

THE CATALYST

OWCatalystwriters@gmail.com

"IGNITING THE MIND"

FREE

SUNY OLD WESTBURY'S IMMIGRANTS SPEAK OUT

By Nathalie Ligonde

"I feel as though Trump's policies in regards to immigration are extremely harmful towards all those living in America. They create a mentality of them vs. us and lead to dissension among the people of America," said Nadia Hameed from Pakistan, a senior at SUNY Old Westbury. Since his presidency and anti-immigrant policies, Trump has alarmed many immigrant families.

Dr. Laura Anker, distinguished service professor and director of First-Year Experience, works closely with immigrant students at SUNY OW. She said that her students are much more frightened since the election and the Trump policies. She added that most students at OW have the Deferred Actions for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) if they are undocumented, which was the Obama policy. She added, "Many of them were very frightened that they were going to lose DACA. Even if that has not happened yet, they're frightened for their undocumented parents." DACA gives these students the ability to work and drive in the United States.

"If Trump takes that away as he said he would, they would lose all of those things," Anker said. It is Anker's belief that the level of fear both from the Trump policy and the incidents of bias and hate have drastically increased. DACA students and undocumented students, are still accepted as New York State residents as long as they prove their residency.

The process for proving residency at Old Westbury is problematic. The faculty just passed a resolution asking that it be simplified. According to Anker, the school often asks for infor-

(Cont. on page 3.)

FASHION
PAGE 9

Raising the Cap



Copyright by Signe Wilkinson

By Johan A Acevedo

As of the 2016 fall semester, classroom student capacity was increased from twenty-five to thirty-five for general education courses throughout the four schools at SUNY Old Westbury and their respective departments. Handed down by the administration led by the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Patrick O'Sullivan, has been met with protest from both faculty members and students. This fluctuation of class sizes is directly affected by SUNY budget cuts, whether the college meets its enrollment targets and more importantly, the feedback from the students.

But given the limited budget and resources SUNY Old Westbury currently possesses, it was a ruling that had to be made in order to accommodate student needs while maximizing efficiency and productivity, according to the administration.

SUNY Old Westbury is among one of the smaller comprehensive colleges whose main selling point has always been the low 18:1 student-teacher ratio with an average of twenty-two students per class. This in turn promotes a positive rapport among students and their professors making the education experience more rewarding.

On the other hand, low course capacity creates a scheduling setback among students trying to graduate on

time. For students that need to add one more class in order to graduate but with courses capped at twenty five, the upturn in capacity would keep those students from having to return for an additional semester and prevent their graduation from being delayed.

Associate Professor Andrew Mattson, chair of the American Studies Department, said, "Most faculty agree with students that a smaller class size leads to a better quality of interaction between faculty and students. So how do you strike the balance between the competing needs to have bigger classes for efficiency, productivity and schedule flexibility versus smaller class sizes for quality of education?"

This dilemma has been addressed by Dr. O'Sullivan with a compromise. Starting next semester, there will be a process in which the different departments will meet with the deans of their respective schools to try to work out a reasonable balance between quality and quantity. With this agreement, some courses could be reduced from thirty five as early as next semester. At the moment, lower level courses, including subjects like mathematics, history, and the sciences, are experiencing the most crowded classrooms.

WHO PULLED THE PLUG ON OWTV?

By Nathalie Ligonde & Melissa Monteleone

"There's nothing happening over there," complained Banusa Sivanesathasan, a senior at SUNY Old Westbury and former reporter for Old Westbury Television (OWTV). The studio is inactive and students who wish to gain television experience are lacking a teacher.

This semester Sivanesathasan has been using station equipment to shoot, however all of her work is solely for her portfolio and has not been aired on OWTV.

Prior to recent changes, OWTV produced at least eight shows a month. It has not uploaded any videos to its YouTube account since December of 2016. As for this semester, OWTV is no longer holding meetings.

Moses Nunez, a senior at SUNY Old Westbury and former president of the OWTV club, shared his frustration: "That studio has so much potential to do great things, but it's never utilized. It's not fair. Old Westbury Web Radio (OWWR) has Manfredi, *The Catalyst* has Friedman. Who do we have?" His goal as president was to expand OWTV and incorporate television production with other departments at SUNY Old Westbury. According to Nunez, OWTV is not an official SGA club and due to its inactivity, the chances of being recognized on campus are limited.

The resignation of Station Manager Sherry Baker in September has taken a toll on students and faculty. Baker's former position as a teacher of TV programming and mentor to students has not been filled and there are no immediate plans to find a suitable replacement.

Instead, the IT department is overseeing the TV station. Chief Informa-

(Cont. on page 3.)

SPORTS
PAGES
14-16

Executive Editor:

Marilynn Bonilla

Managing Editor:

Laura DeMarzo

Senior Writer:

Dayna McNeil

Interns:

Danielle Joseph

Melissa Monteleone

Johan Acevedo

Joey Marinaro

Troy Georges

Contributors:

Ashnelle Hall

Bobby Reilly

Brianna Desir

Joey Marinaro

Julia Sorto

Contributors:

Keya Rice

Nathalie Ligonde

Deirdre Bardolf

Marcy Mendonca

Jay Shah

Selena M. Valentin

Danielle Joseph

Latoya Settles

Layout Design:

Joseph Wood

Contributing Photographer:

Ariel Zuniga

Web Page

Contributing Editor:

Phillip Witkin

Faculty Advisor:

John S. Friedman

SUNY Old Westbury's Historic Trip to Cuba



Fernando Nieto, Biological Sciences Chair, with members from the SUNY delegation to Cuba.

By Troy Georges

SUNY Old Westbury was well-represented in a historic trip to Cuba in February. It was a follow-up to a meeting that the Cuban Ministry of Education held in New York City in the fall of 2016.

Representatives from seven different SUNY schools, including SUNY Old Westbury's Vice President of Enrollment Services Mary Marquez Bell and Professors Zenaida Madurka and Fernando Nieto, visited six different campuses as well as the United States embassy. They got a chance to meet with administrators involved in International programs as well. SUNY Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Alexander Cartwright, who is in charge of the academic aspects of all SUNY Universities, was also there to try to reach an agreement with the Cuban Ministry of Education.

The SUNY delegation got a chance to meet with some of the students currently enrolled in the SUNY study abroad programs in Havana. This showed both Cuban and SUNY delegates that their common goals were in fact based on a mutual respect that is already in place. This led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding, which will help both sides coordinate a relationship among their respective institutions. According to

Cuban Vice Minister Aurora Fernandez Gonzalez, it is the first agreement that her ministry has ever signed with a U.S. university. With this agreement now in place, it is only a matter of time until both sides facilitate a deeper relationship.

To finish the week, the University of Cienfuegos hosted a meeting that gave the SUNY delegation the opportunity to sit down and meet with rectors from six provincial universities of Cuba. Areas of discussion for partnership and innovative exchanges of faculty, researchers and professional staff included: community health, language and Caribbean studies, information systems, art and design.

Associate Professor Nieto, chair of Biological Sciences, thought that the trip was a success and hopes that SUNY Old Westbury can expand international programs with Cuba. "I think it's a great opportunity," he said. "It's a beautiful country and they have a very strong public education system and it is a primetime opportunity to go there and establish some educational connections with them. And I think that SUNY is leading in that aspect nationwide."

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CAMPUS NEWS PAGES 1-4

SUNY OLD WESTBURY IMMIGRANTS SPEAK OUT
RAISING THE CAP
WHO PULLED THE PLUG ON OWTV?
SUNY OLD WESTBURY'S HISTORIC TRIP TO CUBA
STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS

FEATURE 3,5

ARE GENDER NEUTRAL EMOJIS IN OUR FUTURE?
THE TAIL OF THE TLUCKY LADY

REVIEW 6-9

"A PEN OF ALL WORK"
LOGAN
AIR PODS OR OTHER?
THE JAZZ STANDARD
LORDE RETURNS WITH NEW SINGLE "GREEN LIGHT"
MORE LIFE
BURNING SANDS
GET OUT
LIVE ACTION BEAUTY AND THE BEAST:
AN "ENCHANTING" VERSION OF A DISNEY CLASSIC

OPINION 7,10,11

THE RISE ON COMEDY PAGES ON SOCIAL MEDIA
REMYVS. NICKI:
FAIR OR FOUL?
THE PUBLIC HAS SPOKEN: THE RED IPHONE
BLACK BEAUTY

FASHION 9

ANJALI LAMA CHALLENGING THE MODEL STEREOTYPE

SPORTS PAGE 14-16

PANTHERS' RUSSO NAMED SKYLINE CONFERENCE
BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE WEEK
PANTHERS SOFTBALL 2017 SEASON PREVIEW
PANTHERS WOMEN'S LACROSSE
CLOSES STRONGLY AT DREW
VALDES EARNS PLACE ON SKYLINE CONFERENCE
WEEKLY HONOR ROLL

Cont. from page 1

SUNY Old Westbury's Immigrants Speak Out

mation that students often feel threatened to give.

Anker shares the heartbreaking story of an OW student's family. A Muslim student explained to Anker how her little sister, a fifth grader, experienced racism first hand. In the fifth grader's class, the teacher asked students to talk about their communities and their backgrounds. The little sister explained that she is Muslim and the next day she had no more friends. According to Anker, her friend came to her and said, "I can't play with you, I can't come near you, my mother is going to ask that I'm not in your class anymore because Muslims are terrorists and I can't play with them."

An OW student who wished to remain anonymous was born in Guyana and moved to the U.S with her family when she was four-years-old. The student is horrified by Trump's policies, "Imagine me being here for so many years and being told I have to go back. I don't even know what that place is," the student said. "I don't understand how anyone can tell me that I don't belong here." The policy has affected this student's mother who has sacrificed everything to move to America.

Asad, a Muslim from Pakistan is a freshman at Old Westbury. He moved to the United States two years ago. He said, "For a moment there I thought to myself, 'Do other Americans share the same views as Trump? Does everyone hate immigrants and Mexicans?'" He added that he had never experienced racism first hand which is why he is not

afraid of the Trump policies or to live in America.

Another freshmen at SUNY OW, Marvin, is from El Salvador. He is staying in America as permanent resident holding a green card. He shared, "My family is nervous, but there's nothing we can do but expect the worst."

Manuela, a freshmen at OW, came from Columbia when she was 13-years-old. Manuela's mother was desperate to leave Columbia as she was convinced she could make a better living in the United States. She emphasized that her family tried very hard to move to the U.S. In her opinion, "Trump's Immigration policy is very ignorant." Her family is terrified. "My father has been here for nineteen years and we have been here for 16. This is our home. This is the place we've given everything to and worked hard." She added, "We are not criminals. All we want is to finally be treated equal...that is very hard under Trump's presidency."

Immigrants at Old Westbury all agree that Old Westbury feels "extremely safe." Manuela states, "I truly do feel safe here, and that is thanks to the wonderful and supportive staff here."

Dr. Anker's goal is to make students feel safe on campus. She said that unlike a regular police station, the university police have agreed not to take finger prints so that students do not run into immigration difficulties. If there is an immigration issue with a student, the police cannot enter the school without a warrant from a judge.

Cont. from page 1

Who Pulled The Plug on OWTV?

tion Officer Evan Kobolakis was surprised when told that the TV club is no longer on the air.

He wrote in an email to The Catalyst, "We had an open search for Sherry's replacement, the Media Services Manager. That position is now occupied by Alex Sartakov. We have not created a search for the TV Studio Manager since we are still trying to define roles and responsibilities." A faculty member who has frequently used the TV studio in the past said that the "open search" was closed down and that members of the search committee were not part of the decision regarding Sartakov.

According to Kobolakis, Sartakov may not have the necessary experience: "His expertise is on instructional technology, and on audio visual. Not necessarily video editing and not necessarily on the specific skills that you need in order to use the TV for educational purposes."

Asked to comment, Sartakov, Director of Instructional Technology Information, did not reply.

"With no dedicated oversight, it's really hard for the students to move forward," said American Studies Assistant Professor Laura Chipley. "Studio A

has outdated equipment and students lack training and necessary equipment to make full use of Studio B. It's a shame." Chipley noted that professors are also lacking the support they need, and in turn have cancelled TV station visits with their classes. As for her upcoming plans, Chipley is teaming up with IT in hopes to "re-create the once vibrant student media culture."

Samara Smith, American Studies assistant professor, explained the importance of the TV station. "When the TV studio is active, it helps students to produce, work on meeting a deadline and build their portfolio." She added, "If it's not functioning at that level, students are not going to have professional experience to add on their resumes."

Senior T'Khari Fisher said of his experience at OWTV: "Back when I was an intern, Sherry Baker was there. She was very helpful." Fisher questioned the school's decision regarding staffing, "I don't know why the school decided to put more people from the IT department in the TV station...instead of hiring a new Sherry Baker."

Feature

NANCY MARIE THERÈSE MANIGAT AN INSPIRATION TO MANY

By Nathalie Ligonde

Walking in Starbucks in a rush is a woman with defined naturally curly hair and a smile on her face. Right behind her is a little girl with very long straight black hair wearing workout clothes. This woman is Nancy Marie Therèse with her 11-year-old daughter.

Manigat is the Chief Program Officer of Central Nassau Guidance and Counseling Services, Inc., a non-profit organization, serving Long Island Residents with behavioral health needs. She has over 25 years of experience in the healthcare and social work business.

As Chief Program Officer, Manigat oversees the operations of the agency and the programs. Manigat said, "I have directors under me to do the day to day operation of the actual programs, the clinical and budgetary oversight. I am their supervisor. I make sure that everybody is in line with what we're supposed to be doing in terms of providing quality care to the mentally ill population. Our goal is to provide a continuum of care." She continues by sharing the pros of the agency, "In our agency, we can go from one level of care to another and not have to leave the agency. Not have to leave the comfort of the people you know. It leads to better cohesiveness and collaboration."

Manigat said that her goal in this position is to promote recovery. She added, "I don't think that someone with mental illness should be put on the side. You can contribute to society because it's like any other illness, such as diabetes or heart disease. They (the mentally ill) can be productive and have meaningful relationships. It's my job that our programs meet the goals of our mission and provides high quality care that make an impact in people's life."

Manigat was raised by Haitian Immigrants and was the first of her family to be born in America. She was born and raised in Queens, New York. She stressed being grateful every time she has a job because when she was younger, she remembers her father unable find a job because of the color of his skin. As Manigat family moved to the United States during the time of segregation, racism and the language barrier made it hard for him to find a job. She remembers her family struggling so much, that her father's experience is one of the things that motivates her to be successful. She said, "I am always grateful to have a job." As she was starting out in her career, her father asked, "Why did you go into the business of human suffering?" She responded with the first thought that came to her mind, "because it's my calling." She continued by saying, "You have to want to be in this business. It's not easy. You have to really want to be able to touch people's lives. I don't know why but I never wanted people to feel like they were alone in the world." When asked if she found her passion, she immediately answered, "yes! My passion is operation. I'm content with where I am." She continued with, "When I first joined CN Guidance, we were a 13 million-dollar company. I don't want to

move to a bigger company or be a CEO. I know what a CEO does, that's not what I want."

Knowing that she is the only black women of the top 50 women of Long Island, she said, "I think everything happens for a reason. I was in the City in a court profit consulting prompt. The product was to build technology so that couples who were experiencing infertility could have babies. At that time, I was pregnant with my daughter Simone, and after 9/11, I could not picture myself from



Long Island Business News

that side of the bridge with my daughter on the other side. I took a huge cutback in my paycheck to come back to a non-profit organization. I purposely looked for a job in Long Island." Manigat said that she didn't understand what was going on in Long Island at the time adding, "It was a totally different atmosphere at the time. But what I did notice was that even in my position as Director of Mental Health Out-patient at the profit agency, was that the chance of seeing someone who looked like me in a meeting was slim." She was surprised coming from the city where everything is so multicultural, "I was absolutely shocked. I had to be very aware of my role and my actions for a long time because of who I am, and the color of my skin. Until the people who I was around got to know me. The higher I got, less and less people that looked like me were around."

Her advice for someone who is trying to embark in the social service and health care industry is that, "you have to really want it." Manigat explained that being a social worker is emotionally draining for anybody. She said, "When I first started, I was going to tough neighborhoods. You never know who you're going to meet or what you will see. I've been in scary situations." She added, "I was also in contact with young girls who have been abused, molested. Hearing all this trauma, even if you don't experience it first hand, it affects you too you know." It takes a lot of dedication and determination to succeed as a social worker.

Manigat also gave advice to college students trying to find their passion or entering the workforce. She tells people looking for their passion to try everything. She said, "find what will makes you feel accomplished and give you butterflies. You'll know when you find it." As graduates entering the workforce, Manigat said that "a job is a job, be grateful and keep working hard for what you want." She also said that she wants students to know that "you always have give the best impression when leaving a job because, people will always remember their last impression of you."

STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS

By Marilyn Bonilla

SUNY Old Westbury's very own students have gone above and beyond in their process of achieving their degrees. Emily Stanzini, Tray Gatsby, Jamar Ross and Samuel Ariyibi have become entrepreneurs in the pursuit of their careers. From selling books to writing their own, these students have worked to make something out of their college experience. These talented entrepreneurs have used their own experiences in life in the projects they created hoping to benefit those around them.

Tray Gatsby recently published his book titled *Nigga*. *Nigga* is about a boy named Richard who grew up in the public housing complex in the Bronx. Richard faces many adversities growing up because of his environment and those around him. He encounters a rich entrepreneur man in which he has to make a decision to work with to benefit his future. "This book is about the reality of life in poverty. The truth about what's going on in these poverty stricken neighborhoods in the Bronx. The real discussions happening in these public housing complexes. I held nothing back. It'll offend some, but it'll inspire the ones that can relate or want the raw truth. You get to experience NYC public housing up close and personal through the eyes of Richard," stated Gatsby.

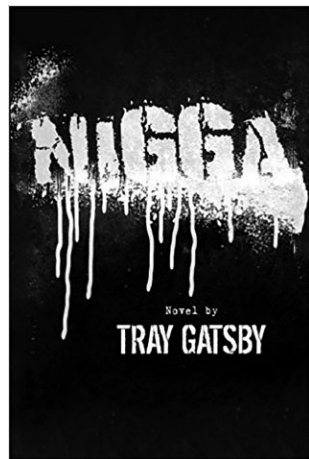


Tray Gatsby

Gatsby stated that many stories involving people from "the hood" often get killed or in jail, but his story leads to something different. Gatsby wants to inspire those who live in poverty or grew up in a tough neighborhood that it is possible for them to succeed in life. "I want my book to inspire and teach. It's very entertaining, but there's gems throughout the book. I put the medicine in the candy and fed the reader through the entertainment," stated Gatsby.

Gatsby was not thinking of writing a book until he heard about the book of a former Rikers Island corrections officer who wrote about the wrongful things that happen inside Rikers. The author self-published his book and was able to talk about his experiences.

Gatsby began writing *Nigga* while taking a summer course in San Francisco. He failed his courses because he was focused on writing the book rather than class. "I just loved writing this book because I got a lot of things off my chest and I knew I was writing something important and different that could push the culture forward. This story is also inspired by real life events that either I went through or my childhood friends went through. I never knew how wrong it was to grow up the way we did until I began writing this book. Traumatizing situations were normalized in our communities," stated Gatsby.



Although people may find the title of his book to be controversial, Gatsby wants people to think of the word in a positive way, the way legendary 2 Pac Shakur did, "Never Ignorant Getting Goals Accomplished." Gatsby stated, "I also titled my book *Nigga* because I was inspired by Dick Gregory's autobiography titled *Nigger*. I felt it was bold and caught my attention. I wanted to be bold too and catch readers attention by the title. So far it's been working."

Purchase *Nigga* on Amazon.com

Emily Stanzini is a freshman majoring in psychology. While getting through her first year of college she has managed to publish her own

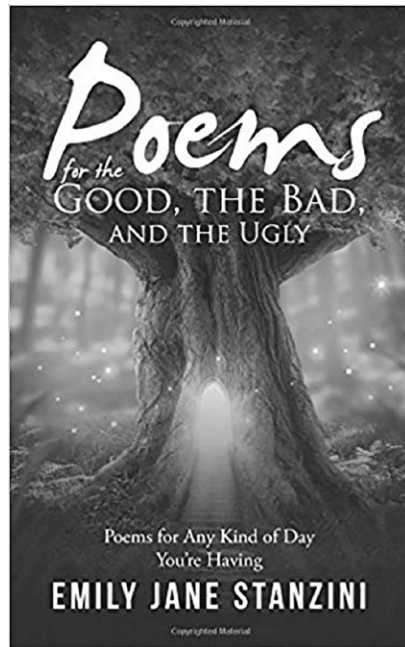


Emily Stanzini

book titled *Poems for the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*. The book is based on her struggles with self-harm. Stanzini has been writing poetry since 7th grade to express her emotions that she didn't know

how to deal with. Stanzini has dealt with suicidal thoughts, an eating disorder, and self-harm for a couple of years. She is diagnosed with

Stanzini began working on her book on January 31st 2017 and published by February 16th, 2017. About a year ago she was not comfortable with sharing her poems, but her teachers gave her the push she needed. The idea began with her high school teacher publishing one of her poems in magazine, and encouraging her that her work is valuable. Professor Chami-gliozzi was the one who gave her that extra encouragement to publish.



Stanzini's father had a "Meet the Author" event at his job and she sold her books and signed them to his employees. "My professor's, friends,

She has become more open about her mental health illness in her efforts to encourage others to overcome their struggles. This has also helped her from self-harming herself.

Purchase *Poems for the Good the Bad and the Ugly* on www.authorshouse.com

Jamar Ross and Samuel Ariyibi have started their own company known as Texchange. Texchange is a book exchange company that was launched



Jamar Ross

to make books that are needed for courses more affordable for college students. Ross is the CEO and founder, who graduated Spring 2016 with a Bachelor's in Media and Communications. Ariyibi is the co-founder, a current junior majoring in PEL. Ross developed the idea from personal experience. He realized that many students, including himself had books that others needed but wouldn't think to sell them. Ross also felt as though paying tuition is really expensive. "I was at a point where I couldn't afford textbooks, and I was forced to take some time off because of the fact that I couldn't afford certain expenses such as textbooks," said Ross.



For now, Texchange is just a book exchange, but Ross's and Ariyibi's plans to allow a networking opportunities for students. Soon they hope that students can contact each other in need for tutoring and studying through their website. They also want to bring in student designers and developers to help build Texchange and give them an opportunity for experience.

"If you have a strong mind and you have a strong will, you can really do anything in life," stated Ross. Ariyibi stated that there have been many people have doubted their business and even denied them from joining their email list-serve, but they both continue to have persistence and drive to make Texchange grow.

To "Texchange" your books, email Texchange-books@gmail.com stating the books you want to sell and they'll take it from there.



Samuel Ariyibi

ARE GENDER NEUTRAL EMOJIS IN OUR FUTURE?

By Paige Kerr

As it stands, emojis are either women or men; plain and simple, black and white, but will emoji-creators take a step into the gray area? According to Rachel Thompson at Mashable, Unicode is looking to do just that.

Unicode is said to release three gender inclusive emojis by the end of the year. These emojis contain neither feminine nor masculine features and

a blog post.

The proposal (hyperlink unicode.org) to Unicode is up on the Unicode website under “A Note on Gender Spectrum and Neutrality”, “We recognize the importance of having an inclusive representation of all people in emoji, whether they identify with a specific gender or not. We believe an egalitarian, sensitive, and compelling representation of gender in emoji is extremely important.” Which I completely agree with, we live in a world where there are more than just the two publicized genders and why is it that other human-beings cannot be presented in the emoji world.

Jeremy Burge, the founder

of Emojipedia and a member of Unicode’s emoji subcommittees, backs Hunt’s want for these gender neutral emojis. According to the LA Times, Burge believes gender-neutral figures (hyperlink LA Times) are among the most exciting additions to the emoji family and will present a new level of inclusivity that has not been seen since the early 2000s.

Back in the 2000s, emojis were not necessarily given gender identities, this is due to the low resolution display on phones at the time. Emojis were

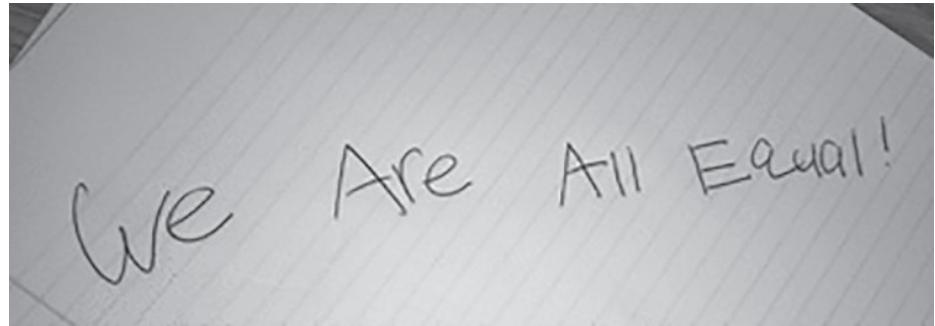


We Heart It

The emojis used in the early 2000s when emojis were faceless and genderless.

represent a human-being through the three big stages of life; childhood, adulthood and elder-hood

Paul D. Hunt, a typeface designer and font developer at Adobe, proposed this idea last October (Hyperlink Teen-vogue) to showcase what people truly are underneath all these gender roles society throws at us, human, “I proposed the addition of the gender inclusive emoji characters in order to provide better representation for people who want to express themselves in emoji as exactly that: just people,” stated Hunt in

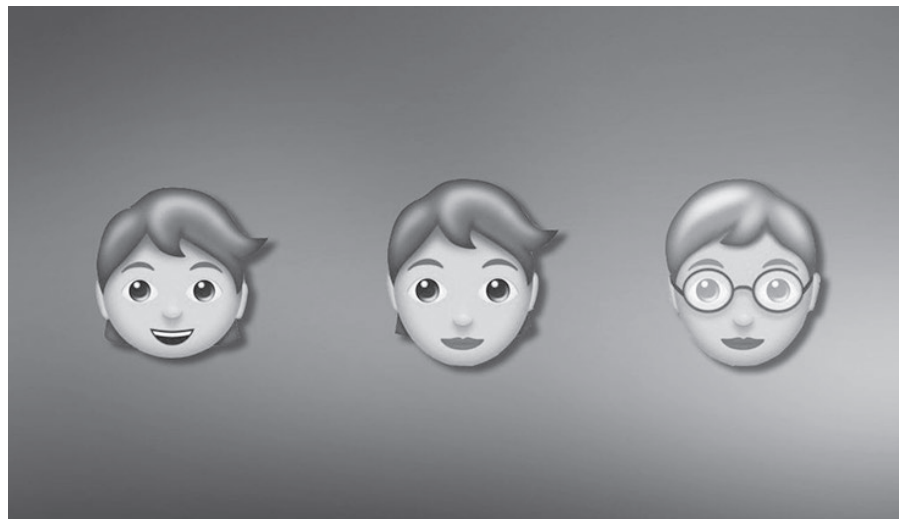


abstract and there was no such thing as gender roles, which is exactly what Unicode wants to bring back.

These emojis are more than simple up-for-interpretation things that can be used via text, this is a social movement toward further celebrating diversity and differences among people (Hyper-link hellogiggles.com). This is a step into the gray area that society tries so hard to forbid, and lastly, this is a step toward equality among all genders even if the individual does not identify as any gender.

Apple has taken a step into the some-what gray zone when they realized their new set of working emojis. Apple now represents the job of police officer and construction worker,

“Not everyone identifies as male or female. Some of us identify as a bit of both, or neither, or something else altogether. Regardless of your gender identity, I hope we can all find adequate ways to express ourselves in emojis,” Hunt said.



Emojipedia/ Haley Hamblin/ Mashable

The three gender neutral emojis said to be released this year.

The Tail of the TLucky Lady

By Melissa Monteleone

Three-months-old, she was found tied to a chain link fence in Manhattan. It was a cold December night. A woman took her to the Riverside Animal Hospital where she received immediate care. They called her “Lucky Clover.” She’s a white foxhound with golden spots.

Following her rescue, she was shuffled from home to home. Each family that took in Lucky Clover gave up all too soon. She was rough around the edges. Her unruly behavior always landed her back at the animal hospital. It took six foster families for Lucky Clover to finally find her “forever home” where she was renamed “Lucky Girl.”

The curious foxhound was officially adopted by a Mr. Madjedi on April 1st, 2005. Mr. Madjedi called his daughter to tell her the good news. “Felicia, I got a puppy!” he said to his daughter. Felicia seamlessly went along with the “news,” later to find out Lucky Girl was no Fools Day prank. In fact, she was a new member of the Madjedi family.



Felicia Madjedi & Lucky Lady

After Mr. Madjedi passed, Felicia became the new owner of Lucky Girl, who at this point grew up to be a “Lucky Lady.” Felicia and her Lucky Lady spend their time at Hempstead Lake State Park. You can find them walking among the trails, sometimes even twice a day when the weather’s just right.

Lucky Lady has collected an array of names over the years, but around town she is best known as the “heroine.”

The “tail” behind her nickname is one to renown.

It was October 8th 2015. As Felicia and Lucky Lady arrived at the dog park, thunder struck. A fellow dog, so frightened by the noise, ran off into the woods leaving its owners behind. His name is Brody. The rain came down but that didn’t stop Felicia and Lucky Lady. They joined the owners in search of their young puppy. Pained with doubt, the owners lost hope. Felicia on the other hand, posted flyers around town and called the local veterinarians and animal shelters. As the days passed, they received a few vague calls from around the neighborhood, confirming that Brody had been seen. Nobody could bring him home, for he kept running.

Exactly one week after Brody ran away, Felicia had an idea. “Give me Brody’s toy,” she said to the owners. With the

toy, Lucky Lady managed to retrieve Brody’s scent. That day, they went out looking for Brody near the address where he had last been seen. Felicia called his name, while Lucky Lady sniffed thoroughly. With wide eyes, she stopped abruptly. Her paws stiffened and she stood tall. “Brody must have been here,” Felicia thought to herself. She was worried if indeed it was Brody, he may scare at the sight of an unfamiliar face. There was a noise coming from the bushes. Felicia backed away slowly and frantically searched for her cellphone to call the owners. Without delay, Brody’s owners jumped in their car and drove to her location. They continued to call his name, while circling the block looking throughout each yard. At last, there he was. Brody. He jumped right into the backseat of the car, like he always did. Brody was found only blocks away from his home. The only thing that prevented him from making it there on his own, was the fence along the railroad tracks.

“A Pen of All Work”

By Melissa Monteleone

This is the last week to catch the elaborate creations of artist Raymond Pettibon. The exhibit is on display until April 9th at the New Museum in New York City. Allow yourself plenty of time to get to know Pettibon through over 800 pieces of his life's work. The collection is on on three entire floors of the museum.

Pettibon is a controversial voice in American politics, history and culture. “A Pen of All Work” highlights many social conflicts of the 70's and 80's. The artist touches on religion, and boldly questions the dynamic of power in society. His use of drawings incorporated with text may overwhelm at first, but you will come to appreciate his diverse mind. Pettibon's style differs

from mainstream modern art. Each image is distinctly persuasive and doesn't leave the viewer much room for interpretation.

To take advantage of all the New Museum has to offer, you will want to visit during weekend hours. The “Sky Room,” situated on the seventh floor of the museum, promises stellar panoramic views of the city. Access to the Sky Room is only available on Saturdays and Sundays.

Don't forget to show your student ID for a discounted ticket. Visit www.newmuseum.org for more information.



Raymond Pettibon, No Title, (Let Me Say) 2012

REVIEW

Logan

By Anne Ligonde

Logan is so good that it won't matter if you missed all other movies from the X-Men saga. In case you're not a comic fan, you probably can't believe Wolverine has yet another movie. Forget everything you've seen before because this one should not be

Director James Mangold, who shares script writing credits with Scott Frank and Michael Green, seems to understand that the audience might be tired of the same old Wolverine fights. This movie is not at all what you are expecting. Do not fret, it holds the

same kind of raw violence, action and adventure as the previous ones. You are in for an emotional roller coaster.

The movie starts with a gang trying to steal Logan's car as he was taking a nap in it. Of course as soon as he wakes up the gang was no longer... well, alive. Then it is discovered that he is protecting his beloved mentor and friend, Professor X, who seems to be suffering from epilepsy. When your superpower is telepathy and you have seizures, well people may or may not die.

Logan was also has to protecting a little Mexican girl who turns out to be a mutant just like him. Literally just like him. As he goes



on an adventure with this little girl, he discovers dangerous things that will not be revealed in this article. This movie contains Logan turning humans into pieces, doppelgangers into dust and you will cry at the end.

ignored. Hugh Jackman plays Wolverine once again, the mutant that will always satisfy your X-Men craving. He's charm, and hunger for survival will have you hooked and you will not want to miss a second of this movie.

Air Pods or Other?

By Johan A. Acevedo

On September 2016, Apple unveiled their latest gotta-have-it gadget, the AirPods. Apple's innovative design features the highly anticipated wireless earbuds. After that, are they actually good headphones? In short, the \$159 Apple AirPods are better than you'd expect. The seamless Bluetooth pairing is an easy one step process where you open the case and simply click connect on your phone and it is instantly connected. If your phone is also linked with iCloud, the AirPods will also be paired with any other devices connected to your iCloud such as iPods, iPads, and Mac Books. The AirPods are super lightweight and nestle nicely in your ears. The sound quality is great being that the bass to treble ratio is just right so the bass does not cause uncomfortable vibrations in the ear. They are so

comfortable to wear that there are times I forget I have them on, or get startled whenever I get an email after I've had them in idle for a while. The drawback: its unique design renders them somewhat limited and occasionally frustrating. The earbuds have very limited controls such as no embedded volume control and similar priced wireless models deliver better sound. Its open design also makes the AirPods susceptible to ambient noise leaks. The AirPods definitely sound better in a quiet environment rather than listening to music in the subway. The bottom line? After looking past their 'double-edged-sword' design and the risk of losing an AirPod due to its size and smooth feel, Apple AirPods' compact size, great sound and easy connectivity make for a winning combination.

The Jazz Standard

116 E. 27th Street, New York, NY 10016

By Melissa Monteleone

Upon entering the Jazz Standard, you will find a large door beneath a red neon sign which reads “Jazz.” Behind this door, a deep, dark stairwell which leads you to the venue. The stairs are lined with black and white photographs of legendary Jazz musicians such as B.B. King.

You will feel lost in “*La La Land*,” as you step into the dim lit room. The space is quaint and seating is intimate which guarantees you a chance to really “feel” the music. There is a strict no phone policy, so don't plan on sharing each moment via Snapchat. Turn off and tune in because you won't want to miss a beat. Be prepared for some unpredictable, old school jazz and don't forget to applaud after each solo (it's customary).

The service at the Jazz Standard is

mediocre. The staff although friendly, lacks attentiveness. The club offers a dining menu with southern comfort foods including: buttermilk biscuits, collard greens and mac and cheese. Prices range from \$10-\$35, the food is delightful. Their house ale, “Blue Smoke” pairs perfectly with the french fries (be sure to ask for the savory “cheese sauce” on the side). As for cocktails, nothing but your New York City average \$14 drink. Factor in your ticket to the show, and the night will end up costing you quite a bit. Save a trip to the Jazz Standard for a special celebration. Ticket prices vary by talent. For those who work weekends, you're in luck! You can catch a show any day of the week.

Purchase tickets online at: www.jazzstandard.com

LORDE RETURNS WITH NEW SINGLE "GREEN LIGHT"

By Joey Marinaro

Fans of the alternative-pop singer Lorde can finally take a sigh of relief. The 20-year-old returns to the pop scene with her new single "Green Light," written and produced by former member of the band *Fun*, Jack Antonoff, and herself.

The New Zealand native first rose to



fame when her single "Royals" premiered at the top of Billboards Hot 100 for nine consecutive weeks in June of 2013. At that time, Lorde was only 16 years-old, making her the youngest solo artist to achieve a #1 single since Tiffany's "I Think We're Alone Now" in 1987.

After her summer of success in 2013, Lorde went on to tour her debut album "Pure Heroine," which peaked at #3 on

the Billboard Top 200. "Royals" was also granted Grammy Awards for "Best Pop Solo Performance" and "Best Pop Vocal."

Following the success of her debut album, Lorde went on to curate the soundtrack for "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part One," which included songs from Ariana Grande, Miguel, Charli XCX, and Tinashe. Then, she vanished.

Just kidding. Lorde took her time creating her second solo-project, which she has announced will be entitled "Melodrama." If "Green Light" is any sign of what's to come, expect a more "pop" sound for the sophomore effort. While sharing some of the lyrical angst found on songs from "Pure Heroine," the instrumental of the new single definitely sounds more airy and rhythmic than anything the songstress has put out. Paired with a feel-good musical, I definitely see this song being a contender for one of the best feel-good songs for this summer.

"Melodrama" will be released on June 16th, 2017 through Republic Records. For more information on the album, single, or Lorde in general, visit lorde.co.nz.

MORE LIFE

By Selena M. Valentin

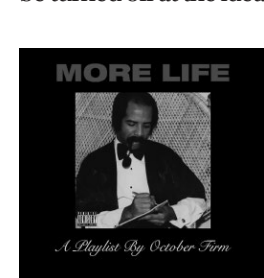
The buzz about Drake's latest release of his album "More Life" has stirred up plenty of controversy, some will say the album was a kill and others will shake their head in disappointment. While asking many college students, people either love it or hate it. The album with twenty-two tracks, includes two interludes, and featuring ten artists; many of which we are very familiar with and a select few who aren't as recognized. He featured Giggs, Black Coffee, Jorja Smith, Sampha, Quavo, Travis Scott, 2 Chainz, Young Thug, Kanye West, and PARTYNEXTDOOR.

Drake drops this album not only with plenty of anticipation from the fans, but he delivers audio versatility with pop, trap, hip-hop, R&B, and even dance-electro. Many first impressions were from die-hard Drake fans which makes the opinion biased but even so, some fans as well as other audiences feel as though, "more life needed more life." Collectively and neutrally I will say that the sound and flow of his album is appealing and somewhat a gallery of Drake from all of his previous albums. The album also samples one of J.Lo's pop songs called "If You Had My Love" which was a hit, for many who know about the recent blog posts which practically broke the internet about the alleged affair between Jennifer Lopez and Drake,

this caught many eyes and ears especially when he says "I drunk text JLo old number so I bounce back," on the very first track of his album called Free Smoke. There are also rumors that J.Lo was originally supposed to be featured on the track "Get It Together" instead of Jorja Smith.

Many feel as though the anticipation for this album and the quality of the features did not balance.

All in all Drake does receive tons of love for the album, but it's natural for fans who like a particular sound from Drake to be turned off at the idea of his album being



so versatile, some would prefer one sound from Drake but we can't win them all. He leaves his fans in the air with more anticipation due to his final track called "Do Not Disturb," his last words were, "Maybe gettin' back to my regular life'll humble me I'll be back 2018 to give you the summary. More Life," and I must say it was a great way to polish the album. We shall see what comes next but for now we can enjoy the songs as they sky rocket the charts.

Burning Sands

By Latoya Settles

Rituals, traditions, and life threatening extremes come to life in this drama-filled movie depicting the life of five students pledging an African-American fraternity. The movie shows the extremes of underground hazing on a college campus during the course of "hell week."

Burning Sands follows the initiation of Zurich "Z" Condoll (Trevor Jackson) into an elite black fraternity, Lambda Phi. The movie, debuted on Netflix March 10th, starts off showing Z and originally five other men abused and humiliated by members of Lambda Phi in an isolated part of the woods. After one pledgee drops out, each day for these young men bring out more intense obstacles to see who can survive the beatings brought on by older alumni members of the brotherhood; with

one of the alumni members being the current dean of students at this fictional HBCU, Frederic Douglas University.

The story follows these five students as they endure the struggles of keeping up with school while dealing with the harsh realities of hazing; beatings, sleep deprivation, and other dangerous tasks forcing the men to prove their "worth" to the fraternity. Hazing, which is prohibited on US colleges, seems to be an often practice that serves as an initiation for young men (and women) who seek to become part of a fraternity (or sorority). For most, the practice is set out to be humiliating and demeaning and in worse and extreme cases have resulted in death. The storyline doesn't give us much background on the individuals who are attempting to join the

fraternity, what their interests are or why they decide to join pledge for a fraternity.

This movie, directed by Gerard McMurray, graduate of HBCU Howard University and member of Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, is a contradiction of what the black fraternities stand for, which is brotherhood, leadership, and scholarship. There was a clear message throughout the film shedding light on the illegal hazing practices said to be on going by these black organizations. With midterms approaching, Z struggles with staying on top of his school assignments while trying to support his soon-to-be "brothers."

The message is driven home when one of the pledgees is put in a situation that spirals out of control during the final day of hell week and the stakes become

highly dangerous; Trying to prove his masculinity and worth to the fraternity by being badly beaten and tortured by the brothers of Lambda Phi to the point of life and death. Burdened with honoring the code of silence each fraternity keeps or standing up against the intensified violence of underground hazing, these young men must make a decision to do what they feel is morally right or stand with the brotherhood they are fighting so hard to be a part of. *Burning Sands* takes you on an emotional journey through the eyes of these young men and capture the raw truths of what hazing is like. *Burning Sands* is definitely a must see.

The Rise on Comedy Pages on Social Media

By Keya Rice

When you're on Facebook and Instagram you can find anything to brighten up your day. A funny post from your friends, a hilarious meme, but most importantly a funny comedy video. I mean I don't know how many times I've been scrolling down my news feed and seen such hilarious videos that literally have me in tears.

It used to be only one or two pages that you could go to, to find short comedy skits and videos but now you literally have hundreds of choices. I mean every time I go on Facebook or Instagram I find a new funny video and a new comedy page to follow. In the 2017 year alone I've come across seven new comedy pages on social media in addition to the other 20 I faithfully watch. And that doesn't even include the

comedy pages I visit occasionally.

So, what is up with the rise of comedy pages? On Facebook and Instagram, it seems like in this new age more and more people are looking to make a name for themselves and many are quite successful, might I add. Some have even expanded their fan bases to YouTube and other larger video outlets because they have so many followers and now the demand for longer videos are higher.

Some of these very people if they haven't already done so, could end up on television shows, featuring in other popular videos or doing standup. I think the rise of these comedy pages speak to the talent that this generation has, and how young people are inspiring other young people to

do what they are best at and make a fortune out of it. Most of the comedy pages I see are males, because comedy is usually a male dominated industry but the female comedy pages are rising as well and can easily hold their own against the men. The variety on these comedy pages however is something that is hard to come by, which is why only a select 15-20 of these pages blow up with the fan base that they do.

It is nice to be inspired by people, but sometimes we have to be careful with inspiration and imitation because they are two different things. You can be inspired by someone but it doesn't mean you need to copy them or imitate their style to get a fan base. The 2017 year is still in its infancy but it is clear that a lot of new entertain-

ment will continue to surface. I have my usual comedy pages to visit, but I look forward to seeing many more and having lots of laughs in this new year.

Pages to visit: @reysosilly, @kaprifernandez, @Callhimrenny, @Khadidon, @Lalaszehand, @Jesshilarious, @Blameitonkway, @Downgoesfraiser, @Actionjaxon, @Shiggyshow, @Reggiecouz, @Woodythegreat, @Ronsumo, @therealkingbo, @theyungpoppy, @notkarltonbanks, @Jasmineluv, @meechonmars, @marvglover, @eastside_ivo, @mr_im_soo_fly

Live Action *Beauty and the Beast*: An “Enchanting” Version of a Disney Classic



IMBD.com

By Marcy Mendonca

There are high expectations when a classic is remade and even more so when an animated movie is recreated in live-action form. Disney’s recent remake of the beloved movie *Beauty and the Beast*, has been highly anticipated since its announcement and it is safe to say it did not disappoint.

Right as the movie opens, the first thing to strike the audience is the vibrant colors and beautiful scenery along with the fact that the same introductory music is used from the animated version. The familiarity of the music brings a nostalgic feel to a modern take of a fan favorite.

Arguably one of the most anticipated aspects of Disney’s 2017 version of *Beauty and the Beast* was the music. With a soundtrack as marking as the one from the 1991 version of *Beauty and the Beast*, there was a lot to be expected with this live-action version.

Emma Watson, most known for her role as Hermione in the *Harry Potter* series, was no singer before landing the role of Belle, and it was noticeable. Her voice was clear and tuned, but it is evident that she is no Broadway singer. Some have gone as far as saying that she sounded autotuned, but it is hard to say whether or not that is true. With no previous experience with singing and acting at the same time, Watson some-

times appeared lost. Perhaps because she is used to reacting to other actors’ cues, many times while singing by herself throughout the movie, it looked like she was unsure of what to do with her facial expressions. Still, for someone with no prior singing background, she managed to do the part justice.

Singing aside, those who are familiar with Watson’s work know she is very comfortable portraying a bookish girl with a thirst for adventure. She portrayed Belle with dignity and grace, and brought the 2-D character to life in a way that would make “Uncle Walt” proud.

A very distinct characteristic of the music of the live-action *Beauty and the Beast* is how “Broadway” it sounded – so much so that one might have to remember not to clap after every song. What added to the movie’s Broadway-esque nature was the songs added to this movie. In this rendition, Belle’s father Maurice (Kevin Kline) and Beast (Dan Stevens) both had their own songs, and both were performed beautifully.

Luke Evans’ portrayal of Gaston, paired with Josh Gad’s LeFou, could be a match made in heaven. Although at first it may seem odd to hear the voice of Olaf the snowman fawning over one of Disney’s most beloved villains, the

longer the movie goes on, the more it makes sense. An important difference to note was LeFou’s character development compared to the animated movie. Where he was once just Gaston’s crony who went along with every vile thing he said or did, in the live-action version he had more character and seemed to develop more of a conscience than his animated counterpart. Another important development for LeFou was Disney’s subtle depiction of him as a gay man: it was not only progressive but also revolutionary considering the scale of the company and the reach it has.

As for the beloved furniture, Lumiere (Ewan McGregor), Cogsworth (Ian McKellen), Mrs. Potts (Emma Thompson), and young Chip (Nathan Mack), although the actors were all remarkable in their portrayals of the funny side-kicks, their live-action depiction was a bit unsettling. The oddest of the bunch was Lumiere: it was very strange, after seeing him as an animated candlestick with a face for so long, now seeing him as a little gold man with candles on his head and hands – he even had legs. However, he was also the one who stood out the most as doing his animated counterpart justice with a wonderful version of the classic song “Be Our Guest” and an uncanny resemblance to Jerry Orbach’s interpretation of the

character.

An element that strongly worked towards the movie’s likability is the way the movie mostly stayed true to Disney’s story, while also incorporating aspects from Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve’s original fairy tale, such as the cute detail of Belle asking her father for a rose, which he picked from the Beast’s property, the reason Beast holds him captive.

In addition to the nostalgic and true-to-story details of this movie, it is also important to note that in scenes that show the Beast’s backstory, which in this movie was a ball, the costumes that the party-goers wore were historically accurate to Villeneuve’s original story, written in the 1700s. This version also gives the viewers more background on both Beast and Belle, giving the audience a glimpse at their childhoods and a chance to see what happened to their mothers.

With many new additions along with various twists and turns, *Beauty and the Beast* managed to beautifully revive a beloved classic Disney film. By showcasing the aspects of the movie that made it so popular while also giving fans, old and new, innovative and different features that helped to keep everyone entertained, this movie will enchant all who watch it.

Anjali Lama Challenging The Model Stereotype

By Paige Kerr

The modeling industry is often criticized by the “company they keep” aka the models they sign. People say models are often too skinny, too tall, too white and/or too unrealistic, but Anjali Lama is changing the game. This Indian model is transgender and she slayed at the India’s Lakmé Fashion Week.

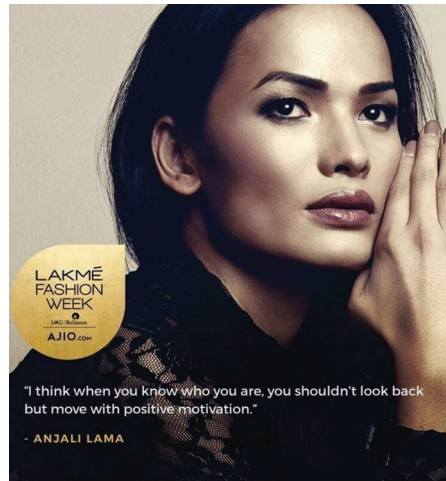
32-year-old Anjali Lama, born as Nabina Waiba, was a simple boy living in the rural district of Nuwakot in Nepal. Lama admits to being bullied growing up since she had more feminine qualities and her fellow peers did not approve, “...The kids at school used to mock me and say ‘he’s a girl,’” said Lama about her experience attending school. At the age of 18, Lama made the big move to the capital of



Washington Post

Anjali Lama living her dream when she walked the catwalk on February 1st

Nepal, Kathmandu, where she attended



Anjali Lama, the first transgender model to walk in India’s Lakmé Fashion Week.

college and worked at a hotel. It was here that she faced criticism at the hotel she was employed because of her identity and was ultimately fired because her “feminine behavior” made customers uncomfortable.

Desperate to feel comfortable in her own skin, the young women reached out to the Blue Diamond Society; a group in Nepal who’s purpose is to advocate for sexual minorities. With loyal supporters behind her, Lama squared up her shoulders and applied for her first modeling job. Voice of Women, Nepal’s magazine, offered Lama her much needed big break when they put her on the cover of their publication

It was after this that Lama, with some new found confidence, was casted to walk

in Subexya Bhadel 2010 show. After walking the catwalk, Lama knew she wanted to take her career global and walk in India’s premiere fashion week.

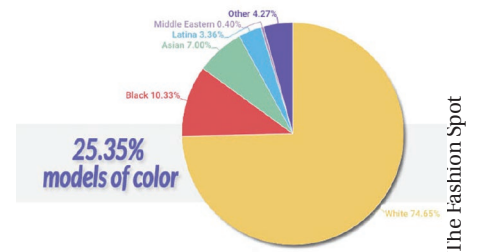
Her dream came true this year when Anjali Lama made history by being the first transgender individual to walk in India’s premiere fashion show. The show, which also casted a gender neutral model, was named a “tag-less” showcase, maybe these other fashion shows should take notes. According to Spring 2017 diversity report by The Fashion Spot, almost 75% of the models casted for New York, London, Paris and Milan fashion week were white, and the left over 25% were women of color.

Lama was not born female nor is she white but she was able to beat the odds and reach her goal of walking in India’s Lakmé Fashion Week. “I just want to live life the way I want, and I’m not scared to do it,” said the model who made history with her bravery.



AMP

Anjali Lama sports a crop top to one of Lakmé Fashion Week’s events.



The Fashion Spot

This chart from The Fashion Spot showcases the lack of diversity in the modeling industry



Grazia India

Model Anjali Lama showed up to India’s Fashion Week in a breathtaking gold dress.

REVIEWS

Get Out

By Keya Rice

They say that the world is only black and white, no shades of gray, and this statement holds true for Jordan Peele’s “Get Out.” The film opens up with an unidentified African American male walking down an isolated suburban street, he appears to be getting directions on the phone from someone but stops when he notices a white car following him. He turns around and before he knows it, he is strangled and kidnapped. Chris Washington (Daniel Kaluuya) a young budding African-American photographer, finds himself literally addressing life in black and white, when he and his Caucasian girlfriend Rose Armitage (Allison Williams) visit her family’s isolated estate for the weekend.

Chris a city guy, is used to the implications that come with interracial relationships, but is not sure Rose’s suburban family will be as accepting. However, Rose assures Chris that despite her dad’s tendency to speak about Obama running for a third term, he will be more than open to accept their relationship. Chris agrees to accompany Rose to her parents’ home for the weekend and the fun really begins.

Peele intrigues his audience as he uses Chris and Rose to navigate through the biases of our society with comedy and horror.

Chris and Rose’s trip get off to a rocky start when they hit a deer while driving. Something compels Chris to go to the dead deer’s body and stare at it. The audience can almost smell the foreshadowing



GET OUT

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JORDAN PEELE

of something cynical to come. As Rose and Chris get to her parents’ home her mother Missy Armitage (Catherine Keener) and father Dean Armitage (Bradley Whitford) greet them with wide open arms. Chris’s blackness seems not to phase them one bit. As the Armitage’s reveal more and more about themselves, Chris learns that Missy is a psychiatrist who specializes in

“fixing” her patients with hypnosis. Dean goes on to reveal that he is a neurosurgeon, and then brag about how Missy’s hypnosis cleansed him of a smoking addiction he used to have. Chris, a smoker battling his urges politely declines Dean’s suggestion that Missy put him under hypnosis, but he keeps it in the back of his mind.

Peele created the film, in a way that the audience is Chris. We know what he is thinking although he hasn’t said it out loud, we can feel his emotions and internalize his bewilderment because at some time in our lives we were in an awkward situation such as Chris. Whether the viewer is black or white really doesn’t matter, because no matter what color you are we have all been in a situation where we knew something wasn’t right, but we couldn’t quite put our fingers on it.

As Chris navigates the family’s property he speaks to Walter (Marcus Henderson) the African American groundskeeper. Chris is comfortable talking to a person whom he feels is just like himself, but he is in for a puzzling realization when Walter acts strange and robotic in

their conversation. Although Walter is acting rather strange the things he says stick with Chris and help him resurface memories that he was unsure actually existed. Chris goes on to tell Rose about his strange encounter with Walter but she laughs it off and assures Chris he has nothing to be worried about.

After Chris finds himself in Missy’s office revealing painful memories from the past he finds out that her hypnosis is more of an intrusive illusion of the mind. Missy’s character is like the government. We tell them information because they require it, but they don’t need us to tell them, because they already know everything about us. Missy already knew about Chris’s past but required him to tell her so that she could gain full insight as to what pushed his buttons.

Peele drives his viewers on a bridge between insanity and reality as we battle to understand what really happened to the man kidnapped in the beginning and what will become of Chris in this twilight zone suburbia.

Remy vs. Nicki: Fair or Foul?



NME

By Laura DeMarzo

There are events in hip-hop that stand out as major moments for the art form. These times breathe new life into the atmosphere while reminding fans what the genre was built on. These moments are one of skill, creativity and competition. They are none other than beef records and New York's own Remy Ma is the latest to throw her hat in the ring with a song aimed at rapper-turned-mainstream darling, Nicki Minaj.

Ask any rap fundamentalist and they'll recall the brilliant times of battle for their favorite MCs. You'll hear infamous diss records like Ice Cube's "No Vaseline" or Notorious B.I.G.'s "Who Shot Ya?", perhaps deeper cuts like Pusha T's "Exodus 23:1" or Cam'Ron's "Hate Me Now," might come to mind. However it was one of the most famous beef tracks, Nas' "Ether" (aimed almost entirely at Jay-Z) that Remy borrowed from for her track "SHEther," in both the instrumental and name.

Recently released from Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, Remy Ma spits vitriol for nearly seven minutes about Nicki's break-up with rapper Meek Mill, her alleged ghost-writing, her plastic surgery, holes in her record deal, even her brother's recent child molestation case, and who she may or may not have slept with; And therein lies the problem.

While all of the other shots taken at Nicki were fair play, an uneasy feeling arises for many hip-hop loving modern feminists (yes, they exist) when the idea of someone's sexual history—albeit true or not—are used as a punch line or as leverage against an artist. The

Madonna/Whore dilemma appears in a complex way. In this scenario, a married Remy Ma is considered the voice of moral reason casting judgement on a promiscuous Nicki Minaj, when in all actuality, she's been in two high profile relationships in the public eye (one lasting over a decade) and most of the men mentioned in the song vehemently denying having any sexual contact with her.

This isn't the first time sexuality is used as ammunition against women opponents, it's the norm. During the infamous 1987 KRS-One diss record "The Bridge is Over" he states "Roxanne Shante is only good for steady f****n." During the famous Nas and Jay-Z beef, many of the shots were thrown at Carmen, the mother of Nas' child, whom both men dated. This time around, it's a bit more troubling as the critique over who Minaj sleeps with is delivered by a fellow woman.

Some say all is fair in love and hip-hop and they would be right if all things were equal. Unfortunately, had the same accusations been made toward a male artist, the record would hardly be considered a diss track and more so an advertisement for said artist. Things are very different for a woman in the male dominated industry, with hardly any women making it without a male artist co-signing their worthiness—and thus beginning new rumors about the nature of their relationship.

So, while the hip-hop fan in me loves the climate of beef records, the feminist in me wishes sexuality wasn't a constant punchline against women.

Remy vs. Nicki

By Danielle Joseph

Since the 1980s, the music industry is no stranger to male rappers lyrically going head to head in a testosterone driven battle to disseminate who is the best at whatever title they conceived thus adding another notch to their belts. Rap battles have evolved into a sometimes vicious dismantling of one's character, writing ability and in some cases one's career. As seen in last year's battle between Drake and Meek Mill which, left Meek "... bodied by a singing N!%#@," and his lack luster response, left his rap career hanging in the balance.

Similarly, in the case of the 90's battle between Jay Z and Nas in the fight to be crowned New York's #1 rapper, proved whose lyrics could flourish years later; Jay Z's. Rap battles also have their perks. Ice Cube's feud with NWAs members, Easy E and Dr. Dre, solidified his career successes as a solo artist.

The most current rap beef, is between veteran rapper Remy Ma and Grammy award winner Nicki Minaj.

After numerous back and forths between the two rappers; Remy Ma on All The Way Up and Nicki Minaj on Black Barbies, Minaj escalated the beef through her collaboration on Gucci Mane's song Make Love, where she went in on Remy Ma. Remy Ma responded on February 25th by dropping shETHER, a whopping 7 minutes of pure unadulterated lyrical genius, where she not only aired out Minaj's dirty laundry (whether true or not remains to be proved), but proceeded to rip Minaj a new one.

Remy Ma's rap career started in the early 2000's as part of Fat Joe's Terror Squad. Remy was a rising star until a



2007 late night shooting sidetracked her rising career. Since her release in 2016, Remy has made it known that she wants her shot to claim the female rap throne by any means necessary. Through lyrically discrediting the completion or sheer pettiness.

In a 2017 article, Kathy Iandoli, contributor for Billboard.com states, "Nicki Minaj was the first female rapper to penetrate the mainstream since Lauryn Hill ..." Since the release and success of her Pink Friday album, Minaj has enjoyed sitting on the throne and being touted as the #1 female rapper. But why? Is Nicki Minaj that great? Or could it possibly be, that her rise to fame came during a time when there was little to no competition?

But before you send that complaint, look at it this way. Beyoncé has earned the title of Queen Bee, not only from the amount of awards won,

albums sold and songs downloaded, but by beating out others in her craft; Taylor Swift, Rihanna, Katy Perry, Selena Gomez and countless others. Yes, Beyoncé did not win the 2016 Grammy for Record of the Year (My letter to the Grammy board is in the mail), but even the winner, Adele during her acceptance speech stated, "I can't possibly accept this award ... I'm very humbled and very grateful and gracious, but my life is Beyoncé." Let's face it, Adele is correct, as most women who want to be empowered, lives is Beyoncé.

In the 1990's and early 2000's, the competition to be the top female rapper, well, was actually a completion. The radio waves were filled with songs from female rappers; Lil Kim, Foxy Brown, Missy Elliot and Eve. In Nicki Minaj's case, at the time of her rise, she was the only female rapper on the airwaves. Now don't get me wrong, yes,



Nicki Minaj has won numerous award. Yes, she has topped music charts. And yes, she has millions of followers on various social media outlets. However, this battle is not based on who has the most.

This battle is a competition for the throne based on lyrical content. And for that, for now, Remy Ma has won. However, in a society where "cash rules everything around me," the award goes to Nicki Minaj. I spoke to a self-proclaimed rap coinsure about this current beef and he stated, "Nicki is a lady and way more successful than Remy will ever be, so with that being said, as long as she reaches down to respond to a struggling artists, she loose no matter what. Do I think Remy is a better lyricist, yes but Nicki is now, she is a brand." In a time of the forced #GlowUp, the hope of Instagram popularity and being a #BossB!&%h, then yes, Nicki Minaj wins.

It has only been a few days since Remy Ma's diss record so we have yet to hear a response from Nicki Minaj. Know this, it's coming! We don't know when, but we all know it's coming, and many of us are here for it. Now, I'm not into giving advice to anyone whose bank account makes mine look as if I am one step away from the poor house. However, as suggested by Remy Ma, Dear Nicki Minaj: If you take anything away from the current predicament you find yourself in, please, please, please let it be this, "never bring a knife to a gun fight" or a rap battle for that matter.

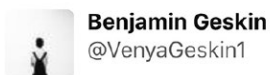
The Public has Spoken: the Red iPhone

By Paige Kerr

Apple released a red iPhone last Friday, March 24th, in support of finding a cure for HIV/AIDS. With the phone on the market for a week now, people have started to form their opinions on this cherry red phone. So what do people have to say about this brave new color? And is it worth your hard earned money?

The newest addition to the Apple family, features a red back and the traditional white front which has annoyed some iPhone users. Benjamin Geskin from Verge is one of these people. He tweeted out an image of how the red iPhone would look if it indeed did have a black front and captioned it "iPhone 7 (RED) with black front. #iphoneRED #iPhone7RED."

And he is not the only one outraged, "iJustine" a Youtuber, posted a video where she unboxed the metallic red phone and she shared the same annoyance among seeing the front of her new phone. "There's just something about having a completely flushes screen, all black, that looks really really good," said the proud owner of a second, jet black iPhone. Her opinion, along with others who commented on her "Red iPhone 7 Unboxing + Red Accessories!" Were bothered by Apple's use of a white front. "Why don't u just get a naked wrap for the phone? I mean whats the point of hiding the colour? :/," commented a viewer on said video. Before filming the video, "iJustine" or Justine Ezarik also took to Twitter and said the following true statement about the newest iPhone



Benjamin Geskin
@VenyaGeskin1



iPhone 7 (RED) with black front.

#iPhoneRED #iPhone7RED



Geskin showed his followers what the red phone could look like if it had the black front.

Many people feel the same way as Ezarik does, in regard to covering the red iPhone. iPhones are very fragile, and if I may say so, slippery. So if one goes around sporting their cherry red iPhone and said iPhone hits the ground... I can't even finished that sentence because it makes my heart hurt. But how does one protect their precious baby/iPhone without covering the limited edition color?

An easy fix would be to buy a clear iPhone, which many people said in 'iJustine's' comments. But clear cases fail to offer much protection to a phone. The whole purpose of having a clear phone case is to so-what protect the phone while still showing it off, and while a clear case gives off a nice look for any iPhone, the truth of the matter is, if that phone is dropped the results will not vary much from if a naked iPhone was dropped.

So if the red iPhone worth your money? I say until Apple and/or Otterbox release a clear case to resolve this issue, the beautiful cherry red iPhone is not worth \$749.

Black Beauty

By Olawale Orimogunje

Beauty means "the quality of being physically attractive, according to the dictionary. But is that what it means to have beauty?

There are certain individuals that we automatically associate with being attractive, like Rihanna but adversely consider someone like Leslie Jones to be ugly. Beauty is a subjective view that varies with everyone, however their certain attributes that are considered beautiful and some that are considered ugly. Having a smaller nose, lighter skin, brighter eyes are related to having beauty. Having a bigger nose or lips, being of a darker tone, and "nappy" hair are related to being ugly. Whether we acknowledge it or not, the media has a great deal of influence when it comes to perception of what beauty is.

This bias is both conscious and subconscious. We all know the infamous "doll test" conducted by Mamie and Kenneth Clark, who were African American psychologists in the 1940's. The couple studied children's preference toward race using dolls as a medium. These dolls were identical in every aspect except skin color and hair. Invariably, when asked which doll they would prefer, the children all chose the lighter-toned doll. A similar experiment was conducted by a film student Kiri Davis in Harlem, where she went to a daycare to conduct the exact doll experiment. Out of the twenty-one African American kids in the experiment fifteen of them insisted that white dolls were more appealing than black dolls.

There was one question within the experiment that confirmed a potential for African American adolescents to view themselves in a negative way. One little girl was asked which one of the dolls look like her, and hesitation and reluctance the girl confirmed the black doll. What's interesting about her selection was that the girl just previous claimed that the black doll was less appealing compared to the white. This is a result of the masses being heavily influenced by the media. An influence that has perpetrated even the youngest of minds. Ever since Africans were brought to this country in chains, there has been an initiative to teach them hate themselves to have better control them. Blacks were manipulated to believe that their beauty was secondary to that of white beauty.

Even though these norms were established during slavery, they still affect African Americans till this day. Eurocentric views categorize natural African features as unattractive and ugly. Thick lips and noses, kinky hair, and dark skin were all demonized to aid in discrediting the beauty of those with African blood. Now let's consider "Light skin vs Dark skin" dynamic, it seems that African Americans of a lighter skin complexion are considered more desirable and accepted than someone of a darker tone. In an exercise to separate ourselves from their African roots, we tend to highlight other bloodlines such as Native American to bolster our racial worth.

To this day, some cultures continue to value lighter complexions due to their resemblance to their colonial conquerors. The preference is frequently seen in media; television, shows, movies, music videos, etc. There are even cultures in some countries that would value and even patronize certain people of lighter features because they closely resemble their colonial conquerors.

The origins of light skin preference over dark skin began during slavery in the plantations. Slave masters would often rape their female slaves and impregnate

them. They are not oblivious that when one of the slaves are giving birth to a baby with lighter offspring that it their child. Since these children were of a lighter skin complexion because they had the blood of the "superior" race, they received preferential treatment amongst slaves. The combination of the inferiority associated with darker shade and the "acceptance" of those of a lighter shade have produced classism with the African American community.

There have been numerous attempts by African Americans to stray away their natural looks in pursuit of European features. There have been instances where mothers would pinch the noses of children/babies to avoid them from looking big and wide. Numerous forms of creams that would lighten your skin, even to go as far as putting bleach in your bath. I have fallen victim to this sense of inferiority based on my darker shade and purchased a variety of creams to be lighter. Over the years there has been an increase amongst African American men that go to plastic surgeons to improve their image. African American women spend so much time and money on perm and relaxers to straighten their hair, that combats their natural curls.

There are restrictions in our society that also put an incredible amount of pressure on African Americans to assimilate to a certain culture. When people are trying to find jobs in corporate America, there are certain hairstyles/appearances that are considered improper but are prevalent with African Americans. Having afros, cornrows, dreadlocks, braids, etc. are considered not up to par for a business like working environment. There are few willing to risk their livelihood to just maintain their natural looks and hairstyles. Because we must abandon aspects of ourselves to assimilate to society it makes it easier for us to deplore ours looks and adapt to something that is different from us. There is immense external pressure on blacks that have an adverse effect of how they perceive themselves.

My definition of Black beauty is an overall acceptance and love of one's natural features regardless of skin tone, hair, nose, lips, size, and shape, and being independent of any comparisons or similarities to any other race or ethnicities. It is counterproductive to put down one race to elevate another. That is not the goal here. I am here to acknowledge that African Americans have been programmed to consider their appearance less than the standard, by Eurocentric propaganda since slavery. I am here to remind the girl who is constantly looking in the mirror wondering why can't she look like her best friend who is of a lighter tone "YOU are beautiful!" I am here to remind the guy, who is sick and tired of being called "black" and "dark" "YOU are beautiful!" I am here to remind that little girl who hates her hair and wants it to be like the girls on TV, smooth and straight "YOU are beautiful!" Confidence is key, true beauty is embracing and loving yourself as you are. We must stop being influenced by the media's standard of beauty, create our own, and love ourselves. Black beauty consists of self-awareness. It is being able to elevate ourselves and make incremental changes to our perception as well as the perception of those around us. We must stop obsessing over physical features and equating them to beauty, for it is more than skin deep. Let us regain our image and have that be our standard of beauty.

PUZZLES

8	3					9	1				
5							2				
6	2	4	3				8				
9						3	5	7			
		1	7		5			9			
							8				
							9				
2	6								3		
										2	5
											6

								7	
		2			4			3	
8		3	7				9	1	
						6			1
							2		
		4				2			9
			1			9	5		
		3	7						
				5		7	4		

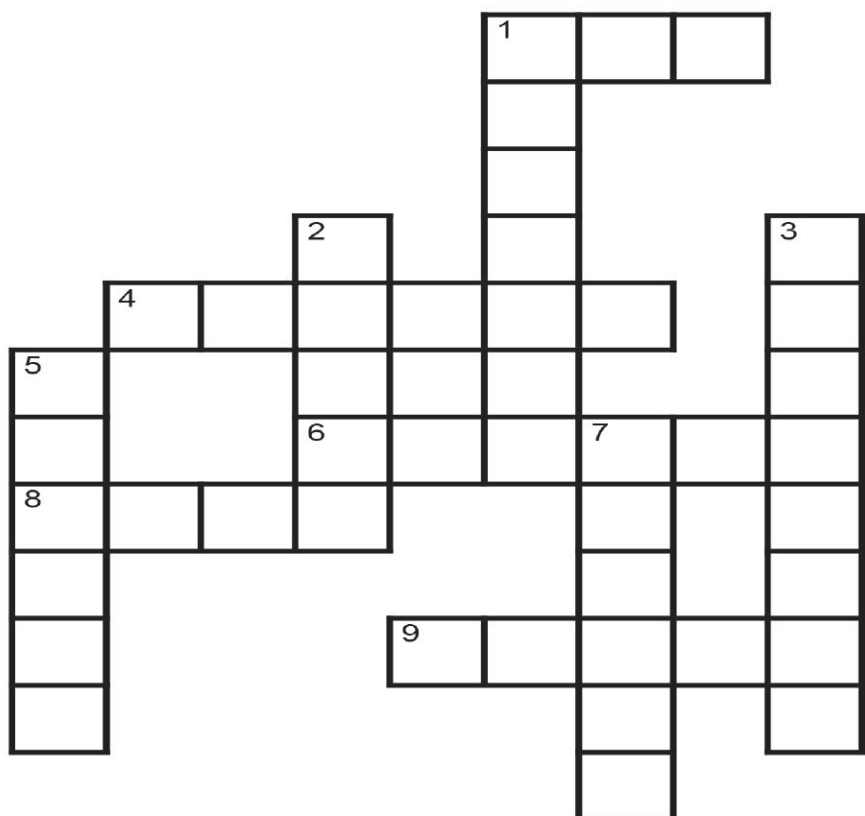
				5		7	8			
					8	2				
								3		
			4	1		3				
		8	2					6	3	
5										
8				5	1					
									8	
		3	6	4					7	2

9	3	7	1	5	2	8	6	4
2	6	4	1	8	7	3	9	2
5	9	2	8	4	6	3	7	1
7	5	6	4	9	3	1	8	2
3	8	1	7	2	5	4	6	9
9	4	2	1	8	6	3	5	7
6	2	4	3	1	9	5	7	8
5	1	9	8	7	4	6	2	3
8	3	7	5	6	2	9	1	4

6	9	2	5	1	7	4	8	3
5	3	7	2	8	4	1	9	6
4	8	1	3	6	9	5	2	7
3	4	8	1	5	2	7	6	9
9	1	6	4	7	3	2	5	8
2	7	5	8	9	6	3	4	1
8	6	3	7	2	5	9	1	4
7	2	9	6	4	1	8	3	5
1	5	4	9	3	8	6	7	2

1	3	6	4	9	8	5	7	2
2	9	5	3	7	6	4	1	8
8	4	7	2	5	1	6	3	9
5	1	3	8	6	9	2	4	7
9	8	2	7	4	5	1	6	3
6	7	4	1	2	3	9	8	5
7	2	8	9	1	4	3	5	6
3	5	1	6	8	2	7	9	4
4	6	9	5	3	7	8	2	1

APRIL CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

- April is a ____ month.
- The weather is ____ in April than in March.
- Which holiday is usually celebrated in April?
- April is usually a wet month because of the ____.
- What is the fourth month of the year?

Down

- ____ begin to bloom in April.
- Trees turn ____ in April.
- You need an ____ in April.
- April arrives during the ____ season.
- How many days are there in April?

Horoscopes for the Month of April

Aries

March 21-April 19

April 2017 is a very hectic month for Aries born people and is propitious for commencing new ventures. Career will undergo major transformations. Financially this will be a prosperous month for the Aries zodiac. Marital life will be volatile for you and elder members of the family. Health will be wonderful

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Career will be in the spotlight during April 2017 for the Taurus born. You have the freedom to choose what you want. Mercury is beneficial for your finances and you will be guided by your intuition. Eclipses will disturb Taurus zodiac relationships. Health will be superb and your personality will be charming.

Gemini

May 21-June 20

Career will dominate over family matters in April 2017 for the Gemini born. Financial progress can be expected after the 20th. Love is a bit complicated due to the eclipses. Health will be fabulous with excellent immunity.

Cancer

June 21-July 22

Independence and social skills are equally important for Cancer born in April 2017. The Solar eclipse will impact your career and the organization where you are employed. More effort is required for financial progress. Love relationships will be turbulent and health will be challenging

Leo

July 23-August 22

Both autonomy and social skills are necessary for Leo born during April 2017. Professionally this will be a wonderful month. Mercury will help your finances during the latter part of the month. Social life may be in conflict with your love life. Relax well to stay in shape

Virgo

August 23-September 22

Virgo, keep your cool till the 20th amidst all the confusion. This is the time for intellectual studies and self-awareness. You will have spare money to clear your debts. Love will be sexually romantic while health can be improved by crystal healing and cleansing of the bodily impurities.

Libra

September 23-October 22

Flexibility and social skills are necessary for the Libra born to deal with the various complications during April 2017. Money can be made by helping others to prosper. Love will be more passionate and there are chances of birth of a child. Health can be improved by going on a vacation

Scorpio

October 23-November 21

Family and emotional stability are in focus for Scorpio born individuals during April 2017. Career is affected by the retrograde planets. Planetary aspects are not favorable for finances. Social life and family life will be at loggerheads during the month. Health will pose problems towards the end of the month.

Sagittarius

November 22-December 21

Domestic issues will take precedence for the Sagittarius born over career during April 2017. You will be highly enthusiastic during the first half of the month. Unemployed will have job opportunities overseas. Money can be made through your hard work. Love life will be chaotic while health and vitality will be excellent.

Capricorn

December 22-January 19

Adaptability and independence are both important for Capricorn born in April 2017. Finances will be good with lot of money inflow. Strong romantic alliances will survive and health will be better.

Aquarius

January 20-February 18

During April 2017, the Aquarius born have to change over from free will to collaboration as the month progresses. The Lunar eclipse will change your job prospects. There will be a temporary crisis in your financial situation. Aquarius love compatibility will be excellent and health will be favorable.

Pisces

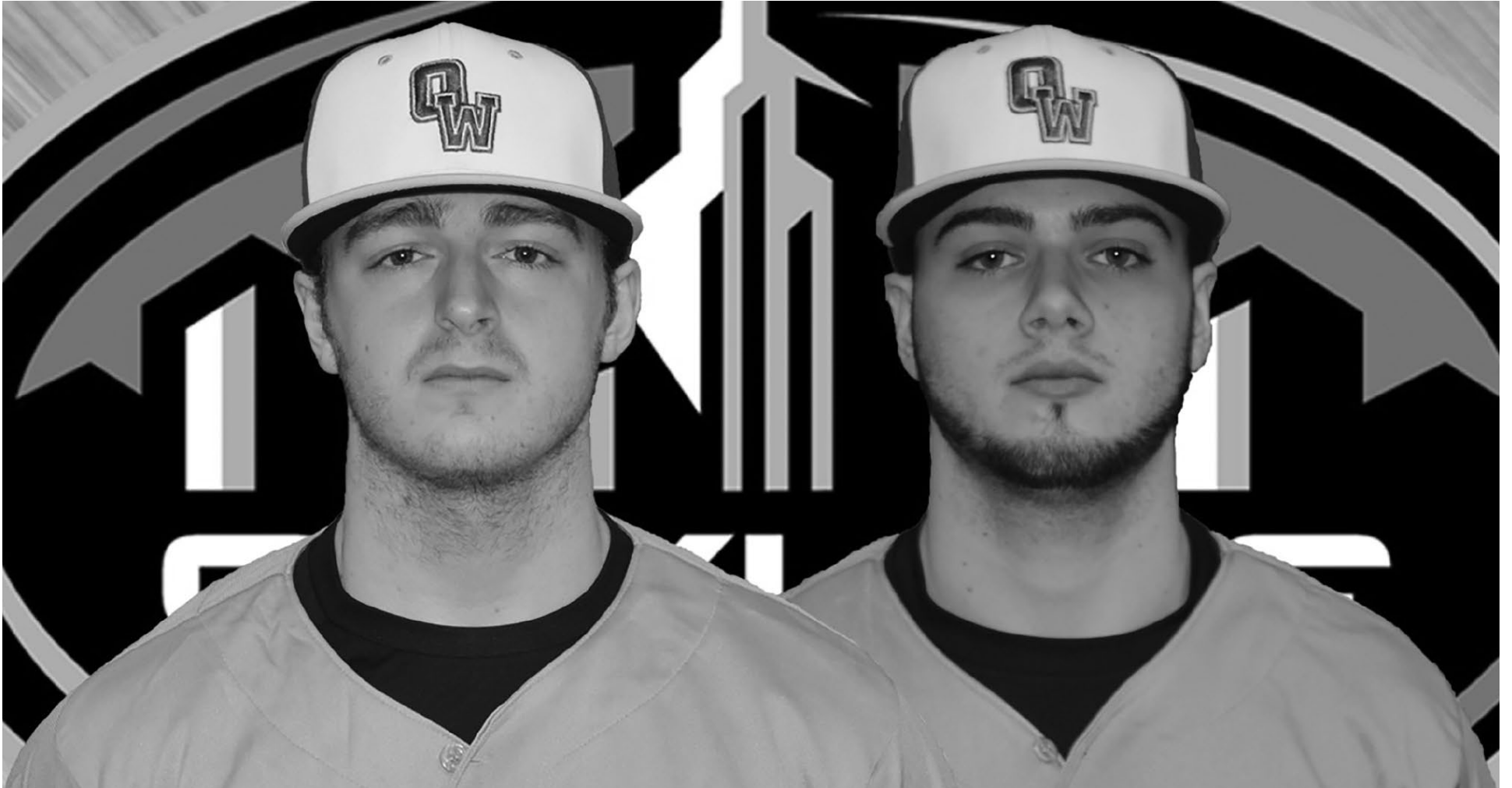
February 19-March 20

Spirituality and finances will be in focus for Pisces born in April 2017. Job change is likely and finances are powerful. Singles will look for wealthy partners. Health will be extremely good.



Panthers' Russo named Skyline Conference Baseball Player of the Week

Jesse Russo was recognized as the conference's top player and Trey Pizzutello earned a spot on the weekly honor roll



By Harris Rappel

Old Westbury junior second baseman Jesse Russo has been named the Skyline Conference Player of the Week for game played March 20-26, announced Monday by league officials. Senior right-handed pitcher Trey Pizzutello earned a spot on the Skyline Conference Weekly Honor Roll for the second time in his career.

Russo, batted .619 (13-for-21) with 12 runs scored, four RBI, five extra-base hits (three doubles, two triples), four walks and seven stolen bases in a 3-3 week for the Panthers. The Westbury,

New York native hit safely in all six games and produced four multi-hit games, including a 4-for-4 performance at the plate with a RBI single to go with three runs scored, two doubles and two stolen bases in game two versus SUNY Maritime (Mar. 26). He also drove in the game-winning run with a RBI triple in the 18-7 game one (3-for-4, 3 RBI, 3 R, 2 BB, 3 SB) win versus Yeshiva University (Mar. 24) and then crossed the plate to score game two's winning run to secure the conference-opening sweep.

On the season, Russo is batting .431 (28-for-65) with 23 runs scored, 11 RBI, nine extra-base hits and 14 stolen bases. He leads the conference in triples (5) and stolen bases while ranking among the league leaders in batting average (9th), slugging percentage (9th, .642), on-base percentage (8th, .519), runs scored (2nd), hits (3rd) and doubles (10th).

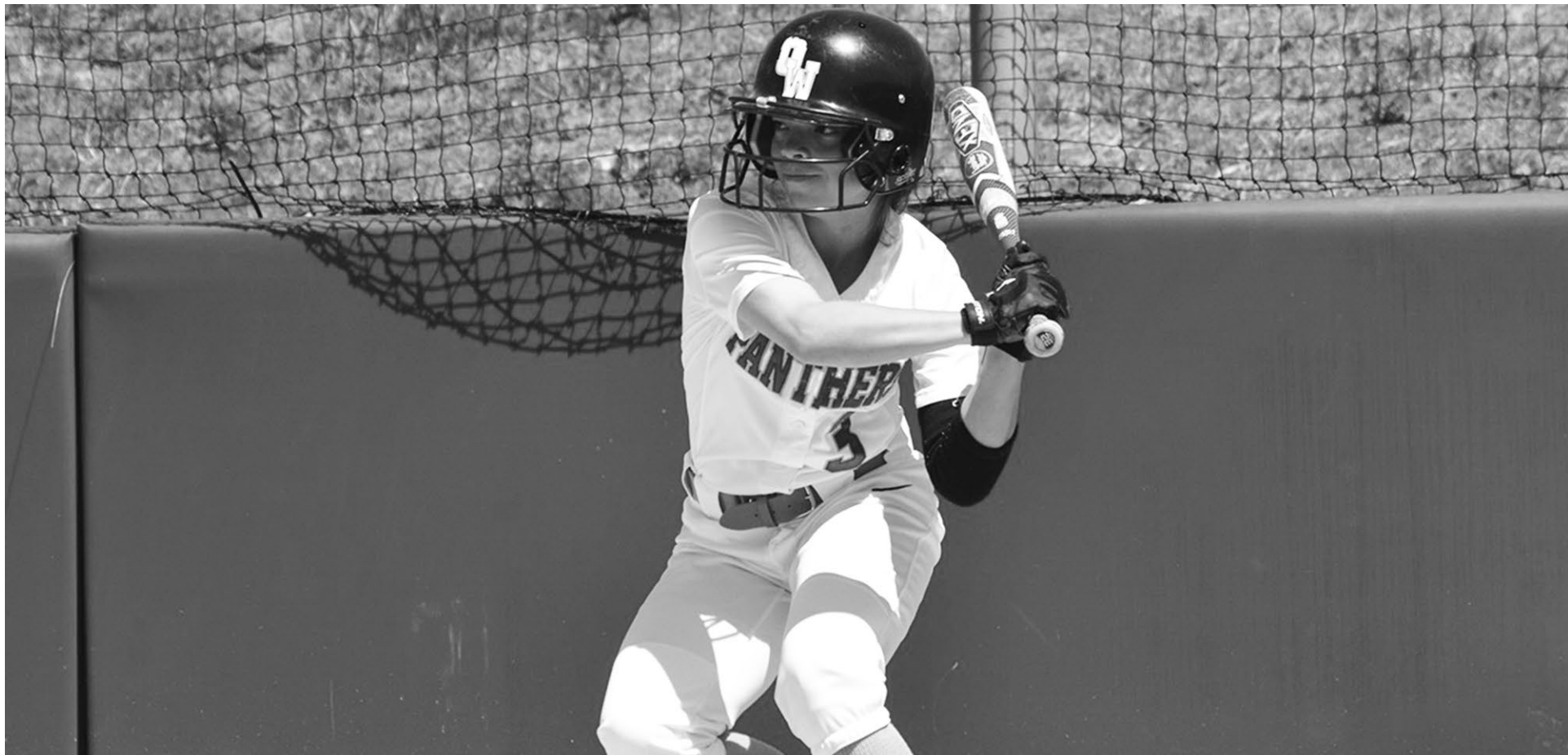
Pizzutello logged his third-career complete game outing by logging seven innings to earn the 3-2 game one win versus Castleton University (Mar. 25). Piz-

zutello scattered three hits and fanned a season-high seven batters (one walk) while allowing a pair of unearned runs.

The Stamford, Connecticut native is 3-3 on the season with a 4.50 earned run average. He has 19 strikeouts in 22 innings pitched to hold the opposing batters to a .250 average. Pizzutello currently ranks among the conference leaders in wins (T-3rd), strikeouts (5th) and innings pitched (6th).

Panthers Softball 2017 season preview

Old Westbury will look to make a return to the Skyline Conference Championship for the first time since 2012



By Harris Rappel

SUNY Old Westbury softball enters the 2017 season looking to make a return to Skyline Conference Championship play for the first time since 2012.

Old Westbury nearly missed out of a postseason berth and finished seventh in the conference standings last season with a 6-12 record in league play, and ended the campaign with a 10-14 overall record. First-year head coach Kathy Morrell's Panthers received 30 points and were pegged to finish seventh in the 2017 Skyline Conference Preseason Coaches' Poll. Mount Saint Mary was the unanimous pick to repeat as conference champs, finishing with all nine first-place votes and 81 total points in the poll (click here for full poll).

Old Westbury will field a roster of 17 in 2017 that feature 10 returners and seven newcomers.

Two-time All-Skyline Conference senior outfielder Gabriella Valdes (Flushing, NY / Benjamin N. Cardozo HS) and All-Skyline sophomore shortstop Samantha Scharff (Seaford, NY / Island Trees HS) will lead the charge. Valdes batted a career-best .411 a season ago with 24 runs scored, 15 RBI, six stolen bases, one home run and three triples at the top of the Panthers lineup. As a career .348 hitter, Valdes enters her final season with 88 hits, 68 runs scored and 32 RBI in 82 games played. Scharff hit in the middle of

the lineup to lead the team in batting average (.418), slugging percentage (.612) and on-base percentage (.481). She also started six games behind the plate and finished her rookie season with 16 RBI, 16 runs scored, seven doubles, three triples and nine walks while sporting a .953 fielding percentage.

Senior Katie Rizzo (Garden City, NY / Kellenberg Memorial HS) provided Old Westbury with a spark at first base by hitting a career-best .364 with 14 RBI and 21 runs scored in 2016. Rizzo has started all but one of Old Westbury's 83 games in the last three seasons.

Senior Delana Murray (Jamaica, NY / Construction, Trades, Engineering & Architecture HS) had a bounce-back year in 2016 that saw her start in all 24 games to hit a career-high .368 with 14 runs scored, eight RBI and nine stolen bases. She also produced a team-leading 10 multi-hit games.

In the circle, the Panthers bring back senior Nicole DeCola (New Hyde Park, NY / New Hyde Park Memorial HS). In three seasons, DeCola has compiled 142 in 267.2 innings pitched while going the distance in 35 of her 43 starts to compile 16 wins. DeCola has also batted .257 with 19 RBI in 109 career at-bats. Magdalena Wysocka (West Hempstead, NY / West Hempstead HS) rounds out the senior class of five, and will looking to make her debut

in 2017 as a corner outfielder.

Junior Amanda Fucci (Bellmore, NY / W.C. Mepham HS) has two-years of pitching experience by tossing 23 complete games in 31 starts to register 130 strikeouts in 186.1 innings of work. Fucci, a career .323 hitter, also saw time at second and third base in 2016. She is coming off a season in which she compiled a career-high three home runs, 22 RBI, 13 runs scored and nine doubles. Starting in all 24 games, Fucci led the team in home runs, doubles, extra-base hits, RBI,

Junior Otilia Bernal (Westbury, NY / Westbury HS) will make the full transition to outfield in 2017 after playing six of her 20 games played at second base.

Sophomore Kaite Skelly (Bellport, NY / Bellport HS) started 18 games behind the plate and five at third base to provide the lineup with a .313 batting average. She also scored 10 runs and drove in nine in 23 games played. Skelly will also see time at second base in 2017.

Sophomore Krysta Flareau (Bay Shore, NY / St. John the Baptist Diocesan HS) will be positioned primarily in the outfield after seeing starts at first base (2), second base (9), third base (2) and outfield (5) in 2016.

Of the seven newcomers, Old Westbury will look for instant impact from freshmen hurlers Lauren Bloom (Hicksville, NY / Bethpage HS) and Amanda Neenan (Staten Island,

NY / Curtis HS), and shortstop/catcher Amelia Cariddi (Seaford, NY / Seaford HS). Both Bloom and Cariddi were recognized as All-New York State selections while Neenan was named the Smith Cup winner as Staten Island's most outstanding high school player. When not pitching, Bloom will add a boost to the experienced outfield and Neenan will see time at second base.

Senior Joshlyn Grant (Oyster Bay, NY / Oyster Bay HS) will be featured as a corner outfielder and at shortstop, while Synthia Betances (Oyster Bay, NY / Baltimore HS for the Arts), a junior transfer from Nassau Community College, will vie for playing time in the crowded outfield. Freshmen Madelyn Bowen (Massapequa Park, NY / Massapequa HS) and Diana Amaya (Brentwood, NY / Brentwood HS) both provide depth at third base while Bowen will be tested as a corner outfielder.

Old Westbury opens the 2017 slate March 23 when they travel to Sarah Lawrence College for a Skyline Conference showdown. The Panthers return home March 24 for a conference showdown against Yeshiva University.

In total, Old Westbury will play 16 of its 32-game regular-season schedule in front of its home fans, as 10 are slated for Skyline Conference matchups.

Panthers Women's Lacrosse Closes Strongly at Drew



By Harris Rappel

SUNY Old Westbury women's lacrosse team was unable to rebound from a slow start in Saturday's 17-7 non-conference road setback to the Drew University Rangers (6-5) in Madison, New Jersey.

Anna Fiorini broke the scoring ice 5:28 in to give Drew the early advantage. Fiorini then doubled the advantage with 15 minutes left for the 2-0 lead. With 2:59 showing on the first-half

clock, Fiorini scored her fourth goal of the game to cap a 9-0 run before Natasha Treuman put Old Westbury (2-6) on the board with back-to-back goals to make it a 9-2 game with 2:15 left. Sara Bey netted Old Westbury's third goal with 55 seconds left prior to Drew scoring two more to take a 13-2 edge into intermission.

Old Westbury twice cut its deficit to nine in the second half as Drew proved

to me too much with a 5-4 scoring advantage in the final stanza. The Panthers received second-half scoring support from Imani Blake, Taylor Guarneri, Treuman and Rachel Phillips.

Treuman produced three ground balls, three caused turnovers and two draw controls in addition to posting her seventh hat trick of the season. Bey totaled five ground balls, two caused turnovers, two ground balls and one

assist. LaChaye Allen set a career high with four ground balls. Ashley Gugliuzzo (2-6) made 13 saves in defeat for Old Westbury.

Fiorini finished with a game-high seven points (four goals, three assists) to pace Drew. Gianna Minogue made four first-half saves to collect Drew's win.

Valdes Earns Place on Skyline Conference Weekly Honor Roll



By Harris Rappel

SUNY Old Westbury softball senior center fielder Gabriella Valdes earned a spot on the Skyline Conference Weekly Honor Roll for games played March 20-26, announced last Monday by the league office.

Valdes produced three multi-hit

games and hit in all six contests to lead Old Westbury to a 3-3 season-opening week. In total, Valdes hit .556 (10-for-18) with five RBI, three runs scored, three walks and a stolen base. She scored the game-winning run in the Panthers'

24-0 game one win versus Yeshiva University (Mar. 24). Valdes put together a 3-for-3 performance with three RBI, three runs scored, two walks and a stolen base in the opener and followed with a 2-for-2, one RBI game to secure the sweep. She went

2-for-3 with one RBI and a walk in a 7-3 game one setback to Farmingdale State College (Mar. 26).

The Flushing, New York native currently ranks among the league leaders in batting average (2nd), and on-base percentage (2nd, .619).