

# The Ticker

VOLUME 112 • ISSUE 10

BARUCH COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

NOVEMBER 20, 2017

## OPINIONS 5

**Planet deserves change in popular narratives (p. 5)**



The driving force behind changes in environmental attitudes in the near future will not be the cataclysmic media narrative, but a change in attitudes toward careers in sustainability. Baruch should do more to encourage students to pursue green careers.

## BUSINESS 8

**Apple reportedly developing AR tech (p. 9)**



Apple Inc. is reportedly developing an augmented reality headset to succeed the iPhone. Technology companies believe augmented reality will be the next step in tech.

## ARTS & STYLE 10

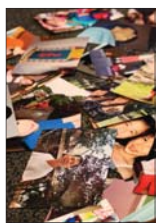
**Swift returns with new album *Reputation* (p. 10)**



Three years after her last album came out, Swift releases *Reputation*, a reconsideration of her identity as a performer. The album develops some themes that are typically found in Swift's music, but lacks the emotion and unique quality of her previous works.

## SCIENCE & TECH 14

**Upbringing influences religious beliefs (p. 15)**



The assumption that people with strong religious beliefs are more intuitive than non-religious people is incorrect. Instead, a study conducted by Coventry University and the University of Oxford found that upbringing and socio-cultural processes impact religious beliefs.

## SPORTS 17

**Rangers win 6 straight games (p. 17)**



After a surprising 3-9 start to the season, the Rangers rattled off six straight wins to jump right back into Metropolitan Division contention. Henrik Lundqvist's play has greatly improved, and is one of the main reasons the team has improved so much.

## BSA 'Mock Wedding' exceeds all expectations



NICOLE PUNG | THE TICKER

The "Mock Wedding" event occurred Nov. 14, with BSA's vice chair of public relations and her boyfriend as bride and groom.

BY KATRINA COLON  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Almost a year after hosting the event for the first time, the Bangladesh Student Association experienced significant growth in attendance for its second annual "Mock Wedding," held on Nov. 14.

A massive crowd, estimated to be in the hundreds, lined up outside the Multipurpose Room at Baruch College for this year's festivities.

The event was originally created under the leadership of Nabil Rahman to expose the Baruch community to Bengali culture, but this year's event expanded itself to an even greater reach.

In response to overwhelming success, the second annual event allowed limited access to students from other CUNY schools. Attendees from universities such as Hunter College and the City College of New York were required to reserve their seats on an exclusive guest list, which was capped at 50 invitations.

While there were multiple CUNY colleges represented, the majority of the crowd consisted of Baruch students, who were granted permission to enter on a walk-in basis.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Baruch showcases Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

BY MAXIM IBADOV  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

From Nov. 14 to 18, while some students were studying numbers, working on scientific projects or learning foreign languages in Baruch College's 23rd Street Building, other students were creating magic in Baruch's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare.

Directed by Baruch's very own Christopher Scott and presented at the Bernie West Theatre by the Department of Fine and Performing Arts, this production turns ancient Athens into a 1980s city somewhere in Long Island. Set designer Erick Creegan transports the audience into the era with Keith Haring-inspired doodles on the walls, graffiti and wooden panels reminiscent of beach loungers one expects to find in the Hamptons. The show is so stereotypically set in the '80s that it is almost wearing fishnets and humming a Cyndi Lauper tune.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



JULIAN TINEO | THE TICKER

## SHAP hosts talk on bystander intervention

BY ESTELLE SAAD  
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 16, Baruch College's Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Committee hosted a bystander intervention workshop. The workshop, which was presented by the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault, explained the underlying problems around not taking action when sexual harassment happens. It also detailed how people can be "positive bystanders" and stop actions of sexual harassment from happening around them.

Instructor Jeenie Yoon explained that "everyone has been a bystander, or will be at one point, and we have a responsibility to speak up."

She taught the audience how to identify harmful behavior and how to intervene in different scenarios. The course explained the different ways bystanders can intervene, including direct intervention, distraction and delega-



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Yoon, pictured above, led the workshop on bystander intervention against sexual harassment. Yoon is a part of the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault.

tion. Alternate approaches, based on the situations presented, were also shown. In direct intervention, one directly calls out someone for inappropriate behavior. Through distraction, a bystander can diffuse a situation by distracting the

people involved and stopping the situation from continuing. Delegation is about distributing tasks to others in order to take control of a situation.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## OPINIONS

***Planting oyster beds may prevent floods in New York***

Oysters have always played a significant role in New York City's history. Since the founding of the city, oysters have been a favored food of both the rich and poor, both people who live in the city and on Long Island.

Eventually, this love affair resulted in the overharvesting of the rich oyster beds, forever changing New York's water ecosystems. However, new projects that require additional support are working to bring these mollusks back.

Oysters seem like pretty bland creatures. One can see their shells littered all over city beaches in the summertime and people often curse as they step on them.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



# 'Mock Wedding' attendance proliferates in event's 2nd year

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Meem Amrin, the emcee of the night, said that while the club members were not expecting such a large turnout, BSA was better prepared for this year's festivities in comparison to its first event.

"We're much more social now, we try to have great relationships with other clubs. So what we did was hand out personal invitations to each club, even left them with student life and our professors to spread through word of mouth. We didn't do that last time, and I think that's what contributed to this huge turnout," said Amrin.

As an array of colorful lights strobed around the converted Multipurpose Room, guests took their seats with plates full of appetizers that represented the unique tastes of Bengali cuisine.

The space maintained the perfect balance of elaborate design with an intimate feel, that one could expect from a dream wedding.

Blue and gold accents draped the stage, surrounding a royal chaise lounge that sat in the center of it all. Small details such as mirrors, candles and shimmer rocks were strategically placed around the scene to give it the illusion of opulence.

The cold weather outside was a distant memory to the performers and guests who were dressed in extravagant saris and traditional formal wear. The bride and groom quickly approached the stage, surrounded by bridesmaids and groomsmen who energetically jumped and shouted in celebration, a sign that the wedding bash had commenced.

This year's festivities decidedly skipped past the ceremony between husband and wife, instead focusing on multiple performances



NICOLE PUNG | THE TICKER

BSA's second annual "Mock Wedding" featured multiple performances by dancers and singers in a highly decorated and ornately stylized Multipurpose Room.

by BSA members. Split into various groups and duos, the entertainment highlighted intricately choreographed dances representative of South Asian culture. The performers moved to a wide array of music, which included Indian pop, Desi hip hop and electronic dance music.

Following this display of rhythms, sounds and a complex vocal ballad was a set of games that tested the couple's knowledge of each other while bringing in audience participation. While the event was formatted as a mock wedding,

the charm and tenderness between the real couple — BSA's Vice Chair of Public Relations Samia Jalil and her boyfriend Rabir Hammam — was palpable throughout the evening.

As guests stepped out for dinner service, BSA members readied the room for upcoming surprises in the next segment. While attendees finished their meals, the bride and groom took to the dance floor for their first dance as husband and wife. The couple then playfully cut the cake, indicating the festivities were nearing an end.

To the surprise of the crowd, the climax and grand finale of the night came when BSA members invited dancers from Filipinos Uniting Students in Other Nations to a carefully planned dance-off.

The blend of classic and modern moves, topped with break dancing, turned the audience wild with screams and cheering. Bringing the night to an end, the DJ opened up the dance floor to everyone in attendance.

With the success of this event still fresh on everyone's mind, BSA has already begun thinking of ideas

for next year's bash.

"Even though we know it's so much more work, we want to have [our third event] at an outside venue, so more non-Baruch students can come. We have great relations with Hunter and City College, if we weren't limited to the 50 slots on the guest list, we would've had a lot more guests," stated Amrin.

"At the end of the day we had fun, the team was amazing to work with. The work and planning was really hard, but none of this would've been possible without them."

## 'Food Week' adds Latin American flavor to Baruch

BY COURTNEY GERVAIS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past week, Baruch College's Latin American Student Organization pulled off a successful week-long event known as "Latin Food Week."

During club hours on Nov. 14 and Nov. 16, the club offered Latin American appetizers, entrees and desserts to any Baruch student who wanted to experience some of the cultures Latin America has to offer.

As club hours drew near on Nov. 16, there was already a large crowd waiting to taste some Latin American entrees. Everyone was excited to try the dishes such as rice and beans, the Mexican soft drink Jarritos, *ropa vieja* and *pupusa*.

To open the event, LASO Vice President Yadira Silva thanked all of the co-sponsors and described some of the foods guests would be enjoying. The club had volunteers come up to the front, and two students at a time were blindfolded and asked to race each other in tasting a food item.

They then had to correctly guess what that food was, which proved to be difficult for some. After a few rounds, the food was open for consumption and the winners were allowed first dibs, along with extra tickets. Whenever students entered into the room, they were given four tickets. This was because LASO wanted to reflect the market style of Latin America within its event. In order to get rice or beans, a student had to give in one ticket. Two side dishes were one ticket each and an entree was another ticket.

This way, everyone could try all

the food and become immersed in the full Latin American experience of purchasing and eating their food.

A lot of the food LASO served at the event was catered by authentic Latin American vendors, ensuring that the cultures would be properly represented. Members of LASO hand-picked restaurants not only in the Baruch area, but also from vendors in their own neighborhoods that they knew would make these diverse foods as accurately as possible.

Some foods, like Silva had mentioned, may look the same or be present in several Latin American countries, but the way they are prepared makes a world of difference.

"There are differences and similarities [in the foods], that bring us together. The same things can look the same, but you can taste the difference," Silva commented.

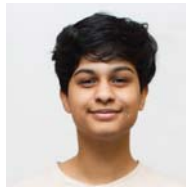
This event marked the fourth year of LASO's Latin Food Week, and it was as successful as ever. There were over 100 people at the appetizers and desserts event on Tuesday, and the numbers continued to rise above 100 throughout the event on Thursday.

Christopher Ventura, a senior advisor of LASO, talked a little bit about his experience with the club and how this event specifically helps him "... learn about people and culture every day. Every day is a new experience and every day is a new lesson as you go."

Silva and Ventura, two of the main organizers of these events, were grateful that so many clubs, especially the Undergraduate Student Government, were able to collaborate with them and make these two events possible.

## Chen proposes new co-sponsorship cap

USG CORRESPONDENT



BIANCA MONTEIRO

Baruch College's Undergraduate Student Government held its weekly senate meeting on Nov. 14. Due to Provost David Christy privately visiting the table, the meeting officially began just past 6:15 p.m. instead of its usual scheduled time of 5:30 p.m.

The meeting started with the confirmation of Suzanna Egan as the new treasurer of the table, marking her first official day in the role. Egan was previously a representative senator and the chair of appeals.

The meeting's agenda then continued on to unfinished business. Arvis Chen, representative senator and chair of student clubs and organizations, posed to the table a possible idea of changing his cap for USG's club co-sponsorships, which currently sits at \$500.

This addendum was posed after Chen's recent decision to allocate Women in Business a total of \$913 in co-sponsorship money for its annual Style Your Success event, which is set to take place in the Multipurpose Room on Nov. 30. The club, which was originally lacking the funding for all the equipment it needed, was able to satisfy it via this co-sponsorship.

In a statement provided to *The Ticker*, Chen explained, "I'd like to raise the cap for co-sponsorships from \$500 to \$1,000 for large-scale

events. Responsible club leaders should be rewarded for their hard work and passion, and if I can do anything about it, I am going to try."

Members of the table were conflicted on the issue, with some voicing that the decision ultimately undermined the appeals process.

This change in rule, some argued, may deter clubs from the appeals process if their needs fall below \$1,000. Others pointed out that it may unfairly benefit clubs that have been chartered longer, are bigger in size and, therefore, have the means and resources to begin or continue such large-scale events.

Chen argued, instead, that the requirements to benefit from this kind of co-sponsorship would be stricter than the \$500 co-sponsorship.

Aside from the additional money being limited to large-scale events, other possible requirements include the event having already occurred at least once in the past year and occurring on a Tuesday or Thursday night. The club's budget must also reflect responsible spending, with 95 percent of the budget used as a possible indicator.

Ultimately, the chair of student clubs and organizations is responsible for setting their own cap and can usually allocate their budget by their own logic.

Chen was allocated around \$34,800 at the beginning of the semester and \$27,000 currently remains in his budget.

Following this discussion and some other in-house discussions, Rajbir Singh, president of the United Sikh Association at Baruch, approached the table for help with the club's "Help the Homeless Drive," which plans on giv-

"I'd like to raise the cap for co-sponsorships from \$500 to \$1,000 for large-scale events. Responsible club leaders should be rewarded for their hard work and passion, and if I can do anything about it, I am going to try."

— Arvis Chen

ing out care packages directly to the homeless during the week of Thanksgiving.

Following this, President Isabel Arias disclosed to the table that current Undergraduate University Student Senate Delegate Jasper Diaz will be stepping down from his other role as chair of the Sustainability Committee due to other obligations.

Diaz recommended that Nicolas Fuertes, who was a member of the committee, take over the position. Fuertes was officially voted in to the chair position on a vote of 14-0-1.

Toward the end of the meeting, Arias also communicated that, for the next senate meeting, the table will be discussing any concerns and questions regarding Greek life at Baruch.

This next meeting will take place on Nov. 21, despite classes following a Friday schedule. The meeting will also feature a potluck-style dinner.



# Speaker educates about harassment

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Yoon explained that people must not let the bystander effect, or the assumption that someone else will intervene when in a crowd, deter people from getting involved.

Throughout the session, Yoon gave multiple examples of sexual assault cases and asked the audience what they would do in that situation. People had many different ideas, and she went through the ups and downs of each approach. Yoon explained the rape culture in today's society and how it condones violence, particularly toward women.

Violence includes relatively minor visual and verbal gestures, such as winking and catcalling, and also more physical actions, such as groping and rape. Yoon argued that by allowing minor actions and ideologies against women and sexism to be acceptable in society, people are promoting sexual offenders to act as they do, and encouraging others to act this way as well.

The view of women as being lesser than men is a large part of the problem, said Yoon. She explained that many men seem to think that they have a right to women's bodies and act accordingly. Everyone must let it be known that women are not sex objects and that people should stop behaving in this manner. In summary, Yoon said that "Everyone has the ability to be a perpetrator or a victim, and if we don't realize we have this capability, then we're just keeping this status quo in place."

Yoon went into the stereotypes we have about sexual predators and how they are often false. That being said, Yoon explained that people must always pay attention to those around them to



NICOLE PUNG | THE TICKER

The workshop was conducted by the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault.

keep themselves and others out of danger.

She addressed the common uneasiness around getting involved in a situation in which one does not know the full story and is unsure if someone is being assaulted by saying that "You don't have anything to lose," because it is better to be safe and check in with one of the participants anyway.

The issue of sexual assault and misconduct has been prominent in the news lately, spanning from actors in Hollywood to top businessmen and politicians. These perpetrators were addressed in the presentation as examples of how serious and common the matter of sexual misconduct is.

The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault is a non-profit organization whose mission is to "Prevent sexual violence and reduce the harm it causes through education, research and advocacy," according to the organization's website.

The issue of sexual assault is taken very seriously at Baruch. There are many resources available at Baruch for those who experience sexual harassment or sexual misconduct, such as counseling and therapy, as well as other support systems.

For more details about where to seek guidance for issues of this kind, students can refer to the college's website.

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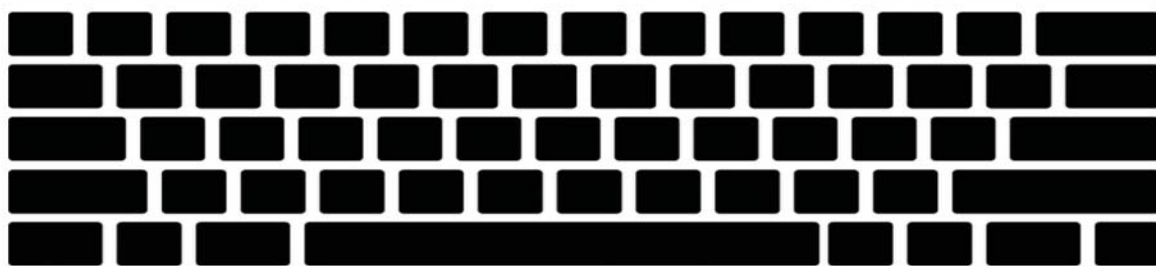
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# Opinions

## FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

### Transfer students need more guidance in navigating CUNY

When transferring to a new school, students are often faced with the issue of having to become involved in an unfamiliar community. At Baruch College, transfer students who come from residential colleges may notice that the difference is huge at a commuter school. Becoming involved and making friends is not as easy as one would like and learning about Baruch's student resources can also be a challenge all on its own.

New students who start at Baruch as freshmen have a major advantage that transfer students do not. First-Year Seminar — a mandatory requirement for all first-year students — is an extremely useful resource. Freshmen are required to complete three blog posts after attending three different Baruch events. Students automatically become more involved with Baruch culture by being required to attend these events because they allow students to experience things they would not have looked out for otherwise. Often, at the beginning of the semester, these freshmen attend general interest meetings, which opens up possibilities to become members of clubs or organizations and to find a sense of belonging on an otherwise cold campus.

There are multiple lessons in First-Year Seminar that focus on teaching students about Baruch and other technical aspects that do not come intuitively by just attending the school. There is a whole presentation dedicated to speaking with an adviser and learning about the curriculum that students have to complete in order to pursue their major and graduate from Baruch. CUNYFirst and Blackboard are also not easy websites to navigate. Even students who attend First-Year Seminar have trouble navigating the online services.

Transfer students, especially those who may not have any experience within the CUNY system, will be even more lost.

Transfer students may not have a First-Year Seminar, but they do have a Transfer Seminar. The issue with the Transfer Seminar is that it is not mandatory to take. When given the choice, students would rather try and figure things out on their own than opt to attend an optional class once a week. Trying to figure things out on their own may lead them to not fully understand all of the tools that they have at their disposal as Baruch students.

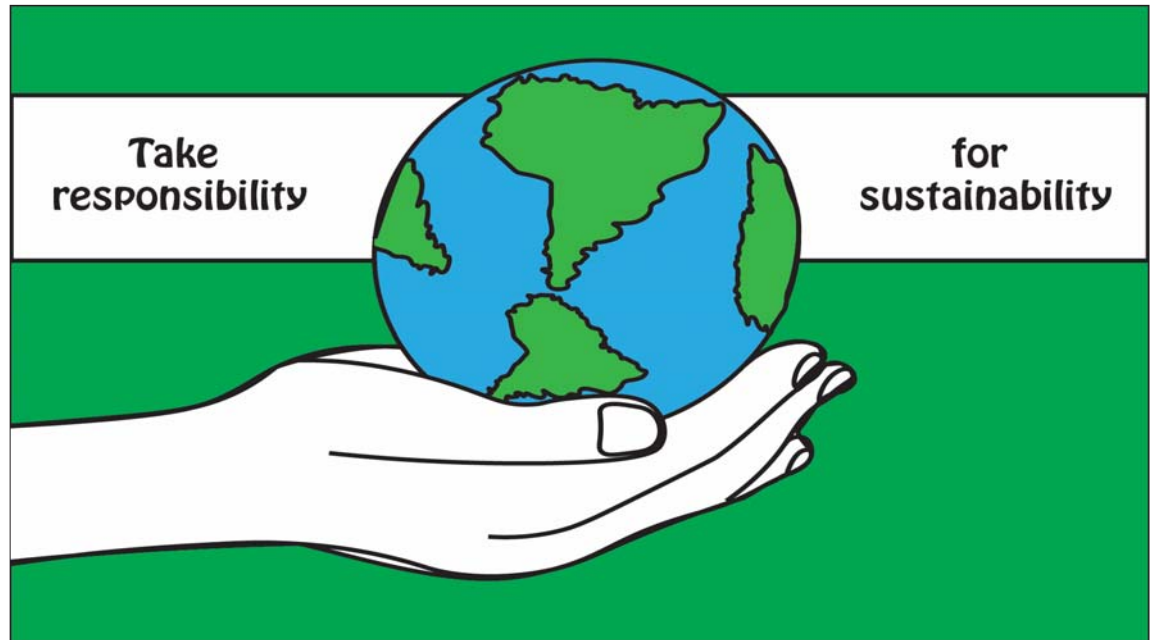
By making the seminar mandatory, transfer students would be required to learn the technicalities of Baruch, helping them flourish in the long run. It may seem tedious and unnecessary, but knowing the basics and learning how the school functions can save them time from taking unnecessary classes or not even registering for classes at all because they could not figure out how to do so.

### MTA fails to enact changes to subway

The Metropolitan Transit Authority is replacing the phrase “Ladies and Gentlemen” in its New York City subway and bus announcements with gender-neutral language. According to PIX11, a bulletin was circulated among MTA staff earlier this week, instructing them to utilize gender-neutral terms such as “passengers,” “riders” and “everyone.” Pre-recorded messages that do not include these terms will be updated. The change is a result of the MTA's desire to improve communication with passengers, as outlined in its NYC Subway Action Plan.

The MTA's decision to change its language in an effort to be more inclusive of nonbinary riders is a commendable one. The issue, however, is that its attempts to solve small problems that pale in comparison to the systemic troubles the agency faces. It is clear that there are more urgent issues within the NYC subway system.

Passengers have been frequently subjected to late trains, longer waiting times, signal problems, unpredictable line changes and more. This poor performance is unacceptable for a transit system that millions of people rely on daily in the most populated city in the United States.



STEPHANIE MESQUITA | THE TICKER

### Baruch must promote sustainability as lucrative and responsible field

Climate change is real. The consequences of how global governments and media address this reality may very well determine human survival on Earth.

The unfortunate truth is that there are people who are afraid to acknowledge the pervasiveness of climate change. This is not to say they are downright deniers such as President Donald Trump and Republican Scott Pruitt, but at the same time they are not exempt from self-scrutiny either.

In prioritizing other aspects of their lives, like landing that promising corporate offer that will give them the social mobility they crave, many people construct a certain psychological distance to remove them from the salience of climate change's effects. The truth is that on a deeply subconscious level, humans feel powerless and unable to stop the environment's destruction, but they no longer need to feel that way.

When it comes to climate change, people need to alter the apocalyptic narrative by taking the time to understand how they fit into their respective ecosystems. Everyone must be more inquisitive of the things that they take for granted, like running water and the gas that lights their stoves.

The disastrous hurricanes and deadly forest fires of late were not spontaneous events. The monsoons and droughts in the Southern

Hemisphere are not happening in vain. Sending relief to Puerto Rico, altruistic as it is, is not enough. Instead of only spurring themselves into action in response to natural disasters, environmental foresight should be the driving force behind one's actions so that they may mitigate the effects of future disasters.

Adopting a firmer environmental conscience not only helps preserve the planet but offers opportunities that are parallel to anyone's self-interest. When one looks at it this way, they may find that to be environmentally conscious is not mutually exclusive to attaining a fulfilling livelihood. To be environmentally conscious does not simply mean a person must migrate to remote villages and live simple lives to reduce their carbon footprints. With social responsibility becoming increasingly more important, businesses are becoming environmentally aware, providing opportunities for lucrative careers in sustainability.

Building sustainable infrastructures and getting creative about energy will gradually disrupt the status quo of non-renewable resource utilization. For nearly every product one may consume, there are companies that produce and supply an eco-friendly competitor. By broadening one's knowledge on environmental issues, they are not only helping the planet but increasing their individual opportunities

for possible careers.

Sustainability must not be far-removed from mainstream industry. In fact, it has progressively become a thriving career field and is one of the most rapidly growing industries. Within the field of sustainability, there is an array of specializations to pursue in business, energy, engineering and more. According to GreenBiz Group's 2013 State of the Profession Report, “in the years between 2005 and 2008, 125 U.S. companies added their first full-time sustainability positions.” The College Board has also reported sustainability consulting will be the industry with the newest jobs between 2008 and 2018, with a total of 83 percent job growth.

It is in Baruch College's best interest to impart the essential knowledge of environmental issues because companies will increasingly come to demand it. The more one knows about how they fit into the global ecology puzzle, the more competent they will feel to change everyone's existence for the better.

The current degradation of the environment presents students with various ways to repair the damage. Much like the rapidly changing climate, humans need to sublimate the perils of powerlessness by doing the work.

Noorelhuda Mohamed, Aaron Rampersad and Melissa Telez collaborated to contribute this article.

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Volume 112, Issue 10  
 Established 1932 | © The Ticker 2017

### Registration demands greater efficiency

The end of October and the beginning of November mark a transitional period for students into the holiday and midterm season. To make the burden even greater for students at Baruch College, it also marks the beginning of registration season.

First and foremost, this means that the academic advisement office, located on the fifth floor of the Newman Vertical Campus is bombarded with students. The students in that office are either about to change their major, confused about what courses to take or have no idea where their life is headed in terms of academics and need the best advisement possible.

There are probably other reasons, too, but these are the most prominent. Unfortunately, the academic advisement office at Baruch is inefficient.

The academic advisement office is offering walk-in hours during the weekdays that consist of a one-on-one session with an adviser for 15

minutes, which is nowhere near long enough to fully ponder a DegreeWorks audit. Baruch's academic advisers need some serious reinforcements. The ratio of advisers to students is appalling and needs to be handled immediately. No student wants to be in college for more than four years because they found out at the last minute that they were missing a required class.

When it comes to actually registering, things may get even more difficult. Seeing that a class has been completely filled is worse than stubbing one's toe or running to the train and missing it by a millisecond.

With over 15,000 students enrolled, trying to get into classes can be extremely competitive, especially in core classes. Students will find that courses like BUS 1000 or BIO 1011 fill almost immediately. If there are any classes that are open for those courses, it means the professor is one that popular wisdom would advise to avoid.

It is extremely vital that students check their CUNYfirst accounts to see if there are holds that will prevent them from enrolling and viewing grades at the end of the semester.

CUNYfirst holds should be taken care of as soon as possible because the Office of Financial Aid Services and Transfer Services will take their time to fix the issue. This can cause a delay in picking courses, which results in classes being full and being stuck with a 7:25 a.m. class with a professor who has a rating of a 2.4 on RateMyProfessors.com.

Registering for classes is stressful and requires much thought and effort. It is unfortunate that it is during midterms week when students are already stressed. Regardless, Bearcats are constantly fighting for afternoon classes, professors who do not count attendance and for entry into pre-requisite courses.

-Farah Zulfiqar  
 Journalism '20



# Oysters may solve coastline troubles

Restoring oyster communities around New York Harbor would provide natural barriers to tidal surges.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Despite being overlooked, oysters are actually vital to the city's marine ecosystems. This was forgotten for decades as people profited off harvesting them but now, thanks to disasters like Hurricane Sandy, the oyster's important qualities are being thrust to the forefront of the battle to protect New York from flooding.

Hurricane Sandy made New Yorkers remember that their city is built on the water, surrounded by the water and dependent on the water in many ways. The hurricane also showed New Yorkers that they are vulnerable to that water. Flooding destroyed much of the five boroughs and Long Island, leaving thousands of people without electricity and running water.

Many lost their homes and priceless family possessions. Yet, city residents still choose to remain close to the shores they love even though researchers at Climate Central recently ranked New York as the most vulnerable city in the United States to sea level rise, with over 426,000 people living in zones that could face serious flooding by 2050.

This reveals New Yorkers' stubbornness. Investing in oysters will aid many New Yorkers' stubborn mission to live the shore life. Oysters are best known for their work as filter feeders, acting as the underwater version of vacuum cleaners. The mollusks remove organic and inorganic material from the water and leave it cleaner, which positively benefits other marine life and humans who fish in these waters.

However, it is the structure of the oyster itself that will aid the shores the most. The shells of oys-

ters create a hard bottom substrate that ends up forming a habitat for other organisms such as anemones and barnacles that require a hard base to attach themselves to. The oyster reefs also act as spawning sanctuaries for local fish.

The stability and strength of these reefs are what will save New York in stormy times. The oyster reefs will be able to break up the waves from storms and decrease the number of waves that reach the shorelines. They also are an answer to the seawall problem. Many do not like building seawalls because nobody can predict where they need to be built and how high water will rise. If built in the wrong places, they are an eyesore and can prevent people from accessing beaches. Oyster reefs can circumvent both those issues.

But this solution has not been marketed to the extent it should be. A feature on the podcast "99% Invisible" is probably the most digestible way people not directly connected to New York or its waterways can learn about oyster reefs. More people need to learn about the importance of oyster reefs in order to promote two amazing projects that will be utilizing them.

The first project is Living Breakwaters, designed by Kate Orff and her firm SCAPE Landscape Architecture. Hundreds of years ago, New York's seafloor used to be perfect for oyster reefs but overharvesting and dredging have forever changed that landscape.

If oysters were put on the muddy bottom now, they would just be covered in silt and reefs would not form.

Orff took this into account and formed a raised oyster bed structure utilizing ropes and stakes.

Now, this plan has grown and received \$60 million in funding, allowing that early design to be scrapped for something better. The New York Governor's Office of Storm Recovery will carry out the oyster-laying operation. The office will create a necklace of offshore breakwaters out of large rocks and stones and seed them with oysters so that they can grow into reefs. Living Breakwaters will reduce coastal erosion, build beaches and make storms less dangerous.

The second initiative is the Billion Oyster Project, being carried out by Governors Island's New York Harbor School, which teaches students about oyster restoration. The project entails collecting oyster shells from restaurants and using them as the substrate on which to grow new oysters. The school has partnered with the Living Breakwaters project so the oysters it is growing are used for the formation of the necklace being implemented around Staten Island.

Orff's project was unveiled as early as 2010 but it will finally come to fruition when building starts in 2018, with hope that a bustling reef can be a possibility by 2025. It is sad that the only real reason her project gained traction was because of Hurricane Sandy's destruction but it would be even sadder if it lost traction because New Yorkers have forgotten the disaster.

It is vital that the importance of oysters and oyster reefs be taught to residents of the city, especially the younger generations. These are the structures that will protect their homes and families from the water and they need to know how to maintain and create them.

-Jessica Kraker  
English/History '18

# Berghdal verdict fails to deliver due justice

A "blue falcon" is military slang for buddy f---, used pejoratively to describe a soldier who makes a mistake, intentionally or unintentionally, that gets their unit punished as a whole. Bowe Bergdahl is the worst blue falcon of the 21st century. Despite the fact that the United States does not negotiate with terrorists, five Taliban terrorists were exchanged for Bergdahl's safe return. Consider only the crime and the punishment.

First, the crime: Bergdahl walked off his post while on duty. He abandoned his brothers in arms and left behind his equipment, his battalion and his honor.

Now, the punishment: Bergdahl was given no time in prison. He is forced to pay \$1,000 per month for the next ten months and has been demoted from sergeant, a rank he only gained through automatic promotions while being held in captivity, to private. He is also being dishonorably discharged, although there is an automatic appeal currently underway.

A nation may mete punishment for three reasons: to deter future criminals from similar behavior, to extract a pound of flesh or because a crime is heinous to the point that only a certain reaction will quell a society's sense of injustice. Yet, with this punishment, none of those reasons were satisfied.

Servicemen and women will not be deterred from desertion after this laughable slap on the wrist. They now know that for the low price of \$10,000 spread over ten months and a demotion, there is carte blanche to walk away from a duty they no longer feel like honoring. For reference, a private makes around \$1,600 per month,

not counting housing allowances, insurance and other benefits.

There is no doubt that the United States did not receive its pound of flesh. A Navy Seal had to undergo 18 surgeries and can no longer serve in the military because of the injuries he sustained looking for Bergdahl. Scores of soldiers and airmen were on patrol for weeks searching and eight of them subsequently lost their lives. One man can never repay this debt, not even in 100 lifetimes and certainly not with ten months of half-garnished wages.

Finally, the crime's severity can be measured by the general orders, the very first thing taught in basic military training, memorized before even setting foot in camp: "I will guard everything within the limits of my post and quit my post only when properly relieved." Ignoring momentarily that Bergdahl violated the capstone pillar of his profession, he also violated the immortal code of never leaving a man behind.

This dereliction of duty left his comrades exposed. It caused innumerable and predictable suffering and loss and was in direct contention with the oaths he swore to and the duty he was bound to. Former National Security Adviser Susan Rice's claim that Bergdahl "served with honor and distinction" is beyond ignorant at best and deceptively and politically self-serving at worst.

The idea that a military judge would so lightly punish this modern Benedict Arnold is anathema to the very fabric of justice.

At least he is sorry.

-Simon Zais  
Finance '17

# Interference in elections requires greater scrutiny

Newspaper and media outlets broke the story that a foreign adversary has been utilizing mass communication to incite divisiveness and interfere with democratic elections in the West.

What sounds like a plot point straight out of a Cold War novel, is in fact the harsh reality of the United States in 2017.

Facebook has recently revealed that thousands of advertisements were purchased by fake accounts linked to account farms in Russia, with the goal of provoking chaos and debate surrounding controversial issues prevalent to the mainstream United States.

The advertisements targeted the battleground states of Michigan and Wisconsin — states that proved decisive in Hillary Clinton's loss in the election.

The complexity and depth of the Russian operation is astounding. Beyond just Facebook advertisements, Russian intelligence has also been linked to Twitter bots that automatically created tweets containing anti-Clinton messages.

However, it is not just the fact that it happened that is unbelievable, it is the methods and logic behind Russia's work that are worrisome.

The advertisements also targeted specific groups and areas across the country, with content surrounding the Black Lives Matter movement, targeting cities such as Baltimore where the controversy still rages.

Advertisements were also deployed based on race, interests and ideologies. Such a complex disinformation operation within the United States sounds like the stuff of fictional nightmare, but it

is the reality that U.S. citizens must face and accept.

President Donald Trump's digital campaign chief even went as far as saying that Facebook advertisements were the reason that the president won the election. For a campaign official to openly admit that these advertisements were the reason that Trump won, just a week after news broke about Russian meddling, is absolutely mind-boggling.

Not only does it illustrate the insensitivity of Trump's staffers to the gravity of the situation, but it also suggests that the campaign accepts the Russian assistance through its silent concession.

Sanctions passed against Russia for previous interference in the 2016 election still have yet to take full effect.

The disinformation debacle is not only detrimental for domestic affairs, but also for the United States' place in international affairs.

The U.S. reputation in the international theater has already been weakened by a leader who seems to adamantly refuse to hold his tongue and acts in a manner so unfathomably toxic and childish, that the damage already done in his first year in power can already be written off as irreparable for generations to come.

The United States cannot be taken seriously as a nation in the global geopolitical macrocosm, when its very leader only ascended to his position by means of assistance from not just a foreign power, but a nation that has been an adversary of the United States for decades.

-Inzamam Chowdhury  
International Business '20

# Trump must align with Saudi Arabia

In the past two years, there have been small escalations in the cold war between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the Middle East. Both nations are regional powers vying to increase their influence in the Muslim world.

The Saudis are in Yemen, leading a coalition of Arab states like Jordan and Egypt and launching an offensive against the predominantly Shiite Houthis, who are also in Yemen.

In the Saudi capital of Riyadh, the prime minister of Lebanon, Saad Hariri, resigned. There have been numerous reports that the Saudis had him under house arrest, or that the Saudis essentially forced him to resign for not being strong on Hezbollah, a political party in Lebanon that receives support from Iran.

Hariri also said that he fears assassination because his father Rafic Hariri, a former prime minister of Lebanon, was killed by alleged Hezbollah members.

Saad Hariri has said on Saudi television, "Wherever Iran settles, it sows discord, devastation and destruction, proven by its interference in the internal affairs of Arab countries."

Having Saad Hariri out of power in Lebanon creates instability and perhaps a serious power vacuum throughout the region. Lebanon could very well be another Yemen, a proxy war between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

The Saudis recently had a significant change in power with the young Mohammed bin Salman being named Crown Prince, or the male heir to the throne, of Saudi Arabia. At the age of 32, he is fairly young for a world leader and may not be thoughtful in making significant foreign policy decisions.

The prince has been occu-

pled with the war in Yemen, but it should be mentioned that while he may seem assertive on foreign policy, he has a modern vision for the state of Saudi Arabia.

Bin Salman wants to remove the gender barriers that the Saudi kingdom is notorious for and return to a "moderate Islam," which is a giant victory for reformists in the West.

The United States will undoubtedly be involved in the cold war between Iran and Saudi Arabia. President Donald Trump's administration has been very pro-Saudi and anti-Iran.

It is in the national interest of the United States to have a peaceful Middle East.

The Houthis rebels in Yemen have nowhere near as much military strength as the Saudis who have the backing of the United States.

The conflict in Yemen, if anything, is hurting the civilian population severely. The Yemeni War should pretty much be a win for the Saudis, but the civilian population is being caught in the crossfire.

The United States should only cooperate with the Iranians and their allies, the Russians or Syrians, when they both are faced with a collective problem like terrorism or climate change.

The proxy war is not an instance of a collective problem. It is in U.S. national interest to minimize war and instability in the Middle East. It is also in U.S. interest to introduce pro-Western ideas to the Middle East, and the Saudis are the last nation to bring them.

Riyadh wields way more influence on the Muslim world as it is Sunni and it now has a fairly modern leader who is proposing Western ideas.

Reducing the influence of Iran

and Hezbollah also reduces the threat to another key ally of the United States, Israel, which is also very pro-Western.

The United States benefits far more by having an alliance with NATO, the European Union, Saudi Arabia and Israel than it would by allying with Iran, Russia and Syria. Both the Russians and Iranians have long been anti-United States and it would be ridiculous to side with them in the war.

The United States should increase defense and military capabilities relative to other states to ensure minimal risk to its citizens. In these times, when the United States is on the side of a conflict supporting its allies, there will always be somebody trying to do harm.

Because of the U.S. support for Saudi Arabia, there could be possible repercussions and the United States must do everything to reduce these contingencies.

In Lebanon, there is the potential of having another strategic ally in the Middle East which could curb the Iranian influence in the region. However, this does not mean that the United States should install a leader but rather it should let the Lebanese people decide.

It is highly unlikely to have a Hezbollah leader installed as the party has very little power in the parliament of Lebanon.

There is clearly a positive Western influence on the Middle East culturally, especially since the Arab Spring in 2011.

If the United States chooses to be neutral, there is a risk of having less influence and security for its allies in the Middle East and elsewhere in the future.

-Ahsan Mushtaq  
Political Science '20

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# ESSAY EDITING

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# Business

## Broadcom makes \$130 billion acquisition deal for Qualcomm

BY JAHVON MEADOWS  
BUSINESS EDITOR

Broadcom Limited announced its intention to purchase Qualcomm for \$130 billion, including debt. Broadcom, a semiconductor maker whose chips help power Apple's iPhones, offered \$70 a share in cash and stock for Qualcomm, the world's largest maker of mobile phone chips and Broadcom's rival. Purchasing Qualcomm would make Broadcom the world's third largest chipmaker, behind Intel Corp. and Samsung Electronics Co.

Broadcom would also become a major provider of essential components to build the more than a billion smartphones sold annually. If the deal is completed, it would be the largest deal in the history of the technology industry.

According to Bloomberg, "The combination of the two companies could generate strong synergies and create a dominant wireless business and overall powerful global semiconductor leader," said Mike Walkley, an analyst at Canaccord Genuity Group Inc.

However, Qualcomm is preparing to fight the bid. It argues that Broadcom has undervalued the company, and argues that the proposal is a push to purchase the firm cheaply. It wants to recommend that shareholders reject Broadcom's bid.

Hock Tan, CEO of Broadcom, appeared with President Donald Trump last week to announce his plans to move the company's legal headquarters from Singapore to the United States. Trump praised

the decision as an endorsement of his business-focused tax plan, calling Broadcom "one of the really, great, great companies," according to *The New York Times*.

However, with Broadcom's recent bid for Qualcomm, the real reason for Tan's announcement seems apparent. The deal will most likely receive regulatory approval with Broadcom now being based in the United States, and the company having Trump's support.

It is not as easy as it appears, though. Technology companies are under increased scrutiny as of late, being the focus of sexual harassment scandals and recent hearings by the Senate Intelligence Committee for their influence in the 2016 presidential election, among other unsavory topics. Trump has not expressed much support for foreign acquisitions either, which is what Broadcom is trying to achieve with this deal. Additionally, if Broadcom's deal was to be approved, it could open the path for other companies to try similar tactics in getting U.S. regulatory approval.

Nevertheless, analysts and investors have suggested that a merger between the two companies could still be "blocked on antitrust grounds or because Broadcom could still be considered a foreign company buying sensitive technology," *The New York Times* writes.

Tan and Broadcom have denied any relation between the Trump announcement and the Qualcomm bid, claiming that the timing was a mere coincidence. Broadcom stated publicly that its plan to move



WWW.WIKIMEDIA.ORG

Tan, Broadcom's CEO, has established a successful practice of buying chip franchises and selling the unprofitable sections.

its legal headquarters to the United States was a result of Republican efforts to overhaul the tax code, particularly the slashing of the corporate tax rate.

In an interview, Tan said, "We think very long term. What we perceive is that the business environment has steadily improved. As we want to grow our business in the long term, that makes it easier to choose to redomicile in the U.S. to sustain our growth trends."

Tan has long advocated for consolidation within the semiconductor business. Over the years, his strategy has involved purchasing established chip franchises with good profit margins, and selling off the parts that are not profitable. Growth by acquisition has become the norm in the chip-making industry.

The industry has largely matured, change has stagnated and companies have instead focused on price competition, which results in selling products at lower prices and overall lower profit margins. Tan's method has been to grow Broadcom by purchasing profitable, well-known companies and attempting to run said companies more efficiently, while also focusing on developing products that customers like Apple and Samsung want to buy.

However, this focus on consolidation has led to fears from regulators and analysts that the chip industry could become an oligopoly. For example, Broadcom has another bid, worth \$5.5 billion, for Brocade Communications Systems, currently awaiting national

security approval. Qualcomm itself is trying to acquire NXP Semiconductors for \$38.5 billion. Antitrust approval may become a major factor in the bid's survival. According to *The New York Times*, in January, the Federal Trade Commission brought charges against Qualcomm, accusing the chipmaker of "abusing its monopoly in certain chips to charge unreasonable rates to partners" including Apple. Whether Republican antitrust enforcers, assigned by Trump, will be more lenient is yet to be seen.

Qualcomm has stated that its board was weighing Broadcom's offer. Tan said that he would prefer a consensual deal, but went on to say that he would take whatever steps he felt were necessary to ensure his deal's success.

## AT&T-Time Warner deal violates antitrust laws, DOJ announces

BY FRANCIE ZELTSEY  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This week, Time Warner's share prices experienced a major decline after concerns surfaced about the entertainment giant's potential \$85 billion acquisition by AT&T.

The acquisition itself is no news: AT&T first announced its plans back in October 2016 with hopes of expanding its content ownership. However, the U.S. Department of Justice has taken interest in the deal before its finalization.

DOJ officials met with the chief executive officer of AT&T, Randall Stephenson, to discuss the implications of such an acquisition. Officials have said that they consider the deal to be in violation of antitrust laws.

Antitrust law regulators warned that they would block the deal under consensus that monopolization is taking place. Regulators also stated that they would approve the acquisition if AT&T agrees to sell off Time Warner's Turner Broadcasting division.

Controversy abounded over whether the DOJ is truly trying to protect fair competition by asking AT&T to sell Turner Broadcasting.

Because Turner Broadcasting owns CNN, the news network consistently derided as stating "fake news" by President Donald Trump, the pressure to sell it appears to be somewhat politically motivated.

Alternative options for AT&T include selling off its DirecTV service or other assets of Turner Broadcasting such as TBS, Cartoon Network and HLN.

As a conglomerate, AT&T puts a major emphasis on purchasing a diverse set of assets as part of its growth strategy. Because of this, AT&T is very reluctant to give up such major units of the

organization.

In a statement, Stephenson recently said that AT&T has no intention of giving up CNN. The DOJ, however, declined to respond to this comment.

When the Time Warner and AT&T deal was first made public, Trump referred to it as "a deal we will not approve in my administration because it's too much concentration of power in the hands of too few."

One of Trump's most viewed tweets concerning CNN is an edited video of him in a boxing ring punching an opponent with the network's logo in place of a human face.

AT&T claims that the DOJ is not concerned with carrying out justice, but rather acting in service of Trump who is personally biased against CNN.

Analysts argue that because the deal is a vertical merger, customers will benefit from it.

When a vertical merger occurs, a firm purchases a different stage of production that assists in its end goal.

By contrast, a horizontal merger works when a firm buys out its competition, creating one large firm with competitive advantage over smaller firms.

The firm benefits by reducing production costs and the consumers benefit because competitors will also find ways of improving their product costs.

In this case, Time Warner provides content, and AT&T is focused on distribution, so a vertical merger such as this is unlikely to be successfully opposed in court.

The goal of AT&T's acquisition is to give consumers the option of "TV-everywhere," a concept in the industry of being able to stream television on all of one's devices.



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AT&T claims that the Justice Department is politically, instead of morally, motivated in its opposition to the Time Warner deal.

While this concept has been around for years, there is no company that has provided such an appealing bundle deal to consumers.

AT&T hopes to reduce costs and other difficulties of its bundle program, thus sparking interest in other companies to create similar deals in order to level with AT&T.

Some question AT&T's persistence in keeping CNN. Critics believe it would be better for the company to avoid tension with the Trump administration. According to Stephenson, this would contradict the most attractive aspects of the deal.

In an interview, Stephenson described CNN as a sizable inventory provider that would complement AT&T's large data provider. Together, they could bring great advertising capabilities to a wide demographic. He also emphasized that AT&T was prepared to litigate this deal ever since the plan arose.

The main argument is that there is no overlap in competition because it is a vertical merger, and similar cases have not lost in court for over 40 years.

AT&T has a lot of evidence against the DOJ that supports the legitimacy of the potential deal.

However, the DOJ has had some successes blocking mergers in recent years.

According to CNBC, the DOJ, under former President Barack Obama's administration, teamed up with 11 states to challenge Anthem's \$54 billion acquisition of Cigna, and with eight states to block Aetna's \$37 billion deal for Humana. These deals were both canceled earlier this year.

If it is able to go through, the acquisition could cause a revolution in how consumers purchase and watch their programming.



# Chinese firm Tencent purchases 12 percent stake in Snap Inc.

BY KLAUDIA CZARNOCKA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In deciding to purchase a 12 percent holding in Snap Inc., developer of the popular smartphone application Snapchat, Tencent Holdings Limited has confused analysts and investors as to what its intentions are.

Analysts want to know what the investing holding conglomerate values in a company that has had a volatile stock price since its initial public offering, and has failed to meet investors' growth expectations. As of now, there is not much information as to what Tencent wants to do with Snap.

Generally, a transaction of this magnitude indicates a subsequent company takeover. However, the deal's circumstances and Tencent's relationship with Snap instead indicates a more amicable relationship between the two companies.

As a leading technology company in China, Tencent has encouraged Snap with its long success throughout the decades. As a result of Tencent's success and experience, it is likely that it will advise Snap in companywide matters.

This transaction also indicates that Tencent made a passive investment in Snap and intends on holding onto its ownership for a while. If it plans on doing that, the conglomerate is more than likely to remain cautious and take actions to assist Snap.

Since its IPO in March 2017, Snap has been struggling to satisfy its investors. Tencent was one of those investors, but the conglomerate's stake was small enough that it did not have to be disclosed according to the regulations implemented under the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Snap's stock price has fallen substantially in the past few months, but its fu-

ture may be more promising after Tencent's investment.

Ryan Forbes, a Baruch College student who studies finance, has expressed his thoughts on Tencent's actions by saying, "It's unclear to me how Tencent will help Snapchat, not to mention the time frame in which this would happen," he said. "However, I do know that the two companies will develop a good relationship through which both of them will benefit."

Tencent owns 145.8 million Class A shares in Snap, but these shares are devoid of voting rights. Ninety-five percent of the company's voting rights are reserved for the two co-founders of Snap, Evan Spiegel and Bobby Murphy.

The pair seem to be looking forward to possibly developing a close relationship with Tencent, which the company has expressed an enthusiastic attitude toward.

Whether this relationship turns into a business partnership depends on the quality and amount of advice and effort that Tencent provides Snap. If a partnership develops, the time and energy Tencent will devote to assisting Snap may mean the conglomerate could see a larger share of control in the young company and its profits.

However, uncertainty surrounds the frequent deals made between U.S. and Chinese firms. In the last five years, Chinese companies such as Tencent and Alibaba Group Holding Limited have participated in various deals to obtain ownership of U.S. companies, as they try to move cash out of the country and invest in diverse industries. Tencent alone has completed approximately 50 similar transactions. This recent purchase of Snap shares may simply be another acquisition deal of this type.

Tencent also has stakes in companies like Tesla, Inc. and Lyft.



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Tencent's success with its popular mobile messaging app, WeChat, may influence its decisions regarding how it advises Snap.

Chinese companies are forced to go through additional screenings whenever they wish to pursue these kinds of business transactions. Their proposals are evaluated by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, whose chairman is President Donald Trump.

Other members of the committee include representatives from other government agencies, such as the DOJ or the U.S. Department of Defense.

To surmise what Tencent might have in store for Snap, one can look at some of Tencent's products. One of the firm's most successful products is a messaging app called WeChat, which is used by approximately 980 million users today.

The app incorporates instant messaging, video games, monetary transfers and other features that

attract a diverse market. In its latest filing to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Tencent has impressed investors by beating their revenue expectations. The net profit in Tencent's last quarter is \$18 million, exceeding the expectations of six different analysts polled by Thomson Reuters Corporation. This success was mainly due to the conglomerate's business division of mobile games.

The WeChat app is used quite frequently by its users. Tencent reports that one-third of the time spent on a mobile device is on WeChat. One of the reasons why Chinese users utilize the app so frequently is because of its versatility.

On WeChat, one can chat with a friend, shop and pay online, play games with friends, pay a utility bill or even order a cab. All the different applications, coupled with the

app's user friendliness have contribute to the company's overall success.

Snap's app, Snapchat, allows users to share pictures and videos that are designed to erase themselves after a set period of time. The app also provides users with stories from content creators that they could watch to keep updated on new trends or events.

Snapchat's main competitors are Facebook and Instagram. In order to compete with these companies, Snap is thinking of changing the current app's user interface to be more user friendly and incorporate algorithms.

The algorithms would assist users by showing them stories that may interest them. This would be a similar approach to those taken by Facebook and Twitter over the last few years.

# Apple reportedly working on AR headset to succeed iPhone in 2020

BY JAHVON MEADOWS  
BUSINESS EDITOR

Apple Inc. is reportedly working on a revolutionary new product designed to succeed its popular iPhone. According to Bloomberg, the company is working toward developing the technology for an augmented reality headset by 2019 and the product itself could be finished and shipped to potential customers as early as 2020.

Current generation virtual reality headsets, such as the Samsung Gear VR and the Google Daydream View headset, generally require the use of a separate smartphone as both an engine and a screen for the device.

However, unlike its contemporaries, Apple's new augmented reality headset will not require a smartphone. It will instead have its own display, a new micro processing chip and an operating system distinct from other Apple products, currently referred to as "rOS" or "reality operating system." Apple's engineers are also working on numerous ways users could control the headset, such as head gestures, touch panels and through the Siri voice assistant.

When they first unveiled the iPhone X in September, Apple CEO Tim Cook called it "the future of the smartphone," according to *Newsweek*. But it appears that he is looking even further than that, to new technologies, as evidenced by his statement in an earnings report that augmented reality would "change the way we use technology forever."

Augmented reality and VR are often confused for each other. VR immerses one in a digital world, while augmented reality overlays images, objects and information over the real world. The poten-

tial for augmented reality could be enormous, including everything from a sports fan seeing stats while watching a game, to a medical professional seeing common symptoms for various diseases. Companies like startup Meta have already developed headsets for potential education and medical applications.

Cook has praised augmented reality in earning calls and on "Good Morning America," according to Bloomberg.

"We're already seeing things that will transform the way you work, play, connect and learn," he said in the most recent call. "Put simply, we believe AR is going to change the way we use technology forever." Apple has displayed an interest in augmented reality technology for some time now.

The company built a team focused on developing augmented reality related products a few years ago. Headed by Mike Rockwell, who used to run engineering at Dolby Labs, the team now consists of several hundred engineers from across Apple.

The augmented reality team's first product was ARKit, a collection of tools that allowed independent software developers to create augmented reality applications for the newest iPhones and iPads.

These applications could utilize the devices' screens, cameras and processors to create virtual 3-D interfaces for a myriad of activities, including online shopping, gaming and education. The ARKit project was meant to be a transitional step, to allow Apple's engineers to test their augmented reality technology on an existing project.

However, the main goal of creating a headset with a built-in display capable of streaming 3-D video without draining the battery is a



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Apple, Facebook and other large technology companies see augmented reality as the logical replacement for smartphones.

much more monumental undertaking. In an interview with *The Independent*, Cook expressed similar sentiment, stating, "Anything you would see on the market any time soon would not be something any of us would be satisfied with."

According to Bloomberg, in reference to the challenge of creating displays, Apple's Chief Design Officer Jony Ive said at a tech panel last month, "There are certain ideas that we have and we are waiting for the technology to catch up with the idea."

Apple is not the only company interested in the potential application of augmented reality. Google debuted the unsuccessful Google Glass headset years ago and Face-

book CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced at the company's F8 developer conference his intention to make Facebook and other applications available through augmented reality.

Instead of sticking to its arguably core product of messaging, Facebook has grander ambitions for augmented reality, including replacing common household appliances with augmented reality equivalents, according to *Newsweek*. "Think about how many of the things around us don't actually need to be physical," Zuckerberg told *The New York Times*. "Instead of a \$500 TV sitting in front of us, what's to keep us from one day having it be a \$1 app?"

The technology that will power Apple's new AR headset will be specially designed for the headset. The company is designing its own chip for the headset, instead of relying on a supplier.

The chip will be similar to the "system-on-a-package" component in the Apple Watch, which can both squeeze components such as graphics processors, AI chips and CPUs into a smaller area compared to standard processors, while consuming less power.

Other factors, like how users will control the headset and launch apps and whether the headset should get its own version of the Apple App Store have not been decided as of yet.



# Arts & Style

## Swift's *Reputation* rebrands the artist's previous work, sound

BY ESTELLE SAAD  
STAFF WRITER

Taylor Swift's new album, *Reputation*, was released on Nov. 10 and was predicted to break records since its release announcement.

The album, which is Swift's first in three years, has been causing a buzz on social media and is reported to have sold 717,000 albums on its first day. The album marks Swift's full embrace of modern pop.

Swift kept her fans in the dark leading up to her new album, declining interviews and limiting her online presence to cryptic Instagram posts.

Her single "Look What You Made Me Do," which was released in August, gave listeners a preview of what was to come from Swift in the future, claiming that the "old Taylor is dead."

The following album was long-awaited, which added to the excitement and anticipation of fans leading up to its release.

In a letter she shared with her fans, Swift wrote, "We think we know someone, but the truth is that we only know the version of them they have chosen to show us. There will be no further explanation. There will only be reputation."

According to the pop singer, her album focuses on revealing the real her to the world.

Swift's new songs are much edgier than her old ones. The singer has been trying to break away from what people expect of her, to go against what her reputation, so to speak, demands from her.

For one, Swift has never sworn

in her music before, and she sings her first curse word in "I Did Something Bad," saying "If a man talks shit / Then I owe him nothing."

Swift embraces electronic and rhythm and blues tropes much more than she has before. The sweet and pure pop side of her is dead and in her place is a colder pop and R&B player.

Swift's new album is vengeful and aggressive, and she focuses a lot on lust, loss and revenge.

Though *Reputation* is much darker than her usual style, the same passion and narrative Swift has always put in are present. Each song is still about an experience that Swift has had and fans are trying to decipher each one.

The songs in this album focus on Swift's rivalry with Kanye West, as well as ex-boyfriends Calvin Harris and Tom Hiddleston.

The album focuses on Swift as a person and how she deals with people's expectations of her. Before, she seemed reliant on the numerous boyfriends she had and wrote about.

In her new work, the singer is the one in control. "New Year's Day" is the last song in the album, with this track signaling that Swift has found herself through the process of trying to come to terms with and understanding her reputation.

Swift and her team have done away with the clean lines and stiff beats of the singer's previous album *1989* for the most part, replacing them with songs with loud clashes, as well as trendy production elements.

The ballad style that Swift usu-



FRAZER HARRISON | GETTY IMAGES

Swift erased a lot of her social media presence in preparation for her new edgy music in the album, *Reputation*.

ally sticks to is forgotten in this album and is replaced with more mainstream pop elements. The shift toward synthetic pop that Swift began in *1989*, is in full force with *Reputation*.

This album is definitely more risqué than any of Swift's previous works. She sings about topics such as cheating on her boyfriend with lyrics such as "I only bought this dress so you can take it off," which is part of the song "Dress."

The album features some of Swift's friends as well. "End Game" features Future and Ed Sheeran. Additionally, the voice of Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds' daughter is featured at the start of "Gorgeous."

Although Swift's new style is radically different from what it used to be and is catchy, what many really admired and enjoyed about the singer's music is how it was unlike anything else on the radio. This element was lost in *Reputation*.

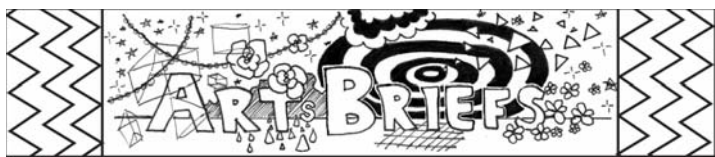
Also, fans enjoy her ballads and there were none of these on the new album. The record was extremely overhyped, and was only so because of the large gap of time between her last album and her new one.

*Reputation* sounds like a typical pop album, not unique to Swift and the style people have come to know and love from her. The album lacks the emotions and substance that Swift's songs usually have.

*Reputation* includes 15 songs and was not available for streaming the first week that it was released.

Industry experts are anticipating 1.5 million copies of *Reputation* to sell in the first week, presuming the album to potentially be the year's best-selling album in only one week. *Reputation* did not just earn a huge sum; it has already collected the largest sales week of 2017.

The album was only available in physical copy, iTunes and on iHeartRadio within the first week of its release, which may be extended. This is Swift's sixth album and it is her fifth album primed to debut at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 albums chart.



COMPILED BY MAXIM IBADOV

British soul singer Sam Smith achieved his first No. 1 album in the United States with his sophomore longplay *The Thrill of It All*. Maroon 5 collects its sixth top 10 album as *Red Pill Blues* bows at No. 2. Country star and "The Voice" coach Blake Shelton arrives at No. 4 with his latest album, *Texoma Shore*.

The record marks Shelton's 11th top 10 album, as well as the eighth consecutive year in which he has debuted at least one new album on the chart.

*Hamilton* creator Lin-Manuel Miranda will reprise his performance as the founding father Alexander Hamilton in the upcoming production of the Broadway hit musical in his home island of Puerto Rico.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art revealed the theme for the Met Gala in 2018—"Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination." Conceived to create a dialogue regarding the complex relationship between religious art and fashion, the exhibition will pivot around the papal garbs on loan from the Sistine Chapel sacristy, many of which have never been seen outside the Vatican.

Comedian Louis C.K. confessed to engaging in sexual misconduct after five women came forward and accused him of inappropriate behavior regarding masturbation. His statement came after various media companies cut

ties with him and a film distributor canceled the release of his upcoming comedy film.

The huge information leak of Paradise Papers has revealed that many celebrities including Bono, Madonna, Martha Stewart, Harvey Weinstein, Nicole Kidman and Shakira are avoiding taxes by hiding their investments in various offshore companies.

In honor of her portrayal of *The Washington Post* publisher Katharine Graham in Steven Spielberg's upcoming film *The Post*, three-time Oscar winner Meryl Streep will appear on the cover of *Vogue's* December issue.

Ahead of its closing on Dec. 31, Britney Spears' sold-out residency *Piece of Me* earned the pop princess Best Resident Performer, Best Production Show, Best Bachelorette Party and Best Bachelor Party at the Best of Las Vegas 2017 Awards.

In a highly unprecedented move, director Ridley Scott and Sony Pictures have announced the removal of Kevin Spacey from an already finished film, *All the Money in the World*. Following the sexual assault allegations against Spacey, the production team has decided to recast Christopher Plummer for the role of J. Paul Getty and reshoot all of Spacey's old scenes before the film's release on Dec. 22.

## Chris Robinson Brotherhood develops unique identity in Port Chester show

BY LUIS LUCERO  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

When it comes to both blues rock and Southern rock, one of the biggest bands in both genres were The Black Crowes.

For 25 years, the band brought to the table a sound that fused together the best elements of Led Zeppelin, The Allman Brothers Band and Lynyrd Skynyrd, among others, complete with live shows that turned the rock band into one of the most popular jam bands in the country.

While The Black Crowes' lineup changed multiple times during their existence, the only consistent members were the two volatile brothers who started the band, Chris and Rich Robinson, on vocals and guitar, respectively.

Shortly before the band broke up in 2015, the former started a new side project based in San Francisco, called the Chris Robinson Brotherhood. Its sound was also based around blues rock, but unlike The Black Crowes, this new band mixed it with elements of psychedelic music.

When The Black Crowes finally split up, the Brotherhood became Chris Robinson's new full-time band, releasing five studio albums over five years, with the most recent one, *Barefoot in the Head*, released in July.

One stop of the Chris Robinson Brotherhood's latest U.S. tour was at the popular Capitol Theatre in Port Chester, New York. While the band's tours usually do not have an opening act, this one show in particular had a unique pre-show prepared.

In the nearby Grateful Dead-themed bar Garcia's, a conversation took place in a packed house

with Chris, Rabbi Dan Ains and *Relix Magazine's* Mike Greenhaus.

The topics addressed were largely based around the intersectionality of music and spirituality, with Chris throwing in his own experiences about growing up in Atlanta and about his time in both The Black Crowes and the Brotherhood.

While this is not what one would typically expect any artist to do before a show, the fact that both the band and the venue offered it to the fans as a bonus with their regular admission was a nice gesture and the perfect setup for a night of psychedelic blues.

An hour and a half later, the main set finally started in the theater.

In addition to Chris on lead vocals and rhythm guitar, the Brotherhood also consists of Neal Casal on lead guitar, former Black Crowes member Adam MacDougall on keyboard, Jeff Hill on bass guitar and Tony Leone on drums.

Like any other jam band, the Brotherhood never plays the same set list twice in concert. While certain songs appear frequently during the tour, their placement varies from venue to venue.

The shows themselves also vary in length, with the Capitol Theatre show clocking in at two and a half hours, longer when one counts the 40-minute intermission.

As a testament to how much time and effort Chris has placed in the Brotherhood, 11 original songs are present in the set list, with five coming from the new album.

The band also performed covers of songs by Waylon Jennings, Slim Harpo and even John Lennon, among others. As for Robinson's former band, "I Ain't Hiding" was the only Black Crowes song

performed, off their final album *Before the Frost...Until the Freeze*, again showing how far he has come as an artist since that band broke up.

While both sets were filled with a hefty amount of jamming, this seemed to be more prevalent in the first set rather than the second, which was based more around playing new material.

As for the jams themselves, the Brotherhood members knew when to draw the line between showing off their skills and overstaying their welcome during a song.

They seemed to augment rather than detract from the music and they were always in tune to whatever vibe was being set by the song. The end result was a band that managed to stand on its own merits, escaping the shadow of The Black Crowes.

What made the show even more unique that night was that it was also being livestreamed in its entirety on YouTube, as with a lot of shows staged at the Capitol Theatre.

Considering that the fan bases of jam bands were primarily built around fans trading recordings of various full-length shows among themselves, one could view this as the modern equivalent to this classic tradition.

While it is not a direct follow-up to The Black Crowes, the Chris Robinson Brotherhood keeps the spirit of that band going with a brand new group of musicians.

Considering that his brother, Rich, is gearing up his new touring band, The Magpie Salute, to record its anticipated debut album, it seems that the public's appetite for more music from The Black Crowes is being sated by two separate spiritual successors.



# BPAC's Shakespeare update showcases Baruch artistic talents

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Add to that Antonio Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" and Felix Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" concert overture, and the audience is welcomed into the world of a production that promises to be uplifting and joyful.

The play centers around four lovers who are engaged in a peculiar love mess. Hermia, portrayed by Sendie Brunard, and Lysander, portrayed by Tomas Anderson, are in love and want to be together forever.

Hermia's father, Egeus, played by Michael Schulz, desires his child to marry Demetrius, played by Paul Terry, who is also madly in love with Hermia.

To add on to that, Helena, Hermia's friend portrayed by Elizabeth Elking, is crazy for Demetrius. This makes for a perfect recipe for a traditional romantic comedy, but only with some of the finest writing in English literature.

In order to escape Egeus, Hermia and Lysander elope into the woods, where they are chased by Demetrius and Helena. Little do the characters know that they are not alone there.

The woods also serve as a rehearsal space for local theater company the Mechanicals, led by the flamboyant director Peter Quince, played by jazzy Baruch alumnus Penny Lane.

The woods are also ruled by an eccentric royal fairy couple in the middle of a spousal crisis.

King Oberon and Queen Titania are having a fight about who is more loyal. In order to win the argument, Oberon hires his right-hand assistant Puck, portrayed by Patrick Jay, to put a spell on his wife to fall in love with an animal, as well as make Demetrius fall in love with Helena.



JULIAN TINEO | THE TICKER

Scott gives a contemporary spin to a Shakespeare classic about a trippy love story gone haywire played out to an '80s playlist.

But there would be no comedy if Puck were a diligent and honest employee, and through his wicked machinations and mix-ups, the forest turns into a circus.

Working on arguably Shakespeare's funniest comedy, Scott garnishes the cake with rapid transitions that do not let the audience catch their breath for even a second.

This production is galloping like cursed donkeys into the wilderness of Shakespeare's iambic pentameter. At times, chasing every possible laugh hurts the mellifluous language of the world's most celebrated literary genius, but the fact that every joke comes out naturally makes up for the sometimes lost

linguistic beauty.

The show is really driven by the passionate work of the well-put-together ensemble. The show opens with Nick Gonzalez casually strutting down the stage in tiny tennis shorts.

From those very shorts to the occasional nipple slip in the Prince-inspired garment, Scott never fails to sexualize Gonzalez's characters, which the audience thankfully indulges into.

Gonzalez completely owns the stage in his scenes as both charming Oberon and Theseus, working it as if he is a cat ready to hunt a mouse. This is reminiscent of his last year's performance in *Blood Wedding*.

Gonzalez's palpable yet restrained chemistry with Leslie Ivery's Titania and Hippolyta, with her piercing eyes and grace, perfectly balances out the erratic and hormonal outbursts of the young lovers.

Anderson and Terry portray foils in a frenzied race first for Hermia, then for Helena. They dig for grotesque masculinity, which comes out almost caricature-like and provides the sharpest laughs of the night.

Brunard, in her Baruch debut, provides the emotional barometer for the whole quartet, as her googly-eyed, naïve character is the sunshine of the production. But it is Elkind as Helena who actu-

ally steals the show every time her character jumps on stage.

As crazy and wild as her hair, Elkind's raw, bestial portrayal is borderline psychotic and delicious to watch. When she tries to seduce Demetrius, the temperature in the room shoots through the roof.

Yet the driving force of Scott's production is the underhand and mischievous Puck.

He is one of the most beloved characters in the Shakespearean catalog, and Jay portrays him as a punk-rock soloist straight out of a garage band who is ready to conquer the world.

He dances around the stage like nobody is watching and climbs the construction poles with the ease of a monkey and the speed of a puma.

The scene when Puck transforms Nick Bottom, one of the Mechanicals, into a donkey and throws the entire show into frenzy manifests Jay's ability to show off his best comedic chops even when there is a complete chaos on stage.

Radcliff Reid, who portrays Bottom, is able to carry his status as an ass of the joke with true Shakespearean comic pride. Reid is also the most effective one from the whole cast at delivering Shakespeare's linguistic imagery and capturing his character's transformations in an ingenious manner.

The FPA has not done a Shakespeare production for a very long time. It is a hard to find a work by the great writer that would fit this school. Scott's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is a perfect play for a school that does not always give its artistic community the credit it deserves.

*A Midsummer Night's Dream* is fresh, funny and achieves at great lengths to both demonstrate the creative potential of Baruch's students and attract other students to see more of what BPAC has to offer.

## Murder on the Orient Express delivers opulence without substance



BENJAMIN WALLIN

Kenneth Branagh's *Murder on the Orient Express*, an adaptation of the classic Agatha Christie novel, is enjoyable although, at times, the film feels like it does not fully realize what it set out to accomplish.

The ensemble cast is full of big names, including actors renowned for their work in theater and film. Set in the titular train, the story tells of an investigation conducted by the great detective Hercule Poirot, played by the director Branagh himself, who sports a ridiculously bushy mustache.

The film is set in the year 1934, the same year as the source novel was published. The timing is felt in the lavish European train, the politics hinted at and the racial tensions touched on in the film.

Branagh's direction revels in refinery, with the piano of the soundtrack complementing the dark wood and gentle lighting of the Orient Express' first class cars.

The characters are many, resulting in a small allocation of time for each, yet the plot's pace works well with this.

There are 12 suspects in the case, each one slowly revealed to have a motive for the murder and an alibi to escape it.

In the briskness of interviewing the characters, there are issues of race brought up that are barely touched on yet not given a fair amount of time to be dealt with

satisfactorily.

In the large cast, there are a few characters that stand out. Daisy Ridley gets plenty of time to verbally spar with Branagh, building off her Star Wars success with a performance that feels like that of a star actress.

Michelle Pfeiffer makes much of her screen time, as does Josh Gad with his, each mixing dread, suspicion, anger and fear into their individual performances.

Branagh is the highlight of the movie. He is strange and meticulous, possibly having obsessive-compulsive disorder, to the point of stepping into a pile of dung with one shoe to balance out the filthiness of the other.

The minutiae that he perceives is akin to that of the title character of BBC's "Sherlock," speaking quickly to impress audiences with a detail that does not escape his notice.

The strongest issue that *Murder on the Orient Express* deals with is its inclusion of external detail. This is not the type of mystery that can be solved based on the clues presented, as there are continually more points made relevant to the narrative that no viewer could have guessed by going in to the film without outside information.

Every time Poirot makes a discovery purely based on the fact that he knows the details of another murder case, there is a reminiscence of the frustrations felt by Truman Capote's character in the film *Murder by Death*.

In the final scene in that lampoon of detective films, the man complains, "You've tricked and fooled your readers for years. You've tortured us all with surprise endings that made no sense. You've introduced characters in the last five pages that were never in the book before. You've withheld clues

and information that made it impossible for us to guess who did it."

There is a weakness in the movie's sense of humor. There are some pleasant light jokes, but the film does not offer much else.

With Branagh's outstanding mustache in frame for most of *Orient Express*, it is unclear how his movie can take itself as seriously as it does.

There are attempts to delve into the essence of humanity, into race barriers and big questions of morality, but these ideas are never fully realized. Instead they struggle to balance against the bizarreness of Poirot's mustache being covered by a mask while the detective sleeps.

The camerawork and visuals are where *Orient Express* truly excels. Stunning shots of scenery include snowy landscapes by day and the beautiful contrasts in the sky

by sunset.

Utilizing the constraints of a train's physical limitations, the camera is placed within, without and above the hallways of the train cars, capturing scenes from various angles.

Most noticeable in the cinematography is a tracking shot that moves outside of the Orient Express, following Branagh along as he steps past a bustle of activity.

At times, the deductions feel like they are coming too fast, as if barreling ahead like a train, trying to break through holes in logic. It is in these moments, when the detective's words come out quickly, rushing through assumptions and revelations, that they become less trustworthy.

This "Sherlock" style of information delivery can only be utilized for so long before it becomes

unbelievable.

The film is by no means a waste of time and yet, it has a sense of something missing. With the novel having come out 83 years ago, the twist ending is not something unknown, and the film does not diverge much from that surprise. Advertising that suggests viewers will not see the end coming is missing the possibility of people reading the book first.

The film's beauty and opulence notwithstanding, the purpose of this new adaptation is unclear.

Even though it is a fine film, *Murder on the Orient Express* is far from the best film out in theaters now.

Instead, reading the book may suffice, followed by a hearty laugh at the thing Branagh wears on his face during the course of the entire investigation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLA DOVE

Branagh plays Poirot, the meticulous and mustachioed detective attempting to solve a murder aboard the Orient Express.



# Lanthimos unsettles viewers with *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*

BY CHARLES TABASSO  
STAFF WRITER

About halfway through *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*, Barry Keoghan bites off more of his own forearm than he can chew. Before spitting himself out, he claims this is all “metaphorical.”

On top of making everyone in the audience laugh nervously, it is precisely at this moment that the audience realizes the director, Yorgos Lanthimos, is not pulling any punches, despite how he telegraphed *Sacred Deer's* symbolism.

Imagine the most macabre public service announcement that might compare to the moral ballpark of *Sacred Deer's* message — like Mentos and Coke, heavy drinking and heart surgery should not be mixed.

Apparently some surgeons have to learn this the hard way, by way of sacrificing a member of their family before a strange, inexplicable curse cripples, starves and horrifically kills everyone they love.

This is what Dr. Steven Murphy, played by Colin Farrell, is propositioned to do by the son of one of his late patients. What follows is less an act of revenge on the part of Keoghan's Martin than a twisted web of cosmic justice that every character is caught in.

Having taken the child under his wing as a means of reparation, this relationship is the catalyst for Murphy's only chance at redemption. Martin has clung to him ever since the death of his father, practically imprinting onto Murphy as a father figure.

His mother is no different, hilariously so. But if hell hath no fury like a woman scorned, then there must be a baser dimension even more terrifying for shunning a bastard child. Martin quickly overstays his welcome in the family's house

and the minute Murphy tries to cut ties with him, the Murphy estate descends into madness.

Murphy must come to terms with his past at the rest of his family's expense: his family is the collateral. What difference does one's relationship to a patient make when their recklessness is ultimately responsible for another's untimely death?

Blood is blood, a pound is a pound, and in effect Murphy is forced to make the same mistake twice, only now so painfully aware of his actions that it incapacitates his ability to perform. The final metaphor of the film hinges on this indecisiveness.

Understandably there are very few actual jokes in *Sacred Deer*

because Lanthimos is not playing around. Like his characters, it is the absolute seriousness of his tone that evokes much of the film's humor.

The only laughs are from how uncomfortable he makes his audience feel without actually making them leave in disgust.

This is not so much walking the tightrope of good taste as somersaulting over the Grand Canyon of what is palatable.

This self-awareness is a defining feature when compared to chief inspirations like an intersection between the cosmic horror of *It Follows*, the sound design and oppressive atmosphere of *The Witch* and the brutality of *Funny Games*.

*Sacred Deer* often feels like the

embodiment of a Shepard tone, the auditory illusion that gave *Dunkirk's* soundtrack its unnerving edge, where synchronized octaves fade in and out and loop around like the colors of a barber's pole, turning a crescendo into an almost unbearably anticlimactic score.

Lanthimos' ability to provoke such debilitating discomfort stems from his timing. His camera stalks the main characters and lingers, almost predatorily at times, overhead.

The cinematography consistently reinforces the psychological horror that makes *Sacred Deer* so fun to watch and is at times its most unsettling feature. This is something best demonstrated in Lanthimos' submission to *The New*

*York Times' "Anatomy of a Scene,"* where it is revealed that entire scenes were indeed shot in reverse.

This camera trick was consistently used and used well, with the jerky movements and dubbed over audio working perfectly together to turn the characters into helpless marionettes.

Only Murphy moves freely through the prison of his household. Being the one who must sacrifice a family member, how little Farrell's character develops becomes a facet of his robotic personality.

But once it is clear how and why Murphy's beautiful hands could be the cause of Martin's father's premature death, the state of his own family calls to mind other horrendous forms of medical malpractice.

Imagine a brain surgeon who mistakenly lobotomizes a patient, or an ambulance driver crashing into an old elementary school. Once one removes the unintentional aspect of these mistakes, they become just as premeditated as Martin's proposal to put down a family member.

The moral of Lanthimos' film takes shape: you would not, under any circumstance, spin around a room with a loaded hunting rifle and start firing randomly at your loved ones.

Yet that is the sort of damage an inebriated medical professional is truly capable of. As extreme as that sounds, the aforementioned circumstances prove this, in fact, to be undeniably true.

Without question, *Sacred Deer* has the muscle memory needed to find its way around the workings of Lanthimos' brain without stumbling. Audiences should prepare themselves to be the most uncomfortable one could ever feel in a room full of other equally disturbed people.



JIMA (ATSUSHI NISHIJIMA) | A24

Farrell plays Murphy, a doctor who faces repercussions for a surgery performed while inebriated in *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*.

## MTV Europe Music Awards celebrate finest achievements in music this year

BY MAXIM IBADOV  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

On the night of Nov. 12, the world of music escaped Hollywood and flew to London, where the 23rd annual MTV Europe Music Awards was hosted at the SSE Arena in Wembley. As expected, the 2017 EMAs did not disappoint.

The ceremony was opened by Eminem, who presented his new single “Walk on Water.” The song features Beyoncé, who could not attend the ceremony, so her vocal part was performed live by Eminem's frequent collaborator Skylar Grey. In a heartfelt performance, Eminem and Grey set the tone for the night, as they were accompanied by the contagious energy of the fans.

The awards show was hosted by Rita Ora, who stole the night even before the ceremony began. The British singer and actress arrived at the red carpet wearing a Palomo Spain white bathrobe, a head towel and \$7.8 million worth of jewelry on her neck, ears and feet. Ora went on to perform two of her most recent hits, “Your Song” and “Anywhere,” during the show and even snatched a special Power of the Music Award.

The most triumphant musician of the night was 19-year-old Canadian heartthrob Shawn Mendes. While the current chart destroyer Taylor Swift had the most nominations, Mendes ruled the night with four wins for Best Artist, Best Canadian Artist, Biggest Fans and Best Song for “There's Nothing Holdin' Me Back.”

Absentee Kendrick Lamar continued his streak of avalanche successes by taking the awards for Best U.S. Act and Best Video for “HUMBLE,” warming up for his

expected sweep at the upcoming Grammys.

Jared Leto of Thirty Seconds to Mars, which took home the award for Best Alternative Act, presented the legendary rock machine U2 with the Global Icon Award. The rock gods, lead by Bono, performed their newest single “Get Out of Your Own Way” from their upcoming album *Songs of Experience*, with the grit and power only U2 has.

With the exception of Eminem and U2, the show was lacking the starstruck power of its U.S. analog and was dominated by the newcomers and young performers like Mendes. Dua Lipa won Best New Act and Hailee Steinfeld took home the award for Best Push Artist.

Former One Direction member Liam Payne smoothed his way onto the stage with his top 10 hit “Strip That Down,” followed by newly elected queen of radio Camila Cabello.

Cabello stopped the show with the most colorful and vibrant number of the night “Havana,” a love letter to the city of Cabello's birth. The singer mamboed her way across the stadium in a red jumpsuit and did not lose her energy for even a second. She later returned when honored with the Best Pop Act award.

Electronic house group Clean Bandit teamed up with Zara Larsson, Julia Michaels and Anne-Marie for an orchestral medley of their respective chart toppers “Symphony,” “I Miss You” and “Rockabye,” in a beautiful message of internationality. Larsson is Swedish, Michaels is American and Anne-Marie is British.

Hip hop artists from the United States brought futuristic swagger



GETTY IMAGES

Eminem opens the 2017 EMAs with his newest single, “Walk on Water.”

with Travis Scott's “Butterfly Effect” and French Montana came together with Swae Lee to perform “Unforgettable.”

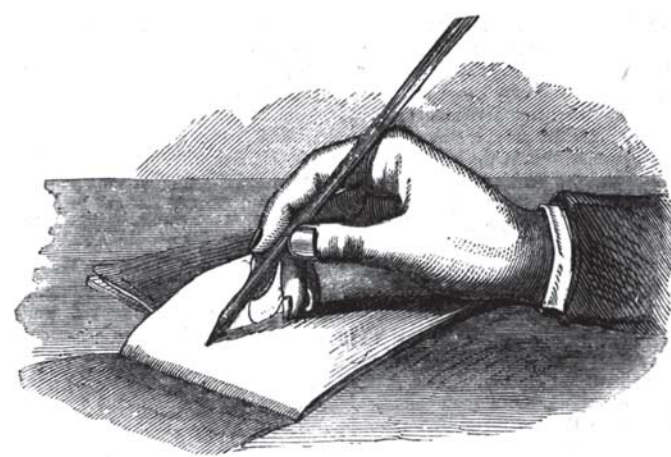
Demi Lovato took the stage with her hits “Sorry Not Sorry” and “Tell Me You Love Me,” demonstrating that her new lifestyle, as seen in her new documentary, has positively affected her vocal abilities.

Ke\$ha returned to the EMA spotlight seven years after taking home the award for Best New Artist, when she performed her breakthrough hit “Tik Tok.”

This year, the songstress demonstrated a complete transformation with a Bowie-esque rendition of “Learn to Let Go,” an inspirational anthem that emblemizes her experience as well as her new musical style.

David Guetta, who won the award for Best Electronic Act, closed the show with “Dirty Sexy Money,” for which he was joined by French Montana and Charli XCX. Scoring a potential club hit, the trio left the ecstatic audience on a high note, leaving the world anxiously waiting for another year of the EMAs.

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# NEW YORK'S FIRST BOOZY ICE CREAM PARLOR DEBUTS HOLIDAY SUNDAES

Brick walls, a neon sign and a couple of bar stools in a 300-square-foot space at 217 E 26th St. make up Topsy Scoop, New York's first boozy ice cream parlor. The small shop would be easy to miss if one did not look carefully, but its size is no big deal for Melissa Tavss, the founder of Topsy Scoop, who says the shop sees around 500 people over just the weekend. Three years ago, Tavss launched Topsy Scoop primarily to cater events with her homemade recipes. "The inspiration came from some of my favorite cocktails," Tavss said of her unique recipes. "My favorite is the Cake Batter Martini."

Photos by Angel Torres

BY TAFANNUM RAHMAN  
ARTS & STYLE EDITOR

Topsy Scoop, located just a short walk from Baruch College, opened its doors to intrigued customers this past May. Fusing a bar theme with an ice cream store, the "barlour," as it is also called, looks like anything but a typical ice cream shop. Tavss runs Topsy Scoop with about 15 staff members who work between the company's production facility in East Harlem and the parlor in Kips Bay.

Topsy Scoop's menu consists of flavors such as Spiked Hazelnut Coffee, Red Velvet Martini, Vanilla Bean Bourbon and Strawberry White Sangria Sorbet. The flavors taste just as good as they sound.

All the flavors fall just below 5 percent alcohol by volume, which can be compared to a light beer and a proper ID is required to purchase the ice cream. The flavors can also be found in supermarkets such as Whole Foods and Morton Williams. Additionally, Topsy Scoop hosts free tastings at supermarkets and food markets.

Raspberry Limoncello Sorbet, Mango Margarita Sorbet, Spiked Mint Chocolate and Tequila Mexican "Hot" Chocolate are some of the most popular classic flavors. These flavors, among others, are part of the 'Flight of 4,' which is a set of four shot glasses with a scoop of any flavor in each, topped with a thin coating of chocolate and sprinkles around the rim. The 'Flight of 4' costs \$11, but is \$8 during happy hour between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays.

The Raspberry Limoncello Sorbet tastes a lot like raspberry lemonade with a slightly watery consistency and has barely any taste of alcohol, making it the perfect treat for a hot summer day. The Mango Margarita Sorbet is a delight for margarita lovers, as it tastes exactly like a mango margarita, with the alcohol being more prevalent in this flavor than in the Raspberry Limoncello. All the sorbets Topsy Scoop offers are completely dairy-free and vegan, a perfect option for those who are lactose intolerant.

Perfectly minty and perfectly spiked, the Spiked Mint Chocolate Chip leaves the taste buds tingling for more. The Mexican "Hot" Chocolate flavor is a chocolate lover's dream, as it is rich and creamy with just the right kick of the taste of tequila. The parlor also offers boozy ice cream sandwiches and cone bowls, along with seasonal flavors.

Tavss is ready to kick off the holiday season with six new limited edition boozy ice creams and sorbets. They are available in stores and for nationwide shipping via [www.goldbely.com/topsy-scoop](http://www.goldbely.com/topsy-scoop). The six limited edition seasonal flavors are Candy Cane Vodka Martini, Santa's Cookies & Whiskey, Blood Orange Champagne Sparkler, Drunken Gingerbread Man, Spiced Eggnog and Boozy Bananas Foster.

Candy Cane Vodka Martini is ice cream infused with candy cane-flavored vodka, bejeweled with bits of peppermint candy. Santa's Cookies & Whiskey is made of whiskey-infused ice cream blended with cookie crumbles. Blood Orange Champagne Sparkler is a sweet and tangy sorbet, while Drunken Gingerbread Man contains gingerbread ice cream that is infused with vanilla vodka and coffee liqueur.

Spiced Eggnog is brandy-infused ice cream spiced with nutmeg and cinnamon, whereas Boozy Bananas Foster infuses banana ice cream with spiced rum and crème de banana, topping it with brown sugar. All the seasonal holiday flavors are available by the pint, scoop and as options for a flight.

The holiday sundaes, priced at \$8.25, are set to make their debut in the parlor on Tuesday, Nov. 21, in the setting of a tropical Christmas theme. "I chose a tropical Christmas theme because of the demand of summer flavors even when it's cold ... so I figured why not make the theme tropical and have snow in the background too?" said Tavss.

One of the holiday sundaes, the Candy Cane Vodka Martini Sundae, consists of a chocolate hazelnut cone bowl, scoops of Candy Cane Vodka Martini ice cream infused with cake flavored vodka and candy canes topped with white chocolate covered pretzels, snowcaps and chocolate olives that are really just almonds.

Another sundae is made of two scoops of Vanilla Bean Bourbon ice cream that are made into a snowman that is made with gummy cherries, snowcaps and pocky sticks.

With the popularity of many of the flavors, the parlor sometimes sells out of certain flavors. According to Tavss, the parlor gets deliveries about four times a week from the production facility and she is working on limiting the occasions on which certain flavors sell out.

Topsy Scoop is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between noon and 10 p.m. and Thursdays to Sundays from noon to 11 p.m. The parlor is closed on Mondays.



The Topsy Scoop location in Kips Bay fuses a bar theme with an ice cream store, and it is called the "barlour."



Tavss tops off the "hot" chocolate with torched marshmallow fluff, an irresistible topping for the creamy beverage.



The Santa's Cookies & Whiskey Sundae consists of a red velvet cone bowl, scoops of Santa's Cookies & Whiskey ice cream, chocolate chip cookie crumbles and an ice cream sandwich made with Vanilla Bean Bourbon ice cream.



From left to right, Raspberry Limoncello Sorbet, Mango Margarita, Spiked Mint Chocolate and Tequila Mexican "Hot" Chocolate are some flavors available to choose for the 'Flight of 4,' which is \$8 during happy hour.



# Science & Technology

## Sheep differentiate individual human faces shown in photos

BY ALI HUSSAIN  
STAFF WRITER

A new study from the University of Cambridge in England published in the online journal "Royal Society Open Science" reveals that sheep can recognize familiar and unfamiliar human faces in photographs.

It has already been proven that sheep can recognize other sheep, as well as familiar humans, such as their handlers. However, this new-found ability to recognize unfamiliar human faces from photographs is groundbreaking.

At first, the study involved training the sheep to approach certain images. Sheep were given food depending on the person at whom they were looking. They were also given an error or timeout signal in the form of an audio signal if they did not choose the right photo on time.

This training came in three parts — choosing a face instead of a black screen, choosing a face instead of the picture of a household item and choosing the correct familiar face instead of another face. After this was ingrained in the sheep's brain, the signals were then removed and the sheep had to pick the correct familiar face from a set of two faces.

Around 75 percent of sheep, a statistically significant amount, recognized the familiar face even when the face was tilted to the right or to the left. One of the trial sessions involved a twist on the original program. In this twist, the sheep were presented with three pictures of the handler and three pictures

from a set of preselected faces.

Sheep chose their handlers 72 percent of the time instead of choosing the less familiar faces that the sheep had been trained to go toward before.

This was particularly interesting, as it showed that the handler had developed a connection with sheep even though there was no reward or punishment, and there were no audio cues associated with the handler.

This study shows that sheep have advanced facial recognition skills that are comparable to that of humans and monkeys. Facial recognition is one of the most important skills that social animals need to function.

Facial recognition systems are imperative for those who wish to interact with a great number of people, or even within their close circles. Detecting faces can even be as significant as the use of spoken or body language when it comes to communication. This is why one of the indications of maturity and growth in a baby is that the baby recognizes facial distinctions.

A human's brain circuitry is constantly decoding the emotions of others based on extremely subtle facial clues. The ability to detect these microscopic changes in facial musculature often goes unnoticed, because it just seems like a natural part of a person's everyday life.

The true effect of the skill of detecting faces is revealed when looking at people who cannot do so. Two such cases are people with Asperger's syndrome — a disorder that is characterized by poor social



NICOLE PUNG | THE TICKER

In a test, sheep demonstrated facial recognition skills, an important social skill that has been pivotal to human development.

skills and a fixation with one subject — and Huntington's disease — a genetic condition that destroys nerve cells.

Asperger's syndrome is not fully understood, but what scientists do know is that it is associated with a recent evolutionary part of the brain — the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex. This is the area of the brain that experiences an extended period of maturation that lasts until adulthood. Scientists are also aware of the symptoms of Asperger's syndrome.

Other neurological disorders, however, are not as well understood. Huntington's disease is one

of those disorders. While scientists may know of the symptoms of Huntington's, they can learn more about the disease by probing further into the depths of the neurological bases of human facial recognition systems by assessing the brains of sheep.

"Sheep are long-lived and have brains that are similar in size and complexity to those of some monkeys. That means they can be useful models to help us understand disorders of the brain, such as Huntington's disease, that develop over a long time and affect cognitive abilities. Our study gives us another way to monitor how these

abilities change," said Jenny Morton, a professor of neurobiology at the University of Cambridge and director of studies in medicine and veterinary medicine at Newnham College.

Morton and her team have also taken this step forward themselves, by beginning research on genetically modified sheep that carry the mutation for Huntington's disease. This research allows for further insight into the disease and aid in potentially developing treatments for Huntington's disease. This research can also be applied to other diseases that affect innate facial recognition systems.

## 'Super Mario Odyssey' receives praise, displays refined gameplay and visuals

BY SHELLY HO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Nintendo Company's latest entry in the *Super Mario* series, "Super Mario Odyssey," has received nearly universal acclaim. The game was released on Oct. 27.

Critics and laypeople alike have hailed it as a masterpiece — in publications, on Twitter and in the comments of YouTube videos. The game is addictive because of several features.

The visuals of "Super Mario Odyssey" are so exquisite that players can see minute scratches and the reflections of other objects in Bowser's metal accessories. Mario is more expressive and relatable than he has ever been.

However, the game is too colorful sometimes; the sand in the Sand Kingdom is a shade of vivid orange-red one can fairly call "blood orange," whereas the Luncheon Kingdom is composed of delicious but violently bright pastels that can genuinely hurt players' eyes.

However, "Super Mario Odyssey" draws players in with its gameplay.

The game is simply fun to play. It rewards the player at every turn, encouraging the player to explore, try new things, experiment and conquer. When one plays this game, they can be struck by the kindness of its developers.

Sometimes one can feel like a child, but not in a stifled way. Players can imagine themselves younger, stripped of the punishing weight of reality. They are pushed forward and not boxed into the limitations of some other game.

The designers of "Super Mario Odyssey" simply do not believe in



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"Super Mario Odyssey" follows Bowser and the abducted Peach around the world.

punishing players. There are no game overs. In the game's optional "Assist Mode," Mario's health recovers automatically, and so quickly that one would be hard-pressed to die unless they were throwing their character into lava on purpose.

Even in "Normal Mode," players only lose 10 coins if they run out of health, but if they run out of coins, then they are still allowed to continue.

This forgiveness is, of course, by design: "We also wanted people to be able to, you know, get into a kingdom and [...] continually keep going through that kingdom without being pulled out," Yoshiaki Koizumi, the game's producer, told Polygon at the Electronic Entertainment Expo.

Playing with detached Joy-Cons allows players access to more of Mario's actions, and provides a more immersive gaming experience overall.

But players are not missing out on anything if they choose to leave the controllers attached to their

Switch.

Everything in the game is accessible with Mario's basic jumps. Again, it is about encouraging players — not condemning them.

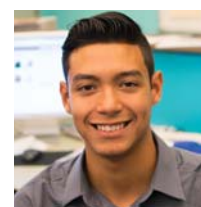
The true appeal of the game is not in its story. The plot never evolves beyond the established clichés of the series: Bowser, the ostensibly chelonian overlord, has kidnapped the fair Princess Peach yet again, and no one but the mustachioed Mario can save her.

The surface-level allure of "Super Mario Odyssey" is that Mario has a new friend named Cappy, with whom he explores fantastic kingdoms loosely based on real-world locations and cultures — but all in all, the plot is not new.

Repeatedly, Nintendo has proven that the core tenet of gaming is about having fun — and it has proven it again with "Super Mario Odyssey." It is a game that celebrates the *Super Mario* series' past accomplishments with a sense of childish wonderment. It is a game that is worth playing.

## Twitter changes limit, expands to 280 characters

TECH NEWS



MATTHEW SANCHEZ

Once a dream but now reality, the days of struggling with a limited character restriction on Twitter are over. The social media giant ended the 140-character restriction on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

There will now be a 280-character limit in all languages except Japanese, Korean and Chinese. Now, everyone from first-time users to President Donald Trump have the same amount of space and character count to share their thoughts and memes.

Twitter originally had the 140-character limit when it was founded in 2007 because it wanted users to be able to post messages via phone. SMS messages had a 160-character limit. Twitter adopted short and free conversation as its identity.

The company announced that it was testing this new feature in September. It was interested in a new limit because languages such as English could not exhibit as much information into 140 characters as other languages. Chinese, Japanese and Korean use characters that indicate whole words. As a result, Twitter stated that these three languages will maintain the 140-character limit.

After Twitter conducted a test in September, the company found

that users spent more time on the social media site, and received more retweets and likes when they used the 280-character limit.

"During the first few days of the test many people tweeted the full 280 limit because it was new and novel, but soon after behavior normalized, we saw when people needed to use more than 140 characters, they tweeted more easily and more often. But importantly, people tweeted below 140 most of the time and the brevity of Twitter remained," wrote Twitter Product Manager Aliza Rosen.

Although it is a new age for Twitter, one of the controversies arising from the changes is the danger that Twitter is now resembling Facebook. Users are concerned that extended tweets could alter the essence of the messaging platform. While Twitter is appealing to journalists and politicians, it backfired when trying to secure the interest of opponents who prefer platforms like Facebook.

Regardless of whether users approve or disapprove of the new character limit, it is hard to say that Twitter and Facebook are slowly becoming similar. Twitter has its own identity, as explained by Rosen. She stated that while 9 percent of English tweets have "historically" hit Twitter's 140-character limit, only 1 percent of tweets with access to 280 characters hit the limit. Only 2 percent of tweets from accounts with access to the test included over 190 characters, indicating that additional characters would not be used frequently.

The days of struggling to complete one's tweet in 140 characters are over. But, the platform of Twitter is still the same; it just gives more space for one's tweets and memes.



# Environment and upbringing shape one's religious beliefs

BY MAYA YEGOROVA  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Religious beliefs are not connected to intuition, according to a study conducted by researchers at Coventry University and the University of Oxford. Previous studies indicated that people with strong religious beliefs are more intuitive and less analytical. However, religious beliefs are shaped by one's upbringing and environment.

From a philosophical perspective, there is a dispute over whether one's belief in a god is powered by intuition or logic. For over a century, sociologists anticipated that rationality will surpass intuition and the disintegration of religion. In the last 20 years, psychologists upheld the correlation between intuition and religious beliefs, clarifying that these beliefs are instinctive and preconscious.

Researchers challenged the idea that religious beliefs are driven by gut feelings by conducting three tests.

In the first study, they recruited 89 participants between the ages of 16 and 17. Researchers studied the participants' pilgrimage to Santiago of Compostela, the capital of the self-governing community of Galicia in Spain. The pilgrimage began at the French Pyrenees, a range of mountains along the Franco-Spanish border. Researchers selected this pilgrimage because it was a time-consuming journey of 32 days.

Participants were Spanish, German, American, Brazilian, South Korean, Polish, Italian, Irish and French. Seventy-one percent of participants identified as Christian, 20 percent were spiritual but not religious, 8 percent were atheist and 1 percent were Buddhist. Researchers used a probability bead game in which participants were

instructed to take a color bead from two containers. The containers had differing quantities of colored and transparent beads. Participants then answered questions about their religious beliefs.

After conducting four trials, researchers found that the analytical option was made across all trials by 27 percent of participants, across two trials by 17 percent, across two trials for 28 percent and across one trial for 12 percent of participants. Seventy-three percent of participants selected the intuitive option at least once.

In the second study, 37 participants between the ages of 18 and 40 were recruited. Researchers gave them mathematical puzzles to increase intuition. Participants were divided into experimental and control groups. There was no correlation between intuitive thinking and supernatural belief.

In the third study, 90 participants between the ages of 18 and 64 were recruited. Researchers used brain stimulation to expand levels of cognitive inhibition, which is believed to control analytical thinking. A harmless electrical current between two electrodes was put on a participant's scalp. This electrical current stimulated the right inferior frontal gyrus, a region of the brain involved with inhibitory control. A preceding computerized tomography scan study discovered that atheists use this region of the brain when they want to restrain religious ideas.

The results indicated that while the stimulation of the brain intensified the levels of cognitive inhibition, it did not alter the levels of religious belief. This implies that there is no correlation between cognitive inhibition and religious belief.

There are multiple explanations for the discovery that religious



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Religious beliefs are shaped by one's upbringing, resolving the debate of whether beliefs are driven by intuition or reason.

beliefs are not linked to intuitive thinking. One likelihood is that researchers had a diverse group of participants. Previous researchers recruited U.S. participants, and most were university students. This study used British participants, along with some European ones.

Sociological reviews additionally confirm that Europe, including Britain, is less religious than the United States. It is possible that being religious in a secular region is cognitively difficult. This possibility is indirectly justified in surveys indicating that religious people under 35 in the United Kingdom are better educated than non-religious people. This is not evident in the United States.

There is a chance that religious belief may be linked, to a certain extent, with intuitive thinking in some cultural circumstances, such as Christianity in the United States, but not in others. In general, one's upbringing is likely to play a more

critical role than intuition in developing religious beliefs.

Nicholas Marrero, a senior pursuing a major in journalism and creative writing, said he was not surprised by the study's findings.

"I was raised in a Catholic household. But religious beliefs can change throughout a person's lifetime. You can be brought up one way, but in a few years it can change. You don't necessarily agree with the religion you were raised on. Religious beliefs depend on your overall experiences in life," he said.

Anna Cascone, a senior pursuing a major in corporate communications, agreed.

"Of course religious beliefs are influenced by your upbringing. It's all about nature versus nurture. It has to do with self-identity. When I went to Europe, the people I met didn't believe in anything. Yet people in New York are looking for answers. Religious beliefs have to do

with self-identity," she said.

This study was the first to defy a belief that cognitive psychologists had over the past 20 years: that supernatural beliefs are innate views. Researchers confirmed that factors such as upbringing and socio-cultural processes influence religious beliefs.

"We don't think people are 'born believers' in the same way we inevitably learn a language at an early age. The available sociological and historical data show that what we believe in is mainly based on social and educational factors, and not on cognitive styles, such as intuitive/analytical thinking," said Miguel Farias, the leading author of the study.

Researchers propose that psychologists should re-assess their knowledge of belief as "innate," and now concentrate on cultural and social factors that cause religious beliefs. Religious belief is embedded in culture, not intuition.

## Write for Science and Technology

### Dude, it's not rocket science.



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# Sports



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Hundley led the Packers to their first win since taking over for Rodgers

## Week 10 delivers action NFL desperately needs

BY RAY MAURER  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The NFL season is in full swing, and fans were treated to a thrilling Week 10, which kicked off with an NFC West division rivalry, and it continued the superstar injury theme.

Richard Sherman tore his Achilles tendon to end his 2017 campaign, but, in the NFL, the show must go on.

The Seattle Seahawks beat the Arizona Cardinals 22-16 on Thursday, resulting in the first of many exciting matchups Week 10 had to offer.

The only matchup this week between teams with winning records was the game between the New Orleans Saints and the Buffalo Bills.

The Saints proved they are a force to be reckoned with, as they ran all over the Bills. New Orleans scored early and often on the ground, led by Mark Ingram's three rushing touchdowns.

The Bills' offense was shut down, scoring a measly 10 points. The Saints won 47-10 to keep their 7-game win streak alive.

It took overtime to settle the showdown between the Los Angeles Chargers and Jacksonville Jaguars. Leonard Fournette could not get it going against the Chargers, but a fake punt touchdown kept the Jaguars in the game.

A field goal by Jacksonville sent the game into overtime, and another ultimately won the game late in overtime 20-17. Philip Rivers threw for 235 yards and 2 touchdowns but it was not enough for the win.

The Minnesota Vikings witnessed Case Keenum have a career game, which prevented Teddy Bridgewater from seeing his first action since 2015.

Keenum threw for 304 yards and four touchdowns, but the Washington Redskins hung in there. Led by Kirk Cousins, the Redskins led a comeback that just fell short.

Keenum and the Minnesota Vikings moved to 7-2 on the season with a tight 38-30 win. Adam Thielen also had a career day hauling in 8 passes for 166 yards and a touchdown.

The Pittsburgh Steelers came into Lucas Oil Stadium as heavy favorites against the Indianapolis

Colts.

The Colts begged to differ. Indianapolis' defense held the Steelers to 3 points at halftime, and even took a lead deep into the fourth quarter.

The Steelers were able to tie it up late and get the ball back for a chance to win. Ben Roethlisberger connected with Antonio Brown for a big gain to set up a Chris Boswell game winner. The Steelers escaped Indianapolis with a 20-17 win.

The Tennessee Titans were looking for their fourth straight win on Sunday when they hosted the Cincinnati Bengals.

The Bengals just placed Jeremy Hill on the injury reserve list, so Joe Mixon took an expanded role in the offense.

Mixon was only able to rush for 37 yards with a touchdown. The story of the game was DeMarco Murray.

After a shaky season, Murray put together a 3-touchdown performance when the Titans needed him most. Marcus Mariota's struggles continued but he was able to ride the rushing attack to a 24-20 victory.

Other action around the NFL included a bad game in Florida between the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the New York Jets.

Josh McCown and Ryan Fitzpatrick faced off in the battle of the journeyman, and the Bucs edged out a 15-10.

Brett Hundley impressed in a 23-16 Green Bay Packers win over the Chicago Bears. The Cleveland Browns tied their game at 24, but let the game go in the Detroit Lions favor, 38-24.

The Los Angeles Rams kept on rolling to 7-2 with a big 33-7 win over the struggling Houston Texans.

The Dallas Cowboys struggled without Ezekiel Elliott, allowing 27 unanswered points in a blowout loss to the Atlanta Falcons.

The Giants hit rock bottom after a 31-21 loss to the previously winless San Francisco 49ers.

The New England Patriots blew out the Denver Broncos on Sunday night football 41-16, and the Carolina Panthers did the same on Monday, with a 45-21 win against the Miami Dolphins.

Hopefully the injury plague will leave the NFL alone in Week 11, allowing fans to focus on the great matchups in the coming week.

## CUNYAC names volleyball All-Stars, men's basketball defeats St. Joseph's

BY MATTEO FLAMMIO  
STAFF WRITER

Baruch's women's volleyball team was defeated by the Hunter Hawks in the semifinal game of the CUNY Athletic Conference playoffs, which ended the season for the Bearcats. Three players from Baruch were recognized for their outstanding play this past season. Freshman setter and opposite Katherine Chen and sophomore middle blocker and hitter Yijia "Viola" Cai were voted onto the Second Team Conference All-Stars. Chen impressed in her freshman season, leading the team with 396 assists — which is 3.84 per set — coming in second on the team with 163 kills and also finishing the season with 1.77 digs per set. She was also named CUNYAC Rookie of the Week on Sept. 25. Cai averaged 1.53 kills per set and had a

total of 37 blocks during the season. Sophomore opposite Yeaslie Velasco, who is also vice president of internal affairs for the Baruch Student Athlete Advisory Committee, was named to the CUNYAC All-Sportsmanship Team.

Baruch's women's tennis team ended its season in the semifinal match of the CUNYAC Tournament, losing to Brooklyn College. The team had three women receive awards for their great performances this past year, two of them voted to the First Team Conference All-Stars. These two were sophomore Sharada Tangirala and senior Hayley Bester. When they teamed up, they were a dominant 12-1 in doubles. Junior Grace Graham was voted onto the All-Star Second Team and the All-Sportsmanship Team. She finished the year going 11-3 in singles, with seven wins in doubles.

The Baruch men's basketball team hosted the St. Joseph's College Bears in an exhibition game to raise money for hurricane relief after the horrific damage caused by the multiple hurricanes that hit Texas, Florida and the Caribbean islands. Baruch is only allowed to have one preseason game before its regular season starts but the NCAA allowed many schools across Divisions I to III to play an extra game to raise money. Baruch and St. Joseph's were able to raise \$367.

Baruch was able to dominate the entirety of the game winning 72-43, even while having Division III All-American senior Chimaechi Ekekeugbor not play during the game. Junior William Sixsmith led Baruch with 11 points, shooting 3-pointers three times, and both junior Andre Harris and sophomore Allen Villar added 10 points.

## Rangers win 6 straight games following surprising 3-9 start to 2017 Season

BY FELIX MALAMUD  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

What a difference two weeks make for the New York Rangers. All the turmoil on the ice and the coaching change rumors seem like history now that the Rangers are the hottest team in the NHL.

After three straight wins last week, the team succeeded this week to extend its league-best winning streak to 6 games.

On Monday, Nov. 5, the Rangers faced the Columbus Blue Jackets with a chance to even their record at .500 for the first time this season.

Despite a rocky start and falling behind in the second and third periods, the Rangers scored 3 power play goals in a 5-3 victory. Two days later, the team continued their homestand against the Boston Bruins.

The Rangers scored 3 first-period goals, 2 of them courtesy of Jimmy Vesey, 29 seconds apart. This put the team en route to a 4-2 win, its fifth straight victory and its first time having a winning record.

Such a terrific start to a game has been rare for the Rangers, as their early season struggles were mainly because of poor starts to games. On Saturday, Nov. 11, the Rangers concluded their homestand against the struggling Edmonton Oilers.

The Oilers featured the reigning MVP Connor McDavid, who scored a goal in the game to give the Oilers a 2-1 lead.

The Rangers stayed resilient and fought their way to a 4-2 win. It is not just one player contributing to this torrid stretch.

The Rangers are getting contributions up and down the lineup. Pavel Buchnevich has scored 7 goals and 10 points in his past 8 games, leading the league with 7 goals since Oct. 26. Buchnevich scored in all 3 games this week.

Kevin Shattenkirk has finally started to play an all-around game, combining his dynamic offensive and power-play abilities with solid defense. His 17 points are second on the team behind Mika Zibanejad's 18. Michael Grabner scored 3 goals this week and has 8 goals on the season.

Rick Nash has 5 goals in his past 7 games, showing why he is considered to be one of the best goal scorers today. Chris Kreider has also picked up the slack, with 4 goals in his past 7 games. But



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After a slow start, the Rangers jumped into contention and won six straight games.

the most encouraging news is that goaltender Henrik Lundqvist has shown enormous signs of improvement with several dominant performances this week.

Lundqvist's statistics are much better from when he started, with 2.92 goals against average and a .905 save percentage. Lundqvist has also won six straight decisions, with the offensive surge by the Rangers taking a lot of pressure off him.

The Rangers' power play has been the difference so far during this winning streak, as it has jumped to third-best in percentage at 25.8 percent, while converting on 8 of their last 19 power plays, a 42.1 percent success rate.

The penalty kill, an area that has struggled mightily, has also improved. It is now ranked 13 in the NHL at 81.4 percent and they have killed off 18 of their last 20 penalties.

With an improved special team, strong goaltending and team chemistry, the Rangers have clawed their way back to the top

of the Metropolitan Division, the toughest in the NHL. Their record currently sits at 9-8-2.

Only 4 points separate the Rangers, who are sixth in the division, from the first-place New Jersey Devils. The Rangers have two tough tests on the road next week, with the Chicago Blackhawks on Wednesday and the Blue Jackets on Friday.

The Rangers did not perform well against the Blackhawks on Nov. 15, as they gave up 6 goals en route to their first loss after beginning their streak. The Blackhawks dominated throughout, and did not let the Rangers climb back into the game every time the latter tried to claw back in.

Lundqvist was replaced after giving up 4 goals on 34 shots. The team will look to rebound against the Ottawa Senators team that eliminated them from the playoffs last season.

If the Rangers can bounce back and get back to their winning ways, there is reason to believe they will be contenders once again.



# Celtics continue 13-game win streak, Rockers beat Cavaliers

BY MATTEO FLAMMIO  
STAFF WRITER

This week of the NBA continued to be crazy with a showcase of games.

Monday, Nov. 6, featured 3 games. The Boston Celtics faced off against the Atlanta Hawks where the Celtics were hoping to increase their win streak to 9 games. The tandem of Kyrie Irving and rookie Jayson Tatum had a combined 56 points, and the always reliable Al Horford helped edge the Celtics over the Hawks 110-107. The next game was a battle between the Brooklyn Nets and the Phoenix Suns. The Nets were coming off a 4-game losing streak but were able to defeat the Suns 98-92. Nets' D'Angelo Russell led all scorers with 23 points and Suns' T.J. Warren had 20. The night finished with the Miami Heat going against the Golden State Warriors, where the Warriors were hoping to start their homestand off on a good note. Both teams struggled heavily shooting from the floor, shooting just over 36 percent, but the Warriors' superpower was too much to handle as they defeated the Heat 97-80.

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, the Dallas Mavericks looked to win their second game of the year when they visited the Washington Wizards. Harrison Barnes dominated the competition with 31 points and 9 rebounds and, with help from standout rookie Dennis Smith Jr., the Mavs were able to outlast the efforts by John Wall and Bradley Beal, in the 113-99 victory.

The Chicago Bulls and the Toronto Raptors faced off in Toronto where the Bulls were off to a very slow start. Bobby Portis had an impressive game, scoring 21 points with 13 rebounds in his return from his suspension, but his efforts were not enough as DeMar DeRozan's



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Behind an impressive triple-double, Harden led the Rockers, who are still without Paul, to an impressive victory over the Cavs.

sweet shooting and his 24 points led the Raptors to a 119-115 victory. The Memphis Grizzlies traveled to Portland to face the Portland Trail Blazers in a closely contested matchup. Blazers' C.J. McCollum had a magnificent game with 36 points, but with poor shooting by the rest of his team, the Blazers were not able to pull out the win. A 21-point effort by Tyreke Evans off the bench helped the Grizzlies squeak out a 98-97 win.

Wednesday, Nov. 8, had the Indiana Pacers and the Detroit Pistons matchup in Little Caesars Arena in Detroit. The Pacers had great scoring from guard Victor Oladipo, 21 points, and backup center Al Jefferson, 19 points, but lack of scoring from the rest of the team did not help the game. Strong play by Pistons' Tobias Harris, 23 points, and a very impressive double-double by Andre Drummond, 14 points and 21 rebounds, helped propel the Pistons to a 114-97 victory. The Los Angeles Lakers visited the Boston Celtics, who have been

rolling since starting the year 0-2. Matchups between the Celtics and Lakers have always been historically great games. The Celtics' Aron Baynes stepped up, with injuries to Horford and Tatum, and he finished with a surprising 21 points. Brandon Ingram and Jordan Clarkson both led the Lakers with 18 points but this was not enough in their 107-96 loss. Rookie Lonzo Ball continues to struggle shooting in his young season.

Thursday, Nov. 9, showcased a great matchup between the Cleveland Cavaliers and Houston Rockets. After losing Chris Paul to an injury in the season, the Rockets were hoping that James Harden could lead them until he comes back. Harden was able to do this against LeBron James and the rest of the struggling Cavs. Harden finished the game with an impressive triple-double, with 35 points, 11 rebounds and 13 assists, leading the Rockets to a 117-113 lead. James finished with 33 points in the loss. The Sacramento Kings and the Phil-

adelphia 76ers faced off in a close matchup. The Kings were hoping to snap their 5-game losing streak and the 76ers were hoping to solidify themselves as a real threat in the Eastern Conference. With 13.4 seconds left, Kings' rookie De'Aaron Fox hit the go-ahead shot, putting the Kings up 109-108. Fox finished with 11 points in his heroic effort. The 76ers' Joel Embiid had a dominant 22 points and 15 rebounds. The night capped off with the Oklahoma City Thunder and their struggles going to the mile-high city to face the Denver Nuggets. The game was close through 3 and one-half quarters, when the Nuggets went on a 7-0 run to put them up 89-82. Emmanuel Mudiay was able to put up 10 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter as he led the Nuggets to a 102-94 win. Carmelo Anthony's 28 points were not enough against his former team.

Friday, Nov. 10, had the Milwaukee Bucks at the San Antonio Spurs, after the Bucks recently acquired point guard Eric Bledsoe

from the Suns. Bledsoe finished with 13 points in his debut, where he is starting to find his role. Giannis Antetokounmpo continues to dominate, as he was able to lead the Bucks to a 94-87 win with his 28 points and 12 rebounds. LaMarcus Aldridge continues to impress this season, as he finished with 20 points. The Orlando Magic hoped to continue their hot start in the season as they matched up with the Phoenix Suns. The Magic dominated this game winning 128-112, with Aaron Gordon leading all scorers with 22 points.

Saturday, Nov. 11, had the New York Knicks facing the Sacramento Kings in a dominating game. The Knicks defense was very tight as they held all five starters to under 10 points. Kristaps Porzingis led the Knicks with 34 points in the Knicks' 118-91 win. Skal Labissiere led the Kings with 18 points. The New Orleans Pelicans hosted the Los Angeles Clippers. The two superstar big men of the Pelicans, DeMarcus Cousins and Anthony Davis, combined for 60 points and 25 rebounds in a 111-103 victory. Blake Griffin led the Clips with 26 points.

The week concluded with the Raptors visiting the Celtics. The Raptors' DeRozan had the ball in his hands with regulation winding down, and was able to get a shot off but was not able to connect, helping the Celtics win their 12th game in a row at 95-94. Horford led the Celtics with 21 points in his very productive shooting game.

The Thunder are hoping to turn their season around as they faced the Mavericks. On his 29th birthday, Russell Westbrook scored 27 points, but it was Paul George who made a key difference in the game, with 37 points.

The Thunder were able to defeat the Mavs 112-99. Barnes led the Mavs with 22 points.

## Tottenham beats Real Madrid on matchday 4

BY DANNY MOROTE  
STAFF WRITER

The Champions League is back. Matchday 4 claimed its winners and losers, as many new stars have taken the spotlight and the race to the top continues.

The Tottenham Hotspur F.C. went against Real Madrid C.F. in England.

Both teams came out of the dressing room ready to compete for the top spot of their group because their last encounter ended 1-1.

In their group standing they were both tied for first place with seven points, so this match was for all the marbles. Fans chanted Dele Alli's name throughout the game, as he scored two goals against the Spanish giants in the 27th and 56th minutes.

The 2 goals left Real Madrid surprised after its poor performances in its league, but that did not stop Christian Eriksen from scoring Tottenham's third goal in the 65th minute.

Real Madrid was already down by 3 goals, but Cristiano Ronaldo was able to score his sixth goal in this season's Champions League in the 80th minute.

It was not enough to secure Real Madrid's round of 16 spot, but the Tottenham Hotspurs claimed its win and a spot in the round of 16 with a 3-0 win in Wembley.

Manchester City F.C. took S.S.C. Napoli for another stroll, but this time it was in Naples, Italy. Napoli previously lost its last match against Manchester City in England, but hoped for better luck at the team's home stage.

The match kicked off in favor of Napoli with a goal from Lorenzo Insigne in the 21st minute. Napo-

li's lead did not last long, as Manchester City's Nicolás Otamendi and John Stones scored 2 headers in the 34th and 48th minutes of the match.

Napoli quickly tried to answer back with a penalty goal from Jorge Luiz Frello Filho, best known as Jorginho, which leveled the match 2-2 in the 62nd minute.

Sergio Agüero quickly kept Manchester City on top with a historic goal in the 69th minute, making Agüero the top goal scorer for the Citizens in all competitions.

Raheem Sterling put the cherry on top with a late goal for Manchester, ending the game 2-4. Manchester City secured its round of 16 spot with the team's win against Napoli, but the Naples club must continue to fight for its next round spot.

A.S. Roma took control of Chelsea F.C. for the first time in this competition in Italy. In the team's previous matchup, the final score was 3-3.

Roma opened the scoreboard with an incredibly fast goal in the first minute from Stephan El Shaarawy, who later increased Roma's lead with a goal in the 36th minute.

Diego Perotti continued to increase Roma's lead by scoring a long-distance goal that Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois could not save. The 3-0 victory placed Roma as leader in its group.

With only two more games left in the Champions League group stages, teams look to move on to the finals, as we all watch on.

The teams in contention will look to head into the playoff stages with a head full of steam, carrying that momentum to the grandest stage of them all in June.

### BARUCH ATHLETICS

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Baruch	Kean University
85	67

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Baruch	Stockton University
45	95

#### MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Baruch 8K CUNYAC FINALS

4/7

#### WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Baruch 6K CUNYAC FINALS

2/7

#### MEN'S SWIMMING

Baruch at Queens College	Baruch at York College	Baruch at Adelphi University
75-22	106-68	26-73

#### WOMEN'S SWIMMING

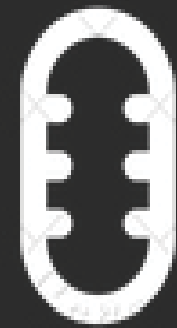
Baruch at Queens College	Baruch at York College	Baruch at Adelphi University
38-62	104-67	26-68

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# Baruch Weekly

## NOVEMBER 2017

**MON 20** **BLOOMBERG I**  
12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. | Subotnick Center | Free

**DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION**  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. | NVC 3-215 | Free

**TUES 21** **FRIDAY SCHEDULE**

**WED 22** **UCLA THANKSGIVING POTLUCK**  
6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. | NVC 3-215 | Free

**VOLUNTEER OR WORK ABROAD WITH AIESEC**  
12 p.m. | NVC 2nd Floor Lobby | Free

**THURS 23** **THANKSGIVING**

**FRI 24** **COLLEGE CLOSED**

**SAT 25** **COLLEGE CLOSED**

**SUN 26** **COLLEGE CLOSED**

\*Off-campus event  
For full list, visit [www.baruch.cuny.edu/calendar](http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/calendar)

**CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13					14			15			
16					17			18			
19					20			21	22		
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48				49			50		51		52
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57	58	59	60				61		62	63	64
65				66	67		68				
69				70			71				
72				73			74				

**THEME: PEARLS OF WISDOM**

- ACROSS**
- "NO WAY" PARTNER
  - LENDING LETTERS
  - BASKETBALL STAR NOWITZKI
  - "LOVE," † PARIS
  - DATE
  - KIND OF CHISEL
  - INFAMOUS FORD MODEL
  - STUFF IN A TRAY?
  - ROMANOV'S EDICT
  - BONY CHEST PLATE
  - \*IT MAKES THE HEART GROW FONDER
  - \*YOU CAN'T MAKE AN OMELET WITHOUT BREAKING ONE
  - BORDER
  - PRUNE
  - BLOCK OF GRANITE, E.G.
  - WHACKO ONE
  - EYE LAYER
  - AUTHOR MURDOCH
  - PAPARAZZO'S QUEST
  - COMMON ALLERGENS
  - \*SURE SIGN OF FIRE
  - LIKE NAY-SAYERS
  - RID OF OBSTRUCTIONS
  - DONE TO TROUBLE
  - ASIAN WEIGHT UNIT
  - COLD SORE, E.G.
  - OBJECT OF WORSHIP
  - 9 TO 5, E.G.
  - NOT OF THE CLOTH

- FAMOUS FRAT HOUSE
- \*LOUDER THAN WORDS
- \*THEY CAN'T BE CHOOSERS
- ALLOCATED QUANTITY
- FAMOUS T-REX
- CEREAL KILLER
- PRODDED
- \*NO \_\_\_\_\_ CRYING OVER SPILT MILK"
- RECYCLE, IN A WAY
- H OR O IN H<sub>2</sub>O, E.G.
- \*YOU CAN'T MAKE A SILK PURSE OUT OF A SOW'S "
- MAKE TEA, E.G.
- DOWN
- MIDDAY SLUMBERS
- FAIL TO MENTION
- USE A WHETSTONE
- GROSSLY UNCONVENTIONAL
- \*TWO OF THESE DO NOT MAKE A RIGHT
- GENESIS MAN
- PIMPLE FLUID
- \_\_\_\_\_ CENTER FOR HELP
- HOME OF BLUE DEVILS
- ALI KHAMENEI'S DOMAIN
- CISC ALTERNATIVE
- GENUFLLECTING JOINT
- SERIOUS QUARREL
- TANGERINE-GRAPFRUIT HYBRID, PL.
- BALLERINA'S DO
- NON-LIVING
- \*NO SUCH THING AS A FREE ONE
- EGG CELL
- \_\_\_\_\_ COTTONTAIL
- PICTURE ON A COAT?
- NOT THIS
- ACTOR HILL
- WEASEL'S AQUATIC COUSIN
- \*A WATCHED POT NEVER DOES THIS
- HURRY UP!
- ROW OF VAGRANTS
- WITH A JAGGED MARGIN
- FOLLOWS AIM AND SHOOT
- \_\_\_\_\_ DIEGO
- THEY'RE USUALLY GOLDEN OR AMBER
- QUESTION IN DISPUTE
- WHITE HERON
- CARIBBEAN COLOR
- LIKE A SHORT REPLY
- BURKINA FASO NEIGHBOR
- BIG-TICKET
- DUFF IN SPRINGFIELD, E.G.
- FLU SYMPTOM
- KATE WINSLET IN "TITANIC"
- \*BEGINNING OF A THOUSAND MILE JOURNEY
- "THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND..."

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**CROSSWORD SOLUTION: ISSUE 9**

B	A	S	O	H	E	M		B	A	C	H			
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**Starr Career Development Center**

# Career Spotlight

[baruch.cuny.edu/careers](http://baruch.cuny.edu/careers)  
[blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/starrlights/](http://blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/starrlights/)  
[blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/scdc/](http://blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/scdc/)  
@BaruchSCDC  
Baruch College Starr Career Development Center

## SAVE THE DATE

**Internship Seminar**  
Tuesday, Nov. 21, 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m., NVC 2-190  
In this seminar, learn everything you need to know about the many benefits of internships!

**Let's Get Starr-ted: Week Four Session**  
Wednesday, Nov. 22, 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., NVC 2-190  
First-years and sophomores! Come and learn more about the various services available at the SCDC.

**The Spotlight Series: Marketing Careers**  
Thursday, Nov. 30, 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m., NVC 2-190  
Representatives from a professional organization will be here to share insight on careers in marketing.

**Creating Your Own Major: The Ad-Hoc**  
Are you interested in creating your own major? Learn how at this workshop!

## INTERNSHIP UPDATE

**BERLINROSEN**

**National Public Affairs Internship**

BerlinRosen, a leading progressive political consulting and strategic communications firm, is seeking highly motivated college students and graduates who are interested in getting hands-on experience in issue and campaign strategy, communications, and media advocacy. The positions are based in New York City and Washington, D.C.

Interns will be assigned to work within a division on the National Public Affairs Team (Social Impact & Philanthropy, National Issue Advocacy, or Labor and

Economy), but may collaborate with other divisions and teams as needed.

Interns will be asked to focus on a range of projects, including longer-term and day-to-day or immediate tasks assigned by their teams. Applicants may work in national media markets with responsibilities including building press lists, gathering media clips, doing media analysis and research projects, pitching calls to reporters, copy editing and writing press releases, and social media advocacy work. Interns

may partake in public affairs and media relations work for issues and clients on a national stage, such as paid sick leave and energy policy. Interns may handle a variety of clients like traditional philanthropic foundations, cultural organizations, non-profit groups and other philanthropic organizations. Finally, interns may be asked to handle clients in the labor and economy space who are fighting to raise wages or increase workers' rights.

**Starr Search ID: 109802**

## PEER TIP OF THE WEEK

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

In our digital age, having a business card to share your contact information can be impressive. While you can connect with someone on LinkedIn or submit a resume, your own card will help you stand out. It is personal, shows you are more prepared than others, and introduces your brand.

- Lea Jang, Peer for Careers

**ALPHADYNE ASSET MANAGEMENT, LP**

**Technology (Data Management) Intern**

Alphadyne Asset Management LP is an alternative investment management firm located in New York that pursues macro and fixed income relative value investment strategies in global interest rate, foreign exchange, equity, commodity and credit markets.

The firm seeks a highly-motivated data management intern to join its New York office.

The successful candidate will be assigned a project to complete under the supervision of the existing team. This project could involve writing/reviewing T-SQL

stored procedures, reporting in Microsoft SSRS, ETL processing through data load and transfer, or other endeavors depending on the business pipeline. Individuals interested in data analytics and management will gain real world experience in coordinating innovative data analysis and automation tools in the investment management industry.

Alphadyne requests that the applicant be currently enrolled in or completed a bachelor's or master's degree program in computer science, information technology,

or its equivalent, with a focus on data analysis, management, or querying and reporting. The candidate should also have interest in technology and financial services, excellent academic credentials, proficiency in SSRS and/or SQL reporting, ability to effectively articulate technical challenges and solutions, excellent analytical and technical skills, be detail-oriented, and can excel in fast-paced environments with shifting priorities.

**Starr Search ID: 109044**