

The Ticker

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BARUCH COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

AUGUST 29, 2016

OPINIONS 4

False alarm at JFK exposes police inadequacy (p. 4)



Hundreds of passengers went into a state of alarm as gunshots supposedly rang through the JFK terminals. Police and safety departments showed up and tried to contain the situation but instead caused greater panic.

BUSINESS 8

Oil bullish amid talks of OPEC output freeze (p. 8)



After failing to reach an agreement earlier this year, both OPEC and non-OPEC nations once again look to settle talks for a potential freeze on production in the upcoming International Energy Forum from Sept. 26-28.

ARTS & STYLE 10

Kubo presents magical stop-motion piece (p. 10)



Kubo and The Two Strings is a stop-motion marvel, featuring a brave, one-eyed Japanese boy who is faced with one of the toughest decisions of his life—either he surrenders his only eye to his grandfather, or stands up to him.

SCIENCE & TECH 12

Schizophrenia connected to human evolution (p. 12)



Schizophrenia has recently been discovered to be linked with human evolution, with schizophrenia vulnerability rising after modern humanity's divergence from Neanderthals. Schizophrenia is a byproduct of the human brain's evolution.

SPORTS 14

U.S. Olympic team dominates Rio 2016 (p. 14)



The U.S. Olympic team dominated in Rio this year, bringing their total gold medal earnings up to over 1,000. Swimmers Michael Phelps and Katie Ledecky, and gymnast Simone Biles have been just a few of the American athletes who were able to take home the gold.

Convocation Day welcomes over 1,300 freshmen



BIANCA MONTEIRO | THE TICKER

On Convocation Day, Baruch Chorus Director Parker spent time teaching incoming freshmen how to sing Baruch College's alma mater in Mason Hall.

BY YELENA DZHANOVA
OPINIONS EDITOR

Each year, masses of incoming freshman line up outside of Mason Hall to observe Convocation Day, the official induction ceremony into Baruch College. At 10 a.m. on Aug. 24, the students were ushered

in by a continuous trail of Freshman Seminar peer mentors.

Most of the freshmen were unaware that one of the peer mentors present at the scene would assume the position of a leader in one of their classes, the Freshman Seminar. To indicate their involvement in the Office of Student Life,

each peer mentor sported a shirt that promised to uphold the values of engagement, excellence, integrity and respect, principles deeply rooted in the creation of the Freshman Seminar curriculum.

The official ceremony did not begin until after every student was seated, roughly an hour after the

earliest packs had arrived. During the wait, peer mentors walked up and down the stairs in an effort to match each freshman with their room for the upcoming seminar.

Convocation began with a series of greetings.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Filmmaker awarded for piece on undocumented immigrants



PHOTO COURTESY OF PRAQ RADO

Rado accepted the 2016 Leadership Award from Baruch's Alumni Association.

BY BRADEN CARTER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Preke Radoina, a 35-year-old Albanian filmmaker, confidently took the podium earlier this month to accept the 2016 Leadership Award from the Baruch College Alumni Association. While this award represents his storied past, his academic excellence and the difficult process he underwent fighting to eventually gain his citizenship, he understands that the future is more important than the past.

Baruch welcomes freshmen, transfer students with Welcome Week

BY DANIEL DORNBAUM
USG PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2016-2017 academic year! I must give a huge shout out to the Class of 2020 for joining the Baruch College ranks—welcome to the Bearcat pack! For all returning students, welcome back to your home away from home.

Every single member of the student government is excited to embark on what promises to be an eventful year ahead. At Baruch, student life is more vibrant now than it has ever been. From the 25th Street Plaza to the 14th floor of the Newman Vertical Campus, events for students occur on a daily basis and there is no shortage of fun activities that turn what is ordinarily referred to as a “commuter school” into a campus.

Adjusting to a new class schedule in the first weeks of school can be overwhelming but it is important to be cognizant of the “Baruch world” around you. Our athletic teams will begin hosting tryouts, clubs will conduct their first general interest meetings of the year and you will find plenty of opportunities to find your niche in our college community.

There has never been a better time to be a college student in New York City and, while CUNY educates over 500,000 students in its system, we all know the best ones call themselves “Bearcats.” As you look to the left and right in class, you will see the future leaders of our city, state and nation around you.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

News Briefs

COMPILED BY
JONATHAN SPERLING

The Center for World University Rankings has ranked City College in the top 1.2 percent of schools after analyzing 25,000 higher-education institutions worldwide. City College was No. 294 in the rankings, which measured the quality of a school's education, alumni employment and number of research papers published in reputable journals among other factors. The rankings listed Harvard University at the No. 1 spot, followed by Stanford University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford. Queens College was the only other CUNY to crack the list at No. 928.

Four Hostos Community College administrators were able to study abroad this summer thanks to CUNY's annual Professional Development and Study Abroad Program in the Dominican Republic. The three-week exchange program also involved faculty from Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo, who aided the Hostos administrators in developing a curriculum and activities to satisfy the growing population of Dominican students in New York City's public school system. Hostos was one group of only 18 Department of Education faculty members who made the trip.

The College of Staten Island hosted its fourth annual move-in day on Sunday, Aug. 21 at its Dolphin Cove Residence Halls. CSI President William J. Fritz, Ph.D., was dressed completely in chef's attire as he greeted students with homemade waffles made using a Fritz family recipe. The waffles were prepared on antique waffle irons that had been passed down throughout the Fritz family for over 120 years. A total of 240 students were scheduled to check themselves in on Sunday, with over 200 more students to come in the near future.

A new video exhibition will soon run at Baruch from Sept. 14 until Nov. 30, featuring an array of video works by Elise Rasmussen and curated by assistant professor of New Media Arts Katherine Behar. The exhibit, entitled *Elise Rasmussen: Unbecoming*, will take place in the New Media Artspace gallery within Baruch College's Library and Information Building at 151 E 25th St. It will present four video works that incorporate surrealism, modern art and more. The event is free and open to the public. The New Media Artspace is also open to the CUNY community during library hours.

A group of Hostos Community College students were able to visit the United Nation's General Hall as part of the International Young Leaders Assembly's 9th Annual Global Summit. The program, entitled "Moral and Innovative Leadership for Sustainable Development: Vision, Service, and Entrepreneurship," allowed the students to form connections with both national and global leaders, as well as learn how to create change within their communities. The IYLA stresses the importance of community service by way of teaching innovative and morally sound leadership methods.

Film focuses on plight of undocumented students

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

With a large institution like Baruch College and CUNY, New York finds students coming from all around the world to earn a degree and pursue their personal American Dream, and undocumented immigrants find difficulties that far outweigh those of their peers.

"The American Dream is to come here, go to school, educate yourself and get a good job," said Radoina, who is better known by his stage name Praq Rado. "I am from Albania and here I can share my dreams and no one will judge me and anything is possible if you put your mind to it."

Rado's upcoming project *Dreams Matter* is a 20-minute narrative that focuses on three different undocumented immigrant students who have uprooted their old lives in order to strive for a better one.

These students are just like any other in New York City; they study hard, are serious, ambitious and are determined to make a living for themselves.

The sacrifices they make are immense and the fear of being deported haunts them daily. But this fear is insignificant in a sense that these three students hope to make a difference and give a voice to the thousands of undocumented college students.

"There are huge numbers of international students that come to study on CUNY campuses; the most brilliant immigrants contribute so much to the CUNY system ... This will be a great short film to not just tell a story of our undocumented students ... but to also educate our students that are born here where these students come from." Rado went on to explain that, "for example, a student can be born in an area torn by war and could be in



PHOTO COURTESY OF PRAQ RADO

Rado decided to make *Dreams Matter* in order to document the difficulties faced by undocumented students, having anyone and start from scratch to become someone one day."

the same class as you." *Dreams Matter* will serve as an educational project to help inform those here in the United States about the lives and struggles of being an undocumented individual fearing that all they have sacrificed to live a better life could be taken away from them.

One of the featured characters, Juan, is an undocumented man who chose to take advantage of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which allows immigrants to gain U.S. citizenship through military service, but like many laws, there are loopholes, and his pending papers are delayed due to the question of whether his marriage to a woman during the process was sincere.

Dhembia is a Nigerian woman who failed to receive refugee status and is working to get accepted into an Ivy League undocumented students program, but family problems back home tempt her to leave behind all for which she has worked.

The last character followed is Amir, who is from Sarajevo of Bosnia and Herzegovina and has lived most of his life in the United States, but struggles through his daily life attending the Juilliard School and discovers the issues that come with being in a romantic relationship while being undocumented.

"They leave everything behind to start a new life and this is difficult for them," said Rado. "They come into this big country without

Rado has received interest and praise for this project but he has also received backlash from administrators who do not want this film to be produced. This is disappointing to Rado as CUNY, which represents opportunity and diversity, has skeptics who do not want this film produced.

"We meet up and have great interactions," Rado explains. "They say this is great, but to make a great film it takes a village."

Rado looks to launch a campaign to help raise support for *Dreams Matter*. To support the project, you can search @dreamsmatterfilm on Facebook.

Career Fair introduces students to job market

BY VICKIE SAVVIDES
ASSISTANT EDITOR, NEWS

The STARR Career Development Center is in full swing this Fall semester, hosting the annual CPA Fair on Sept. 9 and the biannual Undergraduate Career Fair on Sept. 23.

Both events, which will take place in the main gym of the Newman Vertical Campus, will feature employers from a variety of industry backgrounds seeking to get a general consensus of prospective employees and provide Baruch students with internships and job opportunities.

The CPA Fair, which is the first of the Fall semester, is geared toward both undergraduate and graduate students who wish to further a career in public accounting. It features employers from well-known accounting firms, including Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP and Grant Thornton LLP.

The career fair, on the other hand, is only open to undergraduate students. The career fair features over 70 different employers from a variety of industries and an ever-expanding population of 1,000 Baruch students.

According to Ingrid Tineo, Acting Deputy Director of Employee Relations and Diversity Initiatives at STARR, "Employers are looking for diversity of mind, thought and background." A career fair such as the one hosted by STARR "provides them with the opportunity to meet with students under one roof" and interact with students of all different majors.

Tineo works alongside Ellen Stein, Ph.D. Acting Director of STARR, Ricki Weitzen, Assistant Director of Employer Relations

and Career Programming, and the Career Development team in planning events such as these each year.

According to Weitzen, planning job fairs is an extensive process that "in terms of booking the space, begins approximately one year in advance."

After booking, the team works on logistics and registration on the STARR search platform, through which students can access registration information. Additionally, the team sets up a platform where employers can register themselves and their companies for the fairs.

Stein explained that the past few months have been "busy for everyone because recruiting season moves up earlier and earlier over the years." Preparation is an "all hands-on-deck effort" that requires "a lot of interaction and correspondence" between various forums.

According to Tineo, many employers pleased with recruitment will return to campus and follow up with students, carry out workshops and programs and make appearances in a variety of club events. For this reason, many employers are featured in the club fair.

To sign up for the Career Fair, one can simply login to STARR Search and register. Business attire is required and the center provides a business attire station for students who are in need of professional clothing.

Students are to bring resumes and cover letters, which they can get reviewed through the services provided by STARR. Undergraduates of all ages and majors are highly recommended and greatly encouraged to participate.

PSC ratifies new contract

BY JONATHAN SPERLING
NEWS EDITOR

After working without a contract for approximately seven years, voting members of CUNY's Professional Staff Congress have ratified a new union contract that will provide salary increases and retroactive pay for CUNY's staff and faculty members.

The contract includes 10.41 percent in compounded salary increases from Oct. 20, 2010 until Nov. 30, 2017, the day the contract expires, as well as additional job security and health care provisions for adjunct professors.

"There would be no movement without the pressure that PSC put on. Every time we took dramatic action, CUNY management or the state were forced to move," said PSC President Barbara Bowen. "Even though the increase is not as high as it should be, it does keep up with inflation and will make it easier for departments to recruit people."

Bowen is referring to countless PSC members who have participated in rallies, demonstrations and acts of civil disobedience, which have resulted in arrests of nearly 100 members.

"I think the timing of the administration's offers suggest that the mass demonstrations and 94 percent strike authorization vote had a direct impact in compelling the administration to get serious about negotiating," said Vincent DiGirolamo, an assistant professor in Baruch's Department of History.

DiGirolamo was one of 40 staff members arrested and charged with disorderly conduct last March during a PSC "die-in" in midtown.

"Was it a coincidence that CUNY's first offer in five years of negotiations came the day 54 faculty and staff members were arrested

outside its offices? I don't think so," DiGirolamo continued.

Adjunct professors are now eligible for the first-ever round of multi-year appointments. Previously, adjuncts were only eligible for two semester appointments. This removes a lot of uncertainty for adjuncts while also reducing their workload, setting them up for a path to promotion. Over 10,000 votes were collected throughout the process with 86 percent of adjunct voters and 94 percent of all voters voting "yes" to ratify the contract. CUNY staff and faculty are not the only ones who will benefit from the contract ratification. Students will also experience a multitude of benefits due to the fact that a majority of classes at CUNY are taught by adjuncts.

"Adjuncts will have a strengthened relationship both with their department and with their students," said Stan Wine, who has been an adjunct lecturer at Baruch College's Computer Information Systems department for 12 years. "For full-timers, the contract revision that will reduce their workload is intended to allow faculty to either spend more time with students or to do research."

Despite the progress made by ratifying the contract, PSC members noted that the contract still does not completely account for the rapidly rising cost of living in New York City. They are ready for the upcoming round of negotiations for a new contract, which will most likely occur before the current contract expires.

"Our faculty and staff are very good at demonstrations and very used to it," said Bowen. "CUNY management has seen the kind of power we have and what we can develop. That puts us in a very good position for the next round of bargaining."

Convocation Day celebration inducts freshmen into Baruch

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

President Mitchel B. Wallerstein extended his sincerest congratulations to the entering class. He amplified the notion that getting into and attending college were huge accomplishments that call for praise and extraordinary respect.

Wallerstein then took a moment after his speech to introduce Daniel Dornbaum, president of Undergraduate Student Government. Wallerstein cited Dornbaum by his credentials and impressive commitment to service and to the Baruch community. Dornbaum's speech took a more lighthearted approach; he highlighted the plentiful opportunities that exist at Baruch and his hopes that every student can find his or her second home within the college.

Celeste Ng, the author of *Everything I Never Told You*, drifted toward the podium as Dornbaum took his seat following applause. Nudrat Kadir, first-time peer mentor commented that Ng surprised her because of "the fact that she didn't like public speaking didn't show since she was really good at delivering such a compelling speech about her book."

A committee picked Ng's novel as the required summer reading for all freshmen and peer mentors. The book will act as a point of discussion and frequent return in all Freshmen Seminar classes.

Freshman Katerina Raymond, who attended Convocation, commented that Ng's presence at Baruch was unexpected but quickly turned into a pleasant and entertaining surprise.

"It was nice to hear from the author and be able to understand why she put everything she put into the book," said Raymond. "I actually really liked the book. I'm not into mandatory reading, but I would



CALVIN RONG | THE TICKER

News students formed relationships and built common ground by performing team-building exercises in the main gym.

have chosen this book myself."

During her speech, Ng discussed how personal moments in her life had infiltrated and offered points about ideas and feelings, like loneliness and expectations, that became common tropes within the novel.

The ceremony dwindled down with the official induction, during which Art King, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students, asked all freshmen to stand and recite an oath that promises to execute the basic values that will be promoted by peer mentors and faculty members alike.

Students were invited to sing Baruch's alma mater along with Teresa Parker, who devoted a few minutes of the ceremony to teach the freshmen the song.

After the excitement of engaging in song, peer mentors led the students back to the Newman Vertical Campus in order to split up into their individual Freshman Seminar classes.

In these classes, peer mentors were tasked to get to know their peers through various icebreakers and themed book talks. Most peer mentors are partnered with an instructor who is meant to facilitate

classroom discussion.

Freshman Seminar classes typically meet once every week for the duration of the Fall semester. Each class focuses on a specific lesson that aims to help freshmen transition into college as seamlessly as possible.

Directly following the first session of Freshman Seminar was either a set of performances or a team-building workshop, split up evenly for all freshmen according to the day of their meeting.

At Mason Hall, Baruch's Blue Notes, an a cappella group, stunned the crowd with a cover of

Kanye West's "Love Lockdown." Then, an improvisation crew from Magnet Theater parodied the typical life of a freshman student in order to express humor in Baruch student culture.

To close the session, the performers invited a few volunteers on stage, who were then asked to act out a place. Another volunteer was asked to interpret the actors' poses as if they were snapshots of the moment, depending on how they were posed. The zoo seemed to be a highly popular option, as many students started to shout the word. One of the student volunteers who were asked to pose for the zoo squatted down and bent his arms at the elbows and to the sides of his chest, mimicking the stance of a careful and mischievous gorilla. The interpreter decided that the actor must have been squatting to best air out his armpits and ensure that nobody would notice the odor emanating from him.

The other session that occurred simultaneously took place in the main gym of the NVC. Students seem to agree that this was the best event because it allowed them to form relationships and build common ground with new students.

"My favorite activity would be the activities that took place in the gymnasium because the Rock Paper Scissors game got really intense," said Jose Benitez, a freshman who engaged in a dynamic and heated game of Rock, Paper, Scissors with his graduating class.

Another freshman commented that the team-building exercises in the gym were great ways to get to know her fellow peers in a way she would not have been able to do on her own.

Freshmen and peer mentors were then invited to attend a block party that took place on the 25th Street Plaza after Convocation.

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Opinions

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

CUNY must show initiative in struggle for LGBTQ rights

As diverse as each CUNY college’s community are, there seems to be a lack of university-wide recognition of individual differences. Entry statistics gravitate toward focusing on racial and gendered demographics and seem to completely disregard other distinguishing identity components, such as sexual orientation.

CUNY’s implementation of various events for the LGBTQ community and strategic funding for its affiliated organizations and clubs prove the university’s awareness. However, the recognition allotted by the CUNY system straddles a neutral line, particularly in regards to the transgender community.

A student at Hunter College called his attention to this issue in an article for The Odyssey, an increasingly popular online platform for university students, when he wrote about how CUNY could take extra steps to become more trans-friendly. He cited four distinct proposals, which included disclosure of preferred names to professors so that awkward miscommunication does not occur and easier name-changing abilities on CUNYFirst and other major CUNY-related websites.

Among these proposals, the student cited the expansion of access to gender-neutral bathrooms as a major one. Baruch College’s own Gender, Love and Sexuality Spectrum organization attempted to push administration to create a bathroom that was completely gender inclusive. In order to demonstrate interest in and support for the idea, GLASS members compiled a video that better explains their aims.

The biggest obstacles that seem to obstruct this goal from becoming a reality revolves around logistics that concern public tolerance to having a gender-inclusive bathroom at Baruch. Upon attempting to instill this kind of policy within Baruch, members of the organization claimed to have faced harassment and discouragement from other students. GLASS members claim that a gender-neutral bathroom would create a safer and more comfortable environment for those who identify with the LGBTQ community. The motion seems to have taken a hiatus as members of GLASS have taken time to figure out how to approach the rising issues that accompany the implementation of the change.

Baruch College, though implicitly in support of rights for LGBTQ students and faculty members, should aim to increase its outreach and accommodate more students who identify with the community. Hosting days of pride on a regular basis and posting rainbow flags onto school hallways does not create the change the community so desperately is requesting. Greater tactics that involve the extraction of more motion and emotion from the general public would instill the kind of support within Baruch for which LGBTQ students are calling.

Trump statue reflects neglect of ideas

On Aug. 18, a nude, life-size statue of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump was placed in Union Square Park, depicting the candidate with small genitalia, sagging skin and varicose veins.

The statue, created by the anarchist art collective Indecline, is the latest iteration of a growing trend of ad hominem attacks that have been afflicting the 2016 election cycle. On the other side, many Trump supporters have encouraged people to question the health and stamina of Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton.

Several conservative media outlets have accused Clinton’s campaign of actively trying to hide her supposedly failing health, such as by covering up a bulge caused by a defibrillator vest, or by attempting to hide Clinton’s medical records which reveal evidence of her dementia. Both cases were quickly debunked. The bulge was a wireless transmitter and the medical records were deemed to be forgeries.

Trump has called for funding cuts to the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as to the Department of Education. Clinton has been pro-censorship in the past, mostly on the issue of video game sales.

We at The Ticker urge those voting on Nov. 8 to not consider the character of the two nominees but rather the content of their platforms.



BIANCA MONTEIRO | THE TICKER

False alarm exposes lack of training

A recent scare in the John F. Kennedy International Airport proves that protective services are faulty

On Aug. 14, an alleged active shooter situation at John F. Kennedy International Airport caused widespread chaos. A loud sound, thought to be gunfire, sent thousands of passengers sprinting through terminals and scrambling underneath seats.

A flood of emergency calls soon followed, prompting the New York Police Department and the Port Authority Police Department to spring into action. The airport grounded all planes that were meant to depart Terminals 1, 2 and 8, and diverted incoming flights.

As it turns out, this active shooter situation was a false alarm. The police found no shooter inside JFK International Airport, nor any evidence, such as bullet casings and bullet holes, that indicated there was a shooter present. The gunfire-like sound was later determined to be caused by a group watching the Olympics and cheering on Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt’s dash for gold.

This incident, despite being a false alarm, demonstrated the police’s ability to respond to terrorism, which critics and passengers now seem to consider deeply inadequate.

This incident began around 9:30 p.m. when several passengers claimed that they had heard gunshots in Terminal 8. Hundreds of people ran through the terminal, screaming and trying to taking cover. Two passengers were tram-

pled in the panic and suffered minor injuries.

PAPD officers responded to their calls and asked the NYPD for backup from their anti-terrorism units. There were reports of a gunman in Terminal 1. Mass hysteria soon abounded. Some passengers inside Terminal 8 saw others making a mad dash out of the area and followed suit.

Lacking any official information from the airport, passengers turned to social media, where on Twitter they were told of a possible shooter situation inside JFK by other passengers. The police arrived and officially evacuated Terminals 1 and 8, but the panic quickly spread to the rest of the airport.

The airport’s lack of communication and behavior of its employees only contributed to the mass hysteria. Passengers reported that they saw JFK employees taking off their shirts, saying, “This is not worth it, I am leaving.” The gate agents had also left, according to passengers.

The police response to the JFK active shooter situation was not up to par. A high-ranking NYPD officer who reported to the scene on Sunday night said this of the PAPD’s response: “Their coverage was inadequate...they need a lot more preparation on procedures.” Another high-ranking NYPD source stated that “they didn’t have enough resources to handle a situation where an active shooter is

involved, especially when there are reports that multiple active shooters were involved.”

The PAPD failed to properly communicate with passengers and explain the situation, either via Twitter, as other agencies have done in the past, or via the airport’s public announcement system, which was only used in Terminals 1 and 8.

The passengers at JFK had to rely on the misinformation spread by other panicked passengers. Exacerbating the situation was the lack of manpower the PAPD possessed. There were less than 60 Port Authority cops inside JFK when the first calls about a gunman were made.

If this were a real active shooter situation, the police’s lackluster response might have put the lives of passengers at grave risk. Lacking manpower and failing to communicate with passengers is not acceptable, and only compounded the problem.

JFK International Airport is also to blame for not giving the passengers any guidance. If they had any procedures to follow in a crisis like this, they did not follow them. Above all, this false alarm active shooter situation at JFK has revealed the police’s lack of preparation in adequately protecting the public.

-Jahvon Meadows
Accounting ‘19

Macy’s Inc. risks losing to online giants

In the wake of six straight quarters of falling sales, Macy’s Inc. has announced plans to close 100 brick and mortar stores as it faces fierce competition from online retailers. The most recent closures make up only 14 percent of the department store giant’s total stores. Macy’s, however, plans to close most of its other stores by early 2017.

Macy’s focus on its internet storefront cannot come soon enough. Online retailers, such as Amazon.com Inc., continue to attract crowds of consumers with programs like Amazon Prime, which offers free two-day shipping as well as a multitude of other benefits in exchange for a yearly fee. Shipping an item to New York via Macys.com, on the other hand, costs \$9.95 if using the standard shipping method, for which transit time takes up to six business days. The express shipping method, for which transit time takes up to two business days, costs \$29.95. To

Macy’s credit, in-store pickup is a feature in its online store available in certain areas. However, since Macy’s still has many stores standing, it is difficult to understand why same-day and next-day shipping options are not available in at least major metropolitan areas, such as New York City.

Amazon Prime offers unlimited photo storage, access to video and music platforms, priority access to sales and free two-day and same-day shipping for its \$99 yearly fee. There is, however, still hope for Macy’s, which boasted the 15th highest revenue intake in 2014, which accumulated \$28,105,000 in worldwide retail sales. That rank puts them behind several online retailers, including the Apple Store/iTunes, which accumulated \$32,879,000, and Amazon.com, Inc., which accumulated \$83,391,000.

As online retailers expand into niche markets, such as pantry items, grocery products and cloud storage services, Macy’s will need

to find its own niche market if it wishes to stand a chance against online retail giants. Macy’s recent quarterly trends would indicate that this niche market may be found in apparel. Its apparel sales have improved as of late, while handbag, fashion jewelry and watch sales continue to be feeble.

Macy’s has announced plans to offer same-day delivery options in more U.S. markets than Amazon.com Inc., which would imply more than a million Macy’s items eventually being eligible for same-day delivery in certain metropolitan areas. If this system is not implemented quickly and priced reasonably, Macy’s risks losing even more of its millennial customer base. Time will tell whether or not Macy’s will continue to successfully do what it has done for over 150 years: supply reasonably-priced goods to middle-class consumers.

-Jonathan Sperling
Journalism ‘19

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Baruch greets students with Welcome Week

THE USG REPORT



DANIEL DORNBAUM

CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Here at the Undergraduate Student Government, it is our job to provide all undergraduates with a college experience they can fondly remember. In order to ensure this, we take on numerous projects throughout the year to cater to our diverse student population. For students who are working full-time and are only on campus to attend classes, we work on improving campus facilities so that even a pit stop in the bathroom is a pleasant experience. For students who are paying for college on their own, we offer scholarships to help make ends meet. For those involved in club life, we supply additional funding to turn a good event into a great one. Have no fear if you do not directly fit into one of those categories as our initiatives are geared to benefit all undergraduate students and, of course, are open and available to all. I have been a part of USG for three years. Each year, the organization has improved its relationship with the students by providing more and more ways to interact with and receive feedback from the students. I am excited to announce that this year I will be

co-hosting a monthly radio show on WBMB Baruch College Radio with the president of Baruch College, Mitchel B. Wallerstein. Students will have the opportunity to tune in at wbmbbiz.com, 94.3 FM or 590 AM and call in to the station at (646) 312-4726 to ask their questions as we will cover a wide array of topics. If you miss the show, there will be plenty of opportunities to meet the entire team and share your thoughts or concerns with us. The first full week of school is Welcome Week, so there are plenty of opportunities to join in on the fun and acclimate to Baruch culture. Join us on Monday during lunch to take part in some games on the second floor. On Tuesday, swing by the game room at noon on the third floor for some old-school arcade games and join us later in the day for our first senate meeting of the year in the USG conference room. On Wednesday, our entire student government will be down on the second floor to talk to you and give away a ton of free Baruch gear. You will be able to ask us about Baruch life and meet your student representatives. Thursday night we will send off summer with a huge party in the Multipurpose Room on the first floor. Our team is eager to kick this year off right and we hope that you join us in all of our Welcome Week activities. If you are still away on vacation, do not worry; we have all year to meet. See you around the campus!

Daniel Dornbaum is the president of USG. He can be reached at daniel.dornbaum@usgbaruch.com. His office is located at 3-272 in the Newman Vertical Campus.

Brazilian rule ignores state poverty

THE POLITICKER



REUVEN GLEZER

Dilma Rousseff, the suspended president of Brazil, has called for early elections in order to provide stability in the politically riotous nation. Rousseff's outspoken desire for an immediate change comes amid a suspension brought on by accusations of corruption, embezzlement and cronyism in the fallout of an economic downturn that the Brazilian government handled poorly. The issues stretch back to Rousseff's predecessor, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and the Petrobras scandal that has led to turmoil in the backdrop of one of Brazil's largest economic downturns in recent memory. Petrobras is a Brazilian petroleum company. Sixty-four percent of it is owned by the Brazilian government, with the remaining third split among various shareholders. In 2014, investigators launched a probe, called Operation Car Wash, in order to examine questionable financial dealings surrounding Petrobras. They found that from 2003 until 2010, politicians had been accepting kickbacks in return for granting Petrobras lucrative government contracts. The reaction to the results of the investigation were, ultimately, game-changing. A former Brazilian president has been charged with corruption and da Silva's then-Chief of Staff has been

arrested. These are not the only actors in the scandal, as over half of Brazil's legislators have come under scrutiny. Rousseff herself was on the board of directors of Petrobras while the bribes were handed out. She and da Silva have both denied any wrongdoing, accusing the media and political opponents of using the scandal as electoral weaponry. Accusations, revelations and further bureaucratic blunders have made the political situation in Brazil all the more unusual. Sometimes it seems like the United States has a rival for administrative absurdity. In the wake of these scandals, the 2016 Olympics may act as one of the best recent examples of people's issue with their government taking physical form. By all accounts, building and maintaining the infrastructure for the games was a ridiculous expenditure for the Brazilian government. Smack dab in the middle of a recession, arenas were hurriedly built. Subcontractors put underpaid workers in disgusting living conditions, all for an international sporting event that is still expected to provide little economic benefit for the economically suffering country. It almost seems appropriate that the venues were built in the shadow of the favelas, the slums that overlook Rio de Janeiro. One can only wonder how a country seen internationally as a slow-growing power, the eighth largest economy in the world, could have experienced such a sudden and rippling contraction. Political instability is not exactly great for a burgeoning economy, but it was instability waiting to happen. Economic inequality has a way of manifesting into the public pur-

view very suddenly and Brazil had the perfect storm of bad spending, political corruption and loss of public trust to throw it into what can only be described as a mess. The levels of deception that government officials have undertaken in order to cover up their greed is shameful. What was pathetic, however, was that these attempts at deception were so blatant. Kleptocratic cabinet-shuffling conducted by Rousseff did not go unnoticed by the Brazilian public, nor did the blatant attempts at power grabs when Rousseff called for early elections, likely in the hope that she would get off unpunished from an upcoming impeachment trial. It is almost ironic that members of da Silva's own Workers' Party, one built on the ideals of social democracy, were the ones taking away the very money they claimed to be returning to the people of their nation. There are some beams of light behind the clouds, though. Perhaps if Rousseff is ousted from power, the government can reorganize itself in a more efficient and far less corrupt body. The economy is expected to make a comeback, but it will be an extremely slow and lengthy recovery, even with industrial output remaining at steady levels in the country. Efforts to handle the poverty and crime in the favelas that do not include hard-line policing, such as education, are slowly becoming more common. The situation remains an extremely unpredictable one, though it would be brutally pessimistic to simply put one's hands in the air and say Brazil is doomed. It would be as foolish, however, to ignore the factors that have brought Brazil so low.

Burkini ban imposes unjust restrictions

Unfair laws that ban the burkini in three cities in France echo religious discrimination against Muslims

On July 28, the mayor of Cannes placed a municipal ban on certain bathing suits. As absurd as it sounds, it is not the first time the French government has enacted clothing restrictions on the public. Although France has established a history of curtailing veils, or hijabs, the most recent controversy pertains to the swimwear ban prohibiting the "burkini," a water-compatible spin on the full-body burka often worn by women of Islamic faith. France claims a commitment to secularism as demonstrated by its backing of laicism. In its most simple form, laicism is a political system absent of religious influence, a full separation of church and state. This means that the government cannot interlace religious views with state policies. This idea is embedded in the French Constitution, and has apparently remained a high priority topic as the law has begun to expand over the years. In March 2004, President Jacques Chirac passed an amendment to the French Code of Education forbidding ostentatious religious symbols in schools. This was a tender subject because, upon its passing, it was received by the general public as a restriction on the right to religious practice. For some, wearing a hijab is more than a matter of religious expression. For individuals who may be of the Islamic faith, it is more of an obligation. Although the actual law is vague, written carefully so as not to verbally target practitioners of any specific faith, there must be a reason it is occasionally referred to as the "French Headscarf Ban."

After this amendment, it seems as though France has become increasingly wary of national security over the years, as the country has accumulated numerous accounts of hijab and burka bans in public spaces. To one's further dismay, the rise of terrorist groups wrongly affiliated with the Islamic religion has bred parlous misconceptions among the French. Innocent Muslim citizens in Paris are just as afraid of extremist terrorist groups as Christian and Jewish people. Only Muslim people, however, have become targets of aggression and violence. The normal human reaction after a traumatic experience, such as the most recent incident in Paris or Nice, is to try to make sense of the situation. Terrorist attacks are difficult to understand, but humans still need an outlet for their anger and fear when they cannot find agreeable logic. This leads to generalizations and scapegoating. Unfortunately, it appears that the masses in France have followed typical behavior, generalizing a Muslim identity to be synonymous with terrorism. This puts innocent Muslims at risk of unwarranted hate crimes. In Cannes and two other French cities, the burkini ban was enacted only two weeks after the truck tragedy in Nice, which resulted in the death of 85 people. Considering that religious women can be easily distinguished by their hijabs, burkas or burkinis, the controversial bans have been justified as attempts at protecting non-Muslim citizens from ignorant attackers. The cruel and prejudiced treatment of Muslims on a global scale is likely what drives French mayors to act against them at this critical

time. Perhaps the most spurring and catalytic event that drove such hatred was 9/11. French mayors do not want tensions to escalate, and so the solution thus far has been to shut triggers out of a still sensitive society. However, good intentions can easily result in exacerbation of issues. France has an opportunity already at fleet, a delicate window to influence the path of Islamophobia now and more importantly in the future. Presently, prejudice and discrimination are plagues running rampant in every society. The sores may be too deep for healing in the United States, but France is rubbing its sores in with dirt. The new mayoral ordinance bans the burkini on account of inciting fear in the public, validating the unfortunate misconception that anyone of the Muslim religion is to be blamed. Discrimination is being legalized. Hate crimes are being granted logic, even against their nature. The development of fear and anxiety leaves a precarious future considering the fact that people cannot predict or control the future of extremist groups. However, changing the way people view these adverse events can help contain collateral damage to the society. Hiding is not going to protect Muslims—educating the public will. By failing to acknowledge and highlight a distinction between Muslims and terrorists at such a critical time, France will continue to fall deeper and deeper down the rabbit hole.

*-Viviana Viccaino
Corporate Communications '19*

Pokemon Go stirs trouble

The new trend creates unexpected issues despite its high ratings

Pokemon Go has caused Nintendo's market value to catapult up to \$7.5 billion. From a financial standpoint, it is obvious that Pokemon Go has produced extremely beneficial results. However, one should question the impact that the game has had on society. Pokemon Go has revealed a dark side. Pokemon Go user Jeron Lopez de Leon, for example, was an 18-year-old who was shot along with his 17-year-old cousin while using the app. They broke into a Guatemalan home that was a PokeStop to catch a Pokemon. The game's rise to popularity also brought the death of a teenage girl, who was stabbed by a robber in Redding, California during her journey to find Pokemon at 2 a.m. Her friend was beaten with a pipe. The game continuously exploits the average human attention span. Most individuals have low attention span, especially in distracting situations. On July 19, a driver crashed into a police car because he was focused on the app. The game may provide a motivation to catch the virtual creatures but it also raises many concerns about child safety. A registered sex offender who was guilty of molesting a teenage boy was caught interacting with a 16-year-old player from Indiana. There have also been cases where people have used the device to lure gullible teenagers to certain locations so that they could rob them. Moreover, there have been speculations that playing the game could get you arrested. If you appear at someone's house to train your Pokemon, you can be considered a trespasser, so the residents have a right to call the police. In such cases, Nintendo does not

take responsibility since there is a specific clause in the terms and conditions that warns players to avoid breaking normal and established laws when playing the game. This presents a major issue because people seldom read terms and conditions before agreeing to policies. Players assume that any and all locations that double as PokeStops are safe to explore. Despite the harsh and, perhaps, unexpected terms that come with playing the game, it holds many positives for gamers. In order to play, people may have to walk great distances in order to catch surrounding Pokemon. Walking is known to reduce depression, improve heart health and reduce the development of Alzheimer's disease. Getting some sunlight and fresh air also exposes users to the awesome benefits of vitamin D. The game comes with positive mental health bonuses, allowing people to interact by working together, which has been shown to reduce depression and increase self-worth. There have even been cases declaring that playing the game helps children with autism or Asperger's syndrome. Pokemon Go is a great app. It is the responsibility of a user to be vigilant of his or her surroundings and the possible dangers associated with it. Most of the predicaments that occurred were entirely preventable. New York state has officially banned sexual criminals from playing the game, so the concern about sexual offenders has been somewhat dismissed. It also appears that as these incidents occur, Nintendo takes appropriate measures to find a solution.

*-Stephanie Edwards
Bus. Communications '18*

Thailand’s stability comes into doubt

The most recent bombings in Thailand create economic fluctuation in Thailand’s tourist destinations

After the violent bombings of Thailand’s royal cities in mid-August, which resulted in four deaths and many injured, Thailand has disappeared from the headlines.

The authorities were quick to note that the attacks were not related to the Islamic State, even though for the last 12 years there has been a Muslim insurgency favoring secession in Thailand’s southern provinces. Bangkok’s response of counterinsurgency has kept the revolt to a low, controllable level.

The bombings took place especially in Hua Hin and the royal getaway Klai Kangwon, which a destination favored by King Bhumibol Adulyadej favors.

Its eight kilometers of beaches, restaurants and hotels are popular not only among the Thai elite but also among foreign tourists. Coordinated explosions also occurred in Phuket and Koh Samui, destinations often favored by foreign tourists.

It is commonplace to pin the loss of life, injuries and damage to property to the recent adoption of “popular vote” by the military junta who sought to legitimate its seizure of power. Still, no one has been arrested. Investigations are going on to find the culprits. For now, the media maintains a deep silence.

Thailand is in the midst of dynastic crisis: Bhumibol, now 89, is the one of the world’s oldest reigning monarchs. Ailing in health and in seclusion, his successor is seen as weak and promises to be ineffectual, guaranteeing the monarchy’s survival that will severely punish any criticism of the royal house no matter how banal.

The king’s penchant for in-

terfering in politics is well-documented, and that has set the scene for military rush to seize the levers of power.

The military uprising is a traditional Thai way of dampening opposition in its strong push for democracy. The military’s resort to state violence has thwarted and exacerbated the growing divide between city and rural rift and, ultimately, between the wealthy and the poor.

As a result of the military coup, the economy has suffered in its efforts to resurrect a vocabulary of force and constraint. Instead, it restores an older set of rhythms and a style that can only bring more suffering and sorrow to the common people and those in opposition to the junta.

It is not for nothing that King Bhumibol Adulyadej appointed the spearhead of the coup, Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha, to head the ruling military council, on which the new constitution has conferred legitimacy. The generals are now in command.

It is also no secret that the general boasts his fondness for Adolf Hitler, as do the Thai natives, which causes unease among tourists.

Thailand is a popular tourist destination for the foreign traveler. During the Vietnam War, it was an oasis of rest and relaxation for soldiers.

Its beautiful beaches, massage parlors and uninhibited sexual restraints became a pole for all sexual preferences. Its temples and shrines, its hospitality and geography offer a respite for the weary traveler.

It is the land of the River Kwai and the highlands of the cooler north. It is not the fabled Shangri-La but, for a tourist, a substitute

will nicely do.

Tourism accounts for a large percentage of the Thai economy, providing a livelihood and solid pillar for its citizens and the economy. In this respect, tourism has become an anchor for Thailand, and the bombings could have had a serious impact on this anchor. So far, however, this has not been the case.

The growing shadow of a dynastic crisis will play a determining role in the country’s internal stability. It will also greatly affect the role of tourism, how banking operates and the value of precious stones, which will affect the Thai economy.

Since tourism makes up such a bulk of the Thai economy, other facets of Thai life would be affected by these bombings. Perhaps it can be predicted that Thai’s economy will result in a stagnant and immobile line for a while.

Even though Thailand is a strong ally to the United States, there is no reason for the country to play a direct role in its internal affairs. In spite of the bombings, the coup has engendered, it seems, a current of futility and despair; opponents have lapsed into passivity.

Although, as an outsider, it is difficult to pierce the impenetrable political realities of the moment, an institutional crisis of a major order is in its infancy.

For the moment, tourists can frolic in the sun and sand and enjoy pleasures of the flesh in a world that is anything if not troubled and threatened by terrorism and rise of political extremes.

-Robert Cambria
Journalism

Ex-cons deserve rights

The New York City Council has officially passed a bill to create a Municipal Division of Transitional Services, a department that will provide services to help previously incarcerated citizens lead functional lives. The creation of MDOTS, supported by council members Melissa Mark-Viverito and Corey Johnson, was part of a bigger initiative to reform the city’s flawed criminal justice system and reduce recidivism.

A report released by New York’s Department of Corrections and Community Supervision in 2014 tracked 24,605 ex-offenders between the years of 2011 and 2013 and found that 9 percent were convicted of a new felony, a historical low since 1985. This amounts to over 2,000 returning people. The report disclosed a staggering 53 percent of offenders are under the age of 21, establishing a diverge between recidivism rates of younger and older offenders. The report identifies a relationship between the number of times an individual has been convicted and an increase in their return rate.

While the primary goal of MDOTS was to reduce rates of recidivism, establishing the department may also provide a means to prevent tragedies such as that of Kalief Browder, a young man who took his own life following a two-year pre-trial detention for charges that were ultimately unfounded and dismissed.

Having developed severe mental issues following physical and psychological abuses on Rikers Island, he was unable to cope with life outside of prison and resorted to suicide. His story is not an unfamiliar one for those who were convicted and incarcerated for long periods of time.

If the bill becomes law, it will begin one of many steps required

to remedy some of the problems plaguing the city’s criminal justice system. Sponsors of MDOTS seek to offer services in debt, health insurance, housing and medical expenses. The bill, if passed, would also help provide educational and drug treatment opportunities.

Ex-convicts, largely those who were incarcerated for a while and previously lived in poor conditions lacking sufficient structure and resources, do not have a support system to return to.

With many convictions involving assault, drugs and robbery, receiving guidance from the city to cope with debilitating financial, mental and physical problems helps create a justice system that rehabilitates criminals instead of punishing them.

New York City’s crime rates have been decreasing. Successfully establishing a division such as MDOTS may be one of the final pieces needed to secure this trend. Eliminating the crucial gap that exists within recidivism may not only help individuals who have committed crimes return to society as functioning adults; it may also create a ripple across the city, especially in poverty-ridden communities, that promotes structure and better coping mechanisms.

Our society needs to acknowledge criminal activity past its face value and examine its root problems to effectively create a lasting solution. The goal of any city is to promote the well-being of its residents. People who have committed crimes should not be excluded. While it may be a futile dream to establish a crimeless city, it is worthy to work toward eliminating crime that originates from poverty and a lack of opportunity.

-Bianca Monteiro
Journalism ‘19

Milwaukee police officer does not deserve blame

The death of Sylville Smith is not an extension of police brutality

Two nights of violence gripped Milwaukee, leaving six businesses torched, eight officers killed and 31 people in handcuffs. In addition to being Wisconsin’s largest city, Milwaukee doubles as the most segregated city in the United States.

The violence erupted after a black officer killed 23-year-old Sylville K. Smith, who ran a traffic stop. Officers say they stopped the car and both occupants ran out. Smith was armed with a semiautomatic pistol and was told by an officer to drop the gun. According to Smith’s mother, he obtained a concealed-carry license because he had been previously shot twice and robbed four times.

When he refused to drop his weapon the officer fired two shots, one hitting him in the chest and another in the arm. The officer who pulled the trigger is 24 years old and has been on the force for three years. He is currently placed on administrative duty. In compliance with state law, police shootings are investigated by an independent state agency. Both the officer and his partner were wearing body cameras at the time but the video from these cameras will not be released until after the investigation in order to protect the integrity of the process. Police say Smith has a “lengthy arrest record.” In 2015 he was charged for a shooting and intimidating a witness from the same shooting. However, both charges were later dismissed.

This is not a case of police brutality. Since the footage from the body camera will eventually be released, one can assume both officers’ story will be backed up by the footage. Milwaukee Police Chief

Ed Flynn said that the “video from the officer’s body camera showed Smith had turned toward the officer with a gun in his hand,” a clear and visible threat to the officer. Smith was told to drop the gun but refused. The officer’s actions were justified and he acted within the law and his own judgment.

This incident was quickly protested by members of Black Lives Matter, an organization with a solid goal but is handicapped by a lack of leadership and direction, comparably similar to the Occupy Wall Street movement, which eventually burned out. Black Lives Matter has a fragmented, localized leadership system, making it a more enduring group, thus preventing a situation in which a single leader is being targeted by opposition groups. Without a single leader, however, there is no one person that can effectively stand up and condemn these violent protests. This leaves the movement vulnerable to radical individuals or groups that could hijack the group’s message. This is hurting the movement as a recent Pew Poll shows only 43 percent of U.S. citizens support Black Lives Matter. Far right-wing sites have already attributed the incident to Black Lives Matter.

Some justify the riot with a Martin Luther King Jr. quote stating “rioting is the language of the unheard.” This, however, was not King’s approval of rioting as an effective means of change. All that has been accomplished is more damage to a movement that is still struggling to gain relevance and sympathy with most U.S. citizens.

-Davon Singh
Digital Marketing ‘17

Education can eliminate bigoted beliefs

Religious discrimination is still prevalent in every community but can be reversed through education

Imam Maulama Akonjee and his assistant, Thara Uddin, were shot and killed in Ozone Park, Queens on August 13. The suspect, Carlos Morel, had followed the pair, who were both dressed in traditional Islamic garb, from a mosque just blocks away. Morel murdered them in broad daylight and took off in his Trailblazer, gun in hand.

He was arrested by detectives after he rammed into their police car. Members of the local community and neighboring mosques, who revered the Bangladeshi imam, were grief-stricken. Kobir Chowdhury, the president of a nearby mosque, said that Akonjee was, “a very sweet, soft-spoken, humble man. He’s a role model as an imam, as a father, as a community member.”

Chowdhury, amongst others, rightfully stands by the claim that the murders were absolutely a hate crime. It can be no coincidence that an imam and his assistant were shot right outside of their place of worship.

Ozone Park, a neighborhood characterized by a large Hispanic and Asian demographic, has recently seen an influx of Bangladeshi immigrants and others who practice Islam.

This influx, according to local police, has created somewhat of a divide and tension between the neighborhood’s Hispanics and its growing Muslim community. Apparently, the Hispanic population has, in the past, displayed a hostility toward the group. Given that Morel is part of the Hispanic community, it is likely not a coincidence that this man chose two recognizably Muslim targets.

In addition to this incident, there have been many alleged hate

crimes this year against Muslims in not only Queens but New York City as a whole. Given the tension, Ozone Park seems to be a hotspot for Islamophobia. In April, a man, who was supposedly under the influence of synthetic drugs, entered the Jamaica Muslim Center and proceeded to physically attack a number of worshippers in the middle of prayer.

Other physically violent attacks have also occurred, many accompanied by anti-Islamic slurs. With Ozone Park’s recent history, it can safely be assumed that this act was committed with religious hatred in mind. It would be dangerous to imply that this incident was purely accidental or done without racist ideology serving as its prime motif.

According to Morel’s brother, Alvin, he became notably anti-Muslim after the attacks on 9/11. “The only time we ever felt anything was 9/11. We felt that same anger. We all had a hatred,” Alvin commented. However, he contradicts himself saying it was “temporary and definitely has no hate for the Muslims.”

Seeing as Morel shot two peaceful and noticeably religious Muslim men in the middle of the street and then accelerated his SUV into another Muslim man biking on the road, however, indicates pent up and irrational anger toward Muslims.

Although police officers stated that it was too early in the investigation to decide whether or not the attack was the effect of Islamophobia, it seems clear that it was. Compelling evidence suggests that, from a legal standpoint, Morel committed a hate crime—the statement from his brother and the fact that Morel not only shot two men but angrily struck a Mus-

lim bicyclist with his vehicle directly after.

From a social and personal standpoint, however, it seems like a blatant case of a bigot taking out his illogical anger on two innocent men. He does not deserve to be named with lenience.

Carlos Morel was most likely outraged not only by 9/11 but the recent Islamic State attacks around the world. He may have decided to generalize the entire Muslim community as radical terrorists who are pushing their agenda on the United States, a concept that many politicians, their media supporters and fans try to perpetuate.

However, a man killed two innocent Islamic men and sent the message that the Muslim community is not safe in Ozone Park, or anywhere in the country for that matter. The incident shows that Muslims are not even safe in their own community, standing right beside their place of worship, despite the fact that the constitution protects these rights.

These Bangladeshi families and individuals immigrated here because they felt it was a safe space for them and their religion. Morel’s behavior, however, illustrates the opposite. He represents too many U.S. citizens that are ignorant enough to believe that the entire Muslim population, because of a few attacks spearheaded by a violent organization, are all tainted.

If it were a Christian priest who was murdered, the media and the majority of U.S. citizens would likely pen it as a hate crime against their own religion. Why is labelling this case a hate crime even a question? Ignorance kills.

-Regina Gagnon
Biological Sciences ‘19

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Business

Trump and Clinton find common ground on Wall Street banks

BY MARIA MARKOWICZ
MANAGING EDITOR

Following months of stock market uncertainty, predictions of a looming recession and fears that history may repeat itself have led this year’s presidential nominees to promise to rein in Wall Street and break up the big banks. While the two main candidates have major differences in economic policy, they recently agreed that the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933 should be reinstated.

The Glass-Steagall Act, passed by Congress soon after Franklin D. Roosevelt became president, resulted in a ban on risky investment banking conducted by commercial banks by forcing banks to settle on either commercial or investment banking. By separating the two, lawmakers were able to prevent commercial banks from engaging in investments that could endanger the customers’ savings, which would put the customers’ financial futures at risk. It was also the government’s attempt in stopping the Great Depression from recurring in the future.

Bringing back the Glass-Steagall Act would mean that banks would, once again, have to choose between investment and commercial banking. It would also give the government more control over the banking sector.

The Glass-Steagall Act was repealed by President Bill Clinton in 1999. Some believe that this was fueled by the bankers themselves, who wanted more power in the sector and lobbied to get the act



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Both parties have proposed a reinstatement of the Glass-Steagall Act in their respective platforms in order to break up the big banks.

repealed. Others claim that the act was not actually repealed; it was simply a signed acknowledgement of the fact that the act was failing for the past several years.

A Polifact article suggests that the decades-long weakening of the Glass-Steagall Act fueled the 2008 financial crisis, but stated that it should not be blamed on Clinton’s decision to repeal the act. Rather, it should be blamed on the administrations that weakened the act and did not stop the banks from taking control.

Those against the Glass-Steagall Act, the Investopedia states, tend

to say that “the big banks that ran into trouble ... did so primarily because of the bad mortgages they provided, not because of their involvement in the securities market. And the investment giants that failed, like Lehman Brothers and Bear Stearns, wouldn’t have been covered by Glass-Steagall anyway.”

However, Robert Reich, Chancellor’s Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, highlights that throughout its lifespan, the Glass-Steagall Act did what it was meant to do.

“During that long interval, few banks failed and no financial panic

endangered the ecosystem,” Reich highlighted.

Donald Trump’s support of the Glass-Steagall Act seems to be a part of his campaign to revitalize the U.S. economy. This is further supported by the Republican Platform, released at the beginning of the 2016 Republican Convention. A section of the document elaborates on the party’s support of reinstating the act, along with repealing the Dodd-Frank Act, claiming that it would “prevent the strong from exploiting the weak.”

“Right now, the regulators are exploiting everyone,” the Repub-

lican Platform explained. “We are determined to make regulations minimally intrusive, confined to their legal mandate and respectful toward the creation of new and small businesses. We will revisit existing laws that delegate too much authority to regulatory agencies and review all current regulations for possible reform or repeal.”

Hillary Clinton, on the other hand, supported reinstating the Glass-Steagall Act as part of a bigger plan to impose government regulations on big banks. It is worth noting that during the primaries she was the only democratic candidate to not support reinstating the Glass-Steagall Act.

Simon Johnson, former chief economist of the International Monetary Fund, highlighted that reinstating the Glass-Steagall Act could mean more safety and transparency in the banking industry.

“We should want a lot more loss-absorbing shareholder equity. And, to reinforce this, we should want to make the largest banks simpler and more transparent, with ‘strong structural firewalls,’” Johnson wrote in an essay. “Of course, in that context, we should ensure that various activities by ‘shadow banks’ (structures that operate with bank-like features, as Lehman Brothers did) are properly regulated.”

It is hard to predict how effective the Glass-Steagall Act would be in the modern setting. While it could provide for more transparency and safety, there is no way of predicting how this would affect the economy in its current conditions and with the laws by which it has to abide.

Crude prices turn bullish amid talks of OPEC production freeze

BY PAUL JOH
BUSINESS EDITOR

The law of supply and demand represents the change in price of a product by its availability and appeal. This theory is seen nowhere clearer than in the oil market. After reports of an upcoming Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting in September were confirmed, oil futures rose as prices reached a seven-week high through Friday, Aug. 19.

As the 14 member countries prepare for the meeting in Algeria, the proposal for a potential output-freeze will once again be on the table.

Earlier talks for a deal to freeze output in the April meeting at Doha quickly fell apart due to tensions between Iran and Saudi Arabia. Iran, the only OPEC member to not participate in the April meeting, had its sanctions in the United States and European Union lifted in mid-January and has increased production to regain its market share to pre-sanction levels ever since.

The sanctions were first put in place following the Iranian Revolution and were later reinforced by the U.N. Security Council after the country failed to suspend its nuclear program. However, just as hopes of the OPEC nations reaching an agreement started to fade, Iran confirmed its participation in the September meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 23, giving oil bulls a huge sigh of relief.

Iran’s decision to cooperate with its OPEC counterparts could be a signal that the nation is back to or almost at pre-sanction levels and is now ready to negotiate.

The strong rally in oil prices has also reignited the activity for non-OPEC members, specifically the



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Despite oil prices hitting as low as \$27 a barrel earlier this year, an informal OPEC meeting next month has led to a rally in the oil prices.

United States. Many oil producers who could not afford to run their operations at lower levels are returning to the scene in hopes of taking advantage of the recent spark in the commodity, a worrying sign for investors.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, Devon Energy Corp., based in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is intending to increase its “2016 spending by 20 percent to as much as \$1.3 billion, with plans to add up to seven rigs in Oklahoma and Texas.” Likewise, “Pioneer bumped up its budget by 5 percent, to \$2.1 billion, and plans to put five rigs back to work, starting with one in September.”

The additional production may reverse most of the gains seen since the beginning of the month when the price of crude hovered near \$40 a barrel.

Industry reports from the Energy Information Administration cited by CNBC indicated a rise in U.S. crude stockpiles by 2.5 million barrels in the week ending Aug. 19 over the expected 455,000-barrel fall.

Fears of a potential oil glut added to another drop in crude prices as U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude traded below \$47 a barrel following Wednesday’s EIA report. Brent crude traded just under \$49 after opening in the trading session

at \$49.50.

Saudi Arabia, OPEC’s de facto leader, reported record numbers for its production in the month of July and is on track to do it again in August.

As noted in an article by *The National*, “Saudi crude exports averaged 7.456 million barrels a day in June, down by almost 380,000 bpd compared with January, but up by 91,000 bpd compared with the same month a year earlier.” Saudi Arabia made it known to its fellow OPEC partners that it increased output levels at a record high of 10.67 million bpd and is capable of increasing that amount if necessary. The move could help the king-

dom leverage its position during the September meeting in Algeria.

Falling crude prices have also hurt global oil-producing firms this year and have led to weak earnings reports. Oil companies PetroChina Co. and CNOOC took a huge toll on their first half earnings, keeping the bullish sentiment in the oil market in check. PetroChina reported a 98 percent dip in its net profit, falling from 25.5 billion yuan (\$3.81 billion) to 531 million yuan (\$79.8 million) through the first half of the year.

CNOOC, China’s state owned oil company, also posted disappointing figures with a net loss of 7.74 billion yuan (\$1.16 billion) compared to the 14.7 billion yuan (\$2.2 billion) net profit last year. The numbers should not come as a surprise as many U.S. domestic companies, such as ExxonMobil and Chevron, also saw their stocks plunge after reporting their lowest quarterly earnings since 1999 and 2001 respectively.

Exxon posted a net profit of just \$1.7 billion in its second quarter, a significant drop from its \$4.1 billion profit from just the prior year. Chevron, on the other hand, reported a net loss of \$1.47 billion after a \$571 million profit last year. Oil prices, which fell below \$27 in January, have now rebounded more than 75 percent, but are still far below the \$100 a barrel levels at which it traded a year ago. The two-year steady demise of oil prices has been a nightmare for some of the most valuable companies in the public market.

With less than a month remaining until the next OPEC meeting, oil producers have no choice but to sit tight and hope for a consensus to be reached soon. The International Energy Forum is scheduled to take place from Sept. 26-28.

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Arts & Style

Suicide Squad hits box office, struggles with overloaded cast

CHARLES TABASSO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The high-octane and ultra-violent action of Marvel's *Deadpool* paved the way for an adult film-goer niche within the super hero movie genre. It succeeded in treating audiences to exactly what they wanted: two and a half hours of the man himself, sandwiched between wholesome ultraviolence and witty, wildly inappropriate one-liners.

In its wake, two films have been released, *Batman vs. Superman* and *Suicide Squad*, both set in the DC universe and aiming to follow through with blockbuster success to pioneer their own adult-oriented franchises.

But where *Deadpool* delivered a consistent homage to the comic strip's personality and character, *Suicide Squad's* overloaded cast works against itself, and exposes the overambitious reach of the film—its scope more of a handicap than an asset.

Suicide Squad starts off in the aftermath of *Batman Vs. Superman*, grounding it in an abstract period of time after the credits have rolled. Special Agent Amanda Waller, recruiter for a shady branch of the U.S. government, wants to produce a team of expendable killers for nefarious purposes, under the guise of homeland security and rising paranoia in the preceding movie's aftermath.

The cast of characters, Harley Quinn, Deadshot, Boomerang, Enchantress, Killer Croc and Slipknot, are revealed to be the perfect unwilling subjects for her re-



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Dubbed as Task Force X, a group of incarcerated inmates must learn to work together to battle a mysterious and powerful entity.

habilitation program, Task Force X. What follows can only be described as janitorial duty for the newly-formed squad, as the team is quickly installed with kill switches and dropped like a hot plate into the middle of a mess their leaders, Waller and Rick Flag, inadvertently created.

Similar to *Deadpool*, the plot itself largely exists to put the heroes—or in both cases, the anti-heroes—in situations that can usually be resolved with a few bottomless clips of ammunition, Michael Bay explosions and karate kicks mixed in for good measure. The action is *Suicide Squad's* greatest strength because it puts the characters in their element.

When they are doing what they

do best, there is no need for clunky exposition. Outside of the action and flamboyant costumes—or reptilian scales—there is very little to individualize each member of the team besides their banter between each explosive set piece. This works slightly in *Suicide Squad's* favor but for the wrong reasons.

With the squad barely differentiated from the cannon fodder they fight beside, the audience is routinely surprised by who the film's plot sends to the meat grinder and who lives to see the end credits.

The squad as a whole struggle with identity in a similar way. There may be casual references to murdering people and personal declarations of moral bankruptcy, but it serves only as a constant reminder

for juxtaposition with their inevitable rallying call to save the world—but for themselves, because they are villains.

The actual bad guys, the brother-sister duo from hell, the Incan demigods straight out of *Mortal Kombat*, are so two-dimensional they are almost videogame villains. They are essentially trying to raise an army of zombies because half of the world and all of Sweden has embraced atheism.

The PG-13 rating is disappointingly noticeable in a movie that relies on violence to sell its characters and handicaps every step in the right direction that the film made. Zombies substitute blood and gore and extras belt out the Wilhelm scream as they implicatively die off

screen instead of in graphic detail or slow motion.

“Potty language” has been mostly edited out and replaced with pouting, displeased faces. The action is as good as the rating will permit but it begs the question of what Directors Zach Snyder and David Ayer could have done if they had retained their creative freedom. And on the note of things that were lacking, where was the Joker?

Jared Leto dominated every scene he was in but they were few and far between, pigeon-holed with the rest of the expositional flashbacks and cameos that got the story he is barely connected to rolling.

His role as a deus ex machina, or get out of jail free card, for Harley Quinn is disappointing to say the least but proves that there are no small roles; just small actors who will not mail decapitated pig heads to crewmembers.

The most disappointing aspect of the movie as a whole is how little there is of the one character everybody wanted to see. Harley Quinn, played by Margot Robbie, and Deadshot, played by Will Smith, do justice to their parts and have great chemistry together—the kind that might make the Joker jealous if he found out—but its largely because they are the two most vocal characters of the film.

Suicide Squad struggles to define itself amid the restrictive age demographic its focus wants to outgrow; come for the characters, stay for the explosions, leave wanting more.

Kubo and the Two Strings presents magical stop-motion animation

BENJAMIN WALLIN
STAFF WRITER

“If you must blink, do it now.” The words are chilling and intriguing. They are spoken by Kubo, the titular character of one of this summer's most recent films *Kubo and the Two Strings*. As the summer dwindles, this release marks the final opening weekend of a widely advertised movie before the start of a new semester.

Kubo is an original film, set in an ancient and mystical Japan, created through a mixture of stop-motion animation and CGI by LAIKA Studios. This is the fourth film the studio has produced, following *Coraline*, *Paranorman* and *The Boxtrolls*. All three of the preceding films were fantastic creations, both story-wise and from a technical perspective—*Kubo* does not fail to match up.

The story is simple. There is a boy, a monkey and a large beetle. The boy, played by Art Parkinson, is trying to gather the pieces of his father's armor, the monkey, portrayed by Charlize Theron, is guiding him and the beetle, played by Matthew McConaughey, is protecting him. The danger is the boy, Kubo's, evil grandfather, known as the Moon King, portrayed by Ralph Fiennes. “Pay careful attention to everything you see.” There is more to this movie than a simple story.

One of the great elements of all LAIKA films is their overarching theme of belonging somewhere, of being a part of something. In *Coraline*, the eponymous character feels the need to escape to another world. *Paranorman* has an outcast protagonist. *The Boxtrolls* has an entire species of outcasts, of which its main character is a part. *Kubo* is no different, providing the character of Kubo with the goal of finding his place.

At the start of Kubo's journey, he is stuck between two lives. He goes out every day to tell stories in the village using magical origami as a visual aide. The story scene feels magical. But when night begins to fall, he must return to his mother, where they live isolated in a cave. Their relationship is sweet, but tragic.

The mother tells Kubo why he must stay hidden at night. The Moon King, his grandfather, is after him and can find Kubo more easily if he is outside at that time. Kubo is missing an eye, something not apparent at first, as he wears his hair over his eye patch.

His grandfather, who is blind, wants to steal Kubo's other eye to bring him to live with the rest of his evil family. This consists of two aunts, both played by Rooney Mara, menacingly looking like *The Shining* meets *V for Vendetta*.

The geography, the familial re-

lations and the soundtrack's tone create a Japanese atmosphere in a mainstream animated film. It is pleasant to see diverse stories being told in the sector of children's movies. Unfortunately, some of this is undercut by the use of non-Asian actors to voice the major characters.

The question of whether or not it is enough to simply tell stories from other cultures while still using white actors can be seen in the arguments relating to casting in the upcoming film, *Ghost in the Shell*, starring Scarlett Johansson, and is a delicate issue.

Part of what makes *Kubo* and all other LAIKA films so good is the fact that it is stop-motion animated. Every character, every set-piece and every movement is intentional and precisely created.

In a post-credits scene for *The Boxtrolls*, two characters are seen talking about the possibility of all

their actions being controlled by giants as a time-lapse video shows every movement being controlled by people to create this scene in stop-motion.

The characters wonder how anybody could spend all the time it takes to just make them talk about the fact that they are being controlled. “Must be a hobby,” one says.

With all the precision and care needed for this kind of film, it is no wonder it feels much more constructed than something like *Suicide Squad*, when there are talks of the latter film being edited into multiple versions, each a completely different movie.

If every motion in *Suicide Squad* required one tiny movement being captured after another, 24 times per second of film time, it would probably have been planned out more carefully. Or maybe the studio would not even attempt it, as

such a task would be so daunting.

Overall, *Kubo and the Two Strings* is a film about storytelling, and that is a significant factor in why this film is great. Kubo tells stories and magically controls paper using his shamisen, a Japanese three-stringed lute.

Monkey, Beetle, the aunts and the Moon King each have their own stories that they tell. Some are from different points of view and some are factually skewed. That is the thing about stories—there can be different stories of the same occurrence.

As the film progresses, Kubo learns that his place is as a storyteller, something which becomes relevant for the climax of the film. It does not end with a city-destroying beam of light into the sky; it ends with family. It ends with stories.

Kubo is the kind of movie this summer deserved. And it deserves to be seen.

At the start of Kubo's journey, he is stuck between two lives. He goes out every day to tell stories in the village using magical origami as a visual aide. The story scene feels magical. But when night begins to fall, he must return to his mother, where they live isolated in a cave. Their relationship is sweet, but tragic.



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Kubo must battle gods and other monsters to solve the mystery of his fallen father, the greatest samurai warrior in the world.

Film adaptation tackles social justice contradictions of 1950s

ROBERT CAMBRIA
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

James Shamas’ adaption of Philip Roth’s *Indignation* is a disappointment. It is a sentimental treatment of Roth’s novel, which is not sentimental.

Indignation opens with a father’s recitation of “kedish,” a prayer for the dead and it ends with another death. The voiceover is unchanging in tone; it is a voice that comes from beyond the grave. Hollywood has found a lode of good fortune in returning to the early days of post-war United States.

In films such as *Trumbo* and *Bridge of Spies*, it has torn off the skin of race nationality confusion of what it means to be an American. *Indignation* falls square in the early years of the Korean War and the basso continuo of what became the McCarthy era.

We are in Newark, New Jersey at half-century in 20th century United States. Newark is a Jewish enclave of hard working people, loyal Americans, but live in a self-contained ghetto of sorts, sheltered as it is from the U.S. mainstream. We are far from the melting pot; the Jews, like other ethnics, live separately but add variety to life in the United States.

Newark sends its sons to fight in Europe or the Pacific, and at the time of film, to the “forgotten war” in Korea. Its inhabitants remember what war means: death and the great loss of Jews during World War II. An excellent student named Markie Massner is going to college and, as such, he is exempt from the draft and almost certain death in faraway Korea.

Newark may be the center of Markie’s world, but in tone and customs, it is far from the world of the native colonial stock of English whose manners, ways, power and

religion formed the United States. Newark is wrapped in a blanket of its own weaving and Markie is no wiser to broader life because of that.

An only child, he is the pride of a hard working Kosher butcher and a strong mother. His absence will tear at their marriage, even more so when his son’s leaving sends him to a blue funk as he descends in a depression that makes his wife’s life impossible.

In a way, Markie’s father fears that the outside world is unsafe for his son. His wife keeps her own counsel; she realizes that her son has to make his own way outside of Newark. He goes to Winesberg College that, too, embodies small-town United States, but with a difference.

As an institution, it may be as provincial and small-minded as Newark, but it represents the Anglo-Saxon attitudes that set the narrow boundaries of what is permissible and what is not in religion, in thought, stifling any personal life of the mind or thought beyond the mores of the day.

Massner is an innocent abroad and his naivety will prove his downfall. The nut of the film is the dean’s attack on Markie’s ethical and intellectual probity, as he confronts him for his inability to embrace college life to the fullest, especially his objection to attending chapel.

Massner is an atheist who chaffs at attending obligatory exercise of religiosity with its emphasis on strong, muscular Protestant values; these values are an inversion of his Jewish environment; they affront his staunch rationalism.

He defends his value before the dean to whom he refers insistently as “Sir,” not “Dean,” which to this symbol of authority is an affront and an act of will that challenges “society” as Winesberg defines it.



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A young Jewish man travels to a small conservative college in Ohio, exempting him from being drafted in the Korean War.

Furthermore, these “values” define a conformism of what is Americanism in an age that pits God-fearing United States against atheistic Communism.

In spirit, it mirrors the witch-hunt of the times, on which Lillian Hellman pinned the tag of “scoundrel,” if not scurrilous. Markie is a young man of feelings. He is a virgin and falls for a young woman, unloved by her family and emotionally and mentally unstable, who initiates sex through oral sex.

This very inexperience and his

own idealism lead to his expulsion from college and ultimately to his death in Korea. *Indignation* is a dirge. It evokes a United States that strangely reflects the passions and solipsism of today.

There is little fault in cinematic values. And yet, the not unobvious tone of anti-Semitism is never far from the surface. It is the age of the Rosenbergs and what that means. It is an age of purifying the U.S. mind of liberal thought and open-mindedness in a Manichean world of them and us.

It is no accident that the Korean War plays in the background. It is a war that the United States did not win, and has forgotten, even though it thought of itself as the arsenal of democracy of defenders of the Free World. Now, in the 21st century, *Indignation* speaks to our condition of intolerance and muscular politics and never-ending war. It has cut its cloth to the same provincialism, anger and pride that has been the existential hurt of endless generations that Roth wrote about.

Animated poetry in motion, *The Little Prince*, takes over Netflix

LUIS LUCERO
STAFF WRITER

It is not very often that a film adaptation of a classic novel manages to expand on the original source material without drastically compromising the quality. A recent animated adaptation of Antoine de Saint Exupery’s *The Little Prince* falls into this rare category. A joint production between Canada and France, this is the very first full-length animated film released under the “Netflix Originals” banner, after its original U.S. theatrical release was unexpectedly cancelled back in March.

At first glance, it appears that the original story could hardly ever be considered for the feature length treatment. While Saint Exupery’s story is technically categorized as a novella, the overall material by itself is not fleshed out enough for anything longer than, at most, an hour-long television special.

The last major attempt at making a movie of *The Little Prince* came in the form of an ill-fated venture in the mid ‘70s that padded the story with largely forgettable musical numbers and an admittedly impressive dance sequence. The filmmakers of this new adaptation, on the other hand, knew the limitations of the story when approaching it and the rendition they created breathes new life into an already colorful story.

Rather than doing the expected adaptation cliché of stretching a short story into a long one, the movie contains the main story inside of an elaborate and original framing device that compliments Saint Exupery’s book. While the movie starts off exactly like the book, a narrator recounting a childhood memory of adults rebuffing his imaginative drawings, it immediately takes a completely dif-

ferent direction afterward with the story of an unnamed little girl who is forced to grow up in a dystopian world that embraces productivity and diligence and shuns wonder and excitement.

One day, she meets and quickly befriends an eccentric old aviator who views life and the world as a source of never-ending possibilities and discovery. He gets this point across by recounting an encounter he had in the Sahara Desert with a celestial child known simply as The Little Prince.

Though his stay on Earth is brief, the aviator learns from The Little Prince that human connections matter most in life, and what is truly essential can only be seen with the heart. The girl rediscovers her childhood and soon goes on an adventure that quite literally takes her out of this world.

Off-putting as it may seem from the main description, the approach is able to successfully put together what is essentially two separate stories into one seamless narrative that retains the emotional impact of the original. Admittedly, the new subplot can be a bit wild and overly frenetic at times, like most western animated movies, almost to the point of resembling something akin to a Dreamworks movie rather than a children’s literary classic.

The movie tends to snap back to the subplot just as the main story starts to hit some of its more philosophical notes. But with all that said, not once does it ever lose sight of Saint Exupery’s original message: “Growing up is not the problem. Forgetting is.” This leads to a new climax that brings the overall story to a satisfying close that surprisingly improves over the original novella’s abrupt and bitter-sweet ending.

Unique for an animated film in this day and age, two distinct types

of animation styles are utilized for storytelling purposes. Computer animation is used for most of the movie, and, for a production that is not from any of the major Hollywood animation studios, it is of a surprisingly high quality. But for the scenes that retell the core story from the original novella, elaborate stop motion animation is brought into the mix.

The transition between both styles is not abrupt in the slightest and the story’s pace continues to flow along. As for the stop motion itself, it brings Saint Exupery’s original drawings to life in a way that modern CGI and even traditional hand-drawn animation could never achieve. Through the entirety of the stop motion scenes, the quality of the work reminds viewers of other recent and similarly-made movies like Wes Anderson’s *Fantastic Mr. Fox* and Henry

Selick’s *Coraline*.

Interestingly, the use of two different styles also adds another layer of depth to the story, as a viewer could take it as sort of an allegory for modern Hollywood and the straddling of the line between modern and traditional filmmaking styles.

Complementing the visuals is a lush jazz influenced music score from Richard Harvey and Academy Award-winning composer Hans Zimmer.

In stark contrast with most animated movies having the obligatory pop songs from Top 40 artists, an atmospheric soundtrack provides a nice change of pace. In addition, new songs from French singer Camille and snippets from violinist Charles Trenet were included in the overall soundtrack and are both equally enjoyable in the context of the film.

As is common with most modern animated films, the vocal cast features an all-star array of A-list actors, including familiar voices like Jeff Bridges, Paul Rudd, James Franco and Rachel McAdams.

Surprisingly, the celebrity voices augment the film rather than distract. Rudd, who plays an older and drastically different version of the titular character known simply as Mr. Prince, proves a great example. The two child actors who play the Little Girl and The Little Prince, Mackenzie Foy and Riley Osborne respectively, both sync in tune perfectly with their characters.

The Little Prince is, without a doubt, one of the biggest surprises in 2016 for not only Netflix Originals, but modern Western animation in general. This movie could definitely be taken as a guide for how to properly turn a short story in a feature film.



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The Little Prince is visually thrilling and beautifully animated, staying true to the spirit of its classic source material.

Science & Technology

Internet dependence creates memory problems, recall issues

BY YELENA DZHANOVA
OPINIONS EDITOR

New cognitive research dictates that relying on the internet and search engines to solve problems alters the way memory reacts with prolonged use of such services. The study, conducted by researchers at the University of California, Santa Cruz and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, indicates that the convenience of the internet is seizing reliance of human memory when it comes to basic functions. This recently developed dependence creates a pattern in which the human memory begins to dwindle.

Participants were asked to turn off their cell phones for the experiment, which can prove a particularly challenging task, with the study explaining that, “one might argue that what participants are being asked to do is effectively turn off part of their minds.” The use of such technology has created a stint in memory development. Rather than retain actual information, the human memory tends to remember where information can be accessed, a process dubbed “cognitive offloading” by researchers. Cognitive offloading allows users to recall where they store vital information rather than process it.

Over the course of three studies, the researchers demonstrated that users who were asked a series of difficult trivia questions instinctually turned to a search engine such as Google to retrieve answers. However, when the same users were asked a series of simpler trivia



AGATA PONIATOWSKI | THE TICKER

“Cognitive offloading” can be caused by over-reliance on technology to boost memory, such as using search engines.

questions that could have been answered solely by memory, they also turned to the internet. When different participants were asked easier questions first, researchers found that they had more of a propensity to rely on their memory to answer them. In turn, when this group of participants was given a set of more difficult questions, they relied more on their memory to answer them than the first group. However, the instinctual human response to go on the internet to make answers more available and accessible still prevailed in most cases.

An overuse of technology can result in uncertainty because it becomes difficult to measure what knowledge is stored in the brain as opposed to just available online. Experimental results have shown that there is a major correlation between the amount of time spent seeking answers on the internet and increasingly infrequent memory use.

The first part of the experiment mainly consisted of two phases: the internet and memory phase and the Baseline phase. The first phase consisted of two rounds. In both

rounds of the first phase, 60 undergraduate students were given a total of 16 trivia questions, eight of which ranked high on the level of difficulty. In the first round, the students were asked to use Google for every single question, regardless of whether or not they knew the answer. In the second round, the students were given a choice whether or not to use Google. Both rounds had the students try to answer the question as quickly and accurately as possible. Most students ended up using Google despite the fact that a specific search

engine was not mentioned in the instructions.

The second phase consisted of a rapid questioning session in which the same students were asked to reply to the trivia questions verbally as quickly and accurately as possible. This phase was conditioned so that the use of any search engine was strictly prohibited.

The second part of the experiment intended to complicate using a basic search engine. Participants still were asked the 16 trivia questions, and were still encouraged or allowed to use the internet for help. The researchers instilled a caveat during this second round of experiments and made it inconvenient to get to a search engine. The participants were either seated on a couch and told they had to rise and walk over to a computer in order to get their answers, or given a first-generation iPod Touch to use to access the internet.

Both conditions presented an unfavorable scenario in which participants had to sacrifice some time in order to get an answer to one of the questions. Under these conditions, researchers found that participants used Google significantly less than they did in the first experiment, most likely due to the greater inconvenience of reaching the internet.

An adapted use and reliance of technology clearly demonstrates a shift in the traditional way of thinking and reacting to instances and circumstances. In fact, the research may amplify the preconceived notion that technology dulls sharpened minds.

Schizophrenia connected to evolution

BY JONATHAN SPERLING
NEWS EDITOR

Schizophrenia is more closely linked to human evolution than scientists previously believed, according to a study published in the journal *Biological Psychiatry*.

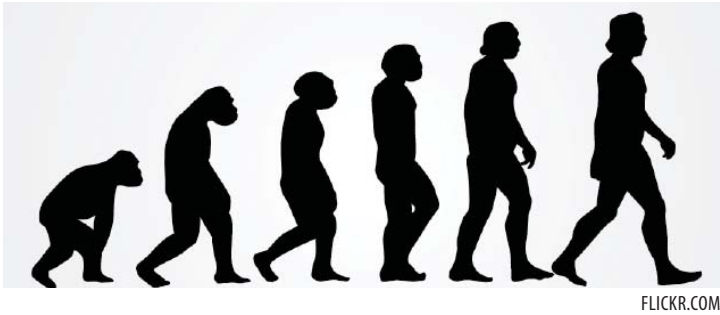
The study, entitled “Genetic Markers of Human Evolution Are Enriched in Schizophrenia,” determined that the persistence of the brain disorder is related to the period of time in which humans were split from Neanderthals, aka the period of time when the human species began to evolve differently from the Neanderthal subspecies.

“This study suggests that schizophrenia is a modern development, one that emerged after humans diverged from Neanderthals,” said John Krystal, editor of *Biological Psychiatry*.

Researchers from the University of Oslo in Norway began by obtaining summary statistics for over two million single nucleotide polymorphisms—a common genetic variation among the human genome—from a genome-wide association study of schizophrenia, as well as other phenotypes, including body mass index, height, cardiovascular disease risk factors, celiac disease, Crohn’s disease, nervous system disorders, psychiatric disorders and a multitude of other phenotypes.

Using a “Neanderthal selective sweep score” developed through an alignment of human, primate and Neanderthal consensus sequences, they were able to create an index of positive selections in humans following their genetic divergence from Neanderthals, who went extinct 40,000 years ago in what is now considered to be Europe.

The NSS score measures the abundance of ancestral/non-ancestral alleles—alternative forms of a gene that occur due to muta-



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Schizophrenia has been thought to have developed through human evolution.

tion—in the human genetic line and the Neanderthal genetic line. A negative NSS score indicates a lack of alleles, while a positive NSS score indicates the opposite. Researchers used the scores to determine where the human genome underwent a positive selection—the adoption of a certain allele.

In order to better control their analyses for the affiliation to brain genes, the researchers utilized information from the National Center for Biotechnology Information, a database that allows users to search for catalogued genes. They queried the term “human brain” in order to find thousands of genes. A 2011 study entitled “Spatio-temporal transcriptome of the human brain,” was also used in order to find further types of brain genes.

“Our findings suggest that schizophrenia vulnerability rose after the divergence of modern humans from Neanderthals,” said the study’s senior author Ole Andreasen, “and thus support the hypothesis that schizophrenia is a by-product of the complex evolution of the human brain.”

This most recent study, published on Aug. 15, differs from previous studies in that it explores the evolutionary factors of schizophrenia using an enormous set of genes. The findings of the study are con-

cive with the idea of polygenic adaptation, as the disease was found to have likely manifested itself due to the adaptation of humans to certain pathogens in their environments. This also proves false the idea that natural selection is the only factor that had shaped human variation.

Besides schizophrenia, several other genes present in modern humans were found to have been a result of positive selection, such as those affecting cognitive function. This is unsurprising considering the fact that modern humans possess higher brain function than their Neanderthal cousins, despite having similarly-sized brains.

Prior studies suggest that it was during the last Ice Age when humans began to develop specialized tools, burial rituals and the development of language. It was the latter development that was thought to have helped shape the modern human brain, allowing them to think abstractly and creatively. However, this also left the brain prone to the development of chronic mental disorders like schizophrenia.

Schizophrenia affects approximately 1 percent of the world’s total population of 7.4 billion people and is a severe thought disorder that causes hallucinations and an overall disassociation with reality.

Burnout prevalent among dissatisfied employees

BY DEBORAH GORELIK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Do you find yourself struggling with staying motivated during your job or internship? Are you fatigued and exhausted when your workday is done? If so, you may be experiencing symptoms of burnout. Burnout is caused by an incompatibility of a person’s unconscious needs with job demands. Examples of this incompatibility phenomenon include an introverted individual presenting a court case to a jury, or an outgoing person working at home alone all day as a computer programmer.

Job burnout is defined as physical, emotional and mental exhaustion due to work. It can manifest itself in many forms. A lack of motivation, inefficiency on the job and feelings of hopelessness are just a few symptoms. Burnout can also be attributed to various medical conditions such as anxiety, heart disease, immune disorders, insomnia and depression.

A study at the Universities of Zurich and Leipzig found that individuals whose jobs are not aligned with factors that motivate them emotionally suffer from burnout at the highest rates. Using surveys collected from 97 men and women, the authors of the study delved into how workers experience burnout and how their job experiences drive it.

Burnout goes beyond personal discomfort and dejection—it poses a very real threat to businesses as well. Burnout on the job leads to absenteeism, employee turnover, reduced rates of productivity, as well as legal and insurance expenses. The American Institute of Stress estimates that burnout amounts to \$300 billion in expens-

es for U.S. businesses per year.

However, most people do not have the luxury to quit a career they have spent years building due to dissatisfaction. Veronica Brandstatter, Ph.D., professor of psychology at the University of Zurich, proposes “job crafting,” in which “employees proactively try to enrich their job in order to meet their individual needs,” as a possible solution to burnout. For instance, an extraverted individual who thrives on social interaction but works alone in their office is encouraged to reach out for more collaborative roles on the job.

On an individual level, a less idealized and more comprehensive perception of certain jobs is vital to reducing burnout. For instance, many go into careers as physicians because they aspire to help others and make meaningful connections. Once actually on the job, physicians often find themselves running from one patient to the next, balancing multiple treatments at once without being able to spend much quality time with their patients.

To further combat this form of burnout, Brandstatter’s job crafting strategy is applied, with many physicians electing to attend mindfulness training in order to be more engaged with their patients in the short time that they have with them.

Job burnout can also be combated outside of the workplace—people experiencing symptoms of burnout are encouraged to speak to a counselor in order to better manage symptoms of work-related stress. Regular physical activity and getting an adequate amount of sleep can also serve to fight burnout and increase overall happiness and wellbeing.

ReCore, Bioshock: The Collection among September releases

BY LUIS LUCERO
STAFF WRITER

While the month of September is traditionally a dry spell when it comes to new releases, there are still a handful of unique new releases coming down the pipeline. With a popular series releasing a collection, an old series getting a fresh installment and a line-up of completely new releases, September holds much to do for gamers.

Out of the ashes of the initial run of music and rhythm-based games like *Guitar Hero*, *Rock Band* and *Dance Dance Revolution*, Ubisoft has found success with their popular *Just Dance* series. After making huge amounts of money with dance games, the company now plans to try and duplicate it with a new series called *Just Sing*, to be released on Sept. 6.

As the name implies, the focus this time around is on karaoke. Interestingly, there are no plans to ship the game with a microphone accessory. Instead, the game will encourage players to use their smartphones and sing via an app that communicates with the console. Then they can hold it out in front of them like they are taking a selfie.

In this mode, the camera will broadcast both the audio and video of the player's performance into the game and, if the player choses to do so, put it online for others to see. As a standard for this type of game, the soundtrack is an eclectic mix of current Top 40 acts and classic acts from the past.

This current generation of consoles has witnessed several major developers create "remastered" versions of critically-acclaimed titles of the last generation. Several examples include *Grand Theft Auto V* and *The Last of Us*. Whether they can be seen as a true way

of enhancing an existing game for a new generation or just a cynical cash grab all depends on a certain type of gamer. One such series that was destined to receive this type of treatment was 2K's acclaimed *BioShock* series of first-person shooters.

With the franchise's future uncertain following the closure of Irrational Games, now seems like the perfect time to allow both longtime fans to check out the classic trilogy in a new light and newcomers to test out the series' acclaim with *BioShock: The Collection*, releasing Sept. 13.

The collection will include the original *BioShock*, *BioShock 2* and *BioShock Infinite*. While all the games will be rendered in 1080p and 60 frames per second, the multiplayer aspects of the second game will unfortunately be removed for this new collection.

On the massively polarizing heels of the launch of action-platformer *Mighty No. 9* this past June, Comcept, the studio founded by former Capcom designer Keiji Inafune, returns with yet another new intellectual property, named *ReCore*. While *Mighty No. 9* was seen as the spiritual follow-up to Capcom's long-dormant *Mega Man* series, this game could best be described as the spiritual successor for Nintendo's *Metroid Prime* trilogy.

Like those games, this is a third-person action adventure game with a science fiction theme. Players take control of a space colonist who explores a distant planet with the aid of a robotic companion named Mack. While the plot is not groundbreaking, the return to early to middle 2000s action adventure games makes *ReCore* a stand out game against the plethora of first person shooter franchises in the market. *ReCore* is set



SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

Bioshock: The Collection remasters both *Bioshock* and *Bioshock 2*, increasing the games' picture quality for new consoles.

to debut Sept. 13. One genre that is slowly returning thanks in part to the current gaming trend of "old is new again" is the classic two-dimensional "run and gun" platformer. There is, however, a bittersweet element to this particular game. Back in March, Two Tribes announced that their studio was shutting down shortly after the release of their last game *Rive*, making it their swan song title.

Gameplay-wise, it is a mix of classic shoot-em-ups like *Contra* and *Gunstar Heroes* and modern games of other genres like *Watchdogs*. While firepower makes for a big part of action, enemies can also be dealt with by means of re-programming them via collectible hacks found throughout the game. *Rive* is set to release Sept. 13.

After an eight-year hiatus, the fifth installment in the main *Persona* series is finally being released

three years after its initial announcement.

The game follows a silent protagonist as he transfers to a new high school after being put on probation for assault on a stalker. Throughout the year, he and other students awaken to psychic powers known as Personas, becoming masked vigilantes dubbed the "Phantom Thieves of Hearts." Like previous games, the gameplay is a mix of basic RPGs and social simulation games. *Persona 5* will be released on Sept. 15.

With the advent of modern crowdfunding methods like Kickstarter and IndieGogo, many developers, especially smaller and more recently established companies, are utilizing this system of asking for monetary input from fans as a means of circumventing the traditional methods of getting financial support from a large publisher.

One of the more successful campaigns came in 2013, when acclaimed side scroller developer WayForward decided to make a modern HD reboot of their popular *Shantae* series. Three years after its successful campaign, the game is finally ready to be released on all current generation gaming consoles, in addition to Steam, Xbox 360, Wii U, PlayStation 3 and PlayStation Vita.

As with previous titles, players take control of a magical half genie who can transform herself into various creatures by means of performing certain types of belly dancing techniques. Coupled with distinct Metroidvania inspired platforming, this game is poised to please longtime fans and hopefully introduce *Shantae* to a mainstream audience that has largely ignored the series. *Shantae: 1/2 Genie Hero* will debut on Sept. 27, capping the month.

Organic food rife with misconceptions

FACT FINDERS



MARIA MARKOWICZ

With the rising popularity of organically-grown produce, it is impossible to miss the large "organic" labels and signs advertising organic meat, fruits and vegetables, each priced at least a dollar more than its conventionally-grown counterparts. Customers are drawn to these products because they are often associated with the terms "healthy" and "natural," but several studies show that the difference between the two labels is not as clear as it may seem.

In 2014, the United States Department of Agriculture estimated the retail market value of organic food at \$39 billion. Though its growth is currently outpacing other segments of agriculture, organic farmers have to follow strict standards set by the USDA. These include a ban on the use of toxic chemicals or persistent pesticides in soil or plants, synthetic fertilizers, sewage sludge, GMOs, synthetic growth hormones and antibiotics. Additionally, animals have to be fed organically and allowed free movement.

However, even the term organic is not as clear as it may seem. The Mayo Clinic explains that producers can put the word "organic" on packaging of produce that is at least 95 percent organic, which means that these products can contain some non-organic ingredients. Fully organic products can

use the term "100 percent organic" on their packaging.

Organic food's reputation as being better than conventionally-grown food is not based entirely in fact. The internet is filled with studies showing conflicting results, as researchers use different classifications of a product being nutritious.

Studies that support a higher quality of organic foods versus conventionally-grown foods suggest a higher level of vitamins found in organic foods. On the flip side, however, a widely-cited review published by the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* concluded that none of the research available at the time proved that there was a difference in nutrition value of organic and conventionally-grown produce.

"The results of the largest study suggested an association of reported consumption of strictly organic dairy products with a reduced risk of eczema in infants," the review states in its results. "But the majority of the remaining studies showed no evidence of differences in nutrition-related health outcomes that result from exposure to organic or conventionally produced foodstuffs."

Another study delves deeper into the nutritional differences between organic and conventionally-grown produce. The study, described by NPR prior to its release in the *British Journal of Nutrition*, confirms that organic and conventionally-grown produce offer similar levels of nutrients, minerals and vitamins. But while the conventionally-grown produce tends to have more proteins, organic produce contains 20 to 40 percent more antioxidants because the plants do not receive chemical help in repelling insects.

For those who support organic

farming because of its impact on the environment, however, the use of natural pesticides and chemicals, which are allowed under USDA regulations, can be a major downfall of organic farming.

A study published by *PLOS One* found that natural pesticides could be more harmful to the environment than synthetic pesticides. For instance, the study discovered that organic insecticide was much more toxic to ladybeetles than conventional and novel synthetic insecticides.

"The four novel pesticides all caused some mortality to the insidious flower bug, but the two organic insecticides had significantly higher toxicity than the two novel synthetic insecticides," the study also found.

When comparing the levels of toxic chemicals in each insecticide, the conventional synthetic insecticides were found to be more harmful. In field tests, however, the researchers had to use higher doses of organic insecticides in order to achieve the desired result, resulting in a higher level of toxicity, thus resulting in more harm to the environment.

There are also some practical downfalls to eating organic. Organic fruits and vegetables, the Mayo Clinic claims, are not treated with preservatives, which means that they will spoil faster. There is also the added factor of price. Organic foods typically cost more than other foods.

While organic produce seems healthier based on word association, the lack of definitive scientific proof can leave some consumers in doubt. Before the debate is settled, there are other alternatives for people to consider. Consumers consumers must take all sides into consideration before deciding to purchase one type of food.

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Sports

McGregor beats Diaz after five rounds during non-title rematch

BY MICHAEL FRIEDLICH
STAFF WRITER

During their first fight, Nate Diaz shocked the world by tapping out the well-built Conor “The Notorious” McGregor in UFC 196. The unexpected win infuriated McGregor who yearned for a second fight to prove to himself and his fans that his career was not yet over. “I’ve flown in specific body types to replicate Nate’s skinny, tall frame. The boy won the lotto the last time. He knows it; I know it. Well, Aug. 20 I get my revenge and I look forward to it,” said an eager McGregor in an interview on *Late Night with Conan O’Brien*.

In their first bout, Diaz was considered the underdog given McGregor’s immaculate knock out record. McGregor had won 17 of 23 career fights by way of knock-out, so it was clear why fans and sports broadcasters perceived that McGregor would batter Diaz if they competed.

Combined with the fact that he was given short notice, it is an outstanding achievement that Diaz was able to pull off one of the biggest upsets in UFC history.

“It feels a little different because it’s short notice, and there’s a lot of [stuff] crammed into one little week. But it’s a big show, and I’ve been on a lot of big shows. It’s a big deal because there’s a lot of people here. It’s pretty cool,” said Diaz during an interview on MMA Junkie.

Diaz versus McGregor was the main event at UFC 202, even dubbed “the best fight” of the year by Marc Raimondi of MMAFight-



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McGregor won by score, and kept the fight off the floor, even though Diaz went down multiple times throughout the fight.

ing. The pair fought their hearts out in a frenzy that would last all five rounds. Unlike in their first match, Diaz fell short of the stick by losing in a majority decision. Diaz struck hard and often but unfortunately, he was only able to win two rounds—rounds 3 and 5—while “The Notorious” dominated the rest of the fight.

McGregor claims to have learned from his mistakes in the first fight in order to better his chances at winning in the rematch.

“I stayed calm. I bounced the shots off my shoulders. I stayed tight in the pocket. I knew I was

gonna have that moment where he was gonna be in my face and dig forehead under my chin and start unloading, so I caught shots and deflected shots and then hit him to the body a couple of times and it turned the momentum again in my favor,” said McGregor.

Indeed, McGregor landed counter shots throughout the fight which, in turn, lead to his three knock downs—one in the first round and two more in the second. Sticking to his game plan, Conor tried his best to keep the fight on his feet, trade shots and keep away from the ground where Diaz would

have had a chance at submitting him again. Despite Diaz’s disadvantage in stand-up fighting, he landed numerous punches in the third round to give him the edge.

During the pre-fight press conference, McGregor showed up midway through saying, “I don’t really care much for press conferences; they have gotten me kicked off fight cards before. I’m here to fight... I’m ready for what ever he has to bring.”

However, when the fight came to an end, both fighters showed good sportsmanship and acknowledged one another for their hard work.

“It was not easy, it was a war. I’m happy it went that way. I got to show my heart. I took it to him and I stayed in and got the win, so I’m very happy with it. I’ll tell you what, man, his face was opened up and he’s still just coming. He’s still just coming at me. You’ve gotta respect that. You’ve gotta respect Nate and the style of fighting he brings. How can you not?” said McGregor in the post-fight interview.

The post-fight interviews did feature some controversy, surprisingly, when Diaz appeared to be smoking a marijuana-like substance through an electronic cigarette while seated before the press. When asked about the cigarette, Diaz responded that he was smoking CBD oil, a substance that contains numerous cannabinoids, all of which are banned by the United States Anti-Doping Agency, which presides over UFC.

Diaz insisted that the smoke is crucial to his post-fight recovery and helps curb inflammation and stimulate recovery. Nonetheless, Diaz has landed himself in hot water as the USADA is conducting an investigation which can leave the fighter suspended for a significant amount of time.

According to Raimondi, Diaz and McGregor are en route to becoming one of MMA’s greatest rivalries. Because of this, the fighters and even the fans would like to make their rivalry a trilogy and have them compete one more time. After all, they are each tied at one win each, so it would be interesting to see who would be the winner of a third match.

U.S. Olympic team dominates Rio 2016 with total of 121 medals

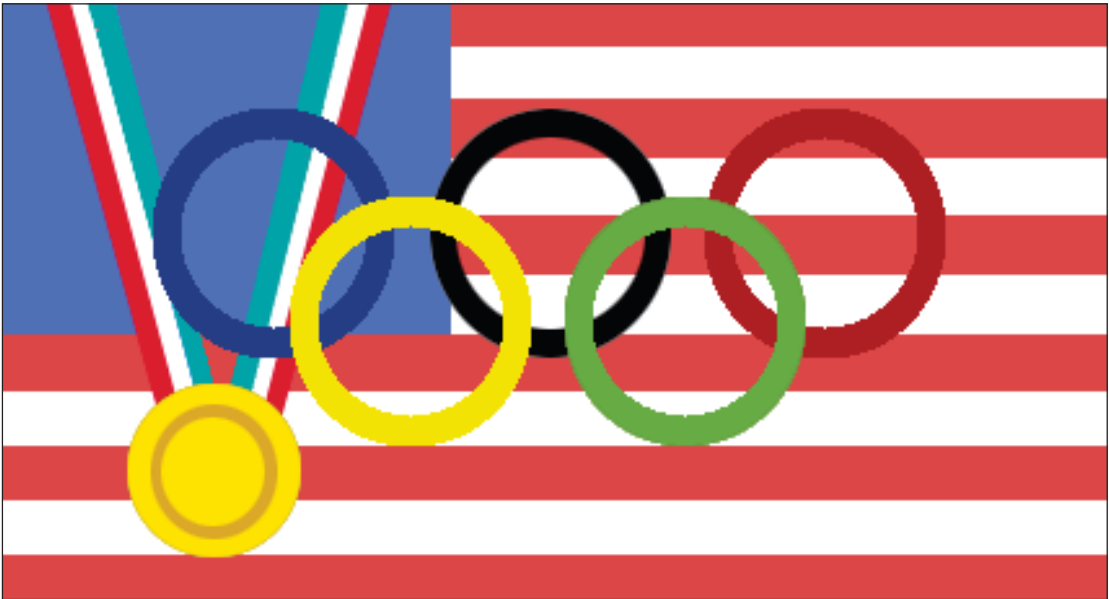
BY MICHAEL FRIEDLICH
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The achievements of the U.S. team at the 2016 Rio Olympics has led some to conclude that these athletes have been the best ever assembled for the Olympics. The United States has earned over 1,000 gold medals throughout Summer Olympic history, a feat accomplished by no other nation.

Rio 2016 saw many U.S. Olympians excel above their competition in unprecedented fashion. The performances of swimmers Michael Phelps and Katie Ledecky, and gymnast Simone Biles have been at the center of attention.

Phelps, who retired after the 2012 Olympics in London after a dismal performance, trained over the last two years to succeed in Rio and reclaim the throne of Olympic swimming. Before Rio 2016, Phelps was already considered one of the greatest Olympians of all time; he owned the record for most gold medals and most medals overall in Olympic history. Phelps’ dominance was once again on display, winning five gold medals, including his fourth straight gold in the 200m individual medley and one silver medal. Adding to his career stats, Phelps has now amassed a whopping 28 Olympic medals, with 23 gold to his name over a span of five Olympics. Although Phelps has said that he will not be back for the 2020 Olympics, there is speculation that this performance will give him the desire to keep swimming.

Ledecky was heavily favored in her races coming into the Olympics, but she exceeded expectations by how easily she dispatched her opponents. Not only did she surpass her world record in both the 400m and 800m, but she also demolished the competition while



BIANCA MONTEIRO | THE TICKER

Despite controversies, the 2016 Rio Olympics were a major success for the U.S. team, who won 121 medals, including 46 gold.

doing so.

Even in the 200m, where Ledecky is not as distinct as in long distance races, she still managed to finish a quarter of a second in front of Swedish silver medalist Sarah Sjostrom. She joined Debbie Meyer as the only woman to win three individual freestyle races in one Olympics, as they both swept the 200m, 400m and 800m freestyles.

In the 800m final, she beat her own world record for the fifth time and finished over 11 seconds ahead of the second place finisher. She was so far ahead of her competitors that commentators joked that she was drying off by the time her competitors were finishing the race.

Ledecky left Rio with four golds, including another in the 4x200m freestyle relay and a silver in the 4x100m freestyle relay. She is only the third American in history to win

four gold medals in a single Olympics. In individual races, Ledecky has never lost a major international final, showing her reign over the competition.

Biles, another favorite leading up to Rio 2016, did not disappoint. She won four golds and one bronze for the United States in women’s gymnastics, becoming the fourth U.S. female gymnast to win five medals in one Olympics. She is also only the fourth female gymnast to win four gold medals and could have been the first to win five if not for her stumble during the balance beam play.

Biles, however, came roaring back on the floor exercise by perfectly executing her signature move, “the Biles,” which includes a double layout with a half-twist and a blind landing.

The U.S. women’s rowing team

established itself as one of the greatest teams in history by winning their third gold medal in a row and their 11th major international title in a row. That type of consistent performance is rarely ever seen in any sport and marks the first time it has ever been seen in U.S. sports. But, because rowing has lost the intense following it once had, the team is an unsung dynasty having won 11 championships in a row with different team members.

Ashton Eaton, the defending gold medalist and holder of the world record in the decathlon, tied the Olympic Record in winning his second consecutive gold medal. Although he did not perform at his best because of injuries incurred over the last few months, Eaton led the field for nearly the entire competition.

While no longer given much

spotlight, the winner of the decathlon is crowned the greatest athlete in the world because of the difficulty of completing 10 events in a period of two days. Eaton now retains that title and is only the third person in Olympic history to win the decathlon twice in a row.

This was an Olympics of firsts. After pulling off a shocking upset in the 100m freestyle, Simone Manuel became the first African-American swimmer to win an individual gold medal, setting an Olympic record in the process. Manuel won another gold in the 4x100m medley relay and received two silver medals too.

Gwen Jorgenson, a former tax accountant at EY, won the gold medal in the women’s triathlon, becoming the first American to win the triathlon in the Olympics since it first ran in 2000. In the 2012 games, Jorgenson suffered a flat tire on the biking leg of the race, leading her to a 38th place finish.

Helen Maroulis won the United States’ first gold medal in women’s wrestling after defeating three-time defending champion Saori Yoshida of Japan in the 53-kg weight class.

With a bronze medal in women’s team sabre, Ibtiyah Muhammad became the first American wearing a hijab to not only compete in the Olympics, but also to win a medal.

In the first golf competition at the Summer Olympics since 1904, Matt Kuchar won the bronze medal with a fantastic eight-under in the final round of the competition.

Rio 2016 will go down as one of the greatest athletics displays in U.S. history. Although some of its best athletes may not be back for the 2020 games, there is no reason to worry about the United States’ future success considering the number of teenage Olympians just starting out their career during these Olympic games.

A-Rod ends career after 22 seasons

BY OMER SEMAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Alex Rodriguez played his final game in pinstripes on Aug. 12, one week after he announced his retirement from baseball. Despite being the subject of many harsh critiques about his play as of late, the New York Yankees allowed him to quietly leave the team midseason on mutually-agreed terms. The 41-year-old three-time American League MVP will receive the remaining \$27 million on his contract over the next two years as he transitions into a special advisory role for the team, thereby avoiding a nasty divorce. Rodriguez grossed nearly half a billion dollars only in baseball salary, but even his money could not help him avoid the huge doping scandal which shadowed him for the better part of his career.

Rodriguez signed a 10-year \$252 million contract with the Texas Rangers in 2001 as he entered the prime of his career. He missed just one game in three years and averaged 52 home runs, 131 runs batted in and a 1.010 on-base plus slugging percentage, winning an MVP in 2003. Out of contention and seeking monetary relief, the Rangers first agreed to trade A-Rod to the Red Sox, but the players union vetoed the deal because it required Rodriguez to take a voluntary pay cut. The Yankees took advantage and sent Alfonso Soriano and Joaquin Arias to the Rangers for A-Rod, adding fuel to the Yankees-Red Sox rivalry. An all-out brawl with Jason Varitek and an illegal slap of Bronson Arroyo's glove in Game 6 of the 2004 American League Championship Series elevated the combative nature between Bostonians and A-Rod. Red Sox faithful applauded A-Rod in his final appearance at Fenway



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Despite PED controversies, Rodriguez is retiring at No. 4 on the all-time homerun list.

Park; not as a post-ironic gesture, but an earnest thank you for being such a great villain.

In a 2007 60 Minutes interview with Katie Couric, following A-Rod's name appearing in the George Mitchell report, a 409-page investigation of rampant use of Performance Enhancing Drugs in Major League Baseball, Rodriguez calmly told her, "I've never used steroids." Two years later, *Sports Illustrated* reported Rodriguez tested positive for an anabolic steroid back in 2003. When speaking to Peter Gammons of ESPN, he admitted to being "young, stupid and naïve," and wanting to prove he deserved to be compared to baseball legends.

Even as he redeemed himself to Yankees fans later that year by propelling the team to World Series glory, Rodriguez found his old habits hard to break. He went on a scorched earth campaign in 2013 when reports linked him to Biogenesis of America, a Miami health clinic that was found to supply MLB players with PEDs. A-Rod blasted Commissioner Bud Selig on Mike Francesca's radio show immediately after storming out

of a meeting with league officials, vehemently denying any connection to the clinic. When under oath in a federal court, however, he confessed to both personal steroid use and introducing players to Biogenesis. He was hit with a year-long suspension in 2014, the most severe punishment ever handed for doping.

A-Rod flipped the script in 2015 as he notched another 30-home run, 100-RBI season, adding to his record of such seasons. Twenty-one years in the big leagues ravaged his body, as hip and knee injuries were all too common for the slugger.

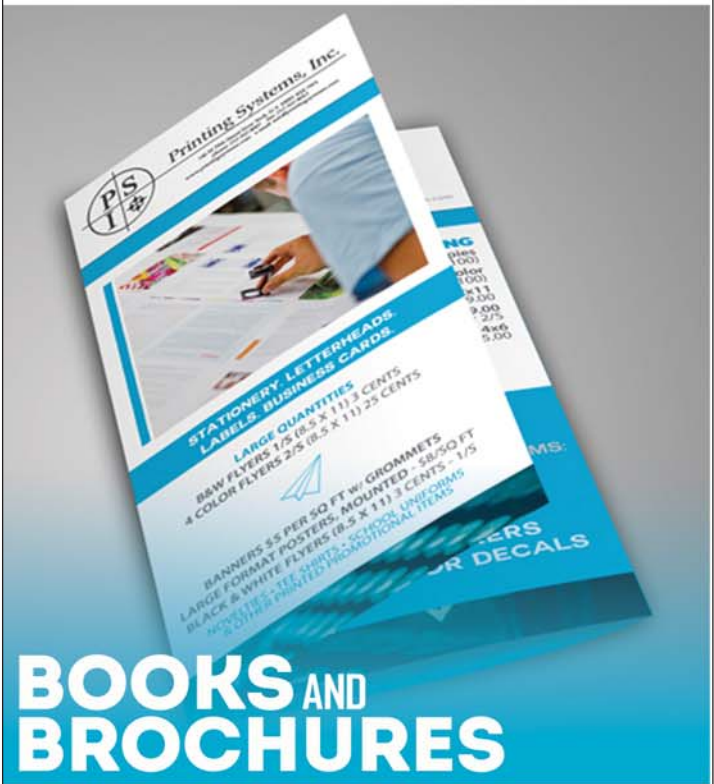
A-Rod's retirement, along with C.C. Sabathia's sharp decline and Mark Teixeira calling it a career, closes a chapter in Yankees history. The youth movement in the Bronx is paying dividends as the Bombers are still in the Wild Card hunt even after they swapped their most talented players for prospects. Rodriguez said he wants to pass on any knowledge he can to the youngsters in his new role. Certainly, he is well placed to advise the team to stay away from banned substances.



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MON
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6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. | NVC 14-280 | Free, Requires Registration

TUES
30

BLOOMBERG I
12:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m. | Subotnick Center | Free, Requires Registration
PROVOST SCHOLAR/INQUIRY SCHOLAR INFORMATION SESSION
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. | NVC 14-230 | Free, RSVP Required

WED
31

BLOOMBERG I
12:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m. | Subotnick Center | Free, Requires Registration
LAST DAY TO ADD A COURSE

THURS
1

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE, DIALECT AND VANISHING TONGUES
9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | NVC 6-210 | Free

FRI
2

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE, DIALECT AND VANISHING TONGUES
9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | NVC 6-210 | Free

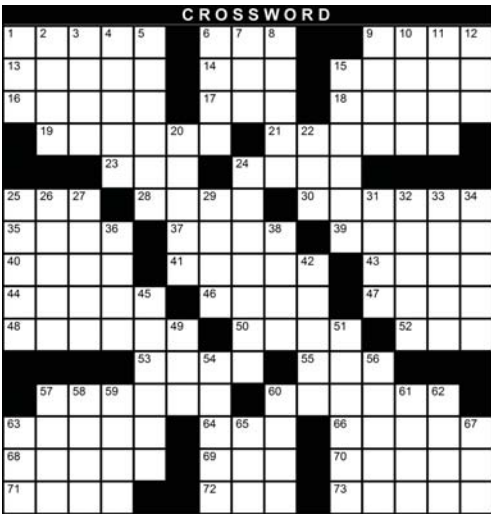
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NO CLASSES SCHEDULED

SUN
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- "_____ TO JOY"
- GIVERNY IMPRESSIONIST
- SELECT BY A VOTE
- Craggy Peak
- EIGHT VOICES
- "SNOW WHITE'S POSSE"
- "KEVIN, STUART OR BOB"
- "MR. _____ BODY & SHERMAN"
- FODDER HOLDER
- DAWBUR OF "MORK & MINDY"
- MAASTRICHT TREATY (1992) CURRENCY
- GOLDFINGER'S HENCHMAN
- THEY'RE HIDDEN UP A SLEEVE?
- TV'S _____ AT NIGHT
- "_____ GOT A FRIEND IN ME" FROM "TOY STORY"
- LYMPH _____
- "E.T., E.G.
- ARCTIC JAEGER
- DISMAL
- MUFFIN MAN'S DRURY
- UNAGI, PL.

- NOT DIGITAL
- WORD-OF-MOUTH STORY
- ACTOR'S DOMAIN
- BACK TALK
- "_____ POPULI," OR "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE"
- "MR. MIYAGI'S FORTE"
- "_____ LIFE OF PETS"
- TYPE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY
- PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT ORG.
- HAVE DINNER AT HOME
- TYPE OF SWEATSHIRT
- H+, E.G.
- SPIRAL-HORNED ANTELOPE
- AUGMENTS
- "JACK SPARROW'S "YES"
- RUHR'S INDUSTRIAL CENTER

DOWN

- STEINFUL
- "WHERE THE _____ THINGS ARE"
- ALL OVER AGAIN
- SUMMARY
- DINNER'S MAIN ATTRACTION
- DECOMPOSES
- BIG FUSS
- MANHATTAN PROJECT PHYSICIST
- LOCUS, PL.
- ON TOP OF
- "_____ THERE, DONE
- MEL _____, GIANT HALL-OF-FAMER
- ACCOMPANIED SOLO SONG
- THE ANIMALS OF A REGION
- INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION
- PARTIES
- "KUNG FU-PRACTICING ANIMATED MAMMAL
- SQUIRREL'S STASH
- MYTHOLOGICAL PRINCESS OF COLCHIS
- SMALL STREAM
- 2 ASPIRIN, E.G.
- FOOTBALL MOVE, PL.
- IMMATURE OVUM
- "BEAUTY'S TRUE LOVE"
- FINNED MAMMAL
- BINGO-LIKE GAME
- IMPULSE TRANSMITTER
- PRAYER BEADS
- GANGSTER'S PISTOL
- BETWEEN PALEOCENE AND OLIGOCENE
- OLD PHOTO COLOR
- R' NTGEN BEAMS
- CRAZY ONE
- MEDICINAL SUCCULENT
- UNIT OF ANGULAR MEASURE, PL.
- LIKE SPIRIT IN SANE BODY
- ESTIMATED ARRIVALS
- BATHROOM FLOORING
- FEMALE PRONOUN
- "BUZZ OR WOODY
- A BOBBSEY TWIN

REBECCA VICENTE | THE TICKER



CROSSWORD SOLUTION: SUMMER ISSUE

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**Starr
Career
Development
Center**

Career Spotlight

baruch.cuny.edu/careers
blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/starrlights/
blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/scdc/
[@BaruchSCDC](https://twitter.com/BaruchSCDC)
[Baruch College Starr Career Development Center](https://www.facebook.com/BaruchCollegeStarrCareerDevelopmentCenter)

SAVE THE DATE

Writing Winning Resumes
Monday, August 29th, 3:00-4:30PM, NVC 2-190
Learn how to create a Baruch-specific resume and tips to make your resume stand out.

#TransferTuesday/New Students Open House
Tuesday, August 30th, 12:30-2:00PM, NVC 2-190
Come meet our staff and learn important information about our services and programs.

Cover Letters Workshop
Tuesday, August 30th, 12:30-2:00PM, NVC 2-190
Learn how to develop an effective cover letter for your job and internship search.

Networking 101: Making Connections
Wednesday, August 31st, 12:30-2:00PM, NVC 2-190
Learn the tools to develop and nurture a network of professional contacts to support your job search.

INTERNSHIP UPDATE

AMF ENTERTAINMENT

Fall 2016 Social Media Intern

AMF Entertainment (NYC), an entertainment agency specializing in brand marketing and celebrity booking. We work with organizations to engage celebrities for a range of projects including TV shows, events and brand partnerships. Using demographic-targeted strategies, we create custom, celebrity-driven content to increase brand awareness and drive engagement. Some of our current projects include: McDonald's 265 Awards, VH1 Hip Hop Honors, Doing Art Together Gala, Nolcha Fashion Week, 50 Cent: The Origin of Me documentary, Kanye West: Driven documentary, MTV News: You

Hear It First, VH1 Save The Music PSA Campaign.

We are a small agency based in Harlem, NY looking for a Social Media Intern for our Fall/Winter 2016 Internship Program. Candidates will be integral to our collaborative environment, learning a lot from our day-to-day dealings with the entertainment industry. The internship will be three days a week and interns will work out of our Harlem office location.

Recommended majors for the role: Marketing and Communications. Proficiency in Adobe Acrobat, Photoshop, any knowledge of coding HTML, CSS will be

helpful to the responsibilities of the position, but not a prerequisite.

Responsibilities include: assisting with developing social media campaigns, celebrity research, scheduling posts and light community management, assisting with generating content/blog posts around upcoming initiatives, assisting with social media during celebrity events, and updating content schedules.

This is a paid internship open to Marketing and related majors; for more information, visit STARR Search with ID 93460.

PEER TIP OF THE WEEK

CHECK OUT THE PEER TIP OF THE WEEK FROM SCDC'S PEERS FOR CAREERS PROGRAM

You can achieve more than you think! Always take advantage of opportunities presented to you, whether you think you're qualified or not. Confidence can come in time, but a door will not remain open forever! With our workshops and one-on-one resume building, SCDC can help you see your own potential.

--VICTORIA MERLINO
PEER FOR CAREER

FUN FACT

Did you know that SCDC Offers Pre-Law Advisement for Students? The Max Berger Pre-Law Advisor can help you plan for law school, provide you with information on which law schools are right for you, review personal statements and other application materials and provide general support for the process. Schedule an appointment via Starr Search or contact Tina Coco at tina.coco@baruch.cuny.edu.