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OUTSIDE colley

Issue 2 Vol. 10 March, 19, 2019

MY BODY
MY CHOICE

WIRELESS WARS: AMERICA
STRIKES BACK
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ENDED THE SHUT DOWN
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A letter from the Editors

Dear Readers,

We are appalled at the recent attacks on mosques in New Zealand. Such acts of terror fueled by Islamophobic ideology are truly saddening and horrifying. As we mourn the loss of innocent lives, we should remember all the lives lost to white supremacist violence. The manifesto left behind by the shooter is why we should continue to identify and challenge every instance of xenophobia, racism, and hate that we encounter.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are most impacted and we stand in solidarity with those who are speaking out and providing support.

We also stand with the bold young people who are rallying to press politicians to act on climate change. We greatly admire these incredible people who are meticulously and tirelessly organizing to take a stand against inaction and demand a liveable future for us all.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Jones and Amya Bhalla

Outside Colby is a non-partisan political publication dedicated to informing students about different opinions on controversial issues in the United States and around the world. Our goal is to increase political discourse and debate at Colby, and serve as a forum for different points of view to be heard.

MASCULIN FÉMININ

By Aidan Larned *Staff Writer*

Jean-Luc Godard's 1966 *Masculin Féminin* provides a relevant social critique through 15 vignettes revolving around two main characters - Paul is a boyish young man, inspired by Marxism and revolted by America's politics, and Madeleine is a girlish young woman slowly rising through the ranks and becoming a pop sensation. These two juxtaposing motives and lifepaths create a distinct split between the young, politically active, socialist youth of France at the time, and their Coca-Cola drinking, James Dean idolizing counterparts. However, Godard's politics-consumerism juxtaposition falls short due to his ignorance of gender roles within the film.

Godard is sympathetic to the youthful ambition contained within these characters. Where Paul's unabashed arrogance could have come off as an obnoxious superiority complex, his portrayal by Godard makes viewers see through this mask, revealing an anxious but interested kid looking to find his lane. The beautiful Chantal Goya is Little Ms. Perfect. Her songs sound like she writes them for 12-year-olds, and her attitudes are naïve, but in her relationship with Paul, Godard shows us the nuance in her character as she grows fond of him and begins to explore her sexuality.

Godard strives to do more than merely juxtapose two youthful archetypes - he is overt in his juxtaposition of the young socialist and Coca-Cola drinking teenybopper. The auteur begs viewers to consider their place on this spectrum, with Paul residing on one end and Madeleine the opposite. Where do new youth allegiances lie? Times are similarly politically trying as we see conflict zones across the Middle East, a small, round dictator threatening world powers in North Korea, and a president who has been accused of colluding with the Russians to win his spot. Simultaneously, consumer culture is as potent as ever. Supreme is worth 1 billion dollars,

sneakers resell for thousands, and brands are regularly prioritized over craft. Paul, the act-out socialist, is in constant pursuit of Madeleine, who is the representation of the consumer culture he rejects. This youthful hypocrisy lies at the center of the film and asks 21st century audiences to think about how they embody their beliefs.

Godard, however, tries to do too much, and in his ambition, he loses some of the meaning he sought. The use of archetypal male and female leads to present his argument about youth priorities presents a question of gender roles. The film's title establishes this consideration immediately, and time and time again we are shown boys playing politics - spray-painting cars and yelling at diplomats - while girls go shopping and do their makeup. Godard presents this juxtaposition plainly but does nothing about it. Godard introduces two main characters and a minimal network of satellite characters, all of whom play the angsty roles they are meant to without questioning their hypocrisy or fulfillment of traditional gender roles. This critique could be well-placed if Godard, as the author of the film, introduced some perspective on the matter. Instead, he opts to let it sit, leaving it unresolved come to the end of the film. Leaving such an issue unresolved is not always a bad thing, but it is a bad thing when the film implicitly reinforces societal stereotypes. It is hard to imagine that the French New Wave pioneer Jean-Luc Godard was ignorant to the themes he was proposing, so it is all the more disappointing that his film was not able to tackle such an issue.

This issue summarizes that Godard introduces but fails to address gender stereotypes in a film whose title implies the addressing of these very same stereotypes. While his critique and endearing representation of youth culture in the 60s is temporally relevant, his ignorance of gender issues invalidates his argument, not only lacking relevance in his critique then but now too.

IN SUPPORT OF GOLDMAN'S NEW DRESS CODE

By *Kristen Yorke* Staff Writer

Traditionally known as a white-shoe, suit-and-tie firm, Goldman Sachs has just recently relaxed its strict dress code in a bid to appeal to the majority of its workforce: Millennials and Gen Z'ers. A memo went out on Tuesday, March 5 to announce the latest policy change. The memo, issued by Chief Executive Officer David Solomon, was vague in citing precisely what counts as casual. The employees are urged to use their discretion and to remember: "Of course, casual dress is not appropriate every day and for every interaction and we trust you will consistently exercise good judgment in this regard."

While other significant firms are heading in this same direction (think: JP Morgan), it is likely that these Wall Street firms are not only competing for the latest graduates among themselves but also with the technology giants like Google and Amazon who proudly flaunt their casualwear policies. The move was not only a jump to keep employees happy, but also to recruit the latest and best entering the professional world.

Cue the high fives and fist bumps. The men of Goldman Sachs can finally bust out that monogrammed Vineyard Vines vest they have been dying to zip up. Finally, they will be able to transition from the country club to work more seamlessly. Finally. Well, Chad, as thrilling as this is for you, the most significant beneficiary of this change, strangely enough, is not you. It is the woman sitting next to you.

It is the woman sitting next to you who has to walk in and out of eight different stores to find a blouse that's professional, flattering, but never too revealing. It is your boss or your co-worker who cannot wear crisp button down shirts because the size of her chest creates gaping holes in between the buttoned fabric, making it to "inappropriate" for work. This dress

code change is not the liberation of your Sperry's and Brooks Brother's quarter-zips; this is the liberation of a modern, working woman from painful heels and skirts that ride up the second you sit down.

Some traditionalists, like my mother, for example, are taken aback by this policy change. "They do not have to wear suits? That really matters" is a fragment of a text message she sent me when we were discussing this change. I love my mother, but in that message, there is an inherent assumption that most of the employees working at Goldman are men. Women are already underrepresented at firms like Goldman Sachs and JP Morgan. I would even venture to say that the general public has the same assumptions as of my mother: men dominate investment banking. This reason is exactly why this memo is so important.

In a place where women are already judged and stereotyped based on their gender, not on their ability to do their job, something has got to give to make life and work just a fraction easier. What is giving, in this case, is the dress code. Many, like my mother, are arguing that promoting casual attire decreases a firm's professionalism. I would argue against that fact. Professionalism is not lost when you are sitting among your coworkers in something less than a three-piece suit. Professionalism is only lost when you are greeting clients and holding meetings in jeans and an old Dartmouth t-shirt. Solomon knows his employees to be smart enough to distinguish between the right place, right time, and wrong place, wrong time.

If professionalism is maintained, and the office becomes a bit more comfortable, and women are finally free from the shackles of ill-fitting suits and the ever-challenging feat of finding the balance between flattering and too flattering? What is wrong with that?



THE IMPUNITY OF CULTURAL ICONS AND THE ACCOUNTABILITY WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR

By *Lorne Carter* Staff Writer

It has been hard to miss mentions of R&B singer R. Kelly's recent CBS interview. Kelly, who has been accused of sexual misconduct for years, was recently indicted on ten counts of sexual abuse, spanning from 1998 to 2010 and involving three survivors that were aged 13 to 16 at the time of these violations. He was previously tried on 14 counts of child pornography before ultimately being acquitted in 2008. A six-part Lifetime docu-series "Surviving R. Kelly," which aired in January and featured seven accusers and members of his inner circle rekindled investigations of his wrongdoings. Everyone depicted in the series asserted that Kelly preys on vulnerable women and young girls. When Kelly went on-air to address these accusations, he provided an impressively theatrical performance of aggrieved man afflicted and ruined by sinister, baseless allegations. It was the most bizarre interview I have ever seen and, honestly, it was unsettling. The shouting, tears, gaslighting, pleading showed a prolific abuser desperately clinging to the impunity he has been afforded due to his stardom. However, no longer.

Because of the incredible courage and strength of survivors and allies, the world is being forced to hear and respect the narratives of sexual violence more than ever. The abuses of priests in the Catholic Church, formerly one of the most powerful institutions in the world, has been exposed on a groundbreaking level. The #MeToo movement has swept across the US and the broader global community and is shifting the culture of intentional blindness to sexual misconduct. Now, even cultural icons and legends, such as R. Kelly and Michael Jackson, must answer for their crimes.

While we await Kelly's trial, where hopefully these women's bravery will be honored, we can examine Michael Jackson's legacy in the wake of

the new HBO documentary *Leaving Neverland* that details the testimonies of two men who were sexually abused by Jackson when they were aged seven and 10. Like Kelly, Jackson has also been trailed by accusations of sexual misconduct. In 2005, he was cleared of one set of child molestation charges in a high-profile trial. Although he died in 2009, there has been a serious public response to the documentary. Despite skepticism from some, the typical reaction seems to be one of widespread outrage and disgust with this abuse. Cognizant of shifting public perception, some radio stations have stopped playing Michael Jackson songs. A major Canadian broadcaster, Cogeco Media, pulled Jackson's songs from all of its stations in Quebec. In New Zealand, a pair of broadcast companies that together cover almost the entire island nation also dropped his music from their rotation. These moves are reminiscent of the #MuteRKelly movement to boycott all the alleged abuser's music after the release of the previously mentioned "Surviving R. Kelly" docu-series. Also, Britain's National Football Museum removed its statue of Jackson.

While it is disappointing (if unsurprising) that none of these actions occurred in the US, they indicate a world growing painstakingly slowly towards belief and validation of survivor narratives. We are finally taking sexual violence more seriously. People often ponder how to separate the art from the artist, but this sexual misconduct and the predatory nature of these crimes demands to be addressed with real repercussions after years and years of silence and neglect. This manipulation and exploitation should be especially unacceptable in such influential, visible figures in our culture. Cancellation of these famous artists would reinforce the zero-tolerance attitude our world needs towards sexual abuse, an attitude that has been a long time coming.

KING OF THE HILL AS A POSTMODERN TEXT

By Peter Weiser *Staff Writer*

When I stumbled upon Frederic Jameson's Postmodernism and consumer society, I was struck by an idea in the essay about uniqueness of subject. Jameson writes, "One of the most significant features or practices in postmodernism today is pastiche" (544). He goes on to explain the difference between simple parody and pastiche. Pastiche, he says, is the same mimicry as parody, yet without the acknowledgement of the source material's place in "normal" culture. Pastiche, and postmodernism as a whole, adheres to the idea that modernist individualism is dead. Jameson writes, "In a world in which stylistic innovation is no longer possible, all that is left is to imitate dead styles" (546). So, if individuality is no longer, then true innovation is a fool's errand and imitation is the way of the future.

How does King of the Hill fit this mold? In order to answer this question, we first have to backtrack to a little-known show that preceded it: The Simpsons. The Simpsons itself was an imitation of and reaction to the popular 80's sitcom mold: less than intelligent father, busy housewife, a son and daughter and a dog and a cat. The absolute standard picture of a nuclear family. Where The Simpsons changes the mold, is in its very nature of being animated. This opens the show up to having more content opportunities than the live-action shows that preceded it. Where a live-action show would struggle to succinctly convey that the father's boss was evil, The Simpsons can show Mr. Burns blocking out the sun to artificially increase power needs. This glutton of content available to the writers is one of the many reasons the show still produces new episodes almost 30 years after its inception.

King of the Hill premiered in 1997, 8 years into The Simpson's magical run. At first glance, the show looks like a cheap parody or imitation, but through both the similarities and differences, we can recognize it as pastiche. While a running gag throughout The Simpsons' entirety is they exist nowhere—they never explain which Springfield they live in—King

of the Hill, by contrast is extremely rooted in its region. It tells the story of a South Texas family, and all that that may entail, from an excessive emphasis placed on middle school football, or the debates between using propane and charcoal for the best tasting meat. King of the Hill takes the outlandish and absurd model from The Simpson's, but it takes it and returns it to reality. The irony, of course, being that it is rooted in reality, yet still animated.

What King of the Hill manages to do is set in motion a chain of pastiche and imitation, building the over-saturated market of animated sitcoms based on a family. The most important, and perhaps most famous, iteration of this imitation is the Seth Macfarlane show Family Guy. While Family Guy often comes under fire for being a direct knockoff of the Simpsons, we can look to Jameson's understanding of Pastiche and King of the Hill's place to state that it is in fact a natural sequencing from imitation to imitation. Where Family Guy breaks this mold, is their heavy reliance on the cutaway gag form of comedy. Family Guy responds to King of the Hill's reality based storyline, with random acts of absurdity, such as fighting a giant chicken multiple times, or getting hammered with your talking dog. What follows is a chain of imitations that results in the current saturated market that includes Archer, Bob's Burgers, Rick and Morty, and BoJack Horseman. Each offers their own unique spin on the genre, yet is ultimately a pastiche of what comes before it.

So if pastiche is truly as universal as Jameson says it is, why is the imitation of this animated sitcom genre so noticeable to the average viewer? Part of this is due to the nature of animated comedy I had touched on earlier. The content never dries up. The actors never move on. Law and Order sparked many procedural court dramas, including their own spin-offs, but the shows have a shelf-life. They don't enter their thirtieth season like that's not an absurd time for a show to be on air. Family Guy is in its 17th season. King of the Hill lasted 13 seasons. All

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STILL LEFT: COLLEGE RADIO AND COLLEGE ROCK THEN AND NOW

By Ben Theyerl *Staff Writer*

One of my guilty pleasures is spending more time than I should digging through the archives of The Colby Echo. Fueled by the fascination of identification—that wonder of what it was like to go to school at Colby in a different time—I can spend hours in there. In this regard, my favorite bit of history I've ever pulled out is this: in 1989, The Replacements played at Colby College.

For most, I suspect that you've done a double-take. Who are The Replacements? For a few of us raised in decidedly Midwestern suburbs, the mention of the hard drinking, banned-from-SNL, understanders of all of your angst, bastards of young will no doubt bring up fond memories of their mothers and fathers proclaiming "The 80's was the greatest decade ever." Then, in spite of their rowdy reputation, antithetical to how every parent wants a teenage child to act, the imperative: "you have to listen to them." These guys once wrote a song called "Gary's Got a Boner," Dad. For the few of you who have had this experience, I hope you'll join me as I try to shine a light on the uncanny experience of listening to punk rock with your parents.

The Replacements belong to a group of bands in the 1980's including R.E.M., The Smiths, Sonic Youth, and Pixies deemed "College Rock." The genre earned this moniker from the tendency of these bands to gain exposure from college radio stations, which operated in the weird spaces left of the dial where only NPR and religious radio had ever dared to go. The college radio station had somewhat of a heyday in the 1980s, when the milieu of rising conservatism in the U.K. and U.S. split the previously culturally unified youth of America. On one hand, Reagan's revolution produced a class of the soon-to-be-dubbed "yuppies," the white-collared, professional-type whose focus was on accumulating the almighty dollar, and on the other, a smaller group of youth who still held fast to the axiom

of 60's and 70's social movements stressing equality, diversity, and a suspicion in the material. This latter group would seize the moment to create new cultural forms that stressed this message, from which punk, hip-hop, and eventually college rock would emerge. And it was in the basement of student unions all over the country where they would take to the airwaves to get this word out.

College rock itself was a mix of post-punk and new wave, both tracing their origins back to the punk rock of the 1970s. Unlike punk rock though, college rock didn't share an ethos that directly antagonized the establishment. It's artists didn't outright reject the pop music tropes of catchy melodies and choruses. Instead they infused them with an interest in catching more fringe pseudo-intellectual moments surrounding the typical subjects of pop music-love, loss, and politics. The result was something perfectly suited to college students, too weird to be listened to on the radio, but not requiring you take up a new hairstyle and start hanging around the shadier parts of town. The mix was potent and could be said to be ahead of its time, with one only needing to look at today's popular portrait of the hipster as an example-borrowing aesthetics, never having to create them. College rock indulged the youthful spirit of the feeling like you've discovered something the world hasn't, became the rock of a generation of youth that was bothered by the condition of their society, but still wanted to live in it. The Replacements, one of the key artists of the genre, playing at Colby suggests that our very own college was a fan of the genre. Walk down to the basement of Bob's to visit WMHB 89.7FM and you can see the vitality of the idea of college rock playing out live today.

Even though the genre of college rock may have long faded from all but a few of our listening ears, the ethos of college rock still is something that survives. College rock may not sound like college rock anymore, but the mantle of its place in the music world, outside



ON THE DOCKET ONCE AGAIN: GUN CONTROL

By Alexandra Huelbig *Staff Writer*

For the first time in twenty-five years, the House voted to pass the first major gun control legislation that could actually have an impact on gun control sales in the United States. In a 218 to 190 vote, a bill passed that would call for background checks on all gun purchases, including those on the internet and at gun shows, traditionally loopholes in gun control legislation. Additionally, the bill proposes to expand the time the FBI has to conduct background checks from three days to ten. A provision, however, was added to the bill by Republicans that would notify the FBI if an undocumented immigrant were to attempt to purchase a gun.

This came as a victory for the Democrats and was largely a result of the blue wave in the 2018 midterm elections. One of the key goals of the Democrats has been to pass meaningful gun control legislation, having united after the Parkland school shooting. Among the newly elected Democrats in the House is Representative Lucy McBath, whose son was killed as an act of gun violence.

A hearing will be held on March 26th by the Senate Judiciary committee to discuss what Senator Lindsey Graham calls “red flag” laws, which allow authorities to seize guns from people that the court considers a danger to society. The hearing is a bit surprising, as the Senate has been hesitant when it comes to wading into partisan areas of debate.

Gun control has long been a hot topic issue, especially in recent decades where the NRA has maintained a firm influence on Congress. During the mid-twentieth century, the NRA began a campaign that focused turning the Second Amendment into an issue of the personal right to bear arms rather than an amendment focused on the formation of militias. Being wildly successful, the new interpretation of the second amendment spawned a partisan debate that has further divided the left from the right.

THE ISSUE SHOULD NOT BE ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT WE SHOULD GET RID OF GUNS, BUT KNOWING WHO IS BUYING THEM AND WHETHER THEY INTEND TO HURT OTHERS.

This country has been a hot spot for gun violence, and many choose to turn a blind eye to it. Some will argue “guns don’t kill people; people kill people,” while others argue that taking away gun rights is an infringement on their rights. Whatever the argument, many Americans are dead set on keeping their guns.

The issue should not be about whether or not we should get rid of guns, but knowing who is buying them and whether they intend to hurt others.

That is what this new bill is intended to do: to limit the purchase of guns to those that the FBI can deem safe gun owners. A background check should not infringe upon your privacy from the government if you are purchasing something that could inflict some sort of mass violence. However, there are those that disagree, like Republican Senator Greg Steube who says that “The Second Amendment is [his] gun permit.” This kind of thinking is dangerous, as it could easily allow a gun to fall into the wrong hands.



THE UNEXPECTED RISE IN AUTO LOAN DELINQUENCIES

By *Chris Battaglia* Staff Writer

In the fourth fiscal quarter of 2018, the U.S. economy saw a market growth of 2.6%, beating the market expectations of 2.4%. This increase in real GDP was ultimately a reflection of positive contributions from personal consumption expenditures, exports, private inventory investment, and federal government spending, among others. So, in the midst of a positive surge in growth in the American economy, why are auto loan delinquencies at an all-time high?

New data that has recently been released by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York shows roughly seven million Americans are 90 days or more behind on their auto loan payments, the highest level that America has seen in the 19-year history of the Federal Reserve's loan origination data. Borrowers with credit scores of less than 620 had delinquency rates that exceeded 8% in the fourth quarter of 2018. These numbers have bewildered American economists due to the aforementioned surge in the American economy and labor markets. Thus, simply put, the numbers just don't add up. In a recent blog post, the New York Federal Reserve Bank stated that "the substantial and growing number of distressed borrowers suggests that not all Americans have benefitted from the strong labor market and warrants continued monitoring and analysis of this sector."

One possible cause of the heightened percentage of auto loan delinquencies can be attributed to the fact that Americans have not experienced a pay boost in the past fiscal year. A recent Bankrate survey found that the average wage earned in October, 2018 had around the same purchasing power as it did forty years ago. This lack of pay raise has tumultuously burdened middle class workers throughout the United States in the form of excruciating financial strain. Greg McBride, the Chief Financial Analyst at Bankrate, gave a statement regarding the rise of auto loan delinquencies in which he stated "unlike other forms of borrowing, such as a credit card where the consumer can dial back to a

minimum payment if things are tight, with an auto loan there is no wiggle room...\$500 monthly car payment is a \$500 monthly car payment." A slight rise in wages for wage workers in America could result in an increase in financial liberation for millions of Americans. As costs like health care and child care continue to increase, wages are struggling to keep up, and as a result auto loan delinquencies are rising at an astronomically high level.

Jeff Schuster, a senior vice president at the formidable forecasting firm LMC Automotive, has offered a different conclusion to the auto loan delinquency crisis. Schuster believes that the higher prices and payments that Americans have been paying for their cars is an indication that people have bitten off more than they can chew in terms of the luxuriousness of their automobile selections. Schuster claims "not that (Americans) are unemployed or they can't afford a vehicle...they may have bought too much of a vehicle." Schuster is insinuating that the high prices and payments that people are having to pay is a direct result of millions of Americans switching from lower-priced, frugal automobile choices to more expensive and luxurious options, especially in the line of SUV vehicles, which have become undoubtedly more popular recently in comparison to other car classes.

So, have Americans become too obsessed with luxury items? In this day and age, a greater emphasis has been put on material items, and a growing fear of not having what everyone else has is becoming engrained in younger generations. This can be accredited to a rise of social media platforms, reality TV shows, and the heightened significance that the American public has placed on high-profile celebrities. The positive relationship between the rise of wanting luxurious items and auto loan delinquencies is significant and will be fascinating to research in the coming years of our nation.

HOW AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ENDED THE SHUTDOWN

By Jonathan Taylor *Staff Writer*

The term “air traffic control” refers to the numerous systems that are responsible for getting aircraft from point A to point B without getting dangerously close to each other, to terrain (such as mountains), or to prohibited airspace, namely military bases and sites of strategic importance. It does not seem too complex; in fact, countries with insufficient radar infrastructure can base their air traffic control systems around large paper maps and toy planes, which are used to help controllers visualize aircrafts’ routes and spacing. Surely, if a system can be reduced to a map, a protractor, and 1:200 scale model airplanes, it can’t be complicated, right?

Wrong. Air traffic control is a deeply complex network overseeing everything from life-saving medevac flights to the UPS cargo plane transporting your Amazon package. Thousands of air traffic control facilities exist in North America alone, some overseeing unimaginably large swaths of airspace. For instance, the Oakland Air Route Traffic Control Center in Fremont, California controls oceanic airspace in the South Pacific. Though it doesn’t sound like much, this means that controllers in one unassuming facility in California control planes overflying a full nine percent of Earth’s surface area. Oakland is not alone, either; Gander Oceanic Control in Newfoundland handles airspace used by hundreds of daily transatlantic flights despite most of its airspace being in radar dead zones. Oakland and Gander are two of many similar centers, like those in Atlanta and Tokyo, which can be even busier. Controllers in such facilities must multitask at superhuman levels, and they must do so within a system so complicated that it has its own language: Aviation English. Despite technically being English, it has its own radio-friendly syntax and vocabulary.

Given the complexity of the system and the responsibilities shouldered by controllers, control facilities must be robustly staffed; if a facility lacks manpower, it will not function safely. Consider, for example, a

2002 midair collision in which an overworked controller named Peter Nielsen overlooked two planes that were flying intersecting courses until it was too late. 71 people died when Bashkirian Airlines 2937 struck a Brussels-bound DHL freighter in midair. Though there were other factors, the official report argued that had Nielsen been able to share his workload, lives would have been saved. Despite having been exonerated of negligence, Nielsen was nonetheless stabbed to death by a widower who held him accountable for the death of his family. This was an isolated incident, but it is a horrifying reminder of what happens when there aren’t enough controllers to handle the workload.

Air traffic controllers are highly consequential, so it’s critical that there be enough of them. However, in the recent record-shattering shutdown, President Trump underestimated their influence. Though federal employees like controllers can’t strike, people still won’t show up to work unless they expect to be paid. The shutdown, which Trump publicly mused could have lasted for years, shattered expectations of receiving paychecks, so on January 25, a small number of controllers—some reports say only three—assigned to New York’s LaGuardia Airport unexpectedly called in “sick.” Therefore, to avoid overworking the understaffed facility, the Federal Aviation Administration reduced the number of inbound planes that LaGuardia could accept. This created a bottleneck: when LaGuardia couldn’t accept inbound aircraft, they had to divert elsewhere, remain at their origin, or await their turn from a holding pattern. All of these three options can tax our aviation infrastructure to the point of hours-long delays, widespread cancellations, and general congestion, which is exactly what happened. It’s a very real example of the Butterfly Effect, in which the absence of a few people from one control tower at one airport causes delays and cancellations throughout the country.

That the shutdown led to infrastructural stress isn’t surprising, but air traffic control posits an underappre-



21ST FIRST CENTURY CITIES

By *Danya Smith* Staff Writer

As the recently introduced Green New Deal faces criticism from Republicans and moderate Democrats alike, many Americans are intimately aware of the consequences of climate change. Coastal flooding from rising sea levels, more severe storms, and higher temperatures are affecting cities across the country. State and local governments cannot wait on action from Congress. Cities must take action now against the environmental challenges of our time. Here's what cities in the 21st century should consider:

Alternative transportation systems are key to making the U.S. more sustainable. Many cities, the products of urban renewal programs throughout the 1950s and 1960s, were built for cars first, people last. Homes and people within cities were replaced with freeways and parking lots. Today, urban planners and local governments are trying to undo the legacy of urban renewal. Nearly two-thirds of our transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions are from cars, SUVs, and trucks. By increasing walking, biking, use of public transportation among other solutions, cities hope to reduce the impact cars have on the environment. Many cities are enacting "Complete Streets" policies that are designed to "enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities." In Los Angeles, Complete Streets look like adding bike lanes to existing streets, providing wayfinding and navigation, and improving pedestrians' street experience. Other cities are implementing new transportation systems like streetcars. Places like Kansas City, Missouri and Cincinnati, Ohio have recently completed ambitious streetcar projects with great benefits to their community.

Although it is nearly if not fully impossible for cities to completely withstand the effects of climate change, improving zoning is necessary. As zoning

laws determine where and what development can be built, local governments must anticipate where climate change-related effects will occur. Naturally, coastal cities are more prone to the effects of climate change. Miami is among the most vulnerable to rising sea levels in the United States. Residents often experience "sunny day flooding" which refers to higher tides causing low lying areas, like roads, to flood. Improvements to the City's "Miami of the 21st Century" zoning plan is steering development away from the areas most prone to flooding while updating the building codes for existing development. Whereas new development and investment is diverted away from hazardous coastal areas, more efficient use of land should be developed where it is safe to do so.

In recent years, there has been a focus on green building and making existing buildings more energy-efficient. Using modern technologies, green building would reduce energy use while saving building owners and residents money. It is no surprise that the places in which we live, work, and spend much of our time consume vast amounts of energy. According to the U.S. Green Building Council (USGB), commercial and residential buildings account for nearly 40 percent of carbon dioxide emissions. Whether utilizing green roofing systems or maximizing natural light, green building can drastically reduce buildings' environmental impact. New York City hopes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050. Their newly created Office of Building Energy Performance holds building owners accountable by keeping track of greenhouse gas emissions from all buildings that are greater than 25,000 square feet in area.

In 2017, after President Trump withdrew the United States from the Paris Agreement, Mayor de Blasio of New York City affirmed his allegiance to the



INDIA-PAKISTAN: NUCLEAR WORRIES AND MEDIA IRRESPONSIBILITY

By Cam Garfield *Staff Writer*

On May 2nd, 2011 the world changed. In the early hours of the morning US forces were able to successfully invade Osama Bin Laden's compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan and kill the leader Al-Qaeda who was chiefly responsible for the enormously devastating 9/11 attacks. This, though, is probably the farthest extent to which we have thought about Pakistan. However, recently its conflict with India has escalated tensions to the point that there is great fear of war breaking out for the first time between two nations with nuclear arsenals. If it comes to it and war does break out we could see levels of destruction we have never seen before. Yet in the American mainstream news cycle we have hardly hear about it or when it has been talked about, it has been done so in a minimizing manner. Instead, our distorted media coverage tend to focus on reports of North Korean nuclear activity and the threat that Kim Jong Un could present to the United States. I believe that it is no coincidence that news coverage of India and Pakistan is severely lacking in comparison to nearly any other past threat of nuclear war and that both nations are not western, white, or wealthy nations. What this seems to signal is that we do not care about the tremendously disastrous impact that nuclear war can have as long as it happens to impoverished people not from America or Europe. This is to say that we care far more about our own safety than we do about people in India and Pakistan, and while that is may be understandable, it is utterly irresponsible.

News coverage, for instance, has failed to address a major, deadly terrorist attack that has sparked the rising tensions between India and Pakistan. On February 14th in Kashmir, a Jaish-e-Mohammed member drove an explosive filled vehicle into a group of Indian troops, killing more than 40 of them. India responded to this perceived Pakistani-sanctioned attack with airstrikes. Since then shelling across the Line of Control--the disputed line of Kashmir control, which is at the heart of the current conflict--has broken out. One Indian pilot was shot down, detained and apparently beaten up and tortured by Pakistanis. In a sequence of perhaps over-the-top drama the pilot

was eventually returned. Overall, it seems that the escalation to nuclear war will not occur as diplomatic talks have taken over and there is little indication that the conflict will intensify to a greater extent. However, this should not minimize the attention this ongoing conflict should receive or desensitize us to the present threats. This recent debacle will undoubtedly serve only to generate greater antipathy between the two countries, creating an insurmountable rift between them that may in the future make war an inevitability. Peace does not occur in isolation, it requires hard work and a commitment to reconciliation. Reducing tensions but not resolving the core issues serves politicians and maintains the status quo but fundamentally prevents the changing of prevalent hostile attitudes without ever creating real meaningful changes. To address the core issues the current hate that is fueling the conflict must be addressed in substantial ways, not in a political scheme that creates no actual gains. What we should be most concerned with is the hyped up media reports and lies spread on both sides, as well as the evident indifference of the international community. My concern is that there seems to be a whole lot of "show and tell" going on as the incentive to keep tensions high to stoke fears and rally support behind political leaders while further entrenching a conflict that we should all be worried about. This is clear as political leaders on both sides have deliberately spread false information and built up expectations of military victory. If reconciliation cannot even be attempted this crisis will add to the list of grievances on both sides and make the next crisis worst -- perhaps even resulting in nuclear war and the catastrophic fallout, which would then precipitate. Without more sustained media coverage it is likely that this conflict will build and never be resolved. However, with greater media engagement it is possible that enough pressure can be generated to make the demand for peace and perhaps a joint international effort unavoidable so that the angers of both nations may be reconciled. Of course, at the center of all this will be the matter of Kashmir, whose fate for the time being will continue to be uncertain.



PRESIDENT BOUTEFLIKA: UNFIT TO RULE AND OUT OF TOUCH

By Rosie Kilcoyne *Staff Writer*

The 82-year old Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika recently announced his decision to run for a fifth term, and people are outraged. The ailing President suffered a stroke in 2013 and has rarely been seen in public since, making many believe that he is unfit to rule. A large group of Algerians believe that the government is actually being controlled by a group of Bouteflika's close advisors, including his brother, Saïd Bouteflika. While maintaining the facade of democratic governance, the government is actually run by economic barons and high military officials, whose interests do not align with the general public. If Bouteflika is a candidate in the upcoming election, it is all but certain that he will win because there is no opposition strong enough to counter him. This has created a sense of urgency because people understand that if Bouteflika is not stopped before he submits his application, his quasi-democratic government will continue.

It is not surprising that protests would break out—the largest demonstration since Algeria gained independence in 1962—when Bouteflika announced his intention to run in the April 2018 election. The unfavorable situation in Algeria made these protests a long time coming. People are frustrated about corruption and widespread incompetence within the government. When the economy was in a better situation, people mostly kept quiet, but with oil prices dropping and Algeria's economy being based on natural gases, people are frustrated. One group that has been affected by the poor economy and government is the large youth population. Around 70 percent of Algeria's population is under 30 years of age, but the youth unemployment rate is 29 percent. A large number of disenfranchised youths who believe that the government is not acting in their interest is a powerful force.

This force comes from the mere size and scope of these protests, which started as a grassroots student movement. The Algerian government, without any specific reason, decreed that spring break for universities would start ten days earlier than scheduled. This effort to break up student unification clearly shows the government's fear of the potential outcomes of this movement. Teachers and students are both involved in

these strikes and have been the guiding factor in their organization, but while these protests have called for the removal of Bouteflika and his current group of administrators, they have not supported any opposition candidate. If successful in ousting Bouteflika, the presidential seat could become a power vacuum. If this were to happen and the demonstrators fail to endorse a strong opposition candidate, this election could lead to an equally bad leader coming to power, especially one that could be controlled by the same entourage that is running the government behind President Bouteflika.

The elections on April 18, if Bouteflika is a candidate as it appears he will be, are bound to be non-democratic and will result in Bouteflika's fifth term as President. For many years, Algeria has been experiencing this vacuum of power, and many government actions have been extra-constitutional and lacking in any official accountability. There needs to be some opposition support to challenge Bouteflika, or else this corrupt deep state structure will continue. Bouteflika's Party, the FLN, were once considered liberators of an oppressive colonial structure, but now they are corrupt and out of touch with the desires of their people.

This movement is incredibly important because many other African states have leadership that is old and out of touch with their youthful populations. Cameroon, for instance, is ruled by 86-year old Paul Biya whose reelection in Fall 2018 was marred with violence. Grassroots movements are a powerful way to influence change, especially when the government structure is authoritarian and there are few other outlets to ignite change. It will be interesting to see which direction these movements take, if they stay peaceful or become violent. If the government or the protestors move to violence, it is difficult to say how things will proceed. Algerians want to avoid another civil war, as they are recently out of one that lasted from 1991-2002. These protests are a beacon of hope for disenfranchised youth in Algeria and across the globe and show the power that younger generations can have when they unite against injustice. Algeria needs fresh and young leadership that is better suited to adapt to the needs of its people, instead of serving an ineffective elitist structure.



WIRELESS WARS: AMERICA STRIKES BACK

By Nizar Kaddouri *Staff Writer*

On December 1, 2018, Huawei's CFO and heir apparent Meng Wanzhou was arrested in Vancouver at the request of the US government. Two months later, on January 28, the US Justice Department announced 13 criminal counts against the telecom giant for trying to steal American technology and covertly maintaining ties with Iran. China retaliated with a fierce media campaign and a series of arrests of Canadian business representatives on dubious counts. The US Congress then passed a law banning government agencies from contracting with Huawei. Meng was released on bail with no set date for extradition, and Huawei started a lawsuit against the US government on March 7. This affair, as momentous as it sounds, is only one piece of a much bigger geopolitical and technological struggle.

To fully understand this story, one has to go back to 1987, when Huawei was founded. The first KFC opened in Beijing, and Michael Jackson visited for a nice photo-op with Chinese children (think Madonna in Malawi). China was a relatively minor player in the world while the Americans and Soviets were duking it out. As everyone basked in the wonders of the 1990s and reckoning of the 2000s, China and Huawei were making fast progress in established technologies like smartphones and cashless payments. You see, despite adhering to fair trade rules by joining the World Trade Organization in 2001, China relied on copying foreign technology and designs to propel its economy, and eventually develop its own capacity to create. Huawei was heavily involved in this process, often copying designs from Apple, until it eventually surpassed it as the second biggest smartphone maker in the world. This continued until Huawei developed 5G technology and was ready to roll it out by 2019.

To sum it up, 5G technology will one day allow your car to talk to your toaster and laptop about your schedule on Wednesday. It creates an ease of virtual exchange that will pave the way for the next generation of innovation. Think about it: Uber and the sweet Domino's Pizza Tracker wouldn't exist if we didn't have 4G connectivity on our phones. Imagine what something

30 to 50 times faster could bring about. Whoever controls 5G technology first controls the next wave of societal changes, and right now, that that could be China. Adding to this are unconfirmed reports that Huawei appliances collect data that is sent to the Chinese government, essentially making their products state spying devices. The situation looks grim for Huawei, to say the least. In addition to the US, many European countries, including the UK, France and Germany, are debating restrictions on Huawei.

This story is not about technological progress or geopolitical rivalries, it's about the failure of the West to see its weakness in time. On one hand, I am incredibly amused by this ordeal. Almost every wealthy capitalist nation in the world is scrambling to prevent another country from sharing its advanced technology with us because of potential surveillance. I wonder what would have happened if the world reacted the same way to the Wikileaks-NSA scandal. Principles like free trade and capitalism, heavily championed by the US and Europe, are now coming to haunt the West as China gets bigger. The scales of progress are evening in some way.

On the other hand, I get the frustration on the Western side. Not the fear, the frustration. Huawei has stolen wireless technology from the likes of Motorola and Cisco, largely thanks to the Chinese government's tight monitoring of economic and political matters, and China's unfair trade practices. Can an American firm sue the Chinese state? Have American firms stolen Chinese technology? No. There is a concerted effort by the Chinese government and Chinese firms to defy trade rules, and it is time for someone to bear the punishment for it. Huawei thinks it can cheat at home and cry foul abroad, so I sure am glad that they might miss the mark on 5G.

I love technology, and I love Huawei (seriously, look at their new foldable phone), but China has consistently violated international trade rules. The Huawei case, along with China's decelerating GDP growth, should be a moment of reckoning for Chinese government officials.



KHASHOGGI, TRUMP, AND PRAGMATISM

By Benjamin Pickle *Staff Writer*

President Trump has been widely criticized for his response to Saudi Arabia's killing of Jamal Khashoggi, but for the wrong reasons. Khashoggi's life and death neither threatened nor aided US foreign policy aims. His murder, while violent and cruel, was inconsequential to our economy, our military conflicts, and US security. This makes President Trump's willingness to appease Saudi Arabia and Mohammad Bin Salman (MBS) all the more troubling. The incident presented President Trump with an opportunity to extract a concession from Saudi Arabia in exchange for his public denial of Saudi Arabia and MBS's role in Khashoggi's murder; he squandered this opportunity.

Like Khashoggi's death, President Trump's stance on Saudi Arabia and MBS's involvement has little to no effect on US foreign policy. However, Senators of both parties, driven by moral concerns, supported Trump's sanctioning of Saudi officials. While sanctions might hurt Saudi Arabia, they do nothing to help the US. A more pragmatic president could have elicited a benefit for the US in exchange for not rebuking or sanctioning Saudi Arabia. This benefit might take the form of heavily discounted (or even gifted) oil, valuable information on terrorist activities, or peace talks in Yemen. These concessions would serve US foreign and domestic policy aims by lowering energy costs, protecting national security, and maintaining the balance of power, respectively. The White House chose to pass up these benefits, instead supporting MBS without receiving anything in return. Khashoggi's death was a free lunch that President Trump simply chose not to attend.

Some will argue that allowing his death to go unchecked will send a message that the US will turn a blind eye to authoritarianism, or that the US must stand for justice against the dictatorial style rule of MBS. However, US foreign policy cannot be guided primarily by moral concerns. Moral arguments all center on the idea that policy makers should pursue a policy because they feel it is right, without thought for whether or not this policy is in America's best interest.

The US government has an obligation to every citizen, who give our government the right to rule, to do what is best for America in every situation. We cannot make US interests subservient to the emotions of the White House.

Now more than ever, the US cannot act against our own interests. Since World War II, the world has seen relative peace between superpowers like the US, China, and Russia. In this post war peace, the US has thrived, making significant social and economic advancements. We must therefore attempt to maintain this peace for as long as possible. Our method of peacekeeping should be maintaining the environment peace has survived in, maintaining the balance of power. We must be pragmatists, willing to do what is necessary to maintain global peace and order, not ideologues fighting a moral crusade.

To be clear, I am not advocating for appeasement; and maintaining global order is not a policy of peace at any price. As has been the case since World War II, the US must remain the preeminent global power in order to maintain peace. From our position of prominence, the US can check the power of others as they attempt to expand and disrupt the peace. We must be strong to maintain peace. Other nations, like Russia, cannot be trusted with unchecked power. They seek to use it as a tool of conquest and dominance, not as a tool of peace. This is the lens through which we must view all foreign policy decisions, always striving toward the goal of peace through American strength.

By denying MBS's involvement in Khashoggi's death for free, President Trump squandered the opportunity to grow US influence and maintain peace through strength. America could have taken the first step toward establishing a loose patron-client relationship with MBS: in which MBS is given autonomy and cover to solidify and maintain his hold on domestic power, in return for his help advancing US interests. If MBS commits to regional peace by ending the war in Yemen and by handing over terrorists and their financiers; then the US should commit to supporting him and letting him rule as he sees fit.

THE NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE COMPACT

By *Teddy Fenton* Staff Writer

Since the turn of the 21st century, the Electoral College has undoubtedly shifted the political direction of the United States in favor of the Republican Party. Two Republican Presidents have been elected in spite of losing the popular vote, and each president has appointed two justices to lifelong terms on the Supreme Court within the authority of Article II of the US Constitution. The relevance of the Electoral College is a growing topic of discussion, and Maine has become a focal point of this debate after a legislative committee recently endorsed Maine's inclusion to The National Popular Vote Compact.

States that join the compact agree to commit their allocated electors to whichever candidate receives the most total votes across all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The interstate compact has been legislatively enacted by 11 states and Washington D.C. with the intention of diminishing the discrepancy in outcomes between the Electoral College and the popular vote. This legislation will not go into effect until a minimum of 270 electoral votes have signed onto the compact. 270 electorates is also the minimum requirement needed to win the presidency and satisfy a majority of the 538 total electorates. So far, the compact represents 171 total votes.

On March 4th, the Maine legislative committee for Veterans and Legal Affairs voted six to three in favor of endorsing a bill that would commit Maine to The National Popular Vote Compact. Maine State Senate President Troy Jackson sponsored the bill, and votes fell entirely along party lines. The bill still needs to pass through both houses of the state legislature in order to become law. However, if votes fall once again along party lines, then the bill will likely pass, as Democrats control both chambers of the state congress with significant majorities.

The current "winner takes all" electoral model has been adopted by every state in the country other than Maine and Nebraska. These states split their electoral votes by allocating some to specific districts and others to the winner of the overall state popular vote. Within this "winner takes all" model

of the other 48 states, small swing states are vastly overrepresented in presidential elections. These states also tend to be politically characterized as "strong Republican" states, as defined by Gallup. A vote in Wyoming, as an extreme example, is worth 306% more than Wyoming's true population is proportional to the country. Presidential candidates therefore invest significantly greater time and resources toward enticing select voters at the expense of the rest of the nation. In 2016 for example, nearly 95% of all campaign events occurred in just twelve states, and nearly two-thirds of all stops occurred in only six key battleground states. Consequently, enacted policy tends to slant in favor of the interests of these vital constituents. For example, while the solar industry employs a significantly greater number of workers than the coal industry, candidates are solely infatuated with the voters of coal country and the rust belt because of their overrepresentation in key battleground states. It is no wonder Donald Trump has promised to protect the interests of coal country at a time when America should obviously be moving toward renewable energy sources.

But what does the National Popular Vote Compact mean for Maine specifically? Joining the compact does not make much sense when looking through the lens of Maine's specific interests. Maine benefits more than most states from the current structure of the Electoral College. In fact, a vote in Maine is worth 180% more than Maine's true population is proportional to the country, and joining the compact would surely diminish Maine's electoral advantage in deciding the presidency. Nevertheless, passing this bill would move the country four electorates closer to a political reality of "one person one vote." It would strengthen our commitment to the democratic ideals of equality and inclusivity, while also incentivizing 50 state campaign trails and moderated platforms. Joining The National Popular Vote Compact presents a difficult choice for Maine's Democratic representatives to grapple with. During a time of hyperpolarization, expect party interests to decide the vote, and Maine to pass a democratic bill to join the compact.



MAINE'S CENTRIST SENATORS - COMPARISON AND CRITICISMS

By *Skye Rhomberg* Staff Writer

In an era of ever-increasing bipolarity, Maine is home to a few of America's most centrist politicians. Though the state took a large swing leftward during this election with all three chambers of the state government going Democrat and the defeat of U.S. Representative Bruce Poliquin, Maine is perhaps best known on the wider stage for its two senators: Independent Angus King and Republican Susan Collins. The word "bipartisan" occurs in the first paragraphs of both of their official biographies and their voting records bear their words out—according to FiveThirtyEight, King has voted with Trump more frequently than all but four current Democratic senators (and less than any Republican) over the course of the last two Congresses. Collins has voted with Trump less than all but one Republican. In a time when the government can barely reach across the aisle to keep themselves afloat, the pro-coöperation King and Collins ranked 8 and 13 respectively in a poll conducted in January ranking U.S. Senators by popularity. Perhaps these two should be held as exemplars of the old guard of politicians who were statesmen first and polemic agitators second.

Or maybe the pair are both spineless political operators whose positions depend entirely on electability. This claim has certainly been levelled at Collins who has gone from the Democrats' darling when she threw critical support behind the Affordable Care Act to one of their biggest targets after she supported Brett Kavanaugh's nomination. King has been more outspokenly fluid in his affiliations, but has avoided much of this criticism. At the core of this disconnect is the problem of granularity. This is the central issue when evaluating the validity of a "centrist" political platform: to what degree do the positions a candidate holds reflect a consistent moral or political character? To what degree are they dictated by current events or populist orientation? Answers to these questions could greatly affect

the credence of these two Senators and provide an appropriate measuring stick for candidates whose views do not fit neatly into a box.

Angus King's lack of stated political affiliation stretches back his whole career as Maine's governor and then as a senator. His political positions are reasonably liberal, particularly in social policy. King supports what, until very recently, was the moderate Democrat party line, having supported the ACA, environmental protection, same-sex marriage, expanded gun control, and liberal immigration policy. Collins is more complicated. She moved from voting with Obama over 70% of the time to voting with Trump over 70% of the time. She is seen as one of the most moderate Republicans and is identified as socially liberal but perhaps fiscally conservative. Despite Collins' heavy swing over the last six years, her positions and King's are quite similar. Though the two fell on opposite sides of many partisan votes over nominations and the like, Collins and King both criticize current immigration policy, support LGBT rights and abortion, support expanded gun control, and advocate for environmental protection. While Collins shows herself to be a Republican by opposing the ACA and having a more mixed record on the Bush tax cuts, she is a world away from the Tea Party.

Although Collins' track record suggests some amount of political machination, her platform and King's may actually accurately reflect the positions Maine holds as a whole. New England has a long tradition of social liberalism and fiscal conservatism and Mainer's support of King and Collins reflect this. After applying my measuring sticks for the validity of centrist politicians, I find Angus King and Susan Collins' positions reasonably legitimate. I don't believe either one is perfect, but I believe their desire for bipartisanship and fiscal conservatism to be honest, or at least an honest reflection of the people whom the two represent.



NEW ROOTS FARM

By *Ella McDonald* Staff Writer

Last July, Maine's first Somali-owned farm stand opened in downtown Lewiston. It is jointly run by New Roots and Isukan Farms, and sells chemical-free produce, flowers, and even sambusas, a Somali snack. The new farm stand will provide members of the local Somali community with a new source of secure income and allow them to reconnect with the land, a dream that has been long in the making for many Somali Bantu.

In Somalia, the Somali Bantu people are a minority ethnic group who descend from Bantu ethnic groups found in East Africa. Their ancestors were brought to Somalia in the 19th century by Arab slave traders. When the Somali Civil War broke out in 1991, Somali Bantu people were targeted by ethnic Somalis, chased from their farms, and subjected to violence. Those who were able to flee walked to the Kenyan border to seek refuge. After living in Kenyan refugee camps since 1992, twelve-thousand Somali Bantu people resettled in the United States in 2000.

Since 2004, approximately 5,000 Somali Bantu have relocated to Lewiston, Maine after leaving their primary resettlement sites in larger American cities. Somali Bantu people were drawn to Lewiston by the promise of low rents, good schools, and physical security, which many had not experienced in larger cities. However, some Mainers responded to their resettlement with racism and discouragement. In 2003 the Mayor of Lewiston wrote a letter to the community asking them to stop moving to Lewiston, and Maine's white supremacist groups have continuously threatened the community. In 2006, a group of people threw a severed pig's head into a Somali mosque.

In addition, Somali Bantu have faced many challenges in their efforts to secure economic self-sufficiency. Many were from rural farming communities that did not have schools, so the majority were unable to read or write in their own language, let alone speak English. This makes it challenging for them to find employment in Lewiston, especially because most employers were unwilling to offer language services and harbored resentment towards Somali Bantu people. According to the Sustainable Livelihoods Relief Organization, 96% of Somali Bantu in Lewiston are unemployed. On top of this,

Somali Bantu who do not have jobs are often suspected to be collecting excess welfare, while those who are able to secure employment are accused of taking jobs from residents who have lived in Lewiston for longer.

Somali Bantu continue to fight for economic security despite lacking support from the larger community. Because many older Somali Bantu living in Lewiston were small-scale subsistence farmers in Somalia and have significant agricultural skills, a group of Somali Bantu founded the Sustainable Livelihoods Relief Organization to organize workshops about sustainable agriculture in Maine for new Mainers and advocate for Somali people to gain access to land. Mohamed Dekow, the Executive Director of the Sustainable Livelihoods Relief Organization, has said farming "is part of who we are. It is our past. It is our future. It is an honorable profession and we want our children to engage with the land. We want to feel the dirt, the soil, and the earth between our fingers again. We yearn to go back to the land." They hoped to use their previous skills and knowledge to create new livelihoods for the Somali Bantu community.

Thanks to the efforts of the Sustainable Livelihoods Relief Organization and other advocacy groups, the New Roots farmers were trained in 2006 by Cultivating Community, a refugee and immigrant farmer training program based out of two incubator farms in Lisbon and Falmouth, Maine. They were soon able to acquire land in Lewiston and opened the first Somali-run farm in Maine in 2016. New Roots aims to "help and support each other to bring economy and jobs [to] our community." This is particularly important in a state that historically has not offered them many economic opportunities. The farm and farm stand now employ four full-time Somali farmers, and hire seasonal workers from the Somali community during the summer months. So far, their farm stand has been a success: one of the farmers, Batula Ismail, remarked that the new business has been largely welcomed by the Lewiston community and has not faced as many problems as they anticipated. If you are interested in learning more about New Root's work or supporting their farm, you can visit their website to read more or order a CSA share during the 2019 season: <https://newrootscooperativefarm.com/>.



EDUCATION IN MAINE: CHANGES UNDER JANET MILLS' PROPOSED BUDGET

By *Hanna Bouchard* Staff Writer

Janet Mills has recently published her proposed 8 billion dollar two-year budget. In the proposal, she emphasizes the importance of increasing education spending. Some aspects of her education budget include expanding pre-kindergarten programs across the state, increasing teacher pay, increasing the number of students going to college from Maine high schools, and incentivizing graduates to return to their rural Maine hometowns. Overall, Mills' plan for funding education should be effective. The children of Maine are our future, and they deserve the best opportunities possible. In terms of education funding, the newly proposed budget is a step towards ensuring the best future for Maine. It will be especially successful if the state can pull this off without any increase in taxes, so that further financial strain is not placed on the families of Maine.

With regards to expanding the availability of Pre-Kindergarten, studies on the benefits of Pre-K show varied results. One study, A Randomized Control Trial of a Statewide Voluntary Prekindergarten Program on Children's Skills and Behaviors through Third Grade, conducted by the Peabody Research Institute at Vanderbilt University, suggested that any educational gains from Pre-K were short lived and disappeared within the next grade. Other studies suggested more of a "fade out" effect, in which positive effects of Pre-K are not seen in the long term. However, with some districts in Maine offering Pre-K and others not, this newly proposed funding will allow every child in Maine the opportunity to get a head start on their education, instead of just extending that access to some. Making these strides towards an equal playing field

for young children is a step in the right direction.

Another component of the proposal included increasing the minimum teacher salary to \$40,000. Most educators are incredibly hard working and they deserve a fair wage. This increase shows that the state values the job that educators are doing and it may incentivize more young adults to pursue a career in education. While administrative positions are important and crucial to proper school functioning, we need experienced, educated, and caring teachers. Too often, due to lack of funding, we see teachers dip into their own pocket to pay for school supplies for their students. More resources are needed in the classroom, and that starts with improving pay for teachers.

The Maine GOP has strong concerns about the sustainability of Mills' overall proposed budget. Some worried that the increase in teachers minimum pay would cause local school costs to go up since the state subsidies to schools did not increase enough to support the pay increase. They also worry that it may cause property taxes to increase in order for the cities and towns to recuperate some of their losses. But overall, the education portion seems promising in helping to raise the quality of local children's education. While the proposed budget includes money to accommodate these increases in education funding, it is important that we do not overspend in case of future economic downturn. However, education is one thing that should not be skimped on. We should want our children to be educated and in the best way possible. Hopefully these changes will make a positive impact on Maine's education system and will eventually help Maine's economy when students stay here to further their education and establish their careers.

WOMEN IN THE JAPANESE SOCIETY, YET UNEMPOWERED

By Rui Min *Staff Writer*

“Permanent employment”(eikyū shūshoku)—this was an expression in Japan referring to women in marriage, who were expected to become housewives for their entire lives. Though the term itself has become somewhat outdated in the 21st century, the political, social and economic opportunities provided to women in Japan remains unacceptable by all standards.

Japan, with only less than 100 female legislators out of 707 in total, ranks among the lowest in advanced democracies in terms of women in national legislatures. Women remain rare in the dominantly male circle, especially among the nation’s top political elites. Take a close look at the cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzō Abe: after a major cabinet reshuffle in October last year, the number of women in his government halved from 2 to 1, when Satsuki Katayama was appointed as Minister for Gender Equality while Seiko Noda and Yōko Kamikawa leave Abe Cabinet entirely.

Apart from the realm of public service, Japanese women in all walks of life suffer from inequality. In Japan, only 42% of women are in regular employment as compared to 75% of men. For working women, the situation is no less dire: the gender wage gap in Japan is persistent at over 25%, meaning that working women make less than 75% what men do. The socio-economic phenomenon is a direct result of the still dominant traditional family structure with a breadwinner husband and a housewife that performs domestic chores full-time. Statistics show that women in Japan perform 85.1% of household chores; besides that, women are expected to be the major caretaker of children, a responsibility that only adds to the disproportionately massive burden that Japanese women suffer from.

This heavily gendered expectation for women’s family role is a major cause of many of Japan’s social problems. One of them, Shōshika, or the sub-replacement fertility resulting from the declining tendency to marry, is sometimes wrongly and unjustly attributed to women. A number of Japanese politicians have made enraging sexist remarks, such as Kanji Katō, a former junior member in the Third Abe Cabinet, who commented that young women who do not intend to marry will become a “burden on the state.” The true underlying reason that many fail to see is the disparity of gender expectations in marriages where women fully take care of domestic responsibilities in exchange of support from the husband, a choice far too costly to many.

The solution to many of Japan’s problem lies in the empowerment of women. Prime Minister Abe’s government must show some dedication to his “womonomics” initiative. If Japan is to remain among the world’s advanced democracies, women must be freed from the outdated view of family and social responsibilities, the very one that causes Japanese men overworking themselves to karōshi and the power of women systematically underutilized in the economy. Regarding women as the culprit of social issues as some Japanese politicians do, is to reverse the causality; women are the victims of the deep-rooted unfairness in the problematic social structure. The only fair solution is to provide women with equal opportunities means equality in the family and equality in the workplace, and only by doing so will the performance of the Japanese society as well as the economy improve.

THE SILENCING OF CATHOLIC NUNS

By *Aimley Michaud-Nolan* Staff Writer

In a time when the #MeToo Movement has galvanized so many voices that for years went undetected, it is sad to think that the voices of Catholic nuns have yet to be heard.

In July of 2018, the largest association of Roman Catholic nuns in the U.S. urged their sisters who suffered from sexual abuse within their congregation to report it. The Association also demanded that the Roman Catholic Church recognize these voices and take action against the systematic abuse of nuns by their superiors.

I was only able to find two articles reporting on the abuse of nuns in America even though the Association's outcry came over a year ago.

In January of this year, the media began reporting on the history of sexual abuse on nuns again. This time, they outlined decades

of abuse across the world. The heartbreaking part of the new reporting was that in the 90s, multiple reports by nuns describing the horrible abuses on their sisters across 23 nations elicited no meaningful responses. There were no statements, no policies, no changes—the world barely acknowledged the horrors these women were enduring.

In 1994, Sister Maura O'Donohue sent the Vatican the results of the 23 nation survey that proved the sexual abuses were not only happening, but were considered common among nuns.

In Africa, a 1998 report said, "Nuns were considered 'safe' sex partners for priests who fear infection of H.I.V." If a nun became pregnant, priests pressured them to have an abortion. One report added that "29 nuns had become pregnant in one order alone." This was not widely reported at the time, nor is it now even as more and more abuses are coming to light.

In 2013, a reverend in Uganda was suspended for raising concerns about priests in his congregation who he believed were sexually abusing nuns and other women outside their order.

In India, a Bishop faced rape charges by a member of his church. 80 sisters signed a letter in July of 2018 in support of his removal from their congregation.

In Chile this year, the Vatican is investigating numerous reports by nuns of sexual abuse and mistreatment by priests and other superiors within their church.

The accounts go on and on. I could fill pages with the reports, and these are only the ones that have actually been covered by the media.

The silence of the nuns is encouraged by

their congregations, but the world has a responsibility to hear and support them.

As an Atheist, it is easy for me to see these horrors for what they are: a systematic problem. A pervasive, evil within an organization that preaches values they do not follow. I'm not claiming every priest perpetrates these abuses. But they do have a responsibility to fix this problem and to hold their fellow members accountable.

In January this year, it was the media that pressed the Pope to comment. And he did. But that was a disappointment. It was the same old, tired speech, claiming the "church needed to do more." Of course the church does. It needed to do more when hundreds of thousands of children were abused. And it needs to do more now. The media has a responsibility to report it, and the Roman Catholic Church has a responsibility to end it.

"THE SILENCE OF NUNS IS ENCOURAGED BY THEIR CONGREGATION, BUT THE WORLD HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO HEAR AND SUPPORT THEM."

SHIFTING DEMOCRATIC STRATEGIES IN 2020: A PERSPECTIVE FROM A MICHIGAN DEMOCRAT

By Charles Beauregard *Staff Writer*

I remember sitting in the spa around 11pm eastern time on November 8, 2016, as a gloom fell over all the Colby students present. I remember seeing the map of Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan come onto the screen covered in a stinging red. And like it was yesterday, I remember seeing an enlarged image of my home in Southeast Michigan encompass the screen. Over the next few days, weeks, and months, many people contemplated what led to the election of Donald Trump and, more specifically, how he was able to win the industrial heartland of America. And for months after the election, I remember friends joking with me about how it was (partially) my state's fault that we found ourselves in today's political climate. Everytime I return home, I am reminded of the deep political unease of a purple state like Michigan in conversations with friends. With age I become increasingly aware of the key issues and policy concerns Michiganders have. Michigan is a state that has long been defined by unions, traditions, and demographics that should make for an unbreakable big blue coalition. But why did that coalition break in 2016? Is the Democratic party in the Midwest changing and where is it going?

As the 2020 Democratic presidential field shapes up, many people are contemplating the direction of the Party. I see three options: The Democrats could reinvest themselves in the Midwest (which effectively handed the presidency to Donald Trump). The Democrats could shift towards states that are generally Republican strongholds like Georgia, Texas, and Arizona. Or, the Democrats could adopt a strategy that seeks to do both. Increasingly, some suggest that the Party should leave behind the heavily white and rural Midwest and invest in states that reflect the complex coalition of the Democratic demographic. If the 2018 midterms showed us anything it is that Democrats can do both: gain back ground in the Midwest AND pick up ground in states like Georgia, Texas, and Arizona. Stacey Abrams in Georgia and Beto O'Rourke in Texas suggest that there is a growing Democratic voting block in the South that Democrats can capitalize on. However, to suggest that Democrats do not stand a chance in the Midwest is unwarranted and disheartening. I hope that Democrats can craft a strategy to effectively win back voters in the Midwest while also continuing to address key issues in other regions of the country, such as the South, that traditionally go red. As excited and supportive I am of a shifting Democratic party, both regionally and progressively, I hope that the party does not write off any parts of the country. As crucial as it is to mobilize communities of racial minorities, subur-

banites, and youth across America, I think it is beneficial that the party still compete for working class voters of all races everywhere in the country.

I do not know what the Democratic strategy will be in 2020 but I do know that Democrats should be on offense. As a proud Michigan Democrat, as much as I was disappointed in 2016, 2018 was a breath of fresh air as I witnessed my home state contribute to the blue wave. Democrats narrowly lost Michigan in 2016, but they came out swinging in the 2018 midterms and swept over many offices of state politics. Not only did Democrats sweep Michigan, but the Democrats who won reflected the changing Party Demographics. Gretchen Whitmer became the second female Governor of the state, Debbie Stabenow, the state's first female Senator, was elected to her fourth term, and the new Attorney General, Dana Nessel, became the first openly gay person elected to statewide office in Michigan. Other key races included two flipped House seats to women, another House seat to a Palestinian American woman, five flipped state House seats, and five flipped state Senate seats. Progressive policies also won: gerrymandering was banned and the state adopted automatic voter registration and a new absentee-ballot process. Democrats are alive and thriving in Michigan.

Like many others I am curious to see how the Democratic Party reshapes itself as the nature of party politics continues to shift in the Trump era. Many question what it means to leave folks behind and how that will affect the structure of the Party and the people living in those states. I take issue with this: why is it necessary to leave folks behind? Michigan Democrats clearly proved their resiliency in 2018. Moving forward, the Party needs to capitalize on this momentum the same way it needs to take advantage of opportunities in the South. If Democrats fail to make an effort to mobilize voters in Michigan, and more broadly throughout the Midwest, like Hillary Clinton failed to do in 2016, I fear that the state will respond negatively. Not only would this potentially affect the outcome of the 2020 presidential election, it could seriously damage progress that Democrats made in state and national politics in Michigan in 2018. There is a clear and long term benefit to maintaining strongholds in the Midwest while also expanding the Party's agenda regionally and in terms of policy.

As much as my state has struggled as the automotive industry has taken a hit, the water crisis in Flint, and bankruptcy in Detroit, its citizens continue to prove their resiliency. A lot has changed from 2016 to 2018. Democrats should not forget about Michigan, or the rest of the Midwest, in 2020.

A TALE OF TWO DEMOCRACIES

By *Terri Nwanma* Staff Writer

This past fall when I had just arrived at Colby, there was already a frenzy in the buildup to the US midterms. Sign-up sheets flew around, asking people to secure bus seats so they could go vote. Colby students, who many have accused of being apathetic, showed up and showed out. Some showed up not knowing what sort of ID was acceptable for voting, but nonetheless they showed. In 2018, social media and college notice boards were rife with campaigns left, right, and centre, calling on the youth and marginalised groups in particular to make their votes count, and it seemed to be effective.

Then, the results were in.

There were disappointments for all parties, as there always are in elections. The beloved Beto O'Rourke of Texas, unfortunately for the Democrats, didn't get his supposed just dues. But Alexandria O'Casio Cortez and Ilhan Omar were some of a few trailblazers representing people of colour. Both women, Latinx and immigrant Somali, obtained seats in Congress. Overall, the elections were not what supporters of either Republicans or Democrats wanted exactly, but the polls seemed to have been conducted fairly.

I was excited about this whole process of midterms, so I converted this excitement to hope for the fast approaching general elections in Nigeria. Fast forward to 2019, and the elections have rolled around.

On Twitter, African youth and specifically Nigerian youth, have used the platform to advocate for new, informed leadership and a shift in the general ideologies of the average Nigerian.

Here is a bit of a backstory to see why so many youth were trying to convince other youth and even the older groups to change their mindsets. Nigeria, like the United States, is bipartisan, albeit unofficially. For years, both parties have controlled power, but neither party has done much good in the past 20 years of Nigeria's democracy. Nigeria's 75-year-old president, President Muhammadu Buhari of the All Progressives Congress, however, has reached new lows in his past four years of power. Nigeria recently surpassed India as home to the world's largest contingent of poor people. It also has one of the highest inequality levels in the world. This current president, partly due to ailing health and partly due to his incompetence for the role, has been unable to

cope with the changing global economic scene and has been lacking in appointing ministers to administer effective policies to fix the failing major sectors in the Nigerian economy.

So for months in the build-up to elections, many had attempted to convince the masses who still, surprisingly, supported a clearly inept president. Unlike the US, there aren't strong ideological divides (per se) when people support political parties. For a country that has been ravaged by economic instability and internal terror attacks in the North especially, the average Nigerian seeks someone in power to fix the economy and provide the lacking basic amenities, especially physical security. Therefore, it might be confusing to see so many supporters for a leader who as president obviously has caused so much economic suffering for Nigerians.

Even with President Muhammadu Buhari's many supporters, it seemed many more were in favour of the "only" other option: Abubakar Atiku of the People's Democratic Party, who was Vice President of Nigeria three electoral terms ago. Others were in support of the smaller parties who are often ignored but have had viable candidates such as Obiageli Ezekwesili, a former Vice President for the World Bank's Africa Region. However, some contenders for President, like Obiageli, dropped out of the race, and supporters of similar low-key parties were warned by fellow voters to transfer their support to Atiku to make their votes actually count.

In hindsight, it seems all these efforts were futile. The elections in Nigeria this past month were first postponed at 3 am on the day of elections to a week after they were originally scheduled to take place by the Independent National Electoral Commission. The election took place, but many voters reported rigging and violence. A lot of this violence was tinged with tribalism, another plague to Nigeria's democratic process. Muhammadu Buhari will for the third time as president, second time as a democratic leader, rule Nigeria again. Is there hope for the democratic process? Here, in the US, the problem is getting legally elected presidents in power to think of other ideologies and enforce policies that will accommodate those. In Nigeria, getting a working President in power legally seems to be the more daunting task.



A RESPONSE TO “THE ‘S’ WORD”

By Daniel Ellison *Staff Writer*

In our last issue, Aimely Michaud-Nolan discussed some of the implications and contrasting realities of contemporary political usage of ‘the “S” word,’ socialism. Michaud-Nolan notes that Trump used this word, following right-wing usage, to denigrate the social welfare projects of the Democrats by drawing a comparison to the numerous failed socialist projects of the last century. She states that this is a faulty comparison – the ‘socialism’ that the American left embraces is much closer to the Scandinavian and Canadian systems.

While Trump’s usage of this word is intended to conjure up these exaggerated notions of the Democratic project, it is important to note that it is increasingly common within the Democratic party to embrace the label ‘socialist.’ We are all aware of the success of Bernie Sanders’ 2016 run for President as a self-proclaimed socialist, as well as the 2018 election to Congress of two Democrats who are members of the Democratic Socialists of America, Rashida Tlaib and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. And, as Michaud-Nolan notes, over half of Americans under 30 approve of socialism, undoubtedly influenced by Sanders’ campaign.

Trump is thus not wrong to associate the Democratic Party with “the ‘S’ word” - some Democrats in power, and many in the electorate, claim to embrace socialism. But the associations that he seeks to conjure refer to a different ‘socialism’ than those of the self-proclaimed socialists in the Democratic Party. The meaning of the word socialism, like every word, has changed over time. We are experiencing, in the American political and popular landscape, a drastic shift in this word’s meaning. Where socialism once meant the end to commodification and the intrinsically unsustainable exploitation of both people and the environment, it now means, to the average American, simply the development of a more equitable social welfare state within the capitalist system. We should be aware that this latter definition is the one which is accepted in modern American political usage.

This new political ideology which we have labeled ‘socialism,’ or ‘democratic socialism,’ is not, therefore, subject to the critiques that past socialistic projects have failed, as it is of a

wholly different type. But neither does it escape the Marxist critiques of a system that commodifies and exploits. Capitalism, as a process, directs the ends of human life towards the accumulation of wealth and commodities. This justification of accumulation inevitably leads to unharnessed production which treats those workers as expendable, and treats the environment as if its resources are unlimited, which they are not. The goal of the ‘new socialism’ is not to establish a society which supports human meaning and uses the world’s resources sustainably, but rather to allow entry for all into the existent, damaging capitalist structure.

Michaud-Nolan notes that modern American ‘socialists’ hope to establish not the ambitious, and ultimately catastrophic policies of communist China or the Soviet Union, but rather policies similar to countries such as Norway or Canada. The policies of Norway and Canada, however, are catastrophic in their own right. These are two countries that are often looked to as leaders in the climate policy. The fact is, however, that they rank 7th and 5th, respectively, in natural gas production. While Norway is only 63rd in domestic carbon emissions, it is estimated that exported Norwegian natural gas is responsible for 1000 times more emissions than what is produced domestically. Canada exports even more natural gas than this; and is itself produces the 10th most domestic emissions. Each year, we experience more and more the damaging effects which our carbon emissions have on the Earth. These countries are among the most responsible. Just as unfettered capitalism uses up resources at an unsustainable rate, clearly, so too does the ‘democratic socialist’ project of making capitalism equitable.

The system of equity that new socialism hopes to achieve, too, is wholly nationalistic; Sanders said as much in his presidential campaign. If realized, this system would encourage more overconsumption - the exploitation of underpaid workers in foreign countries, producing goods for increased American consumption, would thus increase. Democratic socialism, as a political ideal, simply allows all Americans to contribute to and experience, either now or in the future, the damaging effects of capitalism.

TRUMP'S GAG RULE: AN ATTACK ON RIGHTS

By Sarah Warner *Staff Writer*

On Monday, March 4th, the Trump administration released a draft final rule preventing clinics that provide or refer abortion services, such as Planned Parenthood, from receiving federal family planning funds through Title X. Trump has been threatening to “defund Planned Parenthood” from the beginning of his campaign, and this gag rule is his attempt to do so. In trying to prevent Planned Parenthood and other clinics from offering or referring abortion services, however, he is endangering the lives of the American people he claims to care for so much.

First of all, barring access to safe, legal, and affordable abortion services will not stop people from getting abortions; after all, someone who truly wants to end a pregnancy will find a way to do so. Instead, it just forces people—particularly those of low-income, who rely on government funded clinics for their healthcare—to seek out abortions from potentially unlicensed and unsafe sources. Unsafe abortions, defined by the World Health Organization (WHO), are “procedures for terminating an unintended pregnancy carried out either by persons lacking the necessary skills or in an environment that does not conform to minimal medical standards, or both.” The WHO also says that these unsafe procedures are the third leading cause of maternal deaths worldwide and lead to over five million preventable disabilities. Defunding clinics that provide or refer abortion services puts low-income Americans’ health at risk by pushing them to seek out unsafe abortions. The gag rule also bars healthcare providers from referring their patients to abortion services lest they are defunded as well, which further restricts Americans’ knowledge of and access to safe and legal abortions.

Even disregarding abortion services, Trump’s gag rule still endangers the health of the American people. By defunding Planned Parenthood and other institutions

like it, the Trump administration is restricting access to reliable birth control, health exams, cancer screenings, and STD testing and treatment. Over four million people rely on Title X—many of them LGBTQ+ and/or people of color—and out of those four million, Planned Parenthood serves over forty percent. Under this new rule, those 1.6 million people would no longer be able to receive affordable reproductive healthcare. That’s likely a conservative number as well, considering Planned Parenthood clinics aren’t the only ones that would be affected.

No matter your stance on abortion, it does not justify preventing low-income Americans from getting things like routine health exams and cancer screenings. Trump himself even acknowledged that Planned Parenthood has helped millions of people on multiple occasions; yet, he cannot look past the “hot-topic” issue of abortion, choosing to put people’s lives and well-being at risk rather than lose his pro-life voters. His apathy, while always shocking, is unsurprising. The Trump administration has shown time and time again that they care little about low-income Americans, leaving these people without safety nets while providing generous tax cuts to the CEOs and mega-corporations of America. Further, President “grab them by the p*ssy”, “build the wall” Trump has shown time and time again that he cares little about the bodily autonomy or safety of women and people of color, so why would he care about organizations that service them? It is another egregious offense on the Trump administration’s long list of offenses against the rights, health, safety, and freedom of the American people, and it is our duty to speak up against it.

KING OF THE HILL AS A POSTMODERN TEXT

(Continued from page 6)

of these shows play off each other, but still compete for ratings.

So, to what do we owe King of the Hill? Its initial pastiche of The Simpsons set in motion a cultural phenomenon of animated sitcoms that we still see today with new entrants such as Big Mouth and F is for Family. Without King of the Hill, The Simpsons might have been imitated in another, possibly non-animated way, that might have changed the television landscape of the 21st century. King of the Hill rebukes Jameson's notion that "stylistic innovation is no longer possible" (546). What his essay fails to realize is that pastiche can create genre, as the imitation is what builds the genre while the shows create their individuality through their reaction to and differences from the show they imitate. Ultimately, artists always seek innovation in their work. If pastiche is inevitable, they must work within the postmodern idea of genre to create their own pastiche innovation.

STILL LEFT: COLLEGE RADIO AND COLLEGE ROCK THEN AND NOW

(Continued from page 7)

of radio play and geared towards the would-be philosopher's of the next generation has been taken up by indie rock and hip-hop in today. The spirit of college rock and college radio proves that concerns from one generation to another don't always have to change. There is a shared aesthetic over time that hints at the similarities in concerns and values that binds wide-swaths of society together, and the beauty of the radio is that its always there to be found. As the Replacements once sang about the unifying power of college radio, "if I don't see ya in a long, long while, I'll try to find you...Left of the Dial."

HOW AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ENDED THE SHUTDOWN

(Continued from page 10)

ciated way in which this transpired. Air traffic control tends to appear in our public discourse only when there's a problem; it's generally one of those things that our country takes for granted. But it's no coincidence that President Trump ended his standoff with Nancy Pelosi mere hours after these controllers stayed home. The causation is clear; President Trump couldn't tolerate nationwide logistical breakdowns centered upon his hometown of New York. It therefore stands to reason that a modest number of air traffic controllers wield more control over the politics of our infrastructure than the President himself. For now, this represents an important check on the modern executive's power. But in the long run, this power dynamic points to a troubling over-reliance on a system that, at its most fundamental level, asks too much of too few people.

21ST FIRST CENTURY CITIES

(Continued from page 11)

agreement. Although the United States. Among the nation's largest cities, Mayor de Blasio noted state and local governments need to "take matters into [their] own hands." The debate surrounding the Green New Deal shows that the legitimacy of climate change continues to be debated within the federal government, however, state and local governments are poised to transform our cities for an environmentally conscious and just future.

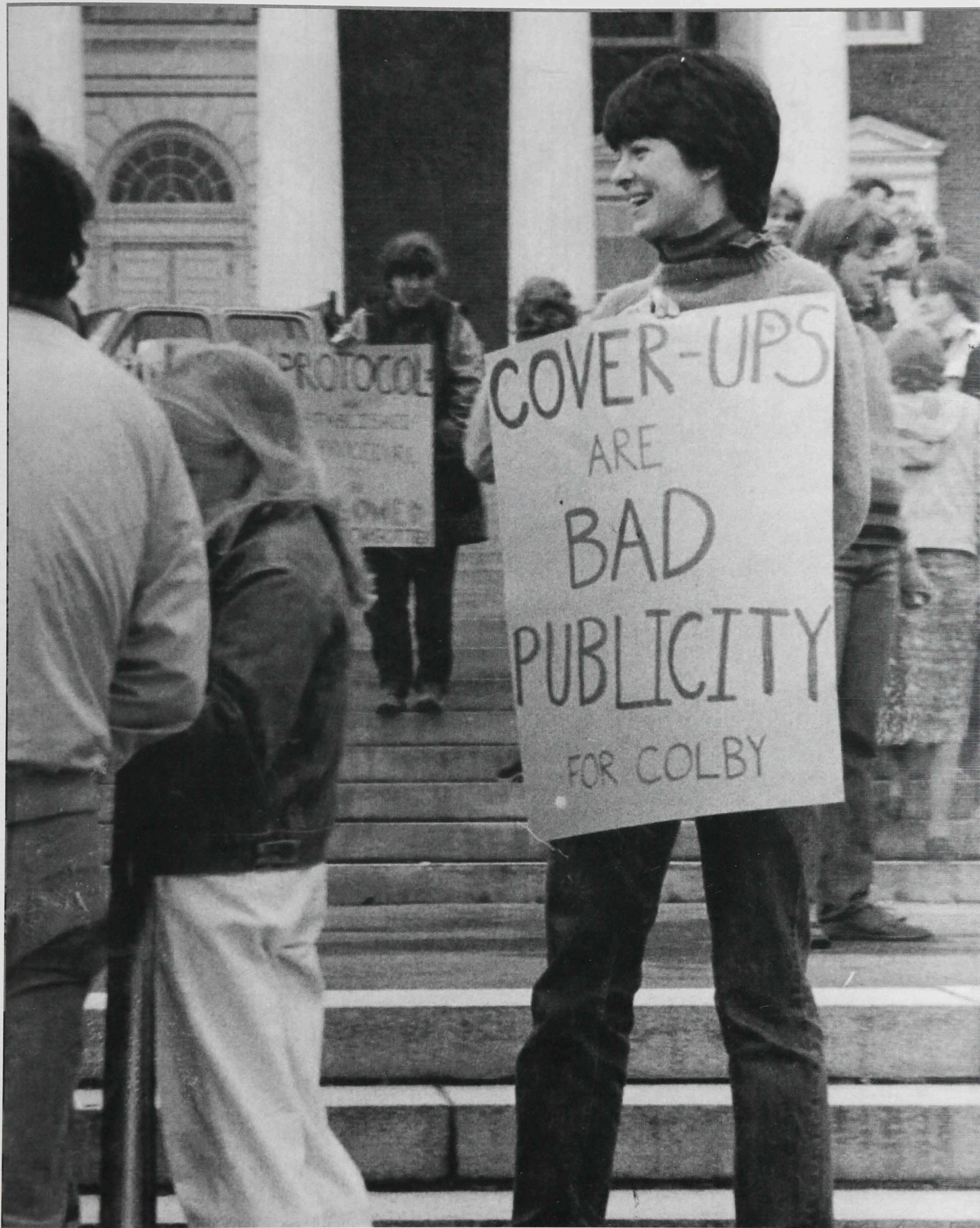
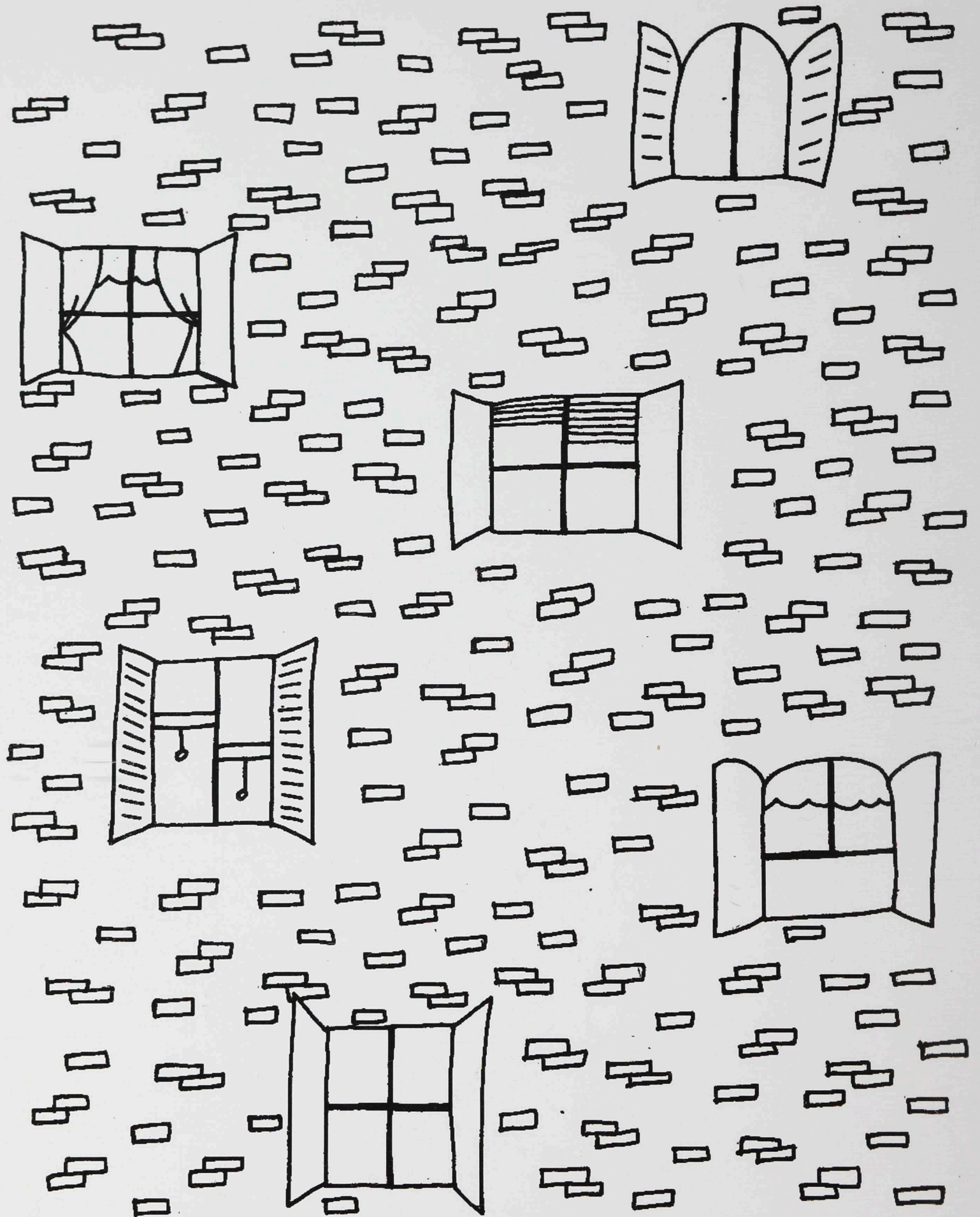


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