

# The Ticker

VOLUME 109 • ISSUE 5

BARUCH COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

MARCH 14, 2016

## OPINIONS 6

### CUNY administrators at odds with students (p. 6)



Students have been protesting the rational tuition increase by petitioning, holding rallies and pushing for a tuition freeze throughout

CUNY. Administration opposes the idea and instead proposes increasing tuition in small, predictable steps.

## BUSINESS 9

### Valeant under investigation for Philidor dealings (p. 10)



Valeant recently announced that it is under investigation from the Securities and Exchange Commission due to its questionable relationship with Philidor, a

prescription drug distributor and business partner.

## ARTS & STYLE 14

### Star-studded cast brings comedy to theaters (p. 14)



*Hail, Caesar!*, the director Mannix takes his audience through the "behind-the-camera" drama. Tensions and theatricality are shown with more dramatic

convention than the actual movie scenes.

## SCIENCE & TECH 17

### The Division tops March game releases (p. 17)



February is a slow month for gamers. But the lineup for March includes Tom Clancy's *The Division*, an MMORPG, *ADRIFT* and

the first episode of *Hitman*. Resident Evil 6 and *Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess HD* were also remastered.

## SPORTS 20

### Manning addresses troubling past in speech (p.22)



After playing 14 seasons with the Indianapolis Colts and four with the Denver Broncos, Manning announced his retirement

in Denver on March 7. In Manning's retirement speech, *USA Today's* Lindsay Jones brought up a sexual assault case involving Manning.

## Administration acts on commencement petition



CALVIN RONG | THE TICKER

BY NICOLE CLEMONS  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Following significant pushback from students, Baruch College has made adjustments to the start time of commencement 2016 and the structure of finals week, moving the Friday, May 27, ceremony's start time to 4 p.m. and rescheduling May 27 final exams to May 20.

After the Office of Student Life announced the 2016 graduation ceremony's date and time at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, students with Friday evening religious observances and final exams slated for earlier that day and the next began voicing concern about commencement's timing.

Originally scheduled for a 5 p.m. start time, commencement was moved to 4 p.m. after students expressed concern of the event interfering with the Jewish Sabbath.

A petition to change the date or time of the ceremony, started by Baruch senior Renee Shemesh, garnered 1,514 signatures as of March 11. Shemesh is an active member of Hillel at Baruch and is the former vice president of Youth Organization For Israel.

Students worry about the May 27 commencement ceremony conflicting with final exams and religious observances.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Macaulay Honors College hosts panel on effects of Zika virus

BY VICTORIA MERLINO  
STAFF WRITER

In recent months, the Zika virus became an issue of national concern as travelers infected with the illness started to enter the United States. As panic over the disease mounts, questions arise. What is the Zika virus? How will its future development impact not only the United States but also countries all over the world? Why does the virus grip public imagination? On Feb. 29, Macaulay Honors College professors Lisa Brundage, Kelly O'Donnell and Elizabeth Reis, attempted to answer these questions with their panel, "The Zika Virus: An Interdisciplinary Exploration."

O'Donnell began the presentation by setting the epidemiological. First found in Africa in 1947, the Zika virus is carried by mosquitoes that transmit the disease to humans. The illness is usually very mild, with symptoms ranging from fever and rash to joint pain. Zika proves to be insidious to pregnant women and women looking to become pregnant, causing massive birth defects.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

## Levy and Olynyk's exhibit leaves interpretation to the viewer

BY DAVID CARDONA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It is difficult to measure the gap between art and science. Whatever the distance, one could argue that in order for there to be scientific progress, one must have the ambition of an artist. One has to be willing to be wrong in order for there to be progress. Art and science are very similar in this manner, but it is very rare for art and science to fuse together to make compelling art that is intriguing, frightening and wildly original. Currently on display at the Sidney Mishkin Gallery, the exhibit *Some Provocations from Skeptical Inquirers: Painted Prints, Photographs, and Videos* by Ellen K. Levy and Patricia Olynyk, does just that. The pieces are frightening, blunt and thought-provoking, giving insight into different styles of art and how this kind of art can bring up questions concerning the ailments of modern society.

Patricia Olynyk's artwork focuses on medicinal history, mechanics of prosthetics and the human anatomy. One of the larger pieces on display, an array of frames with large index cards placed next to photos of skulls perfectly embodies just that. "The Mutable Archive," is comprised of such portraits. The portraits are split in half. One side is an index card, and the other side is a photograph of a skull.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



## Home Depot foundation funds renovation to veterans' lounge

BY EDWIN MOREL  
NEWS EDITOR

The Veterans Resource Center at Baruch College has been renovated to better accommodate the growing population of student veterans who use the space. The Home Depot Foundation, in partnership with the national chapter of Student Veterans of America, awarded Baruch's chapter a grant of \$8090 to buy furniture and redesign the space, bringing a vibrant and homelike energy to the lounge.

The Home Depot foundation aims to improve the lives of U.S. military veterans and their families, assisting them to overcome housing challenges like unemployment, age and service-related disabilities. Nick Schede, the president of the Baruch SVA chapter, was motivated to push for the renovation project because of the exposure it provides student veterans on campus. Schede submitted a photo essay as a pitch to explain why the money would be beneficial, in addition to a blueprint of how the money would be spent. The photo essay included photos of Baruch veterans in action with a message from each veteran about the impact that education has on their lives.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## News Briefs

COMPILED BY  
JONATHAN SPERLING

Speaking before the City Council, CUNY's Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance Matthew Sapienza suggested that a tuition hike of about \$3,000 would be needed in order to close the gap caused by Gov. Andrew Cuomo's \$485 milli cut from the system in his executive budget. According to Sapienza, the nearly half-billion dollars is representative of approximately 30 percent of the operating and debt-service costs of CUNY's senior colleges. The hypothetical increase would raise tuition from \$6,330 to about \$9,500.

A partnership program between the New York's Economic Development Corporation and CUNY will seek to recruit international entrepreneurs as a boon to New York's economy. The IN2NYC program promises to aid up to 80 entrepreneurs in gaining visas needed to relocate and grow their businesses in New York City. Seven CUNY institutions will serve as pilot hosts for the entrepreneurs, who will be required to base their businesses in a partner school's incubator while simultaneously contributing to academic research, developing curricula. NYCEDC estimates that the partnership will help create over 700 jobs in the first three years alone.

Councilman Mark Levine, who serves as the New York City Jewish caucus chair, looks to combat anti-Semitism on CUNY campuses. Levine estimates that defensive legislation will be drafted and submitted for approval within a month. Among some of the more blatant examples of anti-Semitism on CUNY campuses have been the drawing of swastikas on the walls and desks of CSI and the denouncement of Jewish faculty and students as "Zionist pigs" and "fascists."

The College of Staten Island cheerleading squad was left dismayed after being told that they will not be permitted to perform at a national cheerleading competition. Head cheerleading coach Camello Vanloo was told by administration that fundraising for the trip was also out of the question. In a statement, CSI made it clear that they provide paid coaching, equipment and travel for its cheerleading team, going as far as to say that cheerleading is provided more resources than other clubs. The team's season will be concluding early on March 19.

Declining enrollment had led community colleges across New York state to press legislators for the largest base aid increase in decades. According to state law, base aid is required to fulfill at least one-third of community college funding. However, since 1991, state funding has been less than 30 percent while tuition is left to cover over 40 percent of funding. On the contrary, national community college funding is higher than tuition funding. A 4 percent statewide decrease in enrollment at community colleges could be the blame for the issue, which had led to staff layoffs and tuition hikes.

# Scheduling changes made to commencement, finals

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"The scheduled time of 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 27, is an interference for observant students at Baruch," explained Shemesh.

Although it depends on location, Sabbath is set to begin around 7:59 p.m., which is 18 minutes before sundown at 8:17 p.m.

"Having a commencement ceremony beginning at 5:00 p.m. and ending at 7:00 p.m. is a time constraint," continued Shemesh.

To prepare for the Sabbath, families cook, clean and set-up necessary supplies. Some families attend prayer services before observing the Sabbath. "Observant students and families will sit there [in commencement] constantly looking at their watch thinking, 'How long do I have until I have to leave to go home?'" said Shemesh.

Shemesh said she created the petition to alert graduating students of the issue at hand. "It was time to speak about it publicly to show Student Life at Baruch how many students are affected by their poor decision making. A lot of graduating seniors had no idea about graduation being on a Friday evening and during finals week. The response has been unbelievable and amazing."

Within a day after creating the petition, Shemesh says that it received over 1,200 signatures.

Zeke Dwek, a fall 2015 Baruch graduate who signed the petition, plans to attend the 2016 commencement and also observes the Sabbath. "It's definitely an inconvenience and a sore thumb on my Shabbat preparations," said Dwek.

"I'm disappointed in our administration for choosing such an inconvenient time for its students. Between ongoing finals and the Muslim and Jewish holiday surrounding the ceremony, it was re-

ally a short-sighted decision."

Amaz Qureshi, president of Baruch's Muslim Students Association, explained that the timing of graduation may be conflicting for Muslim students since Fridays are days that many Muslims congregate in mosques for afternoon prayer. "So it's usually held around 1-to-2:30 p.m. and the prayer is at the mosque, so I guess the issue for some people is that after the prayer, some people have other duties at the mosque so it'll be conflicting with that."

In an effort to ease student concern, Art King, vice president for student affairs and dean of students, sent out a mass email on Feb. 27 to let students know that the school is moving graduation to be an hour earlier, so it will conclude by 5:45 p.m., allowing for travel time prior to the start of the Sabbath.

"In consultation with representatives of our faith-based communities on campus and after researching the official time of sunset, we made the decision that, if we want to have one graduation ceremony—which we most certainly do—we should adjust our ceremony so that it concluded by 5:45 p.m.," wrote King in the email.

Damali Smith, acting director of Student Life, explained that find-

ing a venue for commencement to fit 15,000 to 20,000 people leaves a choice of either Madison Square Garden or the Barclays Center.

Choosing a venue for Baruch commencement occurs immediately after the last commencement. If granted access to the theater at MSG, Baruch commencement is then split into two ceremonies. "MSG never lets us use the stage, they always make us use the theater," said Smith.

The Barclays Center, however, comfortably seats the number of expected guest for Baruch commencement in one ceremony. Because of other events such as the NBA Draft and the New York Islanders schedule, Student Life had to work around the Barclays' programming. With special permission from the center, Student Life was then offered times on May 27 or June 20.

The May 27 time slot was chosen in part because the Spring semester ends the day after commencement. "The way it works is that the semester is technically over the day after commencement and so are faculty contracts. Since commencement is usually within five days after the last day of finals, it's never been a problem," explained Smith.

King concluded his mass email stating that this was a "one-year

anomaly" and "if there was a way that we could have changed the date, we certainly would have done so."

Other than affecting religious observances, Baruch commencement is during spring 2016 finals week. The tentative final exam schedule began on May 22 and ended on May 28, but in an email sent to students on March 11, David Christy, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, announced that May 27 finals would be moved to May 20, with times and locations remaining the same.

But that does not offer any help to students with finals on the morning of May 28, according to Qureshi. "May the 28th is still a day for finals, so a lot of students are pushing [to study for] their Financial Accounting III class, which is a very difficult class. The final is at nine in the morning the Saturday after graduation."

Despite the time change, Shemesh says that it is still not a practical solution for students and their families who live outside of New York City. "I thank Baruch for taking our concerns into consideration and coming up with a change of time. However, this time is a practical solution for students who live in the Brooklyn-Queens area. There are a lot of students who live in Long Island, Westchester, Connecticut, New Jersey ... these students will have an issue getting home before the Sabbath."

Abe Saff, president of Hillel at Baruch, is a graduating senior and observes the Sabbath. He says that although the timing of commencement will interfere with his observances, he stated that, "The Jewish students [of Baruch] want to work closely in the future with Student Life to make sure that all needs of all students at Baruch are accommodated."

"It was time to speak about it publically to show Student Life at Baruch how many students are affected by their poor decision making. A lot of graduating seniors had no idea about graduation being on a Friday evening and during finals week."

- Renee Shemesh, member of Hillel at Baruch

## ASEDOM injects Dominican heritage into club life

BY JONATHAN SPERLING  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

In a college known for its fast-paced and diverse commuter population, it is difficult to imagine a group promoting togetherness among different cultures existing at all. A club working to mesh different cultures is a valuable community service. Associate Estudiante Dominicano does just that.

Although they take pride in their Dominican roots and proudly support the common ideals shared by Dominicans, ASEDOM strives to unite Baruch's melting pot of students while simultaneously accommodating the needs of Baruch's often forgotten Dominican population through inclusive cultural events.

"ASEDOM, like many other cultural clubs, has trouble attracting those of different backgrounds," explained ASEDOM President Frances Subervi. "Many think because they aren't Dominican or don't have friends of the Dominican descent, they will not be welcomed. That has been a challenge we have tried to collectively work together to overcome by having events that promote unity within all cultures and inspires people to come celebrate where they come from with us."

ASEDOM's dedication to inclusiveness can be seen in its wide array of engaging events that are inspired from Dominican culture. With games such as dominoes being popular, it is no surprise that ASEDOM has held its competitive dominoes tournament for many years. Similarly, the club hosts an annual Mamboneo event, where professional dancers educate students on the intricacies of Latin dance such as bachata, merengue and salsa. Adding on to its annual events, the club also hosts a yearly potluck event that draws students

of various backgrounds. Most recently, the club hosted a Dominican Carnival inspired by similar events in the Dominican Republic held to celebrate Dominican Independence Day.

"We not only informed people about a historic event and time in the Dominican Republic but also allowed them to come experience a rich part of our culture," said the club's Vice President Rayxely Tejada of the event, which featured various performances, games and activities.

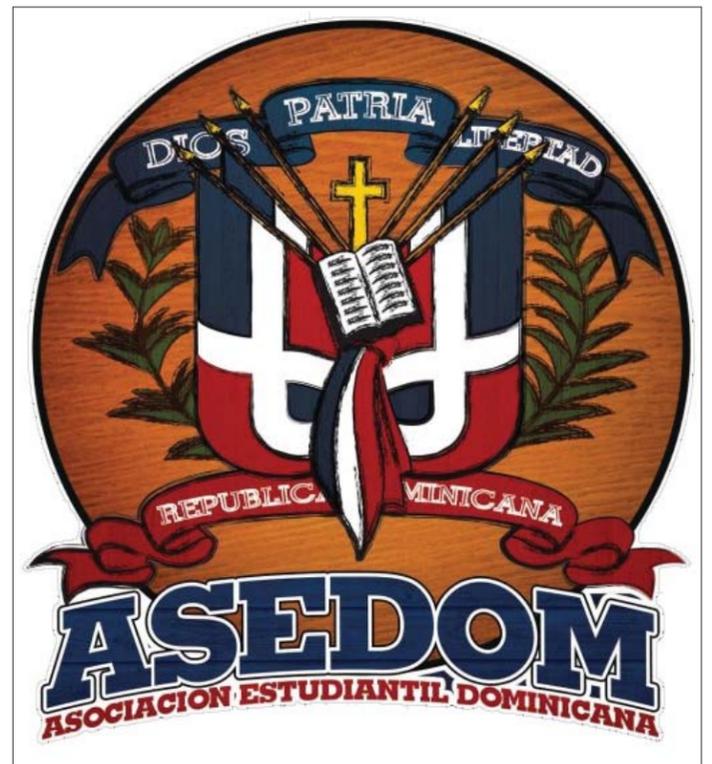
"We were able to provide them with an experience from our country that many students probably didn't even know existed. ASEDOM is all about bringing people together for one common goal, but also allows that goal to be reached through many different ways."

Still, ASEDOM keeps its core virtues of culture, excellence and unity in mind when aiding Dominican students in need of social or educational assistance. At the root of its cause, ASEDOM has fought to squash the negative stereotypes that plague Dominican students, among other issues.

"It's important that there is an association for Dominican students, because there are a lot of issues and conflicts we as Dominicans face in the world," said ASEDOM Secretary Jharline Calderon.

"An organization like ASEDOM can help join them together to avoid facing these issues alone. Issues like the poverty in the Dominican Republic and the culture shock of moving from your home country to another. Also many Dominican-Americans want to be more in touch with their culture and are not able to learn about where they come from as much as they would like because they don't believe they have the resource," she said.

"These are problems ASEDOM



SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

ASEDOM's mission on campus relies on three principles: culture, excellence and unity.

tries to crack down on. ASEDOM is not only a club available to students who are curious about Dominican traditions or the culture but also those who are of the culture and seek to find other students on campus who can also relate about where they come from," she added.

All in all, ASEDOM's goals remain clear: to maintain a safe and supportive environment for Dominican students and non-Dominican students alike. In the future, ASEDOM plans to host a gala event with a "Latinos in Education" theme. Taking from the club's credo, the event will serve to

display the importance of Latino educators through invited speakers, while also distinguishing Latinos who have displayed greatness within Baruch.

"[ASEDOM's founders] wanted everyone to see that there are Dominicans who are educated and professional," said Subervi. "Throughout the years we have proven that Dominicans are not their stereotypes and, we have many great aspects to offer to the community ... ASEDOM is all about bringing people together for one common goal, but also allowing that goal to be reached through many different ways."

## Grant helps to renovate veterans' lounge

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Working with the guidance of their club advisor Aubrey DeCarlo, the club was able to redesign the space during the fall semester.

Previously a space for veterans to socialize with a design similar to other club rooms, the new architecture of the lounge emulates a United Service Organizations lounge, with wooden cabins, a leather couch and décor that resonates with the student veterans. The leather couch immediately draws attention to students who enter, regal in design and comfortable to relax.

Given the commuter tag of Baruch, Schede wanted the room to be more welcoming and better aid veteran integration at Baruch. The couch "gives us a place to really sit," said Schede.

He believes that there are many benefits that veterans do not take advantage of, like going to college through the GI Bill.

"I remember being in the Middle East and thinking about my next move, because I was coming to the end of my contract. I was thinking, do I stay in and re-enlist, get the extra bonus money? ... it's tax-free overseas," said Schede.

Without an answer, Schede recalls a conversation with a friend who suggested pursuing a degree. "I never considered that option," said Schede.

With over 36 months of active duty, Schede was eligible for tuition coverage at military-friendly schools in addition to a rent stipend that allows him to focus on his studies. This is a newer feature to the GI Bill, which aims to have more soldiers involved with their studies.

By subsidizing housing, veterans can focus more on school and assimilating to life outside of the military.

Baruch is located blocks away



AGATA PONIAKOWSKI | THE TICKER

Baruch's SVA chapter was selected for the Home Depot foundation veteran's grant.

from the VA NY Healthcare System and across the street from the armory.

"It's just a perfect fit," said Schede. Only 25 percent of veterans take advantage of the GI Bill.

"You get accustomed to the culture and the lifestyle of being in the military," said Steven D'Souza, a student veteran who served from 1999-2004.

"Just being a veteran is great, but we have to transition and become civilians again. The GI bill is a paid transition training for us to get back into society, because the military is a whole different world," said Schede.

A ceremony was held on March 1 to cut the ribbon on the renovated student veteran lounge. After sharing the photo essay he submitted

for the grant, Schede cut the ribbon with his Leatherman multi-tool, which he carries on him at all times because of its tremendous sentimental value.

Branded in Philmont, New Mexico, from his adventures in the scout ranch as a boy scout, the tool is used by Schede for numerous functions in his life. It helped him build homes during his three months in Cambodia. It was a useful tool to rip out jammed bullets in the Middle East and adjust sights on weapons during training. It proved especially useful to the celebration of a new space for all student veterans.

"Given to me from my older brother, it has gone all over the world with me. I keep that legacy going in a sense," said Schede.

## CSI opens food pantry to serve students in need

BY ZOE REDA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Feb. 26, the College of Staten Island opened its first food pantry for students dealing with food insecurity. This new pantry, in accordance with the CSI Office of Student Life, will be providing food for all disadvantaged students regardless of any verification of need.

This *pro bono* act is just one measure that CSI is taking to prevent food insecurity. There are over 1.4 million people in the greater New York City area suffering from food insecurity, meaning that about 1 in 4 children and teens are left hungry every day.

The numbers are even more glaring in terms of CUNY students. According to a recent article by NY1 that brought attention to the pantry, over 40 percent of CUNY students are experiencing food insecurity on any given day. As a college student, staying sustained through a proper diet is vital to one's academic success. A majority of CUNY students also face incredibly long days, juggling work, school and home life. According to Carol Bower, director of student life at CSI, CSI is being proactive in its quest to fight hunger.

"The pantry is in effect thanks to funds from the student activity fees," explained Bower. "Additionally, donations are always expected and quite often given from Staten Island citizens that are understanding of this issue."

Since the recent opening, already 15 students have visited the food pantry. Bower explained that the location of the food pantry, in front of the Green Dolphin Lounge, was chosen to encourage all stu-

dents to come collect food if needed. This central location seemed worrisome at first, but Bower acknowledged that students have not left the pantry disappointed.

"We have found that some of our students have approached the pantry with mild reservation or reluctance but have left extremely appreciative and grateful of the resources they were able to attain from the pantry," said Bower. All students ended up, "looking forward to being able to come back at a future date."

The process behind creating this project has been no small feat either. In preparation for this pantry, the college appointed staff to research what makes a student-run pantry successful. They scouted local supermarkets and recruited student volunteers who agreed to help even before the pantry was officially formed. Volunteers are meticulously trained to be both mindful and thoughtful of the students who come into the pantry abiding by its confidentiality agreement.

While there are always issues arising in any early stage project, CSI is sticking to their values in order to create a positive and inviting environment for students experiencing food insecurity.

Brower explained that "The College of Staten Island embodies the time-honored tradition of a community of people helping and caring for one another."

This golden rule will keep the pantry alive and flourishing throughout the CUNY system.

There are five active food pantries in CUNY. By the end of the spring, there are projected to be four more pantries active CUNY-wide.

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# USG NEWSLETTER

## DEAR BARUCH STUDENTS,

Hello all! I hope you guys had a fun at Bearcats on Ice! We raised a lot of money for Relay for Life. Also, don't forget about the tuition hikes petition. You can sign it on the University Student Senate website. (<http://www.usscuny.org/>) We wish you all a good semester!

Best,  
Baruch's Undergraduate Student Government

## RECURRING EVENTS:



### SENATE MEETINGS

- Tuesdays, 5:30pm
- USG Conference Room (3rd Floor, USG Suite)

## EVENTS THIS WEEK:

### MARCH 2016

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

### MONDAY, 3/14

**IN A DIFFERENT KEY AS PART OF BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK**  
This FREE event brings award-winning journalists John Donvan and Caren Zucker, who have written what is sure to become the definitive history of autism. The New York Times bestselling *In A Different Key* tells stories of human perseverance while delving deeply into how we understand autism as a diagnosis, a disability, and a social phenomenon.  
6:30pm Location: Engelman Recital Hall

### MONDAY, 3/21

### TUESDAY, 3/15

- THE GRID:**  
Join The Grid for a regular meeting where board games and fun are galore!  
Club Hours, Location: NVC 4-120
- SUIT UP (STARR CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER)**  
All monetary proceeds will be donated to Relay for Life (The American Cancer Society)  
12:30pm-2:30pm Location: 2-190
- ACCOUNTING SOCIETY:**  
Perfect Your 30 Second Pitch with O'Connor and Becker  
Come meet the recruiter from O'Connor Davies and see what Becker has to offer! Please come in Business Attire.  
12:30pm-2:30pm Location: VC 4-211
- USG: BUDGETS ABC Workshop**  
Budgets season is here and this is your chance to ask Chair of Finance, Salma Mohamed, all of your burning questions about the budget proposal.  
12:30-2:30pm Location: VC 3-165
- USG SENATE MEETING**  
5:30PM Location: 3-270
- ### TUESDAY, 3/22
- TUESDAY TALKS WITH HILLEL!**  
12:30-2:30pm Location: 3-210  
Every Tuesday Hillel will be talking about what's new in the media, in Israel politics, and on campus.
- NBA 2K Tournament Game Day: Join SEEK Society at the NBA 2K Tournament!** Several systems are being played such as xbox, wii, and playstation! Other various games!  
Refreshments will be served!  
5:30-9pm Location: NVC 2-125
- NBA 2K Tournament Game Day: Join SEEK Society at the NBA 2K Tournament!** Several systems are being played such as xbox, wii, and playstation! Other various games!  
Refreshments will be served!  
5:30-9pm Location: NVC 2-125
- USG SENATE MEETING**  
5:30PM Location: 3-270



WANT TO RECIEVE OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER?

Sign up at [www.usg-bearcat.com](http://www.usg-bearcat.com)

## ATTENTION CLUB LEADERS!

If you have an event added to the calendar, news letter, and Ticker publication please email it **ONE WEEK** in advance to [events@usgbaruch.com](mailto:events@usgbaruch.com) in the following format:

Subject: Event\_Event Name  
Event Name:  
Event Date and Time:  
Event Location:  
Event Blurb:  
Link to Event's Facebook Event Page:  
Clubs Organizing it:  
Clubs Cosponsoring:

Please attach any flyer or marketing you have for the event.



## USG REPORT

- The USG Report airs on WBMB Baruch College Radio. Time will be announced on usg-bearcat.com.
- It's a show that discusses the upcoming week in Baruch, showcases different members of USG, and tackles current events relating to the Baruch undergraduate student population.

Tune in at wbmbbiz.com, 94.3FM, and call in with your thoughts at 646-312-4726.

## CONNECT WITH USG:

- Visit us at [usg-bearcat.com](http://usg-bearcat.com)
- Like us on [facebook.com/usgbaruch](https://facebook.com/usgbaruch)
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- Follow us @usgbaruch

## WEDNESDAY, 3/16

### HILLEL: CHAT WITH US!

12PM-2PM Location: 2nd Floor Lobby  
Every Wednesday, come chat with Hillel at Baruch as we showcase all we have to offer, from upcoming events, to job opportunities to social and community outreach. Let us know how we can make your college experience the best it can possibly be!

### VOLUNTEER OR INTERN ABROAD WITH AIESEC!

Get to know AIESEC's volunteer and intern abroad programs! As the world's largest student-run organization, we offer internships and volunteer opportunities in over 124 different countries.  
5pm Location: VC 3-210

### BRAINS WITH MUSIC AS PART OF BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK:

This FREE event: Dr. Ted Coons and Dr. Concetta Tomaino hold a talk with Q&A about their professions at the intersection of medicine and music.  
6:30pm Location: Engelman Recital Hall

## WEDNESDAY, 3/23

## CLASSES FOLLOW A FRIDAY SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY, 3/17

### GOLDEN KEY:

CLASH OF THE BEARCATS 2016  
Watch other students run around and play games, while raising money for Relay for Life!  
12:30pm-2:30pm Location: AUX gym

### PHILOSOPHY CLUB

Lively discussion group about contemporary issues with bearing on moral, political, theoretical or any other kind of philosophy. You don't have to be a phil major to attend!  
12:30-2:30pm Location: VC 5-298

Baruch's Jewish Studies Center  
Screening of The Flat.  
Documentary film maker Arnon Goldfinger and some of his relatives meet at the Tel Aviv home of their recently deceased grandparents, refugees from Nazi Germany, to clean out the apartment.  
12:30pm Location: Engelman Recital Hall

WBMB: Throwback Thursday  
We are featuring everyone's favorite Hip Hop, Rap, Pop, and Dance throwbacks from the '80s, '90s, early 2000's along with current Top 40 jams!  
6pm-9pm Location: Multipurpose Room

## THURSDAY, 3/24

### JAPANESE ANIME ASYLUM

Slice of Helena: Slice of Helena will be a screening of slice of life animes that depict everyday life!  
Club Hours, Location: NVC 11-165

BROADWAY'S LEADING LADIES:  
WHM Committee presents a Melody of Musicals! Let this melody of musicals enchant you with live performances of classic Broadway hits from talented Baruch women! We are accepting donations for A Broadway Foundation, which seeks to empower urban girls through art-centered programs.  
Club hours Location: 2nd Floor Lobby

### PHILOSOPHY CLUB

Lively discussion group about contemporary issues with bearing on moral, political, theoretical or any other kind of philosophy. You don't have to be a phil major to attend!  
12:30-2:30pm Location: VC 5-298

## FRIDAY, 3/18

Heritage Month Leadership Series: WHM presents a day trip to Philadelphia! Explore Philadelphia's National Constitution Center, The Betsy Ross House, The Independence Hall, The Liberty Bell and more. Contact Student Life for Details.

Sigma Alpha Delta: WHM's Alumni Mentorship Dinner  
Join Sigma Alpha Delta & Women's History Month as we host Sigma's semi-annual Alumni Mentorship Dinner.  
6pm-9pm Location: Multipurpose Room

USG: Virtual Townhall  
Join USG for one last Townhall this year! Grab a seat at home and tune into WBMB or livestream us on Youtube to hear what we're up to.  
6pm-8pm Location: VC 3-270

## FRIDAY, 3/25

# Opinions

## FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

### Writing Center offers students comprehensive services

One of the best ways to indicate the quality of an educational institute is by measuring how effective their student services are. College students have a multitude of needs, and so universities must step-up to ensure that the proper facilities and staff are available to address them. Despite the number of student services available at Baruch College, few students end up taking advantage of them. Here, we have language services, mental health services, research assistance and a variety of other services housed in various departments. Not to mention, the numerous clubs and student-run organizations on campus offer myriad opportunities to improve their skills.

The most criminally underused of these student services is by far the Writing Center. Among the many tutoring and mentor services offered at Baruch, the Writing Center stands among them as the gold standard for what student services should aspire to be.

Situated on the eighth floor of the Vertical Campus, the Writing Center offers its services to all undergraduate and graduate students of Baruch who seek them. Whether a student needs help with a particularly tough essay in their English class, a sociology paper or even something that is completely unrelated to school work, the Writing Center does not discriminate.

The staff that is available for student use is comprised of a number of distinguished writers and authors. Each of these writers is willing to devote their time and energy to ensuring that students are able to leave their appointment with a professional-quality paper and a greater knowledge on how to craft one. Workshops are also offered each Tuesday and Thursday during club hours, with topics ranging from the revising process to how to write in a professional business setting.

The Writing Center is also home to The Lexington Review, an online journal that gives Baruch students the chance to publish some of their best scholarly papers. For students seeking an opportunity to distinguish themselves and their writing, The Lexington Review allows them a rare opportunity.

Students who wish to attain the best possible experience from Baruch are doing themselves a huge disservice by not utilizing these free services. Though students may often dismiss the idea, it is true that once they graduate, they will lose access to many features of Baruch that they once took for granted. On the opposite side of the spectrum, other Baruch student services, which are typically very good, could still stand to learn from the Writing Center's methods.

### Avoid embarrassment on St. Paddy's Day

It is that time of year again—a time for rich, frothy Guinness and corned beef and cabbage. Yes, it is St. Patrick's Day, and the holiday's timing amid midterms could not be more appropriate. We could all use a drink.

At least, those of us who have spent 21 years or more on this planet badly need one. Anything from Ireland or with a shamrock will do: Guinness, Jameson or Bailey's Irish Cream.

*The Ticker* asks that you "enjoy responsibly"—as the saying goes. Be careful not to embarrass yourself on Thursday, March 17.

Being caught up in the green sea of a parade or bar crawl might result in a momentary lapse of judgment as you shoot a quick text to a friend or email to a professor about missing class. And nothing can dampen the Irish spirit more than a humiliating moment of drunken action. Please enjoy responsibly and remember: it is "St. Paddy's Day," not "St. Patty's Day."

Patty is the diminutive of Patricia. It is what Spongebob Squarepants cooks up at the Krusty Krab. It is a Mother Goose rhyme.

Patrick is the English version of the Gaelic Padraig, and the Irish shortening of Patrick is Paddy. Éirinn go Brách!



REBECCA VICENTE | THE TICKER

## Tuition debate impasse hurts CUNY

The decision to raise tuition across CUNY distills to a disagreement between administration and students

The discussion about raising tuition across all CUNYs has been not-so-silently approaching an impasse. A number of CUNY students have been advocating for a tuition freeze. Members of the University State Senate, the CUNY student-run government, have been sending out petitions and holding rallies in support of the tuition freeze. The administration, on the other hand, maintains its defense of the rational tuition hike.

The rational tuition plan, first put in place in 2011 as an act that raises CUNY tuition by \$300 per annum, is at debate again for the following academic year. The hike was instituted as a means of precaution; the New York state government over the years has been cutting the budget allotted to CUNY. In the event that the government chooses not to support CUNY this year, the administration wants to be prepared and issue out a tuition hike in order to make up the difference that would be lost.

Governor Cuomo, it seems, does not actively support the maintenance of CUNY. His SUNY-CUNY merge idea completely nullifies the existence of a homegrown university system within New York City. His budget proposals have sliced \$300 million from senior college budgets and \$200 million across all two-year CUNY institutions and community colleges. CUNY students desperately rely on that money in order to handle neces-

sary in-building maintenance and maintain an appropriate learning environment for all of the students it houses.

CUNY budgets are impossible to cut without repercussion due to the fact that CUNY houses almost 90 percent of the entire collegiate population within New York City.

The stark difference in opinion between administration and CUNY students and its government is embarrassing and unnecessary. The administration's proposal to raise tuition is well-intended, but it does not take into account the difficulties students would have in paying that extra cost. The administration wants to raise tuition in order to cover the difference if government officials were to diminish the CUNY budget more.

The underlying intention behind this decision is to continue to provide adequate and appropriate public university services to students. But extra costs only hinder the academic experience of any student, no matter the institute. The quality of the education would certainly remain the same, despite the possibility of increasing tuition. Demanding that students pay more money for an education of the same quality is absurd, an ignominious attempt by the administration to pocket hard-earned money at the hands of its very students.

How can members of the same student body collectively disagree on prime issues such as this? The

goal of any university is to put its students' best interests first. Students and the USS along with the respective student governments of each CUNY are fighting back with the prospect of achieving a tuition freeze to avoid paying additional costs for an education of the same quality.

The extent to which an administration and the students it governs should disagree is slight. To stand on complete opposite ends of the same spectrum when this kind of relationship is upheld is undeniably wrong.

The CUNY administration should actively seek out ways to improve the education of students at as minimal a cost as possible. The administration, rather, places the burden on students to resolve an issue that seems bigger than the institution itself. Students and the administration should work in conjunction to come to a resolution when decisions as impactful as this are to be made. The administration and student government need to come to a consensus rather than pit against one another in order to maximize efforts. Although disagreements may occur, it is in the best interest of every student for all supportive groups to recognize the beneficial steps toward developing and executing the means to the best possible education.

-Yelena Dzhanova  
Pol. Sci. '19

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## Many groups underrepresented at Oscars

A scathing monologue performed by Chris Rock at the 88th Academy Awards received mixed reviews. Rock took a comedic approach when addressing the tension brought up by Jada Smith's attempt to rally a boycott at this year's show when she tweeted, "People of color are always welcomed to give out awards ... even entertain, but we are rarely recognized for our artistic accomplishments." Smith was referring to the fact that in the past two years, only white actors have been nominated for the 20 acting categories at the Oscars. Rock's speech received some edgy reactions from the crowd when he made the claim that black actors do not get the same opportunities as white actors.

The problem really has nothing to do with the Oscars at all. As Whoopi Goldberg stated on *The View*, "You wanna boycott something? Don't go see the movies that don't have your representation." When Smith expressed her opin-

ions to The Academy over social media attempting to rally a boycott, she was addressing her argument toward the wrong individuals.

Statistically, the more Caucasian candidates applicable for awards, the greater the chance that the majority of nominations will be Caucasians. A report published by the Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA shows that, between the years 2011 and 2013, about 86 percent of the lead actors cast in theatrical roles were white, with the other 14 percent being minorities of all races, not just African-Americans. There is a far greater chance of having all-white Oscar nominees simply because there is a much larger pool from which to choose. Oscar winner George Clooney defended The Academy, stating in an interview with *Variety*, "I don't think it's a problem of who you're picking as much as it is: How many options are available to minorities in film, particularly in quality films."

Rock's argument that, "Hollywood is racist," might have some weight to it simply because of the underrepresentation of minorities in Hollywood. However, this can still be attributed to the fact that in 2014, census.gov reported that 13.2 percent of the U.S. population is African American alone. It is clear that the disproportionate population of whites versus minority races in the United States can speak for the disproportion of minorities in Hollywood and in representation at awards shows like The Oscars.

In fact, of the minorities in Hollywood, African Americans are certainly not the least represented.

Given the information on the demographics of the United States, the population of minorities varies respectively with the representation of minorities in Hollywood, therefore it is unlikely that racism is the issue here.

-Tyler Bass  
Economics '18

## UN hides own violations

The world power ignores a number of accusations made against it

The United Nations recently disclosed that 69 cases of sexual abuse were opened against their peacekeepers in 10 different missions around the world. This is an increase in cases from the past year and the highest number of reported incidents of sexual assault since 2011. Most of the abuse accusations come from the Central African Republic, where last year one peacekeeper was publicly accused of abusing a 12-year-old girl in the nation's capitol. Pregnancies have been reported in teenage victims as a result of the abuse. The response, however, is akin to slapping a child on the wrist for a tiny misdeed. Amidst strong words from the Secretary-General, some of the punishments for the peacekeepers involved include simple firings and suspensions.

What is just as contemptible, however, is the response from the United Nations toward those who reported the alleged abuses in the first place. Anders Kompass, a field operations director for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, reported incidents of sexual violation by French peacekeepers in the Central African Republic to French authorities. However, the head of the OHCHR at the time, Prince Zeid bin Ra'ad of Jordan, suspended Kompass when he discovered that the operations director had not elected to obtain approval from a superior officer before reporting the violations. Kompass' suspension was found to be unlawful by an internal investigation.

The United Nations spent a reckless deal of time investigating whether Kompass had violated a bureaucratic barrier, when its resources would have served

far more effectively investigating the abuses Kompass had circumvented the bureaucracy to report. The story of the abuses first broke in April, but Kompass was only cleared of any wrongdoing the January of this year. In that time, the United Nations spent roughly nine months in a campaign of defamation against Kompass. An independent panel formed to help determine Kompass's guilt called the United Nations' actions a "gross institutional failure."

With the official number of reported cases now in the public eye, one can only wonder how many investigations were impeded by the need of the United Nations to properly determine the credibility of potential whistleblowers. This is not the first time the United Nations had attempted to discredit those reporting gross violations of human rights by an organization allegedly devoted to them. Kathryn Bolkovac, a peacekeeper in Bosnia, attempted to report what she claimed was sex trafficking under the eye of the United Nations and DynCorp, the military contractor that lent out employees to the peacekeeping mission in Bosnia. This was in 1999, and a tribunal ruled in her favor when she sued against DynCorp for unfair dismissal for reporting the abuse.

The response to the scandal was the United Nations sending some of the men involved in the mission home. There have been no prosecutions in regards to the Bolkovac case, and with a track record like that, it is a wonder whether the United Nations will properly court-martial those involved in the Central African Republic case.

-Reuwen Glezer  
Journalism '19

## Several attempts to shame Trump fail

THE POLITICKER



DAVON SINGH

Back when Donald Trump announced he was running for president as a Republican, most people assumed he was running as a joke. Well, the joke stopped being funny. Trump is getting closer to securing the nomination and has become a Gordian knot for the Republican Party.

The Republican establishment had three options to stop Trump. The first option to deal with Trump was simple: ignore him. The party believed that the electorate would do away with Trump for them. Unfortunately, this has not been the case.

Trump had a successful night on Super Tuesday, winning seven of the 11 states up for grab and securing 237 delegates.

He now has 384 delegates, after picking up two more states this past weekend. In total he would need 1,237 delegates to lock up the nomination. So, the first option is off the table. This now leaves the establishment with two more options, both of which are less than desirable.

Former presidential candidate Mitt Romney fired the opening salvo of the Republican Civil War, calling Trump a phony and saying his promises are as worthless as a degree from Trump University. Both Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz have also unleashed a barrage of criticism aimed at Trump, echoing

the words of Romney.

The overarching goal here is to hurt Trump at the polls and deny him as many delegates as possible.

The projections of most pundits show that is Trump barely on the path to get the needed number of delegates. If Trump loses or underperforms in the upcoming primaries in Ohio and Florida, it would knock him off track. If Trump cannot capture enough delegates, the result would be a contested convention, the GOP's second option.

How this works is simple. If Trump cannot reach 1,237 delegates on the first ballot at the Republican National Convention, a second ballot will be cast. However, for the second ballot delegates are no longer bound to the candidate their state voted for. So, in theory these delegates could vote instead for Rubio, Cruz, Kasich, Romney or whoever the Republican establishment wants. The risks associated with this option are high though.

This shows the nation the party cannot even decide on someone to lead them, and the fighting could turn off general election voters.

But the most damaging outcome of a contested convention is the possible blowback of denying the nomination to the candidate with the most votes. A similar situation occurred at the 1968 Democratic convention, and it took the party 24 years to recover.

Another negative side effect of the second option is that Trump could run third party out of spite. While this is unlikely based on the costs of an independent run, nothing should be put past Trump. Now, if he does run independently, the Democrats could nominate a shoebox and still win the election.

The final option is to run an independent third party candidate who gives Republicans an option

besides Clinton or Trump.

This spells doom for Trump, as a recent CNN Poll shows 48 percent of Republicans who do not currently support Trump will not support him in November. Similar to the second option this would also give the Democrats the White House come November.

The last thing the Republican establishment wants is another Clinton in the White House, but to them that may be a better alternative than having Trump as the Republican nominee. Trump signals the death of the Republican Party. Perhaps in this case, it would be more beneficial for the Republican Party to save face rather than endorse or support Trump. His platform stands in contrast to the social and economic conservatism that the party has preached for decades. He is not a true Conservative. He is leading the party in a new direction that cannot be controlled. This direction takes radical turns that are not representative of any one party's beliefs. He shames the Republican Establishment. Trump has offended women, Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans and a host of others. He has done nothing for down ballot Republican candidates.

Republican donors like the Koch brothers are hesitant to donate money to a candidate who is unpredictable. All the strides the party has made from their crushing defeat in 2012 are being undone by Trump.

Whether it is a contested convention or running a third party candidate to sabotage Trump, he needs to be stopped. The Republican establishment needs to bite the bullet, concede the White House to the Democrats and then try again in four years. He would be an embarrassment to the party of Lincoln and Reagan.

## Civilian kill rates show efficacy of drones

Drone attacks may be favorable, but the ethics behind their execution are questionable yet necessary

Four hellfire missiles cut through dead, dry air, their fins tearing the timid stillness of night.

Through the haze a night vision camera peers on, linking a pilot thousands of miles away to the eyes of the matte white angel of death, floating high in the sky. In an instant, life in the target range is incinerated, enveloped by the missile's explosion. The fireball does not discriminate between good or bad, friend or foe; it kills for the sake of killing.

The predator and reaper drones are multimillion dollar harbingers of death that have been dispensing an American brand of justice on the sands of the Middle East since 2004. Since the first unguided bomb was dropped, there have been debates about the efficacy and ethics of such a program. The debate can be summarized as follows: firstly, a pilot, disconnected from the conflict, pulls the trigger and detaches his or herself from the action. Secondly, from miles above, it is difficult—if not impossible—to discriminate among targets within the blast radius. Thirdly, many of the missions are carried out extra-judicially and often outside of a battlefield. And fourthly, neither the victims nor the civilians targeted have either a chance to defend themselves or the right of due process to determine their faith.

Our intuition tells us to look at the numbers. Drone strikes are carried out through multiple theaters of war: Pakistan, Somalia, Afghanistan, Iraq and Yemen. Though estimates are often muddled by the nature of the strikes, that is, beyond a warzone, low-end predictions by the Bureau of Investigative Journalism determine that

drone strikes in Pakistan have a 17 percent civilian kill rate, the high end being 24 percent. Strikes in Yemen yield roughly a 15 percent civilian kill rate. Somalian drone strikes yield up to a 2 percent civilian kill rate.

The fact that there is an official "civilian kill rate" is distributing in its own right, but many are inclined to compare the alternatives. Air strikes and ground assaults are undoubtedly more deadly, and the comparative acuteness of drone strikes is undeniable. Counting the numbers, it is objectively better to kill fewer civilians. But treating dead civilians as numbers in an equation is nonetheless inhumane.

If one accepts that war is inescapable, especially given our immense military infrastructure and hawkish military climate, the answer to the aforementioned question is clear: drone strikes maximize the efficacy of killing while minimizing civilian casualties. Any questions of morality are posed to the people executing the strikes, not the nature of the strikes themselves.

The alternative is to say that "accepting" civilian casualties of any kind is depraved. There could be another option, even if that means letting a high-value target escape. Recently, a drone strike in Iraq likely killed the Islamic State group "minister of war" Abu Omar Al-Shishani, among other militants. Given the narrow window of opportunity, it was a masterfully executed assassination in that no civilians were reported dead, and a top general of the civilization-devouring terrorist group was eliminated. In years past, however, attacks carried out in such narrow timeframes were

less effective.

Stories abound of hospitals, schools and even refugee camps being wiped out by drone strikes fueled by eagerness and misinformation.

So what place is there for a drone strike program? They are likely unconstitutional, arguably legal at best and often result in tragic events.

Enough tragedies play into the fear and hatred of the United States that Islamic State group and other terrorist groups feed off.

To adequately determine the answer to ethical questions, one must decide their feelings on the nature of modern warfare with invisible enemies. A war weary United States longs to keep their troops from harm but craves the blood of their enemies, as if out of habit. Killing as many as possible seems the likely and most favorable policy route, but an ideology is conspicuously impervious to hellfire missiles.

It is reductive on either end to say that drone strikes are necessarily good or necessarily bad. The program is the embodiment of today's warfare: morally gray. It is better in the short term to stay on the living side of moral ambiguity, vis-a-vis explosives, but the strategy is unsustainable.

Relying on the independent CIA to carry out missions on the fabled disposition matrix is like trusting the NSA to lawfully spy. Shifting oversight to the Department of Defense does not guarantee greater scrutiny and does not constitutionally justify the program—but it sure makes it easier to live with.

-Stephen Elliott  
Economics and Pol. Sci. '16

## Drivers becoming dated

The development of autonomous cars can drastically reduce deaths

Just as the broom was improved by the vacuum cleaner and the vacuum cleaner by the Roomba, mankind has always tried to find easier and more effective ways to get things done. The latest example of this is self-driving vehicles. A handful of companies including Ford, Mercedes-Benz, Google and Tesla are embracing what they see as the inevitable technological shift to autonomous, or self-driving vehicles. Critics contend that we are simply not ready for autonomous vehicles, and that the technology is moving too fast for us to analyze its implications. Some of the criticisms leveled include ethical dilemmas, such as lines of code taking responsibility for the lives of humans and the consequential downsizing of auto-insurance, parking and driving industries. Others have made arguably less crucial cultural dilemmas, such as the potential of future generations not knowing what a steering wheel is.

The introduction of new technologies is important for the advancement of society. The most obvious benefit to self-driving vehicles is the safety; the number one cause of traffic accidents and deaths is, unsurprisingly, the human behind the wheel. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 94 percent of traffic accidents are caused by the driver. As Elon Musk succinctly asserted, "You can't have a person driving a 2-ton death machine." Each year, about 1.3 million people die in traffic incidents around the world, which is equivalent to the entire population of San Diego perishing annually. This number does not even include the 20-to-50 million who are injured or disabled. We are jaded by the

roughly 33,000 deaths per year just in the United States caused by traffic accidents.

The relative capability of self-driving vehicles in this day and age is beyond question. Google's autonomous test vehicles have driven more than 1.4 million miles on public roads with only 18 accidents to date, all but one caused by other human drivers. The one accident caused by the Google test car was at a collision speed of slightly above 1 mile per hour. If self-driving vehicles can reduce the number of vehicle accidents dramatically, which seems quite possible given their track record, it would be an incredible advancement in the general safety and technological competence of mankind. Naturally, driver-centric industries will suffer, but industry changes come with any major industrial advancement. We could have millions of people working on farms today if not for the mechanical combine or millions of people doing banal calculations with abaci if not for the computer, but we do not because we accepted these inventions as net positives. Driving only became a social feature of society because of the necessity of humans to operate vehicles; we could just as easily make the production of our own paper or pasteurizing our own milk a social feature of society if we moved away from mass production, but this would not make any sense.

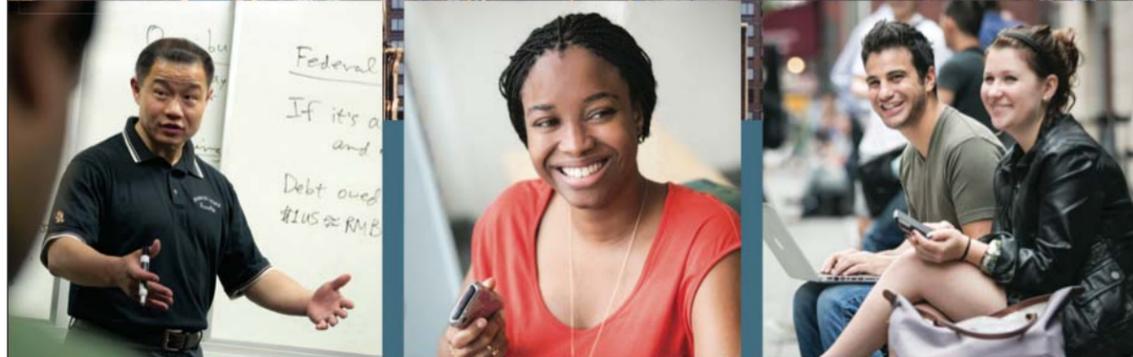
Any shift in the technological paradigm would cause ethical dilemmas, but if we are to move forward as a dynamic and sapient species, we must face them with courage and an indomitable spirit

-Kevin Kim  
CIS '17

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# Business

## US Bureau of Labor report indicates increase in employment

BY VICKIE SAVVIDES  
STAFF WRITER

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics released its latest jobs report, which said that in February the total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 242,000 jobs while the unemployment rate remained stable at 4.9 percent.

According to the report, the employment rate has shown an increase in jobs in various sectors including: health care, social assistance, retail trade, food services and drinking places and educational services.

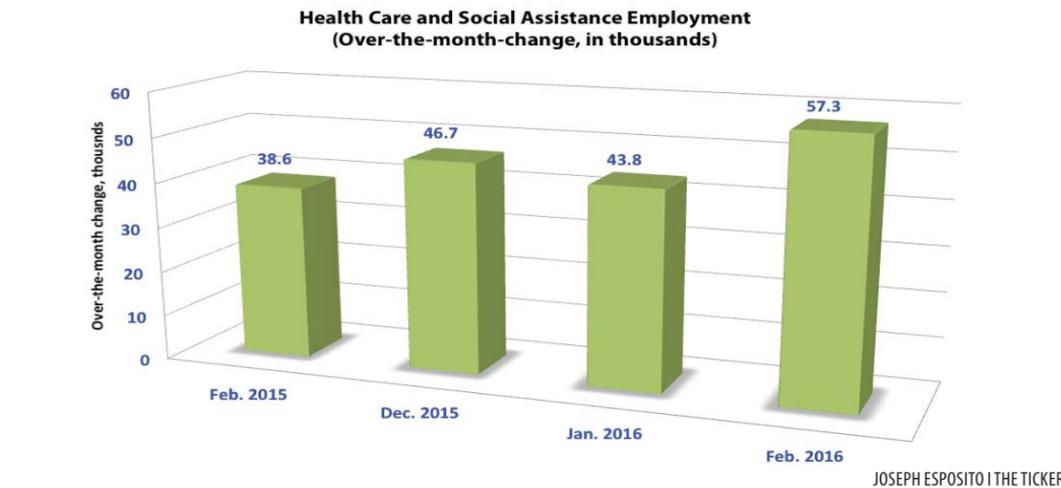
The private sector has reported 72 months of uninterrupted job gains, the longest record since the economic downturn in 2009.

The report includes the extreme change in duration of unemployment in February in comparison to the average rate of 4.4 years.

In one year, the duration of unemployment decreased by 13.8 percent in comparison to the median, and 7.6 percent in comparison to the average rate. This means that during the month of February, people were unemployed for a significantly shorter period of time.

The report also reveals that the number of people either too discouraged to look for work or satisfied with a part-time job because they are unable to find one that is full-time, also fell by 0.2 to the 9.7 percent mark of last month.

The most positive statistic found with regards to the hiring rate is the evidence that those who had long been incapable of finding jobs were being placed back into



Employment in health care and social assistance has increased over the past few months, indicating that the sector is improving.

the job market.

The overall share of Americans in the labor force increased 0.2 of a percentage point to 62.9 percent, a fairly encouraging sign that this could be an increasing trend in the upcoming months.

The February increase is especially significant in relation to the rates of previous years. A mere four years ago, the unemployment rate was at a whopping 8.3 percent. Now that it has fallen by 3.4 percent, there is much hope for a continual increase in employment in the job market.

However, it is to be noted that the change in economic cycle has created both hope and concern for economists.

Although the statistics do seem promising, they raise questions on

the uneven balance of the economy. The economic gains are extremely dependent on the locations in which the workers live and the industries for which they are employed. Although health care has seen a great increase in employment by 38,000 jobs within the month, the mining and manufacturing industries have seen an adverse effect, and in fact, a greater unemployment rate than that of January. Just in February, the mining industry lost 19,000 jobs and the manufacturing industry reported a loss of 16,000.

Another reason for this discrepancy is that there has been greater demand for hospitality and service workers, often at lower wages than expected. The higher total job count hides losses in manufacturing, transportation, ware-

housing and energy. These are the better-paying industries that tend to be dominated by more highly qualified workers with regards to educational background.

The statistics are also presented comprehensively for the country as a whole and do not fully depict the areas of the United States in which employment rates have significantly risen or substantially decreased. The loss of jobs in the manufacturing and mining industries may not be as greatly felt in states with more diversified economies such as New York, but in Michigan or Ohio, the unemployment has called for concern.

A negative portion of the generally positive report released by the Labor Department is also found in wages, which actually decreased by

0.1 percent in February. This comes after a 0.5 percent increase documented one month prior. This statistic put the yearly growth in wages at a percentage rate of 2.2 percent.

Additionally, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls (excluding manufacturing) declined by 0.2 hours in February. The average workweek for production of the former also decreased by 0.1 hour.

To add to this, the average hourly earnings for employees actually decreased by 3 cents to \$25.35. This decline follows the commendable increase by 12 cents that was reported in January. Many workers, although employed, are still enlisted in low paying jobs that are beneath their skillsets.

Within all of the quantitative data is indeed a remarkable record of economic growth for the United States that should not be discounted.

President Barack Obama released the following statement after the governmental report was released: "Our businesses have created jobs every single month since I signed that 'job killing' Obamacare bill," he said. "Think about this: If somebody had told us seven years ago that we would get to this point — at a time when we were losing 800,000 jobs a month, and the unemployment rate hit 10 percent — we wouldn't have believed it."

The report is indicative of a slow but steady economic recovery especially in the job market.

It is speculated that the possibility of a change in interest rates in the near future may come as a product of the increase.

## UK prime minister denies probability of 'Brexit' from European Union

BY MARIA MARKOWICZ  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

When U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron announced the renegotiation of his country's European Union membership treaty, he claimed that the results would be enough to keep his country within the EU.

But as the United Kingdom moves closer to the June 23 referendum date, major polls show that Britons are evenly split between staying in and leaving the EU.

Brexit—short for British exit—is a term used to describe Britain's possible exit from the European Union. The term became popular in recent years when politicians and businessmen became increasingly unhappy with the EU's current conditions.

The June 23 referendum will not be the first time Britons have gone out to vote for their future with the EU. On June 5, 1975, the country voted for staying in what was then called the European Economic Community.

YouGov's March 3 poll results show that 40 percent of Britons lean toward staying within the EU. Thirty-seven percent want to leave while 18 percent of participants remained undecided. The remaining five percent would not vote in the referendum.

But these results do not reflect a longer trend. Prior to Feb. 25, the pro-Brexit group was on the lead.

With a little over three months left to vote, politicians and other major figures have formed groups to campaign for or against staying within the EU.

According to graphs updated by the BBC on Feb. 26, 155 Conservative members of parliament wanted to remain within the EU while 129 wanted to leave. When it comes to the Labour Party, 215 wanted to re-



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The referendum is one of a series of events in which the British have voted for their future relationship with the European Union.

main while only seven wanted to leave. For the Cabinet members, 23 wanted to remain and seven wanted to leave.

Interestingly enough, another YouGov poll showed that Boris Johnson's candidacy for the next U.K. prime minister experienced a 5 percent increase in popularity following his announcement that he would support a Brexit.

The attitudes of the pro-Brexit group can be summarized with a cartoon that adorns the leave.eu website, in which two men are trying—and failing—to ride a bicycle toward global trade because of an elephant wearing the EU flag that is tied to the bicycle and thus keeping it in place.

The site is one of the main groups campaigning for the United Kingdom to leave the EU and boasts nearly 630,000 supporters.

According to the site, leaving the EU could result in businesses sav-

ing 33.3 billion pounds, and that is on top of the 12 billion pounds that the country would save in membership fees that could ultimately result in lowered taxes and lower prices of goods and services. The U.K. government would no longer adhere to regulations set by Brussels, which may lead to further benefits.

Grassroots Out is another popular pro-Brexit group consisting of politicians from all political parties.

"GO, rather than setting up another 'leave' campaign, does the reverse. It brings together existing 'leave' campaigns and gets them to work as one in local areas," GO's site explains.

The biggest concern for voters are the effects of a British exit on the economy and relations with other countries.

Being a member of the EU also means being a member of the Single Market, and leaving the EU may result in higher trade prices.

On the other hand, leaving the EU can also contribute to higher export rates. According to How to make a Brexit, a BBC Radio 4 documentary, Greenlanders won a lot of economic freedoms after winning their referendum in 1982.

The biggest example of this change was Greenland's fish trade. Prior to leaving the EU, fishermen were told how much fish they could take out of the sea.

The limited amount would then be exported by EU companies, leaving the fishermen with little choice as to what they could do with their own products. When Greenland no longer had to abide by EU regulations, the economy experienced rapid expansion.

The Woodford Investment Management commissioned Capital Economics to examine the impact of a Brexit on the U.K. economy.

According to the document, a Brexit should not have a severe ef-

fect on trade. Sixty-three percent of the United Kingdom's exports go to countries that have a free trade agreement with the EU.

Half of the exports go to EU member states. While it is likely that the government will reach a favorable trading agreement, even possible tariffs should not be too high—the document estimates a 4.4 percent tariff with EU member states.

Leaving the EU allows Britain to negotiate its own trading agreements that could be more advantageous than those negotiated.

Similar to the Greenland example, it may also result in less restriction on trade, leading to economic growth.

The document also claims that financial services located in the United Kingdom would receive the hardest hit, as the country would lose a lot of the influence that it now wields over the EU's Single Market.

For the public, leaving the EU means that citizens will no longer have to raise 10 billion pounds a year in membership fees.

Immediately after leaving the EU, Britain may choose to use the money to cushion the additional expenses of some industries.

"It is plausible that Brexit could have a modest negative impact on growth and job creation," the document summarizes.

But it is slightly more plausible that the net impacts will be modestly positive. This is a strong conclusion when compared with some studies."

If the United Kingdom chooses to leave, the leave.eu site explains, the government would trigger Article 50 of the Treaty on the European Union. This would start the two-year notice period after which the United Kingdom leaves the EU and set a framework for negotiating treaties that would settle EU-U.K. relations.

# Sports Authority declares bankruptcy in competitive market

BY ELIZABETH DASH  
STAFF WRITER

During a time when individuals are more health conscious than ever, and going to the gym has become a daily routine for many, the latest fitness fads are tested.

Whether it is an app that tells you to move every 30 minutes or a store that swears by their brand's innovative sports clothing, the health and wellness industry has become a lucrative goldmine for both old and new companies alike.

However, a company must stay current by outpacing consumer demands for lifestyle improving tools in order to stay ahead of its competitors.

On March 2, Sports Authority filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in Delaware, demonstrating the difficulties some companies face in this extremely competitive industry.

Just as athletes must always have an edge over competitors, so must similar lifestyle companies, especially those that are primarily brick-and-mortar retailers.

Now with the ability to purchase just about anything online, consumers do not have the same need as they once had to travel to a retail location for the purpose of simply buying sports equipment.

Although it might be a bit pricier if you factor in shipping and handling, customers are willing to lay out the extra cash for the convenience of having the package delivered straight to their door.

Although Sports Authority has a website in which customers can purchase pretty much the same items as in stores, it does not give customers the same type of experience as trying out the latest golf club straight off the shelf.

This lack of experience creates a challenge to draw customers in to purchase something from that



JESSICA ARIAS | THE TICKER

Sports Authority is set to close approximately 140 locations nationwide due to the depleting budget in a competitive sports market.

particular store if it failed to leave a lasting impression on them.

Sports Authority also seems to have lost its niche among sporting goods stores in the increasingly competitive industry.

Although it is one of the most popular stores with about 450 locations in 41 states before future bankruptcy closings, there seems to be some trademark missing that would attract specific customers.

With competitors such as Modell's and Dick's Sporting Goods, it is imperative that the company offers something unique to customers that would make them want to buy from it rather than one of these other industry leaders.

Michael Foss, CEO of Sports Authority, addressed potential concerns in a press release written to customers.

He wrote, "we have decided to utilize the Chapter 11 process to implement a financial and operational restructuring that we believe is necessary to help us become an even better place for our customers to shop for sporting goods."

During this year, the company will close about 140 locations, but appears confident in the letter that this will be one of the only changes customers will notice during their experience shopping with Sports Authority.

Its customer rewards program,

The League, and even the company credit card offered to frequent customers will not lose value or be adversely affected in any similar way according to Foss.

Since the bankruptcy filing gives certain protections to Sports Authority, creditors are significantly limited when it comes to initiating proceedings as a result of large past due balances.

For example, the sporting goods retailer owes Nike roughly \$47 million and Under Armour over \$20 million, two of its largest suppliers.

Although this would be a large debt Sports Authority would be defaulting on, Under Armour in its own press release did not show

significant signs of worry.

The brand did not modify any budget projections made at the start of the fiscal year and does not believe that the loss of such receivables will so negatively impact the company that customers would likewise be impacted.

Easing their reaction is a new agreement between Foot Locker and Under Armour that the brand feels will increase customer demands.

They will be developing new products, as well as a new way to deliver them to customers who shop at Foot Locker locations.

This kind of development is what could help Sports Authority get back on its feet during the restructuring process.

With the burden of paying millions of dollars worth of debt gone, the retail chain can now focus on resurrecting its reputation.

Changes include revamping the company's website and improving the shopping experience as mentioned by Foss in the press release.

However, closing locations results in nationwide lay-offs, thus resulting in other impacts as well.

It will take more than just a pleasant shopping experience to get the company back in a stable and profitable state, and therefore, a well-thought-out restructuring plan is needed.

Sports Authority's Chapter 11 filing comes shortly after American Apparel defaulted on its debt putting the brand in a very similar position.

With online retailers and lazy consumers, it has become increasingly difficult for such companies to remain competitive with the online market.

In order to recover, both must have a solid plan to restructure and must make significant improvements internally.

# Valeant under investigation for inter-pharmaceutical relations

BY VICKIE SAVVIDES  
STAFF WRITER

Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc. has revealed that it is under investigation by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission for an unlawful relationship with the prescription service, Philidor. As a result of the investigation, Valeant has canceled this year's financial guidance, postponed the earnings report of last quarter and announced the return of Chief Executive Officer Michael Pearson from medical leave.

Valeant released the following statement on its website detailing the numerous investigative operations the company is facing: "In response to media inquiries, Valeant confirmed that it has several ongoing investigations, including investigations by the U.S. Attorney's Offices for Massachusetts and the Southern District of New York, the SEC, and Congress."

Additionally, Valeant has also confirmed that it received "a subpoena from the SEC in the fourth quarter of 2015 and, in the normal course, would have included this disclosure in its 2015 10-K."

The investigation is centered around Valeant's inter-pharmaceutical financial relations with Philidor.

The Canadian chain is under scrutiny for allegedly purchasing medical substances from the company and in turn, raising the prices to sell on the market without consumer knowledge.

After Andrew Left of Citron Research, an online forum for identifying company fraud and proposing truthful information for public domain, suggested the relationship between Valeant and Philidor in a published report, the controversy spurred.

In response to the article, Valeant asked the SEC to investigate Left for the information that he put forth. Left raised questions about Valeant's business model and ethical standards. In turn, upon investigating Left, the SEC turned toward Valeant and began examining the company on whether or not the former executives misled investors about inventory levels for certain key drugs. Essentially, it is framed that Valeant triggered the investigation upon itself by pointing fingers at Left.

It is confirmed that by using the prescription ordering/delivery service, the company had been substituting cheaper, generic products for higher priced alternatives and unlawfully distributing the medications to patients in partnership with the company.

With the investigation in place, Valeant is facing numerous, dire consequences.

Its stock has plummeted by more than 21 percent. CVS Caremark and Express Scripts have recently said they will limit their coverage of Jublia, a costly drug supplied by Valeant.

Allergan Co. has too provided a challenge for Valeant with their drug Xifaxan.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time that Valeant Pharmaceuticals has caused controversy in the stock market and for consumers at large.

Although 2015 began with high success under CEO Michael Pearson along with William A. Ackman and John P. Paulson who joined the hedge fund management team of Valeant, the company tumbled throughout the entire year.

Valeant's policy of acquiring these old drugs and raising their prices once drove its stock to new heights, attracting investors like



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The United States Securities and Exchange Commission is centering its examination on Valeant and its long-running relationship with Philidor.

William A. Ackman of Pershing Square Capital Management and the Sequoia Fund. However, this past fall, Valeant lost two-thirds of its value as some investors began questioning the numbers the company had proposed with a debt of more than \$30 million.

The company first received scrutiny when it acquired two old heart drugs, Isuprel and Nitropress, and immediately increased the stock price by more than 500 and 200 percent. This led to an immediate decline in company stock.

Although Congress requested more information regarding the company's practices in August of the year, Valeant declined to cooperate with the inquiries.

Shortly after reviewing its filing, Pearson released the following statement, "All of us at Valeant firmly believe in maintaining strong regulatory and financial controls and believe we have operated our business in a fully compliant manner."

Once again, however, Valeant

ran into problems. In October of 2015, the company disclosed that it had been receiving subpoenas for its offices in Massachusetts and Manhattan from federal prosecutors regarding the same matters for which it is once again scrutinized today—pricing policies and distribution procedures.

This time, the company's stock plummeted by more than 40 percent.

Amid the uncertainty of investors whose concern with Valeant's stock had hit an ultimate high, Pearson called a conference and presented guidance on the company's financial data.

Although Pearson did concede that the company numbers were below Wall Street expectations, he promised that 2016 would be a year of opportunity for Valeant.

He stated, "[The board members of Valeant] believe that we are entering a new era of growth and opportunity as we continue to build and grow our businesses around the world and deliver medicines

and products at affordable prices that improve the lives of patients."

Unfortunately, Pearson's statement assuring change did not carry through into the next year.

The current SEC investigation may solidify an underwritten status for the company.

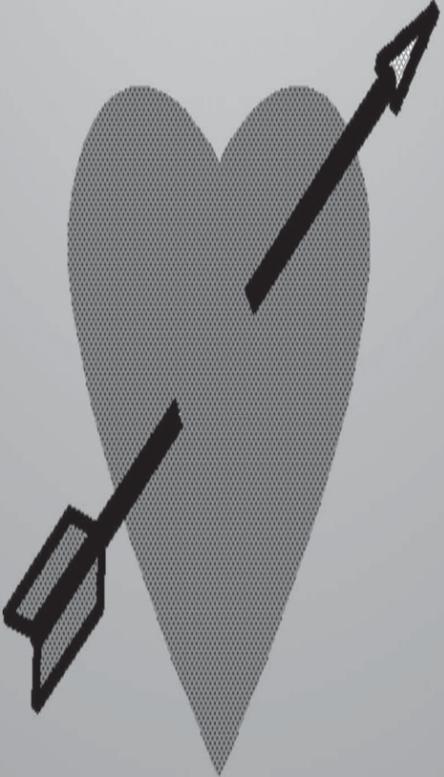
Pearson responded to its current situation, "The past several months have taught us some painful lessons, and I apologize for the turmoil that has impacted investors' and other constituencies' confidence in our company."

We are working diligently to announce Q4 2015 results and updated guidance as soon as possible. I and our board are committed to working our hardest to restore faith in our company and its future."

It is uncertain as of yet whether or not the company will be able to grow, stabilize and pay off its debt.

As it stands, the company must file its fourth quarter earnings by March 15 or it can face the prospects of an unlikely removal from the New York Stock Exchange.

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The Baruch College School of Public Affairs  
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Lillie and Nathan Ackerman Lecture Series on Equality and Justice

**The First Civil Right: How Liberals  
Built Prison America**

**LECTURE SPEAKER: NAOMI MURAKAWA**

*Associate Professor in the Department of African American Studies at Princeton University*



**Tuesday, April 5, 2016**

Reception: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Lecture: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

RSVP: [tinyurl.com/AckermanSpring2016](http://tinyurl.com/AckermanSpring2016)

or contact Arlyne Kistoo

Phone: 646-660-6735

Email: [Arlyne.Kistoo@baruch.cuny.edu](mailto:Arlyne.Kistoo@baruch.cuny.edu)

This lecture will examine the explosive rise in the U.S. incarceration rate in the second half of the twentieth century, and the racial transformation of the prison population from mostly white at mid-century to sixty-five percent black and Latino in the present. In *The First Civil Right*, Murakawa inverts the conventional wisdom by arguing that the expansion of the carceral state was, in fact, rooted in the civil-rights liberalism of the 1940s through the mid-1960s, not in the period after. In short, the U.S. did not have a crime problem that was racialized; it had a race problem that was criminalized.

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# Arts & Style

## Mishkin Gallery brings creativity to science with exhibition

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The photographs were taken from a series of skulls on display at the Mutter Museum in Philadelphia, collected by Dr. Josef Hyrtl, a 19th century anatomist. Tattooed onto the skulls is very general information about to whom the skull belonged. The index cards contain the same information and more. However, the additional information is not true. Written on the skulls are the names, the year in which they passed and how they died. Writers, artists, scientists, medical ethicists and others would provide the additional information that would give these skulls life once more, painting fictional stories of lives well lived. Though not very thorough biographies, the information added gives color to the otherwise bleak display. The skulls are no longer simply skulls because they encapsulate people who lived colorful lives in the 19th century.

One of the themes in Olynyk's work is the gray area between history and fiction. Using the true information found on the skulls, she and others were able to create backgrounds based on the information provided to them. The truth is tattooed on the skull while the fiction is written out on the index card.

Another piece—not collaborative like the previous—is very simple at first glance. “The Conversation,” is a collection of photographs of skeletons. The skeletons are not positioned in any specific way, nor do they have any sort of object to help identify the mean-



DAVID CARDON | THE TICKER

Ellen K. Levy created “Migration,” an artistic distortion of society, as a introspection into a philosophical theory of skepticism.

ing behind the piece. They are simply skeletons. Again, this is where fact versus fiction comes into play. From the angle of the first photo, the skulls look like they are facing away from one another. The next photo has them facing each other, like they have reconciled their differences. The third and final photo is a shot of their feet intertwined together. This is done intentionally. Olynyk is trying to get the viewer to formulate his/her own story for the piece. The intertwining of the feet in the last photo suggests this, and the image of two lovers lying in bed—at first arguing, then reconciling, then wrapping each other in their feet, manifests itself naturally. Through the frightening images placed by Olynyk, entire histories are imagined. Objects that have not been alive for hundreds of years are given a fresh, new life in the realm of fiction.

Ellen K. Levy's work is much

more critical. The themes in her pieces range from the stubbornness of nature, the harmful effects that modernization has had on nature and how nature can sometimes help engineers build better equipment for future natural disasters. The pieces on display are bizarre, surreal and at times, very honest depictions of our modern society. “Plato's Cave (Change Blindness) #1 and #2,” are two photographs of the same narrow passage in Brooklyn, New York. What differs between the two is the extent of the moss that has grown.

After Superstorm Sandy, after the flood waters receded, microorganisms were left behind and continued to grow until they grew to become visible organisms. The moss has grown not only on the floor, stretching all the way to the background of the portrait, but also along the wall. According to information found at the exhibit, a small

piece written by Levy says, “These works confront human difficulties in perceiving some of the challenges taking place in our ecosystem.”

The challenge is the microorganisms growing in the narrow walkway in Brooklyn, a place where they should not be growing but still do. Nature will prove time and time again, that it is the dominant presence on earth. However, not every piece of hers on display is very hopeful. “Migrations 20/20 #1, #2, #3,” is a creative take on the destruction that comes along with modernization. Highways and electrical wiring weave around the portrait, seamlessly changing between the two as they do. In the background, among all the wonderful things that have come from modernization, the development of infrastructure and the ability to mass-produce cars, is very dry land.

Since the industrial revolu-

tion, mankind has evolved greatly. It is not a natural evolution, but a mechanical one. With every passing generation, new technology becomes available for that generation.

This may seem like a good thing and is so to some people, but that is not the point Levy is getting at. Instead, the constant mechanical evolution that mankind experiences every generation will eventually lead to our downfall. Levy, however, is determined to explain that the reason for the changes in the environment are not happening naturally but are being spearheaded by mankind and all the technological progress that has been made. The work done by both artists expects the viewer to do part of the work. Their themes are dense, mysterious and abstract; if one is unwilling to spend the appropriate time, the images will appear violent, morbid and puzzling.

However, given the proper time and attention, these pieces on display will move those who have felt on-the-fence in regards to global warming by the wildly surreal portraits done by Levy. Likewise, viewers will have their views on storytelling broadened by the minimalistic style of Olynyk and her portraits that demand audience participation.

Whether one is a believer in global warming or not or is willing to have their views on storytelling expanded, the pieces on display are different, which is enough for anyone to go check them out. The exhibition goes on until March 23 and is open to the public.

## A star-studded cast brings comedy to the big screen in *Hail, Caesar!*

MAXIM IBADOV  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Coen Brothers, a legendary duo of prominent moviemakers who require no introduction, are considered one of the most influential creators of their generation, alongside Quentin Tarantino. Known and highly respected both among Hollywood Bohemia and mass audiences for their signature “genre-breaking” style of not conforming to the strict frames of a particular genre, these legendary brothers represent everything that the movie business is, and at the same time, everything that it is not. Starring a stellar cast of stars like George Clooney, Scarlett Johansson, Tilda Swinton, Frances McDormand, Jonah Hill and Josh Brolin, *Hail, Caesar!*, which opened in cinemas on Feb. 5, is described as a comedy. It is a pure satire of a Golden Hollywood-era, as every reviewer has ever written about every Coen Brothers movie. The story takes place in the 1950s, where Eddie Mannix, played by Josh Brolin, is the head of a movie production and a “fixer,” who is trying to keep all the dirty secrets away from the press.

Such dirty secrets include the pregnancy of Scarlett Johansson's character, violent artistic differences between a talentless actor and an even more talentless director, and the kidnapping of the lead actor played by George Clooney, Baird Whitlock.

While trying to finish the production of *Hail Caesar!*, a historical epic about Ancient Rome, Mannix takes his audience on a quest through the “behind-the-camera” drama, where tensions and theatricality are shown with even more dramatic convention than the actual movie scenes. A brilliant director's choice of satire, the audience

thinks that it is all true.

Slightly confusing but generally very thorough in research and character development, the script creates a plot, that although very humorous and sometimes exciting, is mostly unimportant. The movie in fact, is not really about the plot anyway. Everything else is more important than the story line. Shot in a beautiful and dynamic fashion that lightens up the overall image, the camera emphasizes every movement that Mannix makes on his chaotic way to find Whitlock.

The grotesque costumes and sets not only fully deliver the atmosphere and let the audience fully comprehend the style of that time, but also serve a symbolic purpose as they are emblematic of just how ridiculous everything in show business is.

The biggest force that carries the movie like a locomotive is an essential and omnipresent irony. The Coen brothers satirize almost every aspect of old Hollywood: over-produced money-makers, desperate attempts at preserving the image, obsession with imagery rather than content and the dark page in Hollywood history—communism blacklisting (a topic very prominent this season as it can be seen in Academy Award-nominated movie *Trumbo*, a good watch for those, who may not understand the communist part of the satire).

However, ridiculing those concepts, it also mocks the current situation, as all those flaws except the communists are still relevant. Irony is presented in every piece of this movie, from the outrageous wigs and underskirts to the almost ideal casting. For example, in the most picturesque scene of the film, Channing Tatum is feverishly tap-dancing his feet off. Playing a Gene Kelly kind of character, he is danc-

ing to choreography that can be considered “overly sexual” for that time period.

There is a purpose behind that. It is done not just because the producers know that dancing sells more tickets, but also to ridicule the agitated chastity that the utterly promiscuous business was preaching to its naive audiences. But the irony does not stop there as the casting is one big irony in itself with Tatum playing a narcissist-dancing muscleman, Johansson playing a capricious bombshell diva and Clooney playing a heart-devouring

“ageless” macho.

It is not the actors playing their roles, but the characters playing their performers. It takes a lot of professionalism and bravery for an actor to create a film, in which it ridicules and mocks his or her own image. And whether comparing modern actors to Hollywood Titans like Gene Kelly, Marilyn Monroe and Kirk Douglas, the inspirations behind the roles, is a cinematic blasphemy or another brilliant irony, is up to the viewers' perspective. With near-perfect performances, especially from Mc-

Dormand and Alden Ehrenreich, uproarious jokes and unique director's vision, *Hail, Caesar!* is a piece that the millennial generations should definitely watch, as it utterly breaks down the stereotype of drama-less chaste and boring Hollywood that many of our contemporaries falsely believe in.

By creating such a precise, surrealistic and even farcical cinematic piece, the Coen brothers break the absolute fictional story by making it so real. It is almost impossible not to believe that it did not truly happen.



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Tatum's breakout role was in the 2006 dance film *Step Up*. In *Hail, Caesar!*, Tatum channels Gene Kelly with his tap-dancing.

# Professor Krebs takes the illusion of magic to Off-Broadway

MAXIM IBADOV  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If a pingpong ball is placed in a long tube and all the air is taken out of that tube, then the pressure will drive the ball to a speed of almost 700 miles per hour. The ball is capable of shooting through three empty soda cans like a bullet. Is that magic? No, it is purely physics.

Defined crudely, theater involves someone doing something in front of an audience, and a physics demonstration can be a performance in itself. On March 9, an event show called *That PHYSICS Show!* opened at the Electra Theater and was produced by Eric Krebs, a Baruch College professor. *That PHYSICS Show!* is basically a magic show, but instead of the audience wondering, "How did he do that?" they get intrigued by the question, "Will that work, and if so, why?"

The show starts the moment the audience member walks into the theater. As they come in, they see that the stage is separated from the auditorium only by black and yellow caution tape, which already puts the audience in the mood of being a part of a science experiment gone wrong. The actual performance—although it is more adequate to call it a theatrical demonstration—begins when two rather goofy and enthusiastic guys run on stage, radiating with passion for science. Those two guys are not the principle actors. The show is considered to be for kids, so in order for the lead demonstrator Dave, portrayed by Dave Maiullo, the star of the show, to enter the stage, the audience has to call for him. As Dave enters and starts to mesmerize the spectators with his magic, it is almost impossible not to admire how much he loves what he is doing. As the show becomes more exciting

with flames dancing to Frank Sinatra and people lying under a heavy brick with nails, Dave becomes that super cool science professor spectators wished they had. He is the true star of the show, proving to be not just a very creative and artistic physicist but also a brilliant showman who knows how to interact with the audience as well as levitating objects. As Krebs points out, the fact that both kids and adults act so much alike demonstrates the "beauty of live theater ... bringing community together."

Krebs explained that this particular piece is outside of his producing spectrum.

"I have majored in English," he said. "I usually work in text and story, but I just loved how exciting and engaging the audience gets while watching this show."

The idea for this piece was conceived approximately 15 years ago, when Krebs saw Maiullo perform his own work at Rutgers University.

"Back then, it was only a collection of tricks," Krebs said. "Dave and I worked closely together to organize those tricks into a full performance with concept and main theme."

Maiullo and Krebs wanted to create something in the realm of Stomp or Blue Man Group, both being highly successful and profitable off-Broadway event shows that are very popular with family audiences.

However, there is one major difference between those two shows and *That PHYSICS Show!*. Stomp and Blue Man are pure spectacles based on creating music using unorthodox techniques. *Blue Man* is a drum show, where the performers play different percussions while spraying paint on it, creating images from paint springing from the drums. Stomp is a show where people create musical sympho-



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Maiullo would bring years of experience from television, as he lends his skills to the Weather Channel regularly.

nies by using items like trashcans and brooms. These two shows are paragons of what commercial entertainment is. There is no deeper meaning, no social commentary or philosophy and, ultimately, no artistic purpose rather than to excite and stimulate the audience.

Although *That PHYSICS Show!* lacks the depth of a drama like *Rent* or *The Color Purple*, Krebs still argues that the show has political and social significance.

"In a sense, the show creates that commentary by creating a science that is exciting and accessible to kids. You know, we have a lot of children in the audience, and a lot of them see what Dave does. It makes them excited and interested and when they leave the auditorium, they are thinking: Wow, I really want to go into science now. And that is something Dave has dedi-

cated his whole life to," Krebs said.

Krebs, being a college professor for many years, is a vocal proponent of education in any realm and takes pride that this show possesses that aspect. "As one of our earlier reviewers said, 'spectacular and educational.' A lot of people hear of this show and think, 'Oh, I don't know anything about physics.' But Dave is so entertaining that we don't even notice that he is actually teaching us about atmosphere and energy."

Energy and its preservation is actually the main theme of the show—a concept that unifies all of the components of the production.

However, the show is also educational and inspirational beyond the scientific aspect. The climax of the show is a number, when Dave lays himself on a bed of nails, and then puts another bed of nails on

his chest. This is completely safe, and he explains precisely why. He is even rolling an air-filled balloon on that bed of nails and the results are surprising as well. By making physics exciting, Dave reminds his audience that there is a whole world out there, and there are so many things to do and try other than sitting on their phone and staring at the screen. After the show, as the audience exits the auditorium, Dave waits and wishes every audience member a goodnight. As he shakes hands, bids farewells and smiles a Hollywood smile, he continues his performance outside of the stage, thus, metaphorically proving to us that science is always around us. The show itself, although not so aesthetically theatrical, is still nonetheless a very exciting and dynamic piece, which is beautifully educational and relaxing.

# Snubs take precedent over nominations in 88th Academy Awards

BY TAFANNUM RAHMAN  
COPY EDITOR

One of the biggest nights in Hollywood turned into an evening of squirming. The 2016 Academy Awards are still the big buzz, one highlight of the night being Leonardo DiCaprio's long-awaited win for Best Actor for his role in *The Revenant*.

The Oscars are now history. The Oscars, also, included history. Unlike most hosts who ease viewers through another dull show, actor and comedian Chris Rock had a tough job at the Oscars, where he was expected to address the #OscarsSoWhite social movement. At first Rock seemed to be going easy on the crowd, calling the show the "White People's Choice Awards," but the night slowly turned into increasingly uneasy white actors and nervous laughter from the actors of color.

Hollywood likes to obscure its racism and sexism, but it did not do a good job in doing so when the nominations for the Oscars were revealed.

Michael B. Jordan was in *Fantastic Four* but no one remembers that because his performance in *Creed* a few months later was such a complete knockout that almost none of his other work mattered at the moment.

His role as the son of Rocky Balboa's greatest rival was the most raw and complex performance he has ever given. It became almost impossible to think of the movie as an attempt to make new money off an old well-known project due to Jordan's powerful performance. But his performance was not good enough for the Oscars committee, denying him of a nomination that will be remembered as one of the biggest snubs from the 2016 Academy Awards.

Despite the fact that Cary Joji Fukunaga's *Beasts of No Nation* flopped theatrically at the box office, it does not take away from the incredible talent of Idris Elba. *Beasts of No Nation* is a visually captivating and socially impactful film. Elba does not play the lead role in the movie, but he does not have to in order to stand out. He plays the commandant who recruits child soldiers in an unnamed African country. He is charismatic and ruthless with his performance but ignored altogether from getting an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actor. While the British actor has won a Golden Globe, he has never been nominated for an Oscar.

The lone screenplay nod for *Straight Outta Compton* is more of a disappointment than an honor. When it earned a Screen Actors Guild nomination for Best

Ensemble, it was easy to tell that the historical drama was not just popular among hip-hop fans but also among other audiences. Some even predicted that the movie would round-out the Best Picture lineup. Instead, it scored a nomination for Best Original Screenplay, an odd way to acknowledge a popular film. The nomination feels similar to what happened in the year when *Selma* was nominated for Best Picture and Best Original Song but nothing else. This follows a trend of black actors not getting nominated, but the movies with white writers, directors or producers getting all the recognition.

It is understandable that Will Smith's wife is leading the call for change and boycotted the Oscars since this was likely the best performance of his career. Smith plays forensic pathologist Dr. Bennet Omalu in *Concussion* completely

embodying the character. He masters Omalu's Nigerian accent and his powers of observation and determination. *Concussion* is an important and bold film, considering the power of the NFL, but it is also one of the best displays of Smith's talent in film.

Forget the color of an actor's skin, because when it comes to true, pure talent, this year's race for the golden trophy was a snub in many cases. Some of the snubs were probably deserved, but several others will be remembered as big oversights.

After its Oscar win for Best Picture, *Spotlight* is still in the spotlight. The movie ensemble starring Keaton, Rachel McAdams and Oscar-nominated Ruffalo saw an impressive increase of 140 percent at the box office, taking \$1.77 million the weekend following their big win at the Academy Awards.

But Keaton's fantastic performance failed to get him a nomination.

After his Best Actor nomination last year for *Birdman*, Keaton is back in the spotlight giving one of his best performances as The Boston Globe editor Walter "Robby" Robinson. Keaton's subtle, yet powerful role did not get him the nomination because the vote was split between many of his co-stars who were competing in the Supporting categories. The nod eventually went to Keaton's co-star Mark Ruffalo for his scandal-busting role.

The issue of diversity was made clear and was talked about until the biggest night in Hollywood and many days after. The Academy, once again, has failed to acknowledge the wide diversity of talent that exists in cinema today. Keeping the issue of diversity aside, true talent was ignored in many categories as well.

Michael B. Jordan was in *Fantastic Four* but no one remembers that because his performance in *Creed* a few months later was such a complete knockout that almost none of his other work mattered at that moment. His role as the son of Rocky Balboa's greatest rival was the most raw and complex performance he has ever given.



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# Science & Technology

## Stone Age setting delivers a fresh twist to the Far Cry franchise

JOSEPH ESPOSITO  
BUSINESS EDITOR

Ubisoft is back with another installment of Far Cry. Following the successful and exciting Far Cry 4, Ubisoft has decided to give fans a whole new experience. Far Cry Primal throws players into the Stone Age, where they are forced to gather resources, build up and defend their tribe against man and beast alike and, most importantly, survive.

Primal is unforgiving but rewarding. The game drops you in the shoes of Takkar, a fictional member of the Wenja tribe. Takkar is tasked with rebuilding the Wenja tribe, which has been scattered throughout Oros, a fictional landscape in 10,000 B.C. Europe. You must traverse the world of Oros, gathering raw materials to upgrade your weapons and village.

Though Far Cry games are generally first-person shooters, Primal still feels the same. Primal takes the staple weapons of the Stone Age, including clubs, spears and the classic Far Cry bow and arrow, and makes them feel very natural and easy to use. Weapon selection is limited, but all three can be upgraded as the player progresses through the game and gathers materials. Shooting enemies with flaming arrows and listening to the thud of a stone-tipped spear as it skewers a foe is satisfying in a very primal way.

In past Far Cry titles, resources would generally be used for upgrading items, including grenade



SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

The protagonist's special ability is his role as the Beast Master, which allows him to control wild animals.

pouches, weapon holsters and bigger wallets, in which a player could carry more items.

The player needs resources to construct spears, clubs and arrows. The wood and stone you gather throughout Oros will be used to not only construct and upgrade weapons, but to upgrade your village as well.

Primal is different from previous Far Cry installments due to the lack of an antagonist. Along with battling wild animals and the environment, the Wenja are in conflict with two rival tribes. The Udam, the first tribe that the player meets, are a cannibalistic and vio-

lent group lead by Ull, a towering, scarred man.

Takkar comes across the Izila tribe further into the game. The Izila are masters of fire, using fire-bombs and night attacks to strike fear into the Wenja.

Throughout the game, Takkar and the Wenja battle these tribes with the help of their allies, including Tensay the shaman, Jayma the hunter and Karoosh the warrior, who must be convinced to join Takkar.

Oros is a dangerous place. During the day, you can gather materials by foraging or hunting, carry out missions to strengthen your tribe

and learn new skills or attack enemy campsites and claim them for the Wenja.

By night, you can do all these same things, but Ubisoft has incorporated a far more dynamic day-to-night cycle into Primal than in previous titles. At night, there are unique plants to be gathered and animals to be hunted, but there is a catch. Predators become far more aggressive and often travel in large packs at night.

The wolf players run into during the day is now hunting them, with six other wolves alongside it who will surround the players, forcing them to fight with every

weapon you have.

Far Cry 4 was praised for its beautiful landscape of Kyrate. Primal, in many ways, far surpasses the beauty of its predecessor. Oros is populated by both human friends and foes, but the wildlife truly makes the game unique.

The land is littered with animated life, including peaceful deer, goats and pigs, as well as aggressive predators, like wolves, jaguars, bears and even badgers.

It is hard to walk for more than a minute without running into a herd of animals.

Takkar's special ability is in his role as the Beast Master. He can tame wild animals—including wolves, jaguars and saber tooth tigers—to fight alongside him. Certain animals, like the saber tooth tiger, can even be ridden into battle.

Takkar's owl is perhaps the most useful companion in the game. The owl can be controlled and flown overhead to allow the player to scout the area ahead and tag enemies on the map.

Previous Far Cry titles has players use a digital camera to tag enemies. The Owl offers a more mobile scouting option, and incorporates Takkar's Beast Master ability.

Far Cry Primal deserves praise for its ability to take the traditional Far Cry formula and transport it back 10,000 years while still remaining just as fun and exciting. There is an excellent balance between the tension of real survival and the traditional bloody fun of a Far Cry title. Primal offers a new and unique experience that is worth playing.

## Tom Clancy's The Division and ADRIFT among March releases

JESSICA TORRES  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

After the end-of-the-year boom in video game releases, March seems fairly slow in comparison. Among some of the more interesting games set to release this month are Tom Clancy's The Division, Hitman, ADRIFT and Resident Evil 6.

Released on March 8, The Division was developed by Ubisoft, the same controversial studio responsible for the Assassin's Creed and the Far Cry series.

This third-person, multiplayer shooter hails from an extensive line of Tom Clancy games, including the wildly popular, stealth-based Splinter Cell installments. Its most recent predecessor was the first-person shooter Rainbow Six Siege, released last holiday season.

The Division sets itself apart from previous Tom Clancy games thanks to its unique and refreshing approach to the series. As the first original Tom Clancy brand offshoot since the release of Tom Clancy's H.A.W.X. in 2009, Ubisoft has created a game suitable for both newcomers and veterans to the series.

Set to release for Xbox One, PS4 and PC, The Division is a full-blown massively multiplayer experience unlike any previous Clancy game. Powered by the next-gen Snowdrop engine, this game drops players into a ravaged and desolate New York City; joining player-run factions may be your only chance at survival.

Players will be forced to scavenge for food and water, both necessities scarce as basic services shut down one by one. In this chaos, a group of independent agents, the Division, forms to save the society from completely falling apart.

Early reviews of the game are mixed. While players seem to appreciate the overall difficulty of the game and the ability to plan out each fight to the smallest detail, others dislike the controls and parts of the gameplay. Overall, the experience seems satisfying.

Reminiscent of the third-person Splinter Cell games comes another hotly anticipated March release: Square Enix's Hitman. Dropping on March 11, this action-adventure stealth game is ambitious, but not for its gameplay.

Set to release over the course of seven installments, this episodic video game seeks to mirror the success of other games released in similar format such as Telltale Games' The Walking Dead and Square Enix's own Life is Strange.

Each episode brings a new location while simultaneously progressing the game's story arch, with the first location slated for Paris.

According to the Hitman website, a multitude of purchasing options will be available. For \$59.99, a player can have access to all seven episodes including The Sarajevo Six, a PlayStation exclusive set of in-game missions.

Other purchasing options include a \$14.99 Intro Pack, which incorporates both the aforementioned Paris episode and all other live content. Those who purchase the Intro Pack have the option of buying Monthly Episodes for \$9.99 each, the episodes all differing in location while continuing the Hitman arch—fans of stealth gameplay certainly have something to look forward to in March.

For gaming enthusiasts hungering for a new experience, ADRIFT's uniqueness is sure to satisfy. Releasing only on PC and Oculus Rift, this immersive, first-person survival game is a breathtakingly tense experience.



SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

At the beginning of ADRIFT, the player's space ship crashes and the protagonist has to drift through its wreckage.

According to ADRIFT's website, the player, an astronaut, is the sole survivor of a catastrophic accident in space. With no memory of previous events and the looming threat of a damaged space suit, the player must piece together the cause of the horrific event while both fighting to stay alive and developing a plan to return home.

With the Oculus Rift's all-encompassing virtual reality experience, developers Three One Zero have created a game that is stark in its individuality.

Unfortunately, PS4 and Xbox One fans of both space and virtual-reality gaming will have to wait for their chance to experience ADRIFT; there is no current release date slotted for a console port of this genre-breaking experience. PC fans, however, can rejoice.

Set to release on March 28, even those who purchase the non-virtual reality version on Steam will be entitled to a free Oculus home key, should they feel inclined to purchase the device and experience the game in all of its beauty.

Fans of the wildly popular Resident Evil series also have something to celebrate this month. Though gamers are eagerly awaiting information regarding the next installment in the series, developers Capcom decided to release PS4 and Xbox One ports of Resident Evil 6, 5 and 4.

Gamers can now rehash their love for the successful survival-horror series, with Resident Evil 6 featuring enriched multiplayer matchmaking and improved controller options, according to Capcom.

Resident Evil 6 releases March 29, while Resident Evil 5 and Resident Evil 4 are set for summer and fall releases, respectively.

The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess HD released on the Wii U on March 4. The remastered version is a "critically acclaimed masterpiece," with high-quality graphics, massive game world, enhanced controls and new missions.

The next Legend of Zelda installment is scheduled for release later this year.

After two years of waiting, EA Sports' UFC 2 is scheduled to release on March 15. The combat-based game will be available on PlayStation 4 and Xbox One. According to Game Informer, The game boasts new grappling and submission mechanics as well as improved knockout physics.

# Macaulay professors give fresh take on the Zika virus threat

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

While no local mosquito-borne cases have appeared in the United States, millions of infections have appeared globally. South American countries such as Brazil and El Salvador have been particularly impacted, resulting in the World Health Organization declaring a public health emergency.

Much of the confusion stems from how little is known about the Zika virus. O'Donnell went on to explain the deficiency in knowledge surrounding the virus. While health professionals know that it can be transmitted sexually and from mother to fetus, they do not know how often this transmission can occur.

"There are a lot of areas of really active research. There are a lot of places where scientists are interested in finding out what exactly is going on," said O'Donnell, citing the current research into how often the virus is transmitted from mother to fetus and how long the virus remains present in semen.

O'Donnell concluded her segment with a warning against "bad science" and logical fallacies, entreating the audience to be suspicious of unfounded scientific claims.

Reis continued the presentation by delving into how the Zika virus could impact women. The 3,700 cases of microcephaly found in Brazil, as well as the numerous cases found in other Latin American countries, resulted in some Latin American governments urging women to hold off on getting pregnant for two years.

This move creates an unprecedented problem. Most of the Latin American countries affected by the Zika virus are heavily Catholic, leading to birth control being widely stigmatized and unavailable



MARIA MARKOWICZ | THE TICKER

Pictured from left to right, O'Donnell, Reis and Brundage led the discussion at Macaulay, titled *The Zika Virus: An Interdisciplinary Exploration*, which concentrated on the virus's effects on women. Reis is currently a psychology professor at Baruch College.

to women who need it, especially poorer women.

"Latin American governments and the Catholic Church really need to come together to actively encourage birth control...unless they do that these warnings to avoid pregnancy essentially tell women not to have sex," said Reis. This public health strategy, in the words of Reis, works only to "[re-duce] systemic problems down to individual behavior."

How these Latin American governments will reconcile their religious leanings with the continued spread of Zika in the coming months remains to be seen. In countries like El Salvador, where abortion is forbidden even in cases where the mother's life is at risk,

a sudden public outcry due to the Zika virus may lead to more lenient policies surrounding birth control and abortion.

"What Zika demonstrates is the sad fact that precisely because of their reproductive capabilities, it's women in particular who pay the greatest consequences of the lack of public health measures [and] inadequate social protection [in these countries]," said Reis.

Reis also noted that some disability rights activists opposed the pregnancy ban in countries like El Salvador.

Feeling as though the press is taking the virus out of proportion, these activists assert that the alarming fervor surrounding Zika virus gives the connotation that

having brain damage or being disabled is the worst scenario imaginable. Some disability rights activists, said Reis, object to language such as "birth defect" and "shrunk head"—two terms that are often used by the media.

Acting like the child is "malformed" does little for the child's self-esteem, and they argue that the child such be treated simply as a human "with a challenging life ahead."

Brundage began her section of the presentation on Zika's effects within "the pseudoscientific imagination," using her background in literature to investigate how viruses like Zika tap into the basic fears of the U.S. cultural landscape.

The idea that the human body is

a "vessel" that must be kept clean and sheltered holds sway over the public consciousness, with Brundage citing cultural marks like the current obsession with de-aging, past obsession with racial pseudoscience and the need to quantify and regulate bodies.

This vessel idea comes into even greater relief when applied to the bodies of pregnant women, Brundage asserted. During the time of racial pseudoscience—which was heavily coated in xenophobia—the health of white mothers ran parallel to the health of the nation in the U.S. cultural landscape.

This is where Zika enters the equation. Current culture is captivated with the idea of a sweeping plague that defies containment, as seen in current touchstones such as zombies in *The Walking Dead*. The fear of unstoppable disease coupled with the fear of desecration of not only a mother's "vessel" but also that of her unborn child allows for a panic over the Zika virus to emerge in public imagination alongside grotesque zombies. Zombies aside, "what is truly terrifying is when we allow these fears to dominate public opinion and policy," said Brundage.

The panel concluded with a discussion between the audience and panelists. Questions arose on how Brazil's Olympics would be impacted by Zika, and if that would negatively affect the games. The panelists also discussed the power of the Zika virus to influence the U.S. government to start regulating the reproductive rights of its citizens. In the end, the panelists asserted that a pregnancy ban in the United States was unlikely.

When asked what changes they would like to see, one of the panelists said that she would like to see everyone who needs or wants birth control should have access to it.

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# Sports

## Senior Coniglio reflects on his four years with the Bearcats

BY JOSEPH ROBINSON  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

His passion and love for the sport of volleyball first sparked at an early age.

Brian Coniglio, now a senior at Baruch College, says he learned to love the game after watching his older brother, Steven Coniglio, dominate in the sport since he was in the seventh grade. Steven, who is just two years older than Brian, was an inspiration to his younger brother.

Brian's decision to enroll at Baruch and become a Bearcat was not a hard choice for him. The institution's well-known academic reputation, along with its top-tier men's volleyball program, provided him with an opportunity to receive quality education while playing the sport he loves.

"Having pride, and doing things not only for yourself, but for the school to make things better for future generation students is part of what being a Bearcat is about," said Coniglio.

As a Bearcat, he prefers to represent his school in the best way he possibly can because to him, it is almost an honor to be able to play for the school's team. "Having not only a positive, but a selfless attitude as well, can take you a long way, not only in sports, but in life as well."

One of Coniglio's most memorable moments as a Bearcat was making it to the NCAA tournament in his freshman year, where his team played the Stevens Institute of Technology Ducks in the quar-

terfinals. Both teams finished their seasons ranked in the top 10 of the American Volleyball Coaches Association poll; Baruch was ranked No. 3. It was an amazing experience for Coniglio, as the Bearcats swept their opponents in three straight sets to advance to the semifinals. Unfortunately, the Bearcats came up short against the No. 1 ranked Springfield College.

However, to Brian, what was most important was being able to compete at that level. "It was a very close game; we competed very hard, but we lost 15-13. A few calls didn't go our way, but it just felt great to achieve what we did achieve for the season."

An important part of his day is making sure he feeds his body the right cocktail of nutrients. "I wake up and make sure I have breakfast, because after practice I'll have workouts too, my body is going through a lot, so I make sure I replenish myself."

Coniglio says his favorite food to eat in the morning is eggs, which is a healthy choice because they are high in protein. Although being a student-athlete can be a bit overwhelming, Coniglio manages to find a good balance in his schedule to keep his grades up to a gold standard.

While Coniglio is involved in many clubs and activities around Baruch, volleyball becomes the main priority for him, from the time the season begins until the time it finishes.

After the season has passed, one of his favorite things to do outside of school is going to the movie

"Growing up, I played a lot of sports. I played baseball, soccer, basketball and floor hockey, then my brother started playing volleyball in the 9th grade and I started picking up interest in it. I started playing in the seventh grade, and I just loved it ever since. Having not only a positive, but a selfless attitude as well, can take you a long way, not only in sports, but in life as well."

theater with friends and collecting movie tickets.

"I really love watching movies, since I was in high school I've seen a lot of movies. I know it's costly, but it's something I enjoy." Coniglio also enjoys playing beach volleyball at Central Park; he says it is easier on the knees because the



AGATA PONIATOWSKI | THE TICKER

Following his brother's footsteps, Coniglio joined the men's volleyball team in his freshman year and won three CUNYAC championships in his first three seasons.

sand absorbs the impact.

When asked about what advice he, as a senior, would give to freshmen and underclassmen, Coniglio responded, "I would recommend that future students have pride in whatever they are doing even if it's not something that is sports related."

Part of Brian's attitude comes from the experience of playing on a team that has been to the championships three times; he believes you must always hold yourself to a high standard, and that you have to be accountable for the decisions you make on and off the court.

## Fredette struggles to find a fit in the NBA

BY BENJAMIN LEIBOWITZ  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Imagine that you are back in the year 2011. March Madness is around the corner, and Jimmer Fredette is all the jazz in the college basketball world. "Jimmermania," as it was referred to by the media, had college basketball fans across the nation salivating over the Brigham Young University sharpshooter who was having a season for the ages. After Fredette won the Naismith Award for being the top NCAA basketball player in the country in his senior season, it was not crazy at all to daydream about the potential of the BYU product playing for a professional NBA team. However, since being selected as the 10th overall pick in the 2011 NBA draft, his career has been anything but sensational.

How could a kid with that much potential and such a fantastic college career end up being picked up on a 10-day contract at age 26? What happened to Fredette?

Born in Glens Falls, New York, Fredette grew up a Knicks fan, and John Stockton was his favorite player. Fredette had quite an extraordinary high school career that catapulted him to phenom status in college. Averaging 29.3 points per game in his junior year and 28.8 points per game in his senior year, Fredette got himself on the map as a top amateur basketball player.

Aside from his on-the-court accolades, he was named a scholar-athlete in all four years of his high school career and also starred as wide receiver on his football team. In his junior and senior years, he was named First-Team All-State by the New York State Sports Writers Association and the Times Union, according to his biography page on the BYU athletics website. On top of countless other prestigious

honors, he finished his Glens Falls career with 2,404 points, enough to put him sixth overall on New York state's all-time high school scoring list. His dazzling play caught the attention of Division-I schools across the nation. According to his BYU biography page, Fredette was recruited by many schools besides BYU, including Penn State, North Carolina State, Syracuse, Utah, Virginia and Wake Forest.

Fredette made a decision to play for BYU, where he made quite the name for himself. He earned All Mountain West Conference honors in his junior and senior seasons. His senior season was statistically the most spectacular season of his four-year career. Averaging 28.9 points per game and shattering Danny Ainge's all-time BYU scoring record along the way, Fredette was named the nation's best player for the 2010-11 season. This included multiple 40-point performances and quite a few other high-scoring games as well. Fredette lit up the nation with his dazzling ability to hit a three-point shot, seemingly with no struggle whatsoever.

He was the talk of the college basketball nation and received recognition from quite a few notable NBA stars. In an article from Deseret News, Oklahoma City Thunder point guard Russell Westbrook was quoted, "I've seen Jimmer play. He's a great, great, great, great guard. He's taken over college basketball right now, just in the way he has run his team, he's leading his team. I know he's going to do well at the next level. I know just from watching him that he's going to be a great NBA player." A lofty praise from an NBA superstar.

However, since getting drafted 10th overall by the Milwaukee Bucks in the 2011 NBA Draft, "Jimmermania," has not come to fruition

as was expected from a highly touted college superstar. He was swiftly shipped off to the Sacramento Kings in a Draft Day trade and had an uneventful career with the Kings to say the least. Aside from a few 20-point performances that were reminiscent of his BYU glory days, Fredette never amounted to more than a role player. His highest points-per-game average as a member of the Kings was 7.6 in his rookie season. Closely tied to mediocre footwork and below-average defense, Fredette never lived up to his expectations as a member of the Kings and was released in the spring of 2014.

Since departing the Kings, Fredette has had two short stints with the New Orleans Pelicans and cups of coffee with the San Antonio Spurs and the Chicago Bulls. Up to this point Fredette's career has been mediocre and unspectacular, hardly reminiscent of his glory days at BYU.

Now back to the present day. After dazzling performances in the NBA Development League, Fredette finally earned a 10-day contract with the Knicks. In the final minutes of a 122-95 loss to the Toronto Raptors, Knicks head coach, Kurt Rambis, responded to the crowd's chants of "We want Jimmer!" On his first shot of the game, Fredette knocked down a three-pointer, throwing the crowd into a frenzy. However, since then, he got in a few games in garbage time, and failed to crack the Knicks rotation of guards. This essentially sums up Fredette's NBA career to this point. The man who succeeded on every level besides the NBA just could never find his niche on an NBA team. There is no doubt to anyone whether Fredette can shoot, but his inability to do much else on the NBA level has subdued "Jimmermania."

| BARUCH BEARCATS ATHLETICS |             |              |          |      |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------|------|
| MEN'S BASKETBALL          |             |              |          |      |
| BARUCH                    | FSC         | BARUCH       | NCU      |      |
| 3/2 81                    | 76          | 55           | 94       | 3/5  |
| MEN'S VOLLEYBALL          |             |              |          |      |
| BARUCH                    | SPRINGFIELD | BARUCH       | LEHMAN   |      |
| 3/4 0                     | 3           | 3            | 0        | 3/5  |
| BARUCH                    | CCNY        | BARUCH       | VASSAR   |      |
| 3/5 3                     | 0           | 2            | 3        | 3/9  |
|                           | BARUCH      | MEDGAR EVERS |          |      |
|                           | 3/18 3      | 0            |          |      |
| BASEBALL                  |             |              |          |      |
| BARUCH                    | NCU         | BARUCH       | OLIVET   |      |
| 3/2 15                    | 1           | 3            | 2        | 3/4  |
| BARUCH                    | USCGA       | BARUCH       | ALVERNIA |      |
| 3/5 14                    | 15          | 3            | 7        | 3/6  |
| BARUCH                    | ALVERNIA    | BARUCH       | ELMS     |      |
| 3/6 0                     | 7           | 6            | 9        | 3/7  |
|                           | BARUCH      | WPU          |          |      |
|                           | 3/18 3      | 11           |          |      |
| SOFTBALL                  |             |              |          |      |
| BARUCH                    | VVC         | BARUCH       | KEENE    |      |
| 3/5 5                     | 10          | 0            | 25       | 3/5  |
| BARUCH                    | BUFFALO     | BARUCH       | KEUKA    |      |
| 3/6 1                     | 7           | 4            | 7        | 3/6  |
| MEN'S TENNIS              |             |              |          |      |
| BARUCH                    | PURCHASE    | BARUCH       | CCNY     |      |
| 3/8 7                     | 2           | 9            | 0        | 3/11 |

# Chapman suspended 30 games on domestic violence charges



MICHAEL FRIEDLICH

The New York Yankees' closer Aroldis Chapman has been suspended for the first 30 games of the 2016 MLB season by commissioner Rob Manfred for violating the league's new domestic violence policy. This new policy was created by way of an agreement between the MLB and the players' union last season in an attempt to prevent baseball from having the same issues the NFL has had with its players.

Chapman is the first player to be suspended under the new policy, and Manfred handled the matter thoroughly. This is true especially when compared to the NFL and its commissioner Roger Goodell, who has botched almost every decision concerning domestic violence incidents to date. Manfred was guided by the NFL's blunders and made a domestic abuse policy to get out in front of the issue before it caught them off guard.

Chapman accepted the suspension, costing him approximately \$1.85 million of his \$11.3 million annual salary. A source with direct knowledge of Manfred's plan said that the commissioner was ready to suspend Chapman for 35 to 40 games before Chapman and his lawyers negotiated a reduced suspension. He most likely did not appeal because of his eligibility for



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Yankees relief pitcher Aroldis Chapman is the first MLB player to be suspended under the league's new domestic violence policy.

free agency after this coming season. Since the MLB free agency is based on service time, and a player needs at least six years of service in the league to be eligible for free agency, if Chapman had been suspended long enough, he may have lost his right to become a free agent after this season.

There is speculation about whether or not Chapman said something to convince Manfred to reduce the suspension because, even after the suspension was announced, in a statement, he said that he did not harm his girlfriend. This shows a lack of remorse and responsibility for his behavior. Based on his statement, some are afraid that he will repeat his actions because he did not really admit to any wrongdoing.

It also displays just total ignorance on his part because, as executive director of the National Co-

alition against Domestic Violence Ruth Glenn argued, if he had not done any harm, then why would the MLB have suspended him? Furthermore, why would he accept the suspension if he did no harm to his girlfriend?

Contrary to the NFL's first domestic violence case with Ray Rice, where the NFL had clear video evidence and let Rice off with a light punishment at first, nobody knows exactly what happened in Chapman's case. According to the police report, Chapman choked his girlfriend after an argument that started when she "found something on his phone that she did not like." He also fired eight gunshots from a handgun in his garage. Florida prosecutors did not press charges against Chapman because of a lack of sufficient evidence, conflicting accounts of what occurred and uncooperative witness-

es. Some reports say that Chapman fired his gun during the altercation with his girlfriend, while others say he fired it in frustration following the incident.

Although Chapman is a great player, the Yankees made a dubious decision in trading for Chapman because they already have two great pitchers in their bullpen in similar roles—Dellin Betances and Andrew Miller. Chapman will be missed, however, as he has earned the third most saves in the major leagues since his first season in 2012.

But Miller and Betances are going to help fill his role and are already doing so, as Miller has saved 36 games in 38 opportunities last season.

While acquiring Chapman probably gives the Yankees the best bullpen in baseball, the Yankees need better starting pitching be-

cause of injuries and age problems. Yankees ace Masahiro Tanaka is working his way back from an arm injury for the third time since he arrived from Japan, and although he has done very well, he has not fulfilled expectations. Ivan Nova and Michael Pineda have also struggled from multiple injuries, and CC Sabathia not only has struggled from injury, but his pitching has also gotten much worse with age.

Lastly, although the Yankees have a very promising prospect in Luis Severino, he is very young at 22 years old and cannot be relied upon to perform consistently.

More importantly, the Yankees made a questionable decision from a public relations or an ethical standpoint by trading for Chapman in the first place. This is especially true considering the Yankees traded for Chapman after the Los Angeles Dodgers rescinded their trade with the Cincinnati Reds for Chapman after learning the reports of his domestic violence incident.

The Boston Red Sox also stopped pursuing Chapman once they learned of the domestic violence incident. Seeing most of the teams were no longer interested in trading for him, the Reds dropped his price, and the Yankees capitalized on the opportunity.

Essentially, the Yankees traded for Chapman based on his value as a player and the fact that they did not have to give up much to acquire him, overlooking his problems off the field. It is a major problem in sports today that teams overlook players' personal indiscretions because of their talent.

If sports have rules protecting "the integrity of the game," then they should also have rules ensuring the integrity of the people who are playing those games.

## FIFA elects Infantino to rebuild its image



OMER SEMAN

was eventually paid in 2011, a few weeks before a presidential election," according to Owen Gibson of *The Guardian*.

Blatter and Platini had their bans reduced to six years by FIFA's Appeals Committee after having their "activities and services" viewed as "mitigating factors" in the committee's eyes. Even still, they have filed appeals to completely nullify the initial ruling in the Court of Arbitration for Sport, located in Blatter's home country of Switzerland.

Special elections were held at FIFA headquarters under the shadows of the Swiss Alps on Feb. 26 to appoint Blatter's successor; FIFA Senior Vice President Issa Hayatou had been the acting president in the interim.

Two-thirds of the 207 eligible electorates had to be won by a candidate in order to avoid a second round of voting, which needed a simple majority to win the presidency.

Each delegation has one vote, meaning the Cayman Islands has the same decision-making power as India, China and every other nation involved. UEFA general secretary Gianni Infantino narrowly led the first round with 88 votes, followed closely by Asian Football Confederation President Sheikh Salman's 85 votes and FIFA Vice President Prince Ali bin Hussein in third with 27 of the initial ballots.

Voters were allowed to change their selection in the second round, allowing Infantino to amass 115 votes—one of which came from the United States when it shifted from backing Prince Ali to Infantino, confirmed U.S. Soccer President Sunil Gulati—and become the newest "president of everybody."

FIFA also passed legislation

promising transparency, good governance and diversity. Mandating independent audits, salary disclosures and requiring at least six women to be on the new 36-member council of executives are rudimentary advances from the medieval practices of the last 20 years but show progress nonetheless.

Women's Sports Foundation founder and tennis legend Billie Jean King delivered the keynote speech at a women's soccer leadership conference on March 7—to coincide with International Women's Day on March 8—that emphasized, "No pressure, but the world is counting on you," referring to Infantino as the Associated Press reported. Infantino pledged to embrace and fight for equality and King told reporters that she believed his words were sincere, but FIFA's track record can make a skeptic out of most.

From migrant construction workers subjected to fatal working conditions in Qatar in preparation for the dubiously awarded 2022 World Cup to mishandling of funds, rampant bribery and an apartment for cats in Trump Tower, FIFA officials had their sometimes silly but perpetually nefarious actions exposed and are paying the price. Infantino has a long road ahead of him if he wishes to endear himself and his organization to soccer fans.

As long as there are 22 players, two nets and a ball on a field, fans will flock to the nearest, loudest broadcast of a match like moths to a flame.

Like that terrible spouse who says they have changed and then disappoints you for the 12th time, FIFA has burned us far too often to earn our trust.

The game may be beautiful, but its leadership is grotesque.

## Durant's options weighed

BY MICHAEL PASINI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

One of the biggest names in the free agency market this season is Oklahoma City Thunder's Kevin Durant. While the 6-foot-9 superstar attempted to dismiss all rumors surrounding his future, Durant has found little success avoiding the attention as his current contract nears expiration. Recently, there has been a lot of talk in the media entertaining the possibility of him leaving the Thunder for the Golden State Warriors. In an era dominated by players like LeBron James and Stephen Curry, Durant has made a name for himself and is always in the discussion as one of the top players today.

Any basketball fanatic would say that every team who has some room in their salary cap should try to make an effort to attain the seven-time NBA All-Star. What team would ever deny the scoring services of Durant, who currently averages around 28.1 points per game this season? If Durant chooses to head west and sign with Golden State, would he make the Warriors team more of an offensive juggernaut than it already is?

The Warriors offense is so deep that it does not need another top scorer such as Durant. The Warriors as a team currently averages around 115 points per game and is ranked as the No. 1 overall offense in the league. Most of the Warriors' offensive points comes from their two star players in Curry, who averages around 30.7 points per game, and Klay Thompson, who averages around 21.7. Also, the duo gets strong contributions from supporting players such as Draymond Green, who averages around 13.5 points

per game, and Harrison Barnes, who averages around 11.8 points per game. Furthermore, the Warriors have solid depth from the bench led by Andre Iguodala and Shaun Livingston. Having a high-volume shooter such as Durant will reduce the Golden State roster's individual points per game and attempts per game because he is going to be shooting the basketball on a majority of the possessions. Durant's unstoppable offensive skills would be used more effectively on a team in dire need of a big-time scorer—the New York Knicks.

Many basketball fans are caught up in the hype of how Durant would make the Warriors the most dominant NBA team ever imaginable. However, as history suggests, this is not always the case. For example, look at the 2012 supposedly super-group lineup for the Los Angeles Lakers. During the off-season in 2012, the Lakers acquired Dwight Howard via a trade from the Orlando Magic and signed Steve Nash from the Phoenix Suns. Basketball fans were raving about how the Lakers were going to be one of the best teams to ever play together. Ironically, the Lakers barely made it to the playoffs, and on top of it all, the team got eliminated in the first round. This goes to show that acquiring talent does not guarantee success.

If Bob Myers, the Warriors' general manager, were to consider the thought of looking to acquire Durant, it would seem obnoxiously greedy to add more talent. The most logical solution for Myers would be to save the cap space this upcoming free agency and use it to entice Curry to stay with the Warriors before he enters free agency in 2017.

# Manning retires, addresses his troubling past in farewell speech

BY OMER SEMAN  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

“The Sheriff” has officially ridden off into the sunset. Peyton Manning announced his retirement at a press conference in Denver on Monday, March 7. Choking up from the first word, his speech was as immaculately prepared as Manning was for Sunday. Manning went through his progression: from being the prodigal son of Archie Manning, former quarterback of the New Orleans Saints, to star player at the University of Tennessee to his record-setting years in Indianapolis and Denver.

He never failed to mention his teammates, coaches and influential figures throughout his illustrious career. However, he did neglect to mention the two controversies of his time in the spotlight.

Six women have filed Title IX lawsuits against the University of Tennessee after the school allegedly mishandled sexual assault cases, claiming “deliberate indifference and a clearly unreasonable response after a sexual assault.” The suit mentions a 1996 case against Manning. He allegedly rubbed his exposed genitals and anus on Dr. Jaime Naughtright, the university’s director of health and wellness at the time, while she examined his foot. As part of a settlement agreement, Naughtright received \$300,000 and was dismissed by the university while Manning was asked to run a few extra laps at practice; both parties also signed a confidentiality agreement. This was all detailed in a lengthy Daily News article by Shaun King published less than a week after Manning’s victory in the 2016 Super Bowl.

In it, King dismantles Manning’s public persona of an “aw-shucks”

Papa John’s pitchman. King received a 74-page court document from an anonymous source regarding the 2002 lawsuit between the plaintiff Naughtright and defendants Manning, his father, ghostwriter John Underwood and HarperCollins Publishers. Peyton and Archie released a biography in 2001 chronicling America’s first family of football. Naughtright, then a prominent faculty member at Florida Southern College, was frightened to see Xerox copies of the book in her office with excerpts lambasting her character, defaming her credibility and outright lying about her experience at Tennessee. Her supervisor, having read through the papers before she could clarify things, fired her from Florida Southern as Manning dragged her name through the mud in order to keep his image clean in the public’s eye.

Each of Manning’s former teammates at Tennessee who testified under oath rejected his claims of Naughtright being a “vulgar” or promiscuous woman and, in fact, hailed her professionalism around the student-athletes. The lawsuit was settled in 2003 under closed terms, but the two met in court again in 2005 after the airing of an ESPN documentary violated their earlier agreement. After they settled again, the scandal floated away into the ether until the newest allegations against Tennessee brought it back into the social consciousness.

As Manning ended his powerful speech with the words, “God bless all of you, and God bless football,” he took questions from reporters. Only one, USA Today’s Lindsay Jones, was willing to bring up the sexual assault case. Manning addressed it by plainly stating he “did not do what has been alleged, and I am not interested in relitigating

something that happened when I was 19 years old.” He evoked Forrest Gump by concluding his remarks with “that’s all I have to say about that.” Jones was bombarded by vitriolic Manning defenders on Twitter, throwing out the usual four-and-five letter words reserved for any woman with a platform. Supporters of Jones, such as NFL Hall of Famer Shannon Sharpe, applauded her for doing her job as a journalist by asking the tough questions public figures like Manning should anticipate. He certainly was not flustered by it and gave the succinct answer one would expect from the five-time NFL MVP.

On Dec. 27, Al Jazeera America aired a documentary investigation that linked Manning, along with Clay Matthews, Ryan Howard and other well-known athletes, to a performance-enhancing drug supplier named Charlie Sly. The pharmacist was not shy about his connections to these athletes when talking to Liam Collins, a British hurdler who wore a hidden camera for the investigative unit. Sly asserted that Manning’s wife received shipments of human growth hormone on behalf of her husband from the Guyer Institute, an Indianapolis clinic where Sly had worked, to an address in Florida in 2011. This was when Manning was recovering from neck surgery. Sly recanted all of his statements after the report aired, and Manning vehemently denied the claims days later, saying he was “angry, furious ... disgusted is really how I feel, sickened by it.”

As if the football gods didn’t shine on him enough, three weeks after the explosive report on Manning, Al Jazeera America announced it will be shutting down by the end of April. CEO Al Anstey said the network is ceasing operations because its “business



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Two-time Super Bowl champion Peyton Manning (top) gave his retirement speech on March 7, ending a historical 18-year run for the future Hall of Famer.

model is simply not sustainable in light of the economic challenges in the U.S. media marketplace.” When told of the news, Manning replied, “I’m sure that’s just devastating to all their viewers,” with his tongue firmly planted in his cheek.

Neither the shuttering of a news corporation nor his retirement marks the end of this saga for Manning. The NFL plans on continuing their probe into the PED scandal with partnerships with the U.S. An-

ti-Doping Agency and MLB.

Manning will be remembered for his stature in the NFL and how he became ubiquitous with the word “football” for a generation of Americans. He ushered in a new style of quarterback play, emphasizing the subtlety and awareness needed to dissect a defense rather than shooting from the hip; his eventual enshrinement into the Hall of Fame is merely a formality. But how the public perceives him is far from set in stone.

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