

Bearcats party like it's 1999 during fifth annual 'Lip Sync Battle'



Baruch College's Undergraduate Student Government held one of its most popular annual events: "Lip Sync Battle." Clubs that competed chose songs that corresponded with this year's theme of the 1990s.

BY HARSHITA AHUJA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students competed at Baruch College's annual "Lip Sync Battle" on Nov. 22 for a chance to win a \$500 co-sponsorship prize from the Undergraduate Student Government. The theme this year was a 90's revival where students rocked overalls, baggy pants and neon colored sweatshirts and jackets. Students lip synced to songs by Michael Jackson, Britney Spears and Aaliyah, all hoping to snag the prize money and a trophy.

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'Join US(G)' pushes for students to get involved in their school

BY ANACAONA RODRIGUEZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Undergraduate Student Government's "Join US(G)" event on Nov. 21 was held to motivate Baruch Collegestudents to take part in student government. Approximately 50 students and 20 USG representatives were present.

The event was advertised to give students a chance to meet their table members and representatives. The event's Facebook description read, "Ah, USG? The ones who give free food and giveaways? You may know them as that, but we do so much more!"

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The Brotherhood of the New Blockheads exhibit runs until Feb. 21, 2020 at the Mishkin Gallery. Check out The Ticker's coverage of its opening night on pages 16-17.

Baruch swimming teams continue their hot streaks

BY ISAIAH HINTON
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The temperature outside might be cooling down quickly, but the atmosphere around Baruch sports is heating up just as fast. In their last meet before the ECAC Winter Championships, both the men and women swimming and diving teams earned narrow victories against the College of Staten Island, improving their winning streaks to four meets. Both teams held small leads in the individual events but dominated the relays, especially the 200-yard freestyle.

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Students stand in solidarity with California shooting victims

BY ADDIE JOSEPH
COPY EDITOR

On Nov. 14, an armed student entered Saugus High School in Santa Clarita, California, and opened fire, fatally wounding two students and shooting three more before turning the gun on himself and pulling the trigger. Authorities say the attack took only 16 seconds.

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OPINIONS

It's time to clean up and upgrade Baruch's fitness center

In 2012, the Baruch fitness center was described as a "high-tech college fitness center" with "state of the art Life Fitness, Universal and Hammer Strength weight training equipment" and "eight plasma flat screen televisions [with] a surround sound stereo system," according to an online article in EDTech Magazine. The Baruch fitness center boasts around eight treadmills, a variety of upper and lower body machines and many different free weights.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Santa Clarita H.S. shooting sparks discourse among Bearcats

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That morning, Sona Nardos, 25, woke up to the sound of her cell phone ringtone.

On the other end, she heard the panicked voice of her best friend, asking if her younger brother, Mikael, attends Saugus High School. Nardos replied that he didn't and that he was still in his last year of junior high.

"Thank God," her friend had replied, "because there's a shooting at Saugus right now."

When she walked out to the living room, Nardos saw her parents watching the news and learned that her mother had been woken by a similar call from her brother, though she'd missed the call by seconds.

"When my mom saw that he called her," Nardos shared, "she was like 'okay, this must be important, he never calls when he's at school.' And when she called him back, the first thing he said is 'there's a shooting at Saugus, we're on lockdown.'"

It wasn't until 4 o'clock that Nardos saw her brother again.

His school, Arroyo Seco Junior High, lifted its lockdown late, due to its close proximity and connection to Saugus High School.

Once parents were able to pick up their children, they had to wait to enter the building one by one to do so.

It had taken Nardos' father two hours to bring Mikael home.

Mikael later said that while he was scared earlier on in the day, he wasn't as affected as his friends who have older siblings that attend Saugus.

Later on, however, he started to grow nervous at the thought of attending Saugus in the next academic year.

"My mom and I had to sit down

and tell him that like, it's not the school, it's the person. It doesn't matter what school you're at," said Nardos.

This sentiment is also felt by Baruch students, who are growing frustrated at the continuing presence of gun violence.

This week, the United States has already experienced three more fatal shootings following the Saugus shooting.

"Every time you hear about something like this happening, it's just more frustrating because like I feel that things like this are very preventable if we were to just offer more support for people with mental illness and gun control, things like that," said Taina Torres, a sophomore at Baruch.

Following an increase in gun violence, schools in recent years have been implementing drills and lockdown procedures in the event that a tragedy should strike their campuses.

But rather than solve the issues at hand, Baruch students raise concern that these don't do much more than instill fear in younger children.

"Kids shouldn't have to go through all these drills that like, 'Oh there's a chance you might die,'" Baruch sophomore Maryam Jamal shared exasperatedly. "They're like little kids."

What these drills instead do is reveal how vulnerable students are in the face of school shooters, where meaningful policy changes have failed them.

"It just instills this fear into literally everyone that no matter where you are at any given moment someone's gonna walk up with a gun and shoot you. And that's insane!" exclaimed Nardos.

"That's insane, no kid should have to go to school scared that



SWWOOKIE | WIKIPEDIA

Students from Saugus High School in Santa Clarita, CA were forced to evacuate after an active shooter entered the school.

someone's gonna' just kill them."

Following the Parkland Shooting that claimed 17 innocent lives last year, Santa Clarita residents got involved in making sure that the same type of tragedy wouldn't inflict their community.

Students, including those who attended Saugus High School, participated in March For Our Lives Walkout event in March 2018 and the greater community hosted a March For Our Lives rally later on that same month to draw attention to the policies and trends that potentially allow such tragedies to take place.

Some students even went on to host a town hall to facilitate gun control conversations between community members.

But it wasn't enough to prevent history from repeating itself.

That knowledge is enough to

strike fear in many students.

"It is something that a lot of people have to live in fear of until there's like real action we can take towards preventing it," Torres explained, also suggesting that through legislation, future tragedies can be prevented.

But perhaps the reason behind the government's trepidation to act to remedy America's gun violence epidemic lies in the complexity of the issue.

While New Yorkers broadly don't have an affinity to guns, there are areas of the United States where owning guns is no anomaly.

Jackson Gable, an out-of-state student from Oklahoma City, OK, noted that he views guns as tools, rather than solely as weapons, and suggested less radical ideas for preventing gun violence.

"My solution isn't banning guns

though, it's about more psychological screening, making sure that, you know, guns have to be locked up in a safe when there's other people around, that sort of thing," Gable explained.

Others, like Nardos, have called for much stricter gun control laws nationally.

But, regardless of how people conjecture solutions to gun violence, most still agree it's an issue that government officials should be paying more attention to and recall, with bewilderment, the days where it wasn't such a pressing issue in everyday life.

"Back when I was in Saugus," Nardos had recalled, "that was never even a thought in my head, that someone would just walk into school and shoot up the place. Back then that would have been a crazy thing to think that would happen."

'Join (US)G' motivates students to sign up for student government

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The event started off with a presentation introducing all members of USG with in-depth descriptions of each position.

Many representatives also shared advice on how to get involved in student government and gave descriptions of each student government committee.

Some representatives also took the opportunity to share resources available to students on their website, such as the Undergraduate Student Survival Guide, the weekly newsletter and also an online form that allows students to share their concerns directly to USG.

Some representatives shared their plans for their committees for the upcoming semester. Legislative Affairs Vice President Kimberly Kazdal spoke about her committee's upcoming lobbying trip to Albany.

Emmanuel Oladejo, USG's Chair of Arts, brought up a new student center set to open somewhere near the 24th Street & Lexington entrance in February 2020.

The session ended with a video showing students how to get to the Student Government offices on the third floor and a game of Kahoot. Due to a meeting with Baruch's Board of Directors, some notable

members of USG, including President Dakshatha Daggala, arrived later.

Genesis Calle, the newly elected Chair of Philanthropy, is said to have organized the event. As for attendance, Executive Vice President Joshua Castillo added that even though this general interest meeting was the first in the semester, he was impressed with the turnout.

"I do wish more people came and made an effort to come to our meetings," Kazdal, however, said.

When asked why the event was scheduled so late in the semester, Castillo said, "We don't consider it late in the semester mainly because you can join USG at any point. General interest meetings have a common misconception that they need to take place in the beginning of the semester."

He added that the purpose of the event was simply to tell more students about student government's functions.

"Essentially we wanted to do something, preferably now that the heat of midterms season is over, so that students have the opportunity to learn about how to get involved, what it is that we actually do, and where they see themselves fitting in at Baruch," he said.

This event happened just weeks after the popular Instagram page Overheard Baruch posted an anonymous submission in which the submitter claimed that USG held "no real representation of the student body's interests."

This sparked a debate between students agreeing with the original post and USG representatives defending the institution.

However, USG denies the two events had anything to do with one another, and insists the scheduling was merely coincidental.

Kimberly Kazdal, VP of the Legislative Committee said, "This gen-



COURTESY OF USG'S FACEBOOK

USG Executive Vice President Joshua Castillo talks to attendees at JOIN US(G), the government's first GIM of the semester.

eral interest meeting was genuinely in the works for a long time. This wasn't a response to what took place online."

Kazdal added, "As the VP of the Legislative Committee that deals with activism and civic engagement, I found the pushback online awesome. I was glad to see people voicing their concerns. However, it is important for those who are commenting online to also come to our meetings and events to ask questions and voice their concerns in person."

Castillo added that he hopes the event inspired more students get involved. One attendee, sophomore Felicia Fortel, said she attended the event because she wanted to learn how to get involved.

"All the chairs and representatives were very friendly. I didn't want to get involved originally but seeing how friendly everyone was made me want to get more involved."

Another sophomore, Nafissa Maik, attended to expand her involvement in USG. "My involve-

ment with USG some committees has inspired me to broaden my horizons, so I thought it would be a great idea to attend this general interest meeting."

In a post made on Facebook after the event, USG stated, "Hopefully you now know you know who is the one behind these posts."

The event achieved its goal of informing students willing to learn about student government's positions and functions, and USG representatives hope to have more students involved in the future.

"I didn't want to get involved originally but seeing how friendly everyone was made me want to get more involved."

— Felicia Fortel

Bat found in Baruch Statistics 2000 class, unclear where it came from

BY AMANDA SALAZAR
NEWS EDITOR

A bat was found crawling on the floor in a Baruch College Statistics 2000 class taught by Professor Prabuddha Ghosh on Nov. 8.

The incident happened at around 9:10 a.m. when the class was just getting started and lasted until around 10 a.m. The bat was stationary on the floor of the second level of the small lecture hall, almost blending in with the grey carpeting.

Students sitting in the second row noticed the bat and brought it to the professor's attention. Some people said they had initially thought it was a rat when they first saw it. The bat — likely a little brown bat, or *Myotis lucifugus*, which is one of the common bat species in Manhattan — started to slowly crawl along the floor after some time.

"I was just surprised, because I was like, 'Is it still alive?' Because it looks like a rat, but it has like wings," sophomore Kameron Daniel in the class said.

In a video provided to *The Ticker* by Kamila Lukyanova, a student in the class, it can be seen that the bat appeared to be disoriented, as it stumbled around unfamiliar surroundings.

It is unclear how the animal had gotten into the classroom or whether there are any more lingering in the Newman Vertical Campus. A few minutes after noticing the bat, Ghosh left the classroom and went to the public safety desk on the first floor of the building to ask for the animal to be removed.

Campus peace officers are not necessarily trained to handle wildlife, so Ghosh said the guard called



The bat, dubbed "Statbat" by Lukyanova, was found camouflaged with the carpet.

another facility on campus, who then provided them with yet another phone number to call about the situation.

Afterward, Ghosh returned to his class as the once-a-week class was pressed for time. Both Lukyanova and Daniel said the students made sure to keep the door closed as to keep the animal contained in the room.

By this point, the bat had migrated to one corner of the room and the students moved to the opposite side.

It was still loitering on the floor, so the class decided to ignore it and get into their lesson.

Shortly after, someone from the correct department or office — it is unclear what that office is, though — stopped by the classroom and removed the bat. *The Ticker* has been unable to confirm the exact way the bat was removed from the classroom.

According to Lukyanova, the person sprayed an unidentified substance on the animal, put it in a bag and used a broom to sweep it into a dustpan. She said the bat had been killed. Ghosh, on the

other hand, said he didn't think the bat was killed, just saying that the handler put it into a bag, then into the dustpan and then taken out of the room.

"We were all actually very scared and then we actually saw that the bat went under the chair and we were like, 'Okay, it's not moving.' But of course, had it been flying or something, I wouldn't have done the class, because it's hazardous," Ghosh said.

"I think we felt safe that, you know, it's not going to be hazardous. Of course, we kept our distance from the bat. No one was sitting around the bat, I believe, so we were taking our precautions, but we could not have waited, like, one hour for someone to come out of a three-hour class," he continued.

Some students shared their reactions to the situation with *The Ticker*, many saying that they had been surprised by it and concerned for the animal's safety.

"It was just a shock that it was in here and I just, I guess, wanted to take it out as safely as possible," said sophomore Joey Tang from the class.



Hunter College's paper revived as a new website

BY YASMEEN PERSAUD
OPINIONS EDITOR

After one year of being an inactive publication, Hunter College's student-led newspaper *The Envoy* recently launched its news website which was committed to providing a strong voice for CUNY students, mainly on Hunter's campus.

"Hunter students care deeply about a variety of issues and deserve to have a place where they can read about campus goings-on as well as local news," Editor-In-Chief Lauren Hakimi said.

Hakimi said she doesn't know exactly why *The Envoy* was shut down for a year. She described hearing a large number of rumors circulating around the publication's disappearance.

"And others have said that the newspaper was shut down because the administration didn't like what was publishing," Hakimi added. "I can't speak to what happened, but I can guarantee there's student interest now, and we're committed to brave and honest journalism."

The Envoy was launched in 1944, as per Hunter's official website.

Some students, however, are not as interested in the launch of the newspaper, unless it specifically targets their concerns.

"Honestly, it doesn't really

matter to me as I doubt I may read it anyways, but if it contains useful information then I'm all for it," junior biology major at Hunter Naomi Valerio said.

However, some students are unaware about the recent launch of the newspaper, which begs to question the piqued interest of student journalism on CUNY campuses.

"This is the first time I'm hearing of a school newspaper," junior political science major Kerin Shilla said. "I think it'd be great but only if it's not crazy censored, it's important that we have a safe space to voice concerns, which we have a lot of."

The newspaper's small team of four editors is making it big with their dedication to publishing news that matters to students. Their WordPress site features Hunter news, local news and cultural news.

An impressive feature to their site is the recent addition of an advice column, where students can express their concerns 24/7. At the top of their news site, Hakimi attached an editor's note — a heartfelt description as to why she and her team decided to launch the newspaper again. "Hunter matters, New York City matters, and — to state the basic premise of *The Envoy* — you, the students, matter," Hakimi wrote.

First-year enrollment for CUNY is up 2.8% in 2019

BY HARSHITA AHUJA AND AMANDA SALAZAR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER AND NEWS EDITOR

Freshmen enrollment has reached a record high in CUNY schools, as a large pool of students continue to apply to the 25 campuses across New York City.

Founded in 1847, CUNY has become the leading public university in the United States and across New York City's five boroughs.

This can be shown by such a high increase in its applicants despite the overall decline in the enrollment nationwide, in accordance with data from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center.

CUNY freshman enrollment has seen this upward trend for five years with a rate of 2.8% increase in the applicants enrolling at the CUNY colleges, according to a CUNY brief. The number of students at CUNY is now 40,768.

"Since 2010, the number of freshmen enrolling in CUNY's senior and community colleges has increased by 17 percent, while freshman enrollment nationally has been flat during the same period, both at public and private institutions," the article said.

The number of freshmen on the 11 senior colleges' campuses rose to 21,911 from 21,148, and the freshman enrollment at the seven community colleges went from 18,512 to 18,857.

"The growth of our freshman classes is a product of CUNY's high-quality academics, extraordinary affordability and the outstanding outcomes our graduates can expect," CUNY Chancellor Félix Matos Rodríguez

was quoted in the brief.

"We are gratified that students recognize the tremendous opportunity that CUNY offers and we look forward to being part of their educational journey through graduation and beyond as proud CUNY alumni."

This increase is said to be due to the affordability of the schools and number of various programs offered by the campuses.

Given its relative affordability, CUNY provides a number of opportunities to lower-income students.

The CUNY statistics mentions that "about 8 in 10 CUNY college graduates carry no federal loan debt," thereby attracting a large number of students worldwide to become a part of the public university.

CUNY also offers students the opportunity to participate in the Excelsior Scholarship, which combines state and federal aid to students to help students from low and middle income families pay for college.

It is only offered for CUNY and SUNY schools.

The fee waivers provided by CUNY to high school students for the college application also attracts more students to apply to their colleges.

In addition, the CUNY system gives students access to other programs such as the College Discovery Program and SEEK.

Such services include financial aid, academic and financial counseling.

Because of such, the programs encourage more applicants to study at the CUNY colleges, likely contributing to the first-year student enrollment rates.

Trivia and Dumpling Day challenges quiz students about other cultures and foods

BY FEBE GEORGE
STAFF WRITER

As part of the celebration of International Education Week at Baruch College, students, faculty and staff participated in the "International Trivia & Dumpling Day Challenge" on Nov. 19.

Baruch's Conversations Partners Program collaborated with the International Student Service Center to make the event possible.

The goal of the event was "to bring together students, staff and faculty in a celebration of culture and customs and traditions and learning more about international education in part for international education week," said Elizabeth Minei, who instructed participants throughout the event.

"This is a growing event that really is showcasing the diversity at Baruch and highlighting the people so it's really, really about the people," said Minei after realizing there had been 175 attendees present at the event.

As part of the learning process, attendees formed around thirty teams and participated in a trivia-style competition.

Each group was given a ballot on which they had to write down their answers to each question.

As they answered each question, they brought their ballots to their assigned judges.

Multiple choice questions included questions like, "Which hand gesture is considered highly offensive in Bangladesh?" — the answer to which was the thumbs-up sign — and, "What do the letters in the airline name Qantas stand for?" — the correct answer being Queensland and Northern



Teams worked together to answer questions about culture, food and language.

Territory Aerial Services.

There was also a lightning round in which participants were allotted one minute to name as many of the twelve countries in South America as they could.

The team with the most points after answering all twenty questions at the end won.

The prize was a \$10 Amazon gift card for each student on the winning team, which was "Wrong Questions." The faculty and staff team that won was "True Scholars."

As the name suggests, refreshments served included dumpling-style foods from different cultures, such as samosas, Chinese dumplings, Japanese gyoza and Latin American empanadas.

"My favorite part about the event had to be trying out the different 'dumplings' from around the world! It was a really great way to experience a wide array of ethnic foods at one event," said Rohit Mathew.

The trivia challenge tied into the week's celebrations as "the entire event was based around questions that support cultures

from all over the globe," said Minei.

"We tried to represent every continent, pull from customs, music, food, holidays and so we really sort of did a sampling that could inform participants of areas of cultures they may never have heard of," she said.

International Education Week is a nationwide celebration across higher education institutions revolving around the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide.

This week "is a time to celebrate and recognize the diversity that Baruch College students represent, it's a time to reflect on the different places we've come from and how we can all come together and appreciate the differences and the similarities we share," said Sitara Sawh, the president of the Conversations Partners Program who acted as a judge during the competition.

Other events during the week included "International Movie Night" and "Say my Name: Pronunciation of Chinese Names and Phrase Workshop."

PSC and CUNY agree to pay over \$4,000 per course for adjuncts

BY SHEIK FLORADEWAN AND NOAH FLEISCHMAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER AND COPY CHEIF

After the continued efforts of the Professional Staff Congress to increase the salaries of almost 30,000 adjuncts and full-time faculty, they have reached a historic agreement with the City University of New York.

The agreement provides wage gains for adjuncts and full-time faculty, and further professionalizes the work of part-time faculty at CUNY.

The starting pay for adjunct faculty will increase from the current \$3,222 minimum to a salary of \$4,469 for a three-credit course and \$5,586 for a four-credit course. In addition, the agreement increases salaries across the board by more than 10%, through annual increases of 2%.

The term of the new contract will be from Dec. 1, 2017, through Feb. 28, 2023, pending approval by the CUNY Board of Trustees and ratification by the union’s membership. About 20 delegates voted NO and the rest and about 200 voted YES at the Delegate Assembly.

Although this contract falls short of the original 7K for adjuncts, with a total of a 71% salary increase, it is still a step forward according to Baruch’s chapter of PSC’s President Vincent DiGirolamo.

“I think it can rightly be called a historic breakthrough contract that we can all be proud of. I know it falls short of our 7K demand, but the gains made in terms of adjunct pay, across the board salary increases, increased funding for professional development and research and conference travel—all of that, plus, is too much to spurn,” said DiGirolamo.

This sentiment is shared among

the faculty who had fought for the contract. “The contract is not perfect,” acknowledged Baruch English Professor Frank Cioffi, a member of the PSC’s Delegate Assembly.

“We did not get the \$7K per course. Adjuncts now have to work one office hour for each 3 credits that they teach. There are no longer step increases possible for adjuncts.

Full-time faculty are being offered a 0% pay increase for 2017–18, which means that the back pay will be only for slightly more than one year rather than for slightly more than two. Concessions had to be made, as they are made in every bargaining situation.”

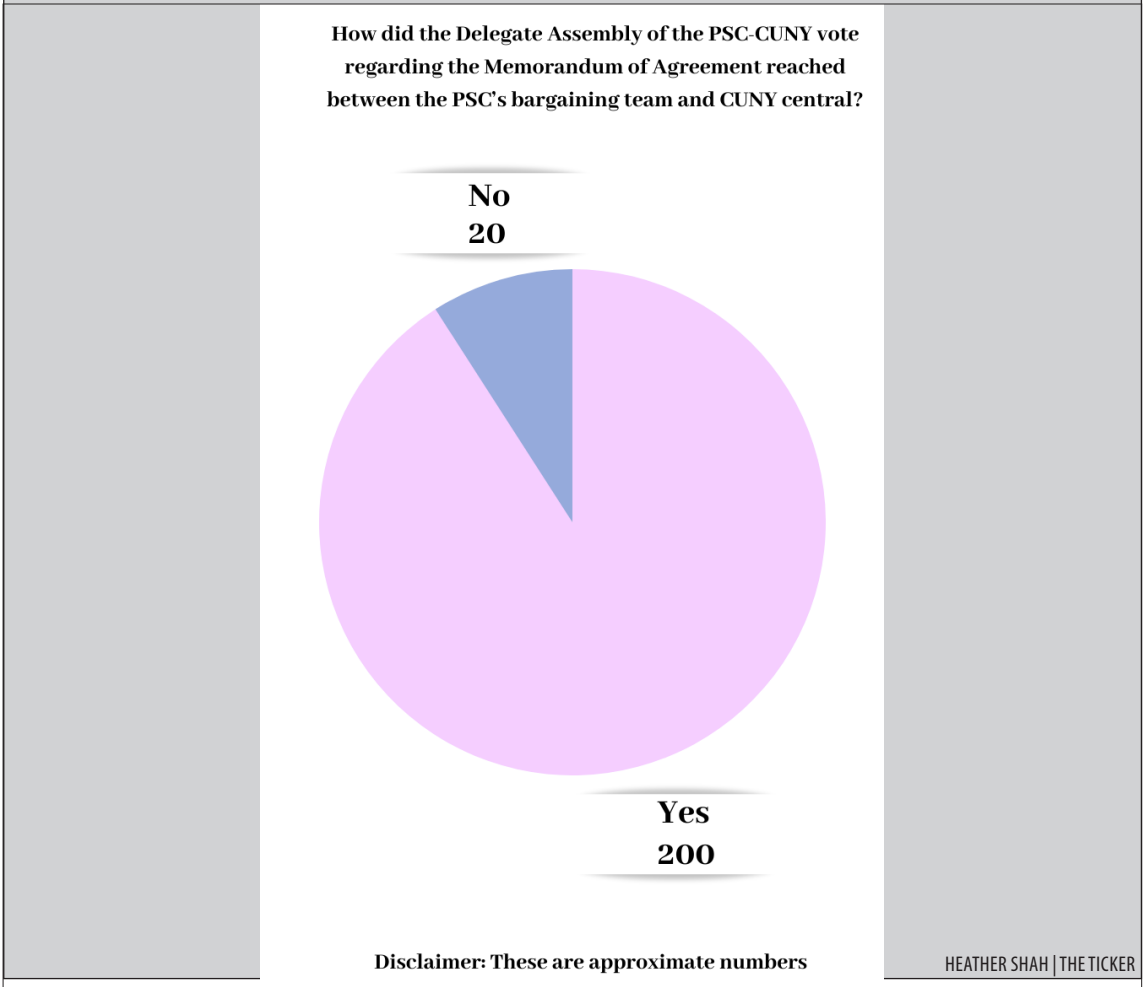
However, DiGirolamo did express that, the union will continue to fight for the original 7K proposal. “Whether members vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’ on the Memorandum of Agreement, the fight for 7K will continue. It was the demand of the entire union.”

This belief was shared among other members of PSC. Stuart Davis secretary of the PSC international committee agrees. “I do not think voting “yes” on this contract is tantamount to abandoning significant work done on CUNY campuses,” he said.

Jane Guskin PSC-CUNY alternate delegate, who voted NO at the Delegate Assembly and voted NO again as a member to reject it, expressed her discontent with the contract.

“The adjunct raise is not nearly enough: our current pay of 3.2K per course would only go up to \$5.5K per course... and not until 2022. Adjuncts at many other NYC colleges are already making more than 5.5K. We are far behind everyone else and 5.5K per course is not even a living wage in New York City.”

“It definitely won’t be a living



The Professional Staff Congress agreed to settle for lower pay than it was rallying for, but still more than the current pay.

wage in 2022. The demand for \$7K per course was supposed to get us closer to the equivalent teaching pay of a regular (non-adjunct) faculty member. This contract comes up short.”

Concerns around the contract arose as to how this affects students.

When directed to DiGirolamo he expressed that while there is no

direct correlation between wage increases and tuition hikes, “on a basic level, the contract means that CUNY students are less likely to be taught by people who can’t pay their rent, put food on the table, or afford basic health care.”

“One of the best ways students can join the fight against austerity budgeting and tuition hikes is to join the CUNY Rising Alliance,”

said DiGirolamo in an interview.

In terms of the hiring freeze, it has an advantageous effect on adjunct hiring DiGirolamo explained as “department chairs will be compelled to employ more adjuncts if they can’t get lines to recruit full-time tenured or tenure-track professors to replace professors who have retired or otherwise moved on.”

ISO, PFN and F.U.S.I.O.N win USG’s ‘Lip Sync Battle’

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

“Our Lip Sync event is an opportunity to reach out to our Baruch clubs and get people more involved,” USG’s Rep. Sen., and event host, Basil Harding explained.

Club interaction is the common goal among events like these.

Students lined up for a catered dinner and drinks before hitting the dance floor.

Lasagna, vegetables, pastas and salads were served among other food.

“Student government must have put a lot of money into this event because the food was great and the performances have been good so far. Plus, events like these are a good way to network,” junior attendee, Carl Robertson said.

USG had been preparing a month in advance for this night.

“It’s our tradition to bring students together for a night of fun, our school is not just a commuter school, it’s an environment we could all feel free to enjoy,” student government member and host Tony Chang said.

Overall, students competed with great enthusiasm and coordi-

nation. The International Student Organization won third place. Their incredibly fast on-stage wardrobe changes impressed the judges and crowd.

After ISO group members accepted their trophy and thanked the crowd, the Pre-Recorded Friday Night’s club second place victory was announced.

Finally, the first-place trophy was awarded to Baruch’s F.U.S.I.O.N. club for the second year in a row. Freshman Vicki Xiao, a member of F.U.S.I.O.N., imitated Michael Jackson in a well-rehearsed dance routine.

“It took us three and a half days of practicing, but we found a lot of time,” she said.

Xiao also explained that some of the students in Baruch’s F.U.S.I.O.N. club are also apart of CONfusion, one of Baruch’s dance clubs.

“A majority of us come from dancing backgrounds, we’ve performed in Filipino culture dance competitions. So, in that way, members have either danced competitively outside of school or in high school,” she said.

“Everyone is super talented. I loved the event it was so much fun and I’m happy Baruch holds events like these it really brings everyone together. I was honestly surprised at the involvement of the audience,” attendee Elina Niyazov said, adding she was surprised by the performances.

In the end students regardless of affiliation helped clean up to wrap up the night.

An overall sense of community united students together along with anticipation for next year’s “Lip Sync Battle.”

"I loved the event, it was so much fun and I'm happy Baruch holds events like these, it really brings everyone together."

- Vicki Xiao

NABA hosts another ‘Game Night’ with a combined clothing and food drive

BY JAHLIL RUSH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The National Association of Black Accounts hosted “Game Night X Jopwell” at Baruch College in order to create networking opportunities and a bonding experience for students, as well as convince students to donate to their clothes and food drive on Nov 21.

Members of NABA were walking around with their iPhones asking and allowing students to create Jopwell accounts in order to give them a head start on networking.

Jopwell is an online job resource used to help college students find internship opportunities based on their major and career interest. The entire night was filled with food, laughter and games. Games included at the event were Connect Four, Jenga and Uno, and there was an Xbox available for students to play the video game NBA 2K19.

One of the goals of NABA “Game Night” was also to create a stress-free event for students who are dealing with impact of school and work life balance and also was to help start up friendships in the process, according to Naisera Vaughn, member of the Community Affairs Committee of the NABA.

“Ahadanah Sylvestre and I was talking about this event,” said Naisera Vaughn. “We want to have fun while giving back. This event was also used as place where we as students can let loose. Overall it was a smooth journey,” said Vaughn.

“Nothing went askew. I only wished more committee members could have attended to meet students that come,” she said.

NABA also wanted to use “Game Night” as an attempted



chance to introduce the students to the fun side of the club.

“I hope they see a fun side of NABA,” said Sylvestre, director of community affairs.

“I want student get more of a family feel. The main purpose of this event is to raise donations for our clothes drive and food drive. The only challenge we had was delivering our message about our donation drive. While we do want to give students a good foundation to starting their careers, we want to also offer family support as well.”

“I definitely want people to know about NABA” said Naisera Vaughn. “We help with internships and we are not only business. We are a family as well.”

Other members only wished for students to simply have fun and relax.

“We want students that attend to feel like they are enjoying the event,” said Jessica Agyeman, member of the finance committee of NABA. “The goal is to have fun. By hosting this event, we want everyone feel included, even if you are new to the club.”

The students who attended had a few similar reasons for attending the event as a well. “I was looking for something fun to do,” said Jarrette Marin.

“I was also hoping to meet new people as well. I am also hoping to get the school a lot more since I have not been at Baruch long. Also, I just wanted to have fun.”

Michelle Abreu, another student who attended “Game Night” had different reasons as well.

“A lot of my friends are a part of NABA,” said Michelle Abreu. “So, I decided to join them. Plus, I heard about free food. I wanted to have fun before I have to take my finals and enjoy free food.”

Some students ended up at this event by chance, like Brigitte Allison.

“I went to game night that was hosted by Caribbean Student Association,” said Brigitte Allison. “The Clubs were promoting was promoting each other and I decided to check it out. I was hoping to meet new people. By meeting new people, I am also inspired to join the club.”

17 Lex Construction: Progress has been made, but has it been worth the wait?

BY **AYSE KELCE**
BUSINESS EDITOR

Baruch College’s renovation of the Lawrence and Eris Field Building at 17 Lexington Avenue started in Jan. 2018, and the first phase of the \$90 million project is expected to be completed by January 2020.

“This long-awaited renovation will make the lives of students, faculty, and staff easier; maximize energy efficiency; and enable the Field Building at 17 Lex to be an even better neighbor to the Flatiron/Gramercy Park community. Baruch College deserves a state-of-the-art building that will thrive far into the 21st century,” reads Baruch President Mitchel Wallerstein’s statement about the renovation, from the project’s website.

Although Wallerstein emphasizes making the lives of students easier, the recent issues with heating and water pumps, as well as the lack of elevators, has been detrimental to this.

Three elevators are in use for the whole building, operated by public safety staff to only make express stops: floors seven, 10 and 13.

The email update on 17 Lex, sent by Katharine Cobb, vice president of administration and finance, states that two of the other elevators are undergoing reconstruction, includ-

ing the floor, ceiling and wall adjacent to them.

There have been long lines both inside and outside 17 Lex since the beginning of the semester.

During the busiest times, the line reaches outside the building, with students lined up around the block — not only to use the elevators, but also just to get into the building.

When asked if he has ever been late to class solely because of the elevators, “Yes, who hasn’t,” said Baruch sophomore Kenneth Louie.

Cobb’s update says there have been major upgrades with electrical and mechanical systems, installment of an emergency generator and chiller on the roof, renovation of four elevators and other infrastructural changes. Yet, most of the milestones do not directly affect the thousands of students who have classes in the building.

“In each case, the College has made efforts to mitigate the negative impact by assigning more public safety staff, running express elevators during busy times, obtaining and distributing space heaters, and bringing on more custodians to clean the usable bathrooms during the water failure,” Cobb said in the email about the actions taken in response to the rising issues during construction.

Phase 2 plans for Lex 17 include 23rd Street entrance revamp including an American Disabilities Act access, upgraded and gender-neutral bathrooms, upgrades on Mason Hall and the stairs and a possible BPAC Multi-Purpose Room.

However, there is no information on when the Phase 2 and the overall construction for Lex 17 will end.

"There have been long lines both inside and outside 17 Lex since the beginning of the semester."



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IEW Global Fun Fair shares culture, food and fun with Baruch students

BY ANGELICA TEJADA
STAFF WRITER

The International Student Service Center, International Student Organization and other Baruch College student organizations hosted the “Global Fun Fair” on Nov. 21 as part of International Education Week.

One of the goals of the event was to encourage students to learn about the different cultures within the Baruch community.

The diversity within students’ cultural backgrounds was displayed on a large world map in the second-floor lobby where students marked with colored dots to signal where they are from.

“We wanted to make sure that everyone, whether they are a domestic student or an international student, got to know each other and to show everyone the different cultures here,” said ISO club member Shazi Abdusa.

When students got to the second-floor lobby, they received a paper “passport” that got stamped after they visited each club’s table and played their cultural game.

Once they received the stamp from that club, they were given a sample of the food the club brought.

The United Chinese Language Association had shuttlecock, a game similar to badminton and a national sport in China, as well as fortune-telling as their cultural activities that attendees could participate in.

“When we were planning, we were thinking of the kind of activities that we should bring to the event that people would probably not know about or do know about that would still be interactive,” said



Multiple cultural clubs participated in the fair, both to share culture and to recruit.

UCLA Vice President of Graphics Suzy Qiu.

Groups of students formed circles around the tables to play shuttlecock and when the game was over they heard more about the origins of the game within the Chinese culture.

“This event represents Baruch’s diversity and it’s so amazing to see people from different places and be able to relate to them,” said senior Sokhna Gueye, who is from West Africa.

Along with educating attendees on the different cultures within Baruch, the Youth Organization for Israel also wanted to raise awareness of the Israeli culture.

“Some people who want to go to Israel can find out about the trips they can take with a different organization that is available or someone may just go away with thinking that falafel tastes good. At least they know that there is an Israeli community at Baruch,” said Treasurer of YOFI Tejida Wexler.

The Hindu Student Association had word-search activities with

words that symbolized India, like Buddha and Diwali.

“We wanted to let people know about the Hindu community and the fact that there is a Hindu community at Baruch College that they can join if they wanted to become a part of it,” said HSA club member Yashna Motwani.

Attendees not only got to learn about the different cultures represented by the clubs but also got to meet club members and potentially join the club in the future.

“It’s always great when food is provided for students,” said freshman Sharia Hoque, who attended the event because she was interested in the kinds of clubs that were there.

The event gave attendees an outlook toward the different kinds of cultures they could interact with on campus.

“This event brings cultural awareness and represents the different cultures within Baruch to other people,” said senior Kenny Dai, who attended the “Global Fun Fair.”

Students give back to community at Feed 5k

BY SHAHRAM RAHMAN AND NOAH FLEISCHMAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER AND COPY CHEIF

On Nov. 21, Baruch College’s chapter of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship hosted their annual Feed 5k event in the multipurpose room, where students and faculty gathered together to celebrate Thanksgiving early and volunteer for a common cause.

Feed 5k is one of InterVarsity’s largest events of the semester, in which they demonstrate the compassion God shares for the poor by inviting students and staff to create 5,000 care packages. These would later be sent to homeless people around the world.

“This is an opportunity for us and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship to engage the campus and let everyone know about the incredible opportunities we have through community service, like creating care packages for homeless people as well as helping Baruch students engage with their faith, god, higher power, and whatnot. We just want to be a positive influence around campus,” said Basil Harding, part of InterVarsity and a Undergraduate Student Government representative senator.

Fabian Doris, part of the marketing committee of InterVarsity and a CIS major, described the science behind advertising Feed 5k to the public and to Baruch students.

“It went really well. We planned this about a month ahead, so the flyers were ready. We just had to get the logos from the co-sponsors, print them out, put them up. We marketed about a few weeks, and we handed the flyers out as well,” he said.

Feed 5k was organized, and a

lot of effort went into making the event as great as it could be.

There were tables set up outside the multipurpose room where students would line up with a bag, filling it up with items such as socks and face lotion, which were in boxes on the tables. They were collected at the end of the table.

The event itself started off with an unlimited MetroCard giveaway where winners in a game of human bingo would receive the prize.

After, there was a musical presentation where members of InterVarsity sang about God. There was then a PowerPoint presentation presented by a speaker, who spoke about the purpose of having Jesus in daily life.

Thanksgiving dinner was served, and students and faculty were free to leave after.

“Obviously, a lot of planning went into the event. A lot of people worked hard and there was a lot of organization involved. It was nice to see it come into fruition,” said Derrick Chen, a freshman studying marketing.

Feed 5k attracted the attention of several important CUNY representatives, such as Baruch’s interim provost James McCarthy and CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez.

When asked what brings you out here today, Matos Rodríguez stated “We wanted to extenuate all the many things the CUNY community does for Thanksgiving.” He went on to say, “We have similar kinds of events in different campuses,” stating that across CUNY there were potluck dinners and other events, which included this event to help the homeless, and other campuses are organizing dinners for the homeless.

International Education week starts with a bang

BY YASMEEN PERSAUD
OPINIONS EDITOR

The International Student Organization kicked off International Education Week with its “Opening Celebration” on Nov. 18, emphasizing diversity and culture to students looking to learn more about Baruch College’s plethora of study abroad programs.

“We have about 300 students a year who go abroad,” the Director of the Study Abroad program Richard Mitten said. The event included members from The International Student Service Center, ISO and study abroad experts.

President Kamila Mirakhmedov and Vice President Ahmad Ishraq were the lead conversationalists at the event. They spoke to students about the benefits of learning more about ISO and even discussed their transformative journey to and at Baruch.

“I transferred to New York last fall and, I mean, New York is different and originally when I came to Florida it was hard to transition,” Mirakhmedov said. “I think with the school the fact we have international education week and ISO, it helps a lot when you have people to talk about the same thing.”

Ishraq then added, “For me, the

city was relatively a lot bigger than when I grew up in Bangladesh and in the beginning, it was this entire rush culture I had to get used to.”

He reminisced on how important it was for change to occur in his life and documented how coming to Baruch influenced his journey to becoming ISO vice president.

“I used to be the kid who’d sit in the back and hide my face but now, things have changed and now I’m the person who’s gonna take the lead,” he said.

To get the ball rolling, ISO members used stickers to mark down their hometown on an international map. It encouraged a celebration of their past and future, and also welcomed the idea of traveling abroad for students.

“We hope that domestic students welcome our international students and can begin a friendship with our international students, and we hope to spark their interest in study abroad programs,” Director of ISC Rosa Kelley stated.

ISO makes the effort to host events throughout the year to facilitate an exchange of culture and for students to have fun. Its next event coming up, and the biggest event of the year, is ISO’s Thanksgiving dinner. “Most international students don’t get to have the proper Thanksgiving because their family is home so we host a big dinner so they can feel the spirit and get to know American culture,” Mirakhmedov said.

A large part of the event was the combined effort of ISC, ISO and the study abroad program to spread knowledge to students.

“It’s an idea to celebrate the idea of international education in all of its facets,” Mitten said.

"It's an idea to celebrate the idea of internation education in all of its facets."

— Richard Mitten

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Opinions

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Independent study — a smart choice for passionate students

With an education that resembles a cattle-car ride meandering through bureaucratic hurdles and sweeping views of rigid course requirements, it appears that the Baruch College journey of learning is only mapped out to commencement at Barclays Center, where students are met with a certificate and a handshake that guarantees that they did in fact, last the whole ride. Rather than parading around the enshrined slogan, “Best bang for your buck education,” Baruch administrators can further improve students’ education by providing unique, personalized teaching that excites individuals. Instead of saturating students with glories of the “flexible-core” curriculum, prioritization should be redirected to a largely enigmatic, but incredible resource at Baruch — the independent study.

For students who enjoy and are curious about a specific topic, it’s possible to devote an entire semester to create a project and develop it, instead of taking a class with multiple topics crammed into one tiny semester of learning. Independent study grants students a semester of intellectual freedom to truly research and explore a focused topic under the advisement of a professor, and allows them to explore their true passion. Since the student determines the topics, the flexibility and the opportunity for individualized, measurable growth far outweigh other traditional learning experiences at Baruch College.

The true tragedy is that due to the rampant inaccessibility and lack of information surrounding it, students don’t know much about this opportunity. Information on independent studies and the forms needed to apply are mentioned in only one place on the Baruch website: buried in the middle of a page called Forms and Applications, where a single paragraph description is all the information deemed appropriate for such an opportunity.

Spaces that encourage students to indulge in their own curiosity and to learn for the sake of learning are nothing more than injustices if subjected to the dark. The potential for groundbreaking education is very possible, but the administration needs to crave real and unique education, too. Shine a light on independent study for that student that may have an idea, but lacks the environment in which it can be developed, for true education requires free thinking.

MTA needs to change its priorities

There has been an increase in the number of police crackdowns on fare evasion and the sale of food and other products without a permit.

These people are being arrested for breaking the law, but they should not be perceived as criminals. In most cases, such as the infamous incident involving the “churro lady,” simply known as Elsa, these individuals are only trying to support their families and make a living.

Like most New Yorkers, these people are hustlers and should not be treated any differently than white-collar workers. The only reason that they are being perceived as criminals is due to the fact that they are often poor and minorities.

Instead of cracking down on petty crimes, there should be more of a focus on improving the Metropolitan Transportation Authority service, which has not been reliable over the years.

“The MTA says it will hire 500 new transit police officers, after Gov. Andrew Cuomo complained about ‘quality of life’ issues on the subway,” according to the Gothamist. However, this is counterintuitive, due to the fact that there are already enough police officers, but not enough train cleaning jobs. The lack of these jobs results in major delays and unhappy passengers.

The MTA should focus more on making its service more reliable. New Yorkers are tired of hearing the usual “train traffic ahead” announcements.



Day one of impeachment hearings shows patriotic sentiments in US

Day one of the impeachment hearings proved to be a must-watch television event nationwide, even if the president himself wasn’t tuning in.

After much anticipation, the impeachment hearings for President Donald Trump began on Nov. 13. The House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence is determined to prove whether Trump abused his power in any way and, if found guilty, take the necessary actions to impeach him as soon as possible.

The last time our country witnessed a president during the process of an impeachment that led to an immediate departure from the White House was in 1998 with former President Bill Clinton.

The Watergate scandal is one of our country’s most historic presidential scandals ever, and there’s no doubt that the whistleblower dilemma will top it.

The comparisons rising between Trump and Nixon are inevitable, to say the least. Here are two presidents who have both been accused of abusing their executive powers, among other crimes, to remain in the

oval office. In Nixon’s case, he was found guilty of obstruction of justice, abuse of power and contempt of Congress.

Many Americans would be happy if Trump took a page from Nixon’s book and resigned from office before the next impeachment hearing. However, Trump and his allies have continued to stick to their story and claim the desire of fighting corruption as the motive for having Ukraine’s president investigate former Vice President Joe Biden and his son.

One stand-out moment during the first impeachment hearing was when U.S. Rep. Peter Welch said, “I’d be glad to have the person who started it all come in and testify. President Trump is welcome to take a seat right there.” Welch’s statement caused the Democrats who were present in the hearing to erupt into laughter.

Another key moment was when New York’s U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik concluded her argument on why President Trump should not be impeached by presenting one major point, stating “There was, in fact, no investigation into Biden,” as NPR covered. Trump continues

to speak and move like a man who isn’t going through the impeachment process.

Bringing Trump himself into the hearings would give the hearings more publicity, but Trump’s constant call to innocence is strategic.

By avoiding all association with the hearings, despite his usual Twitter rants, it’s putting him in a safer light for the 2020 election. Him and his allies insist that he has not done anything wrong and he has shown no doubts in his innocence thus far. The American people will remain tuned into the next public impeachment hearing.

As we continue to live through this exciting, historical moment in Trump’s presidency, American citizens must remember that we live in a democratic country with the ultimate power to vote for who we want in office.

Next year’s presidential election will be a crucial one for the United States as we must all come together and choose a worthy, patriotic leader who will act as the citizen of our country’s best interests.

-Brenika Banks
Journalism ‘22

Old's Gym: Fitness center needs revamp

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

However, upon closer inspection you’ll find that some of these machines are out of order, dust is accumulating on most of the machines and skid marks are present all over the floor.

Combined with pasty yellow paint on the walls and a similar hue on the ground, the fitness center offers little in the aesthetics department and even less to the prospective students that pass through it during college tours.

The fitness center is an area available for all Baruch students and faculty to use free of charge. Physical fitness is an important aspect of one’s overall health and working out has a multitude of physical and mental benefits. For college students especially, it can be easy to forget to exercise in the face of assignments, exams and work. Even among all these, students should still prioritize exercising.

Many students at Baruch have never stepped into the fitness center and know little about what it offers. One thing

students can do with the Life Fitness machines is to track their progress after each workout across multiple devices. However, many patrons of the gym do not bother using this useful resource.

One point of improvement within the fitness center would be the installation of sanitation wipe dispensers. Currently, students can use Lysol and paper towels to wipe down the machines after they use them, but many do not use these resources. This leaves machines unclean for the next user and, overall, fosters an unclean environment.

Some students use dry paper towels alone, but these don’t always cut it when you have sweaty people leaving a trail of moisture wherever they go.

An overhaul is needed for the fitness center as soon as possible.

-Maham Ayaz
Biology ‘22

The Ticker

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Iran oil reserves should not get media attention

On Nov. 10, President Hassan Rouhani told the Iranian people of a discovery of 53 billion barrels of crude oil in the southwest province of Khuzestan.

“The new oil field could become Iran’s second-largest field after one containing 65 billion barrels in Ahvaz.

The field is 2,400 square kilometers — or 925 square miles, with the deposit some 80 meters — or 260 feet — deep, Rouhani said,” according to The Associated Press.

The addition of 53 billion barrels would propel Iran’s 150 oil reserves about a third, which Iran has been struggling to export due to crippling U.S.

The presence of valuable minerals and resources in a country can make it a very powerful geopolitical force.

Apart from having the fourth largest deposit of crude oil in the world as a founding member of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries, Iran also has a plethora of nonfuel minerals.

Iran has plenty of valuable commodities, but that is useless if Iran doesn’t have the means to extract, refine and especially the means to export.

Iran will not be immune from other countries or international organizations who want access to those resources.

It is likely that a country could perhaps invade Iran in the next several years, if the 53 billion barrels of new oil is indeed proven to exist.

It was a miscalculated and foolish mistake for Rouhani to

announce the new oil reserves. This attempt for Iran to try to appear unaffected by U.S. sanctions will bite back.

From Hong Kong to Chile and France to Iran, there are protests occurring for a variety of different reasons.

As of Nov. 15, Iranians are now protesting across 100 towns and cities, including the capital Tehran, against a 50% increase in gasoline prices, *The New York Times* reported.

To increase the price of gas in a time of high inflation and crippling sanctions will cause serious problems.

High unemployment, inflation and high costs of living will create a ripe atmosphere for chaos and civil war.

The U.S. sanctions are successful in getting leadership pressured as the protesters are fighting against the theocratic government of Iran.

To stop news of unrest spreading around the world, Iran has also clamped down on internet usage down to 5%, according to Netblocks, a non-governmental organization that monitors cybersecurity and governance of the internet.

This is going to be a very fatal mistake. The world will see Iran as a weak authoritarian state and other countries may see the right to intervene in the name of democracy, for Iran is sitting on billions of dollars.

It is important that people see the danger in the possibility of another civil war, and perhaps another U.S. intervention.

-Ahsan Mushtaq
Political Science ‘20

Bolivia's election crisis has citizens wondering if a coup is imminent

Undoubtedly, there is a political crisis going on in Bolivia and there has been a lot of controversy over how to characterize what has been going on there the past week.

The longest serving president in Latino American history Evo Morales resigned after the head of the military took to the air waves to call for his resignation claiming fraud and irregularities in the latest elections. Others went as far as calling him dictator for extending term limits to keep himself in power. Many, including Morales himself, have characterized this as a military coup. So, which is it?

To be brief, Morales had won the election on Oct. 20 against opposition leader and former President Carlos Mesa but his margin of victory was not nearly as large as it was in previous elections.

The margin is the critical point of the oppositions claims against Morales. In Bolivia, if a candidate receives over a 50% majority, there is no run-off election. However, if a candidate receives less than a 50% majority, that candidate needs to beat their opponent by over a 10% margin. Morales did not receive a 50% majority but he did beat his closest component by over a 10-point margin as the official count of the election has now been published.

So how did this clear victory become so hotly contested? It was a preliminary report that showed Morales’ winning margin being less than 10 points, which lead to claims of fraud and voting irregularities from

opposition leader Mesa as well as others who support him.

That preliminary report showed Morales up by less than a 10-point margin and anyone who pays attention to elections knows that the quick count is not the official count, but this is what Mesa and members of the Trump administration decided to focus on. Mesa went as far as to say that he would not accept the official count as he suspected foul play and declared the very next day that he had made it to the second round of the election based on the quick count reports. "Williams Kaliman, commander of Bolivia’s armed forces, and National Police Chief Vladimir Calderón both called for his resignation," *New York Magazine* reported.

When the head of the armed forces tells the president and the vice president to resign and they do, there is no other way to characterize except a military coup. The military does not have to stick a gun literally to the president’s head in order to force him to resign for it to be considered a coup.

Morales agreed to an audit as well as a reelection in order to calm the turmoil but the opposition resisted these concessions. The only contender that could be presented against Morales was about to serve his fourth term as president due to recent changes in Bolivia’s constitution, and that could be seen as dictatorial.

Whether or not people agree with the change of term limits in the constitution is really irrelevant. It became the law in Bolivia and should have been fought through the legislature,

not through violent protests in the streets. Once the official count came in, Morales had won 47% to 36.5%, according to The Nation. The only thing that the OAS pointed to as far as the “irregularities” was their deep surprise by the trend of the final votes that were coming in the preliminary count.

Not a word was mentioned by OAS about the official account for weeks as they repeated the narrative that there was something fishy about the quick count the day of the election. Morales did not lose the election nor was he impeached or found guilty of any crimes.

The only reason that he resigned was due to the growing pressure from the head of Bolivia’s armed forces and opposition leader Mesa who directly called for his resignation. Members from Trump’s administration as well as Senator Marco Rubio fed into this false narrative of Mesa securing enough votes to call for a second round of elections that have led to the political turmoil that Bolivia is experiencing now.

The only thing that can be inferred now is that this is another attempt at a regime change in Latin America but it will prove to be a difficult task in ousting Morales as he remains a success story turning around the poorest country in Latin America throughout his time as president. Morales is currently seeking refuge in Mexico for fears of violence against him and his administration, many who resigned at the same time he did.

-Pat Sikora
Journalism ‘20

Evolve with Deval? Maybe — former governor brings edge to 2020 race

One of the most saturated places in American politics right now is the field of candidates seeking the Democratic nomination to be President. If one wanted to count the amount of people vying for the position, they’d need more than ten fingers. There are candidates from virtually every corner of the nation — with political ideologies just as varied. If you want a candidate who is ready to roll back the Trump corporate tax breaks for instance, there is someone for you.

Adding his name to this already stacked lineup is former Governor of Massachusetts Deval Patrick. Gov. Patrick officially launched his bid for President on Nov. 14, traveling to New Hampshire with a thousand dollar check in hand to have his name placed on the ballot.

For those searching for candidates who have billed themselves as non-Washington insiders, there are plenty to go around. With former mayors, current mayors, former service men and women, a former vice president and members of Congress, all that’s missing is a partridge in a pear tree. This brings to question, what makes Gov. Patrick any different from the 17 other candidates jockeying for the title? Surely, there are some radical differences between Gov. Patrick and the majority of candidates that has energized him into running.

Regarding Sen. Bernie Sanders and Sen. Elizabeth Warren, that may be the case. The governor is certainly making efforts to portray himself as a moderate alternative to former Vice Presi-

dent Biden, who has been faltering in the polls lately as well as a more experienced alternative to Mayor Pete Buttigieg, who is topping the latest Iowa polls.

The reality is, there is not much traction for Gov. Patrick’s candidacy. He may believe that the American people are looking for a new voice, but it has been clear from the early stages of the Democratic race that the American people aren’t interested in such a congested field, as polling in New Hampshire have shown that voters are leaning toward a more liberal viewpoint in line with Sen. Warren and Sanders.

Governor Patrick so far has offered no real substantive policies that differ from the candidates who have already been campaigning for months now. When speaking at California’s Democratic Convention, Gov. Patrick spoke about “being woke while leaving room for the still-awakening,” Politico reported. For a candidate with this late a start, that might be his only move. Talking specifics is not going to gain him traction fast enough.

Who Gov. Patrick is and what he believes in does not matter in the long run. His entering the race speaks not to his ability to effect change but instead, the underlying problem of American excess.

“I want more” is one of the trademark outbursts parents hear from unruly children. Whether it’s more ice cream or more time to stay up late, the idea of never having enough is ingrained in everyone from childhood. Some experts cite the influence of friends in this desire

for excess — “If they have it, why can’t I?”

As adults, the need for more takes on more subtle, nuanced forms. Perhaps the greatest forum for “I want more” is the American political system. Many politicians seek re-election over and over well into their very senior years.

That desire for more tends to lead to feelings of superiority once achieved. It is often the case that politicians claim to be the best person for the job. This is no doubt what Gov. Patrick believes and what all of the Democratic candidates believe. As a result, the “best person for the job” turns into “no one else can do the job.” There is an abundance of talent and genius in this nation, yet leaders are reluctant to step aside and let others rise to the occasion.

This leads to an unprecedented number of candidates seeking the Democratic nomination for president. In a group of 18 lawmakers, public figures and others, there is a right choice. Who that person will be is up to the American people to decide. The sad truth is, whether the number of candidates balloons to 30 or shrinks to five, no candidate would willingly step aside and admit to another one being the better choice.

It is that same self-serving interest that drives all of the candidates, including Gov. Patrick who has quite a few mountains to climb before he can even catch a glimmer of hope in being the nominee.

-Shemuel Bacchus
Journalism ‘20

I'm not feeling lucky — Google's privacy issue

It is rare to maintain a sense of discretion in the age of the Internet, but it is particularly egregious when the private information of individuals is sold without one’s knowledge.

The Wall Street Journal revealed that healthcare company Ascension, has partnered with Google to improve the service’s artificial intelligence technology under the moniker of Project Nightingale.

Google assures that this affiliation will help “shift Ascension’s infrastructure to the cloud, use G Suite productivity tools,” and “extend tools to doctors and nurses to improve care.” The media giant also persists that the partnership with Ascension adheres to industry-wide regulations including the 1996 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

Despite these assertions, patients and physicians were not notified that private health information would be passed on to Google. As Professor Jane Kaye from the University of Oxford relayed to BBC News, "There's a massive issue that these public-private partnerships are all done under private contracts, so it's quite difficult to get some transparency. Google is saying they don't link it to their other data but what they're doing all the time is refining their algorithms, refining what they do and giving them[selves] market advantage."

BBC also reported that patients do not need to be made aware of the release of such information. As a result, the Department of Health and Human Services’ Office for Civil Rights

wishes to launch an investigation regarding whether Google is truly following privacy law regulations or not.

Although automated and artificial intelligence may significantly advance due to the partnership of the two companies, it poses a convincing threat toward the protection of confidential information and what will become of it once in the hands of others. Google is no stranger to the documentation and manipulation of information — Eli Pariser, author of *The Filter Bubble: What the Internet Is Hiding from You*, maintains that Google filters out certain search results based on what an individual user has previously clicked on or searched for.

If Google is able to manipulate users with something as simple as a search, what capabilities would they possess when provided with private medical documents? Medical information could potentially be sold to companies for advertising purposes or used by pharmacies to sell medications and products that individuals do not need. Additionally, if insurance companies were to get ahold of it, they could decline clients that need extensive medical care, causing them to become uninsurable.

It is evident that an abundance of change needs to be made within privacy regulations. As HIPAA was enacted in 1996, it seems time for some reviews and alterations within a Google-driven age.

-Raven Boisclair
Digital Communications ‘21

Better training must be provided for teachers

Working with children in an educational environment generally also means working with kids that have special needs, whether it is in classroom settings, camps or after school programs. Special education services, such as separate classes for students with certain disabilities or hindrances and one-on-one paraprofessionals, aren't hard to find in New York City schools, especially public ones. There are over 200,000 public school students in the city that are eligible for special education, according to research done by NYU Steinhardt under The Research Alliance for New York City Schools. Some schools are adopting inclusion classes now, in which special needs children and general education kids are in one class together. It's also not uncommon to find classes that have one special education student that works with a paraprofessional in an otherwise general education classroom. Despite the fact that these circumstances are fairly regular, education and childcare workers aren't always prepped enough to adequately handle students with disabilities. An example of this is an incident from El Dorado Hills, California in 2018, when three workers at a middle school improperly restrained an autistic student during a violent outburst, which lead to his death two days later. They did so to keep him from hurting himself or others, CNN reported.

While it was never reported what caused the student — who stood at six feet and weighed 208 pounds at 13 years old — to become violent, the school said the staff used a “nationally recognized behavior management protocol” to restrain him. However, it came out that this method was actually criticized by the Department of Education in a later CNN report. This incident speaks to the idea that school systems need to do more to ensure that their staff is better trained to handle, teach and help special education students. In fact, an article from *The Atlantic* reports that many teacher-education programs only offer or require one course about students with special needs. “A study in 2007 found that general-education teachers in a teacher-preparation program reported taking an average of 1.5 courses focusing on inclusion or special education, compared to about 11 courses for special-education teachers,” the article said. “Educators say little has changed since then.” There needs to be more special education training and preparation for teachers, even if they're not hoping to get inclusion or special education classes. The real beneficiaries of this, however, would be the students that would get better educations and care if they had teachers equipped with the understanding and knowledge necessary.

-Amanda Salazar
Journalism '22

Israel and Palestine's lack of media coverage creates conflict eruption

The Israel and Palestine director of Human Rights Watch, Omar Shakir, will be deported from Israel in a ruling affirmed by the country's Supreme Court. As a part of an expanding effort to suppress internally for support externally, the Israeli government claimed that the intended actions of Shakir — an American citizen — were “exploiting’ his stay to delegitimize Israel and to promote the boycott movement against it,” according to *The New York Times*. Human Rights Watch vows that “Shakir never deviated from the policies and positions of the organization.” The world should listen to Shakir and consider his concern: “who will they throw out next?” This decision is not only baseless — it is anti-Democratic and opposes the U.S.’ commitment to a global promotion of justice. The verdict follows a series of recent incidents of the same effect. Ruth Margalit of *The New Yorker* described how in August 2019, Benjamin Netanyahu barred two U.S. Congresswomen from visiting Israel. Reps. Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib openly criticized American support of how Israel treats Palestine in a complicated and destructive half-century conflict that has disproportionately devastated people on both sides. Margalit also referenced a “2017 Israeli law [that] bars admittance to foreign citizens who publicly promote boycotts of the country.” A directive like this from the president of a country that secures freedom of speech in the Law of the Land is deceptive.

President Donald Trump is not the only president to favor Israel. Congress’ website details how the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012 declared its policy “to help the Government of Israel... [and to] provide [it] defense articles and...services...such...as air refueling tankers, missile defense capabilities, and specialized munitions” under former President Barack Obama; many of which have been used to kill women and children. It was followed up with the U.S.-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014 “to continue to provide Israel with robust security assistance, including...the Iron Dome Missile Defense System.” Back in 2007, former President George W. Bush “signed a 10-year Memorandum of Understanding on United States military assistance to Israel...equal [to] \$30 billion.” The disparity of impact is clear when compared across shifting territorial lines: exactly why it is imperative that the world can see what is going on. According to Reporters Without Borders, Israel ranks 88 in the 2019 World Press Freedom Index. “Despite the existence of independent media, journalists are subjected to “military censorship,” including images which negatively depict Israeli Defense Forces. As a result, “there is little or no coverage of the reality of life in the Palestinian territories.” The site also highlights the two Palestinian journalists that were killed and dozens wounded covering Gaza’s 2018 “March of Return” protests and the wrong-

ful imprisonment of individuals and media outlets for “inciting violence” without formal charge — harassed to the “point of self-censorship.” Facebook and Twitter have also deleted content. In part as a result, Palestine ranks number 137 on the World Press Freedom Index. In his statements tying up 30 years of his career at the U.N., Andrew Gilmour, Assistant Secretary General at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, shamed the world for its passivity. In light of the all the evidence of corruption it is sufficient to say that Military Order 101, banning outspoken opponents of Israel, the deportation of Shakir, overarching news censorship and entirely pro-Israel U.S. policy should be scrutinized; that scrutiny should be 100% legal. Gilmour is legitimate to insist that this “systematic example of discrimination and humiliation...[has] a profound impact on the daily lives of Palestinians... in the occupied territory” and deserves condemnation as a “driver of violent extremism around the world.” Out of respect for and in remembrance of a violent and oppressive anti-Jewish history, Israel should raise its standards for treatment of its Palestinian neighbors. As an ally of Israel and for regional security, the United States should place pressure on its government and encourage equal press coverage on both sides.

-Emily Weiss
Sociology '19

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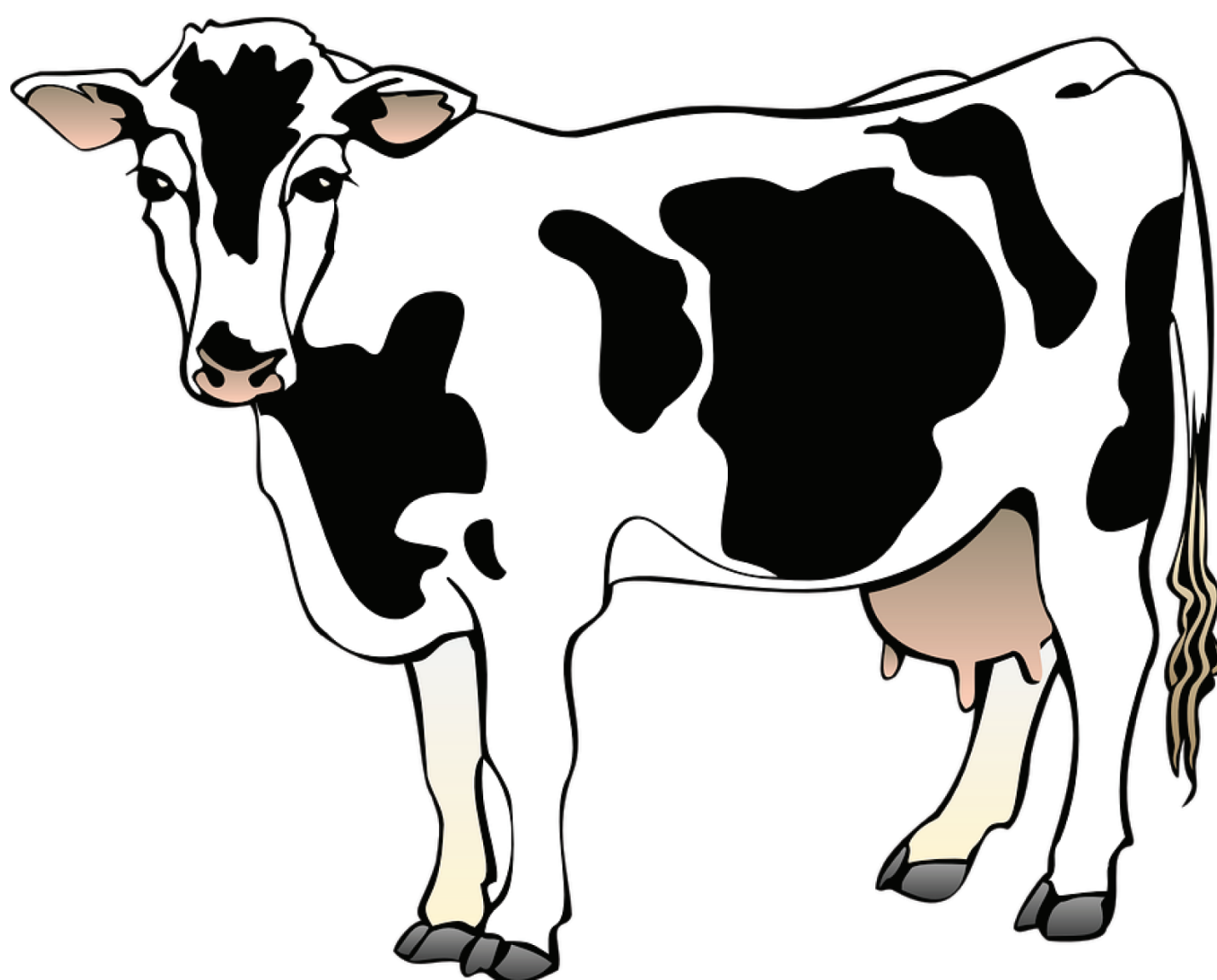
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Business

Google to go into banking, will launch new checking account

BY NICOLAS DOMINIQUE
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Google, traditionally known as a tech company, is now diversifying its product mix with the inclusion of checking accounts. It's Google's quest for consumer dominance in banking, according to the *Wall Street Journal*.

Just last summer, the Apple card was born out of a partnership between Apple Inc. and The Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

While their products and arrangements may differ, the tech giants entering the world of banking share an underlying motive: "making themselves indispensable," says Gerard du Toit, a partner at the Bain & Co consulting firm.

Gathering personal data is only half the battle, monetizing it from end to end is the final frontier.

The search engine giant is teaming up with two banks, Citigroup Inc. and the Stanford Federal Credit Union, to begin offering a smart checking account next year.

Google still is in the preliminary stages of product development so the final features might not be known until a much later date.

The project, code-named Cache, is envisioned as an extension of the already established Google Pay digital payments system.

Its goal is to help customers "benefit from useful insights and budgeting tools," according to Craig Ewer, a Google spokesman. The focus will be for mobile users, he said, but the specifics of what will be offered are still being

worked out.

This will help foster another revenue stream for Google as its ad revenue has begun declining due to competition from firms like Amazon.com Inc., Twitter Inc. and Microsoft Corp.

This is of concern to Google, because the bulk of the Q3 earnings of the parent company comes from advertisements.

Executives noted that the company's advertising revenue and the bulk of its profit had hit \$33.92 billion in quarter three, compared with \$28.95 billion in the third quarter of last year. Alphabet Inc.'s total revenue of \$40.5 billion beat analyst expectations.

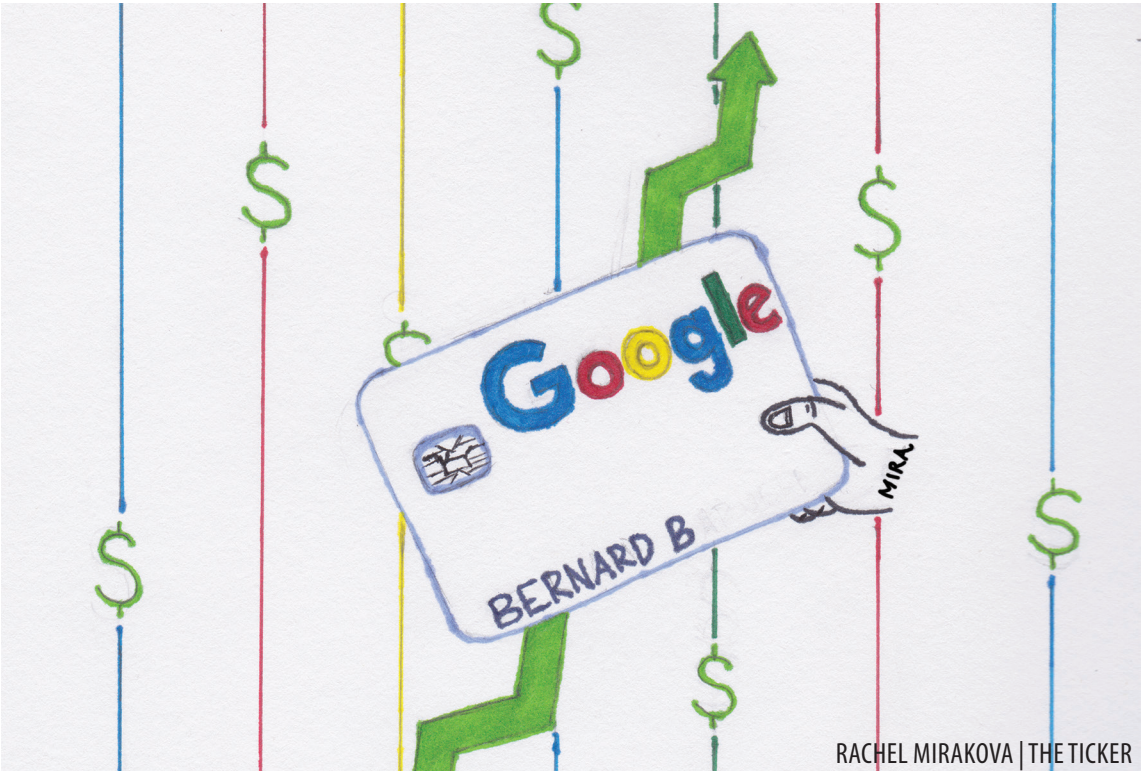
However, shares fell by as much as 4% in after-hours trading after it reported it posted a 23% decline in profit as it faces rising expenses missing analyst expectations.

What Google is experiencing is what many other tech companies alike are as well. The issue is to maintain growth, high profitability and avoiding stagnation.

It seems getting involved in currency is the new area of focus. Amazon's secured card, Apple's credit card, Facebook's Libra, Uber with Uber cash and so on.

All are having proponents, setbacks and even scrutiny by regulators and investors. Apple's new Apple Card is being investigated by the New York Department of Financial Services after customer complaints about gender bias in credit limits.

Additionally, Facebook lost key partners like Visa, Mastercard Inc.



RACHEL MIRAKOVA | THE TICKER

and PayPal just months after unveiling Libra — its cryptocurrency project.

It is hard to know a company's intrinsic value and that's why so many different analysts have different estimates and it's even much harder to do so for the technology firms.

The value that they create can't be seen readily sometimes for years. Consumers should wait to see what Google has in store here before releasing the final verdict.

There are good reasons some of these ideas have come about. While a segment of customers has plenty of frustrations with their banks — whether they're high fees, paltry interest rates and poor service — those aren't complaints that technology companies are usually positioned to solve.

Tech-focused features that bank users want like fast peer-to-peer payment, mobile and card-free transactions and in-app budgeting assistance, are now offered by

nearly all large banks.

For a new product or service to succeed, it has to offer something new and shiny enough to motivate consumers to leave their existing provider.

Thad Peterson, a senior analyst at Aite Group, said many of these efforts failed to take off because they weren't revolutionizing anything. Google will have to find a way to make their checking account something a customer will "feel lucky" about.

Hillel hosts 'Self-Made' workshop to talk about career skills and self-betterment

BY ANACAONA RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

Hillel at Baruch College hosts weekly "Self-Made" events that offer members and other Baruch students the opportunity to learn about several topics such as financial literacy and self-development.

This week's "Self-Made" event focused on career decisions with guest speaker Avy Leghziel, director of education at the Israeli public-service organization Masa.

The event focused on having students understand the skills and attributes they can bring to a future job, as well as teaching students how to understand the market in which they plan on working in.

The event started with Leghziel showing students statements and asking them to share their opinions with the group. One statement read, "I would feel comfortable working for the same organization for the rest of my life."

Then, students were asked whether or not they agreed with the statement and to describe why or why not. This exercise, as Legziel explained, was designed to have students understand better what kind of careers they would prefer.

Shoshanah Larios, a business communications and graphics major, frequently attends the "Self-Made" events because she sees it as "a great way to meet people with similar interests in business." She added that she encouraged students to attend because the events are "entrepreneurial and informative."



Leghziel continued to teach students about Ikigai, a Japanese concept meaning "a reason to wake up in the morning" or "a reason for being."

He shared with the group that people in Okinawa, a small town in Japan, attribute their above-average life expectancies to this philosophy.

Ikigai has four major components: what one's good at, what one loves or is passionate about, what the world — or market, as Leghziel adds — needs, and what can be paid for.

Only when these four are working together can one achieve Ikigai, according to Leghziel. Although Leghziel believes achieving exactly all four is very unlikely and somewhat unrealistic, he does find it worth investigating and reflecting on.

Lastly, he had the students reverse engineer their own careers in the form of a résumé set in 2033. The exercise was designed for students to discover what they'd like to achieve and to reflect on how to get there.

Leghziel's last takeaways from his presentation was to encourage students to first take time to understand who they are and

what they have to offer, as well as to take time to understand the market they wish to enter.

Marketing Director at Hillel and creator of Hillel's "Self-Made" events Michael Stevens finds these events as a reflection of what he wished to have when he was a student at Baruch.

As an alumnus, Stevens created these events to become a good place to have informative group discussions. "As I always say at the beginning of each event, no one is the smartest person in the room. We can all learn something from one another."

"I created these events to help students in Hillel and across campus to find their self-value and to serve as a facilitator for this conversation," he continued.

"A student who usually comes to these events told me that because of the discussions we have here, he's decided to create his own podcast. The conversations he had here inspired him to follow his personal projects."

Overall, these events are meant to leave those who attend these events feel a sense of entrepreneurship and leave inspired to continue their own personal projects and career goals.

Airbnb renews company policy after recent issues

BY FARAH JAVED
STAFF WRITER

On Oct. 31, partygoers were excited to attend what they thought was just another Halloween party. However, when they arrived, a feud broke out between members of rival gangs, leading to a shoot-out that killed five people.

According to Yahoo News, a sheriff arriving at the Airbnb location in San Francisco Bay, California described it as a "bloodbath."

On Nov. 2, the CEO of Airbnb, Inc., Brian Chesky, tweeted that the company has put a team together to rewrite company policies within 10 days, in light of the recent tragedy.

The shooting came in the midst of backlash against the company across the United States. For instance, CNBC reported that New York has been closing down illegal listings, and that New Jersey had voted to regulate short-term rentals.

Residents voted in favor of the regulation because they believed "the platform was allowing tourists to overwhelm residential areas, raising housing costs and mostly benefiting large-scale investors."

According to Inside Airbnb, of the roughly 3,000 listings on the platform in Jersey City, 500 are operated by the top 10 hosts in the area.

The shooting also played a role in this decision, as New Jersey residents were concerned for their communities' safety.

The company released a new list of policies meant to promote safety. In Airbnb's newly released policies there is a party house ban, stating that by Dec. 15, measures

will be in place to prevent unauthorized parties.

The company will also review all listed homes and hosts to make sure they are up to Airbnb's standards, as well as check to see if the residents are the registered hosts.

To prevent another incident on company property like the one in California, Airbnb is doubling the size of its response team. It will also have a 24-hour hotline in case of emergencies.

To further ensure safety, the company will be tripling technological and operational investment to screen high-risk reservations. According to the new company policy, these changes will take effect in the United States, Mexico and Canada by the end of 2019, and globally by the end of 2020.

The fourth and final measure is that if a client reaches their rented property and finds it to be lackluster, Airbnb will provide a full refund.

Despite these measures, the company's website still includes in its policies that "all weapons that are present at a listing must be properly stored and secured," instead of completely banning them.

Moreover, this is a loophole in their policies, as guests could bring weapons of their own to the property, as shown in the shooting, but would not be punished by the company as they are not the renters.

It is unclear how well these policies will enforce safety, as the company's own website explicitly allows weapons.

Overall, as states continue to fight to regulate rentals, Airbnb is working to implement its new safety measures.

Ticker Tape

A Financial Briefing by Baruch College’s Investment Management Group

2019 was expected to be a year of reckoning, putting an end to the longest bull run in history. This expectation had been supported by many signs, the most notable of which was the Federal Reserve decreasing the target range for the Federal Funds Rate three times within the year.

The Federal Funds Rate is the overnight rate at which banks lend their Federal Reserve funds to one another. Decreasing the target range stimulates the economy by making borrowing cheaper.

This was not the only action that the Fed took this year to support the economy.

As repurchase agreement, also known as repo, rates spiked to unusually high levels upwards of 8% in September, the Fed provided and continues to provide liquidity into the repo market, with their most recent injection totaling over \$68 billion.

Repos are short-term loans that financial institutions use to borrow cash while simultaneously posting up collateral in case of default. Collateral usually takes on the form of U.S. Treasuries.

Therefore, the recent repo rate spikes were the result of banks having become treasury-rich and cash-poor. Because repos are so indispensable for many institutions for short-term funding needs and for the financial system as a whole, the repo liquidity crunch necessitated Fed involvement to stabilize the market and reassure investors.

Outside of the Fed’s area of purview, this year saw a yield curve inversion when the 10-year Treasury yield fell below 3-month bill yield, which is the most reliable signal of an impending recession. Tie all



of the above with the uncertainty surrounding a trade war and the fact that economists pin the probability of recession at over 30% and we can begin to understand why investors are on their feet.

As a result of investor’s pessimistic outlook, there have been massive inflows into defensive stocks and sectors, such as the utilities sector which has gained over 20% year to date. For that same reason, investors have also flooded into U.S. Treasuries, perceived as the safest asset class.

Bond prices move inversely to rates. Since the demand for bonds has risen sharply, their prices have risen as well, and therefore their yields have dropped.

Over the course of the year, bond rates across the globe have fallen, so drastically in fact that over \$17 trillion of global debt is trading with negative yield.

Since September, the rate on the 10-year Treasury has been creeping upwards, sitting now within the 1.8%-1.9% range, from a low of 1.4%.

This rate increase is indicative of the fact that investors are pull-

ing out of the treasury market and parking their money elsewhere.

For the second time in 2019, equity funds are experiencing inflows relative to bond funds.

According to Bloomberg Intelligence, “more economically-sensitive sectors have seen the most demand this month.” The renewed demand for cyclical stocks is supported by bullish investor sentiment.

Refinitiv and the American Association of Individual Investors’ bullish-bear sentiment has been in the positive since mid-October.

A plausible theory is that investors holding cash or positions in low-yielding money market funds see fundamental concerns about trade and the economy improving and are on the hunt for higher returns.

They may also want in on the equities market bull run, which saw an 8% return last month. Whatever the reasons may be, we are witnessing a pivotal and slightly perplexing moment in investor behavior and asset allocation.

By Paul Menestrier

Weekly market watch: All you need to know

BY GLORIA GHITA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fears of a recession continue to fade as the current bull market extends. The Dow Jones Industrial Average passed 28,000 for the first time ever on Nov. 15, logging its fourth straight week of gains. The S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite also closed at record highs, extending their winning streaks to six and seven weeks respectively.

These highs were fueled by positive news on the United States’ trade deal with China, Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell signaling strength in the economy, and better than expected corporate earnings.

U.S. retail sales also rebounded in October, rising 0.3% after dropping in September, and beating the 0.2% economists expected. This is particularly important as it shows the strength of the U.S. consumer, which makes up 17% of the global GDP. To put that into perspective, China’s entire economy only makes up 16% of the global GDP.

However, the growth of retail sales is offset by the decline in freight shipments.

Cass Information Systems’ monthly report on freight shipments showed an 11th consecutive monthly decline in October, showing demand is down domestically and internationally for all modes of transportation.

This is a leading indicator for health of the retail market, as it shows inventories are being reduced, which means retailers expect sales to decline.

Despite recent positive news, doubt plagues traders. The S&P 500 has not moved up or down

more than 0.5% for nine consecutive days since Nov. 5, driven partially by the uncertainty of a trade resolution between the United States and China.

Growing trade tensions and rising tariffs have set the global trade flows to grow at the weakest pace since the financial crisis, according to the World Trade Organization.

The WTO cut its forecast for global trade flows in 2019, projecting a growth of 1.2%, down from a 3% growth rate at the same time last year. This was spurred by both rising trade tensions and uncertainty over Brexit.

The International Monetary Fund also slashed its forecast for trade flows down to 1.1% growth, originally at 2.5%. Both the WTO and the IMF expect a rebound of trade flows in 2020, with forecasts of 2.7% and 2.5% growth, respectively.

U.S. government bonds also strengthened on uncertainty of the trade deal between China and the United States. The yield, which falls when bond prices rise, on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note fell to 1.808% from 1.833%.

This was due primarily due to a Chinese government official expressing concerns about trade talks with the United States. Falling treasury yields indicate a stronger demand for safer assets, and can also depress expectations for inflation, threatening the purchasing power of long-term government bond payments.

This week, keep an eye out for minutes from the Fed’s latest policy meeting, as well as new data on the manufacturing sector and consumer confidence in the United States.

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Arts & Style

Creative Time uncovers truth and justice in art during annual summit

BY FEBBA GEORGE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Creative Time Summit celebrated its tenth-year anniversary in the Great Hall of Cooper Union from Nov. 14-16.

The organization, Creative Time, is dedicated to working with artists to present public art projects throughout New York City, the nation, the world and even in outer space.

Ever since it began in 2009, the Summit’s purpose has been to bring together artists and leaders from around the world to engage in conversation about issues such as freedom of expression, feminism and crime.

Creative Time hosted over 10,000 live attendees and streamed to over 20 screening sites internationally.

The weekend consisted of various events for each day. Nov. 15 was the opening night which was held at Lola, a New York nightclub.

On Nov. 16, attendees enjoyed discussions held at the Great Hall on Nov. 15 and featured countless speakers and panelists ranging from data artists to journalists.

The summit ended on Nov. 17 with lectures and workshops at Cooper Union and several other satellite venues across the East Village.

This year’s Speaking Truth | Summit X revolved around the discussion of truth as it relates to our current political climate and contemporary art.

The program explored four as-

pects relevant to our most prominent conversations regarding art and activism: Media & Technology, Economics & Sovereignty, Health & Gender, and Fictions & Futures.

Sandra Jackson-Dumont, the chairman of education and public programs at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, led the event by keeping the audience engaged and helping transitions between speakers.

The Fictions & Futures section, in particular, focused on not only the reflection of reality but also the use of deception in artwork. It included panelists Jeremy Harris, Victoria Lomasko and Lauren Woods.

Harris, a playwright of the Broadway play “Slave Play,” shared his truth about the ways in which he has felt invited into the space of theater and the ways in which he has endeavored to radically invite others into his own space.

“What I realized as I was starting to think about who theater is made for and who it’s not, I realized that there are so many people who don’t feel that they are allowed to walk even through the threshold of a building like the Golden Theater on 45th St. and 8th Ave.,” said Harris.

He continued to reflect on the ways in which he has tried to reach a more diverse audience with his show through social media, dressing more like those he made the show for, having certain shows open for free and so on.

“We’ve created an entirely new ecosystem of who goes to the the-



Creative Time works to bring art into public spheres with installations, performances, panels and annual summits.

ater,” he stated proudly when considering the progress made with “Slave Play.”

Woods demonstrated a more detrimental truth regarding the reality of state violence and police brutality through her art. *American Monument* is the centerpiece of an interactive sound installation that plays the audio recordings of countless deaths of black people at the hands of police following altercations with the authorities.

“We hear voices of victims and the uncanny ability to be superhuman when faced with imminent death, we hear the exhaustion of being subjected to relentless po-

lice profiling, we hear the natural human impulse to resist being treated inhumanely, and we hear unnatural discipline deferred to someone trying to divest another of their humanity, and lastly we hear the pleading that someone, anyone recognize the human being standing in front of them,” Woods said, recounting what is heard on the body cams of police.

The keynote speech was delivered by the co-founders of For Freedoms, an activist organization geared towards engaging artists in civic duty, discourse and direct action.

The speakers Eric Gottesman

and Hank Willis Thomas discussed how they were inspired by FDR’s Four Freedoms — freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, freedom from fear — and Norman Rockwell’s depiction of each.

The artists emphasized their desire to “rebrand patriotism” to reflect the real America.

“We are storytellers, artists are the best storytellers in the world, we have been derelict in our responsibility to shape the world that we want to live in and we need to get our hands dirty and engage more,” said Thomas, calling the artists among us to action.

SuperM headlines Madison Square Garden in visionary first tour

BY ADDIE JOSEPH
COPY EDITOR

On Aug. 7, Capital Music Group announced that it partnered with South Korean entertainment company, SM Entertainment, to debut SuperM, a new and innovative K-pop group consisting of renowned SM artists. Dubbing SuperM “the Avengers of K-pop,” the two companies declared that the group would revolutionize the way the world would perceive K-pop.

SuperM released its debut single, “Jopping” — a gimmick combining the words “jumping” and “popping” — and EP, *SuperM-The 1st Mini Album* on Oct. 4.

The group hosted its debut showcase performance in Los Angeles, rather than in Seoul, Korea. Scarcely one month after, SuperM became the first K-pop act to headline Madison Square Garden, as part of its “We Are The Future Live” tour.

The group’s steep ascent to an immense and prestigious venue can only be explained as an act of extraordinary heroism, as is fitting for the supposed K-pop Avengers. Historically, performing at MSG is marked as a milestone in an artist’s career.

Nearly a decade ago, Justin Bieber centered his autobiographical documentary, *Never Say Never*, around reaching the stage.

More recently, Harry Styles chose to tour smaller concert halls first before graduating to take on those like MSG, despite how highly-anticipated his solo debut was amongst music enthusiasts and his large fan base.

Undoubtedly, MSG is a venue that most, if not all, performing artists hold in high esteems.

While SuperM didn’t fully sell-out the venue, they did sell most seats. Fans excitedly filled the are-

na, adorning SuperM official and fan-made merchandise, but also bringing in those of the respective members and groups that make up the super act.

Through signage, light sticks and apparel, fans displayed their support for Taemin of Shinee, Kai and Baekhyun of Exo, Mark and Taeyong of NCT and Ten and Lucas of NCT’s Chinese unit, WayV, who altogether form SuperM.

The concert opened with “I Can’t Stand the Rain,” a high-energy song featuring all seven members, and then delved into solo performances before the group could properly introduce itself to the audience.

Taemin performed hits “Danger” and “Goodbye” and Taeyong followed with “GTA,” an unreleased, punchy rap song.

It was only after the rest of the members returned to perform “Super Car” did they take a moment to speak and more officially welcome fans to the show.

Through a vibrant setlist and entertaining exchanges, SuperM maintained a fun and upbeat tone from start to finish.

Altogether, the setlist included 18 songs, which featured group, subunit and individual performances to pay homage to every facet that makes up the super group.

In between songs, members joked around with one another and sang and danced to each other’s solo stages.

It quickly became clear that even though SuperM itself is young, the members in it all get along well and display a high level of comfort around one another.

That said, while each member of SuperM is vastly talented and charming, it was also evident that not all members had the chance to fully prove themselves as Avengers.

At the time of this publication,



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SuperM’s debut EP, *SuperM- The 1st Mini Album*, released on Oct. 4, reached No.1 on the Billboard 200 album chart.

Lucas’ one solo performance song still doesn’t have a confirmed title, while Taemin’s solo songs were released years ago and each established achievements in the K-pop industry, which is a huge disparity in itself.

Other members of SuperM, including Mark and Taeyong, also performed unreleased songs and some of the group performances, such as “Dangerous Woman” and “With You” haven’t yet graced streaming platforms.

What becomes clear instead, perhaps unintentionally, is that the entities that make up SuperM are the Avengers themselves.

Most fans who attended seemed to have an inclination to either

Shinee, Exo or NCT and hadn’t yet gotten the chance to acquaint themselves with SuperM as an unified group.

This was especially evident in the shift in energy of the audience when Ten and Taeyong took to the stage to perform NCT U’s explosive and dance-driven tune, “Baby Don’t Stop.”

Furthermore, the experience of attending the “We Are The Future Live” tour has also bolstered the strengths of the actual Marvel universe’s writing and plot development.

When the heroes join forces in *The Avengers*, they do so cohesively enough that fans and casual viewers alike are able to watch them

without focusing heavily on the separate origin worlds and stories of the characters.

It’s not certain that SuperM has accomplished this yet.

Though the concert itself was enjoyable, it’s a shame that Capitol Music Group and SM Entertainment thrust it onto fans so soon after SuperM’s debut.

It would have perhaps been smarter if they followed the precedents set by previous artists, including those of their genre and even those signed to those same companies and garnered experience performing as a group in less pronoun venues and events before they sought to tackle such ambitious feats.

Staying bright in winter: Wearing summer colors year-round



LILY RANSOM

Dear Lily,
Can I wear summer colors in the winter?

-Mayer Z.

Dear Mayer,
Summer colors often consist of bright, tropical colors and cool tones. Salmon pink, aqua blue and pastel yellow are a few examples. These colors are happy and outgoing and often look good on people who have a tan, which is why they're typically only worn in the spring and summer months.

The colors we wear often match nature, such as deep reds and browns in the fall to match the fallen leaves; greys, blacks and jewel tones in the winter to match the weather and bright, sunny colors in the spring and summer to match the sky, flowers, trees and so on.

But just because we're entering the land of grey skies and leafless trees doesn't mean it's a requirement to dress accordingly.

Particularly in New York City, you can wear whatever you want. Seriously.

That being said, you may stand out in the winter if you dress in peachy pinks and bright blues.

There is no specific rule against doing so, it's merely the status quo that most people like to abide by. In regards to your color palette, you may want to heed this cliché if



JOEL C. BAUTISTA | THE TICKER

you're not inclined to stand out.

There are, as always, some exceptions. Neon colors, though typically associated with summer, are very popular in the winter.

Or perhaps it's just a trend at the moment. Regardless of the reason, I see people wearing neon sweatshirts all the time and they look great when toned down with dark pants and a dark jacket.

Adding a pop of color to an outfit can be a welcome change from all the dark and dismal tones seen

on everyone else and give your outfit a cool edge.

On top of neon colors, even white can be worn. I wrote a piece months ago about wearing white after Labor Day and how it is allowed.

You can wear white in winter. It's funny how people think you can't because, as I mentioned before in regards to color palettes matching nature, white matches the color of snow.

Sometimes white looks fantas-

tic and crisp in the dead of winter. Maybe you just can't bring yourself to retire your favorite white jeans, so pair them with a chunky, black, turtleneck sweater and black boots, and voilà, you have yourself an amazing winter outfit with white.

There is also "winter white" which is basically just off-white. It's called "winter white" because for a long time it was deemed the acceptable shade of white to wear in winter. That still holds true; the only difference is that it's no longer

alone. Regular white is also perfectly acceptable for winter.

I recently paired white jeans with an off-white sweater and got so many compliments. It may sound surprising but people have nothing against white in winter.

As I always say, dress how you feel comfortable. If you absolutely can't part with your sunny yellows and peaches in the winter, bring it on.

We could all use a little sunshine anyway.

My Lovely Mess intimately looks at complexities of NYC skate culture

BY ANA DURAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The sound of skateboard wheels screeched as a group of skateboarders arrived at Milk Gallery to explore and experience William Strobeck's first exhibit, *My Lovely Mess*.

Strobeck, skate culture icon and videographer who worked with legendary skate brands such as Supreme, opens his world up to visitors for the first and last time with this gallery.

My Lovely Mess provides an inside look to Strobeck's personal life through photography and objects as well as an invitation into his iconic bedroom that was originally located in the East Village.

The space is filled with various photos of his friends and family as well as video projections of some of Strobeck's skateboarding videos, which he has directed and recorded.

These videos include *Cherry*, *BLESSED*, *SEX KITTEN* and *CANDYLAND* which were all for Supreme.

Mixed in with those videos were also clips of friends and family which gives a peek into his life.

Strobeck's old tweets cover the glass walls in the gallery dating back to 2012. A photo collage of friends taken in Strobeck's bedroom cover the outside area of the room installation.

A striking photo of Chloë Sevigny is placed in the center. The photos captivate viewers to make them feel as if they were there while the photo was being taken.

The pièce de résistance of the exhibit is the replica of Strobeck's bedroom.

The railroad style entrance to the room was adorned with his personal belongings.

His bedroom was meticulously



ANA DURAN | THE TICKER

William Strobeck first began filming skate videos at Love Park, located in Philadelphia, and then continued to collaborate with brands like Supreme and Thrasher.

perfected to be the exact measurements of his room along with the same moldings and wallpaper.

The doors are decked with vintage graphic tees including a white-colored, witty one that says "If you don't like my attitude, dial 1-800-eat-shit" to a classic faded-black Misfits tee.

On the floor there's a cluster of skate decks as well as stacks of magazines, coffee table books and old VHS tapes. The room feels like home.

Strobeck's gallery revolves around his room replication be-

cause his room is an epicenter of New York City skate culture.

Many important figures have graced the well-known room. French-American model Camille Rowe, skateboarder of the year Tyshawn Jones and the late Dylan Rieder are a few of Strobeck's friends who have had their photo taken in his bedroom.

His bedroom symbolizes more than just a cool space with vintage prints and stacks of coveted skate decks; it is a mecca for those who aspire to be a professional skateboarder.

Fanatics have reached out to him in hopes of getting a photo in his room. "There's kids that DM me asking if they can come over. 'My dream is to get a photo at your crib,' type of shit. It's so crazy to hear, because all that shit [on Instagram] is for fun," said Strobeck in an interview with *i-D* magazine.

My Lovely Mess is not only showcasing the work that Strobeck has created, it is so much more than that.

Its main focus is not just skateboarding and the rich culture that it has. It is not about working with

prominent skateboard brands such as Supreme and Fucking Awesome but rather about the connections within the community and being together.

Whether it be projecting beautifully captured videos of skateboarders landing impossible tricks or taking photos of friends striking a pose in front of an amazing layout full of character, the exhibit is about being here together and playing a role in this lovely mess.

The exhibition has been extended by Milk Gallery and will be open until Dec. 1.

The Mishkin Gallery
presents
The Brotherhood of New Blockheads



Opening on Nov. 14 with a night full of performances involving hard boiled eggs and giant crosses, *The Brotherhood of the New Blockheads* in Baruch College's Mishkin Gallery introduces the Russian art collective to the United States for the first time — 17 years since their dissolution.

Such an unexpected debut warrants questions of why now and why here, but not only is it clear in the themes the gallery stressed, but, in typical Blockhead fashion, the answer is also why not.

The spontaneity and vigor found in the Blockhead's timing welcomes art as it comes, an action that the Mishkin Gallery promotes with its open arms approach to functioning for students.

The Blockhead's methodology flourishes in such environments, committing to bring the same youthful energy to New York City.

The Blockheads first came together in 1996 at the Borey Gallery in St. Petersburg and dismantled around 2002.

While many local artists, performers, writers and curious viewers circulated within the group, the Blockheads consisted of eight key players: Vadim Flyagin, Oleg Khvostov, Vladimir Kozin, Alexander Lyashko, Inga Nagel, Igor Panin, Maxim Rayskin and Sergey Spirikhin.

Despite the almost branded-like sense of unity within their work, each of the members came from eclectic backgrounds that would've clashed together if it weren't for two vital shared traits; each member was a young, ambitious person witnessing the collapse of the U.S.S.R.

The epoch's capricious capabilities changed everyday life forever after 1991 when the dissolution of one of the most impactful pres-

ences of the 20th century shifted the ground under everyone's feet. Unprecedented waves of social, political and economic change rippled over the dozens of territories that now were left to their own devices and issues.

Artistically, the motions of what purposes and roles they held became mutated, as the strict laws, censorship and authoritative commissions could be pushed and disregarded.

As Peter Belyi, guest curator for the exhibit, says, "Russian society's acute nervousness in the 1990s, people's insecurity, the reassessment of key concepts and principles such as freedom, truth, religion and morals — all had its effect on artistic output."

The Blockheads engaged this reassessment with over 100 performances that included everything from canvassing for a Russian cartoon character for an elected position to playing with actual fire while blindfolded.

The term social experiment has been corrupted by viral YouTube videos, but the Blockheads conducted their own experiments with no clear hypothesis or set regulation.

The established methodologies that defined art and performance became disregarded as did the whole political structure and social landscape of their world.

Territory lines became blurred as did the rules for what art could be. They set to gerrymander their own realm of creating and braved the frontier of the new playground for any possibilities that laid in front of them in their own home.

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The gallery essentially assembles a time capsule of key moments

in the Blockheads' existence, picking to crack it open at the dawn of a new decade within the new millennium the Blockheads saw, ushered in alongside the colossal changes to their world.

Opening the vault into what the Blockheads did tasked the Mishkin Gallery with an opportunity to diverge from conventional gallery customs, and — much like the Blockheads — director Alaina Feldman and assistant curator Dino Sirin seized the opportunity for something great.

Working with some of the original members themselves, *The Brotherhood of the New Blockheads* digs up the skeleton of the group's past work through relics and artifacts that the original members are able to breathe life into again through special touches like writing on the wall and recreating the performances once more on opening night.

It's impossible to just feel the indicative nature of the Blockhead's work in terms of their setting.

The unique intersection of both time and location in post-Soviet Union Russia sends viewers directly to when and where, yet there is still an oddly timeless quality to The Blockheads.

Susan Tenneriello, professor and Deputy Chair of Theatre at Baruch, remained entranced by "100 Ways to Using Mass Media" where two of the Blockheads rip up tabloids and magazines and pantomime them as toilet paper.

"It just reminds me so much of the Internet."

These shared a sense of irony in Blockhead and modern humor.

This taste for distasteful absurdity and laughs for laughs sake define both generations as they learn

to deal with the rush of freedom new advancements grant them and the ambiguity of that that simultaneously strikes fear.

The Brotherhood of the New Blockheads pieces together the histories and humors of a once again relevant group for modern eyes. These blockheads still feel new.

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The elitism of art and obsession with its intangibles and nuances that have historically held many artists back from engaging in professional spheres are broken apart within the gallery.

Armed with only video recorders, the occasional stuffed animal, vaulting ambition and a keen eye for opportunity, the group grounds expression with visceral opportunities for onlookers to defy forced thought and to just laugh.

Feldman felt it was important

for Baruch students in particular to attend the exhibit considering they were the same age in their performances.

As director of the Mishkin Gallery, Feldman aims to keep the arts available and accessible to Baruch students.

"There's so much inspiration here for students to do whatever they can think of. They can use any of this in their own practice," said Feldman.

The Mishkin Gallery's consideration for students translates directly in the exhibitions where Baruch's diverse student body can feel represented, inspired and entertained by.

The gallery mirrors Baruch College's own diverse population with artists and exhibitions from all over the world

Utilizing interactivity and inclusivity for artists such as the Blockheads to create without restraint, the gallery fosters artistic thought that inducts visitors into *The Brotherhood of the Blockheads* by the end of their visit.

The Brotherhood of New Blockheads runs until Feb. 21, 2020 and is a part of the Perma 19 Biennial, a celebration of the "extraordinary vitality, inventiveness and significance of New York as a leading global performance capital of the world."





Vladimir Kozin revealed a large bag of soil and assembled a small pot to plant a post in. On the post, "MUNDUS HIC QUAM OPTIMUS," Latin for "This world is the best." Buried underneath the post and the Blockhead's irony lays a small gold sculpture of Vladimir Putin, the current president of Russia. Despite their knack for humor and youthful zeal, the Blockheads always remind onlookers of the symbiotic relationship between art, politics and young people.



Two Blockheads recreated a video entitled "Blessed Easter Sunday" where they stripped down and held their own supper outside, with the only difference being them remaining fully clothed. Foam boards flew over the heads of onlookers as Sergey Spirikhin meticulously set one boiled egg and a cup of sparkling water on each piece. Two Blockheads, Sergey Spirikhin and Vladimir Kozin, dine in front of onlookers who anxiously await what can happen next the Blockhead's universe.



"The Blockheads' performative practices — and there were more than eighty extended performances and an endless number of smaller ones — encompassed every aspect of the surrounding world"

The Brotherhood of the New Blockheads celebrates heterodoxy and humor.



"Active transformation of postperestroika Russian society and the world was reflected in the Blockheads' activities as in a mirror"

QUOTES BY PETER BELYI

Science & Technology

Curiosity makes us crave — the implications of that could be bad

BY GABRIEL RIVERA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the holiday season approaches, shoppers everywhere will be faced with many decisions regarding what gifts to buy for their friends and family. There are usually several factors that go into the decision-making process for purchasing a product, such as price, brand and quality. According to Cindi May of Scientific American, however, there may be another factor in this process — curiosity.

“Curiosity, it seems, is linked to indulgence,” May said. “When we are curious about something and expect to get an answer, our brain responds as if we are about to receive an award.”

Curiosity mandates a majority of our everyday lives and has been proven to be associated with a myriad of cognitive benefits. However, when the brain is left without an answer to please its inquisitiveness, it begins to crave other means of satisfaction.

May continues by stating, “if we can’t satisfy that craving with information, we turn to other forms of reward, such as rich food or indulgent spending.”

This unanswered curiosity that incentivizes people to pacify their desires with a reward can be piqued by the simplest of circumstances and is supported by several studies conducted by credible researchers.

May highlights a specific study led by Kyra Wiggin in which subjects were divided into two groups

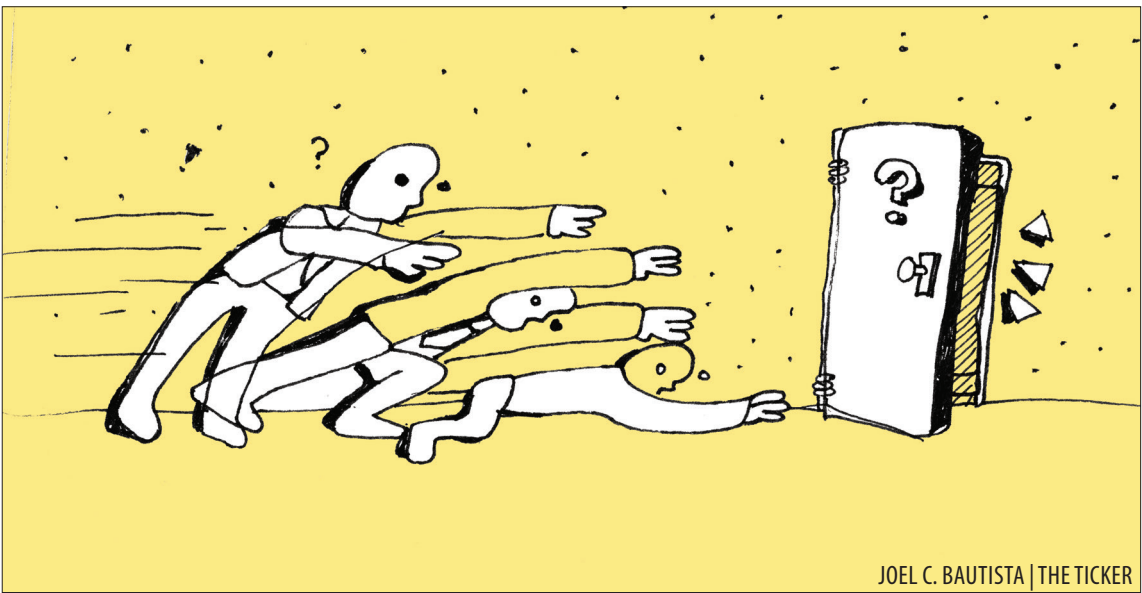
— high-curiosity condition and low-curiosity condition. While the high-curiosity condition only wrote down five things they were currently curious about, the opposing group documented five things they were once curious about.

Shortly after, both groups were offered a hypothetical situation in which they had to choose between several vacation options of varying prices.

The results demonstrated that high-curiosity group tended to opt for the more expensive choices compared to their counterparts. Even in similar experiments, regardless of the hypothetical, the group that had a higher level of curiosity proved to be more inclined to indulge themselves through the selection of the more expensive and luxurious options.

In addition to lavish commodities, subjects from the high-curiosity groups in Wiggin’s experiments tended to indulge in food, particularly sweets and high-calorie meals. In one study, the members of the high-curiosity group were more likely to select an unhealthy menu item to satisfy their cognitive desires.

Another study recorded that the participants in the high-curiosity condition commonly consumed nearly one and a half times the amount of candy than the participants belonging to the low-curiosity condition. Wiggin’s results are also supported by neuroimaging data obtained from subjects in both the high and low-curiosity



groups. The data conveyed that when compared to the subjects in a low-curiosity position, subjects in the high-curiosity condition demonstrated greater activity in a part of the brain commonly connected to desire for rewards.

Although this phenomenon does not appear to be harmful, May warns that “the finding that curiosity tempts indulgence should make buyers beware.”

With Black Friday only a few days away, businesses are already promoting sales for consumers to save big on purchases in store and online. What many buyers fail to realize, however, is that “savvy businesses intentionally build some mystery in their marketing”

in an attempt to induce the buyer to indulge themselves and spend more.

If this upcoming weekend is anything like last year which, according to a report by the National Retail Federation, had “an estimated 164 million people” shopping throughout Thanksgiving weekend in the United States alone, a substantial amount of consumers will likely fall victim to mysterious marketing campaigns and spend an excess of cash for the purpose of indulgence.

Although acquiescence into the demands of our curiosity seems to be unavoidable, there are methods to escape unhealthy or expensive indulgence. Wiggin’s studies also

discovered several solutions to fulfilling the desire for a reward that does not require wasting money or consuming unhealthy treats.

In another one of her studies, the group of participants that had their curiosity piqued were subsequently shown an entertaining movie trailer.

This alternate outlet for satisfaction proved to be effective as participants of the high curiosity condition refrained from over-indulging in candy and ate the same amount as the subjects in the low-curiosity condition group.

All shoppers should consider this and take reasonable measures to ensure they don’t over-indulge in gift-giving this holiday season.

Scientists can successfully predict a person’s income at age five

BY FARAH JAVED
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Recently, scientists have been investigating how a child’s personal background, rather than just biological characteristics, can determine the type of success they could find in adulthood.

Last year, *The Los Angeles Times* shared an experiment called “the marshmallow test,” that tested whether children would be more likely to give into instant gratification or wait with the promise of receiving better rewards if they did. The test itself was developed in the 1960’s by Stanford psychology professor Walter Mischel and focused on leaving a child aged three to five years old alone in a room.

Two plates were placed on a table before them, filled with marshmallows, pretzels, cookies or other snacks tempting to a child. The researcher would tell the child they eventually had to leave, but not before giving an ultimatum: the child could wait 15 minutes and get more snacks or eat only one but right away.

The test has since been repeated numerous times and through careful observations of each child through a two-way mirror, researchers measured the amount of time a child was able to constrain themselves before giving in.

They discovered that the white kids, with higher socioeconomic circumstances, waited the longest, which correlated with them having the necessary patience to be successful later in life.

Other studies furthered the idea that a child’s characteristics could predict their earnings. According to Scientific American, “children who were rated as ‘inattentive’ by kindergarten teachers had lower earnings at ages 33 to 35, and those rated as prosocial—

being kind, helpful and considerate—earned more.”

This study took familial backgrounds and the child’s IQ into account, much like the marshmallow test’s results.

Once more, it was revealed that the white kids were amongst the prosocial and grew up to be successful.

According to a Scientific American article, in June 2019, a team of researchers led by Francis Vergunst, a postdoctoral fellow at the Research Unit on Children’s Psychosocial Maladjustment at the University of Montreal in Canada, created a test to determine a child’s potential earnings.

Unlike previous studies, it was not based on demographics, but rather on psychographics. These scientists focused solely on the children’s personalities and emotions and set their backgrounds as a control by having the participants be white children.

According to the JAMA Psychiatry, a sample of 2,850 children who were either five or six years old in 1980 were analyzed by their kindergarten teachers for “inattention, hyperactivity, aggression, opposition, anxiety and prosociality.” Kids with those symptoms can be linked to the kids who immediately ate the snacks, while the prosocial children are equivalent to waiting for the cookie.

30 years later, government documents from 2013 to 2015 of the same participants were analyzed and confirmed the aforementioned similarities.

The results revealed that of the predominantly white sample, men and women alike, who were considered inattentive as children, faced an average decrease in annual earnings of \$1,271.49. This number is in comparison to those in the study who were said to have



no issues as a child, who on average received “US \$33,300 (\$27,500) for men and \$19,400 (\$15,200) for women,” as adults.

Similarly, children found to be aggressive grew up to have a decrease of salaries by \$699.83.” These two issues were found more in young boys than in girls. Adversely, the children who had been more social had salaries that were greater than the children who had no issues. In fact, they made \$476.75 more.

Additionally, The U.S. National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health also published a

study from the Department of Psychology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham that revealed the correlation between aggression and a lack of sociability and a child’s growth.

It explicated that, “peer rejection predicted cigarette smoking, delinquency, anxiety and global impairment at six years, and global impairment at eight years after baseline.”

Overall, this study reveals that scientists can accurately predict a child’s future outcome based on their behavior and personality. This breakthrough is impor-

tant, as screening kindergarteners can lead to behavioral correction. Thus, it increases the likelihood of a child to make a higher salary when they grow up.

The study, however, does not answer why aggression was a trait solely found amongst the males and inattentiveness only an issue for females.

It also did not provide a specific means of how to correct the children’s behaviors.

Regardless, this test has proved successful in pointing scientists down the path for early childhood intervention.

Probiotics may actually be bad for your health

BY ISRAEL CATALAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Probiotics are helpful micro-organisms that help the immune system.

The microbiome is the collection of all the microbes or micro-organisms present in the body. Probiotics are primarily meant to outnumber harmful bacteria in areas like the stomach, and maintain a healthy microbiome. The main nutrient that probiotics consume is fiber, which is found in fish, vegetables, nuts and whole grains.

Researchers claim that different sources of fiber attract the helpful bacteria more than one source would. As health becomes a growing concern, more food products are promoting and including probiotics, such as commercial yogurt.

However, foods with probiotics can have adverse side effects.

According to an article by Quick and Dirty Tips, author and licensed nutritionist Monica Reinagel details how consumers have started raising questions on the real benefits and risks of consuming such food.

Common side effects of foods

Experts suggest that if you are going to take probiotics, it is important to locate the research behind it and see if it will have the desired results.

with probiotics are gas, diarrhea and rarely, skin itching or rashes.

Illnesses are a great concern for those who take food with probiotics and consumers with pancreatitis, celiac disease or colitis may experience intestinal problems. Infections inside the body could worsen while taking probiotics.

A study conducted by the MD Cancer Center in Houston and the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy in San Francisco stated that cancer patients who consume probiotic foods are less likely to be affected by their treatments.

The study centered around a small group of 46 melanoma patients. The results showed that 70% of the patients were negatively affected by the probiotics, as their bodies would not react to cancer immunotherapy.

Cancer immunotherapy is a form of cancer therapy where parts of the immune system are used or manipulated to improve the immune system's ability to combat the disease. Some consumers have started to make their own fermented foods at home with even greater risks. Medical experts state that it is hard to tell what type of bacteria is growing in the fermented food. It could have the probiotics that consumers are seeking, but it could also contain pathogenic, disease-causing bacteria.

Experts suggest that if you are going to take probiotics, it is important to locate the research behind it and see if it will have the desired results. As researchers continue to question and test for possible effects from probiotics, nutritionists continue to advocate for a fiber-rich diet with whole grains, vegetables and fish.

Got eczema? Reducing your gluten intake may relieve your symptoms

BY JENNA JARRAH
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

I've had eczema for as long as I can remember- or at least I thought I had eczema. Every winter during my childhood, eczema would plague my skin.

I would be afflicted with big, red, blotchy patches that stretched from my chin to my back, reaching as far as the bottoms of my feet. The patches would itch and burn, but mainly they stood out against my smooth olive skin.

I remember scheduling dermatologist appointments so many times a year, where my doctor would prescribe me cream after cream. When those didn't work, he gave me steroids. When those didn't work, I had to learn to deal with my condition on my own.

The only remedy that somewhat worked was salty ocean salt water, but living in New York where it is cold for nine months out of the year, the ocean's water was not exactly available or a practical solution. As a result, I was stuck with my eczema and had to hope that time would heal it.

Fast forward to summer 2019, when I was diagnosed with celiac disease. Celiac disease is an autoimmune disease that causes the body to have an allergy to wheat, barley, and rye — specifically the protein found in those grains, gluten.

That meant I could kiss bread, pasta and delicious wafers goodbye — unless I wanted to face certain risks, including developing cancer, which can occur in celiac disease patients who chronically eat gluten. I was upset that I couldn't enjoy many of the foods I



ALPHA STOCK IMAGES

had been eating my whole life.

I was forced to adopt a gluten-free diet which significantly involved clean eating. My diet changed to incorporate foods like meat, fruits, vegetables, nuts, yogurt and occasionally gluten-free pasta and bread.

With these subtle changes, I was less bloated and had less inflammation in my stomach. Slowly, I also started to notice the areas of my skin that had been inflicted by eczema started to be less itchy; the patches weren't flaky anymore. Then, the redness started to go down and eventually disappeared.

Eczema is not caused by eating gluten, but rather is an autoimmune disorder that I genetically inherited. That said, eczema has been noted as a common side ef-

fect of eating gluten for those with celiac disease. While food allergies do not cause eczema, there is a link between them, especially in young children, which better explains my own experiences.

Research shows that 35% of children have food allergies that can cause flareups in their eczema. There is not much research yet on adult eczema and food allergies, but one can infer that the certain foods that can cause flareups in children can also transfer over to adults who have eczema.

If you have eczema and have been dealing with a similar problem, consult your doctor and ask them what they know about the link between food allergies and eczema. Your eczema problem could actually be a gluten problem.

Write for Science and Technology

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Sports

2019 MLB Awards: Trout wins third AL MVP award, while deGrom wins Cy Young



KEITH ALLISON | FLICKR

Mike Trout is the best player in the world, period, and proved that once again this season, as he racked up his third Most Valuable Player award. Jacob deGrom became one of 11 players to win consecutive Cy Youngs.

BY ISAIAH HINTON
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The final pitch has been thrown and the final bat has been swung. The 2019 Major League Baseball season is over and the offseason has begun. The first part of the off-season is the bestowment of the regular season awards.

Manager of the Year

In the American League, the finalists each had the requisite resume to win the award. In the Twin Cities, first-year manager Rocco Baldelli injected the Twins and their fanbase with a swagger and confidence that transformed his squad from mediocre to the “Bom-ba Squad.”

The Twins saw an improvement in all major offensive categories compared to last season, including setting the record for most home runs in a season with 307. Baldelli made the Twins a contender again, a feat which no one expected in spring training.

For that, he rightly earned AL Manager of the Year. However, it would be amiss not to talk about New York Yankees manager Aaron Boone, who navigated the notorious New York media and the unprecedented amount of injuries his players faced with aplomb.

His “next man up” attitude and his defense of his players through the infamous “savages in the box” comment became rallying cries for the Bombers.

In addition, Tampa Bay Rays manager Kevin Cash fully utilized every single player on his roster. His mastery of the bullpen helped the Rays become one of the most innovative teams in the game.

In the National League, the finalists all elevated the levels of

their respective franchises. However, it was deemed that Mike Shildt of the St. Louis Cardinals was the most effective in his position.

While the Cubs entertained talks of a potential dynasty and the Brewers geared up for a playoff push after last year’s Game 7 disappointment, the Cardinals quietly took over the NL Central. The Cards’ ability to clinch a berth in the NLCS without the help of a discernible superstar is a testament to the mindset of the Redbirds. The other two finalists, Craig Counsell of the Brewers and Brian Snitker of the Atlanta Braves, had good teams, but were utterly unremarkable during the season.

Rookie of the Year

In the AL, Yordan Álvarez was the most electrifying rookie to grace the Junior Circuit. His power was the stuff of shock and awe, one of his home runs forever immortalized by an orange seat in the third deck of Minute Maid Park.

Over a mere 87 games, Álvarez smashed 27 home runs and drove in 78 runs while hitting an impressive .313.

He became an important part of the Astros’ lineup, seen by his 2.5 Wins Above Average, adding to their offensive power.

In the National League, the Mets struck gold with their new superstar Pete Alonso.

The “Polar Bear” broke the record for the most home runs in a rookie season with 53, won the 2019 Home Run Derby, and helped take a club that was dead in the water in July to the cusp of a playoff berth in a wild August and September.

However, there was another finalist also deserving of the award. The Padres’ new shortstop, Fernando Tatis Jr., has made baseball

fun again in San Diego. A five-tool player, Tatis Jr. led all rookies with a 3.1 WAA rating.

The most amazing part of Tatis’ season, which included a .317 batting average, was that he only played 84 games. The Padres’ future is looking bright with Tatis as a focal point in the lineup.

Cy Young Award

For the first time in the history of the award, the first and second place finishers in the AL were teammates. Without a shadow of a doubt, the most fearsome pitching duo in the AL was Gerrit Cole and Justin Verlander. This year was Cole’s coming out party as a potential franchise ace, as he utilized his repertoire of four-seamer and numerous breaking balls to generate a league-leading 326 strikeouts.

In addition, Cole led the American League in ERA with 2.50, finished with the second lowest opposition batting average at .186, and had a 20-win season. While Cole was the ace, Verlander was the workhorse.

En route to his second Cy Young Award, Verlander led the Majors in games started, wins, and innings pitched. Verlander also had the league’s lowest Walks and Hits per Nine Innings with .803, the lowest opposition batting average with .172, and had a 300-strikeout season.

At age 36, Verlander still has a pop on his fastball, averaging 94.6 miles per hour on the gun. However, his slider was his most deadly pitch, with opposing pitchers only hitting .119 off it.

In the NL, Jacob DeGrom won his second consecutive Cy Young Award over the Dodgers’ Hyun-Jin Ryu and the Nationals’ Max Scherzer.

Ryu led the league with a 2.32 earned run average while establishing himself as the ace of the Dodgers’ staff. Ryu’s control was evident in his league-low 1.183 walks per 9 innings.

Scherzer was the best pure pitcher according to the stats, as he registered a league-low 2.45 Fielding Independent Pitching average. “Mad Max” relied on his four-seam fastball, which had an average horizontal movement of 3.2 inches.

However, DeGrom led all NL pitchers with a 7.9 WAR rating, proving his value to the Mets. The undisputed ace of the Metropolitans also led the NL with 255 strikeouts and registered the second-lowest FIP average with 2.67.

Most Valuable Player

Oakland Athletics’ shortstop Marcus Semien was always going to finish in third place, but if not for his play in the homestretch of the season, the A’s would not have qualified for the postseason. Playing in every game this season, Semien produced a Wins Above Average rating of 5.8, while establishing himself as one of the best fielding shortstops in the game, leading the AL in double plays turned and assists.

The other finalist, Alex Bregman was equally valuable to the Astros this season, producing a 6.1 WAA rating. The third baseman’s speciality was getting on base, leading the AL in times on base, walks, and runs created. A fearsome bat in the Astros’ “Murderers Row” lineup, Bregman smashed 41 home runs and drove in over 100 runs.

Mike Trout won his third MVP award, as the Angels would have been disgustingly bad without him. Trout led the AL with a WAA rating of 6.3, hitting 45 home runs and

driving in 104 runs.

He led the AL in on-base and slugging percentages, creating 145 runs in the process. The most surprising aspect of Trout’s season was that he was shut down early due to injury.

In the NL, it was always between Cody Bellinger and Christian Yelich. However, the third finalist, Anthony Rendon, had a breakout season in his own right for the World Series champion Nationals.

He led the Majors with 126 runs batted in and led the NL with 44 doubles, providing a clutch bat when necessary.

Both Bellinger and Yelich were integral to the success of their respective teams.

Bellinger led the Majors with a 9.0 Wins Above Replacement rating, smashing 47 home runs and bringing in 115 runs as the Dodgers won over 100 games and clinched their seventh consecutive division title.

However, though Bellinger won the MVP, the Dodgers had other standout players such as Max Muncy, Corey Seager and Joc Pederson that could have helped propel the LA club to the playoffs.

The same cannot be said for Yelich, who dragged the Brewers kicking and screaming into the postseason. In an injury-shortened season, Yelich led the Majors in slugging percentage and runs created, while also leading the NL in batting average and on-base percentage.

The Bellinger versus Yelich arguments centers around who was the most valuable to their team, not necessarily who was the best. The statistics support Bellinger, but to the naked-eye Yelich takes the prize. This would have been a good season for co-MVPs, but only one could win the prize.

Astros tarnish recent successes in wake of cheating scandal

BY ISIAIH HINTON
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Slowly but surely, the Houston Astros are turning into the most hated franchise in Major League Baseball. Houston, once the laughing stock of the American game, became the archetype for developing a winning team and culture “the right way.”

Drafting franchise cornerstones, developing talent in the minors and incorporating patience throughout the process. Then, after identifying the home-grown superstars and allowing them to flourish, the Astros’ surrounded them with veterans.

These veterans, such as staff ace Justin Verlander, Brian McCann and Carlos Beltran, brought years of Major League experience and guile to pass on to the younger guys. Players such as Jose Altuve and Carlos Correa were ever present through the Astros’ transformation from bottom-feeder to World Series Champion and are testaments to the time and effort the baseball club of H-Town put into the process.

However, the Astros have gone from the golden boys of baseball to villains, especially in the course of the previous month. After winning their American League Division Series matchup against the Tampa Bay Rays, Assistant General Manager Brandon Taubman celebrated by boasting to reporters about their closer, Roberto Osuna.

The problem with this exultation was that many of the journalists in the room were female and Osuna is a known domestic abuser.

Although this incident has no effect on the play on the diamond, it is indicative of the Astros’ willing-

ness to let a player who was charged with assault and who served a 75-game suspension for violation of the MLB domestic violence policy not only fill a spot on the active roster, but to become an integral part of their bullpen.

Not only is it unsettling but as one of the marquee teams in the Majors, the Astros’ willingness to play Osuna is a damning statement on their culture and values.

To having winning as a paramount priority is a trait of all major teams, not only in baseball, but in all sports. However, placing winning above morality and conscience is where most teams draw the line.

The line for the Astros is blurry, made evermore so by their recent allegation and admission of stealing signs using technology.

To give some background, stealing signs is a process in which an opposition player figures out what type of pitch the pitcher will be throwing based on the catcher’s signs used for previous pitches.

Stealing signs is an unwritten aspect of the game that is meant to reward players who pay attention to pitches and go beyond the “regular call of duty” of a batter. When done correctly, it gives batters a crucial advantage.

However, the Astros went above the norm by allegedly using technology to steal signs, according to former Astros pitcher Mike Fiers.

During the 2017 season, a camera was set up in center-field, which was then relayed to a monitor where someone deciphers the catcher’s signs. Once deciphered, a garbage can was banged to let hitters know about the incoming pitch.



The Astros have had unprecedented success recently, however, much of that success may be remembered with an asterisk.

These allegations were seemingly confirmed by other players weighing in on the noises coming from the Astros dugout and dedicated internet sleuths such as Jomboy.

In addition, an email that was sent from the Special Assistant to the General Manager, Jeff Lunhow, asking scouts to spy on opposing teams prior to the 2017 postseason, using cameras if necessary, seems to confirm intent.

From this monumental allegation came a flurry of reactions from MLB players and fans ranging from

simple statements about the state of the game to outright disgust.

When asked about the scandal, MLB’s Chief Baseball Officer Joe Torre stated how “[he] always want[s] the ability on the field to determine who the winner is, and I just don’t think it’s a level playing field and it’s good for our game.”

While Torre was level-headed, other executives want blood. One National League general manager was adamant, saying “They’ve been cheating, they are still cheating, and it’s time MLB puts a stop to it.”

However, the decision ultimately lies with the commissioner, Rob Manfred, who has been on the record promising a thorough investigation.

When all is said and done, the reputation of the Houston Astros will be tarnished for a long time.

Already, the Astros are receiving unprecedented levels of vitriol. There are still many questions that have yet to be answered.

Either way, the court of public opinion has ruled that the Astros’ legacy will have an asterisk for the foreseeable future.

Baruch men’s and women’s swimming teams start seasons strong

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The women held sway over the podium position, finishing with a large 14-second cushion in first to ensure all 11 points, while they also finished third to snag two more. Standing out for the women was Nicola Ousmanova, who excelled at the freestyle medley, winning the 100-yard individual and the 200-yard relay, as well as Amanda Lee, who clinched first place in the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard butterfly en route to winning CUNYAC Swimmer of the Week. The women now improve to 6-4 on the season.

For the men, the 200-yard freestyle relay was close but the Bearcats’ also earned control of the podium positions, finishing in first place by six seconds and earning third place as well. A standout swimmer for the men was David Matskovsky, who took home first place and set new personal records in the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard freestyle individual on the way to earning the CUNYAC Swimmer of the Week award.

This meet had added significance for the junior, stating how “the feeling is awesome being able to have a meet in my hometown and swim the way I did in front of my teammates and in front of my friends and win CUNY Swimmer of the Week.”

However, he is not resting on his laurels, adding, “There’s a whole season ahead filled with more meets to compete in and while I do enjoy winning Swimmer of the Week, it’s another source of motivation to only work harder and get faster going forward not just for myself, but for my teammates and Baruch College as a whole and I’m going to prove just that!”

The men improved to 6-2 on the season.

From the pool to the hardwood,

the Bearcats pull out the victories when it matters. The men earned their first win of the season playing in the Western Connecticut State Tournament. Baruch basketball bombarded the Coast Guard Academy in the second half, going 10 of 17 from the field, including three shots from downtown.

Starter Sean Donnellan set the scoring tempo for the Bearcats, finishing the game as Baruch’s leading scorer with 17 points. However, the game was won thanks to 25 points contributed from the bench, highlighted by Emil Purisic’s perfect 5 of 5 night from the field.

Although the Bearcats were unable to overcome a sluggish first half in an exhibition defeat to Fisher College, the Bearcats’s record is perfectly balanced at 1-1 heading into their away game against the Marine Academy.

Nia Dawson continued her torrid start to the season, averaging 21 points per game while Melinda Spahiu continued her own strong start to the season, scoring 19 points in a 77-46 thrashing of SUNY Purchase.

The ladies won the battle for the rebounds with Daniela Zirpolo’s 12 rebounds a big reason why. She also scored 12 points, notching her second double-double of the year. Frances Snyder also had her game of the season thus far with 17 points.

The women look to extend their winning streak to five games and keep their perfect season alive against SUNY Cobleskill.

While the basketball team’s season is ongoing, the women’s volleyball season ended in heartbreaking fashion with straight set quarterfinal defeat to Neumann University in the quarterfinals of the ECAC Division III Championship.

The attack was led valiantly by team captain Anita Sengara, who



The men’s swimming team is looking to complete a three-peat this season, and has been the class of the CUNYAC as of late.

registered 11 kills. Yijia Cai had six kills and Sanaa Hadjeb doled out 11 assists as a setter. Although their season ended prematurely, the Bearcats of the volleyball court can hold their heads high as they achieved a winning record for the first time since 2013. They also achieved the highest number of wins since 2013 with 19 victories.

Finally, the NCAA Cross Country Regional Finals were chocked full of personal records for the la-

dies and the gents from Baruch. Through the snow and the rough terrain, Shemontee Chowdhury and Sadia Huque finished with personal bests of just over 40 minutes while

Urgan Chodon finished the 6K race with the best time from the women, clocking in at 33:24. As a team, the women saw an improvement in the place for the NCAAs, climbing four places to 38th as compared to last year.

The men saw personal bests from three men, including Amadou Barry, Armend Lulani and Caleb Hoo. However, the fastest time for the 8K race came from Victor Carrano, who finished in just under 29 minutes.

As a team, the men finished in 42nd place, which is nothing to scoff at. In addition, they finished in third place in the CUNYAC finals and improved in the ECAC Championship, finishing in ninth.

McCaffrey deserves MVP consideration

BY KYLE MCKEE
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Historically, the MVP award in the NFL has gone to quarterbacks. The last time a non-quarterback won the award was in 2012, when running back Adrian Peterson took home the trophy. That year, Peterson totaled an amazing 2,097 yards, 12 touchdowns, 6 yards per attempt and 131 yards per game. Those numbers sit amongst the greatest running backs of all time and closely resemble the prime seasons of hall of famers Barry Sanders, Marshall Faulk, Emmitt Smith and Jim Brown, to name only a few.

Right now, Christian McCaffrey is having a season on par with those listed above. McCaffrey, despite being undersized is leading the NFL in rushing yards per game, scrimmage yards per game and rushing touchdowns.

McCaffrey is on pace to finish the season with 2,488 scrimmage yards, which would be the second most in NFL history behind only Chris Johnson's 2,509 yards in 2009. He also is projected to score 26 scrimmage touchdowns. To compare, three of the four players who scored as many touchdowns won the MVP award.

McCaffrey's season with that of 2012 MVP Peterson and 2006 MVP Tomlinson, shows nearly identical numbers. In 2009, Chris Johnson produced similar numbers, if not better, and still did not win the award.

But unlike those other running backs, McCaffrey is a dual threat. Not only can he sidestep defenders with impeccable footwork, or break tackles, McCaffrey can run



KEITH ALLISON | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Christian McCaffrey has been the focal point of the Panthers' offense this season.

routes and catch the majority of balls thrown his direction. His completion to target ratio is on par with that of most NFL wide receivers. He also is a receiving threat in the end zone, with multiple receiving touchdowns in the RedZone this season.

This complicates things for defenses, as there are very few all around defensive talents, as positions in NFL defenses are based on player specialties. This opens up Carolina's offense, with McCaffrey usually being double marked as the Panther's approach their end zone. In the NFL there are players who are between good and great. The good players are able to put up big numbers when they are up against mediocre to sub-par defenses. Usually, this is because the good players only excel in one facet of the game.

A good example of this kind of player is DeSean Jackson, who takes advantage of slow defenses

with his explosive speed and footwork. T

hroughout his career, Jackson has been shut down by either tough man-to-man cornerbacks such as Darrelle Revis, Richard Sherman or Champ Bailey. McCaffrey however, is not slowed down by even the most elite of NFL defenses. Against the San Francisco 49ers, who hold running backs to the second fewest yards in the entire NFL, McCaffrey rushed for 117 yards and a touchdown, while catching another touchdown.

Who could forget the season opener against the Los Angeles Rams, in which McCaffrey rushed for 128 yards, 2 touchdowns and received 10 passes for 81 yards. Clearly McCaffrey is unstoppable this year, against all NFL defenses. So, if MVP goes to a quarterback which it most likely will, he should be a top contender for Offensive Player of the Year. He deserves at least that.

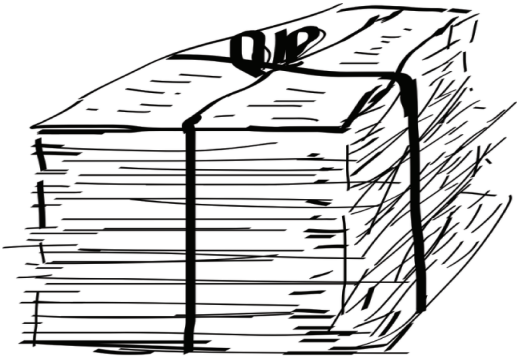
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Baruch Weekly

DOUBLE TAKE ADVICE FOR STUDENTS BY STUDENTS

DEAR DOUBLE TAKE:
How do I build strength?

Strength is attained through a combination of diet and exercise. The importance of your diet may come as a surprise but your body needs proper nutrients to improve and recover from the exercise you do. Fast food and eating out will likely set you back in achieving your goal, however you do get access to Baruch's gyms as a student. You will need to build a full-body plan and track your progress and the weight you are able to lift as you increase it weekly or biweekly, whatever your body allows. It's important that you design a balanced workout plan. Failing to do so can lead to you having a disproportionate body with a much bigger upper body or lower body. You don't have to be too crazy with your workout program as you determine the level of strength you hope to attain. Discipline and adherence to your plan will guarantee your success, so good luck in your strength-building journey.

RODNEY N'GUESSAN

Every body is different and to understand how to improve your strength you'll have to learn what works for you personally. The most important thing that you'll have to do when exercising is to listen to your body, don't push yourself to injury. Do some research online to find a strength-building plan that can work for your goals and your schedule. However, keep in mind there are a lot of opinions concerning what is best that come from both experts and non-experts. In addition to sticking to a strength-building plan, you'll want to develop a meal plan that provides you with quality nutrients and calories and that is practical for you and your schedule. Try talking to a personal trainer who can work with you on a tailored plan.

JULIAN 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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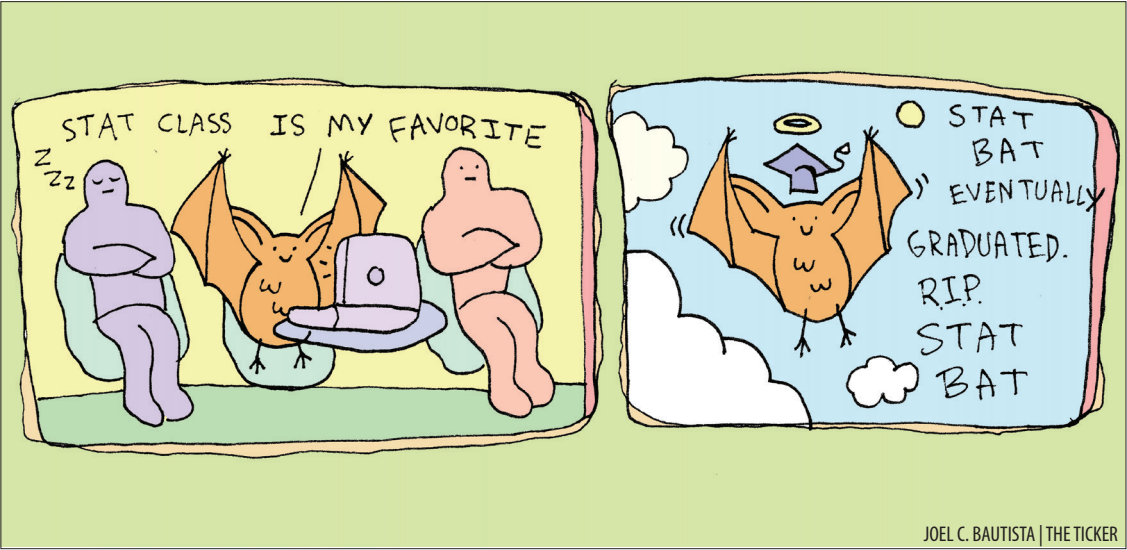
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Career Spotlight

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SAVE THE DATE

Internship Seminar
Tuesday, Dec.10, 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., NVC 2-190
Learn everything about internships such as their benefits and top places these opportunities are found.

Graduate School Workshop
Tuesday, Dec. 10, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., NVC 2-190
Thinking about grad school? Learn all about the application process in this workshop!

Create Your Own Major: The Ad Hoc
Wednesday, Dec. 11, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., NVC 2-190
Come to learn how to combine courses from several departments into a unique and coherent major.

SCDC TIP OF THE WEEK

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

"As important as it is to land an internship, it is also equally important to utilize the opportunity to its maximum potential once you have the internship. Make sure to keep in touch with the people you connect with even after your internship is over, it will go a long way when you are looking for opportunities after graduation."

- Michael Kalish, Associate Director

INTERNSHIP UPDATE

NYC Census

NYC Census 2020 Grants Program College Aide

Mayor Bill de Blasio established NYC Census 2020, an office dedicated to ensuring NYC's full participation in the census which is critical to ensuring that New York City is granted its fair share of political representation at the most local level, and to ensuring that the City is granted its fair share of more than \$650 billion in federal funding for housing, education, healthcare, and more.

Key Responsibilities Include: Help to draft sound survey, interview, focus group, and other data collection instruments, Work with Grants and Data Teams to refine and iterate data collection and analysis methodology, Contribute to quantitative and qualitative analysis of incoming data on an ongoing basis, Draft trend analyses and lessons learned documents for quick use in the field and by NYC Census 2020 team, Assist NYC Census 2020 team and its partners with grantee partner training and capacity building as necessary, on a range of topics based on needs (including outreach, VAN, and grant reporting), among others.

Compensation: Undergraduate hourly rate: \$15.50-\$17.30

Starr Search ID: 128365

PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL

2020 Data Analytics and Business Systems Intern: Prudential

Data is widely-recognized as a critical enterprise resource in today's business technology environment. We are looking for top-performing students who excel at analytical problem solving.

As a Data Analyst, you will improve business initiatives through operational enhancement while aligning our technical capabilities towards efficient and strategic business solutions.

Responsibilities Include: Identifying solutions to complex business problems by gathering, analyzing, and documenting business and systems requirements to enhance operational performance, Gaining exposure to external research, business systems and data tools that will help you further develop your career and analytical abilities including Microsoft Office Suite, SQL, R, SAS, Hadoop, Informatica, ETL, API development and microservices, Mining vast data stores to discover business insights and operational improvement opportunities, Planning and forecasting models, and designing tests to help define solutions, Managing information systems, building data foundations, understanding regression trends and performing data segmentation, Exposure to many business systems and data tools that will help you further develop your professional career and analytical abilities, while working with world class financial and/or actuarial application architectures among others.

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