing it in middle school I was so happy to discover that

I could actually play as my favorite character in my brother's fighting game. I knew about his disadvantages, yet I dedicated months to unlocking the secrets of maining Ganondorf in an attempt to prove to the world that he was a viable fighter to play as. Once SSB4 came out, he was the only character I could play as and win. I physically cannot play that game as any other character.

My only hope is that the new SSB will choose to improve Ganondorf rather than lose him. Perhaps this time they'll give him abilities that are reminiscent to his powers from the *Legend of Zelda*, rather than just make him a Captain Falcon clone. I fear they might just make him an assist trophy, where you can summon his *Breath of the Wild* iteration to help you fight for five measly seconds. Ganondorf means too much to me, and I can't bear the thought of him being discarded. Ganondorf better be in the new super smash brothers or I will take Nintendo America hostage.

FET's Playwrights Festival was a Huge Success for College Writers

by Hillary Bosch

Opinions Editor

This past weekend, Fordham Experimental Theatre hosted its Spring Playwrights Festival. A bastion of student-written theatre, FET hosts a Playwrights Festival each semester in order to showcase student written, one act plays. This spring, FET was proud to present works from FCRH juniors Tim Mountain, Phil Thompson, and myself!

Phil wrote a Twilight-Zone-esque show about a man driving in the middle of the night, struggling to stay awake by listening to a radio show for late-night travellers titled *K-Round*. This show was stunningly experimental, as the only person on stage for most of the show was just the lead character Mitch, played by Matt Schumacher, driving his car. The other actors lent their voices to the radio in his car, reading their lines offstage. The melodic, calming voice of Nate Crawford was that of the main radio show host, who told a variety of stories to Mitch and the audience. The show blurs the lines of reality and dreaming, as Mitch starts to notice the radio voice talking about things from

The three plays were well recieved by audiences, which is cool

his own life. Phil masterfully brought radio entertainment to the stage and pulled the audience in with his poetic and eerie script.

Tim's show, *Owe My Heart!* was a musical he wrote and composed himself about a man whose day is disrupted by the unsettling truth that someone out there owes him money. With a stellar cast of FET's best comedians, the characters go on an adventure to a deli, make a friend from the sewer, and eventually confront the man who owes the lead, played by Kevin O'Malley, money. On top of the actors' fantastic performances, I think what impressed audiences (and me!) the most was the entire band playing on the side stage complete with drums, keyboard, bass, and Tim himself on guitar! *Owe My Heart* brought together all the best parts of theatre: comedy, live music, singing, and deli meats.

My show is titled *Standing Water*, a semi-autobiographical account of my experiences following Hurricane Katrina. The play opens with two girls

packing to prepare for college and, in doing so, find mementos and memories of their months of evacuation. As the main character Bridget (played by Emma Keely) remembers her past, a physical manifestation of her memory tells stories of the Storm to the audience as a character named "Young Bridget" played by Lucy Skrebutenas. Through

FET hosts a Playwrights Festival each semester in order to showcase student written, one act plays.

discussions with her two friends and eventually her mother, Bridget concludes that although Katrina was a traumatic experience, it was also an opportunity for growth and strength.

I did not intend for it to be a sad play. In fact, the characters joke about all the little things that happened during the evacuation like buying ice cream

at lunch, getting toys in the mail, and not understanding their first periods. At one point, the character of Kelsey even asks "are we coping properly? Should we be... crying or something?", to which the other characters respond that humor is a way of coping. Disaster is overwhelming and everyone responds differently, but I wanted this play to show that although we have different experiences in life, we feel pain and triumph quite the same.

I could not be more proud of the five actresses who participated in my play. They understood how much this piece meant to me and artfully combined reality with their own character interpretations. #KappaSaunaLouisiana

The semiannual Playwrights Festival is easily one of the most incredible events at Fordham: art written by students, directed by students, performed by students, enjoyed by students. I was honored to be a part of it, and I hope to see works by Tim and Phil in the fall!

Netflix's New Series Is The Coming-of-Age Story We've Been Waiting For

by Olivia Langenberg

Features and Lists Editor

Netflix released yet another original back in February called *Everything Sucks!* and I'm here to spoil it for you. The show is set in 1996 in Boring, Oregon, which is actually a real place, though it was filmed in Oregon City and Portland. The show revolves primarily around the stories of Luke and Kate, a freshman and a sophomore at Boring High School. Surprise, surprise, these kids are played by real 14-year-olds and not random 24-year-olds pretending like they still look young enough to pass as high schoolers. I'm going to take you through each episode, give you the highlights, and hopefully explain why I got so emotionally invested in this short-lived Netflix original.

Episode One:

In the first episode, we meet our typical freshman outcasts- Luke, our protagonist, and his friends McQuaid and Tyler. The boys are eager to get involved and meet girls, despite being incredibly nerdy and awkward around such girls. They ultimately join the A/V club, which is primarily in charge of the morning announcements. Here, Luke meets Kate Messner, a shy sophomore who just so happens to be the principal's daughter. The two bond over the fact that they both have been raised by single parents. From the first episode, it's clear that Luke has a crush on Kate and this might not end well. And why is that? Because Kate has her eye on someone else. And she's a girl.

Episode Two:

Now we're really starting to explore the sexual identity of Kate. After an altercation with popular drama club girl, Emaline, in the locker room, rumors are spread around school that Kate is a lesbian. I was born in 1998, but I can imagine how horrifying it was to be

Everything may suck but this synopsis doesn't!

outed 20 years ago, especially when you're 15, and you aren't even entirely sure how you feel. Meanwhile, as Kate eats lunch in the bathroom and tries to remain invisible, Luke is scheming with his friends about how to ask Kate to be his girlfriend. Yikes. He makes a music video to Oasis' "Wonderwall" because he knows how much Kate likes the song, and plays it during the morning announcements. Kate, completely caught off guard, stammers a "yes" to being with Luke, though it's clear to us that she probably isn't that interested.

Episode Three:

Luke and Kate's relationship is in full swing, and Luke tries his best to be romantic for Kate. She's in an uncomfortable situation, though, and avoids most physical contact. So much so that when Luke leans in for a kiss in the auditorium, Kate pulls the fire alarm to avoid it. The sprinklers go off and everything, which ends in a disaster, as the auditorium has water damage and the drama club can no longer put on their play. Unfortunately, Emaline and her pretentious boyfriend Oliver saw Luke running out of the auditorium, so the perpetrators can't stay anonymous for too long. Though Kate was the one who pulled the alarm, Luke takes the fall for her because "that's what boyfriends do." Ew.

Episode Four:

Feeling the pressure from the drama club, Luke tries to figure out a plan to ease tensions. With the help of his friends and Kate, Luke presents the idea of a movie to the drama club. He hopes that A/V club and drama club can team up to create something the school has never seen before. Emaline and Oliver, the clearly dominant personalities of drama club, hesitantly agree, but not without messing with the freshman a little bit. Emaline decides they should

all play spin-the-bottle, which results in Luke and Kate in a closet together. The two do end up kissing, but Kate immediately blurts out "I think I'm a lesbian" afterward.

Episode Five:

After Kate's revelation in the closet, Luke decides the best plan of action is for the two to continue dating so that no one thinks the rumors are true about Kate being gay. Uh... she is though. I started to get really frustrated around this time, but I digress. Unfortunately, there's a really sad scene at the end of the episode where Luke is at Kate's for dinner with her dad, and Kate plays her mom's favorite song on the piano. While Kate sings, Luke realizes he might be falling in love with her. Oh, no.

Episode Six:

This episode was arguably the most emotionally exhausting. Luke gets tickets to see Kate's favorite singer, Tori Amos, to surprise her, and the two take a trip to Portland. Kate wonders why Luke would do something so thoughtful for her, and you guessed it! It's what boyfriends do. Kate has an epiphany at the show when she sees two girls kissing. She tells Luke they need to break up, to which he doesn't respond well, and the two have a pretty difficult fight. Kate tells him that he needs to accept her the way she is, and that he never really liked her anyway- he just liked having a girlfriend.

Episode Seven:

Luke is SUPER pissed off that Kate broke up with him, and he literally acts like a monster to everyone around him. Kate, coming to terms with her identity, removes the posters of famous guys in her room and replaces them with posters of women she admires. She pierces her own nose, and in a moment of pure empathy, begs her dad to fund a trip for the movie because she

knows Luke wants it. Also, the most lighthearted scenes of the show occur simultaneously: Emaline, Oliver, Tyler, and McQuaid read on the internet that you can get high from eating a bunch of nutmeg, so they do it. Haha.

Episode Eight:

FIELD TRIP!! The movie squad heads to California to shoot some scenes at Dominguez Rocks. Unfortunately, Oliver, the movie's star, thinks he's a hotshot and he takes off for New York. Emaline is devastated. She has a moment with Kate in their hotel room, admitting that she was incredibly reliant on Oliver and doesn't know what to do now. The two of them almost kiss (!!!), but ultimately are interrupted. Kate, still trying to be there for Luke, takes him to a Blockbuster in Hollywood, revealing that she tracked down his father. It doesn't go well, though, and Luke blames Kate.

Episodes Nine & Ten:

Luke is still acting like a complete asshole, which is only elevated when he realizes his mom has been dating Kate's dad. He demands they stop dating, which makes EVERYONE ELSE upset. Kate and Emaline admit their feelings for each other. I literally exploded at this point because I was so proud of Kate, and for how proactive she became in her own life and in her dad's. She realizes what Luke has done and scolds him for destroying their parents' happiness. Luke has a change of heart, and ends up changing the ending of the movie to reflect his and Kate's friendship. He reconnects his mom with Kate's dad and everyone is happy! Emaline and Kate have a sweet moment in the auditorium where they kiss and dance to music. Just when you think everything is all well and good, the show ends with Luke's deadbeat dad showing up at his door. WHAT!!!!!!!!!! WHY!!!!!!!!!! EVERYTHING WAS GOOD!!!!!!



**PSA: KOOKY PENS
HAVE BEEN
SURVEILLING
US SINCE 2004**



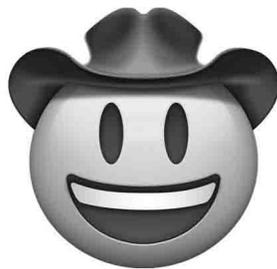
figured it was about time to feature ourselves.....



hey it me liv! i'm a sophomore from omaha, nebraska majoring in digital technology & emerging media!! i'm also minoring in english.

but you didn't come here for that.... let's get to the good stuff.

- i have a secret love for the song "rockstar" by post malone. i'm sorry.
- i'm deathly afraid of owls and for some reason they keep popping up in infomercials lately and i HATE IT
- all of my male celebrity crushes are exactly 6'0" which kinda freaks me out but at least i'm predictable
- i used to be insecure about not liking strawberries so i just told people i was allergic to them even though i'm not (i like them now tho)
- prior to like a week ago, i genuinely thought stephen hawking and stephen king were the same person and i can't believe i'm actually that stupid
- my favorite jonas brother is joe. always the best bb i gotta find u

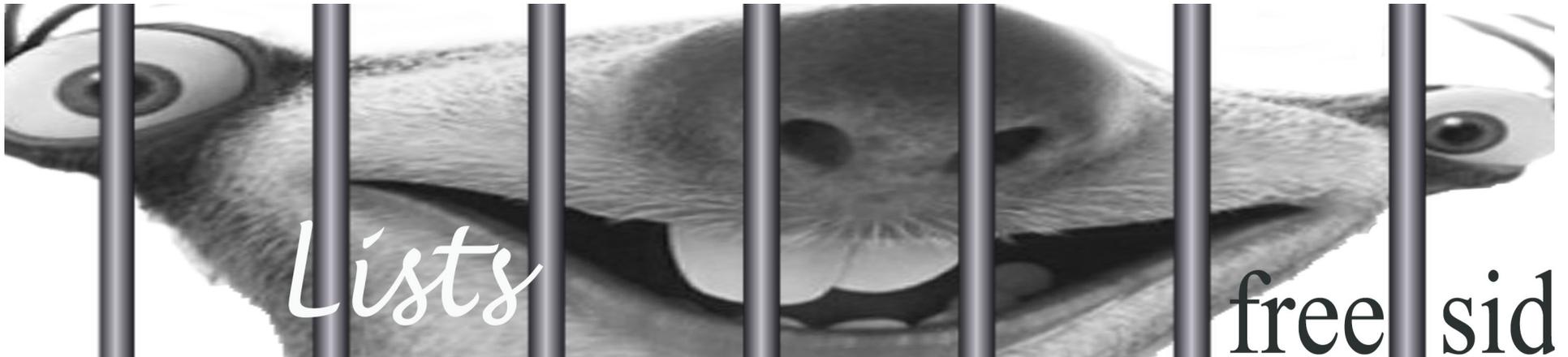


look it's katelynn!!! also a sophomore from westchester majoring in new media & digital design and communications & culture.

here are some paper-exclusive facts:

- sometimes i forget how to talk. talking? i don't know her. speaking english whomst? not i
- i believe myself to be a egg
- i have a mediocre art instagram follow me @katelynnarts
- i dress exclusively in sacks. sacks on sacks on sacks (liv note: she always dresses well i don't know what this means)
- i stay bitter forever like one time i got detention for talking during a fire drill in sophomore year of high school and i'm still mad about it
- my favorite history fact is that peter the great held a wedding for his good friend who was a dwarf. he invited all of the dwarves in russia to attend. i think this fact humanizes peter the great
- my favorite past-time is sleeping but also i fear death but death is just sleeping forever? so...?





Everyone at some point or another has been told interesting stories or lies by their parents. We asked members of the paper to share some. These are their stories. DUN DUN

Bird Omen
by Robin Happel

My dad told me seeing a raven in the road in front of you is an omen of car trouble. He used to live with first nations people in Alaska & ravens are traditionally considered to be very powerful.

Squirrel Boy
by Katelynn Browne

My dad told us that the previous owners of our new house let their child out on the back deck to play. His mother sat outside with her son, watching him play. She heard the phone ring from inside and the kid wouldn't come in with her so she left him outside. While the kid was out on his own, the squirrels from the forrest behind our house took the kid, and turned him into halfboy/halfsquirrel and no one ever saw him again

They say that when you see the trees swaying in the backyard, that's squirrel-boy, jumping from tree to tree.

Sid the Sloth
by Gabby Curran

As a kid, my mom told me that if I grimaced and a gust of wind blew across my visage, my face would stay like that forever. Maybe that's why I look the way I do.

CATastrophe Pt I
by Colleen Burns

I didn't find out until I was 14 that my cat didn't really go to the farm. I know that's a common parent lie but, like, I just never questioned it. Like it made so much sense to me because my parents said she was there so she could poop wherever she wanted. (At the end of her life she had health issues that caused her to poop whenever uncontrollably.) My friend was the one who told me my cat was dead.

STORY TIME: SEDATED BY MY OWN PARENTS (NOT CLICKBAIT)
by David Kennedy

For about 5 years from when I was 6 to when I was 11 my parents would give me a pill every morning without explaining why, and I never questioned it. It was Ritalin. My parents just didn't want to explain to me that I had ADHD, but I never even asked. Every morning there was just "my pill" next to a gummy vitamin shaped like Fred Flintstone. It seemed so innocuous next to those gummy vitamins, but it was amphetamines.

Boarding School More Like BORING SCHOOL or FRIGHTENING SCHOOL
by Cadila Vaz

My parents would always tell me they'd send me off to boarding school if I ever misbehaved. That scared me so much, especially since I had it twisted, thinking that boarding school was the same thing as boot camp! Rigorous

exercise gave me the frighten! I behaved, so um yeah that was my parents' successful and traumatizing parenting tactic.

My Feet Too Fat
by Annie Muscat

Heelys were fantastic. They made you the coolest kid in middle school. Alas, I wouldn't know because my mother was determined to hinder my would-be popular image. I was a wee lass who just wanted to roll around town, respecting women and making money. My mother had the audacity to LIE to me when I told her I wanted Heelys. She told me they didn't have them in my size and she kept betraying me until Heelys were old news. My relationship with my mother has never been the same. All because she wouldn't let me get shoes with wheels.

An Original Groupie Experience
by Olivia Langenberg

I can't really remember any weird stories from my parents, but I remember an awesome one from one of the administrators at my high school. She was a big Billy Joel fan back in the day, and she cut class with some friends to go find his hotel downtown. Long story short, she ended up hanging out with Billy Joel in PERSON in HIGH SCHOOL and got a ride back to school in his limo. Talk about true street credit. Yeah, she got in trouble for it, but what a story to tell. It inspired me to chase my groupie dreams.

Santa?????
by Michael Jack

I don't have a lot of good "parents lying to me" stories. One thing I do remember is the Sherlock Holmes style adventure I had to embark on to find Santa. Santa, my parents told me, could move at the speed of light and that's why he could deliver presents so fast. This all changed when at 8 years old I found a receipt in my moms purse while I was stealing money from her (I was a shitty kid) for something I put in my letter to Santa. I needed to go deeper, so I followed the paper trail, and scoured the house for some clue as to whether or not Santa was real. Eventually, on Christmas Eve, this led me to a crawlspace in our basement, where I found a boatload of presents, signed "From: Santa." I guess being a detective's grandson has its price right?

CATastrophe Pt.II
by Marty Gatto

I found out over Christmas that my parents put down our cat when we were kids, pretended she ran away, and looked for her with us.

Whistling for Elton John
by Meredith McLaughlin

You guys know the song Benny and the Jets? So, like, there's this part in it when a guy audibly whistles a few times and my dad told me he was the guy who did that and I believed him for years until he told me he was lying.



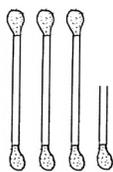
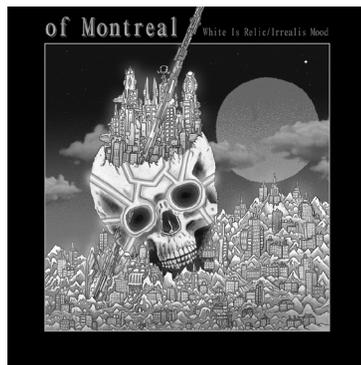
of Montreal
White is Relic/Irrealis Mood
Marty Gatto

of Montreal, singer/songwriter Kevin Barnes's brainchild, has just released another album entitled White Is Relic/Irrealis Mood. This album is a more natural dive into electronic sounds for Kevin Barnes. It's a sort of logical follow-up to his previous album, which was a headfirst jump into EDM. White Is Relic/Irrealis Mood has a more naturally electronic sound, with a pop-beat foundation new to Barnes's work. Furthermore, the titles of both the album itself and the tracks that compose it are of two parts. Each title is divided with a slash, effectively giving it two names. This quite interestingly affects the listening experience.

Kevin Barnes's music always tells stories, mostly about his hectic personal life. The fact that each song has two titles is derived from each song telling two different stories. In the first single, "Paranoiac Intervals/Body Dysmorphia," Barnes sings to a love-interest whom he wants to take under his bizarre, artistic-intellectual wing, but then devolves into his expression of his own bodily insecurity. In "Writing The Circles/Orgone Tropics," Barnes expresses a general dysphoria through asking questions and responding with the chorus "not a lot." "Plateau Phase/No Careerism No Corruption" is a duplicitous track that sounds partly like an electro-homage to David Bowie's iconic vocals, but pleasantly surprises with a clean, heavy EDM chorus. The final track on the album, "If You Talk To Symbol/Hostility

Voyeur," is an ominous, forward track about how Barnes ghosts a girl named "Symbol." The track reflects on his former relationship and his self-destructive drive that brought it to an end.

Favorite Track: "Paranoiac Intervals/"

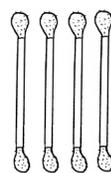
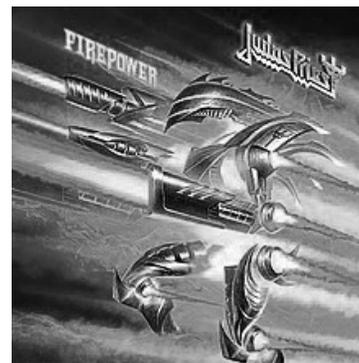


Judas Priest
Firepower
Christian Decker

Before this album, I really didn't have much experience listening to Judas Priest besides a few songs. However, in the 18th studio album for this legendary pioneer of heavy metal, I felt so empowered. The entire band has still got it after all these years, especially Rob Halford, the lead singer, who still sounds crystal clear. Somehow the band has managed to retain that classic 80s heavy metal sound, while bringing in more modern elements with today's technology and innovations. The title and first track,

"Firepower," comes screaming at you in a ready-to-rock mood straight off, followed by "Lightning Strike" to keep you on your toes with some kick-ass riffs and solos. They also added some seemingly political tracks, "Evil Never Dies" and "Never The Heroes." Although political tracks in this day and age can be stale, Priest succeeds in not being too over the top or overt in their references, which makes the tracks ten times better. Picking a best track on this album was extremely difficult, because every song is just fantastic, but the best one in my opinion has to be "Rising From Ruins" and its intro track "Guardians." The song is about uniting in order to fight an enemy, which can also have some political undertones, and the song makes you feel just awesome. Priest proves that heavy metal is definitely still alive and kicking.

Favorite Track: "Rising From Ruins"



Young Fathers
Cocoa Sugar
David Kennedy

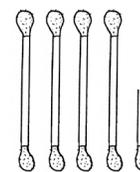
Young Fathers, an Edinburgh band that defies classification, just put out another album that takes cheap sounding instrumentation and turns it into something grand and exultant. They've been active for ten years now, and this is their 5th full length album. Filled with frantic, persistent percussion, lo-fi, electronic instrumentation, and vocals that go from raspy hip-hop to reverential soul, this album manages to make its arrangements sound busy and chaotic in spite of their catchy simplicity.

Cocoa Sugar is decidedly darker than

Young Fathers' last album White Men are Black Men Too. The album kicks off with, "Fee Fi" a tribal, percussive track full of subdued violence, followed by the brooding and melodramatic "In My View." The quick and constant beat on the song "Toy" towards the end of the album sounds like drum-and-bass by way of a metronome with a low, eerie hook between frantically rapped verses.

The album still makes room for transcendent moments with low rhythms, like on the gospel inflected song "Lord" or the marching drums and church organs on the final track, "Picking You." The song "Holy Ghost" is an onslaught of vocal hooks over the wonkiest beat on the whole album. Young Fathers have an unbelievable talent for taking a song that sounds like it was made on one man's computer and turning it towards holiness. I couldn't say if it's an improvement on their last album, but it is something new.

Favorite Track: "Holy Ghost"

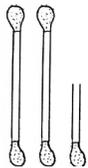
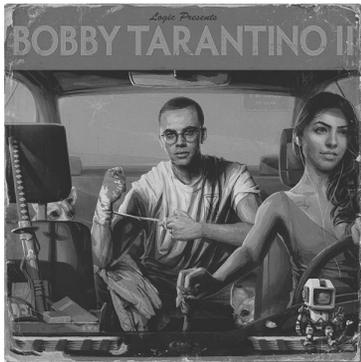


Logic
Bobby Tarantino II
Michael Jack O'Brian

The young Atlanta based rapper Logic is back again with a follow up to his 2016 mixtape Bobby Tarantino with the ever creatively named Bobby Tarantino 2. Logic is an interesting bird, as there is oftentimes a clear delineation between his mixtape work and his more expansive, ambitious full album projects. While I certainly enjoyed BT2, I feel as if this lack of ambition shows through. Along with

sharing a title, BT2 really does feel like a retread of ground that Logic has already covered, and while Logic still has the ability to captivate audiences with his energy and clever wordplay, one of the best songs on the record is the absolute banger 44 More for this very reason, Logic does not seem to have any large, overarching message with this body of work. Of course, this was to be expected because as mentioned previously, "Album Logic" and "Mixtape Logic" are oftentimes two completely different artists. A large majority of the songs on this mixtape are typical hip hop bangers that are not afraid to wear their influences on their sleeve, which I have no problem with. Speaking of influences though, we need to talk about the opening skit for the album, a two minute Rick and Morty sketch where the titular characters are arguing about what music to play while they go on an adventure. I love Justin Roiland as much as the next person, but the skit was so cringey, it honestly put a sour taste in my mouth. All in all the album serves its purpose, it's entertaining, but I won't pretend that this is a magnum opus by any means.

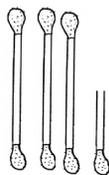
Favorite Track: 44 More



Kim Wilde
Here Come the Aliens
Claire Nunez

Who the heck is Kim Wilde? Honestly, I have no idea, but she is not awful. Her sound is very indie rock with a twist of pop, infused with some 80s glam. Here

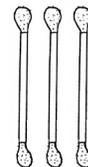
sound is very indie rock with a twist of pop, infused with some 80s glam. Here Come the Aliens is the first album Wilde has released since 1995, and since then, she has become fascinated with the night sky and generally fears being abducted by aliens. That certainly comes through in the song "1969" with all of the tech-y space sounds accompanying her voice. It was a little difficult for me to actually understand what Wilde was singing about because her enunciation is not the best; however, I absolutely adore her overall sound. It is unapologetically 80s. I really like "Pop Don't Stop" because it is basically begging for more pop music. As a pop junkie, I strongly identify with Wilde's plea. Wilde's songs spill out her weirdest and most random thoughts out in electric guitar notes and raspy poetry. She sings about aliens and candy on this album. I cannot imagine an artist that I more strongly identify with. My only problem with Wilde's album is that some of her songs seem to drag on for way too long. I think that she could've shaved a minute or so off of some of her tunes, but I am all for artistic expression and won't judge. Overall, Here Come the Aliens is a solid 80s album that has been released just a few decades too late.



Charlie Puth Ft. Kehlani
"Done For Me"
Olivia Langenberg

Charlie Puth just released another song from his upcoming album Voicenotes. This is a funky little tune that acts almost as a conversation, as Puth and Kehlani sing to each other about a relationship between two people who just aren't on the same page anymore. The lyrics in this? Nothing special. It's very chorus heavy. I'll admit, I didn't pay much attention to them. I was focused on how catchy this song is because it's produced so wonderfully. I've known about Puth since I was in middle school, and I'll tell you the guy has evolved like crazy and it's awesome to hear.

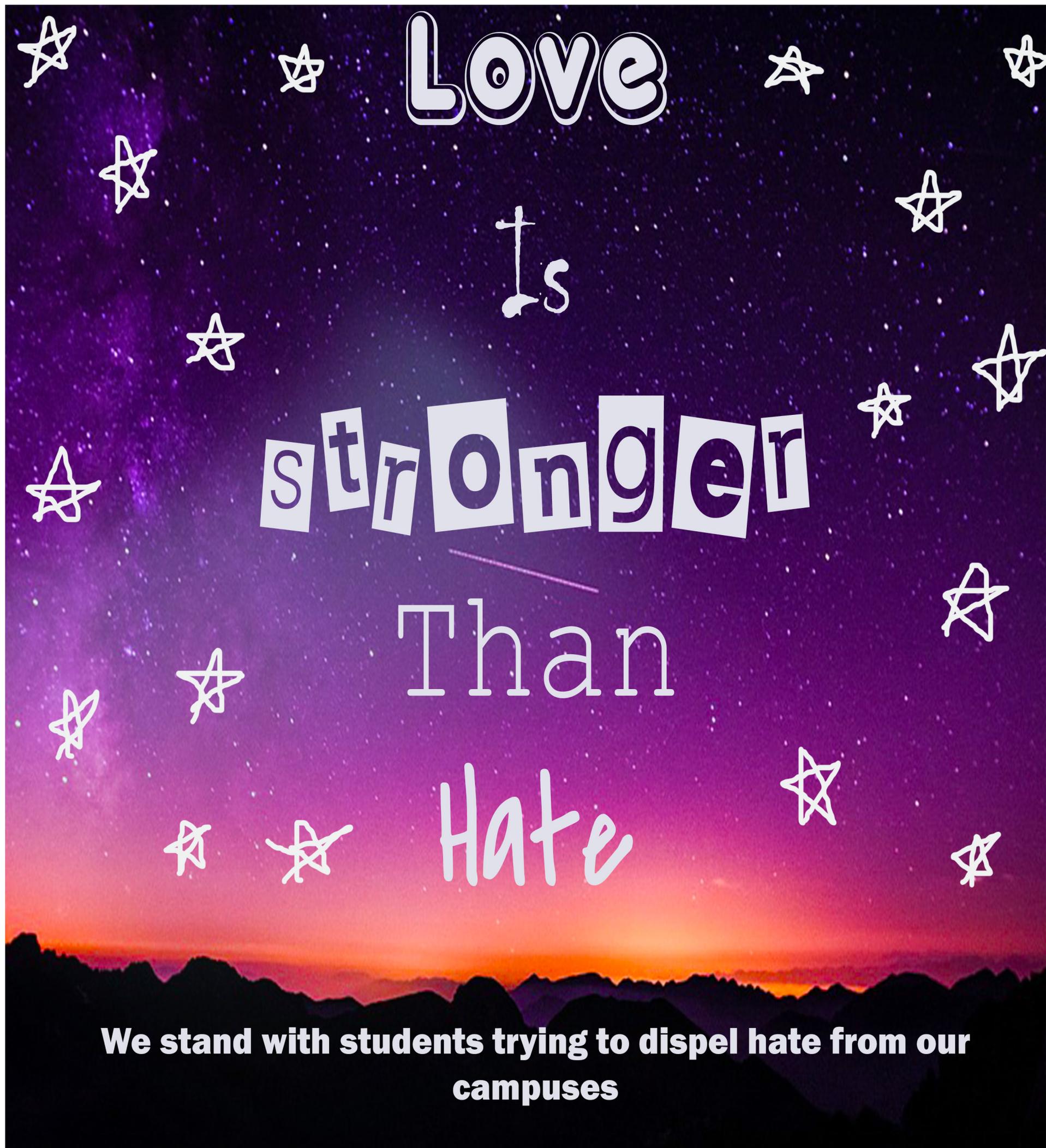
This is a typical Top 40 kind of hit. I have nothing wrong with that; I love pop music. It's the kind of thing that comes on at the gym and it makes you dance on the elliptical a little bit. After hearing the same chorus like six times, it does have me wondering: what has this girl ever done for Charlie? I don't think Kehlani's part in the song adds anything special, but it pushes the narrative, and I like her, so it's fine. Mostly, this song shows how Puth has come from putting out covers on YouTube that he mixed in his bedroom to producing genuinely pleasurable songs that are guaranteed a spot on the radio. Is it an amazing, revolutionary song? Of course not, but it doesn't have to be. It works. And sometimes that's enough.



Mario's Sentimental Indie Playlist



1. AFTER SLICE - IVORY WAVES
2. DISTANT DAYS - ROSE DIVE
3. PAIN - THE WAR ON DRUGS
4. YOUR DOG - SOCCER MOMMY
5. NO GOING BACK - YUNO
6. LISTENING IN - DR. DOG
7. MANICURE - SPORTS
8. GIRL - TORO Y MOI
9. SEATTLE PARTY - CHASTITY BELT
10. PROM SONG - SURFER BLOOD



We stand with students trying to dispel hate from our campuses