

USG reflects on past year and transition process at Town Hall



Members of the current USG answered *The Ticker's* questions and reflected on their past experiences in a Town Hall event held on May 2, despite lack of questions from the student population.

BY AMANDA SALAZAR
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Baruch College's Undergraduate Student Government held their biannual "Town Hall" to inform students on the goings on around the senate table. The town hall, which was held on May 2, was moderated by *The Ticker's* News Editor, Sheik Floradewan, and live streamed onto the paper's Facebook page by the Business Editor, Noah Fleischman.

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BSA celebrates New Year with Boishaki Night

BY MAY KHIN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Baruch's Bangladesh Student Association hosted its annual Boishaki Night to celebrate Bengali New Year and welcomed it with vibrant colors, Bengali music, fun games and performances in the Multipurpose room on April 30. This event was the first CUNY-wide Boishaki Night and there were live performances by local artists such as Muza and Sha Vlimpse. Pahela Baishakh is the Bengali New Year and marks the first day of the Bengali calendar which is annually celebrated on April 14 as a national holiday.

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Marvel offers fitting conclusion with with *Endgame*



Avengers: Endgame has finally arrived and *The Ticker* is here to catch you up on all things in the MCU. Read more on page 14.

J.I.D and Flipp Dinero excite fans at WBMB's Spring Fling



Students jammed at this year's 'Spring Fling.' Read more from *The Ticker* on page 4.

CUNY students present startups at eventful 2019 Demo Day

BY JULIAN TINEO
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

After six weeks of learning, designing and building, 13 teams of CUNY student entrepreneurs presented their projects in front of a panel of judges at CUNY Startups Demo Day 2019. With newly established companies tackling problems in areas ranging from education to fitness and travel, the ideas presented at the conclusion of the 2019 CUNY Startup Accelerator cohort reflected the drive for innovation and advancement from all of the CUNY schools.

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Students did not provide questions for second USG Town Hall

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The questions were originally intended to be collected from the student body using a Qualtrics form by the Office of Student Life, but the results of the form, revealed to *The Ticker* by OSL Associate Director of Student Life Operations Savanna Ramesy, yielded only two questions.

These two questions were asked, and the remaining questions asked were collected from *The Ticker* staff.

On the topic of the gathering of questions, USG President Radhika Kalani explained that the form was created through OSL to ensure that it would not be influenced by the senate members.

“I know last, last town hall we had a problem where USG had made the forum for the questions and I know that it may have looked like we changed the questions or added our own ones,” she said.

“We wanted it to have an unbiased source, so we asked our advisor. I just told her how to format the whole form and then she made the forums, so she had access to the answers. She was the only one that had access, Savanna.”

Additionally, an issue occurred with the setting for the town hall, as it was initially set to occur in the first-floor cafeteria, but a scheduling complication with OSL led to the event being moved into USG’s conference room.

USG reserved the cafeteria around three weeks in advance, according to Kalani, but they only found out that the location would have to be moved within the hour before the town hall.

Despite these issues, the town hall continued as planned, and was sectioned into questions about the town hall itself, the current USG, next year’s USG, events, initiatives

and miscellaneous.

There were multiple questions about the resignations that occurred this year – a total of six – with the last one happening during mid-April when Vice President of Legislative Affairs Navjot Pal Kaur resigned the week before spring break.

On this topic, the speakers said that there wasn’t much they could do to prevent resignations, although they do regret that they occurred.

“I think it’s unfair to group resignations as people not feeling they were part of the table. Resignations happen for a multitude of different reasons. It could be anything from having a class during senate time to not having enough time for USG,” Dakshatha Daggala, the chair of clubs and organizations and president-elect, said.

“I don’t think there’s a specific way you can fix resignations to minimize them to zero. I think what we of next year’s USG are trying to do is making sure we constantly communicate with our members to make sure that if they are going through a situation where they cannot be putting 100 percent into the role, that we know ahead of time so that we can either work with them and make sure that we can help them balance things or if they do have to resign it is for proper reasons,” she continued.

Other questions were focused on the performance of specific USG members, such as one question that inquired why Chair of Appeals Ray Colon voted against approving several club budgets during the weekly senate meetings.

“If you look at which ones I voted no for, it was for clubs that I felt we didn’t really need that large of a budget or didn’t show enough spending,” he said when



JABIR RAHMAN | THE TICKER

The senate members sit in the USG conference room as *The Ticker* News Editor asks questions on a range of topics.

asked about it.

The clubs he voted no on can be found in the minutes of the meetings, posted on USG’s website.

Another person-specific question was addressed to Raul Cruz, the treasurer.

He was asked why he ran with Imagine Baruch instead of with POP!, which was the incumbent party, during the USG elections for next year.

Cruz’s only response to this question was, “Just because,” with a shrug.

The other senate members remarked that it was for personal reasons and that this was an inappropriate question.

A few questions touched upon topics that were discussed in the previous semester’s town hall, such as about the implementation of a moss wall — which, according to Kalani, is no longer happening — and an initiative involving QR codes.

The latter initiative has been completed, and QR code stations have been posted on many of the bulletin boards throughout the Newman Vertical Campus building. The codes allow students to report broken infrastructure that they sight on campus.

“Basically, what it is, is just a form where you submit anything that you see that is broken,” ex-

plained Executive Secretary Andrea Maribel Soto.

“For example, the water filters, right? We already had one submission saying that they are either red or yellow and that they need replacing. Another example could be like one of the stalls in a bathroom is broken, things like that. And then this form goes to me and also to the campus affairs representative and also to Savannah Ramsey, who is part of OSL.”

The livestream of the town hall can be found on The Ticker’s Facebook page, and the next USG town hall will take place sometime in the mid to late Fall 2019 semester.

BSA rings in Bangladeshi New Year by hosting CUNY-wide event

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The holiday is celebrated with processions, fairs and quality family time.

BSA brought all the vibrancy and fun to the Baruch community and invited outside students across the CUNY system to celebrate the new year.

BSA Vice President Sanzida Begum said she was happy with the turnout this year and tried to bring as much culture and Bengali traditions as possible to Baruch.

“It’s sort of like a fair, a parade; in Bangladesh we did a parade in the capitol,” Begum said.

“So we try to bring as much as we can with all the festive colors, the decorations, the performances so we try to replicate as much as we can.”

BSA President Syeda Rahman said this is the first time they had a CUNY-wide event so there were many challenges they faced but she is glad that the night went smoothly.

“This is the first time we had a CUNY-wide event and we didn’t know the process so that kind of took awhile but it was still a good time,” Rahman said.

“We thought it will be fun to be very colorful because it is kind of like a spring celebration, just being more expressive.”

Rahman emphasized the diversity at Baruch and how the audience is not only Bengali people but also a mix of cultures, so she appreciates how everyone can come together to celebrate a new year.

“We always get a huge turnout [of] people that aren’t Bengali,” Rahman said. “We really appreciate that.”

BSA Chair of Events Fahim Alam Shakie mentioned how he wanted to share the festivities with the Baruch family and how the energy at



FEBA GEORGE | THE TICKER



FEBA GEORGE | THE TICKER

The Bangaldeshi Student Association celebrated New Years, with food and dancing. It was their first time hosting a CUNY-wide event to celerate this holiday.

the event was amazing.

“The turnout was amazing; we have over 200 people in the room right now and everyone is jamming, dancing, people are cheering on and everyone is loving the music that is live right now,” Shakie said during the event.

“People from all ethnicities are dancing together — that’s the goal.”

Shakie pointed out that his favorite part was dancing with the BSA team who perform both cul-

tural and modern dances from traditional Bengali music to jamming party music.

He also emphasized that BSA wanted to bring upcoming and new local artists in New York City to support the local artists.

“We want to represent the local artists in New York City,” Shakie said.

“That’s why we brought them here, we want to keep it local; the performers were amazing.”

BSA Chair of Marketing Debby Debnath said she is so grateful that the event was so successful because BSA put so much effort and time into this and started planning two months ago.

“We had a great teacher this semester and her name is Ayesha, I am grateful for her,” said Debnath.

“If it wasn’t for her, I don’t think the dances would be this successful.”

Chair of Choreography Aye-

sha Abedin revealed that they have been rehearsing for a month now and have been preparing nonstop for tonight.

“Since it is Bengali new year, we specifically wanted Bengali songs; we took some from TV commercials and movie songs,” Abedin said.

“We had a classical Bengali song which was the second song. We have a lot of colors, a lot of fun and we believe in loud music.”

VP of Legislative Affairs resigns, new VP replacement is elected

BY SHEIK FLORADEWAN
NEWS EDITOR

Baruch College’s Undergraduate Student Government faced its sixth resignation this year with the latest being Vice President of Legislative Affairs Navjot Pal Kaur who resigned the week before spring break.

A senior and political science major, Kaur was elected earlier this semester. When she assumed her position, she expressed to *The Ticker* that she wanted to make Baruch students become more civically minded and engaged. During her time as VP of Legislative Affairs, she focused on getting students to go out and vote, registering them during events held in the Multipurpose Room, and various other locations within campus and throughout the city.

Kaur also headed the delegation of the New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators Conference in Albany back in February to lobby for funding for the Lawrence and Eris Field Building at 17 Lexington Avenue.

"I don't believe that anyone has a right to comment on what she should have done and what she shouldn't have. At the end of the day, it was her decision to resign and it isn't my place to comment on her choice."

— Kim Kazdal

When *The Ticker* reached out to Kaur asking why she decided to step down from her position with less than a month remaining, Kaur decline to respond.

The only comment she made was regarding the newly elected VP, Kim Kazdal, who ran alongside POP! or Power of the People! during the 2019-2020 USG elections.

"I am grateful for Kim's election to VP of Legislative Affairs and I'm sure she's going to do a great job. I'm really proud of her," Kaur said. "As a member of my legislative committee when I was VP, she showed so much interest and initiative and I think she's a great leader and will have much to contribute to the Baruch community."

Kazdal is a freshman majoring in public affairs and was previously involved with USG as part of Kaur's legislative committee.

In regard to Kaur's resignation, Kazal stated, "I don't believe that anyone has a right to comment on what she should have done and what she shouldn't have. At the end of the day, it was her decision to resign and it isn't my place to comment on her choice."

With the remainder of the semester, USG had in house elections where the senate members voted on an interim VP of Legislative Affairs, Tamanna Saidi, from whom *The Ticker* also reached out to but received no response.

Kazal hopes that Saidi "is able to gather the public's opinion, specifically of Baruch students on certain issues." She explained "this will help the next USG identify which issues are most important to the students, so that we can tackle these issues." Kazdal's advice to Saidi was "just to genuinely try to connect with students and to not be scared of following a less conventional path."



SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

Questions asked at the USG town hall included those regarding resignations, budgets, #BeFare and the transition process.

As for Kazdal, she expressed that she is excited "to be working hands-on with the people at Baruch next year."

One of the initiatives she has in mind is to continue working closely with the #BeFare Committee, "Ensuring that Brandon's legacy is con-

tinued."

Brandon Santiago, chair of the #BeFare Committee of USG has been meeting with officials from major transit groups to secure a reduced transit fare for CUNY students.

She also mentioned some of her

goals for next semester.

"Having continuous discussion about political issues and creating a safe place to do so," Kazal said. "Making politics more about connecting with people and the importance of giving back to your community."

‘Let’s Talk About It’ event discusses mental health

A workshop focused on the mental health of Asian-American students discussed how stigma can affect receiving treatment

BY SHAHRAM RAHMAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Baruch’s Office of Health and Wellness hosted its last event, “Let’s Talk About It,” honoring Asian Pacific American Heritage Month which took place on April 30.

The event discussed how to deal with stress and mental health from an Asian and Pacific Islander American perspective.

The office coordinator Teamare Gaston lead the discussion and brought a guest speaker Junhong Cao to aid her presentation in which they delved into the topic of mental health and stress within the Asian community.

It also focused on give students the tools to tend to their own mental health and discussing the topic with friends and members of their family.

Gaston highlighted that almost “5.4% of the U.S. population identifies as Asian American or Pacific Islander.”

Of that population, over “13% had a diagnosable mental illness in the past year.”

She continued, “18.9 percent of Asian American high school students report considering suicide, versus 15.5 percent of Caucasians.”

Cao went over her own observations she learned about mental health as a clinical psychologist who primarily deals with Asian American clients.

There are “reports of fewer mental health conditions in her clients than their white counterparts,” she explained, but the cli-

ents are also “more likely to consider and attempt suicide.”

She also said that they are “three times less likely than their white counterparts to seek treatment” and they “have the most difficulty accessing mental health treatment due to their language barrier.”

Gaston made the discussion more interactive by asking students in the audience to engage in roleplay scenarios where they acted out typical conversations that can happen among families. Students roleplayed as either parents or students.

This activity helped students realize how mental health and stress affect students to an extent where the effect is questioned or examined by outside sources, such as one’s own family.

A student in the audience mentioned that she related to a scenario that was acted out.

This scenario depicted a time she had to keep a secret from her parent.

With this discussion, both Gaston and Cao explored how Asian American students have it tough when it comes to pleasing their parents or guardians through achieving academic accolades, being a good child, etc.

“College students have great potential, all these dreams to fulfill in their dreams and careers, and I hope they continue to achieve what they want to achieve,” Cao said.

For Asian Americans, and all other students, she hopes that they can “continue to be willing to talk about issues.”



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'Spring Fling' events bring fun and excitement before finals week

Baruch College's annual "Spring Fling" was hosted on May 2 by WBMB in the gym. Students who attended the event were able to enjoy multiple activities, including a blow-up bouncy slide, although the most exciting part of the event was the concert that featured a Baruch rapper and big names such as JID. In addition, the Office of Student Life held a "Spring Fling" carnival during club hours, where students could eat popcorn and candy apples while getting their pictures drawn. Both events come shortly before finals week and the end of classes.

Office of Student Life's Carnival Spring Fling

Baruch College students came together at the annual Spring Fling to celebrate Bernie the Bearcat's 50th birthday with games, food, giveaways and bouncy castles on May 2. Stations with various unique activities were spread throughout the main gym, where the event was held. While cotton candy and popcorn were served in one corner, ice cream and apples dipped in fondue were served in the other. Sketch artists were also present at the event and students lined up to get their pictures drawn. The occasion was kicked off with a cake-cutting celebration for Bernie's

birthday, cut by none-other than the mascot himself and the cake was shared with all students at the event. Christopher Hall, a senior and finance major at the college, said that he enjoyed the event thoroughly. "I was there with my friends and we had a really good time," he said. "By the end, we were all dancing to the music and enjoying the event." Graduating senior Iqra Shah didn't fail to take advantage of the various desserts served at the event. "There was so much food," Shah said. "I had cake, the cotton-candy and ice cream." However, the highlight of her afternoon, she mentioned, was the time she spent with her friends, both



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old and new. "What I loved about the event was how many new people I met," the corporate communications major said. "Everyone was very friendly, and I got a chance to speak to many people I knew from far but had been too nervous to approach.

The games and the relaxed environment w brought us together." Shah said she also participated in the various games that took place in the colorful bouncy castles spread throughout the gym, racing on the inflatable horses against her friends

and fighting them with inflatable weapons. The event, filled with lighthearted fun, was a much needed one for Shah and other Baruch students as they head towards final exams.
Written by Sheron Virani, Copy Editor.

WBMB's Concert Spring Fling

Baruch College's main gym was outfitted with concert speakers and a stage on May 2 for "Spring Fling," the annual concert hosted by Baruch's WBMB radio station. Three performances were scheduled for the night, though each performer brought guests to add to the concert. The lineup was promising,

and the performances did not disappoint, making the night memorable for Baruch students. The concert opened with Supreme Carl, a local rapper who got the crowd excited right from the start. Currently enrolled at Baruch, he has one single on his website and on SoundCloud and was easily able to get the crowd eager for more. The crowd responded to Supreme Carl's tracks with

mosh pits and excited shouts. Flipp Dinero took the stage after Supreme Carl and began his set with energy that was reflected by the audience. When performing from the stage wasn't enough, Flipp Dinero jumped down into the crowd and joined them for a few tracks. After bringing out some friends to perform verses of their own on stage, he hopped down again to begin telling a story about a girl who just wouldn't stop calling him, leading into "Leave Me Alone," his most popular track, not once but twice to close out his performance. "Leave Me Alone" was certified platinum on Jan. 15, though none of Flipp Dinero's following releases have been able to come close to the popularity of the track. After a short break, J.I.D opened his set with the smooth and direct style he's known for. He performed tracks from his most recent album DiCaprio 2 and verses he contributed to the tracks of other artists. DiCaprio 2 is a follow-up to The Never Story, J.I.D's debut album, which he



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released in 2017. The album was met with critical acclaim, and music videos for the tracks are still being released. J.I.D called out his friend and rapper Bas, who was also in attendance to the surprise of the crowd, though Bas didn't perform any songs himself. Both J.I.D and Bas are signed to J. Cole's Dreamville Records, which the rap icon founded in 2007. Although ticket sales

for the concert began less than two weeks before the performance date, a sizable audience was able to enjoy the lineup of rappers who all performed well. "Spring Fling" was a night of mosh pits, dancing and good vibes. The energy of the performers was shared with the crowd and the night was a success by all measures.
Written by Julian Tineo, Photography Editor.



JULIAN TINEO | THE TICKER

Students learn about climate change prevention at seminar

BY AMANDA SALAZAR
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Baruch College Climate Change Faculty Seminar hosted a series of three discussions in April and May on different aspects of climate change, with the final talk occurring on May 1.

Each discussion of the sequence, called the “2019 Climate Change Speaker Series,” was centered around a speaker who the seminar invited to discuss the nuances of climate change.

After the speakers said their part, the audience — a combination of Baruch students, faculty and members of other CUNY schools — had the opportunity to ask questions and make comments related to the topic.

The final discussion, titled “Environmental Journalism and the Climate Crisis: The Stakes for Democracy,” was given by co-founder and executive editor of InsideClimate News Stacy Feldman.

The discussion delved into climate change denial and how deniers affect environmental reporting, which Feldman said is a shrinking field.

Feldman, a Columbia University alumna, warned the audience that if there is a lack of environmental reporting, it’s going to be even harder to get through to climate change deniers and get comprehensive legislation passed to curb the affects of global warming.

According to Feldman, environmental journalism has not been a widely accepted beat for a long time, though it is considered to have its origins in nature writing.

“The environmental journalist, it is really a unique species in our profession, and it is also a very recent arrival to journalism,” Feldman explained. “Journalism, as you

of course know, goes back many, many centuries, so does nature writing, but the watchdog environmental journalists as we know, that really dates back to 1962 when a 55-year old marine biologist and author who was working for the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries as an editor at the time changed the world.”

This marine biologist, Feldman went on to say, was Rachel Carson, who wrote the book “Silent Springs” that was published in three parts in *The New Yorker*.

The book was on dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, or DDT, a pesticide commonly called the “insect bomb.” DDT became available for personal use during World War II. Carson exposed the pesticide’s danger to the environment and people’s health in her book, making the work the first piece of investigative environmental reporting.

Feldman spoke on Carson’s contributions to the field for a portion of time before moving on to discuss how psychology and politics intersect with environmental reporting and climate change solutions.

She said that there are “information bubbles” on the coasts of America, where there’s environmental reporting and climate change acceptance. Then, between the coasts, there is middle America, where environmental reporting is scarce and acceptance of climate change is even scarcer.

While national newspapers and magazines do heavy reporting on the effects of global warming, the local newspapers in the Midwest often stay away from the topic, as is it is not widely accepted in that area.

Unfortunately, according to Feldman, local papers are more trusted and read than national ones in this part of the country, so



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The event, which featured multiple speakers, stressed the value of environmental journalism and the dangers of pesticides.

people living in the Midwest do not often get to read news stories on the environment.

This then perpetuates middle America’s disbelief in climate change and unwillingness to do something about it.

“Many people don’t trust [national publications] as much as their local papers. The national papers don’t speak to their local issues,” said Feldman.

“Or the study done by the Towel Center for Digital Journalism [in] Kentucky that surveyed a lot of people and found that people see national reporting as politically motivated. They feel there’s much less bias in their local papers, though they recognize our problems there, too. The big problem here are the local newspapers, and this is really, really the issue that we’re trying to deal with. They’re disappearing and that is creating new deserts all across the country, particularly in the middle of the country.”

After she finished her prepared speech, Feldman answered ques-

tions from the audience. One asked by someone who identified themselves as Luis inquired, “Do you think it’s a bit ironic that the reduction in the number of community and local papers you mentioned also means a reduction in the use of dead paper? Because most local papers are print and that’s regarded as a positive in climate change, the reduction of the use of paper.”

“I really don’t know the impact the newspapers have on the global deforestation problem,” Feldman replied.

The discussion was hosted by psychology professor Mindy Engle-Friedman, who introduced Feldman to the audience and teaches classes on environmental psychology.

Engle-Friedman is both part of the Climate Change Faculty Seminar and the chair of the Task Force on Sustainability, and she said that climate change impacts Baruch students in many ways.

“I think it affects students in different ways. To begin with I think

that — just given my experience with students of Baruch in the classes that I’ve taught here — I think they don’t know that much about climate change,” Engle-Friedman said.

“I think it’s a gap, it’s a gap in their understanding and I think our students want to know stuff, but they don’t know it. And I think that that’s not a comfortable place for students to be. I don’t think it’s comfortable not to know. So, that’s number one,” the professor continued. “Number two is I think that they think it’s scary. It’s a scary topic. Why would you want to learn more about a scary topic?”

“So, that’s number two and number three is when they do know about it or they are aware, I think they’re really concerned about what could they do. Like, how could they possibly make a difference? I think that it affects the Baruch students because there’s a certain not knowing. And I think they’d like to know more,” she finished.

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Opinions

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Students need change from the incoming USG board next year

The Baruch College Undergraduate Student Government’s role is to represent and advocate for the student population at Baruch but *The Ticker’s* editorial board believes that USG should also take an active role in advocating and lobbying for CUNY-wide issues.

During the USG debate, when the running candidates were asked what the Board of Trustees does and their stance on NYPIRG, a nonprofit, advocacy group that focuses on public education — the table members were at varying levels of knowing what either of them are. USG should also be more collaborative in working with the University Student Senate because, even though they seem to be separate entities, many of USS’s goals, purposes and commitments overlap with USG’s.

In addition to focusing on CUNY-wide issues, the incoming USG should implement more initiatives, as past USGs have implemented initiatives such as the water-bottle filling stations and a tuition freeze back in 2015. USG should also maintain an engagement with their constituents by having a form for students to submit their concerns anonymously, as many people may feel intimidated going to a senate meeting to express their concerns.

While the senate meetings are held on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m., few can attend a singular meeting with a narrow time slot during the weekday. USG should be holding office hours at least on a biweekly basis at locations all around campus, from USG suites to the second-floor lobby to the Newman Library Building. Such meetings should be highly publicized so that students know when and where they occur.

The Ticker’s editorial board also hopes that next year’s USG is transparent and open in talking to *The Ticker* for accountability in regards to keeping students informed on what’s going on with major events.

“Baruch Bash,” for instance, is an annual event hosted by USG that celebrates the end of the academic year. This year, however, many students are confused as to how the event will be carried out, since in previous years, many students have shown up drunk and in certain situations had to be taken out in ambulances.

While USG does not have control over what students do in their free time, the members must strive to maintain events that will be safe and fun for everyone who attends. Keeping these points in mind will help make USG a true voice for every student on campus.

Spoilers should not be taken seriously

As Marvel’s *Avengers: Endgame* hit theaters and *Game of Thrones’* longest episode to date arrived on TV, the two releases raised the concern of spoilers among viewers. It’s understandable to want to avoid a situation in which the viewing of a movie or TV show is ruined or literally spoiled, but the obsession with avoiding spoilers is a problematic one.

The most valuable part of a story is its telling, not its surprises. Unexpected moments can be valuable assets, but stories’ integrities should not depend only on twists. It says something really bad if a three-hour movie could be ruined by a few pieces of information to be found on social media.

If others want to discuss a piece of pop culture, shouting about spoilers or complaining on social media is not the answer.

Those interested in avoiding spoilers have the responsibility of removing themselves from the conversation until they’ve seen the movie or show. Still, those who try to ruin their friends’ enjoyment of a story are being bad friends.

Spoilers may actually enhance stories, according to a University of California study presented by Gizmodo, and viewers can still feel suspense in a movie even if they know what is going to happen, the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy reported. Spoilers aren’t such a big deal, and everybody should be responsible for their own spoiler intake.



JOEL BAUTISTA | THE TICKER

True colors: The Mueller report

After 22 months of investigation, Special Counsel Robert Mueller concluded his probe into Russian interference efforts in the 2016 presidential elections claims of the Donald Trump campaign colluding with the foreign government and the possibility that Trump obstructed justice. Facing public dissatisfaction with Attorney General William Barr’s four-page summary of the 448-page report, the Department of Justice released a redacted version of the Mueller report on April 18.

Mueller detailed in his report that Russia did interfere in the election “in sweeping and systematic fashion” through “two operations” — the first being the Internet Research Agency, who attempted to hurt Hillary Clinton’s campaign and boost Trump’s through social media accounts, and the second being GRU, a Russian intelligence who performed “computer-intrusion operations” against Clinton’s campaign and released “stolen Democratic documents.” Mueller charged about two dozen Russian nationals with election interference crimes.

Whether the Russians had a tremendous effect on the election is unknown as one cannot know its true psychological bearings on voter minds.

While partisans bicker, Russian President Vladimir Putin is be-

coming a bigger threat than usual, and possibly has the means to sway the 2020 U.S. elections.

Yet even that might not deter Trump’s skepticism of Russian meddling threatening our national security. After all, Trump associates the question of whether the Russians meddled in the 2016 election with people questioning the legitimacy of his 2016 win, calling it a “made up story” in 2017 and the Russian probe “a coup” on The Sean Hannity Show recently, Politico reports.

While Putin’s government and the Trump campaign’s goals to benefit from catapulting Trump into office coincided with each other, Mueller could not prove any direct “conspiracy or coordination” between the two. However, Mueller still indicted Trump’s former campaign advisors, including campaign chairman Paul Manafort sentenced to seven and a half years in prison for financial fraud and conspiracy involving Ukraine, and former fixer Michael Cohen sentenced to three years for lying to Congress.

Meanwhile, questions of son-in-law Jared Kushner and Donald Trump Jr.’s involvement in secret meetings with Russians are still unanswered so the Trump family should face further investigation.

Ultimately, the report portrays a campaign eager to embolden

and cooperate with an authoritarian regime for political gains by exposing America’s largest vulnerability — its partisan divide.

Whether Trump obstructed justice is not as obscure as it seems. Mueller outlined at least twelve instances summarized by *The New York Times* where Trump might have obstructed justice, such as trying to fire Mueller and pushing White House lawyer Don McGahn to deny it.

Although Trump’s associates did not listen, Mueller did not accuse nor exonerate Trump since he adhered to the Justice Department’s opinion during Richard Nixon’s Watergate scandal that a sitting president cannot be indicted. Trump’s “Complete and total EXONERATION” tweet lies with the rest of his “fake” truths.

If the House starts impeachment trials soon, they would probably jeopardize Democrat chances in 2020 as it would face a majority Republican Senate that would quickly acquit Trump.

Mueller’s findings warrant further investigation by the House, preferably with Trump’s actual testimony and not written answers, that could possibly convince some Trumppublicans and Republicans to hop on the impeachment train.

-Pabvitraa Ramcharan
Political Science ‘22

Identity politics must be redefined

Identity politics is the act of forming an alliance with people of a shared identity to the exclusion of others. It has negative connotations of prejudice and persecution. One way would be to think of identity politics in the context of intersectionality.

President Donald Trump certainly capitalized on identity politics throughout his presidential campaign. He convinced people that immigrants were the root of U.S. problems. His policy also widened racial disparities in the United States.

Trump engaged in dog whistle politics during the early days of his

presidency. He signed an executive order that limited visas to people of Muslim-majority countries in the Middle East and banned air travel into the United States.

It brush-stroked the Middle East and Islam as the root of all terrorism.

Hate crimes have risen since Trump took office. Law enforcement agencies reported hate crime increase between 2016 and 2017, according to the FBI. The top three motivations being race, religion and sexual orientation.

One would argue that he’s not to blame for all hate crimes, but whether it’s his unwillingness to condemn white supremacy and Neo-Nazis or implementing policy that bars transgender troops from serving in the military, he’s the most powerful man in the world and the office he holds amplifies the hostility he spews. Trump has weaponized identity.

Intersectionality was a term coined by civil rights activist, Kimberlé Crenshaw. It’s the idea that people’s intersecting identities, whether it’d be race, gender or

class, contribute to their oppression in society.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez thinks in the context of intersectionality when she ties asthma rates in the South Bronx, brain damage because of lead poisoned water in Flint, and flooded farms in the Midwest to explain the urgency of addressing climate change.

Ocasio-Cortez considers, then links, the experiences of different identities to show that people have more in common with each other under a system that doesn’t value their experiences when policy aids and abets perpetrators of industrial waste dumping and excessive carbon emissions.

Identity politics in the context of intersectionality is about coalition building through varying lenses of oppression.

It is a complex way of addressing issues, but if something’s difficult to fix, it’s because the issue has always been ignored.

-Jose Nieves
Political Science ‘21

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Identity politics in the context of intersectionality is about coalition building through varying lenses of oppression.

USG advises future board members to be cautious of power dynamics

THE USG REPORT



EMMA JORGENSEN

It's that time of year again — the sun is out, the birds are chirping and Baruch College has a newly elected Undergraduate Student Government.

I remember when I first started my position of vice president. At the time, I was taking a psychology class on leadership and managerial development and I learned the downside to becoming a leader. Rising to power changes you in a negative way sometimes.

It is quite ironic how the paradox goes. The traits you were able to use to get elected into the position in the first place can diminish once you enter your role.

Many surveys and studies have shown that ethical issues in workplaces are most correlated to the person with the most authority. Upon learning this last year, I made sure our executive board, including myself, knew about this.

We are all well aware of the dangers that power going to our heads would cause, and we keep ourselves in check by holding each other accountable.

There are moments of slip-ups, but none of us allow the other members of student government to betray what they know to be appropriate behavior.

In past years, there have been

USG members who have abused their power — executives denying senators the ability to host events for a semester, members talking down to one another as if it is justified, threats used by executives in order to sway votes and people not allowing non-USG members to hold responsibility. This is what everyone has to be aware of in order to grow.

As the phrase goes, “with great power comes great responsibility.” It does not come naturally. It takes a lot of thinking before you act or speak to make sure you are acting as you would want to, not as the power is allowing you to justify. It also takes a lot of support from your other team members.

Whenever I was unsure if I was replying to someone fairly or abusing my power, I checked with the rest of the executive board.

The executive board in particular has an immense amount of power. It means making decisions, thinking strategically and really understanding what your goals are for the organization. The executive board is also the most likely to abuse this power.

This is why you have to think. How you act as an executive board and what you tolerate sets the tone for your team. You have to find a balance between being stern when needed and also being friendly and kind. Being stern is not an abuse of power but being mean definitely is.

As for the other roles in USG, so many of them have power of their own. Many are leading or working with a team and their decisions as a leader affect the direction of whatever they are in control of. This power too has a high chance of getting to people's heads, es-

pecially if they have not had the power before.

People think they are able to justify their actions and words because of their title.

This is how to create a toxic environment. It is also important to keep this in mind no matter what position you are in, your actions have reactions.

We have the power to say no, to hold back stipends, to make some decisions without a vote and we have the power to change USG for the worse if we are not careful.

This is why you have to think. How you act as an executive board member and what you tolerate sets the tone for your team. You have to find a balance between being stern when needed and also being friendly and kind.

Many USG members are leading or working with a team and their decisions as a leader affect the direction of whatever they are in control of.

This power has a high chance of getting to people's heads, especially if they have not had the power before.

People think they are able to justify their actions and words because of their title, but it's important to understand that actions have consequences.

The reality is that USG is rewarding; one just has to be very careful. Regardless of the role, USG changes you. It makes you grow as a person. The direction you grow, however, is up to you.

Emma Jorgensen is the executive vice president of USG. She can be reached at emma.jorgensen@usgbaruch.com. Her office is located at 3-276 in the Newman Vertical Campus.

Working remotely inspires millennial drive for purpose, meaning and growth

Telecommuting came to change the workplace environment and is here to stay. However, there are concerns about work-life balance and employee engagement while working away from the office. As telecommuting transforms the workplace, companies should change the way employees are engaged. Since companies want to improve business outcomes every day, the importance of highly motivated employees working remotely play a fundamental role in company structure.

Many millennials are approaching the jobs market with high expectations, so how can employers struggle to give their employees a meaning and a purpose in their companies and keep them happy and engaged.

This question can be approached in many different ways. But first, it's important to understand the remote job market change.

In a 2016 Gallup poll, 43 percent of U.S employees worked remotely in some capacity, increasing from 39 percent back in 2012, according to Forbes.

In other words, jobs completed out of office grew 4 percent, disrupting more of the traditional workplace.

As millennials take over the job market, this number is more likely to increase. Despite this, companies such as IBM, Bank of America, Yahoo and others have stopped their telecommuting programs, Forbes also reported.

Particularly for millennials, the lack of job motivation when working remotely comes from not having a meaning or a purpose at the workplace. This can lead to unhappy employees, who may reflect

their discontent through poor performance, lack of innovation and lack of loyalty.

By 2025, millennials will account for almost 75 percent, of the workforce, according to Forbes.

With a continuous growth in telecommuting year over year, employers have a lot to do to increase employees' productivity, while also keeping them loyal and fully engaged to the job.

Offering an environment where workers can feel appreciated, independent and included as part of a team are fundamental keys to motivate the remote work culture.

Millennials are more likely to say they would change jobs for an employee benefit or a perk than past generations, such as Generation X or baby boomers.

The reason for this difference is that millennials are more focused on education, personal development and flexibility.

The latter point is becoming very important, since there is no need to be in an office to complete the projects or tasks assigned. In the millennial culture, a 9-to-5 workday schedule becomes less relevant, office perks are extremely necessary and the flexibility of working from anywhere takes more importance.

The perks should match employees' needs to attract potential

candidates.

Since millennials want to feel valuable, customizing a set of benefits may help to make them feel part of the company. They can motivate them through messages about flexibility, financial stability, family-friendly policies and other perks that makes them feel valued at the company.

Additionally, it is important to make millennials feel part of something without forgetting that they love to work independently at their own pace.

But also, it's more important for these workers to have a strong leader with bold goals. If they don't know what's expected of them or if they are not in roles that match their talents, then it doesn't matter the number of perks that a company has because employees will still experience issues while trying to work.

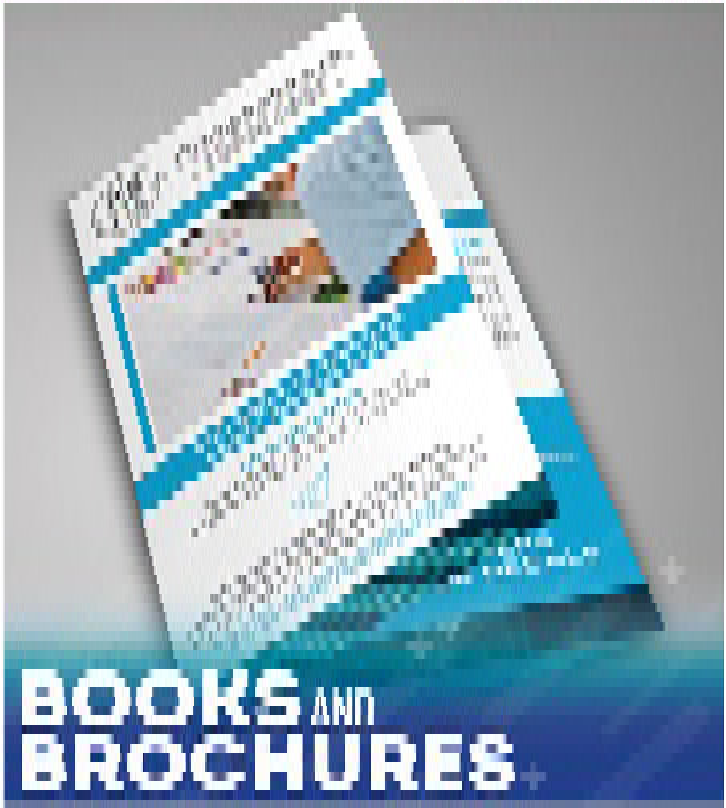
Another significant driver to motivate remote workers is that they need to feel part of a team in a different way to the traditional workplace.

Since millennials grew up in an era dominated by the internet, they don't need to meet up in a room to organize projects. The use of technology becomes an important way to get the job done efficiently.

As part of a team, millennials must use social media, video chats, instant messaging, specialized apps and devices that can contribute to the company's productivity.

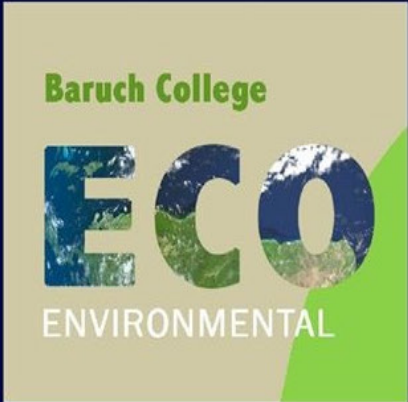
These strategies may help keep employees engaged in an era where everyone is connected, time is limited and work-life balance is scarce.

*-Cristian Marulanda
Finance '20*



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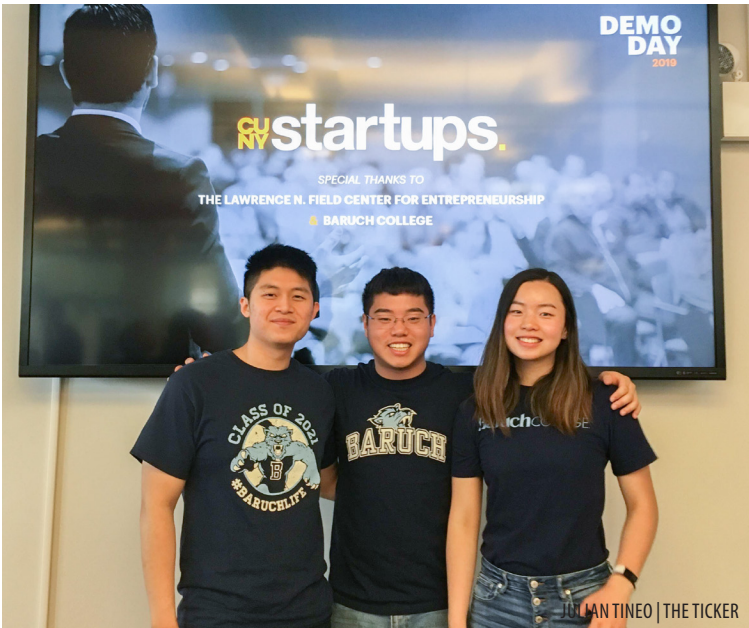
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Business



CUNY Startup Accelerator motivates student entrepreneurs

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

With massive companies such as Facebook and Snapchat known for growing out of college dorm rooms and then becoming household names, it is no surprise that the largest urban university in the world would recognize the potential that students have in building products that could possibly change the world.

Perhaps the most notable start-up to come from the CUNY system is WeWork, recently valued at \$47 billion, which was co-founded by Baruch graduate Adam Neumann. The CUNY Startup Accelerator, which began its 2019 cohort on March 13, aims to promote the

growth of ideas that can be just as impactful as those of Neumann or Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg.

Student founders worked with their teams and mentors at meetings twice a week for six weeks before pitching their ideas in front of judges at Demo Day. The judges included professionals who have experience as founders and investors working in venture capital, seed funding and accelerators.

Thirteen teams spent three minutes pitching their startups before the judges chose the top four teams to advance to the second round. Each of the four finalist teams then expanded on their ideas with a five-minute presentation and a Q&A session with the judges. After all of

the finalists presented, the judges selected first, second and third place winners.

Baruch College was well-represented among the participating founders. The program was sponsored by Baruch's Lawrence N. Field Center for Entrepreneurship and the school's business students came out in full force. Four of the 13 teams were composed of Baruch students including Oasis, an impact-investing marketplace, TripToo, a social media travel app, and Release, an AI-powered solution for the recidivism issue.

Univents, a Baruch startup led by CEO Michael Joh, Jonathan Li and Jaehun Choi, was a finalist but it fell just short of third place. Uni-

vents was created as a resource for students looking to get involved on campus but don't know where to start.

"They give you a vast amount of resources and mentors related to your adventure and the weekly session are really insightful," Li said of the Accelerator program. Univents designed mockups and strategies for launching an app meant to keep CUNY communities strong by providing a one-stop-shop for discovering on-campus events.

In third place was CuddlyTails, a platform made to connect pet owners with trusted pet sitters and dog walkers. The company's founder was inspired to make the app when she had to cancel a trip because she

couldn't find a pet sitter she trusted and didn't want to leave her dog in a kennel where he'd spend most of his time in a cage.

Second place was awarded to WiseWatch, a wearable GPS tracker meant to help medical centers and family members keep tabs on the location of someone who is suffering from dementia.

OddJobs, led by Michael Edwards II of the City College of New York, won first place as a platform for people looking for work that offered the ability to be paid the same day in which the work is completed.

Editor's note: Michael Joh, CEO of Univents startup, is the advertising director for The Ticker.

Disney attempts to expand streaming

BY **AYSE KELCE**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Walt Disney Co. is currently in talks with Comcast Corp. to purchase its 30 percent stakes of Hulu, according to CNBC. It is claimed that the conversations are still private, and the parties familiar with the matter prefer to remain confidential.

Disney bought 21st Century Fox for \$71.3 billion on March 20. With this purchase, Disney not only increased its assets vastly, but also received another 30 percent worth of Hulu shares that used to belong to Fox.

After buying Time Warner, AT&T Inc. recently sold its shares of 9.5 percent to Hulu itself for \$1.43 billion, due to plans of Warner Media releasing its own streaming service. The shares sold by AT&T will be divided equally between Comcast and Disney, the only two remaining owners of Hulu.

Disney's total of 60 percent of the stakes, plus half of the shares coming from the AT&T purchase, makes the company the biggest stakeholder of Hulu against Comcast. Only a few months ago, Comcast and Disney owned equal shares of Hulu.

If Comcast decides to sign the deal to sell its shares, Disney will become the only owner of Hulu.

In 2018, Hulu lost around \$1.5 billion, up from \$920 million a year earlier, according to Comcast's most recent 10-K filing, Variety.com reported.

The loss of Hulu strengthened the rumors that Comcast will speed up the deal with Disney to sell its shares.

Disney lost \$580 million in equity investments for Hulu, and \$469 million from BAMtech, the streaming technology powering



HENNINGE | PIXABAY

ESPN+ and other services, according to CNBC.

However, Disney is preparing to launch its own streaming network Disney+ this November. It is expected to create big competition against Netflix, costing only \$6.99 monthly against Netflix's prices ranging from \$7.99 to \$15.99 for new subscribers.

This new streaming service will give Disney power to remove some of its popular content from Netflix and attract a greater audience for itself.

It is also expected that Disney may bundle Hulu with Disney+ and ESPN+.

"We're still assessing the prospect and timing of international launches, which would have an impact on our financial outlook for Hulu," Disney Chief Financial Officer Christine McCarthy said at an investor presentation.

If the Hulu service expands internationally, it might start to bring profit rather than loss in a few years.

Disney already owned many media companies before buying the 21st Century Fox, ESPN, ABC Studios, Pixar, National Geographic, Marvel and Lucasfilm to name a few.

However, with the 21st Century Fox merge, Disney now holds the right of Fox's entire TV and film libraries too; this means Disney now owns Marvel characters that Fox held full or partial rights of, such as Deadpool, Quicksilver, the X-Men, the Fantastic Four and Scarlet Witch.

Only a few days after Avengers: Endgame movie came out, it grossed over \$1 billion worldwide according to box office data, meaning that Disney is gaining a remarkable profit as the owner of the record-breaking movie.

Even though Disney's streaming services have not yet made a satisfactory profit, the media corporation's recent massive growth and profits rose questions of whether this situation damages the market competition.

Most common resume issues you should avoid

BY **AMANDA SALAZAR**
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

In a school like Baruch where over three-fourths of students graduate with a job or a spot in graduate school, the word "resume" gets thrown around a lot.

However, students who do not visit Baruch College's Starr Career Development Center, or don't heed the center's advice, may be submitting their resumes to potential employers with some fatal flaws that will land their applications in the trash.

The most common and detrimental mistake a person could make on their resume, according to an article from TopResume.com, is leaving in grammatical and spelling errors that could have easily been edited out.

These types of errors can lead to employers questioning an applicant's intelligence, literacy or competency. The thinking is that if you truly want this job, then you'd spend the time to proofread it for simple mistakes.

Another frequent error that job applicants make is including incorrect contact information on their resumes.

Whether it's a wrong phone number, outdated email or misspelled LinkedIn link, inaccurate contact information will make it difficult if not impossible for employers to reach you.

Additionally, having wrong contact information on your resume can give hirers the impression that you are either reusing an old resume or just didn't care enough to read it over before sending it in, according to an article from Design Group Staffing. Always make sure your resume is

fully updated with all the correct information.

This is yet another prevalent mistake in resume-writing — writing so general, it seems like the resume is being reused from a past application.

"One-size-fits-all" resumes are not impressive to employers.

An article from Monster.com, a career search website that helps users create resumes, states, "Employers want you to write a resume specifically for them. They expect you to clearly show how and why you fit the position in a specific organization."

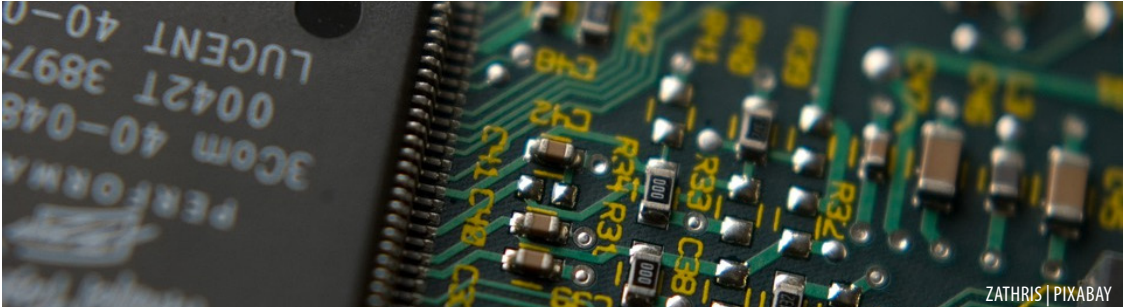
Hirers do not want to see generality; they want specific, quantifiable results you brought about in your previous jobs, and how hiring you would benefit their company.

This is why your resume should be more results-oriented as opposed to duty-oriented. Employers do not fully focus on what your position responsibilities were, but instead how you took initiative or implemented out-of-the-box ideas, the TopResume article states.

Going along with this, it's important to use the best fit verbs to describe your previous experiences, words that will enhance the employer's mental image of you in your former job.

Words like "resolved" and "supervised" will be more interesting to your resume's reader.

Overall, most of these mistakes can be easily avoided or corrected if students proof-read their resumes before attaching them to job applications; even better, students should have their resumes looked at by a peer or career adviser to make sure their resume is as spot on as it can be.



Ticker Tape

A Financial Briefing by Baruch College’s Investment Management Group

The information technology sector has been the leading sector year-to-date in the S&P 500 with an average return rate of 26.69 percent.

Within the information technology sector, both the semiconductor and semiconductor equipment industries have been driving this growth in returns with each industry attributing an average return rate of 26.19 percent and 37.07 percent respectively.

This growth can be credited to the rise in global chip sales. According to the Semiconductor Industry Association, global ship sales rose 13.7 percent to \$468.8 billion in 2018.

Despite the fact that the market started to weaken late last year, the 2018 figure represented the industry’s highest-ever annual total.

Conductors as a whole conduct electricity while insulators help resist electricity, and semiconductors fall in between the two.

Their level of conductivity and other properties can be changed with the introduction of impurities, to meet the specific needs of the electrical components in which they are installed.

Also known as semis, or chips,

semiconductors can be found in thousands of electrical products such as computers, smartphones, appliances and even medical equipment.

Their actual function includes the amplification of signals, switching, and energy conversion.

The semiconductor industry lives by a simple rule: smaller, faster and cheaper is always better.

While some experts believe that Moore’s Law is no longer applicable, chips manufactured today are still increasingly growing smaller in size.

It’s quite simple why being smaller is better in the semiconductor industry, finer lines mean more transistors can be packed on a single chip. The more transistors a single chip has, the faster the chip works.

Due to the size of competition, and the rate at which new technology is currently developing, the price of a chip can fall up to 50 percent within months.

With this constant pressure on chip makers to come up with something better and cheaper, it is easy to see why only a few companies achieve success in the semiconductor industry.

Semiconductors were invented in the United States, and they still lead the world in manufacturing, design and research.

The United States is currently the worldwide leader in this industry owning nearly half of the global market share.

In 2018, the U.S. semiconductor industry made a total \$209 billion, with over 80 percent of U.S. semiconductor company sales being to customers overseas.

Semiconductor chips and equipment is also the fourth largest export of the United States, after airplanes, refined oil and automobiles.

This highly competitive industry is made up of four main product categories: memory, microprocessors, commodity integrated circuits and complex SOC’s

Semiconductor stocks are currently on the rise, and many of the top players in the industry are expecting accelerating demand growth in the next coming months.

The VanEck Vectors Semiconductors ETF, which holds 25 of the largest semiconductor companies, is up 28 percent year to date and trading near historical highs.

By Michael Bentancur

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Arts & Style

Wearing high heels at work depends on company atmosphere



LILY RANSOM

Dear Lily,
Is it wrong if I wear three-inch or four-inch stilettos to an interview or a business setting even though I am dressed appropriately? I know most people would think high heels are for the club but can there be an exception where I can pull off wearing high heels to an interview without being frowned upon?

-Zuzanna Zurek

Dear Zuzanna,

First of all, the most important thing is whether or not you're comfortable walking in four-inch stilettos.

Can you walk in them without wobbling or twisting your ankle? If so, you're one step closer to being able to wear them all day.

The next step is deciding if they can still look professional.

Is the outfit itself minus the shoes mature and not inappropriate? Is the skirt or dress, if you're wearing one — already too short without heels?

Heels make any hemline look a lot shorter, so keep that in mind when picking shoes.

Secondly, do the heels appear professional other than their height? Are they overly strappy or casual?

If you want to wear super high heels but still want to maintain the professional vibe, I would suggest avoiding anything open-toed because they'll make the outfit too casual. Closed-toed are best if you're worried about your professionalism.

The good news is that heels higher than two and a half inches can usually be worn to work or an interview! Most are not all strictly for the clubs, though some still are.

For example, the 4-inch platform heels should be kept for the club only. The platform adds a level of sexiness and will most likely not go over well with your boss or interviewer.

Closed-toed four-inch heels that are not too flashy can be acceptable. No rhinestones, no glitter, and no platforms.

As I mentioned before, it really does depend on the outfit as well. If you are wearing dress pants and a blazer, four-inch heels will not make you look unprofessional, so it just depends if they go with the outfit.

I'd say that most of the time with pants, four-inch heels are fine for your outfit.

However, it gets tricky once we get into skirt and dress territory. Like I said, high heels will give the illusion of a shorter hemline, so be careful.

If your dress is already five or so inches above the knee, putting on high heels will make it look super



DAPHNELLY DELACRUZ | THE TICKER

Wearing a simple, closed-toed high heel in a solid color is a safe choice and a great way to add some style to your outfit.

short, and thus no longer professional.

If you're wearing a maxi dress or a midi dress — maxi goes to the ankles and midi goes to the mid-calf — four-inch heels will not make your hemline look significantly shorter because it is already quite long, so you're safe.

It also depends on whether the company you work at or are inter-

viewing for is a business formal or a business casual company.

Business formal companies tend to be stricter with what is acceptable to wear and sometimes four-inch heels do not fit the dress code.

Many business casual companies are, as the name suggests, more-lax with their dress codes so you're better off keeping the super

high heels for those kinds of companies.

And if you're just not sure, especially for an interview, there is nothing wrong with playing it safe and wearing lower heels.

Lower heels don't make an outfit any less professional, so don't worry and wear what makes you feel confident, mature and comfortable.

King Gizzard and The Lizard Wizard work their magic again on new album

BY MIGUEL MODESTO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

As the decade comes to a close, rock lore will have a special place for the Australian rock scene that birthed many bands who carried on the legacy of rock music in to 2010s.

King Gizzard and The Lizard Wizard are no exception as they close their eventful decade as a band with an exciting album that yet again changes the sounds they've explored with the many albums they have released thus far.

King Gizzard have made themselves known within the rock community for being one of the most experimental bands in recent years, experimenting with micro-tonal tunings, different rhythms and exploring genres like spoken word.

King Gizzard reached their creative peak in 2017 when they released five different albums that were all unique from one another.

Now with the release of their new album, *Fishing for Fishies*, King Gizzard have found themselves using upbeat tempos and dance grooves to create a fun experience.

The album begins with a strong opener. The title track carries an infectious beat that eventually leads to a silly chorus that is oddly catchy.

The vocals on the album by lead singer Stu MacKenzie are put through a chorus effect that adds the psychedelic sound the band is known for.

The single and third track on the record, "The Bird Song," is easily the album's strongest moment due to the refinement of the dance sound that the album



PAUL HUDSON | FLICKR

strives to achieve.

The song includes a piano and bass arrangement that is a callback to the very same sounds that were heard on the radio in the 80s and the end result is a unique single that comes early on in the album.

Like previous albums, the band fell short on some tracks. It is common to find a band experimenting with a sound to struggle with adapting. This is most evident on the sixth and seventh tracks "Real's not Real" and "This Thing."

As the album progresses, the exploration of the upbeat dance sound is spread a little thin and, as a result, these two tracks sound very generic.

The album hits a low point in the middle due to these tracks being one after the other. In the end, it also hurts the flow of the rest of the album.

During the final moments of the album, King Gizzard does manage to wrap up the entire new experience with the last two tracks finishing the record off on a great note.

The ninth track, "Acarine," sticks out like a sore thumb on the entire album in a good way due to its use of electronica in the unique production.

After the album drags on for a bit, "Acarine" is able to reignite interest due to its incoherent song structure and transitions that make it another standout moment on the record.

In terms of instrumentation, the record is basic for a King Gizzard album. However, that doesn't stop short of all the actual instruments used.

Acoustic instruments are the basis for the album as opposed to a heavy emphasis of electric instruments.

The guitar riff on "Plastic Boogie" is a bluesy lick and a highlight on the album as it makes the entire song fun and enjoyable.

The album is a testament to King Gizzard's creative output that doesn't seem to be stopping anytime soon.

After releasing a myriad of albums throughout the 2010s, *Fishing for Fishies* is a great way to end the eventful decade that has turned the band out of Australia into one of the most memorable groups in recent rock music history.

Although the album is far from perfect, it is another great addition to a discography that continues to display diverse sounds.

TIME releases list of 2019's influential people

BY DANA MATHURA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Right on schedule, *Time* magazine published its annual listicle of the year's most influential people earlier in April. A celebratory gala was held for the 100 individuals honored but only a select six will be able to boast their own covers as part of the magazine's tradition.

Those six names include journalist Gayle King, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, actress Sandra Oh, Nancy Pelosi, Taylor Swift and Egyptian soccer player Mohamed Salah.

As always, the contenders were famous, esteemed and high-ranking individuals from several categories. The categories ranged from pioneers, leaders and titans to artists and icons. According to *Time*, they choose who makes the list based on their inspiration as teachers. At the TIME 100 summit, the influencers have the chance to connect in one room and forge changes to come.

Notable entities to make the 2019 list include transgender model and actor Indya Moore. Joining them in the pioneer category is Naomi Osaka, the 21-year-old tennis player making a name for herself. Osaka was ranked No. 1 in the world by the Women's Tennis Association and she continues to make records as an Asian player.

Bohemian Rhapsody star Rami Malek won a spot on the list after being nominated by actor Robert Downey Jr.

R. Kelly's life and legal battles made plenty of headlines this year and while his name is not on the most influential list, the creator of the docuseries exposing him is. dream hampton was nominated

by Tarana Burke, who started the #MeToo movement back in 2006.

Not very often does a reggaeton artist show up on *Time's* list, but Dominican and Puerto Rican trap artist Ozuna managed to. The reason may be that he holds the title of the artist with the most YouTube videos with a billion views or more.

After landing on *Time's* Next Generation Leader series in 2018, the K-pop boyband BTS, Beyond The Scene, made it on this list by no surprise. Alongside the band are fellow artists Ariana Grande and Khalid.

Iconic names grounded to the public are Michelle Obama, Spike Lee and Lady Gaga — all of whom made the list.

Within the last year, the name Christine Blasey Ford became synonymous with women's rights. America watched her give a tearful testimony against Supreme Court nominee, Brett Kavanaugh, and now both of their names are recognized by *Time*.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Special Counsel Robert Mueller and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez were placed in the same "Leaders" category alongside Donald Trump.

Time magazine just last year awarded their person of the year denomination to slain journalist Jamal Khashoggi. This year, they gave the crown prince of Abu Dhabi, Mohamed bin Zayed, a position on the list. Zayed is a close ally of Khashoggi's suspected murderer, the crown prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed bin Salman.

This year's list showcased 48 women, which is higher than the previous year's count of 45 women.

Former SNL actor redeems himself in new Netflix sketch-comedy show

BY EVAN LEWIS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

When Tim Robinson was demoted from cast member to staff writer on *Saturday Night Live*, his career appeared to have been stalled. Lorne Michaels, practically a savant at identifying comedic talent, was publicly telling both Robinson and the world that his talents were better served behind the scenes than actually on camera.

After several failed projects for Fox and Comedy Central, Robinson was looking for one more chance to prove himself to the public. After pitching an extremely unusual sketch comedy series to Netflix, the streaming service apparently saw talent in Robinson. They decided to green-light his show, and thank heavens for that.

The debut of *I Think You Should Leave* has thus far been met with critical acclaim and for good reason. The seven episodes are each fifteen minutes long, meaning they can—and should—be watched in one sitting.

Each sketch is sillier and more absurd than the last, often taking wild twists midway and becoming so outlandish that it's impossible not to laugh.

Robinson and his myriad of special guest stars, ranging from *SNL* alumni to other television actors, will leave viewers in tears with their portrayals of truly nonsensical characters.

Perhaps the greatest trick the show manages to pull off is its timelessness. While *I Think You Should Leave* will certainly not be for everyone, it does manage to touch on humor that excludes many of the overused topics that today's comedians can't seem to

get away from. There are no jokes about politics, race, gender, religion or subjects that have been beaten to death.

The laughs instead are derived from situations that are completely farcical in the best way. It's impossible to predict where a sketch will go, often landing miles away from its original starting point.

It's worth repeating, however, that this show is not for all audiences. Robinson's humor is so out there that some viewers will be completely turned off by his ridiculousness, while others will be roaring in laughter every time he says the word "mudpie."

The ironic brilliance of the show is in its stupidity. The circumstances are often completely lacking any context or reason, resulting in many of the seemingly normal

characters in a sketch being just as bizarre as the punchline character.

While the more intellectual crowd will scoff at its blatant appeals to off-center comedy, everyone who finds humor in the freakishly eccentric will want to binge watch the entire series in a day.

It's difficult to describe this show for those who haven't seen it and even more dangerous to try to explain one of the sketches without sounding completely insane. *I Think You Should Leave* can best be summed up as what would happen if *Portlandia* and *Tim and Eric Awesome Show, Great Job!* had a baby that only ate sugar.

The entire show is an all-over-the-place spectacle that can only be watched to be semi-understood, then watched again and again until season two comes out.



LARA SOLANK | NETFLIX

Comedian, ex-SNL star and writer Tim Robinson wrote, produced, co-created and stars in the new seven episode Netflix original comedy, *I Think You Should Leave*.

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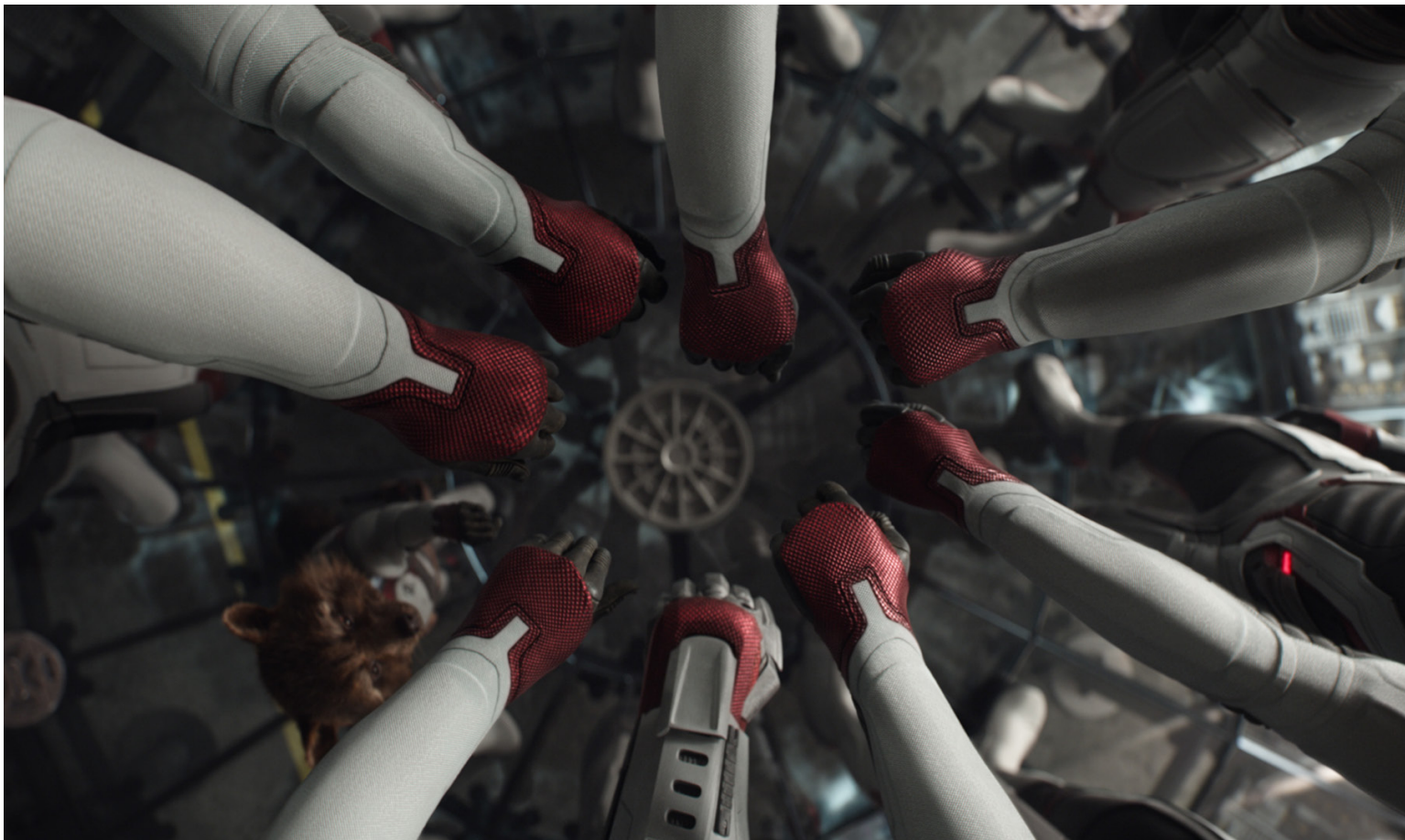
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AVENGERS ENDGAME SPOILERS



COURTESY OF MARVEL STUDIOS

Marvel Studios' latest film additon, *Avengers: Endgame*, builds upon the past 21 films with further expanded character arcs, tied loose ends and inside jokes.

Endgame rewards fans by honoring their beloved heroes' beginnings and new endings



As the 22nd entry in a series of movies with many larger-than-life superheroes, *Avengers: Endgame* is a surprisingly small movie, considering its runtime of over three hours and plenty of references, cameos and storylines to tie up including the results of the events from *Avengers: Infinity War*, spoilers ahead, when half the universe's population was reduced to dust.

Throughout *Endgame*, directors Joe and Anthony Russo and screenwriters Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely indicate that their priority is a focus on character, not spectacle — a decision that makes *Endgame* one of the better Marvel movies released.

Certainly, there is plenty of spectacle to go around, but other than in the inevitable, climactic battle, the action is limited when compared to previous Marvel movies.

Endgame has a great collection of strong actors with characters who have been developed to varying degrees over the past decade. *Endgame* makes use of its pre-established characters and relationships in a dramatic counterpoint to the failings of *Infinity War*, a movie bogged down in seemingly endless action and missing its mark when it came to its Easter eggs and references.

Like *Infinity War*, *Endgame* should not be watched by viewers who haven't seen previous Marvel films; payoffs and relationships come out of what has been shown before.

It's the way *Endgame* pulls upon all these threads that makes the movie so much more valuable for fans familiar with the films.

Scenes wherein the Marvel movies give their heroes room to breathe tend to be the most compelling, more so than any display-sof superpowers could be.

Conversations and quiet moments are the real gems Marvel has to offer. Superheroes argue over lifting a magical hammer in *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, Nick Fury plays with a cat in *Captain Marvel*,

Thor and Loki bicker to no end in *Thor: The Dark World* and Captain America and his best friend, Bucky Barnes, share warm, sidelong glances throughout the movies.

Action, wish-fulfillment and serialized storytelling may be the supposed reasons to go see every new Marvel movie, but the small moments are the lifeblood of the series.

Aside from *Endgame's* small moments being fun — Black Widow threatens to throw a peanut butter and jelly at Captain America, Hulk takes a selfie and dabs and Ant-Man loses a taco — they're part of a story that cares about its characters.

Through lows and highs, *Endgame* brings a large number of characters through emotional journeys that are based on the characters they've been and the narrative arcs they've each been working through.

For example, Thor's journey has been a rocky one. He's lost his powers and earned them back, thought his brother was dead at least three times, lost every living member of his family and his home world and failed to kill the being that destroyed half the living things in existence.

Endgame lets him feel that pain, wallow in it, and work through his family trauma.

In *Infinity War*, he got a new weapon because it would be powerful. In *Endgame*, he retrieves his old weapon via time travel, and it's proof of his merit; Thor remarks, "I'm still worthy."

The line can get a laugh, but it's also a small, touching reminder of everything Thor's struggled through.

There are surprising moments, and the narrative itself is not along the beaten path for Marvel films — even as it retreads the steps that previous Marvel films have taken.

Ant-Man was supposedly a heist film, but it mostly stayed within the superhero genre, and Doctor Strange used time travel sparingly, but *Endgame* offers a "Time Heist" that returns to the times and places of previous Marvel films. It gets weird, but it also works.

The time travel is a solution to the problem of *Endgame*, a solution in and of itself to the problem of *Infinity War*.

In *Infinity War*, half the universe's population was killed by the snap of the villain's fingers and the use of six infinity stones.

Logically, all that would be needed to undo the damage would be to snap again, so Thanos, the villain, destroys the stones in *Endgame*.

The time travel is a somewhat ingenious way of creating a new goal that makes the solution to mass extinction less straightforward and easy — the movie shifts the focus from the snap to the heist and avoids making the viewer feel like any specific ending is a foregone conclusion.

The time travel is impressive, especially in the production team's coordination of integrating past movies into a 2019 release.

Actors and Hulks look different by now, costumes have changed, and there are off-screen scenes that take place outside of the storytelling of the movie, but still happened. Marvel makes sure that its time travel is convincing and seamless.

Of course, more problems arise from the time travel: Is the future being affected or are alternate timelines being created? Have Marvel movies of the past been canonically changed or did they already contain the changes that were being made?

To think and discuss the logic of *Endgame's* time travel requires some circular thinking, which doesn't always make sense.

One thing abundantly clear in *Endgame* is that it is out to please the fans.

While *Infinity War* ended on a cliffhanger, killing off fan favorites and leaving its story incomplete, *Endgame* gives fans 20 minutes of coda, resolving various plot threads and setting the universe up for its next phases and films.

Endgame has its crowd-pleasing moments and lines, but they sometimes go over the top, to the point of being too self-congratulatory.

Whether it's the bits of battle with innumerable heroes against a seemingly endless supply of villains or the credits featuring the original Avengers' signatures over their title cards, the film looks back at times with a sense of nostalgia and self-pride that can take a viewer out of the story.

For some, the moments are worthy of cheers, and, of course it's fair to enjoy them.

Since *Iron Man's* post-credits tease, the Marvel movies have been leaving fans hanging.

Teases and references have continued to point toward some

eventual satisfaction, but often, the respective filmmakers chose to leave off from finishing their stories completely.

For the first four years of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, fans were waiting for the Avengers to team up.

In the same movie the Avengers teamed up, director Joss Whedon also set up the introduction of Thanos and the next seven years of waiting.

Endgame offers no post-credits or mid-credits scene that the other Marvel movies have been known and expected to have.

There's more to come from Marvel, certainly — *Spider-Man: Far from Home* premieres on July 2, less than three months after *Endgame's* release — but *Endgame* brings a 22-movie saga to a satisfying conclusion.

It's not that the stories have to all be over — conclusions are so often satisfying even when they promise possible future adventures that won't be filmed — but, for once, there is no plot-line hanging over the Marvel series.

There are still loose ends and plot threads that were set up, including the character Adam Warlock and a Guardians-esque group led by Sylvester Stallone, the rogue sorcerer Mordo from Doctor Strange, Wakanda's role in the world, Loki's disappearance and other potential time travel consequences.

There is also the question of what happened to all the Netflix shows within the Marvel universe and what the superheroes' world will potentially look like after the five-year span of half of Earth's population being dead.

For a franchise built upon the foundation of teases and setting up eventual payoffs, the situation is not bad.

Endgame is a confusing movie to reckon with, packed as it is with character moments, time travel conundrums and stories to satisfyingly conclude.

It's not all done right, and it's sometimes done with a distasteful self-assuredness, but it manages to rectify the disappointments of *Infinity War* and conclude what Marvel is referring to as the Infinity Saga.

Its purpose is more like that of a TV series finale than of a movie, but it does a good enough job, and offers a fun time to be had. All it really needs is an intermission.

A comprehensive ranking of every Marvel film

BY ANDREW MARZULLO
SPORTS EDITOR

Part of every journey is the end, and *Avengers: Endgame* serves as a bittersweet sendoff to the original six Avengers whom fans connected with over the past 11 years.

Aside from ending the collective journey of the original Avengers, the film opens the doors to new journeys for many of the returning characters such as Black Panther.

Aside from setting up the future of Marvel Studios, *Endgame* is a love-letter to the 21 films that predated it. This is *The Ticker's* guide to the Marvel Cinematic Universe, post-Endgame. And, of course, spoiler alert.

“I can do this all day” – The Best of the Best

1. *Avengers: Endgame*: No, this isn't recency bias. What *Endgame* does best is what made fans invested in the first place; it focuses on the characters. They're the reason the fans keep coming back and *Endgame* ensures every character has their moment to shine. The movie doesn't skip on action at all and features one of the best on-screen battles in history.

Fan service is often a negative term, but in this case, it's nearly perfected, as moments built up over 21 films finally pay off in this film. Add that to a poignant story, emotional payoffs and laugh out loud humor and you have a recipe for the perfect MCU film.

2. *Avengers: Infinity War*: Arguably the darkest film in the MCU, *Infinity War* features an *Empire Strikes Back*-esque ending in which the villain Thanos actually wins. The most interesting part is that Thanos is arguably the protagonist. Most of the film is told from his lens, which led many viewers to connect with his vision to restore balance and harmony to the universe — nice. While it is one of the funniest movies in the MCU, it also is one of the most violent and shocking. While the film features more action than *Endgame*, it doesn't flesh out characters or have them interact as much as the latter does.

3. *Captain America: The Winter Solider*: This film arguably changed the MCU and the way the films are approached. This film is perhaps the one most grounded in reality — despite the fact that the plot revolves around two 90-year-old super-soldier best friends who were frozen in ice for 70 years fighting on flying aircraft carriers.

The film is emotional, action-packed and cements Captain America as more than a guy in blue tights with a shield. It cements him as someone who is willing to pay the high price of freedom, despite learning everything he thought he knew to be true was wrong.

4. *Thor: Ragnarok*: Thor was always seen as arguably the most boring Avenger. That all changed with 2017's *Ragnarok*, thanks to Chris Hemsworth's expert comic portrayal and Taika Waititi's direction. Thor went from boring and bland with a hammer to funny and emotional with supercharged lightning powers without a hammer. To say that *Ragnarok* is a soft reboot of the character is an understatement.

5. *Guardians of the Galaxy*: Heart: That's the best word to describe this film. The comic Guardians have a legacy nowhere near that of the film Guardians have established just two films in. The entire cast make up a motley crew consisting of an orphan with a Walkman loaded with '70s music, a beast known as the Destroyer, a talking tree that can only say "I am Groot," a blue-skinned outlaw with a southern accent, the adopted daughter of a genocidal warmonger and a talking raccoon. Together,



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Avengers: Endgame edges out the other 21 Marvel movies with its carefully curated continuation of the the storylines from *Avengers: Infinity War* and the idiocracies of each one of the characters and a focus placed on the relationships between them.

most of this band of degenerates learns to work together and defeat Ronin the Accuser, How do they win you ask? By distracting him with a dance off.

6. *Iron Man*: Without this film's surprise success, credited to Robert Downey Jr.'s comeback portrayal of Tony Stark, this article wouldn't be written. The movie portrays a different kind of superhero — one who really is kind of a jerk. It also subverts expectations by ending the movie with the hero revealing his identity with four of the most important lines in the MCU, four words that hit so much harder after *Endgame*: "I am Iron Man."

7. *The Avengers*: Joss Whedon's 2012 *Avengers* took fans on one of the most exciting journeys in film up to that point. The film stands alone brilliantly, but it does a great job of explaining who is who in the film, establishing a clear arc and offering a mostly-definite conclusion, unlike some other Marvel movies — all while rewarding fans who had seen phase one films up to that point. Not only did it meet expectations, it blew them away.

8. *Captain America: Civil War*: "Civil War" was one of the biggest comic book runs of all time, and when fans heard it was going to be adapted to the big screen, they were thrilled. The film pits Tony Stark against Steve Rogers in a battle of moral ideology — should the Avengers have oversight.

The visuals are stunning; Black Panther and Spider-Man are introduced brilliantly and while the film can be seen as "Avengers 2.5," it does serve as a fitting conclusion to Steve Rogers' three-film Captain America arc while directly affecting the future of the MCU.

“Is it still the greatest movie ever?” “It never was.” – The Best of the Rest

9. *Black Panther*: *Black Panther* is easily one of the most groundbreaking movies of this generation. The film is the first comic book movie to feature a predominantly African-American cast and it absolutely thrives behind it. While the story is very much similar to that of other Marvel movies, it is still a poignant story of redemption, sacrifice and destiny.

10. *Spider-Man: Homecoming*: *Homecoming* feels more like a coming of age movie than a super hero movie, and that's okay. Robert Downey Jr. returns to "mentor" Peter Parker, played by Tom Holland, who struggles to balance his normal life with being Spider-Man."

The film deals with Peter's journey trying to do too much for the neighborhood — he simply wasn't ready, according to Stark — before reaching rock-bottom,

losing his suit and facing off against his girlfriend's father, Vulture, played by Michael Keaton. It's a fun ride and serves as one of the better installments in the MCU.

11. *Ant-Man and the Wasp*: Coming off the heels of *Infinity War*, *Ant-Man and the Wasp* serves as an MCU palate cleanser. However, to understand *Endgame*, this is a must watch film, as it really explores the Quantum Realm — used for time travel in *Endgame* — and introduced Hope Van Dyne's iteration of the Wasp. It also explains Scott Lang's absence in *Infinity War* and builds on his relationship with his daughter. The MCU is very much so about family and Scott Lang's family — or families — are integral in his journey from a petty crook to a hero.

12. *Guardians of the Galaxy, Vol. 2*: It's nearly impossible to live up to the hype of the first *Guardians* film, however, *Vol. 2* very nearly does so. Much like *Ant-Man*, this film expands on the concept of family through the relationship between Peter Quill and his evil god-like father, the relationship between sisters Gamora and Nebula, the relationship among the Guardians themselves and the relationship with Rocket.

What ensues is a heartfelt, yet laugh out loud funny adventure among the stars with the dysfunctional family we all feel we're a part of. Plus, the soundtrack only gets better.

13. *Ant-Man*: The first *Ant-Man* film was no tiny feat — pun intended. *Ant-Man* was always an important comic character, but never front and center — especially Scott Lang's version. The film centers around father-daughter relationships and their emotional weight while being incredibly funny. Scott Lang even suggests that "the first thing [they] should do is call the Avengers." However, in the end, they didn't need the Avengers and created a new, albeit tiny hero.

14. *Avengers: Age of Ultron*: Audiences were split on the film's comedic portrayal of Ultron as well as the film's second act which features a strange Thor subplot and the Avengers holed up at the Barton safehouse. However, this film gets a lot of love in *Endgame*, and in retrospect, it's an incredibly important chapter of the MCU.

15. *Captain Marvel*: Captain Marvel is arguably the most powerful hero in the MCU. Rightfully so, however, her first solo outing portrays her as a fish out of water in the 1990s with no clue of how much potential she has. The film features unexpected twists and turns along the way and serves as an incredibly fun way to introduce Captain Marvel.

16. *Doctor Strange*: Visually, *Doctor Strange* is one of the most beautiful movies in the MCU. The plot is very similar to that of *Iron Man* — a rich guy faces adversity and saves the world soon thereafter. However, *Doctor Strange* is far more mystical and spiritual along that journey and allows for a fun ride that ends with one of the most intriguing final "battles" in the MCU.

17. *Iron Man 3*: One of the most divisive movies in the MCU features Iron Man in name, Tony Stark in practice, which is what makes it so enjoyable. Sure, fans were upset about the Mandarin "twist" at the end, but it's still a fun ride. His words to Peter Parker in *Homecoming* are derived from his experiences in this film — if you're nothing without the suit then you don't deserve it. Tony proved he deserved his suit and that with or without it, he is still Iron Man.

18. *Captain America: The First Avenger*: The film introduces us to a scrawny Steve Rogers and leaves us with Captain America. It also introduces us to Peggy Carter, the love of Steve's life, teases his last dance and leaves fans with the most heartbreaking last words of a film, "I had a date."

“Dread It, Run from It.” – Still Fun, but Forgettable

19. *Iron Man 2*: *Iron Man 2* isn't a bad movie, but falls into the same category as the other bottom-tier MCU movies. It's still a fun ride that introduces fans to Don Cheadle rather than Terrence Howard as War Machine. It also introduces more of the Avengers Initiative, introduces Black Widow and shows a broken, alcoholic Tony Stark who sinks to his lowest depths before rising back up.

20. *Thor*: The film's extensive use of the Dutch tilt and incredibly Shakespearean tone make it slightly boring. However, it does introduce the character and his evil brother Loki effectively and paints him as the more traditional Thor. Still, however, Hemsworth's portrayal of the God of Thunder is incredibly fun, especially in Thor's first moments on Earth.

21. *Thor: The Dark World*: See: Thor, except add a portion explaining that an infinity stone—or angry sludge — is shown in the film and that Thor's mom dies tragically. Oh, and Dark Elves. Those happened too — as Thor said in *Endgame* "ooh scary."

22. *The Incredible Hulk*: This movie isn't that bad, but it's forgettable, especially considering that the main character of the film was recast and any loose ends are left untied and the film doesn't do much to help Hulk as a character. However, it was one of the first MCU films and it's still a fun popcorn movie.

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Science & Technology

Scientists unveil stepping stone to neural speech prosthetics

BY ISRAEL CATALAN
STAFF WRITER

Scientists from the University of California, Berkeley and the University of California, San Francisco, adopted a new method of creating speech from brain signals, which could improve communication for people with speech impairments.

Five patients had light square pads placed on their heads, each lined with hundreds of electrodes that registered movement in patients’ vocal tract with speech. Electrodes are electrical conductors that help guide electricity to enter or leave a region.

The patients were from the UCSF Epilepsy Center, a center focused on the treatment of patients with seizures. The five patients were all able to speak in English fluently and without help. They were asked to read aloud hundreds of words while areas of the brain used for language construction were recorded.

After the patients were done, scientists reverse engineered the vocal tract movements of the patients to create speech, connecting sounds from both the recordings and anatomy.

The movement of the tongue, jaw and lips were used to make a virtual voice using the same movements the patients had in order to speak.

The virtual voice used two systems, one that connected words to vocal movements, and a second that created speech using the same vocal movements.

After the construction of the vir-

tual voice, data showed that it was faster at constructing speech than other forms of implant-based communication systems, with a speed of 150 words a minute, in comparison to eight words a minute via other forms.

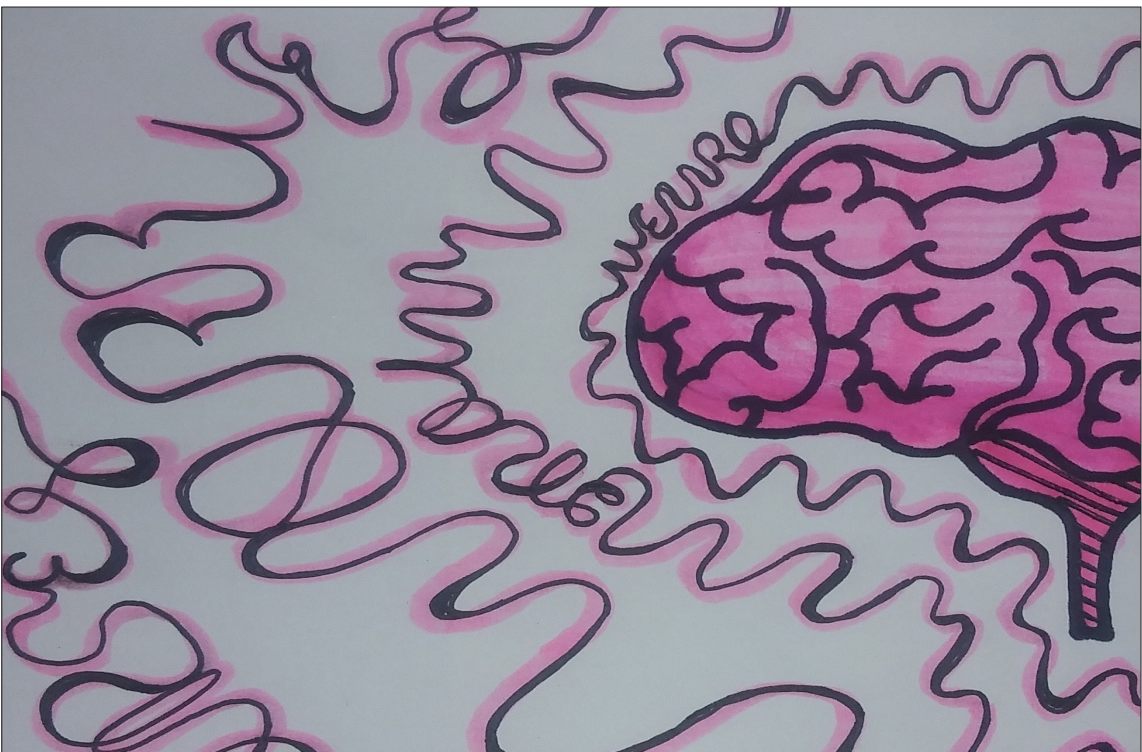
This form of speech construction can be used to help those with damaged vocal cords or people with the inability to speak but can move their mouths.

The research, while being focused heavily on linguistics, can help people understand what goes into creating speech and with the virtual speech technology available, communication can be assisted with just the movements.

Currently, many people with conditions like Lou Gehrig’s Disease, known as ALS, or other conditions that deteriorate muscle and motor functions, have to communicate by substituting vocal tract movements as some cannot move the necessary components.

Stephen Hawking is an example of the great measures people will take to communicate. Hawking used a light infrared scanner that would pick up slight muscle movements from his cheek. On his wheelchair he had a screen that would have letters from which he could choose and he would move his cheek muscle to click when the letter he wanted was selected. His hardware and interface were outdated for most of his life but with patience he accomplished his work.

Unable to use his lips, Hawking would have been unable to use the interface the research team at UC



KEVIN VALDEZ | THE TICKER

A brain-machine interface generates speech using brain activity, leading the way toward restoring people’s voices.

San Francisco and UC Berkeley created.

Every case is different, when looking at the brain areas that patients used to construct language, as researchers found differences in each one.

The process is much faster than the clicker-like system like Hawking used, but limits the amount of people that can use it. Despite the limitations, the process is still a great success for people in the fu-

ture with speech impairments.

The limitations push for further development on just the use of brain waves and eventually could lead to users not having to move a muscle.

Recordings of the virtual voice are clear enough to understand what is being said and contain minimal errors, showing possibility for the future.

The development of the new interface is being worked on by

researchers to add voices to better reflect the person using it and is being moved to clinical trials for people without a voice.

Painful and time-consuming methods of speech won’t be in regular use with the improvement of brain-machine interface technology. Speech impairments may soon become obsolete with the utilization of the research completed by researchers at UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco.

Apple Arcade and Google Stadia: the future of the gaming industry

BY HUGH SHIN
STAFF WRITER

Google and Apple lead the future prospect of gaming as they announce ambitious plans to build virtual stadiums readily available for everyone to enjoy.

Named Stadia, Google intends to build a stadium of video games not like Yankee Stadium, but a cloud streaming service that will allow everyone to enjoy high end video games without having to invest in expensive gaming gear and consoles.

Unveiled at the Game Developers Conference, Google advertised the ability to play games on any smart device or TV, watch a video on a game and then instantly join the game you were watching.

The gaming platform is built for YouTube users to stream and be able to make lobbies for watchers to join the actual game.

Under Google’s new Stadia and Entertainment Studio, hundreds of Stadia-exclusive games have been promised.

One new title, “Doom Eternal,” was shown running on Stadia during the conference.

Currently, Stadia will only be available through Chrome, Chromecast and Android devices. Google promised plans to increase

accessibility to other devices, however, when these plans will be implemented is yet to be known.

This, among many other ambitious promises, means the unveiling left more questions than answers.

How much a subscription to Stadia costs or when it will be released has not been revealed.

In Cupertino, California, Apple is also working on its own project: “A gaming subscription service featuring over 100 new and exclusive games from renowned creators Hironobu Sakaguchi, Ken Wong, Will Wright and more.”

Called Apple Arcade, the service offers access to many games designed for originality and quality for free, without ads, data harvesting or microtransactions.

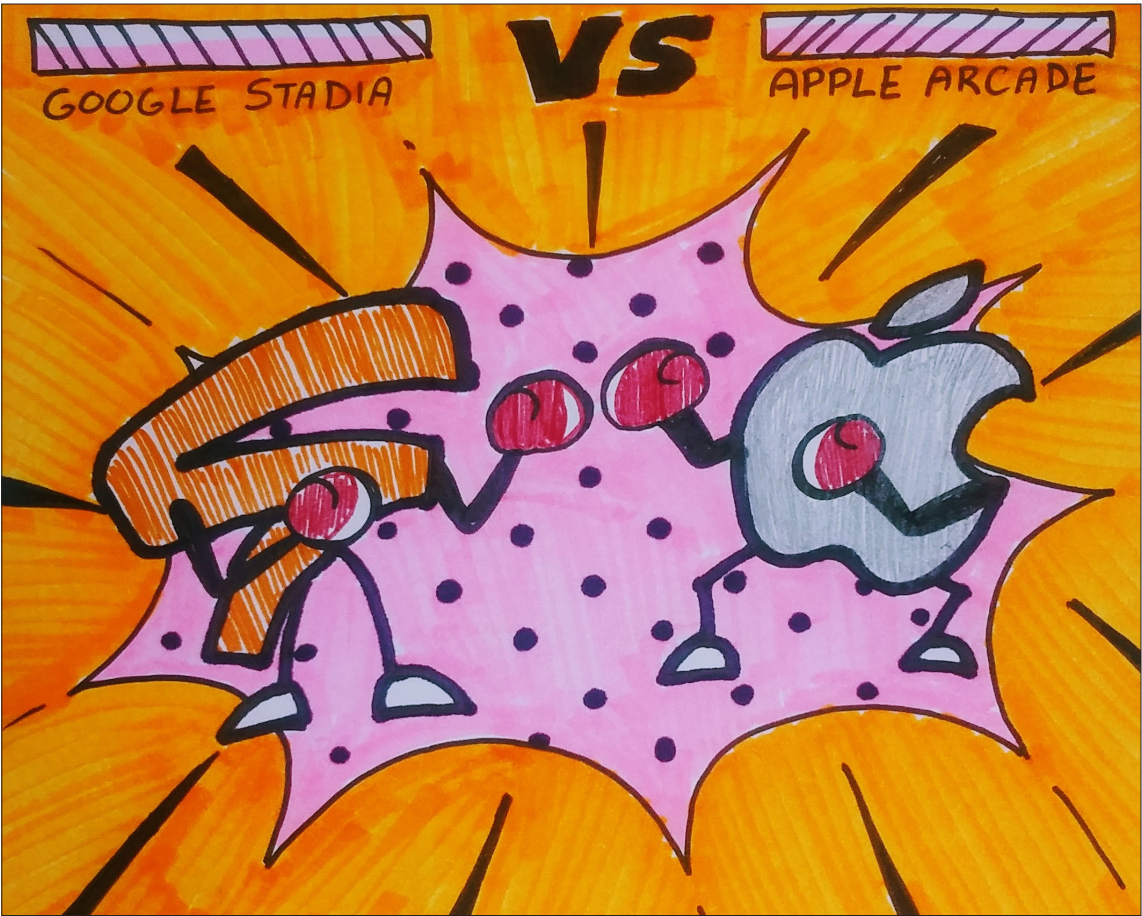
Utilizing the already successful App Store, Apple Arcade will give access to hundreds of thousands of games already available on the platform with a single subscription.

However, Apple Arcade is not just a selection of existing games, but is collaborating with many other well-known companies and developers like Lego, Cartoon Network, SEGA and Konami to develop high-quality and immersive gaming experiences to subscribers of Apple Arcade.

“We are working with some of the most innovative game developers in the world to create over 100 new and exclusive games to play across iPhone, iPad, Mac and Apple TV,” according to senior vice president of Apple’s Worldwide Marketing, Phil Schiller.

In line to Apple’s software design, Apple Arcade will provide simple and easy access to a large collection of games that can be enjoyed by over half a billion people already using the App Store.

“Netflix-style subscriptions by two tech behemoths could open up



KEVIN VALDEZ | THE TICKER

Apple and Google have released new gaming platforms, revealing a possible subscription-style path for the future of gaming.

gaming to millions who can’t afford pricey equipment.

But which is the future of gaming?” asks video games editor at the Guardian, Keza MacDonald.

Apple and Google join a competitive field where Microsoft’s Xbox Game Pass and Sony’s PlayStation Now already exist.

So what do Stadia and Apple Arcade have to offer?

Apple Arcade solves a rising issue of the devaluing of online games, especially mobile ones

where paying \$3 can be seen as too much, and free, cheaply made games flood the App Store.

By offering a subscription that offers quality games only available to its devices, Apple’s investment could mean bigger profits for creative and skilled game developers.

Google’s Stadia on the other hand aims to free video games from expensive consoles by allowing games to be played on any device at any time, even during a stream on YouTube.

According to MacDonald, “The games industry has been through many technological revolutions, from the invention of 3D graphics to the emergence of online playing, but the games themselves — rather than the technology — have always driven success.”

It is safe to expect that the quality of the games released by these tech giants will determine who will lead the future of the gaming industry.

“Netflix-style subscriptions by two tech behemoths could open up gaming to millions who can’t afford pricey equipment. But which is the future of gaming?”

CUNY explores life sciences careers

BY JULIAN TINEO
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The United States is facing a shortage of STEM workers. In the modern race for high-tech supremacy, these fields are essential in progressing innovative ideas and technologies. Though research in life sciences such as biology and physiology results in products that save and change lives, only 6.4 percent of Fall 2017 CUNY students were enrolled in science programs.

What is the world's largest urban university system to do? The answer is the CUNY LifeSci Initiative, which hosted an opportunity for students to learn about career opportunities in science and business on April 30 at the New York Genome Center.

The CUNY LifeSci initiative was launched in October 2018 with the goal of creating a space to explore the available careers in the life sciences sector. Areas within the sector include biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices and more, though it is constantly changing as new advancements in technology are made. The CUNY Central's Career Success Initiative hopes to help prepare students for roles that need top talent and inform them of opportunities that are as vast as they are diverse.

The career exploration event consisted of a panel of experts in the life sciences field with a variety of backgrounds. The panel included Amit Salam, a Queens College and John Jay alumnus, who works as a recruiter at Medidata, a technology company furthering medical research and provided perspective from the human resources side of a science company.

Mariya Elterman, Doug Thiede and Dr. Maria Luisa Pineda were also panel members.



MOHAMED_HASSAN | PIXABAY

CUNY LifeSci Initiative explores job opportunities in science and business.

Elterman works as a vice president medical director at CDM New York, an advertising company specializing in the health and life sciences sectors.

To provide a governmental perspective, Thiede spoke about his work as senior vice president of healthcare and life sciences at the New York City Economic Development Corp. Pineda discussed her experience in starting a biotech company as co-founder and CEO of Envisagenics, Inc.

The discussion was moderated by Kate Merton, head of Johnson & Johnson Innovation, known as JLABS, a life sciences accelerator with New York City offices and the location where the event was hosted.

Although the work of each panelist is unique, their backgrounds and stories of how they got to where they are now were similar in that their roads to their current positions were far from straightforward.

Elterman spoke about her initial goals established in high school to become a pharmacist,

though she eventually changed course and now finds herself in a leading ad agency while still making use of her life science educational background. Thiede mentioned that he had no plans to go into government work upon getting his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia.

Many seasoned professionals tell of how their paths changed in ways they didn't expect when they first began working, and the experiences of the panelists currently working in the life sciences sector are no different.

With innovation occurring so rapidly and advancements in technologies being made every day, it's nearly impossible to predict what the future of sciences will look like.

In business-focused schools like Baruch where discussions in emerging tech are commonly tied to business applications, the CUNY LifeSci initiative does impactful work in demonstrating to students the role business plays in life sciences and how they can leverage their business interests to innovate in a unique space.

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Sports

The Beard vs. The Freak: Harden and Antetokounmpo lead way in the NBA MVP race

BY KYLE MCKEE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the second round of the NBA playoffs begin, the Houston Rockets lost a thrilling, NBA finals-like atmosphere, Game 1 to the Golden State Warriors, the Milwaukee Bucks got obliterated on their home court by the Boston Celtics in Game 1 and Kawhi Leonard led the Toronto Raptors with 45 points in a win over the Philadelphia 76ers in Game 1.

All the regular season awards have been voted upon, and will be announced during the NBA Awards ceremony on June 24, several weeks after the playoffs are officially over.

The award that the media and fans hold with the most prestige and anticipation is, of course, MVP. This year's MVP race has come down to two players: Giannis Antetokounmpo of Milwaukee and James Harden of Houston. Both players had extraordinary seasons, but only one will bring home the hardware that will cement their legacy in basketball history.

This MVP decision is one of the toughest in recent history, as both players have put up historic stat lines and finished the regular season with two of the greatest seasons the league has ever seen. Antetokounmpo has the classic case of being the best player on the best team. Harden, however, put up unprecedented numbers when his team needed him the most.

Antetokounmpo is the slight

frontrunner for MVP, according to NBA media personalities. Commonly known as "The Greek Freak," he finished the regular season third in the league in scoring 27.7 points per game, sixth in rebounds at 12.5 per game, and averaged 5.9 assists a game, as well as 1.5 blocks per game, just over a steal a game and leads the league in Player Efficiency Rating at 30.95.

He led the Bucks to the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference, and finished the regular season with the best record in the NBA. Not only is he the best player on the best team, but he is the best defender on the best rated defense in the NBA. He has a chance to win the Defensive Player of the Year and MVP in the same season. Hakeem Olajuwon and Michael Jordan are the only players to ever win the DPOY and MVP in the same season.

Antetokounmpo is putting up numbers not seen since the likes of Kevin Garnett, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Oscar Robertson. The only thing that he does not have is a jump shot. In today's NBA, where it seems everyone lives and dies by the three-point line, he barely attempts any three-point shots, at about 2.8 per game.

The fact that he does not have a solid three-point shot makes his MVP case all the more impressive. He takes over games by driving to the rim and dunking on everyone in his way by using his power and height. If Antetokounmpo can develop a three-point shot, it is essen-

tially game over for the rest of the league.

James Harden had an all-time great season. Harden finished the regular season with a jaw-dropping scoring average of 36.1 points per game. He joined Wilt Chamberlain, Michael Jordan and Rick Barry as the only players in NBA history to average more than 35 points per game.

In addition to his crazy scoring average, midway through the season, Harden went on an absurd streak of 32 consecutive games with 30 points or more. That is the second longest streak in NBA history behind Wilt Chamberlain's 65. Harden went on this absurd streak when his team needed him the most. It looked like Houston was doomed to miss the playoffs before Harden completely took over and took the league by storm.

What is most impressive is that Harden got his team to the fourth seed in the West, and had a chance at the two seed, which they would have attained if they would have beaten the Oklahoma City Thunder in the last game of the regular season with a bunch of castaways.

Taking Harden off this team with Austin Rivers, Daniel House, Iman Shumpert, Kenneth Faried, Gerald Green, as key contributors makes this team lottery-bound. Of course, they still have two All-Star caliber players in Chris Paul and Clint Capela, but both have been injured this season. Harden finished the year averaging 7.5 assists,



KEITH ALLISON | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The NBA MVP race has come down to James Harden and Giannis Antetokounmpo.

6.6 rebounds per game, and second in the league in Player Efficiency Rating with 30.62.

Additionally, Harden finished second in the league in steals, at 2.0 per game, showing he is not a liability on defense. It comes down to splitting hairs. James Harden had a historic scoring streak and finished the regular season with some of the most jaw-dropping stats NBA fans have ever seen. However, he was not hurt when the Rockets started about a fourth of the regular season near the bottom of the Western Conference standings.

The Rockets went through a very rough stretch in the beginning of this season after losing last year in heart-breaking fashion in Game 7 in the Western Conference Finals to Golden State. On the other side,

the Bucks have been the best team in the NBA from start to finish, and Antetokounmpo has led them every step of the way.

Even though Harden's high of the season is higher than the Greek Freak's, the Freak was more consistent throughout the entire season and led his team to the best record in the NBA, while the Rockets ended up fourth in the West.

Ten years from now, NBA fans might remember Harden's regular season more than Antetokounmpo's, and may wonder why

It has been a historic year for the superstar. Harden has the chance to lead the Bucks to the NBA Finals at just 24 years old, reminiscent of LeBron James in 2007 when he led the Cleveland Cavaliers to the finals at 23 years old.

Elite quarterbacks and defensive talent headline exciting NFL Draft

BY MATTEO FLAMIO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The 2019 National Football League Draft has finally taken place and it was a great one. There were many good picks made, along with some that were a bit head-scratching. It is always exciting to see the lives of young players change quickly when they hear their names called on draft day, whether it is on day one or day three.

This is *The Ticker's* overview of some of the bigger draft picks made over the first round and evaluation of the moves.

Arizona Cardinals select Kyler Murray, QB, first overall

The first pick of the draft being Kyler Murray was anticipated once Kliff Kingsbury took over the head coaching job for the Cardinals. Murray was one of Kingsbury's favorite players since being recruited out of high school and Kingsbury was at Texas Tech University.

Josh Rosen, the 10th overall pick by the Cardinals in 2018, was traded to the Dolphins after the Cardinals selected Murray, who will now become their franchise QB.

Nick Bosa and Quinnen Williams go second and third

It was no surprise that these two players were going to get selected in the places that they did, but the question was more of which player was going to what team. The San Francisco 49ers bolstered their already very good defensive line by solidifying the edge with Bosa, while the New York Jets may have taken the best player in the entire draft in Williams.

Daniel Jones is selected sixth by the New York Giants

Probably the biggest talking point and most surprising pick of the weekend was this pick made by the Giants.

For years now, everyone has

said that the Giants have to take Eli Manning's replacement and they finally did.

However, now many people have an issue with who they took. Jones was, for the most part, the fourth quarterback on many draft boards, but was the second one taken in the draft. Many believe that the Giants missed out in not taking quarterback Dwayne Haskins.

Washington Redskins take Dwayne Haskins/Trade back in to first for Montez Sweat

After the Giants passed on Haskins, the Redskins took him with the 15th selection in the draft. It was only said in the days leading up to the draft that the Redskins wanted Haskins and they got their guy.

It will be interesting to see how they handle Haskins since they traded for Case Keenum and still have Alex Smith, who is recovering from his gruesome leg injury.

The Redskins made another big move that night, trading back into the first round with the 26th pick, and taking Montez Sweat from Texas A&M.

Sweat was regarded as a top-10 pick for the majority of the draft prospect, but after he was diagnosed with a minor heart condition, teams became very skeptical, which caused him to fall. The Redskins wanted another pass-rusher and got their guy in Sweat.

The Oakland Raiders' three first round picks

With their three first round selections, the Oakland Raiders took Clelin Ferrell, fourth, Josh Jacobs, 24th and Johnathan Abram, 27th. Ferrell came as one of the bigger surprises in the draft, as he was expected to be a mid-to-late-round first round pick, but the Raiders rolled the dice and took him at fourth.

The Raiders added Jacobs, the



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The 2019 NFL Draft is in the books, and the first round featured numerous elite prospects, draft steals and very suprising picks.

best running back in the draft, to a stingy backfield and added Abram to a group of good veteran safeties in Karl Joseph and Lamarcus Joyner.

Green Bay Packers have strong first round

The Packers had two first round picks in this draft, in which they took two defensive players. With the 12th pick they selected Rashan Gary. Gary was touted as a top-five talent at some points, but he was thought to fall because his college career was filled with injuries. The Packers took Darnell Savage Jr. with the 21st pick to bolster their very young secondary.

Gary and Savage are added to

a defense that the Packers spent a good amount of money on this offseason in order to propel them to another Super Bowl and maybe, finally, give Aaron Rodgers some support.

New England Patriots draft N'Keal Harry with 32nd pick

N'Keal Harry was the second wide-receiver off the board in the first round, after Marquise "Hollywood" Brown went to the Ravens. The Patriots had a rough offseason trying to get help on their offense and many believed that they would actually trade down with this pick. Instead, they took Harry.

The Patriots signed Demaryius Thomas, who is coming off of back-

to-back bad injuries, and they still have Josh Gordon under contract, although he is not with the team. It is thought that Harry will step into a big role right from day one for the Patriots.

The first round of this year's NFL draft had many other interesting picks made, but these were the ones that caught the eyes of many compared to others.

Days two and three of the draft were just as interesting, if not more, after many saw some big-name players fall heavily in the draft. Many teams seemed to have great drafts and drafted players that really complement their team structure.

Premier League clubs rekindling Champions League success

BY WEN XI CHEN
STAFF WRITER

On March 5, 2013, at Old Trafford, a stadium known as the Theater of Dreams, Sir Alex Ferguson was too angry to sit down for the post-match press conference of what would be his last Champions League game as the head coach of Manchester United. That season, none of the English clubs reached the quarterfinals.

What ensued was four seasons of relative obscurity by the English clubs. Detractors will point to a semi-final appearance by F.C. Manchester City in 2016, but the regular occurrence of French Ligue 1 powerhouse, F.C. Paris-Saint Germain, exiting before the final four, betraying the Qatari financial lavishing, have to be factored in.

A year later, Leicester City FC, the surprising English champions, beat the swashbuckling Sevilla F.C. team in the Round of 16 before succumbing to Atletico Madrid, a team better at everything Leicester does well. Leicester was the only English team that qualified for the final eight.

F.C. Liverpool lost to C.F. Real Madrid in what was a mixed European campaign for English teams, but the fear among their counterparts toward the Scousers and City on the continent spoke to the rejuvenated influence from the English clubs.

This season, two English teams are in place to battle for spots in the final. Tottenham Hotspur F.C. and Liverpool will face AFC Ajax and FC Barcelona, respectively.

Coincidentally, these two teams are most often mocked for the absence of major trophies in their

cabinets. Scrutinizing their ascension season-to-season, however, tells a different story.

Liverpool had the more rapid rise to being able to compete for the glamorous continental competition after Jurgen Klopp was installed as the manager, a man befitting to the rebellious nature, both in sports and politics of the city.

In the 2015-2016 season, Klopp took over at the helm after his predecessor, Brandon Rodgers, started the season below par, having squandered a title to Manchester City in the previous season. At the end of the campaign, Klopp's men lost to Sevilla in the Europa League final, Manchester City in the League Cup final and finished eighth domestically.

With a full summer to prepare for the upcoming season, Klopp formally introduced an adventurous and counter-pressing Liverpool team to England.

The animated manager ramped up the playing style and propelled the Reds to the Champions League final. Critics of Liverpool have rightfully pointed out that Klopp's high-intensity approach is not sustainable throughout the season and that, since the arrival of the German, Liverpool has yet to win a title.

What also has to be considered is that the near-invincibility of the Manchester City machine: with two games to go, Liverpool has tallied the fifth best point-total of 91 points in the 2018-19 Premier League campaign, which includes when the league had 22 teams, and they might yet still finish second.

Tottenham is in the semifinal of the Champions League for the first time since 1962. Its current manager, Mauricio Pochettino, was born 10 years after that. Since the Ar-



ДМИТРИЙ ГОЛУБОВИЧ | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Premier League clubs Tottenham and Liverpool have bounced back as Champions League contenders with stellar turnarounds.

gentine's reign began in the 2014-2015 season, Tottenham finished fifth, third, second and third in the Premier League and ahead of Real Madrid and Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League Group Stage last year. That is no small feat for a club known for its perennial lack of athletic excellence, sporting persistence when it is needed and the lack of spending in comparison to clubs at the similar level, despite having the highest profit margin in the Premier League.

Pochettino helped Tottenham dispel the annual tradition of "St.

Totteringham Day" in 2017 — a mocking term signifying that its North London rival, Arsenal F.C., inevitably rank above them at the end of the season — for the first time since 1995.

The sharply-dressed manager started producing memorable European nights for the Spurs amid subpar financial backing and the constant delay of the new stadium. Memorable nights are not usually reserved for Spurs; they are, more often than not, victims instead of the beneficiaries.

The transformation of the two

clubs illustrated the changing landscape in the European scene. That Liverpool is now used as a measuring-stick for the quality Barcelona alone can demonstrate the expertise English clubs have. Whether the trophy will be reaped by the two clubs still remains to be seen, but no one can realistically deny the progress made by both clubs.

Major trophies define an era, whether it be for a club or a team, but trophies do not necessarily make a team memorable, and a team need not win trophies to warrant a place in history.

MLB Contenders and Pretenders: Cardinals soaring, Twins waning

BY ISAIAH HINTON
STAFF WRITER

One month of this baseball season has come and gone, and while the drama and hustle of the NHL and NBA playoffs have dominated the headlines, the Majors were producing many teams, individual performances and moments that have beguiled the mind and dazzled the eye. However, some of these teams could merely be hot at the right time, or they could be ready to make noise in September and October. Players seemingly blessed with the Midas touch may turn out to be fool's gold by autumn. Because of this, there is a need to sort this wonderful collage that is the 2019 MLB season and classify who are the contenders, and who are the pretenders.

Contenders: St. Louis Cardinals
At the start of the season, if one were to say that the team with the reigning National League MVP in Christian Yelich, who is currently batting .353 with 14 home runs and 34 runs batted in, as well as one of the most heralded bullpens in the Senior Circuit, were to be in third place in their own division one month in, they would probably be laughed out of the room. However, what is more shocking is the team currently on top of the NL Central, the Cardinals. The Cardinals are talented and they got better in the off-season, acquiring six-time All-Star first baseman Paul Goldschmidt. They have outfielder Marcell Ozuna and second baseman Kolton Wong providing the power and the speed, respectively, for the Cards. However, they had good pitching, particularly ace Miles Mikolas, who finished the previous year with 18 wins. This year, the Redbirds are relying mainly on their hitting, receiving production from unsung heroes.



JONATHAN MISKE | FLICKR

A month into the MLB season, the St. Louis Cardinals emerged as contedners, while the Minnesota Twins remain pretenders.

The Cardinals are hitting the ball, as evidenced by their .269 team batting average, tied for third-best in the Major Leagues. More importantly, the Birds are getting on base. Their on-base percentage is also tied for third-best in the Majors, led by Wong and budding star shortstop Paul DeJong. In fact, Wong has the same number of walks as strikeouts and DeJong is clipping at a massive pace, batting .342. After Wong and DeJong get on base, the power bats come out to play. Goldschmidt is contributing with nine home runs and 19 runs batted in, while Ozuna is leading the team with 10 home runs and 26 runs batted in. Meanwhile, their pitching has gone MIA. Mikolas has an earned run average over five, and Adam Wainwright is clocking in with a 3.96 ERA. As much as the stats assume that the Redbirds will stop hitting, the Cardinals are masters at getting the most out of their players. Because of this, look for the Cards to make some noise late in the season.

Pretenders: San Diego Padres
San Diego is a baseball city like

Los Angeles is a football city. While the shades of Tony Gwynn will always hang over Petco Park, the Padres have been perennial underachievers since his retirement. However, the winds of change are starting to blow over San Diego, and so far, the Friars are sitting in second place in the NL West. They are led by two fantastic infielders, one brought in on a long-term deal; the other homegrown, groomed to be the star the Padres so desperately need.

Of course, these infielders are the Padres' 300-million-dollar man Manny Machado and the rookie Fernando Tatis Jr. While Machado is proving to be a key acquisition thus far, getting on base and hitting for power when needed, it is Tatis who is leading the charge. Leading the team with a .300 batting average, a .360 on-base percentage, six home runs and six stolen bases, Tatis is the youthful jolt this tired team and fanbase needs. In addition, they are getting hits from former All-Star Eric Hosmer at first base, former prospect phenom Wil Myers in the outfield and growing

star Franmil Reyes.

The pitching for the Padres is also stepping up, starter Chris Paddack is slowly becoming reliable, his 1.67 earned run average a testament to his efficiency. In addition, with closer Kirby Yates leading the Majors in saves with 13, the Padres' collective earned run average of 3.56 is fifth-best in the league. The one knock on this team is that they have not necessarily faced any tough opposition, facing division bottom-feeders, the San Francisco Giants and Cincinnati Reds a combined 11 times so far. One thing is for certain: the journey for post-season baseball in the West goes through Dodger Stadium. Until the Padres prove they have the ability to beat the two-time defending National League champions, the Friars are still on the fence.

Pretenders: Minnesota Twins and the AL Central
The AL Central is the worst division in baseball. It has been Cleveland's stomping ground for about three years now and it should continue to be that way. However, the team at the top of the division is a

team who made the postseason two years ago — the Minnesota Twins. The caveat of that feat being they barely squeaked in as the second wild card and proceeded to lay an egg against their American League powerhouse, New York Yankees. This year, the Twins are led by the dynamic duo of Jorge Polanco and Eddie Rosario. Polanco is leading the team with a .337 batting average, also contributing some power to the lineup with five home runs. To look for power in the Twin Cities, Rosario and his mashing buddy Nelson Cruz have provided it. Rosario is leading the Twins with 11 home runs and 24 runs batted in, both in the top five in the MLB. Cruz is a savvy veteran with pop in his bat, hitting five home runs and 15 RBIs while also generating the most walks on the team so far with 10. Add to that the speedy Byron Buxton, and the Twins have the recipe for good, streaky hitting.

However, the Twins are led by one pitcher. For an example of what happens when a team is led by one pitcher, look at the New York Mets last year.

The Twins' version of Jacob deGrom is Puerto Rican hurler José Berrios. Berrios has four wins and possesses a 2.97 earned run average, along with 41 strikeouts, easily the best on the Twins. The problem with the Twins is the same problem that plagues the Padres — they have not played any legitimate teams. Taking away games against division rivals and the Baltimore Orioles, the Twins only have four wins in 12 games against non-division and somewhat decent teams. In addition, they are only one game in front of the Indians who were missing their franchise player Francisco Lindor for the beginning of the season. Unfortunately, Minnesota will likely be singing the second-place blues again.



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As the New York Rangers are moving towards a younger and faster team, they should look to mimic new emerging contenders who thrive on speed and defense, such as the Carolina Hurricanes and New York Islanders.

Rising NHL squads should be a model for Rangers to follow

BY FELIX MALAMUD
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Putting together the hundreds of moving pieces to successfully assemble a quality hockey team is so difficult that the average shelf life of an NHL general manager is only four years.

As the game constantly changes in terms of both on-ice strategy and front office philosophy, it only gets more challenging. The New York Rangers are perceived to be heading in the right direction.

This year's edition of the Stanley Cup playoffs is living, breathing proof that it is the best tournament in all of sports.

All four of the division winners were knocked out in the first round, including the defending Stanley Cup champion Washington Capitals and the best team in the history of the salary cap era, the Tampa Bay Lightning.

If anything else, the gap between the best and the rest is the most narrow in hockey when the postseason comes around. Anything can happen during the course of seven games stretched out over two weeks.

There aren't a whole lot of teams still running a strategy around grinding the other team into a pulp anymore.

The name of the game is speed and skill. This leads the NHL to trend away from size and towards more elusive players that can weave through cluttered ice into open space.

At some point, every team's window of contention eventually

closes, but it just takes some longer than others to realize it.

This is where the Rangers come into play. The team's executives realized that the window closed two years too late and tried to stave off the inevitable to the overall detriment of the organization. Looking around just the Eastern Conference, it is clear that the new NHL is here, evidenced by what is required of good teams.

The Carolina Hurricanes: the NHL's newest model team

Forever the darlings of the analytics community, the Hurricanes made the postseason for the first time since 2009.

After they won the Stanley Cup way back in 2005, the organization was forced into a shotgun wedding with goaltender Cam Ward based on an improbable playoff run. It held the team back for the longest time. But now, the Hurricanes are a model of how to build through the draft and capitalize on perceived value in trades.

Carolina boasts one of the game's great young dynamic players in Finnish forward Sebastian Aho. The 21-year-old posted an 81-point season this past year and led the team in scoring, yet was still snubbed from the All-Star Game.

While the goaltending play of Petr Mrázek is always one shot away from careening off into an abyss, he held his own in round one against the Capitals. More importantly, it is proof that a team does not need to pay a premium price for a goaltender to contend for a Stanley Cup.

All it takes is a team playing well in front of the netminder for an av-

erage goalie to hang in.

The other main factor in Carolina's success is the well-rounded blue line. Going through all six defensemen, the Hurricanes do not have a single flawed player.

While there is a clear pecking order, all of the blueliners are good enough that they can be counted on down the stretch in games. Even more notably, the most expensive player, Dougie Hamilton, only makes \$5.75 million per season.

The "bunch of jerks" from Raleigh, North Carolina, are likely headed to the Eastern Conference Finals for the first time since 2009. The Hurricanes are the model of where the NHL is going in the future: a young team designed to create as many scoring chances as possible, even though they do not look like a traditional hockey team.

At a quick glance, the Hurricanes are the type of team that the analytics community has pointed to for years as a cost-effective means to contend. While the group lacks a true superstar, former second-round pick Aho has bloomed into an elite player who produces enough to carry the top line.

In addition, Carolina built a pretty good contender while being \$16 million under the salary cap.

This is the model for all teams looking to build through the draft, acquire assets over a several year period and have them all on below market value contracts to improve the overall quality of the roster.

Throw in the Hurricanes rolling with a goalie tandem that's paid under \$3 million and they have the model for an NHL team go-

ing forward: A cheap team built to drive offensive possession and create scoring chances is a replicable model that other organizations can copy.

The New York Islanders: winning with a change in philosophy

It pains the collective consciousness of those who associate with the Rangers franchise, but every dog has its day. This very well could be that day for the perpetual mutts from Nassau County or Brooklyn depending on what day of the week it is. The New York Islanders are in contention for capturing a Stanley Cup and have looked nothing short of dominant thus far into the playoffs.

While the team's plan for success is less obvious than the Hurricanes', the dramatic change over the course of the last year that new head coach Barry Trotz pulled off is nothing short of miraculous. For the first time in NHL history, a team went from worst in goals against to best and these Islanders are very much for real.

For all of the good things that the Hurricanes' advanced statistics show and bad things that the Islanders do, there is a reason they play the games. This may be the Islanders' one chance to win with this group before a dramatic roster change. The players may change, but Trotz's system will endure.

Conceding lots of low danger scoring chances and being tight around the net front is a replicable style that can work for even the most average of NHL talent.

The Pittsburgh Penguins and Washington Capitals: victimized

by old habits. While both the Penguins and Capitals have won the last three Stanley Cups, their pair of first-round exits is a sign for where the sport is going.

Even though the Capitals were able to drag things out with the Hurricanes and get to a game seven, their clunky, grind-it-out style is not well-suited for an opposition that likes to cycle the puck.

Even worse than Washington is the situation developing in Western Pennsylvania. Thus far, it is fair to categorize the Penguins as the team of the century, as the organization won three Stanley Cups, two of them back-to-back, and made the finals four times.

However, with all of the perks that come with a player like Sidney Crosby, there are also drawbacks. As long as the Nova Scotia native is wearing the black and gold, the team is expected to compete for a championship. Yet, the support system around Crosby simply is not there.

When the Penguins won two consecutive Stanley Cups, it was through collective team speed throughout the lineup.

But, for some inexplicable reason, it opted for size instead of speed to make a run this year. While the logic may have made sense, assuming a matchup with the Capitals, it proved too tailored for one opponent.

The Rangers are at a key point in the organization's direction going forward. Using this changing of the guard as a model, New York can have a better idea of what it takes to win in today's NHL.



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Despite a very slow start and several important players currently facing injuries, the New York Yankees have found ways to turn things around and win consistently with major contributions up and down the lineup.

Yankees keep winning ways going despite myriad of injuries

BY MATTEO FLAMIO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

After dealing with 13 players being placed on the injured list, the current 25-man roster of the New York Yankees has surprisingly turned the team’s season around. After losing two out of three games to the Chicago White Sox at home, the team stood at a measly 6-9 on the season.

However, before the White Sox series, the Yankees’ injuries continued to pile up.

Starting catcher Gary Sanchez and third basemen Miguel Andújar were added to the IL, to join names like Giancarlo Stanton, Aaron Hicks, Luis Severino and Dellin Betances.

The IL squad was, on paper, much more impressive than the active team.

To go along with the great number of injuries, the bullpen was struggling.

At the start of the season, there was one piece of this team that was undoubtedly the strongest asset of the Yankees: the bullpen. It seems that the injury to Betances has had a bigger effect than it was thought to be.

The series against the Houston Astros showed concerns over the bullpen.

In two of the three games, the Yankees had the lead after the sixth inning and in both, the bullpen blew the lead and led to two losses. It was thought that with the star-studded backend, any lead would be safe.

Recently , things have gotten better, but two names stand out — Jonathan Holder and Chad Green.

Holder was great as a fifth or sixth inning man for the Yankees in 2018.

He pitched to a 3.14 ERA in 66 innings. In his 2019 campaign thus far, in 14.1 innings, he has a 5.02 ERA.

Last season, he had the ability to consistently throw his sharp curveball for a strike but has had issues making that pitch this year. He has not been able to consistently control that important pitch.

On the other hand, Chad Green has been nearly brutal to watch pitch. After a spectacular 2017 and 2018 seasons, there were clearly nothing but high hopes going into this season.

It was tough to figure out what Green’s role would be this season with Adam Ottavino added and Tommy Kahnle pitching well once again. It has been easy for the Yankees to figure out Green’s role, since he has been struggling heavily.

In just 7.2 innings, Green has given up 14 earned runs, skyrocketing his ERA to 16.43.

In his past seasons, he has relied on being able to beat hitters with his fastball.

Its velocity usually sits in the 93-95 mph range and at times, hitters had said that his fastball “jumps at them” and is perceived to be faster than it actually is.

This year has been different. He has only averaged about 92 mph on his fastball and has not had its last-second life.

Because of his struggles, the Yankees sent him down to their Triple-A affiliate, hoping he could figure his issues out.

Moving on from their woes, the Yankees have been one of the more

impressive teams in the past couple weeks with their recent performances. After losing two of three to the White Sox, they won 11 of their next 13 games.

It started with a two-game series with their rival Boston Red Sox, where the Yanks won by a rout of 8-0, followed by a go-ahead grand slam by Brett Gardner in the second game to complete the sweep.

They then moved onto a four-game series against the visiting Kansas City Royals, where they took three out of four.

The first game loss made fans think that the rocky start to the season would continue, but the Yankees went on to win the remaining three games, then win the first three games of their next series against the Los Angeles Angels.

They have been able to play carefree and are having fun. Their lineup has been producing and is led by names like Giovanni Urshela, Clint Frazier, DJ LeMahieu and Luke Voit. No one would ever imagine that in the absence of Andújar, Urshela would fill in by hitting .351 in his 65 plate appearances on the season.

The highlight of the Royals series was the fourth and final game.

After leading for the entirety of the game 5-0, the Royals scored six runs in the eighth inning to take the lead.

In the bottom of the eighth, after a leadoff double by Mike Tauchman and two outs made, Austin Romine tied the game with a single.

The two teams went scoreless in the ninth inning and in the bottom of the 10th, Romine came back up to the plate with runners on second and third base. He sent a ball over the centerfielder’s head to plate the winning run.

The walk-off win over the Royals gave the Yankees a winning record on the season, putting them at 11-10, and has given life to the young and inexperienced team.

The recent stretch they have been on has been special and unpredictable. The started their west coast trip winning three out of four against the Angels, then going to San Francisco to face off against the Giants, who they swept in three games.

Of course, the aforementioned teams - the Royals, Angels and Giants - are not the best teams.

In fact, they are some of the worst teams in the league, but with the current lineup that has trotted out on the field every night for the Yankees, it would not have been shocking if they lost nearly every game.

The key to this stretch has been their starting pitching.

Six Yankees pitchers have made starts for the team this year and cumulative they have thrown to a 3.51 ERA.

This would come as a surprise

to many after the Yankees are missing their ace Severino due to what seems to be shoulder issues.

In his absence, James Paxton has stepped up.

He has a 3-2 record on the year, with the two losses coming early in the season to the Baltimore Orioles and Astros and the three wins coming in his last three starts.

In two of those wins, he was nearly untouchable. Paxton had back-to-back games of 12 strikeouts.

The first start against the Red Sox, he went eight scoreless innings with only two hits, one walk and those previously mentioned 12 strikeouts.

His next start against the Royals was as impressive. He went just six innings, had 12 strikeouts, three hits and one walk.

He has answered the question of if he could pitch in the Bronx so far with his dominant performances.

This current Yankees team is playing with very little expectations, as they are viewed as underdogs with the 13 injuries that they have.

They have been able to play carefree and are having fun.

Their lineup has been producing and is led by names like Giovanni Urshela, Clint Frazier, DJ LeMahieu and Luke Voit. No one would ever imagine that in the absence of Andújar, Urshela would fill in by hitting .351 in his 65 plate appearances on the season.

This team is fun to watch and as players slowly come off the injured list, they will only get even better and many teams in the league will have to watch out for the New York Yankees.

A ‘Giant’ Stunner: G-Men shock fans by drafting Duke's Jones

BY EVAN LEWIS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The New York Giants have been shocking the entire NFL all offsea-son long.

First, they let Landon Collins walk away to a division rival for nothing before trading their star player Odell Beckham Jr. to the Cleveland Browns.

Just when it looked like the team was committing to tanking, they decided to sign over-the-hill wide receiver Golden Tate to a deal that signaled that they still want to com-pete right now. Given their reliant ability to confound fans and ana-lysts alike, it only made sense that the Giants would stun everyone on the biggest day of the NFL offsea-son: Draft Day.

With the sixth overall pick, the Giants could have chosen from a myriad of top-tier defensive play-ers. After all, they could certainly use one of them now that Damon “Snacks” Harrison, Eli Apple and Collins were all voluntarily given up by the organization.

However, the Giants decided to go a much different route. After months of repeating the mantra that Eli Manning can excel under center for years to come, general manager Dave Gettleman decided to spend his coveted draft capital on a quarterback.

At first glance, that does not sound so bad. Manning’s play has been on the decline for years now and at 38, he’s not exactly a spring chicken.Giants fans would have welcomed the addition of a QB.

In fact, every quarterback aside from Kyler Murray was still on the board. The Giants essentially had their pick of the litter.

This makes it even more con-founding that the team passed on higher-rated talents like Dwayne Haskins to instead draft a QB that many experts didn’t even have go-ing in the first round.

Gettleman has now put the fu-ture of his job, reputation and fran-chise in the hands of lesser-known Duke alum Daniel Jones.

On top of being considered by most to be much less talented than Haskins, many experts agree that Jones would have still been avail-able when the Giants were on the clock again with the 17th overall pick.

Dave Gettleman refuted these analyses, of course, instead spout-ing the seemingly baseless and un-provable rumors that Jones would have been off the board by the time their next pick rolled around.

Their selection of Jones over Haskins has outraged many, with some like Hall of Famer Cris Car-ter even questioning whether the choice has anything to do with race.

Given the organization’s dark history in terms of racial relations and their eye-opening lack of di-versity at the position — only one African American has ever started a game at QB in the franchise’s his-tory — the allegations cannot be completely brushed off.

Perhaps even worse is the fact that their division rival the Wash-ington Redskins had no problem selecting Haskins 15th overall.

Now the Giants will have to face Haskins twice a year for the next de-cade, constantly reminding them of their decision to pass him up.Things become even worse when consid-ering that the Giants could have taken a quarterback last year when they had the second overall pick.

They could have drafted every-one on the board — Sam Darnold, Josh Allen, Josh Rosen, Lamar Jack-son — except Baker Mayfield, who went first overall to the Browns, but instead elected to go with running back Saquon Barkley.

Taking Barkley made little sense in the grand scheme of things. Con-sidering the sorry state of Big Blue’s offensive line and the even worse state of their franchise as it stands right now, the dynamic star could end up wasting much of his prime for a sub-.500 team.

No one is denying Barkley’s tal-ent, but running backs do not win championships.

Organizations almost never draft halfbacks that high in today’s day and age for that very reason.

It isn’t like Manning was light-ing up the field then either, so a quarterback in that quarterback-heavy draft could have already been sitting behind the future Hall of Famer, learning from him and thus quickening what looks to be a lengthy rebuild.

Even if New York is convinced that Jones is the future, as they so clearly are, they did not have to se-lect him with their first pick.

If the Giants had simply waited until pick No. 17 to get their guy, they could have picked a top de-fensive player and still gotten their quarterback later.Instead, they were goaded by smarter executives into drafting Jones way too early and thus allowing the better players to be drafted by other teams.

New Yorkers have understand-ably been outraged by the selection.

Every major New York City newspaper had only negative headlines in regards to the QB.

It’s possible that Gettleman is



GARGUDOJR | FLICKR

The Giants still have many questions following the 2019 draft, especially at QB.

just much smarter than everyone else but it is much more likely that at 68 years old, the game has just passed him by.His decisions so far as general manager have been questionable at best.

Big Blue had so many roads to choose from in deciding their QB of the future, but they chose to take the one that no one else seemed willing to travel: Daniel Jones.

Aside from the aforementioned options, the Giants could have also traded for Rosen during the draft, who already has a year of NFL ex-perience under his belt and a very low asking price from the Arizona Cardinals. Alternatively, they could have just waited for the next strong QB draft, which conveniently is oc-curring next season.

There’s likely to be a plethora of

fresh quarterback talent entering the NFL next year, but the Giants would once again look completely inept if they decide to take QBs in back-to-back years.

The last organization to do that was the dumpster fire Cardinals, who seem to have no idea what they are doing and thus haven’t fig-ured out that they should have fired their general manager by now.

New York is in the same posi-tion. There is still hope that this Jones pick could work out. Stranger things have happened.

Right now, though, the Giants seem to be the Cardinals of the east. If this turns out to be as ugly as it looks right now, the franchise will be set back for years and it is likely that Gettleman will be sentenced to an early retirement.

Write for Sports

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Baruch Weekly

DOUBLE TAKE ADVICE FOR STUDENTS BY STUDENTS

DEAR DOUBLE TAKE:

Why is our generation more focused on the hookup culture rather than relationships?

Hook up culture has always been present but the way in which we search for sexual partners has radically changed. Advances in technology have made it safer, less anonymous and easier to cruise for sex, which is why it is now a lot more common. Perhaps the reason why our generation is so focused on hook up culture is because this streamlined access is new and exciting. Or maybe it's just the age we're in. The average age in which this generation "settles down" has been raised significantly due to lack of financial security. If we're setting down farther along the line, we're seriously dating farther down the line, but that doesn't mean we're not still craving human connection. For many, ethical hook up culture can satisfy that desire. And anyway, who is to say what a relationship really is anymore.

E. DAAR

Do you use Snapchat? Snapchat is built for sending photos that, after viewing, completely disappear. The platform has over 150 million daily users. I mention these because I think they're indicative that a lot of people in our generation like things that move fast. This includes the dating world. However, "a lot" of people does not mean all people. There are many young people who do not like the ideas that hookup culture promotes, whether due to prior experiences or personal reasons. If you're looking for people with these ideas, I'd recommend you simply keep looking as they're certainly out there and usually looking for like-minded people. You'll find someone soon if that's what your intention is, though don't be discouraged by the differences in opinions about dating since they don't result in inherently wrong principles.

J. TINEO

Submit a question to the Double Take team via Google Form on The Ticker's Facebook page, or email doubletake@theticker.org.

Disclaimer: It is up to The Ticker's discretion whether or not to publish certain questions. Additionally, the use of this column is strictly informational. The Ticker is not trying to replace any legal, medical or professional consultation, and we do not claim to be doing so. If you are having serious concerns at school or in life, we recommend you reach out to the Baruch Counseling Center at 646-312-2155.

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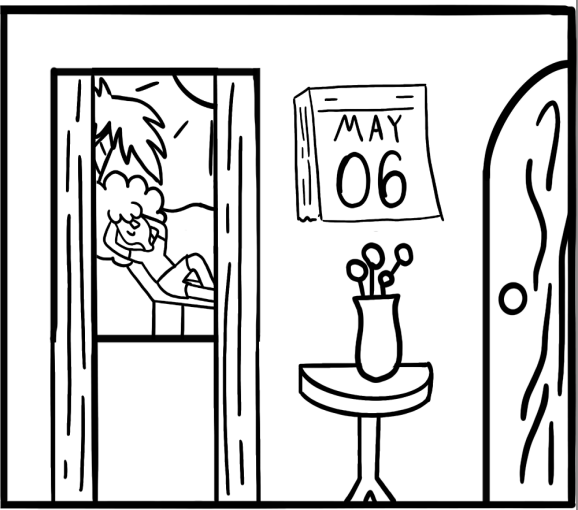
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SUDOKU SOLUTION: ISSUE 10

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SAVE THE DATE

Job Search Boot Camp
Wednesday, May 1 | 11:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. | NVC 2-190
6-week training group for SENIORS and RECENT GRADS (1-3 years out) currently seeking professional positions.

On Campus Recruiting Workshop
Thursday, May 2 | 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. | NVC 2-190
Attend this workshop for eligibility to apply to opportunities through Baruch's On-Campus Recruiting Program.

SCDC TIP OF THE WEEK

CHECK OUT THE **SCDC TIP OF THE WEEK** FROM THE **STARR CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

“When speaking with employers at networking events which can include career fairs, information sessions and site visits, be prepared to talk about yourself and how you can contribute to their company. It’s important to reference previous experiences which can include full/part-time jobs, internships, class projects, leadership positions, study abroad opportunities, and volunteer experiences.”

– Michael Kalish, Associate Director

INTERNSHIP UPDATE

Fluent City

Japanese Language Teacher

Fluent City is one of the fastest growing language companies in the country. They offer online, in-person and blended learning options across 11 languages for both consumers and organizations. They are looking for a passionate expert of the Japanese language, who is excited about helping others learn to speak Japanese in a practical, real world context.

As a Japanese Instructor, you will be responsible for teaching their students in either a group class or private lesson setting. While group classes always take

place onsite at one of their locations, private lessons may take place in a cafe, library, or our clients' offices. You will be expected to teach using a communicative method, conducting a conversation-based learning experience that centers around learning outcomes that your students can immediately apply to their lives.

New teachers can expect to teach 2 - 4 nights per week to start, pending your availability. Teachers who demonstrate a strong performance during their first classes will be offered ad-

ditional opportunities in private lessons and more.

This is a paid opportunity in the New York City Metro area, at \$25/hour + bonuses.

Starr Search ID: 125112

PRESENTATION EXCELLENCE

Social Media/Digital Marketing Intern

Are you an outgoing individual who wants to make a difference in the world? Presentation Excellence is looking for a social media/digital marketing intern who will help them impact the way people think about aging.

We are living longer than ever before, but the problem is, people are prepared to live that long. Age Brilliantly is a community-driven platform that helps people make better decisions as they age to 100+. Presentation Excellence provides people with

information, tools and a supportive community with peers and experts to help you be prepared.

The ideal candidate must be familiar with social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Youtube. The candidate must possess knowledge and eagerness to learn emerging digital platforms, and the ability to communicate the organizations' goals on the phone and in person.

Responsibilities include managing social media accounts and responding to incoming queries, meeting with potential clients to market Age Brilliantly, lead content curation for social platforms, among others. Outside the box creative thinkers are strongly desired.

This opportunity is paid at \$13.50/hour, and requires at least 20 hours per week.

Starr Search ID: 120497