

OPINIONS 8

Cuomo imposes strict travel ban over officials (p. 8)



Recent discrimination laws against the LGBTQ community imposed in Georgia prompted Disney to discontinue filming there. The laws allow religious groups and businesses to deny service to LGBTQ individuals.

BUSINESS 10

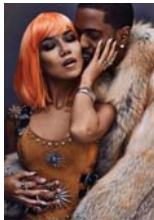
Commonwealth proposes to halt cash flow (p. 10)



Puerto Rico is currently indebted to investors by about \$70 billion. Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla declared a state of emergency, suspending any cash withdrawals from the bank unless proven absolutely necessary.

ARTS & STYLE 12

Hip-hop duo emerges with new release of EP (p. 12)



Just a few days before the release of their first joint EP, Jhene Aiko and Big Sean will release clips of a music video for a single from their EP, "Memories Faded." The album was released April 1.

SCIENCE & TECH 15

Anti-smokeless tobacco law bans chew at venues (p. 15)



Mayor Bill de Blasio signed an anti-smokeless tobacco legislation, joining three other U.S. cities which banned the product. Ticketed sports stadiums and recreational venues can now fine players caught using smokeless tobacco.

SPORTS 18

Baruch Table Tennis takes down Ivy League (p. 18)



This season, the Baruch College Table Tennis team has been disrupting the east coast, taking down the nation's top-tier schools such as Columbia University, Lindenwood and New York University. The team has risen to new heights since its birth in 2008.

Relay for Life raises \$40,000 for cancer research

Moratorium on social Greek life at Baruch impacts fundraising efforts



BIANCA MONTEIRO | THE TICKER

During Relay for Life, attendees were asked to decorate paper bags with dedications to their loved ones lost to cancer.

BY JONATHAN SPERLING
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Baruch College's 12th annual Relay for Life event raised approximately \$40,000 by hosting a number of competitive and engaging events in the Baruch gyms. Several months of intensive fundraising on the part of student organizations led to a 12-hour-long walkathon held from 5:30 p.m. on April 15 to 5:30 a.m. on April 16. The money raised will go to support cancer research. Last year, the event raised a grand total of \$52,043.38, down from \$72,532 in 2014.

Mitchell Garcia, vice president of the Baruch chapter of Colleges Against Cancer, attributed the decrease in fundraising to last year's moratorium on Greek life. Greek organizations were some of the event's largest contributors.

"Relay for Life took a hit from a lot of Greek life being banned from Baruch," said Garcia. "Last year alone the top [social Greek] teams donated \$12,000 each, so this year we didn't have those two top teams; so, that \$12,000 from just two teams isn't coming back."

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



CALVIN RONG | THE TICKER

Dornbaum, Baruch Believes confirmed as next year's USG

BY NICOLE CLEMONS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Baruch Believes party, along with their presidential candidate Daniel Dornbaum, won the 2016 Undergraduate Student Government elections.

A total of 1,731 ballots were cast in this year's election, as announced by the Student Election Review Committee in their unofficial election results on Thursday, April 14.

Only 1,694 undergraduate students voted for the two presidential candidates, Dornbaum and Jibreel Jalloh, with Dornbaum taking 54.66 percent of the votes.

During the week of elections, both parties, along with their supporters, campaigned in the second floor atrium to encourage students to get out and vote.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

LETTER TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Baruch Believes stands by its efforts

Thank you for your remarks regarding this campaign cycle. Unfortunately, it appears as though our party's efforts to engage the student body in substantive discussion has been missed by the members of your board.

In the years discussed in your article, USG election season was defined by teams yelling buzzwords, like "networking" and "mentorships," on the second floor to entice students to vote.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Model UN awarded for conference effort

BY MARIA MARKOWICZ
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Two of Baruch College's Model United Nations members received personal awards for their skilful performance at a recent New York University Model United Nations Conference. Because of the organization's work, its members managed to win five awards in the past two years.

Navtej Ahuja and Samuel Rubinstein's recognition brings attention to Baruch's Model UN, which is becoming more refined each year. The organization recently put up its own day-long simulation conference, which attracted 150 Model UN delegates from universities located in the tristate area. In comparison, the NYU conference had 400 attendees.

"It felt great competing with and even better when it came to beating Ivy League and private school students," Rubinstein said, referencing his experience at the NYU conference. "It really puts Baruch's name out there."

"While it felt gratifying to win a personal award in my final conference, it's important to look at it in the context of the team, and a way to demonstrate our ability to compete with top schools in the country," Ahuja added.

In order to win an award, the participant had to be heavily involved in the progression of the conference, give frequent speeches, negotiate with other people in his or her committee and play his or her character well.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Students invest Baruch College Fund money

BY VICKIE SAVVIDES
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

It is no secret that Baruch College is full of professional business clubs and organizations; over 80 percent of Baruch's undergraduates are enrolled in the Zicklin School of Business. Surprisingly, few students know that Baruch's finance club invests money taken from the Baruch College Fund. The Investment Management Group does just that.

The Investment Management Group of Baruch is comprised of a group of undergraduate students who manage a \$250,000 diverse stock portfolio on behalf of the Baruch College Fund.

The club meets on Thursdays in the Sidney I. Lirtzman Financial Seminar Hall, located next to the Bert W. and Sandra Wasserman

Trading Floor, as well as on Saturdays for trading workshops. It functions under the current leadership of Jonathan Hla, the CEO and dedicated member of the club since his induction. Hla also reigns as the captain of Baruch's male swimming team.

The Investment Management Group thrives by hosting numerous popular events concentrated in the realm of finance.

In its online biographical description, the executive board of the Investment Management Group explains that the organization "seek[s] to provide active members with technical knowledge, financial know-how and leadership abilities by entrusting a considerable degree of responsibility to each team member."

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

News Briefs

COMPILED BY
JONATHAN SPERLING

Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor spoke at the CUNY School of Law on the importance of performing public service as a lawyer. The April 11 event was attended by students, faculty and staff as Sotomayor partook in a one-on-one conversation with Judge Rosemary Barkett, the Sorensen Center for International Peace and Justice’s scholar-in-residence. Sotomayor also stressed the importance of family and culture as well as understanding the intricacies of judicial writing during the hour-long discussion. Sotomayor is the first Latina to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, while Barkett is the first woman to be selected as chief judge by her peers on Florida Supreme Court.

Twenty New York City high school students are the most recent recipients of science and engineering scholarships to CUNY. Recognized for their achievements at the 2016 NYC Science & Engineering Fair (NYCSEF), the students received scholarships ranging up to \$16,000. CUNY faculty and staff volunteered as contest judges and also served as mentors to some student researchers who entered the NYCSEF, where students displayed research presentations on kidney disease, lupus and, among other topics, autism. The winners, who were among 550 students who comprised the fair, were offered scholarships from The City College of New York, Hunter College and Queens College.

Baruch College paid tribute to Ronald Perelman, chairman and CEO of MacAndrews & Forbes Incorporated, by presenting him with the Bernard Baruch Award for Business and Civic Leadership held on April 13. The award was presented at Ciprani during the 27th Annual Bernard Baruch Dinner, which benefits the Baruch College Fund. The fund helps students by providing grants and scholarships, subsidizing professorships, improving facilities, upgrading technology and expanding services.

The CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy (CUNY SPH) has announced a collaborative research effort with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation to put forward the health benefits of living in a community with a high-quality neighborhood park. Making use of a \$3 million grant from the National Cancer Institute, the research team will spend five years tracking the use of local parks by 2,000 residents in 40 neighborhoods and exploring the extent to which it correlates with their physical and mental health.

The Lehman College and Community Chorus will present its annual Spring Concert on May 1 in the Lehman Concert Hall. The chorus, orchestra and soloists will be made up of Lehman alumni, faculty, staff, students and Bronx residents. Among the works being presented during the program is Dvorak’s Mass in D Major and Slavonic Dance No. 1 as well as shorter works by Copland, Wilhousky, Gershwin and Kern.

Relay for Life raises money for cancer research

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

In light of the loss of organizations that fundraised intensively, Garcia acknowledged that every little bit of money helps in the long run.

“The money gets donated to the American Cancer Society, and the reason we picked the American Cancer Society was because we are more for people now. So rather than donating it to organizations that spend a lot of their donations on cancer research, the American Cancer Society is more dedicated to giving money to the people who are suffering cancer now. For example, every \$200 that we donate is put into housing someone with cancer for about five days. Every \$50 that is donated is [put toward] transporting someone with cancer to their medical facility,” Garcia explained.

According to Annie Sourbis, president of the Undergraduate Student Government, the solution to the Greek life participation debacle will likely come from encouraging other large organizations to get more involved in fundraising.

“Last year, when the provost and the administration passed the moratorium ... one of my biggest concerns about this was what kind of impact it was going to have on Relay for Life, because Relay for Life isn’t just about Greek life, it is about other clubs coming together, regular everyday students coming to this event, having a great time in support of a cause and learning more about cancer. That was definitely a concern I had last year and something I had brought up at the time.”

“I don’t think Relay was the number one concern when it came to that moratorium, and we did not know exactly what the solution was. I did mention to Mitchell and a few other people in the American Cancer Society about combining



BIANCA MONTEIRO | THE TICKER

Signs present at the event promoted positivity for caretakers of those with cancer, as well as those stricken with the disease.

Baruch’s already successful Relay for Life with Hunter College’s frat life, which was much larger anyway before the moratorium that we had. So we could give their frats the Relay for Life they always wanted while also helping out our Relay for Life that was going to suffer due to the moratorium,” added Sourbis.

Despite the setback caused by the moratorium, an array of clubs and organizations tabled at the event, including Women in Business, Finance and Economics Society, Hunter College’s Zeta Phi Alpha sorority and Enterprise Rent-A-Car, which donated \$6,000 to become the event’s largest donor. Refreshments, arts and crafts, and tickets for participating in games such as Nerf gun wars and basketball were sold throughout the night.

Sigma Alpha Delta, who beat out eight other teams during Relay for Life’s April 7 promotional event, Paint the Town Purple, also

attended the event. The organization raised money by selling baked goods for \$1 each and taking Polaroid photographs of each buyer.

“We all came together as a group and decided that this was a cause worth fighting for, because together we can achieve almost anything,” said Kevin Wang, the chairman of volunteer programs for Sigma Alpha Delta. “We felt that no one was stepping up to fundraise as a group, so we thought we would all pitch in to one cause.”

Following the opening ceremony at 6:30 p.m., survivors of cancer, caretakers of those with cancer and relatives of those with cancer were encouraged to walk a lap around the main gym. A number of events and performances, including a hula-hoop contest, pie-throwing and several live musical performances occurred as well.

Around 10:00 p.m., a luminaria ceremony complete with decorat-

ed paper bags, each filled with yellow glow sticks, were set up around the perimeter of the main gym. Written on each bag were messages to friends and loved ones who either survived cancer or perished because of the disease. The ceiling lights were dimmed as Deborah Freire, a caretaker of her father, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, addressed the audience.

“Those living with people fighting cancer, I know it is hard,” said Freire after describing her father’s diagnosis and subsequent painful surgical procedure on Feb. 8. “At times you might get impatient and say ‘why me? Why me? Why was I cursed with having to deal with this disease?’ But no, cancer is not a curse. Cancer is something that makes you strong.”

Following a series of chemotherapy treatments, Freire’s father is expected to be cancer-free by September.

Performances net Model UN five awards in two years

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The NYU staff also looked at what powers the delegates used and how well they used them.

According to a “Ticker Talks” interview with Mikhail Relushchin, president of Baruch’s Model UN, “Model United Nations is an organization on campus that focuses on international relations, negotiation skills and generally building the professional skills that one needs to thrive in a career in international relations.”

Though Model UN is often portrayed on TV, there is a lot of disparity between what one sees on a show like *Parks and Recreation* and what actually happens during a conference.

Whereas TV shows tend to “caricature” the delegates, sometimes dressing them up, or, as it was in the case of *Parks and Recreation*, giving them more powers than they actually have, a Model UN conference involves actually putting oneself into a delegate’s or a character’s perspective.

The stereotype generally gets one thing right: participating in a conference involves a lot of roleplay and research prior to the conference.

In reality, there are two goals that Baruch’s Model UN focuses on: expanding the students’ knowledge on global issues and participating in conferences of various sizes.

To achieve their first goal, the organization hosts on-campus events to debate global issues so that students can hear different viewpoints on important issues. They also introduce students to the different resources available at Baurch, so that they can gain “an international perspective” to their majors.

The biggest events, of course,



BIANCA MONTEIRO | THE TICKER

Rubinstein, left, and Ahuja, right, won an award each at the recent New York University Model United Nations Conference.

are the Model UN conferences.

Conferences vary in sizes, sometimes reaching 4,000 delegates from almost 100 countries, as it was in the case of the National Model United Nations conference held in March. A Model UN conference usually lasts for three-to-five days, and it follows the format of either a general assembly conference or a crisis committee.

A general assembly is what TV shows like *Parks and Recreation* portray. In such a conference, delegates represent a country and must attempt to solve an issue—or a set of issues—from his or her country’s point of view.

At the end of the conference, there is a multipage resolution that each participating country signs off on.

The crisis committee is where the delegates have to deal with a specific issue, whether it is the Eurozone crisis, tensions with Rus-

sia or the rise of far-right political groups in Germany. Instead of solving the issue, delegates have to react as each situation develops.

Relushchin described a situation that took place in a crisis committee on Russian-Ukrainian hostilities to explain how a crisis committee may work.

“We motioned to extend aid to Ukraine. The reaction is that when the committee who was representing the Russian cabinet heard this, they sent us a message telling us to stop, telling us that if we did not stop, they would be forced to take economic action. Next, we have to decide how we will react to that,” Relushchin said.

The crisis committee is where roleplay happens, as the participants are assigned a certain character that they have to represent. Each character gets a specific set of portfolio powers that he or she can use during a crisis commit-

tee, such as being in control of the country’s military if the character is a minister of defense. There is also the covert portfolio, which are powers that the character may not necessarily have but can reach with the connections he or she has in real life.

When it comes to the future of the organization, Relushchin hopes to make Model UN even better by expanding campus presence and improving the members’ performance on conferences.

“We always aim to try to do bigger and better year after year ... We try to win more awards, we try to learn as much as possible,” Relushchin explained. “There’s a big world out there, and there are ways to talk about it; and, we have one that is very intense, that gives you a very big network of very motivated and ambitious students. That really pushes you to develop yourself as a student.”

Baruch Believes elected as next USG

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The Baruch Believes party campaigned with the refrain “Reach, Relate and Inspire,” which aimed to “reach out to students in order to better represent their interests” while “align[ing] the focus of USG with those it serves” and inspire school pride.

“Baruch Believes was committed to having substantive conversations with students surrounding their concerns,” said Dornbaum. “Engaging students through a combination of in-person talks, radio appearances and [question and answer] sessions at club events allowed us to stray away from talking points and focus on hearing student concerns.”

Jalloh campaigned with the idea of “Real Solutions, Raising Efficiency and Togetherness,” pushing for policies that affect all Baruch students, as stated during the April 7 USG Debates.

“One of the strategies that I had was to go to different SEEK classes, freshman orientation classes, and I was able to really portray my message and get their attention,” said Jalloh. “I believe everybody I spoke to, and was able to get them for more than five seconds instead of just throwing like a slogan at them, they went down to vote for me. Anybody that stopped and ... listened, I got their vote.”

Since Jalloh ran for USG president without a team, several of his supporters helped him campaign and push his platform. On April 11, Jalloh received a warning email from the Office of Student Life regarding complaints about his campaigning methods.

The email, which Jalloh shared with *The Ticker*, stated, “Please note that your campaign members cannot threaten the opposing party, harass students, yell/shout

at students, block elevators and/or escalators, or have individuals campaigning for you on the first floor lobby between the turnstiles. These are very strict guidelines and adhering to them maintains a safe environment for Baruch students. This serves as a warning, if the complaints continue or we observe the abovementioned behavior you will lose privileges of campaigning on the second floor lobby.”

Jalloh believes the email stopping supporters who were not on the ballot from campaigning “may have cost us the election.”

“They sent out an email Thursday morning saying that if you’re not on the ballot, you can’t campaign openly. That’s why [Thursday] I was basically out there by myself,” explained Jalloh. “I’m just gonna be frank, I believe that punishment was unfair.”

In the SERC USG Election Procedures for Spring 2016, it is stated under the campaigning guidelines that, “Candidates and supporters are not permitted to interfere, in any way, with the campaign of another candidate in any manner.”

Damali Smith, acting director of Student Li said that after the complaints were filed with SERC, “The committee in conjunction with Student Life then decides how to address the issue. Complaints were filed regarding both teams and the nature of their campaign-

ing. SERC then followed up on their complaints.”

For now, the Baruch Believes party plans to continue meeting with students and will start their USG training during the summer.

“As we pushed in our campaign, we are starting an ongoing dialogue with students. We will be back around campus soon to continue interacting with students and engaging them in Baruch issues as this in turn allows us to better represent them,” said Dornbaum.

“For new and returning members of USG, they will continue meeting with the students who currently sit in their positions to better understand the day-to-day responsibilities of their new roles. I would like to thank Jibreel for the extremely well-run race. He challenged our platform and myself in a respectful way and truly has some great ideas of his own.”

Jalloh says he plans to focus on anti-gun violence organizations in his community in the fall.

“It was just so much against us that it’s crazy how close we still got with all these factors against us, so that’s really accredited to the team and the student organizations that helped me out,” said Jalloh. “But good luck to Dan, good luck to Baruch Believes. Hopefully they move more towards solutions and less towards slogans and really make a change.”

“Engaging students through a combination of in-person talks, radio appearances and [question and answer] sessions at club events allowed us to stray away from talking points and focus on hearing student concerns.”

- Daniel Dornbaum, Baruch Believes president-elect

Boishakhi Night brings Bangladesh to Baruch

BY JONATHAN SPERLING
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Pohela Boishakh, also known as the first day of the Bengali calendar, is a holiday rarely celebrated outside the Bangladeshi community. On April 11, Baruch’s Bangladesh Student Association managed to change that with Boishakhi Night, an event that used live music, live dancing and traditional foods to bring Bangladeshi culture to Baruch.

Before the main festivities, the day began with BSA’s free henna tabling. Students of varying cultures and ethnicities gathered to have the plant-derived dye, often used before weddings and other major festivities, applied to their hands and arms in elaborate patterns.

“We are trying to make Baruch students aware of Bengali culture by showing what Bengali culture looks like,” said Mobinur Rahman, a computer information systems major and president of BSA. “It’s a traditional thing for Bengali people, during weddings or during the regular day. Western people who are not Bengali do not get to experience it [henna]. So we are giving a chance to Baruch students, Bengali or not Bengali, to feel how it is to be Bengali.”

Later that night, BSA hosted the main festivities in the multipurpose room, though the Bangladeshi New Year did not officially begin until April 14, which commenced year 1423 of the Bengali calendar. Based on the solar year, it was originally introduced on March 10-11, 1584.

Attendees were greeted with an array of Bangladeshi food, including pakora (a fritter), pita bread,

chicken lollipop, which is a chicken winglet where the meat is cut loose from the bone and pushed down a stick, Bangladeshi trail mix and chai lattes.

“We do not have a lot of Bengali culture going on here. Most of them [Bengalis] grow up here or are born here so they do not know much about the culture,” said Ahmed Shakir, a vocalist for The Feringhees, the only active Bangladeshi rock band in the United States and one of Boishakhi Night’s many performers. “My band and I try to bring the old stuff we have in our culture, such as old tunes so that they know the things we had before and so that we can mix it with the new things.”

The mass popularity of Pohela Boishakh originated from rural fairs, which provided an outlet for traders and artisans, but has now evolved to become “the most colorful festival of Bangladesh,” according to BSA.

“The purpose of Bengali New Years comes from the Mughal Empire. The king wanted to start taxation during a time of year that was easier for people to pay off the money. Before the first day of the year you have to pay off everything that you owe, all the money you have to pay to other people,” explained Lamia Aesha, a finance major and member of BSA.

“The first day of the year is a sort of celebration where everyone comes together to celebrate and eat sweets. Even now if you were to go to Bangladesh, any stores or farms try to make sure they pay off all their dues before Pohela Boishakh so that the day is joyous for them. It has become a national festival for Bangladesh,” Aesha added.

East meets West during Asian Pacific-American heritage showcase

BY VICTORIA MERLINO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Baruch College’s Japan Club presented their Japanese-American performing arts showcase “West Meets East Matsuri” on Tuesday night in the multipurpose room. Co-sponsored by 28 different clubs, as well as USG, the event occurred as part of Asian Pacific-American Heritage Month.

The title of “West Meets East” underscored a larger theme of cultural exchange that ran throughout the event. Amy Campos, a marketing major and the vice president of Japan Club, explained how Japanese and American cultures intermingle, copying elements and practices from each other. “Japanese culture looks so much to the West. You see it in their technology ... in their mindset ... [In America] as well you see growth in the interest in anime, interest in Japanese culture, and Japanese fashion ... In a way they borrow from each other.”

Cultural borrowing and blending proved paramount, with the night being anchored by eight unique entertainment acts that ranged from traditional Japanese dancers to a Japanese-American led rock band.

The food served also reflected this, with sushi, onigiri—a Japanese triangular shaped food made of rice and wrapped in seaweed—and ham sandwiches all making an appearance.

First to perform was COBU, a New York City dance group. Combining traditional Japanese Taiko drumming and New York inspired dance, members of COBU beat their drums in tandem with dancing through the room, calling to the crowd and inviting response. After playing a few songs, the group exited the stage, leaving the crowd electrified.



BIANCA MONTEIRO | THE TICKER

Toshihiko Nakazawa performs a choreographed dance to a soundtrack of contemporary music while in a Power Ranger suit.

Other performers included Kent Ishimoto, a Japanese-American, and his rock band, and S-LINE, an American music group that borrows from the popular Korean musical style, K-Pop.

RESOBOX, a Japanese cultural center in Queens, provided two acts for the event. One act was a group of dancers performing the classical Japanese dance style “Nihon buyo.”

Donning traditional Japanese dress, the three dancers used fans to articulate their movements within the style, “interpret[ing] the poetry being sung in addition to dancing along with the music,” as the event’s program indicated.

The second act was a demonstration of the traditional Japanese stick-fighting art “Jodo.” The fighting style “consists solely of two-person kata practice, in which the

swordsman attacks but is subdued by the person wielding the stick,” reported the program. The kata, or highly choreographed movements, led the two demonstrators throughout the room as a speaker from RESOBOX explained the reasoning behind each of their actions.

Another performer was Toshihiko Nakazawa, a Japanese dancer who immigrated to New York in 2010. With contemporary music and dance, Nakazawa changed into multiple costumes throughout his performance, ending it in a Power Ranger suit.

“If people love to see my dancing [as a Japanese person, than] people will recognize Japanese is good, [and] Japan’s cultural heritage is good,” said Nakazawa, describing his hope for the audience at the event.

Nakazawa’s hope is one that the

Japan Club shares.

“We’re trying to indulge people in the culture, to show them the different acts, the different ways they perform, how they express their culture,” said Anthony Cimitile, a digital marketing major and member of the Japan Club.

Cimitile communicated the impact events like “West Meets East” have on the Baruch community at large, giving a glimpse into a cultural experience many students may have not been exposed to.

“I think [this event is] important because it opens people’s minds to how different cultures act today and in the past and ... [it] teaches them more. Since students may not be privileged enough, or have the ability to take history courses in such cultures, this will help them understand more in a shorter timespan than a class would,”

he added.

While Baruch has a wealth of clubs devoted to different Asian ethnicities, many students still are ignorant of the rich heritage each club draws upon. With events like “West Meets East” and the Asian Pacific-American Heritage Month, students are able to see what other cultures have to offer outside of their own and partake in a cultural exchange that stems from Baruch’s diversity.

“Asian culture at Baruch is much like saying Asian culture in New York. Baruch in general is incredibly blessed to have so much of [an] Asian populace in it. So we [have] a wide variety of Asian cultures,” said Campos. “[At Baruch] we expand our horizons, and we get to ... learn what truly belongs to each culture. Which is important because people tend to generalize and that can lead to misconceptions and stereotypes. I think it is important to have these events just to see what each culture can offer,” said Campos, explaining why Japanese and other Asian cultural events hold saliency in the world of Baruch students.

Asian Pacific Heritage Month will come to a close on April 18 with the Taiwanese Student Association’s presentation of a traditional Night Market in the multipurpose room. April 19 will have a panel discussing China’s importance in the global marketplace, entitled “China @ Baruch: The Role of China in the Global Economy.” On April 21, the Hindu Student Association will celebrate Holi, the start of the lunar New Year, with “Holi on the Plaza.” The event will be a “festival of colors, music, and traditional cuisine.” April 25 will see the Vietnamese Student Association present their inaugural Miss Asia pageant, where contestants representing different countries will compete for a crown and the title of “Miss Asia.”



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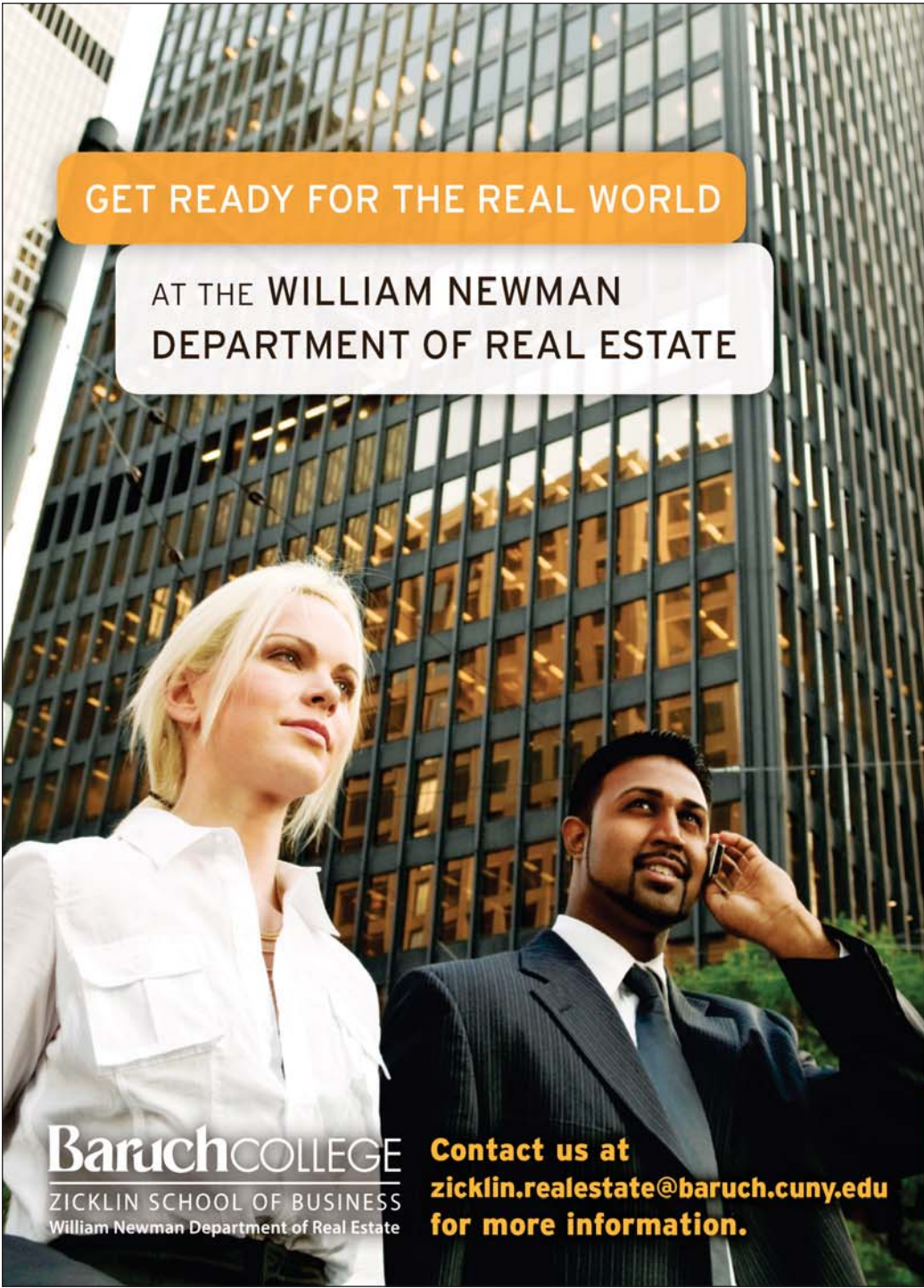
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BBA Real Estate, Class of 2013
Senior Associate,
Newmark Grubb Knight Frank

▮▮ The most important things that I took away from Baruch, in addition to the curriculum and knowledge, were the relationships. ▮▮

PETER MUSSO
MS Real Estate, Class of 2013
Development Risk Manager,
First Sterling Financial

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USG NEWSLETTER

DEAR BARUCH STUDENTS,

Hello all! We hope that midterms were not too rough on you guys. Spring break is just around the corner, don't forget to take some well deserved rest. We have a lot of great events this week. Holi in the plaza is a great way to celebrate the beginning of Spring!

Best,
Baruch's Undergraduate Student Government

RECURRING EVENTS:



SENATE MEETINGS
▪ Tuesdays, 5:30pm
▪ USG Conference Room
(3rd Floor, USG Suite)

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

APRIL 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



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MONDAY, 4/18

NIGHT MARKET
6:00pm-9:30PM Location: NVC 1-103
Night Markets are one of the most distinct cultures in Taiwan, and you are invited to celebrate with us! Not only are we presenting to you delicious tastes of Taiwanese foods and drinks, but also are we bringing the upgraded 2.0 version of game stations to campus! In addition, prizes will be offered to those who master their gaming skills.

TUESDAY, 4/19

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOSHOOT DAY WITH LEXICON
12:30PM-2:30PM Location: VC 4-170
Come on out to hang with us and get a professional headshot taken to use for LinkedIn and anywhere else you would want a more professional photoshoot on display rather than your typical casual.

BLUE NOTES WORKSHOP #3 / BARUCH MUSIC MARATHON
12:30PM-2:30PM Location: NVC 10-170
Blue Notes is proud to present our WORKSHOP SERIES! Throughout the semester all students are welcome to learn about music and see what it's like to sing with an a Cappella group.

ASEDOM MOVIE DAY
12:30PM-2:30PM Location: 3-215
Come enjoy an Exclusive movie with ASEDOM and it's ASEDOM members. We will have some yummy movie snacks for you to enjoy! Hope to see you there.

MONDAY, 4/25

TUESDAY, 4/26

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 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.

S



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WEDNESDAY, 4/20

THURSDAY, 4/21

FRIDAY, 4/22

HOLI ON THE PLAZA
12:30pm-2:30pm Location: Plaza
Holi is a Hindu spring festival celebrating for the upcoming harvesting season.

Sigma Alpha Delta General Meeting #4
12:30PM-2:30PM Location: NVC 5-165
For prospective members: It fulfills general meeting requirement (Need to attend 2/4 general meetings in the semester to be inducted)

Baruch in Concert / Baruch Music Marathon
1PM Location: Engelman Recital Hall
Join the Baruch music department for a concert featuring musical talent from Baruch's student body!

Coffee@6
6PM Location: Book store
Waffles, coffee, and various refreshments will be served. Yes, you heard that right--waffles!

ALPFA BARUCH'S 9TH ANNUAL BUSINESS BANQUET
6PM-8PM Location: NVC14-220
RSVP IS MANDATORY FOR ATTENDANCE
RSVP: bit.ly/baruchbanq16

Start of Spring Break
NO CLASSES

WEDNESDAY, 4/27

THURSDAY, 4/28

FRIDAY, 4/29

SPRING BREAK!

Opinions

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Visit from the first lady validates the success of CUNY

First lady Michelle Obama is set to deliver the commencement address during the graduation ceremony at the City College of New York on June 3. The campus will host the 107th graduation ceremony. This year, the graduating class is comprised of more than 3,000 students.

The first lady is speaking at the college because of her active involvement in and creation of the Reach Higher initiative, which seeks to inspire students to continue their studies and further their education beyond high school.

The Reach Higher initiative has national goals, aiming to create the most college graduates in the United States in proportion to the rest of the world by 2020. The premise is to provide more assurance that students will be able to find higher paying jobs.

The initiative's website features a college scorecard, which allows families to determine how to get the most bang for their buck, a net price calculator, a college search tool, a financial aid shopping sheet and links to other resources for finding financial assistance. The Reach Higher initiative is currently working on making students aware of what they can afford, financial aid available and how families can get the most for their money.

Obama's visit to CUNY is recognition for the university system on multiple levels.

For one, City College is regarded as one of the most diverse schools out of all CUNY schools. The first lady's visit serves as recognition of a public university with a diverse student population.

Meanwhile, the intended goal of furthering Obama's initiative still stands. The first lady will address and congratulate students who chose to further their education and pursue a path of higher education. Her speech will undoubtedly recognize the persistence of students at City College and will validate the people behind the numbers that define the college.

While Obama's speech will surely be inspiring for students in attendance—who, for sure, did not expect the first lady to be addressing them at their graduation—it is her presence that is important for CUNY on a national level.

This shows the rest of the country how important higher education is, but more importantly, it demonstrates to the rest of the country CUNY's caliber as an institution of higher education. It demonstrates that academic standards do not have to be sacrificed for demographic diversity.

Overall, the first lady's visit is national validation of what CUNY is working toward.

LETTER TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD

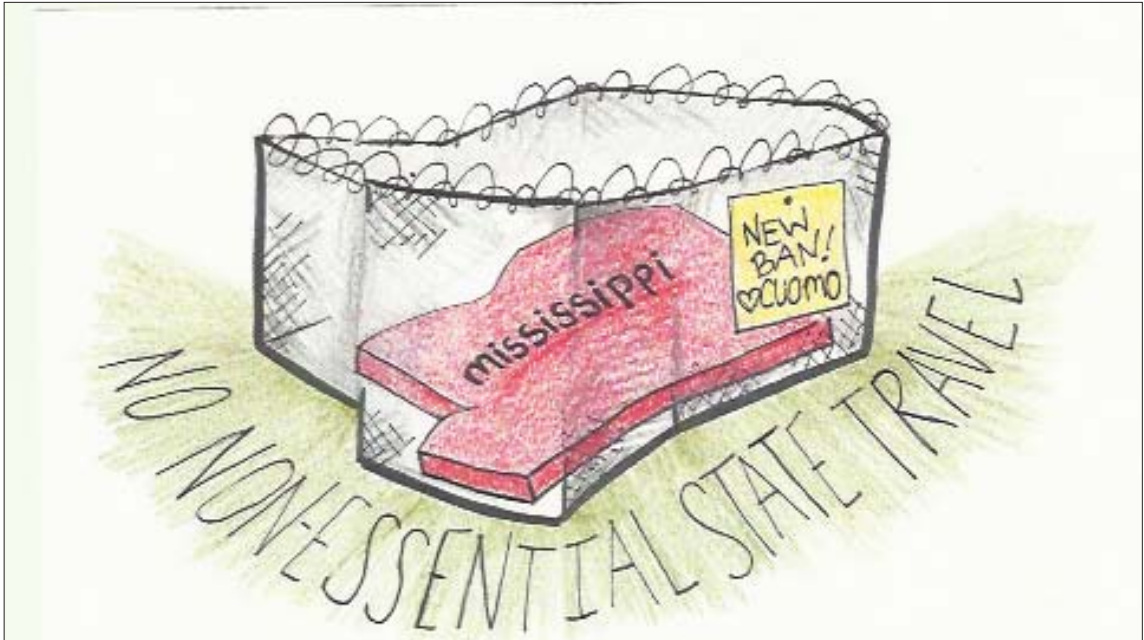
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

It appears the editorial board has grown accustomed to this style of pseudo-campaigning.

As mentioned in your article "Majority of USG candidates will run unopposed," published on March 21, this campaign has focused on engaging students around campus and at odd hours—not just at prime times on the second floor. Our team has been committed to this style of campaigning as it ensures a variety of students are heard. This cycle was also the first time in recent history any candidate debated on WBMB. It was a chance to further engage with students in a different format while keeping issues at the forefront of discussion. These tactics are unlike those of the past, but they ensure enhanced engagement by our diverse student body rather than the opposite.

Putting issues before platforms may not be flashy, but Baruch Believes stands by its decision to campaign in such a manner. It is understood that sweeping change is not accepted by all, but we are discouraged *The Ticker's* Editorial Board does not see this as a change for the better.

-Daniel Dornbaum
Baruch Believes president-elect



REBECCA VICENTE | THE TICKER

Cuomo issues irrational travel ban

Although Cuomo's judgment is sound, there are better ways to protest against discriminatory laws

Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant passed a discriminatory law that allows businesses and nonprofit organizations the right to deny services to members of the LGBTQ community. In response, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo banned all non-essential travel to Mississippi. As a result, all travel plans made by government correspondents that engage in political business must be reviewed by New York state agencies.

As a justification for the decision, Gov. Cuomo declared that New York state supports and advocates strongly for equality for everyone regardless of gender or sexual orientation. Until the law is either satisfactorily amended or nullified, the ban will continue to be enforced.

The controversial laws in Mississippi currently on the books are intended "to protect sincerely held religious beliefs and moral convictions of individuals, organizations and private associations from discriminatory action by state government." The legislation pays tribute to and exemplifies First Amendment rights, according to Bryant.

The enactment of the law was prompted by the belief that marriage is between a man and a woman and, of course, the belief that gender is determined only by the anatomy a person is born with. The law allows businessmen and officials to deny services to people who identify as or transition into

a gender they were not born into. One of the main issues here is the fact that licensing or performing marriages can be denied if the person officiating the marriage has religious conflictions in opposition to same-sex marriage.

This is too reminiscent of the case opened up last year featuring Kim Davis, who denied a couple's legal marriage due to the fact that the couple was of the same sex.

In light of all of these issues, Cuomo has taken action in order to demonstrate his support for the LGBTQ community. Essentially, this action allows him to speak for New York state and pass on a message of solidarity—through the most indirect means possible.

This is not the first time that Cuomo issued out travel bans for certain states. In prior years, Cuomo imposed bans on the state of Indiana and, most recently, North Carolina. The ban in North Carolina was instituted as a measure to stand up to the clause that members of the LGBTQ community could use any bathroom they wanted without any legal repercussion. The laws prohibited transgender people from entering the facilities in which they felt most comfortable. For Indiana, Cuomo had been prompted by similar reasons.

While Cuomo's response was dignified and made with good intentions in mind, it is unreasonable to declare that New York state government employees and workers

may not be allowed to travel to Mississippi, regardless of the justification. As much as the newly enacted laws in Mississippi are a point of valid concern, they do not call for the unprecedented action of travel restriction, even if the restrictions apply only to official business.

This, in fact, seems more equivalent to the ruling style a tyrant or a dictator occupies, rather than a democratically elected leader. Grandfathering and overlooking the decisions that should come to anyone almost as easily as we breathe in air are not techniques that should be employed by any leader.

Gov. Cuomo has a solid standpoint on religious perspectives obstructing the freedom of certain members of a society. As admirable as they may be, his reactions are not just. His decisions encroach on the basic freedoms of the people he leads. Travel destinations cannot be dictated, and travel rights should not be forcibly removed at will. The decision to fly or travel is not determined by the individual governing institution. The major qualm with this action is that Cuomo assumes the position of a ruler, rather than a leader, which is what his colleagues and government members consider him. At least Cuomo's viewpoints remain consistent throughout different events.

-Yelena Dzhanova
English '19

Tuition wars expose hypocrisy in CUNY

Amazingly, Gov. Andrew Cuomo and his Albany poltroons backed away from cutting \$485 million from the \$154 billion budget on April 2. CUNY Chancellor James Milliken and the Board of Trustees breathed a sigh of relief; investments in the critical maintenance of the universities and communities saw a slight increase, which they welcomed.

CUNY's administrators bemoaned that the tuition freeze that is in place for a year would put added stress on needed capital investments in faculty and staff as enrollment reaches record levels.

The governor has made a U-turn on his proposal for rational tuition. Had the \$485 million budget cut passed, the burden would have fallen on the city's taxpayers, forcing a doubling of tuition and torpedoing the mission of CUNY as a vehicle for the upward mobility of the disadvantaged in New York City.

By shifting the economic burden on the working and lower middle

classes, Cuomo is in sync with the counterintuitive theory that tough love would accelerate the drive of the needy to pull themselves up by their bootstraps. This way of looking at things fits squarely within the accepted and hardly discredited theory of supply-side economics.

It is unclear why Cuomo did an about-face on the cuts: one thing is certain, he has a running battle with Mayor Bill de Blasio and a desire to control the city from Albany, as the record shows, especially in regard to education. Thus an election year and Albany Democrats do not want to nurture a revolt from below from their base.

You have to wonder, too, for Cuomo in part bases his populism on a \$15-per-hour minimum wage and family leave, but not for alleviating the burden of college tuition that presents itself as a heavy stone to carry for the working and middle classes. It seems like this is an omission that borders on a withdrawal from reality.

Pressure from an alliance of a broad base of CUNY faculty, students, working families, green parties, community organizations and concerned citizens sent a clear message for tuition freeze, more state funding and faculty raises, portending another revolt and even a strike shutting down CUNY.

Such a demonstration exposed the Board of Directors for the hypocrites they are. The faculty has been without an increase in pay for years; the quality of teaching has deteriorated by the use of adjuncts in a broader struggle to break the union and discard tenure, while the salaries of administrators have increased.

The education war is not over yet. The knife of tuition hangs threateningly. More serious and sustained opposition is called for to save CUNY from the barbarians within our midst and in Albany.

-Robert Cambria
Journalism

The Ticker

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ABOUT US

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Class struggle continues

Panama Papers highlight inequality among socioeconomic classes

When a John Doe released the biggest information leak in history, a staggering 2.6 terabytes-worth of documentation of clientele, what was once a conspiracy theory proved to be disturbingly true. The mega-rich hid their assets as falsely and as well as they could, in order to avoid returning money to the public sector. What Mossack Fonseca did was not illegal. The creation of anonymous shells to hide away the funds of the wealthy is a private matter.

The names revealed stretched across a wide swath of the powerful, from China’s “red nobility” to soccer star Lionel Messi. The more popular stories have circulated around Vladimir Putin’s friend, cellist Sergei Roldugin, and the prime ministers of Iceland and the United Kingdom, but all share a common thread—an escape from the rules of society in the name of keeping as much as possible.

The hypocrisy around the leak is astounding, from Putin’s claims that the leak is a CIA plot to destroy Russia to Prime Minister David Cameron calling for further investigations of tax havens while simultaneously being forced to reveal his own finances. Some action has been taken. Raids commenced in Australia related to Mossack Fonseca employees and the prime minister of Iceland resigned in light of the revelation of his own shell company. The secrecy undertaken by those who claim to work for the common good is symptomatic of their aloofness with reality. Their citizens, whether they are Russian or Icelandic or Australian, have been cheated out of money they will have been forced to pay up in the form of taxes.

The saddest part is perhaps that

very few of the politicians named will be affected; the prime minister of Iceland may be the sole exception. Iceland is the same nation that jailed most of its bankers after the 2008 financial crisis and completely overthrew its government in response, to little media attention. In dictatorships like Russia, where \$2 billion has been connected to Putin, and China, where the families of high-level Communist Party members have been found to hoard ludicrous sums, there will be little done unless full-scale revolutions are implemented.

When events like these become common occurrences, it comes as no surprise when populist, left-wing movements arise in response. We see the fight against the mega-wealthy daily, whether it assumes the form of Bernie Sanders arguing for greater taxes against his “billionaire class” or the British media poking fun at how woefully out of touch David Cameron is with the citizens he allegedly represents. The struggle against secretive wealth, the struggle against a world where you need to be born into privilege and endure a Kafkaesque struggle to merely get by, the struggle against disturbingly high costs of living — these are the costs that those who use these tax havens never have to think about.

More importantly is the violation of trust this represents. The connection between the constituent and the representative is more strenuous than ever before. In the new wave of populism, the question of whether there is room for a secretive billionaire class, especially in this age of change, lingers. The answer, it seems, is a firm no.

-Reuwen Glezer
Journalism '19

GOP clings to regulations for more votes

THE POLITICKER



DAVON SINGH

With a single, unified voice, the Supreme Court rejected a challenge to a fundamental principle of the U.S. political system, giving liberal supporters of voting rights a much-needed victory and their conservative counterparts a devastating defeat.

The main issue of the case was the “one person, one vote” principle, which dates back to the 1960s. The courts held that state legislative districts must be drawn to equal population.

The Supreme Court, however, never specified whether this applied to the general population or to the voting population. States currently use the former to draw their voting districts.

This case was also a clash of two theories of representative democracy. One theory wants to promote “representative equality,” which is achieved when elected officials tend to the same number of people, both voters and non-voters. The other theory wants to ensure only those with political power can control the government.

The two conservative plaintiffs from Texas argued that the current method is diluting the power of their vote. They were being represented by the Project on Fair Representation, a small conservative advocacy group, which also is the same group that mounted a

successful challenge to the Voting Rights Act.

The plaintiff’s basic argument is simple. Let it be proposed that there are two voting districts each with 1,000 people. The first district only has 200 eligible voters but has a high immigrant population.

The second district has a smaller immigrant population and 400 eligible voters. If you live in the second district, you may feel your vote is only half as effective as a vote in the first district, which, according to the two plaintiffs is unconstitutional.

However, the Supreme Court disagreed and sided with the first theory of representative democracy. Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg penned the opinion of the court. She argued the framers of the U.S. Constitution made the population of each state the basis for the allocation of seats in the House of Representatives. This assures everyone that not only eligible voters count in our government system.

If you count all the people, this will amplify the voting power of areas that have large populations who cannot legally vote. These groups include children, illegal immigrants and legal immigrants who are not U.S. citizens yet. Areas that house groups like these tend to be more urban and favor the Democratic Party in elections.

Associate Justice Samuel Alito echoed the concerns of many political scientists in the practicality of only counting eligible voters. He said, “These statistics are more reliable and less subject to manipulation and dispute than statistics concerning eligible voters.”

Had the court ruled the opposite way, only eligible voters would be counted. This ruling would have shifted the voting power from urban areas to rural areas, a move

that would have benefitted the Republican Party greatly. This was the intent of conservative challengers from the beginning. The only challenge that conservatives and Republicans are facing is getting certain people to vote for them.

Instead of trying to win them over with better marketing or more appealing candidates, they have opted for different solutions. In 2010, conservatives tried to prevent groups of people from voting by enacting superfluous voter ID laws, under the guise that it would combat voter fraud.

Since 2000 there have been a grand total of 633 cases of voter fraud. These laws have only disenfranchised millions of U.S. citizens.

Now they are back at it again, this time trying to take representation away from minority groups, claiming it is an issue of “fair representation.” Nathan Presily of Stanford Law School told NPR that “A ruling in their favor not only would have led to a diminishing of Latino representation in Texas, but it would have forced many jurisdictions throughout the country, maybe hundreds, to redraw their lines.” This is just a way for the Republican Party, which has seen its popularity tank, to maintain control, power and relevancy.

The Democrats would also be using similar disingenuous arguments to push agendas like this, if they were in the same position as the Republican Party.

The only effect this verdict will have on upcoming elections is that the status quo will continue. The only way to ensure communities are equally represented is to draw proportionate districts.

All 50 states have sued this method of districting for centuries; changing this method would upset a well-functioning part of the U.S. political system.

EU needs new tactics for fighting terror

Intelligence agencies need to focus less on individual suspects and more on cooperative measures

Upon discovery that the Brussels bombing was intended to target Paris once more, it was revealed to the world that the decrepit security apparatus in the EU poses as much a threat to the people it protects as the terrorists it hunts.

The reason being that it has proved incapable of effectively ascertaining and detaining threats in a timely manner.

For every suspect the EU catches, thousands of others fester unnoticed. That the Islamic State group and other extremist groups have successfully nested in Europe falls squarely on the shoulders of their varying intelligence agencies. To the casual observer many possible solutions seem obvious, but it would be foolish to assume these ideas have not been attempted.

Some argue that intelligence sharing can create situations in which the privacy and civil liberties of citizens are unjustly violated. For example, if a list of citizens in country A is shared with country B. What right does country B have to this data? The people in question are citizens of their home country, and depending on your view of the social contract, entrust only so much to their home country. That their data might be shared for the sake of catching terrorists sets a disturbing precedent that would make George Orwell reel in his grave.

This precedent could lend itself to the eventual creation of something akin to an EU-wide intelligence agency. While it is purely hypothetical, such a conglomerate would theoretically be the most efficient way to combat terrorism. Harping once more on social contract theory, whether or not

such an organization is within the bounds of government is essentially contestable. Even if this were done behind the scenes, it would be difficult for many disenfranchised citizens to feel comfortable with such a thought.

Civil liberties notwithstanding, the difficulty in intelligence sharing is revelatory of deeper issues in the EU framework. There is hardly a “European” identity with which the bulk of citizens are willing to identify, and the rise of nationalism in spite of radical Islamic terrorism only distances the concept from realization. Further, assuming the demands of the citizen are the ultimate guide for a democracy, it would be farfetched to expect a Frenchman to exchange his liberty for the security from a German.

The nuances of ethnic relations colors the politics within the union; it is only a union in name. The economic perks are passed on to the wealthy, and the citizens of the individual countries enjoy little to no real benefit from the union. Some would go so far as to argue that the common currency has done more harm than good by making wealthy, successful economies serve as a safety net for recklessness and corruption.

To put this in the perspective of intelligence and its necessary reform, these differences cannot be so simply resolved. In the same way the FBI and CIA often struggle to share information between agencies, the nuances are exacerbated on a national scale when language and ethnic barriers come into play.

Another issue to consider is the disparity in resources between intelligence agencies. There are a va-

riety of reasons why an intelligence agency may or may not receive adequate funding. But no matter the cause, inequity in intelligence resources begets violent situations that even the hypothetical intelligence sharing cannot fix.

So what then is the solution to such a dilemma? The current apparatus is inadequate, and the structure of the EU exacerbates its shortcomings. A dissolution of the EU would certainly leave many countries more vulnerable and worse for the wear. The threat of unbridled nationalism onset by frequent terror attacks also serves to make matter worse. An EU-wide intelligence agency would not bode well, and as belts tighten for the next anticipated economic crisis, who is to say there will be enough money to go around to adequately fund intelligence endeavors?

The only imaginable short-term solution is a change in strategy. Preventive intelligence is hotly contested for the sake of civil rights, but perhaps the focus should be less on problematic individuals who are slapped onto lists and more on trends and associated hot spots. Instead of looking for individually disturbing behavior like web traffic and purchases, predicting terror could be a result of “forecasting” where attacks could be and diverting resources accordingly.

Acute prevention, rather than grand data collection, might streamline the complexities of intelligence sharing—a lesson that can be learned by the United States as well.

-Stephen Elliott
Pol. Sci. and Economics '16

USG debate mocks effort

Dogged club leaders deserve more from disinterested students

It is disheartening to consider what Baruch College is versus what it could be. On paper, it is an amazing institution. Its student body is one of the nation’s most diverse in terms of background and life experience. Its name is synonymous with business and finance within the CUNY system, no small feat among CUNY’s sprawling web of colleges.

Yet internally, it is hobbled by its reputation as a commuter school. Students come to class, take notes and then go home—not to their dorms, but to their homes in the outer boroughs. If any other university had as many students milling about its halls at 12:25 or 4:10 or 5:25 as Baruch does, it would pride itself on the magnitude of student engagement it witnesses. Yet at Baruch, this activity takes on the character of Penn Station at rush hour.

Fortunately there is a small, creative and highly committed group of students at Baruch who feel otherwise: the leaders and members of its many student organizations. Whereas other students take what they can from Baruch and then go home, student leaders commit their time to giving back.

Giving back in this way is a serious commitment. Club leaders have to work with a team, create plans and labor within the boundaries of budgets and regulations. They need endless creativity and a commitment to the parts of leadership—schmoozing, paperwork, late nights—which they often detest. They also have to maintain their resolve against a commuter student mentality that is all-too-often infectious.

Club leaders often lean on one another for support. They weep

into their drinks at Fitzgerald’s Pub. They vent to one another, often because parents, siblings and significant others grow weary of hearing it. More than one student leader’s mental breakdown has been hugged out in Baruch’s stairwells.

Club leaders all know they are fighting an uphill battle. They see the lack of engagement and ignore it because it is their job to defeat it. They know their mission is at times quixotic and, frankly, they leave the naysaying to the other 90 percent of the school body.

The USG presidential debate was a poignant reminder of just how quixotic campus life feels at times. The democratic spirit upon which university life thrives had been condensed into a spectacle: the solitary presidential candidate debating a laptop in a noisy room wedged behind Baruch’s escalators. He was visibly uncomfortable, and one could wonder what made him most uncomfortable. Was it debating a candidate who was not even on campus, yet felt qualified to speak to student concerns? Was it seeing the room occupied solely by Ticker staff and Baruch Believes party members? Was it knowing that he would win not on this platform or his real commitment to Baruch, but on a lack of alternatives?

Many students saw this spectacle and laughed. But without a doubt, many club leaders felt wounded by it. In that candidate on stage, they saw themselves: full of ideas and drive, but surrounded by noise and flippancy, and utterly alone.

-Mikhail Relushchin
Pol. Sci. '16

Business

Big banks strategize to appeal to younger demographic in hiring

BY JOSEPH ESPOSITO
BUSINESS EDITOR

Millennials may be reshaping the banking industry as large firms adjust their practices in order to retain young talent. Multiple big banks, such as Goldman Sachs and Credit Suisse, have changed the industry’s work environment to better fit employees just out of college.

According to a LinkedIn Corp. analysis conducted for the Wall Street Journal in a study that examined employee data from over a dozen investment banks, analysts and associates in 2015 stayed at a firm for an average of 17 months. A decade ago, the average was 26 months. Two decades ago, the average was 30 months.

The rate at which young employees are leaving big Wall Street firms is increasing, and the banks know it. Last April, entry-level bankers for Goldman Sachs gathered to listen to top executives talk about their careers at the firm. David Solomon, who has been co-head of the Investment Banking Division since 2006, talked to the associates about young employees leaving the firm. “At this time next year, there’s a lot of you in this room who won’t be working at the firm. That’s a fact, candidly, we would like to change,” he said.

Just six months after that speech, Goldman Sachs announced a series of changes designed to make entry-level positions more attractive. Changes included providing young employees more meaningful work and faster advancement within the company. The trend



NATHAN CHEN LIN | THE TICKER

Companies like Credit Suisse Group AG have appointed special workers to coach senior staff on working with millennial employees.

among Wall Street banks over the past few years has been to cut costs at the top. This makes the satisfaction of young workers that much more important.

Goldman Sachs is not the only bank actively holding on to their young employees. J.P. Morgan made several changes this year alone in an effort to engage and satisfy young bankers. The “Pencils Down” initiative pushes the firm’s global investment bankers to take the weekends off from work, unless they are engaged in an active deal.

Credit Suisse Group AG has appointed Nancy Nightingale as a program director to coach senior staff members on how to best interact with millennial employees.

According to Amy Hudson, chief operating officer of the investment bank and capital markets division, “The things that young workers want are frankly the things that all of us always wanted.” The difference is that the current generation is more willing to express what they want in the workplace.

In a presentation this February, Goldman Sachs reported that it reduced compensation for their senior staff by \$270 over the past four years. This is part of a larger plan to shift expenses from high-paid positions to lower level employees. Over the same period, the bank also reportedly reduced its number of partners and managing directors by 2 percent, while increasing the

number of analysts, associates and vice presidents by 17 percent.

Providing cash incentives may not be enough to hold on to millennial talent at big banks. According to a recent study by Deloitte, 44 percent of millennials would leave their current employer within the next two years, if given the choice. “While pay is important, it’s clear that millennials won’t stay with companies for money alone,” said David Cruickshank, Deloitte’s global chairman. A large contributor in the mass exodus of young employees from large banks is the lack of meaningful work they are given. Banks have begun to address this issue directly. Many banks have changed analyst programs to out-

source menial grunt work. Credit Suisse has started using entry-level bankers in face-to-face client interactions. Traditionally, on Wall Street, working directly with clients has been a privilege earned after years of experience.

John Waldron, co-head of the investment banking division of Goldman Sachs, said, “We’re focused on trying to understand what’s important to the folks we hire right out of school ... Personal values have the greatest influence on millennials’ decision-making on the job.”

Citigroup announced this past March a program that will allow incoming analysts to work for a nonprofit for a year and earn 60 percent of their starting salary before starting full-time at Citigroup. The bank also has a program that lets young bankers travel to Kenya for a microfinance project that lets them work with local investors and businessmen.

Not all the programs that appeal to young workers are seen as successful. Last year, banks such as Goldman Sachs changed their summer intern work policy, not allowing interns to work between the hours of midnight and 7 a.m. during the work week. It is understood throughout the industry that entry-level positions sometimes require 100-hour work weeks. Young employees are now pressed to cram much of their work into smaller periods of time.

Wall Street banks’ responses to the attitudes of millennial workers may set the tone for how multiple industries appeal to the current generation of workers.

Commonwealth proposes to remediate debt by halting all cash payments

BY ELIZABETH DASH
STAFF WRITER

The Working Group for the Fiscal and Economic Recovery of Puerto Rico recently released its second attempt to remediate its cash deficit crisis. The proposal comes after an initial attempt by the governor to dodge any immediate cash payments by promising a long-term pay-off for investors. However, the appeal failed to satisfy bondholders’ return on investment expectations. The Executive Summary released by The Working Group in favor of the “counteroffer” compares these concerns with what Puerto Rico believes will provide the greatest benefit to both the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and its investors.

The cash crisis has been an extended problem on the island since 2006. The Government Development Bank of Puerto Rico was established in 1942 and assumed the responsibility of guiding the island’s economy through a period of change. Puerto Rico’s economy used to be very heavily agrarian-based, but has recently become more of a service-backed economy—one of the main industries being tourism. The bank states its mission as follows: “To safeguard the fiscal stability of Puerto Rico and promote its competitiveness in order to transform our economy into one of the most developed economies in the world, hence, fostering the social and economic enhancement of our people.”

However, even with the support of the bank, Puerto Rico’s economy continues to struggle to meet bond payment obligations and has led its fiscal advisors to appeal for help. On April 6, following the Commonwealth Senate’s approval, Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla declared



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Unlike the states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico cannot file for Chapter 9 bankruptcy under United States jurisdiction.

a state of emergency, suspending any cash withdrawals from the bank unless proven absolutely necessary for the common welfare of the people.

This suspension includes emergency services such as police patrolling, fire fighting and ambulance responses. If the reason for the withdrawal does not aid the public in such a manner, it will be forbidden.

The moratorium, or prohibition, will expire January 31. Although there is a possibility of a two-month extension, the prospect still only provides a Band-Aid solu-

tion to the problem. Officials must find a way to remediate the severe lack of funds while simultaneously devising a plan that fosters future economic growth.

Puerto Rico’s debt is valued at roughly \$72 billion and the bank’s cash inventory is only about \$562 million. Since a large lump-sum debt payment is payable on May 1 totaling more than \$420 million, the executive order was also signed with the intention that it would reduce further lawsuits appealing for money.

Earlier in the year, Wal-Mart pursued a lawsuit against Puerto

Rico in response to certain taxes levied on the retailer that it deemed unconstitutional. In March, a U.S. court settled the dispute by ruling in favor of the retailer, concluding that the government could not rely on taxes to bail itself out of debt.

Padilla and his advisors made the decision to sign the emergency mandate as a testament that the island will not be able to meet halfway on its debts unless other drastic measures are taken.

Unlike the states, the Commonwealth cannot file for Chapter 9 bankruptcy, causing Puerto Rico to assume the task of remediating

its fiscal deficit largely on its own. Although Puerto Rican officials await aid from Washington, a divided government results in varying opinions of how the problem should be solved. In the House of Representatives, Republican senators proposed their version of a bill that would oversee the island’s debt restricting through a federal oversight board.

The question of whether or not the Commonwealth should be entitled to its own sort of bankruptcy filing is out of the jurisdiction of Congress and must be disputed in the Supreme Court.

For now, the counterproposal provides two options for current bondholders living outside the island, and a third for residents. However, it fails to provide any remedy that would allow investors to break-even on their investment, unless the bond is held for a substantial amount of time in which the economy would hopefully improve.

In total, Puerto Rico is indebted to investors by about \$70 billion, but Padilla has made a promise to ensure public safety before declaring the Commonwealth’s debts are paid as seen in the emergency mandate. The struggle surrounding the island’s economy has caused distress among local residents, many of whom now seek work and a more stable economy.

Indebtedness is a widespread problem not just in Puerto Rico, but states as well. However, the way in which Puerto Rico must deal with the situation fluctuates because its aid is somewhat more limited than that which is provided to the states. The way in which either the legislature or the Court handles the situation will have a large impact on the island’s future economic conditions.

Investment Management Group invests for Baruch College fund

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Although the club does not hone in on the acceptance of one specific major, the majority of members pursue interests in finance, mathematics, and quantitative and statistical modeling.

Potential inductees of the Investment Management Group are “passionate about the financial services industry and are looking to take their interest to a new level.” For this reason, the executive board picks new members through a rather stringent screening process, which includes two rounds of interviews—the first of which is a phone interview. Inductees are to have knowledge of the markets and a passion that will drive them to commit to the organization, which is at times, rather rigorous and demanding.

As of now, there are approximately 45 active members and 15 junior analysts, who are in the process of becoming active members, in the club. The structure of the group is broken down into six different industry sectors: consumer /retail, energy, financials, industrials, healthcare, technology and media & telecom. Each industry teams hosts 4 analysts and 2 junior analysts. At the top of these divisions are the five officers: Jonathan Hla, CEO Adit Shah, COO, Aleksandra Mikhalyova, CIO, Sidharth Thakur, CFO, and Chandni Parekh, CDO.

In each of its events, hosted in Lirtzman Hall, where the club convenes, chief executives update one another on recent events relating to both the club and the financial market as a whole, and members pitch stocks companies of their specific sector they feel the board may seek to invest.

For example, on Thursday’s event, three groups pitched stocks



VICKIE SAVVIDES | THETICKER

The Investment Managment Group currently has 45 active members and 15 junior analysts, as well as the five officers.

to their colleagues pertaining to the teams in which they stand: health-care, energy, and industry. Club members then responded to the presenters’ pitches, asking questions and providing their input on the prospects of specific ventures. After feedback from the executive board, the members addressed concerns and incorporated commentary on future evaluations and presentations to come.

On Saturday events, the board members host five-hour workshops, teaching current members and junior analysts the concepts of investing, basic accounting, financial statement analysis, corporate finance, valuation and technical analysis.

In order to keep the club members engaged in a balanced lifestyle, Hla endorses a “work hard, play hard attitude,” one in which members experience social aspects of the club by grabbing food or playing soccer as they develop

their knowledge of the financial market. By doing this, members create bonds with other club members, which is useful in not only inter-communication but also in the fostering of camaraderie.

This idea greatly factors into the numerous goals of the club as voiced by Hla. Under his leadership, the CEO explained that he held three ideals for the club: to increase member knowledge of philosophy behind value investing, to encourage members to really pursue a career because of a focus on passion, and to increase connection with the administration and the extensive alumni network.

In the first case, Hla and the members of the executive board began hosting the Saturday workshops. Hla also developed a reading list—available on the club website—with over fifty suggested materials pertaining to investment banking, business, trading and asset management. Hla cites that

these online tools help strengthen market knowledge, but what he finds “most effective is inspiring an inquisitive environment during general meetings” through discussion and avid participations. In these weekly meetings, “members are really trying to ask in-depth questions for finding a great valuable opportunity.”

The second goal of Hla’s pertains to expanding members’ knowledge of the “multifaceted careers” in the financial services industry outside of those commonly associated with the “Big Eight.” Hla ties in the subsets of equity research, asset management, consulting, hedge funds, private equity, etc., to “increase members’ horizons with reference to careers.” To do this, Hla and the board consistently invite speakers of all academic backgrounds and careers to events. Some recently featured prominent figures include: Richard Schultz, founder of Triad Securities, Jason Trennert,

managing partner of Strategas Research Partners LLC, and Darryl White, the CEO & group head of Bank of Montreal.

Hla’s final goal has been to increase connection with the administration and Baruch’s extensive alumni. A notable development of his staff is the creation of the first-ever alumni database under his leadership. To further its networking contacts, the club will be hosting its grandeur mixer in May.

The three goals of Hla have indeed proven successful. The club continues to foster relationships with front office positions at JP Morgan, Goldman Sachs, Credit Suisse, UBS AG, Sociotech General, BlackRock, Morgan Stanley and many more. With a 100 percent placement each year, members are guaranteed success if they put in avid work, uphold high aspirations and stay dedicated to the team throughout their college careers.

With regards to the future, Hla notes that this semester the team stressed teamwork and portfolio improvement, which is a constant work-in-progress for the team members they hope to perfect in the near-future.

The CEO notes that as of now, many more alumni are approaching points where they are joining investment firms, private equity and hedge funds. Although the typical firms hire people from Harvard, Wharton and Columbia, Hla notes that Investment Management Group has already competed against these schools in national stock pitch competitions and demonstrated its strength and knowledge. Therefore, the club is consistently working on “pioneering Baruch’s exposure to major investment firms.” It is with hope that IMG continues to uphold its values, lead, inspire and sustain the club’s legacy for many years to come.

March import prices rise

BY JOSEPH ESPOSITO
BUSINESS EDITOR

Average import prices rose in March. The rise was strongly buoyed by an increase in oil prices, and was the first rise in nine months.

Import prices increased by 0.2 percent in March, according to a Labor Department report. This comes after a 0.4 percent decrease of import prices in February.

The March increase was expected to be higher by economists, many of whom put their numbers between 0.9 percent and 1 percent. Still, this is the first increase since last May.

The increase in average import prices is mainly due to the global increase in oil prices. The price of imported oil rose 6.5 percent from a February low.

Prices fell steeply in February, but made a quick rebound in March. This was largely due to hopes that a deal would be reached between major petroleum producers to curb production. A deal was not reached, but the planned cut in output still drove prices up.

Import prices for non-petroleum goods actually decreased 0.1 percent from February to March, and are down 2.7 percent this year. From March 2015 to March 2016, non-petroleum prices were down 2.5 percent.

Although import prices increased, they are still generally weak. Import prices are down 6.2 percent this year alone.

This continued weakness is due mainly to historically low petroleum prices, a stronger dollar and lagging global growth.

Though the dollar weakened during the first quarter, due to the Federal Reserve Bank holding back its planned interest rate hikes

in 2016 because of an unexpected lag in global economic growth, it remains historically strong.

This in turn increases the value of the U.S. dollar against foreign currencies, increasing export prices and decreasing import prices.

Over the past year, global oil prices have fallen 39.5 percent. These weak prices have been a strong curb on U.S. inflation.

The import of non-fuel industrial supplies and materials advanced 0.5 percent in March, the first one-month increase since the index rose 0.5 percent in July 2014. This is also the largest increase since March 2014.

Consumer goods, on the other hand, fell 0.3 percent in March, after a 0.3 percent increase in March.

This was mainly lead by a 1 percent drop in the price index of medical, dental and pharmaceutical materials.

An increase of 0.1 percent in automobile prices counteracted this decrease, and represented the first monthly advance for the index since a 0.1 percent increase in July 2015.

A serious concern of U.S. economists is lack of healthy inflation for the U.S. dollar. Many officials believe deflationary pressures of U.S. imports will ease, but the fact that prices rose less than expected in March has implications.

It likely means the Federal Open Market Committee will leave interest rates where they are during their April meeting, holding off the scheduled two rate hikes until later in the year.

The Federal Reserve Bank is also likely concerned about the stronger dollar’s affect on net exports, though the average price for exports remained unchanged in March. Still, export prices are down 6.1 percent since last year.

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Arts & Style

Punk Rock exhibit brings the noise to the Queens Museum

BY DAVID CARDONA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Punk rock is officially dead. It died on April 10, 2016, the day the Queens Museum held the opening for their spring exhibitions. It died among the high priced alcohol, faux punk rockers, pre-ripped jeans and corporate sponsors. It died when the MC for the evening walked onto the stage and failed to get a response from the crowd, chanting the chorus to “Blitzkrieg Bop.” The exhibit, *Hey! Ho! Let’s Go: Ramones and the Birth of Punk*, has on display pieces from the band’s 22-year history.

The artifacts range from clothing worn by the members themselves, instruments used throughout their career, concert posters from across the globe, photos of the band hanging out with other punk musicians, and concert photos. There were also intimate pictures of the original four members: singer Joey Ramone (Jeffery Hyman), guitarist Johnny Ramone (John Cummings), Bassist Dee Dee Ramone (Douglas Colvin) and drummer Tommy Ramone (Tome Erdelyi), walking around Forest Hills, a neighborhood in Queens where they all lived during the band’s inception. This is the ultimate form of selling-out.

Instead of the ordinary exhibition opening, where the curator of the museum speaks on behalf of the staff and those who contributed to the exhibit, two punk bands were scheduled to perform: The Kominas, an Islamic punk rock band from Boston, Massachusetts, and Show Me The Body, a hardcore



DAVID CARDONA | THE TICKER

Fans of The Ramones, an American punk rock band, filled the halls of the Queens Museum to admire framed concert posters.

band based in New York City. In the main hall, directly in the center of the museum, a makeshift stage had been built.

A drum set, amps and microphones stood erect in the center of the crowds of people waiting anxiously to get a glimpse at the personal belongings of the Ramones. The line went from the entrance of the exhibit, across the main hall, wrapped around the admissions table and went back into the cafe, which stands diagonal to the exhibit.

Staff encouraged visitors to come back another day, stating that those standing in the cafe would not get enough time to completely absorb what there is to be seen. This

did not discourage people from waiting more than two hours on a line that completely lost its shape when passing by the stage. In the museum store, beside the pictures of the Ramones and DVD copies of the documentary, *End of the Century: The Story of the Ramones*, were T-shirts inscribed with the Forest Hills High School logo, the school all original members of the band attended. What makes it significant is that it resembles the shirt given out to the students of Forest Hills High School to be worn during gym class.

The event was anything but punk. Those in attendance wore ripped jeans, torn clothing and beat up sneakers. Ripped jeans

can now be bought in stores. The ripped jeans the Ramones wore when hammering away at four-chord songs that lasted only two minutes were ripped, because they ripped.

They were torn from wear-and-tear. It was not to fit a trend but was instead a fashion statement. Despite the lack of punks in attendance, there were some anti-establishment moments—things one could not possibly imagine witnessing inside a museum. During Show Me The Body’s set, a mosh pit opened in front of the stage. Those in attendance with children quickly fled the scene as younger people, or people without children, tossed themselves willingly with-

out regard as the heavy music overwhelmed them.

The older crowd, the usual museum goers, stood in awe at the sidelines as the museum suddenly turned into a hardcore punk concert. Cups of beer were tossed into the air, spilling liquid everywhere. Hair was pulled and people climbed up on one another, attempting to crowd surf. Instead of halting the show, museum security let it rock and watched in apprehension as the focus of the evening turned from the Ramones’ exhibit to the wild and crazy fans who were smashing and slamming their way across the hall. Pieces such as a letter to the band explaining what makes each of the members so unique, a photo of them walking down a street in Forest Hills, concert posters from around the globe lined the walls.

Signed equipment hung from behind the railing. Framed concert photos hung from the wall, and T-shirts, yellow from sweat, hung on hangers set up across the exhibition. Ramones cartoons, movies about the Ramones and movies with the Ramones in them decorated the walls. Whatever there is to be said about selling out, nobody can deny that the Ramones have made it.

They have been recognized as culturally significant; they have been recognized as the originators of the punk rock movement. Their legacy now hangs in a museum. If that is the benefit of selling out, then selling out does not seem so bad. The exhibit is open until July 31, 2016.

A familiar hip-hop duo emerges with new release of EP, *Twenty88*

BY AMANI JAMES
ARTS & STYLE EDITOR

No longer are music fans held by a string as artists slowly promote new music over the course of six months. Within the last couple of years, we have seen the music industry transition from an extended promotional extravaganza to an instantaneous body of work that can constantly grow with just the click of a button. Just a few days before the release of their first joint EP, Jhene Aiko and Big Sean would release clips of a music video for a single from their EP, “Memories Faded.”

As the two promoted the April 1 release on their personal Instagrams with mysterious videos and album covers, it was hard not to consider their past collaborations, which embody a template that is duplicated in the EP, *Twenty88*.

The EP opens up with the telling of a love story with “Deja-vu.” The R&B driven track tells a story of two past flames who have crossed paths once more. Big Sean tells the story with slight hostility. “I’m trying to recycle the time you been missing, you drinking that Sean John/ that’s your favorite,” he says. Aiko, who has become a force to be reckoned with as she has stacked features with some of the industry’s biggest rappers and singers, uses her soft voice to seduce her victim as she begins to criticize him for humiliating her.

Her voice creates the illusion of a lullaby as she plots his demise in the second verse. “Playing with your emotions/like I’m Chris Tucker on Friday/do it mind with you.”

The criticism continues in “Selfish.” “How could you be so selfish?” Aiko says. Although the song is not very short in length, it represents more of an interlude as they follow a free-flowing format with Aiko’s

voice singing freely.

With “Talk Show,” the duo showcases their creative ability as they engage in what seems to be a very personal conversation broadcasted on a talk show. The audience lends their instantaneous opinions with every comment in a musical skit. Mirroring the intensity of a Love and Hip-Hop interview, things go dark as we are shown that everything is not what it seems on television. Aiko starts the show by introducing herself to the crowd, leaving her man in her shadow.

However, the interview quickly goes bad as she puts Big Sean on the spot for his infidelity on air, as the audience gasps in the background. She cuts off the host, as he gives Sean props, “let’s not front in front of all these people nigga/ don’t act like just a couple weeks

ago/you wasn’t fucking with all those bitches.” Sean is taken aback as he responds aggressively, “I hate talking about what’s private when were not in private/cause I don’t want to say anything to piss your mother off/since we inviting everyone into our bedroom then let’s take the covers off.”

The animosity is clear, as the lovers quickly fall out of love in the limelight, and Aiko walks off the stage as Sean says, “Fuck this shit.” In the final track of the EP, Aiko tells a story of a girl still in love with her man. Her wisdom shines through as she comes to terms with the possibility of this relationship falling apart, saying, “hopefully the end ain’t near.” Her need for this relationship brings a familiarity to the lyrics as the melody follows a familiar nursery rhyme, “London

Bridge.” “I don’t mean to sound hysterical/but baby if you left/it would be a historical disaster.” She compares the disaster to the London Bridge falling, just as it does in the nursery rhyme.

Out of Love, a short film directed by Lawrence Lamont, serves as the visual aide to the album, as the two lovers’ dark fairy tale is told through a series of situations and encounters. Sean and Aiko’s connection is evident, as they seem like the perfect couple; however, it is clear that there is something not quite right about the two of them as the film shows what seems to be their robotic features. As the film progresses, their celebrity couple status begins to fail, as they begin to unravel in front of the lights and cameras. Their artistic choices are daring, as they choose to focus

on details and the music that will stand the test of time—instead of appealing to a larger audience and kneeling to marketability.

Both Sean and Aiko have taken a less commercial path to success. They seem to lack the fear many artists have, choosing more creative projects and collaborations over the course of their careers, which has given them more silent success.

These choices have given them the chance to push their creativity to new heights, and choosing a story line and alternative persona to tell a story only furthers this endeavor. As Aiko takes on an alter ego, wearing an orange wig and more flamboyant attire to replace her more fairy-like persona, Sean becomes a man with taste, as he leaves his rapper aesthetic behind.

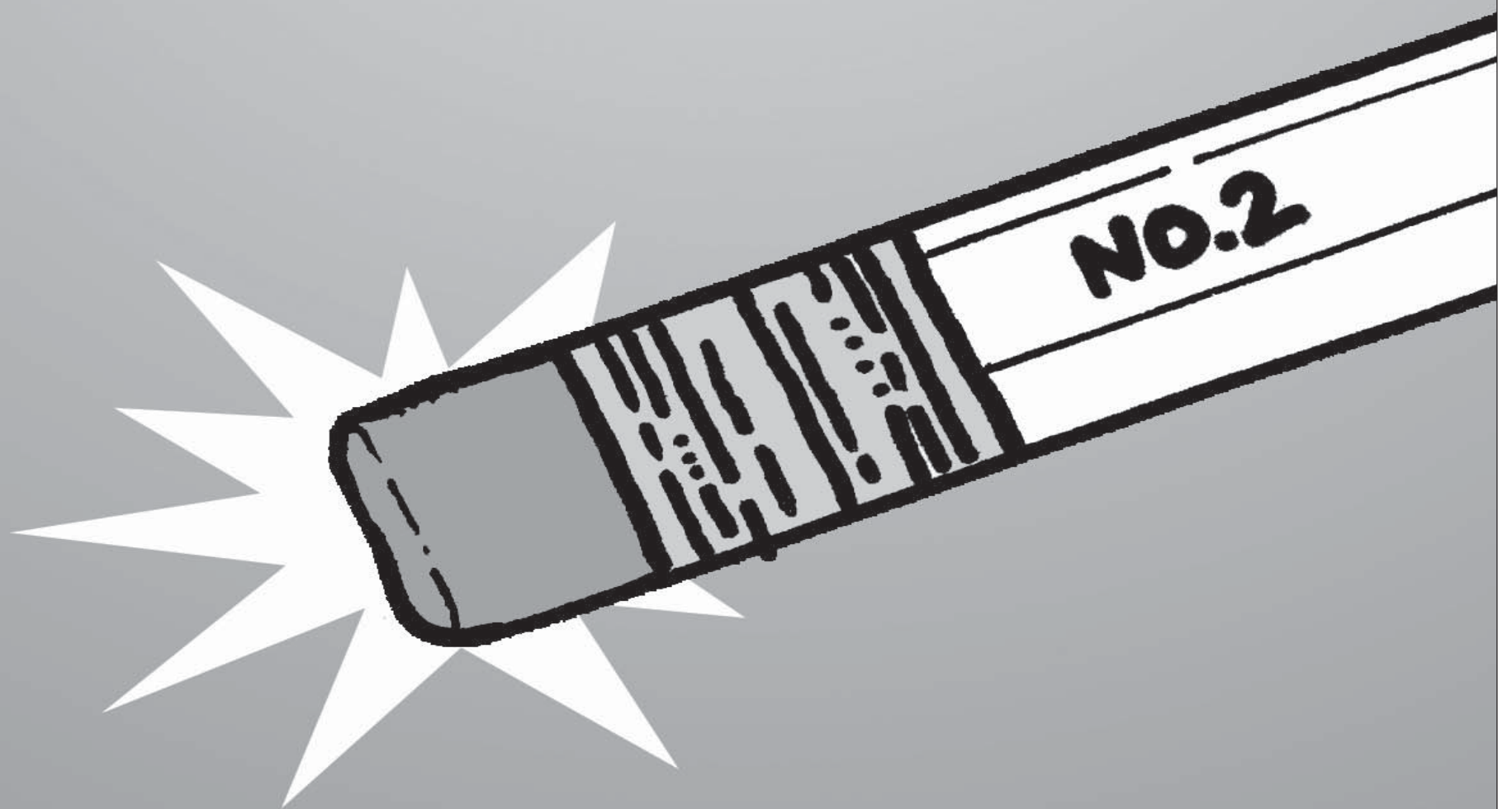
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Rapper Big Sean and Jhene Aiko engage in a podcast for Rap Radar, discussing how they bottled their collaborative magic.

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Science & Technology

Correlation between wealth and longer life expectancy found

BY MARIA MARKOWICZ
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

While the relationship between income and life expectancy has been researched for years, a recent study published by *The Journal of American Medical Association* finally put a number to this claim, stating that people who live in poverty can live 15 years less than the wealthy.

The study, which analyzed the “poorly understood” relationship between income and life expectancy, was led by Raj Chetty, Ph.D., an economics professor at Stanford University.

By collecting income data from tax records and mortality information from the Social Security Administration death records, the researchers were able to cover over 1.4 billion subjects. The information collected covered the period between 1999 and 2014.

“A better understanding of how and why higher income levels are associated with increased life expectancy is needed to support any idea that tax and distribution policies could be effective tools of public health and potentially extend life expectancy,” Angus Deaton, Ph.D., said in a JAMA editorial relating to the study.

The median age of the subjects was 53, though participants ranged from 40 to 76 years old. Their median earnings stood at \$61,175 per year.

Interestingly enough, the mortality rate for the men studied was much higher than that of women, with 4,114,380 deaths among



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Other variables, such as location, healthcare and time, affect the relationship between wealth and average life expectancy.

men and 2,694,808 deaths among women. The gap in life expectancy between the richest and poorest 1 percent was also wider among men; the gap for men stood at 14.6 years, while for women it stood at 10.1 years.

Women in the lowest 1 percent lived six years longer than their male counterparts, but the gap narrowed for the top 1 percent. There, women lived only 1.5 years longer than men.

Living in a certain region may also influence one’s life expectancy. According to the study, people in the bottom income quartile

who lived in Indiana, Nevada or Oklahoma had the lowest life expectancies, averaging 77.6 years. Cities in New York and California topped the list for highest life expectancies, reaching an average of 80.6 years.

For the top income quartile, Nevada was at the bottom of the list once again, reaching the mean age of 84.1 at the time of death. Maine, Utah and Washington were at the top of the list, reaching 87.8 years at the time of death.

“Consistent with these findings, the NCHS data shows that the majority of the variation in mortality

rates across areas among individuals with low socioeconomic status was related to medical causes, such as heart disease and cancer, rather than external causes, such as vehicle crashes, suicide and homicide,” the study noted.

The most important conclusion one could take from this study is that life expectancy is correlated with income, which proved the original goal of the study. To be specific, the researchers discovered that high income can result in extending one’s lifespan by almost 15 years.

Second, gaps in life expectancy

seem to grow as time progresses. As noted in the study, between 2001 and 2014, the top 5 percent saw their life expectancy rise by three years.

Third, as previously mentioned, living in a certain region can positively or negatively influence one’s life expectancy.

Lastly, the study bore conclusions on “socioeconomic differences in longevity.” In simpler terms, scientists led by Chetty disproved earlier beliefs that differences in medical care, poor health and physical aspects on the environment in which one lives contribute to lower life expectancy in the bottom income quartile.

Though these three reasons do not seem to have much impact on life expectancy, the study did point out that living in a particular region could result in a four-year change in life expectancy.

“Unemployment rates, changes in population and changes in the size of the labor force (all measures of local labor market and conditions) were not significantly associated with life expectancy among individuals in the bottom income quartile,” the article noted.

Though Deaton noted that the results of the study were not surprising—there is plenty of research proving the relationship between higher income and higher life expectancy—the study did manage to provide more detail on the issue, including variables that were previously unknown. He also noted that, in the future, researchers should add other variables to the study, such as education.

Cuomo enacts ban on chewing tobacco in New York sports stadiums

JONATHAN SPERLING
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Following a recent amendment to the Smoke Free Air Act, the use of smokeless tobacco, such as chewing tobacco, has been prohibited at all New York City sports and recreation venues that issue tickets.

Introduction 1068-A was one of four pieces of legislation signed on April 6 by Mayor Bill de Blasio, who joined lawmakers in Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco in passing anti-smokeless tobacco legislation.

“Our youth nationwide look up to the athletes in that spotlight. With Intro. 1068-A, we are taking a huge step forward to ensure that our youth are not exposed to dangerous practices,” de Blasio said in a statement.

The habit of chewing tobacco has deep roots in professional baseball since the emergence of baseball as a national sport in the late 19th century.

Although professional minor league baseball has prohibited use of smokeless tobacco since 1993, Major League Baseball had allowed it up until the recent amendment. Several major league teams, including the New York Yankees, have come out publicly with their support for the legislation, citing reasons such as the role model nature of professional athletes and the obvious health risks.

The team stated that “Major League Baseball has long supported a ban of smokeless tobacco at the Major League level, and the New York Yankees fully support the proposed Local Law to amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York pertaining to prohibiting the use of smokeless tobacco at ticketed sports arenas and recreation areas.”

Further restrictions were add-

“When athletes who are role models to children are regularly shown on TV using smokeless tobacco, it sends a harmful message. Statistics clearly show us that high school athletes use chewing tobacco at a steady rate, even though smoking rates among classmates have dropped,” Council Member Corey Johnson said.



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The ban on chewing tobacco includes all sports stadiums in New York City, including Yankee Stadium, pictured above.

ed to smokeless tobacco in 2011, which prohibited players from carrying chew tins in their back pockets, and disallowing the chewing of tobacco during televised interviews. However, the issue did not become dire until the death of Baseball Hall of Fame player Tony Gwynn from salivary cancer. Gwynn, who died at the age of 53, reportedly stated that he was convinced his cancer had been caused by his years of chewing tobacco.

For several decades, the Major League Baseball Players Association had considered most anti-smokeless tobacco rules to be a matter for collective bargaining. The union has agreed to aid players in quitting, as well as negotiate a new contract with MLB since the existing one expires this year.

“This bill sends a clear message: tobacco use has no place in New York City professional sports,” said

Council Member Corey Johnson, chair of the Committee on Health and a sponsor of the bill. “When athletes who are role models to children are regularly shown on TV using smokeless tobacco, it sends a harmful message. Statistics clearly show us that high school athletes use chewing tobacco at a steady rate, even though smoking rates among their classmates has dropped.”

Besides oral cancer, chewing tobacco has been found to cause other diseases of the mouth, including increased risk for early delivery and stillbirth if used while pregnant, increased risk of cardiovascular disease, pancreatic cancer, destruction of gum tissue, bone loss around teeth and tooth loss. According to the American Cancer Society, chewing tobacco is not even a safe alternative to cigarettes, a common myth perpetrated by chewing tobacco companies.

“We applaud Mayor de Blasio, Council Member Johnson and other Council members for stepping up to the plate on behalf of our children and taking tobacco out of baseball in New York City,” said Matthew L. Myers, president of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids.

“With the nation’s largest city and home to two storied franchises moving to rid baseball of tobacco, this cause is destined to get even more serious and acquire deserved attention across the country. Tonight, at Yankee Stadium, history will be made again with the first regular season tobacco-free baseball game in Major League Baseball history,” said Myers, referencing the Yankees’ first game played following the new legislation.

Although the general consensus surrounding the amendment is positive, the fight against smokeless tobacco does not come without

opposition. Team representatives, such as reliever Darren O’Day from the Baltimore Orioles, have referred to the ban as “a bit of a government overreach.”

“With the way MLB is trying to implement it, it’s almost like a fine on top of a fine,” said Zach Britton, a closer for the Orioles who does not use chewing tobacco. “I think most players are in agreement that MLB should kind of stay out of it. It’s a local law. It’s not a law enforcement agency. It’s professional baseball. We’re a sport. So I don’t think the fine should go through them.”

If a player is found using chewing tobacco in a city where it is banned, that player will be faced with both a citation from the city as well as a fine from the MLB. Orioles players have mentioned the use of coffee grind pouches, corn husk string, mint leaves, sunflower seeds and gum as replacements for tobacco.

Conference on visual impairment showcases new technology

BY VICTORIA MERLINO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Computer Center for Visually Impaired People at Baruch College held their ninth annual Employment and Visual Impairment Conference on April 9, covering the topic of “Policy and Practice: ‘Designing for the Future.’” Sponsored by the School of Public Affairs and several organizations, including The New York State Commission for the Blind, the conference was an all-day affair, lasting from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and was held within the Newman Vertical Campus.

Located on the sixth floor of the Newman Library, the CCVIP has been open to all students who have experienced vision loss since its inception in 1978.

Focusing mainly on accessibility to computers and other technology, the CCVIP offers classes, training, individualized instruction and more in its mission to serve the blind and visually impaired community, “increase[ing] the freedom, independence, and productivity of people who are blind or visually impaired through the power of digital technology.”

The conference sought to bring together people with vision loss, experts in the disability field, employers and the general public in an attempt to educate these groups on the opportunities available to people with vision loss, as well as to network and discuss the issues facing the visually impaired.

After a keynote address from Chen Guangcheng, a disability and human rights advocate, the conference broke off into various workshops that delved more into specific topics surrounding visual impairment.

The event also featured exhibits relating to visual impairment, as

well as awards given out throughout the day to those who had distinguished work in the field.

Workshops were presented on such topics as “Advocacy Across Disabilities,” “Employment and Training Initiatives for People with Vision Loss,” “Martial Arts for People with Vision Loss,” “QuickBooks for Windows is Accessible” and “Social Networking.” Moderators and presenters trended toward those working within the CCVIP center, experts in the field of vision impairment and disability advocates.

The workshop “Braille Screen Input” had CCVIP instructor Rick Fox demonstrate a smartphone application that creates a braille keyboard for iPhone’s iOS8 and iOS9, using sounds and strategic placement of “buttons” on the screen to allow the user to type in braille. Through the app, people with vision loss are granted a quicker and more efficient way to communicate than through the standard QWERTY keyboard.

Matthew Krieger, moderator for the workshop, outlined how the app could improve the lives and studies of blind and visually impaired college students everywhere, not just those attending Baruch College.

“When you look, for example, at any of the accessibility enhancement that an iPhone or any smartphone can have, you’re looking at breaking down friction between the user and that device,” Krieger said. “The device is doing more and more all the time, [so] you really need to have low friction because [the device] truly becomes a part of the person. So whether they’re in a class taking notes or looking up information, the faster and more efficiently someone can interact with their device ... the better.”

Other devices presented at the



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Cheng Guangcheng, pictured above, is a well-known blind activist. He delivered the keynote speech at CCVIP’s conference.

event include an eyeglass-mounted camera that helped visually impaired individuals by giving them an audio description of the surrounding environment.

Karen Gourgey, director of the CCVIP, stated the importance of showcasing technology at the conference as it relates to the blind and visually impaired community.

“The technology for the blind and the visually impaired is the technology that helps get access to information that might would have otherwise been limited because of a lack of vision ... Whether you’re using speech output or braille output or large print output ... it’s all about allowing people to jump their limits.”

Gourgey went on to discuss how technology, however, was not the only purpose of the event.

“[This conference] brings the

community together. It gives opportunity to demonstrate new devices or new trends in tech [and] also in advocacy,” Gourgey said. “We have workshops in lots of different areas—it’s trying to heighten employment; it’s trying to explore needs around advocacy; it’s also trying to make sure people are aware of opportunities out there in the whole leisure area ... It’s also a big networking [event].”

Throughout the day, there were several workshops devoted to networking, with blind and visually impaired people being given opportunities to hear the success stories of currently employed blind people, learn how to build professional relationships and find emotional support within the community.

The visually impaired can face many challenges in the workplace

that people with sight take for granted, necessitating the conference’s large focus on professional activities. Sandra Kupprat, moderator for the “Marital Arts for People with Vision Loss” workshop, spoke on the importance of technology to visually impaired people in a work environment.

“With the help of technology, blind people can be employed just like everybody else. It kind of levels the playing field. As a blind person, if I can see or read what’s in front of me then, it makes barriers to employment less so,” said Kupprat.

Whether attending for professional advice, to view technological advances or to establish relationships, the attendees of the conference fostered—through their participation—the greater sense of community the CCVIP hoped to foster through this event.

Outdoor light slows childhood myopia

BY BIANCA MONTEIRO
STAFF WRITER

Myopia, also called nearsightedness, describes the condition in which the observer cannot clearly see objects that are far away. Instead, the person is only able to distinctly see things that are located in close proximity. Though the explanations behind myopia are just as varied as they are inconclusive, blurry vision is usually caused by light entering the retina incorrectly.

Environmental factors, such as spending time behind computer screens or subjecting oneself to close-distanced reading and other visual work have long been suspected contributors to nearsightedness. Other suspects include genetic inheritance and diabetes, although no studies have been able to completely verify any certain factor.

Myopia can cause fatigue, dizziness and headaches. If left to worsen, it can eventually give way to blindness. To cope with myopia, users often wear eyeglasses or contact lenses to help readjust their vision. More recently, people have been able to opt for laser surgery or other reparative procedures to reduce or eliminate myopia, though these solutions are more expensive. While eyeglasses may cost around \$100 to \$300 on average, laser eye surgery can cost up to \$2,500 for a single eye.

With almost a third of U.S. citizens suffering from myopia, according to a 2008 study conducted by the National Eye Institution, the panic behind such a large percentage became quite worrisome. Brien Holden, a leading optometrist, predicts that by 2050, at least 50 percent of the world will be nearsighted.

According to a recently published study, however, breaks have been made toward tackling the in-



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Outdoor light has been discovered to slow down childhood nearsightedness.

crease of myopia all over the world. The researchers behind the paper were able to conclude that exposing children to outdoor light, optimally for two hours, will help slow myopic progression in young children.

The study included 101 children between the ages of 10 and 15. Forty-one children had mild or slight myopia while 60 were not affected by it. Each child was given a sensor device, worn on the wrist, which measured the visible light in his or her environment. During the 18-month period in which the study was conducted, the children wore the device twice for 14 days. To compensate for outdoor light changes due to changing seasons, the two-week periods took place in six-month intervals.

At the end of each 14-day period, the axial length of the child’s eye was measured for changes. Researchers also required guardians to fill out questionnaires to clarify the children’s use of “sun protection strategies,” and other variables.

The study concluded that children who were nearsighted were often exposed to less daily outdoor light than their non-myopic counterparts. Although the difference was not staggering, these same myopic children also spent, on av-

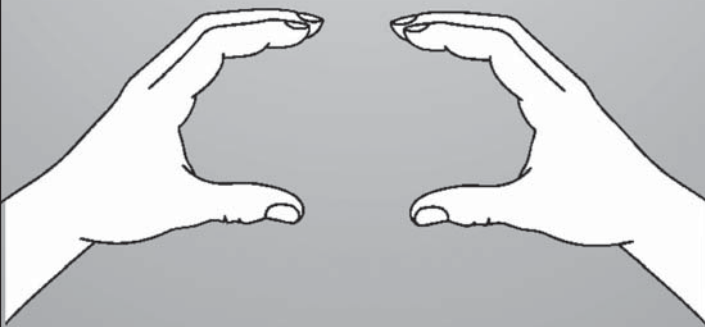
erage, more time on “nearwork,” as opposed to outdoor activities.

In the 18-month period, children exposed to low daily light suffered around a 0.16 change in axial length while children exposed to moderate and high daily light exposure suffered no more than around a 0.6-axial-length increase. Interestingly enough, especially in myopic children, those who were exposed to high daily light suffered more axial length increase than those with moderate daily light exposure, although it did not rival the increase for those exposed to low light on a daily basis.

The findings of this study mark the beginning of the long hurdle against myopia and, possibly blindness. For the first time, we may be able to look at myopia and its side effects as a diminishing source of discomfort in our future.

Although coping with myopia is the only option for some people, there is now means to begin effectively slowing its development and progression in younger people. In addition to incorporating the right amount of ambient light, people, regardless of their vision, should be scheduling annual eye exams to monitor and potentially improve their eye health.

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Sports

Baruch table tennis routs Ivy League teams at NCTTA Regionals

BY PAUL JOH
SPORTS EDITOR

Every week, the sports section of *The Ticker* covers various CUNYAC events for the Baruch College athletics teams. Sports such as basketball and volleyball have received the bulk of the attention due to the popularity and success the teams have achieved in recent years. Baruch, one of the 15 schools that make up the CUNYAC, competes in all nine of the sports offered in the conference except for track and field. However, aside from these eight sports, there is one other sport that has been highly underrated at Baruch since its inauguration in the 2008-09 season—table tennis.

The team was formed in 2008 and had a roster of six total students when it first started. In the following season, the Bearcats, led by former captain Kevin Lee, made it to the National Collegiate Table Tennis Association (NCTTA) championships after defeating schools like Columbia University, New York University and Rutgers University in the New York City Division.

Despite playing in its first-ever NCTTA championships, Baruch took the tournament by storm and raised plenty of eyebrows when it crushed some of the better established teams like Duke University and Florida State University. This was a big accomplishment for Baruch, proving that it had the potential to compete at an elite level with the bigger names in college sports.

However, even after six seasons and numerous accolades, the Baruch table tennis team has not re-

ceived recognition, much less support.

This year we were in a bit of a bind. We had a \$2,000 budget, but the athletics department transferred our budget to Student Affairs, and it happened right before nationals so we had to figure everything out,” said Sean Reddy, who is the current captain of the team. Most of the team’s costs come from travel expenses as well as equipment. Fortunately for Reddy and the team, the issue was resolved in time for the group to travel to Texas and compete in the 2016 NCTTA championships.

“I want to give a big thanks to Art King and Jose Arias for working with me personally. They helped me figure out a budget in order for the team to attend nationals and represent Baruch with all of the success that we had. If it wasn’t for them working with us, we would not have gotten there,” said Reddy.

This season, the team has been playing at the top of their game and possibly the best in the program’s history. Much of its success can be attributed to the amount of talent that is currently on the roster, which includes two junior Olympians. After spending most of their youth playing professionally abroad, Mishel Levinski and Can “Kevin” Wang immigrated to the United States to pursue higher education. Levinski, a member of the Israeli national team and Wang, a former Chinese junior Olympian, eventually found their way to the Baruch table tennis team last fall.

“It’s more fun playing as a team than going out individually be-

cause you go out together and you cheer for each other,” shared Wang. “They give me support and they got my back and that’s why playing for the school feels special.” Both are currently rated among the top 20 in college table tennis and are a force to be reckoned with among some of the top competitors in the conference.

At the Northeast Regional Championships, the pair sealed the first place victory for Baruch with a sweep in a deciding doubles match against NYU. Levinski also added a bid for the singles competition after going 6-0 against players from Yale University, Brown University, Stony Brook University and others. “We have a supporting cast where everybody is always there for each other,” said Reddy. “When one person isn’t playing they’re watching intently and rooting for the person that is playing. It just brings this whole thing of teamwork together ... being able to represent Baruch in the national community is honestly an honor and something that we always look forward to.”

After locking down a first place finish in Regionals, the team headed to Texas to play on the biggest stage in the NCTTA, the TMS College Table Tennis National Championships. In the singles competition, Levinski, who had a first round bye with the No. 9 seed, defeated Lindenwood 11-6, 8-11, 11-7 and 11-9. He passed the round of 32, but ultimately fell short in the round of 16 after three hard fought sets against Texas Wesleyan University. In the doubles competition, the two seemed nearly un-



NATHAN LIN | THE TICKER

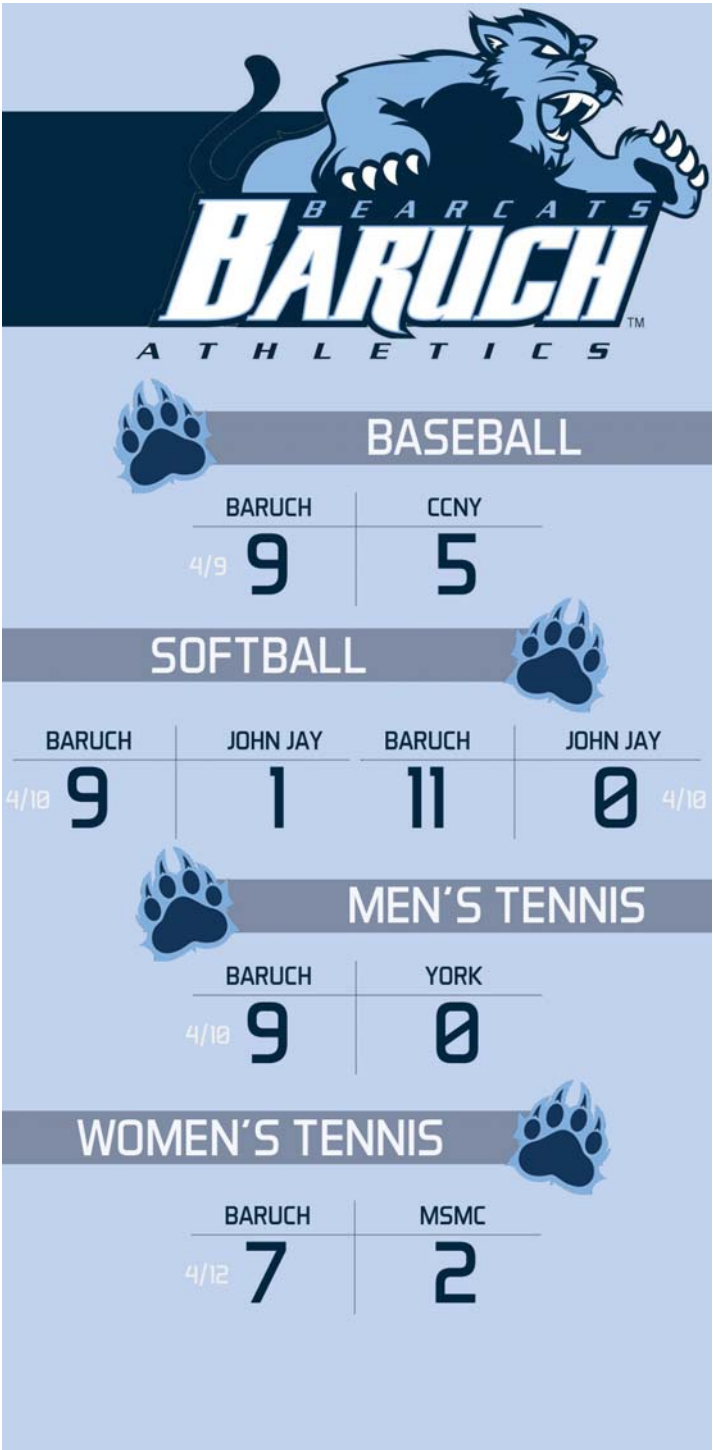
From left to right: Ka-Wing Chan, Sammy Zheng, Sean Reddy, Arvis Chen, Mishel Levinski, Can “Kevin” Wang, Matthew Hargraves.

stoppable playing in sync with each other and advancing to the quarterfinals, where they played against Texas Wesleyan once more. Both teams traded points and leads, but the Bearcats ultimately came out on top 10-12, 11-8, 11-8 and 11-8. Baruch’s run ended short with a loss in the semifinals to Mississippi College.

In team competition, Baruch bested Lindenwood in the first round, taking three of the five total sets against the all-star team. After losing to Ohlone College in the next round, the squad faced off against a stacked University of Toronto team in the loser’s bracket of the tournament. Both sides split the singles matches with two wins apiece, setting up an interesting showdown

for the tiebreaker in doubles play. Sammy Zheng and Levinski ultimately wrapped up the match 7-11, 11-4, 11-6, 11-8 to give Baruch a fifth place finish in the tournament.

To Wang, winning is not the most important part of the game. “It’s about the process and cherishing the time he spends with his teammates,” he said. The team’s rise to stardom has gone unappreciated for many years, still seeking support from Baruch and many of its students. “Baruch does not have coaches like NYU, Columbia or the national champions of Texas Wesleyan or Mississippi College do. All of these schools have coaches where compared to here, we’re dedicated to table tennis, but we’re forced to teach ourselves.”



Willett wins Masters as Spieth struggles

BY MICHAEL FRIEDLICH
STAFF WRITER

This past Sunday at Augusta National Golf Course, Englishman Danny Willett won his first career major in his second appearance at the Masters. Willett played a fantastic round, with a bogey-free 5-under par, which matched the best score of the tournament. Amazingly, two weeks ago, Willett was not even expected to play the Masters because his wife Nicole was pregnant and due to have their first child on April 10, which was also the date for the final round of the Masters. The two had their child on March 30, allowing Willett to fly over to the United States and compete in the Masters.

Aside from winning the championships Willett was not the only big storyline from the Masters. In the fourth round on Sunday, Jordan Spieth had the biggest meltdown in golf history, blowing a 5-stroke lead with two bogeys and a quadruple-bogey in the first three holes of the back nine.

Some have even claimed it to be the most devastating collapse in all of sports history. Spieth closed out the front nine with four straight birdies, moving to the 10th hole with a five-shot lead over Willett.

At that point, Spieth appeared to have sealed his victory, having created such a large distance from everyone else in the tournament. Then, after just three holes, Willett had taken over the lead at 4-under par, and Spieth had dropped to 1-under par. His collapse was in full tilt at the 12th hole. After hitting his tee shot into the water, Spieth hit his next attempt from the drop area into the water. Spieth then went on to hit his next shot into the bunker behind the 12th green, leaving him two more shots

for a meager seven.

The quadruple-bogey was the highest score he has ever carded in his 46 rounds at the majors level. He still had an opportunity to win it all after his first shot landed in the water, but on his second shot into the water, Spieth gave up the lead barely reaching the water on a shot that was only 80 yards from the pin.

It was shocking that he showed such nervousness considering that last year, when he won his first major at the Masters as a 21-year-old, he showed no signs of nerves on his way to dominating the field. Interestingly, Willett is the first Englishman to win the Masters since Nick Faldo did so in 1996. Faldo’s triumph came after Australian Greg Norman blew a six-stroke lead on the back nine, similar to how Spieth collapsed on the back nine.

At the 2015 Masters, Spieth had the lead through all four rounds, known as wire-to-wire, and tied the Masters scoring record of 18-under par. This led many to speculate that Spieth could become one of the best players ever because of the way he was playing at such a young age.

Because of his domination at the Masters, many believed that Spieth would easily ride off into the sunset with a 5-stroke lead and only nine holes to play. With a comfortable lead over his competitors, Spieth was in line to be only the fourth to win back-to-back Masters championships and the first to win back-to-back championships while possessing the lead after every round.

Spieth was the first-ever to lead for seven rounds in a row and was on the path to extending his record with an eighth consecutive round. In addition to these accomplishments, Spieth would have been the

youngest player ever in the Masters era to win three majors.

If Spieth had done all of these things, he would have definitely been in the conversation as the greatest player in golf history. But after those two shots went into the water, many spectators did not know what had just hit them or Spieth, because the mastery that he had displayed at the Masters over his short career had simply evaporated. Spieth doubted the decision he and his caddie made to hit a draw on his tee shot on the 12th, showing a lack of commitment to the shot.

It was tough to watch him go through such a painful collapse. Many were so shocked that he blew the lead because there was not really anyone near Spieth who could threaten him, given that his closest competitors, Rory McIlroy, two-time major winner and No. 3 in the world, and Jason Day, No. 1 in the world with one major championship, had played very poorly and were several shots behind.

Although the harsh wind in the first three rounds hindered the ability of others to make a push toward the lead, the wind was not a factor in the final round.

Despite the disastrous collapse, Spieth handled the loss with class, gracefully giving Willett the prize green jacket and conducting the post-tournament interview with poise. It goes to show that anything can happen in sports. Like the saying goes, “The Masters does not start until the back nine on Sunday.”

It was a tough loss for Spieth, but hopefully he will be able to rebound from the heartbreaking loss. Given his young age of just 22, there will be many opportunities for him in his future to win more majors.

Knicks fall apart after promising start, miss third straight playoffs

BY STEVEN TSAKANIKAS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the weather gets warmer and the studying lasts longer, the 2015-16 New York Knicks season will end earlier than they would have liked it to for the third consecutive year. Coming off of a tanked season, all the talk was about making the playoffs in an improved Eastern Conference but the team failed to do so, trailing the eighth-place Detroit Pistons by over 10 games.

The team unconvincingly hovered around the .500 mark for the first half of the season, never playing with enough consistency to prove they were a legitimate team. Then, on January 20, at Madison Square Garden, New York defeated Utah by a small margin in what ended up being the most exciting game and the high point of the year. This win gave the team a 22-22 record, but more importantly it gave them realistic hope that they could be a playoff team in the East.

Through the final 38 games of the season, the team from Manhattan floundered, only winning 10 additional games. Derek Fisher was fired, Carmelo Anthony questioned his future in New York and Jose Calderon was unable to guard a snail. Disaster is an understatement for the way the team ended the year, considering how much potential they showed in the first half of the year.

When Kurt Rambis took over as the interim head coach, he talked about how the Knicks needed to make the playoffs but when he was unable to deliver on his promise, he completely changed his tone. Rambis said that Phil Jackson has done a “nice job with the process” through his first two full seasons in New York, despite only 49 wins to show for it. He showed that he is incapable of leading a team when



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After another disappointing season for the Knicks, the team faces a troubling offseason that could see big changes to its roster.

the veterans had to come to him asking for their minutes to be cut down after they were eliminated from playoff contention. A head coach should know when to play the younger players to get more experience and it took the vets to speak up and teach Rambis this. What happened when rookie Jerian Grant received more playing time? He looked like an NBA player, something that could not have been said when he was playing less than 10 minutes a night.

Kristaps Porzingis, drafted fourth overall by the team, was the big news last summer, and he turned out to be everything Jackson and the Knicks could have hoped for and more. He reached his goal of turning “boos into cheers” through

high-flying putback dunks, energetic blocks and impressive shooting. He actually impressed some fans so much that they are ready to call the 7’3” Latvian their next franchise player after Anthony.

Speaking of Anthony, he evolved as a player this season, averaging the most assists per game in his career. He was also a big brother of sorts to Porzingis, teaching him the ropes of the NBA. Anthony has said that he wished he had someone there for him when he first came into the league so he knows how important it is to have a mentor in the first year in the NBA.

While Melo and KP both had impressive years individually, there were some members of the team that disappointed mightily in 2016.

First on the list is shooting guard Arron Afflalo. He signed a two-year \$16 million deal that many think he will opt out of after his first year in New York. Afflalo was a former teammate of Anthony’s in Denver so to him it felt like the perfect place to go to for some familiarity. Except for a select few games, Afflalo struggled to be the second scorer the Knicks were looking for when they signed him and certainly did not live up to their expectations of him defensively. All of this lead to his benching for Sasha Vujacic, which did not make Afflalo too happy. There was not much communication between him and Rambis after the media had their fun with the situation. The former Denver Nugget said he is look-

ing for a starting job this summer and New York does not look like a likely destination for him so all signs point to his opt-out clause being utilized.

Another player who was expected to have a better season was Kyle O’Quinn. The Knicks signed him to a multi-year deal hoping to get some valuable minutes off the bench from their free agent signing but they did not get much from him. He went several games at a time not playing due to a coach’s decision and disappointed many who hoped he would contribute more to the team with his hustle and defensive prowess.

Heading into the summer of 2016, the team has some obvious holes to patch up to Anthony’s liking. Anthony has said that he wants a say in the coaching decision if he has a future in New York, and he is right. In the “Melo Era,” the Knicks have gone through four coaches and three general managers, not to mention experimenting with dozens of players. The instability of the organization is, in Melo’s own words, “tough to go through” as he sees his close buddies LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Paul all competing at high levels with their respective teams. Some notable coaches that are expected to be on the market are Tom Thibodeau, Mark Jackson and Jeff Van Gundy. Instead, Jackson reportedly has some interest in retaining Rambis or hiring David Blatt. The point guard position for the team has also been a weak spot, something that should be addressed this summer.

Knicks fans have hope heading into this offseason, which has been the case for numerous years now. Will they continue to improve or will Jackson’s stubbornness drive Anthony and any hope New York has at competing out of town?

A-Rod’s future uncertain with Yankees

BY BENJAMIN LEIBOWITZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In late March, it was reported that Yankees slugger Alex Rodriguez had decided to retire at the culmination of his contract at the end of the 2017 season. While that report proved to be false and was later taken down, it raises questions as to if and where Rodriguez will play beyond the 2017 season. The Yankees are a near lock not to retain his services, as they have prospective players who need a spot in the lineup, and they do not appear to be interested in retaining the services of another well-past-his-prime slugger. So, will Rodriguez play anywhere in 2018? Although he does sit in fourth place on the all-time career home run list, does anyone care anymore? His use of steroids has been well-documented, and his Hall of Fame chances have all but evaporated. Is it worth it for any team to sign Rodriguez and take on the baggage he carries? We will see.

When all is said and done, Rodriguez leaving the Yankees will be looked at positively by the team. When his contract expires, it will finally allow them to bring up heralded prospects Judge and Bird, and not have them blocked by high-paid aging superstars. With Rodriguez essentially limited to the designated hitter role, those two prospects, as well as others, will be able to find a spot in the lineup. It will also give manager Joe Girardi a sense of relief that he has not yet felt as the Yankees’ skipper. Throughout his time at the helm, Girardi has had to answer tireless questions about Rodriguez. Whether it was answering questions about A-Rod’s long-wavering health or having to field questions about Rodriguez’s use of performance-enhancing drugs, Girardi

has faced difficult questions most managers should not have to worry about. As it pertains to the Yankees, A-Rod’s announcement of his impending retirement should come as much-needed relief.

As pertaining to baseball, however, this announcement opens up a Pandora’s box of questions about Rodriguez. There is no doubt in anyone’s mind that A-Rod is one of the most talented players to ever wear a big league uniform. After breaking into the Seattle Mariners’ lineup as a teenager, Rodriguez took the league by storm. Defying the conventional idea that a shortstop should be a defense-first position, Rodriguez has emerged as the greatest power-hitting infielder of all time.

After hitting an astounding 36 home runs as a 20-year-old, A-Rod has continued his power-hitting prowess for over two decades. He has topped 45 home runs five times in his career and topped out at 57 home runs in his 2002 season with the Texas Rangers. Following the 2003 season, Rodriguez was traded to the New York Yankees, which only furthered his rock star status. In 2009, he won the World Series as a key member of the Yankees. He owns 687 career home runs, placing him fourth on the all-time list behind Barry Bonds, Hank Aaron and Babe Ruth. Unfortunately, however, there is more to him than his on-the-field accolades, which has put his legacy as an all-time great at risk.

It has come to light in recent years that A-Rod used PEDs. The details just got uglier as more information was released. After denying his use of steroids when he was a member of the Texas Rangers, Rodriguez finally admitted that he had used them from 2001 to 2003, in an interview with ESPN. According to Rodriguez, “Back then

baseball was a different culture ... It was very loose. I was young. I was stupid. I was naive. And I wanted to prove to everyone that I was worth being one of the greatest players of all time. I did take a banned substance. And for that I am very sorry and deeply regretful.”

While this apology appeared heartfelt, it would turn out to be an empty one.

In 2013, while recovering from hip surgery, reports surfaced about Rodriguez’s involvement in the Biogenesis scandal. Anthony Bosch ran the Biogenesis Clinic of America, which ran under the cover of it being an anti-aging clinic. Thirteen players were suspended as a result of their involvement in the scandal, but Rodriguez received the harshest punishment, ultimately missing the entire 2014 season.

While Rodriguez has not committed any other transgression since his suspension, his involvement with PEDs has done a great deal to tarnish his legacy. While he was once looked up to as baseball’s golden boy, his relationship with baseball has become strained to say the least. He has been viewed as a distraction at times to the Yankees, and the majority of the Yankee fan base is eager to see him leave. It is a sad tale of a hero-turned martyr. Many contemporaries grew up watching A-Rod blow the competition away and completely redefine the shortstop position. Once a surefire first ballot Hall of Famer, it is all but certain that he will not receive a plaque in Cooperstown. The harm he has done to his legacy has been self-inflicted and has embarrassed the sport. However, his pure talent and incredible power will never be forgotten. When Rodriguez retires, baseball will lose one of the most polarizing figures in sports history.

76ers GM Hinkie resigns

BY OMER SEMAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Kobe Bryant’s retirement announcement would have moved Genghis Khan to tears. Sam Hinkie also stirred emotions with his resignation letter—confusion being the most powerful one. The former Philadelphia 76ers general manager delivered the 13-page manifesto to team ownership April 6, and it was a mouthful. He attempted to justify the three years of bottoming out to acquire premium draft picks, “The Process,” by comparing his maverick decisions to industry titans Warren Buffett and Elon Musk. Hinkie’s analytical approach was accepted by the owners of the team in 2013, but their patience wore thin.

Hinkie pitched himself as a disruptor of the market, telling the board members in their first meeting, “We should attempt to gain a competitive advantage that has a chance to be lasting, hopefully one unforeseen enough by our competition to leapfrog them from a seemingly disadvantaged position.”

The problem was not the losing—at least not to the owners—it was the net result of losing. Joel Embiid and Dario Saric, both top-12 picks in the 2014 NBA draft, have yet to play a minute in the NBA. Embiid has dealt with a stubborn foot injury, but the Sixers knew Saric would stay in the Euroleague for at least two years when they traded No. 10 pick Elfrid Payton for him. Payton is a serviceable ball distributor, but The Process was leveraged toward maximizing the team’s chance of selecting players with superstar potential until the right combination meshed into a championship contender.

This is not a radical idea.

In fact, that is the goal of every team that does not have an elite player. The Sixers were given so many headlines because Hinkie went full throttle with the notion of tanking. Designing a roster to lose as much as possible so as to increase the likelihood of winning the NBA draft lottery is effective only if management picks the right player. It typically takes years to determine that player’s full potential, years which Hinkie did not have to spare.

Appearing on former Grantland and current ESPN writer Zach Lowe’s podcast an eerie 48 hours before his resignation was public, Hinkie admitted to not having a timetable of benchmarks such as making the playoffs in two years, winning 50 games in five and so on. When asked if that is a problem, he countered by trivializing the concept of trumpeting a forecast only to fall on your face if you fail to reach that arbitrary goal.

Hinkie concluded the thought by saying kneejerk reactions to immediate results without understanding the methods that led to this point feeds a system that makes the present day the imperative. Lowe replied, “In other words, you have to investigate the process, and either trust the process ... or not trust the process.”

The cruel irony is that his plan may start to bear fruit. The Sixers have the highest odds of getting the top pick in the upcoming draft plus three first-round picks if luck swings their way.

According to new general manager Bryan Colangelo—Jerry’s son—and head coach Brett Brown, Embiid and Saric are expected to debut next season, but you did not need to hear it from those two. Hinkie detailed the Sixers’ future on page 12.

Dude, it's not rocket science.



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19

ASCEND PROGRAMMING WORKSHOP
12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. | VC 3-210 | Free

SEMI-ANNUAL NETWORKING LUNCHEON
12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. | VC 1-107 to 1-111 | Free

WED
20

TIE DYE FOR SAVE THE CHILDREN
12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. | VC 2nd Floor Lobby | Free

MOVIE NIGHT WITH LASO
6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. | VC 2-110 | Free

THURS
21

HOLI ON THE PLAZA
11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. | VC 1-107 to 1-111 | Free

TACO THURSDAY
12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. | VC 2-125 | Free

FRI

22 **SPRING RECESS**

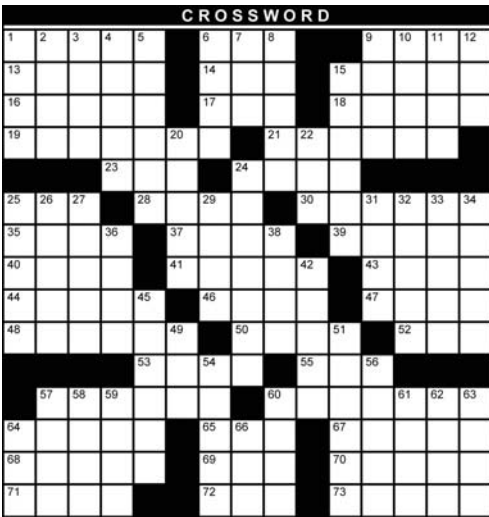
SAT

23 **SPRING RECESS**

SUN

24 **SPRING RECESS**

**Off-campus event
For full list, visit www.baruch.cuny.edu/calendar*



THEME: MOTHER'S DAY

ACROSS

- 1. Christmas help, pl.
- 6. Mele Kal'ikimaka wreath
- 9. Oxen connector
- 13. Poppy seed derivative
- 14. Plus
- 15. Emerald, e.g.
- 16. Christmas wish?
- 17. Last letter
- 18. The least bit
- 19. *TV's smothering Goldberg
- 21. Stay for this long?
- 23. Biology class abbr.
- 24. Bloodsucking hopper
- 25. Leonardo da Vinci's "Vitruvian _____"
- 28. American Society for Clinical Investigation
- 30. Preserve, like mortician does
- 35. Rush job notation
- 37. Castle building supply
- 39. Spurious wing
- 40. Christian of haute-couture
- 41. *Taken from mom before breakfast in bed
- 43. Month of Purim
- 44. China Grass
- 46. Cher or Mariah Carey
- 47. Google alternative

- 48. Conundrum
- 50. Church section
- 52. Little piggy
- 53. Blatant promotion
- 55. Ambulance squad, acr.
- 57. *Mother, in German
- 60. *Popular Mother's Day gift
- 64. Human trunk
- 65. Honey Boo _____
- 67. 78 playing cards
- 68. Maroon 5 2014 hit
- 69. Shakespearean "fuss"
- 70. Follow as a consequence
- 71. Jury colleague
- 72. Cut down in March?
- 73. Clay pigeon shooting

DOWN

- 1. Place to rest in peace
- 2. D'Artagnan's weapon of choice
- 3. Type of missile, acr.
- 4. More pure
- 5. Turkey's ancient port
- 6. *Like the mom in "Married with Children"
- 7. Compass bearing
- 8. Like utopia
- 9. Sasquatch's Asian cousin
- 10. Verbal exam
- 11. Broflovski of "South Park"
- 12. Right-angle building
- 15. * _____ Mama, tropical drink
- 20. Rodeo rope
- 22. Diminutive
- 24. " _____ Nemo"
- 25. *Mother, in Italian
- 26. Hailing from the East
- 27. *Ashley and Wynonna's mother
- 29. *Paper Mother's Day gift
- 31. Spill the beans
- 32. Tax evader's fear
- 33. Latin American plain
- 34. *Bart's mom
- 36. Arrogant snob
- 38. Deity, in Sanskrit
- 42. Synonym of unravel
- 45. Purchaser
- 49. Draft pick
- 51. Speaks like an actress
- 54. City-like
- 56. "Million Dollar Baby" Oscar-winner
- 57. Wry face
- 58. Craving
- 59. Russian autocrat
- 60. *It can swell during pregnancy
- 61. Gaelic
- 62. Casanova, e.g.
- 63. Let it stand, to proofreader
- 64. Medicinal amt.
- 66. Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION: ISSUE 8

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**Starr
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Career Spotlight

baruch.cuny.edu/careers
blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/starrlights/
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PEER TIP OF THE WEEK

CHECK OUT **THIS WEEK'S WORDS OF WISDOM FROM PEERS FOR CAREERS, AMBASSADORS OF SCDC**

A thank you note after every interview is crucial to landing an internship. Make sure to shoot that email within 24 hours to the people who took part of your interviewing process, including the front staff if they provided you with assistance

--MICHELLE SHEU

PEER FOR CAREER

FUN FACT

Did you know that the CUNY Big Apple Job Fair is happening on Friday, April 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Jacob Javits Convention Center with 80+ employers attending? Check out cuny.edu/bigapple for more information.

SAVE THE DATE

EVENTS

Cover Letters Workshop
Wednesday, April 20, 12:30pm-2:00pm, VC 2-190
Attend this session to learn more about how to write a professional, marketable cover letter.

Career Fair Success Strategies
Wednesday, April 20, 5:00pm-6:30pm, VC 2-190
Learn how to make the most of the CUNY Big Apple job fair.

Mastering the Job Interview: Advanced
Thursday, April 21, 12:30pm-2:00pm, VC 2-190
This workshop is designed for upperclassmen who need more intensive interview training.

CUNY Big Apple Job Fair
Friday, April 22, 10:00am-2:00pm, Jacob Javits Center
70+ employers attending, this job and internship fair is open to all CUNY students.

INTERNSHIP UPDATE

INTERNSHIP WITH MARGARET CHIN

Unpaid Internship with the New York City Council Member

Council Member Margaret Chin is the elected representative for the 1st New York City Council District. The District includes Chinatown & Little Italy, Lower East Side, SoHo, Battery Park City, Tribeca, Financial District, the Seaport/Civic Center, Washington Square Park, and Governors Island. Council Member Margaret Chin was elected to the New York City Council in 2010.

She is Chair of the Committee on Lower Manhattan Redevelopment and is a member of the Committees on Education,

Recovery and Resiliency, Rules, Privileges and, Elections, Transportation, and Youth Services. Margaret is also a proud member of the Progressive Caucus and the Women's Caucus, and has twice been elected by her colleagues to serve as an executive member of the Black, Latino, and Asian Caucus.

Internships run during regular business hours with a flexible schedule and minimum of 20 hours per week.

Duties and responsibilities include assisting staff with constituent intakes, working with

government agencies, conducting policy and legislative research, attending community events and City Council meetings, performing administrative duties. In addition to the duties and responsibilities listed above, interns will also be assigned to special projects based on his/her interests.

This is an unpaid internship open to all majors and class levels; for more information, visit STARRSearch with ID number 84598.



It's time to file the 2016-2017 FAFSA!

www.fafsa.gov

Federal Code: 007273

NY State TAP Code: 1409

Baruch College

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