

The Pretentious Press

April/ May 2019

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Pace University Admission Scandal

By: Rachel Cregier and Rachael Summers

In March, federal prosecutors uncovered a large scale racketeering operation conducted by parents and coaches to assure their children's admittance to prestigious universities. While Pace University was not named in the indictment, Pretentious Press has received anonymous tips that the university is indeed embroiled in its own admission scandal.

To an outsider it seems unlikely that an admissions scandal would happen at Pace. With an 80% acceptance rate, who would would require a racketeering operation just to be admitted?

Following the paper trail, our reports were led to none other than Vice Dean of Students Horatio Polinez.

"No. I did not accept any bribes," says Polinez, while sitting on a throne made of 100 dollar bills. "You think the feds will charge us too?"

He continues, "We at Pace are proud of our ability to market our brand. And what better for that brand than to be named alongside the elites in a large scale indictment?"

But who was bribing the university and why?

"I know Pace has a large LGBTQ+ community, and I really wanted my daughter to get in. So I paid someone 40,000 dollars to photoshop her into the NYC pride parade," says one parent.

"That turned out to be a waste because when she got back from Thanksgiving break she immediately came out as bisexual."

One couple sat down with us and explained their side of the story,

Mrs. Blants tells us, "I paid for my daughter to get into Pace because I like scandal. It makes me feel alive!"

"Once I stopped cheating on my fat husband I needed something to pump my adrenaline!" she exclaimed.

"What was that?" her fat husband inquired.

"Nothing," she mumbled.

We talked to one of the students who had allegedly paid their way into the school, who stated, "I don't even care about school. I just came to Pace to party."

Shortly after receiving this quote we realized we were not speaking to a student who cheated their way in, but rather an oblivious freshman who still goes to TJ's.

"This is just insulting to the people who worked hard to get in here," said film major Chet Burningham.

"On the application there was one question: Do you have a pulse? Do you know how hard it was for me to check if I was alive? I had a whole existential crisis!"

Chet proclaimed.

The student body is evidently upset about the scandal.

"This is ridiculously unfair. I earned my place at this school by having my parents pay a Pulitzer Prize winner to write my essay. The lack of self respect is just disgusting," says freshman Olivia Blade.

Recently however, there is word that Judge Milton Shaft will find the defence innocent on the case of being rich and white. Case closed (for now).



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Babushka Advice Column

(Where Students Can Get Help From Everyone's Favorite Russian Grandmother)

By: Selini Drakos

Dear Babushka,

I have a huge crush on this boy who lives on my floor at Maria's Tower. I've been thinking about asking him out but I don't know him super well and I don't want to feel rejection. What should I do?

It is very simple. Grab Mr. Tall Boy and swing him over your shoulder. If he likes it, he is yours. If he does not, put him down and tell him he is missing out on alllllll of this.

Dear Babushka,

How do I deal with the crushing weight of impending student debt?

Live under rock. No, literally. Find rock in Central Park and live there. Saves lots of money.

Dear Babushka,

No one will hire me, I've been stood up three times just this week, and I'm starting to suspect I'm not actually enrolled here because apparently there's no bagpiping major. Please tell me, what's the key to success?

There are three steps to success key. One, dig hole. Two, bury yourself in ground. Three, wait for end of world. Life is pointless and success does not exist.

On other note, stick to bagpipes. Torture Department of my village is looking to hire people for ear bleeding commission. I encourage you to apply!

Dear Babushka,

I'm considering dropping out of college and becoming ordained as a Rastafarian minister. My parents think it's a horrible idea but I told them there's only one opinion that truly matters to me, and it's yours. So please, Babushka, is there a higher being?

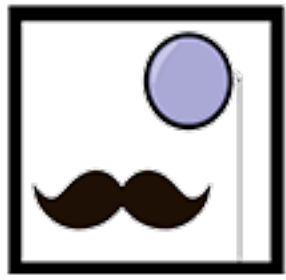
Yes. It is me. The Great Babushka

Dear Babushka,

Can I go to the bathroom?

In my village, we did not have bathroom. We had hole in ground where we pissed on prisoners.

But to answer question, no. Stop complaining.



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His Mouth Cheers For Pace University But His Eyes Scream For Allegra

By: Autumn Sancho





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New Satirical Newspaper Is A Smash Hit In Pace Community

By: James Day

Recently at Pace University, a new newspaper titled the Pace Paper has surfaced with an incredible twist: it is entirely satirical. This new style of newspaper creates fictional articles about the university in a comedic way. It will be the first of its kind at Pace University, and it seems to have generated a lot of conversation from the student body.

When asked about the newspaper, John, a member of the ZBT Fraternity on campus, said, "My favorite article this week was the 'University student joins the Poor People's Campaign' because I can't imagine that someone would just volunteer to be poor."

Another student, Monicuh, an Economics major from the Virgin Islands, particularly enjoyed the article titled "Pace University named one of top 3 schools engaged in volunteerism" because she thought it was "so ironic that anyone at Pace would help someone else." She said, "They're just so creative for coming up with ideas like that. Like who would ever go out of their way to help someone."

While the Pace Paper may be a major success with some students, others seem to be having a hard time grasping the concept of the news.

When asked about the paper, William Shepard said he had a hard time understanding that it was fake. "It only had the satirical disclaimer at the very top of the paper, so when I didn't see it on the second page, I just assumed the rest of the articles were real. I mean, what can I say? I've taken Writing in the Disciplines four times."

Luckily, we were able to interview one of the editors for the paper, Henry Birnbaum. When asked how he came up with such a sensational idea for the newspaper, Henry modestly responded, "It's not satirical. These are real articles. Also, we've been around for years. I don't know who keeps putting the disclaimers on our papers but please make it stop." Clearly, even his response was satirical; the creative genius over at the Pace Paper never ceases to impress.





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Biört Sumpson

By: Eren Sari





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The New ASMR Room - Intriguing But Dangerous

By: Julia Fatum

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be in an ASMR video? Well, you're in luck! Now introducing the new silent study room. With great privacy and a sound encapsulating room, you can now hear the quietest sounds as loudly as possible. .

Sophomore forensic science major Sylvia Thompson tells us, "It was incredible. At first, I thought the room was just a boring study space. Then I heard the most glorious sound in the world. This girl across the room picked up her wrap and I could hear every drop of saliva moving in her mouth as she chewed. It was that moment that I realized this room was much more than what Pace wanted us to think."

Pretentious Press Reporter Jeremy Johnson asks, "How did you respond once you realized what kind of room you were really in? How did other students seem to react?"

"Everyone else was nonchalant. Except for this one guy sitting in the corner. He was just staring in the distance and smiling. I think he was getting off to it".

"It's so hot," says the student while wearing a trench coat.

Well, there you have it folks. A first-hand experience in the new space. Pace may try to hide what things really are, but we figured this one out! Let us know what you think when you visit after reading this!

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PPA Students Put on Inspired Impromptu Performance of Macbeth in the Library

By: Eren Sari

During midterms, I had the pleasure of enjoying the opening showing of William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, performed by what I believe were a ragtag group of innovative PPA students. The twist? These students performed this seemingly impromptu Spring 2019 exhibition in the Birnbaum Library's group study section.

They appear to be doing the same performance everyday, with an entirely new cast. I attempted to ask one of the crew members about the show's inner workings, but they were all so in character that they pretended not to know what I was talking about. Genius.

Let me set the scene for you. The lights began to flicker over the stacks. It was show time at last. One of the girls playing the Weird Sisters was wearing a Queer Leader shirt in a delicious social commentary on the various forms of symbolism used to hint at sexuality in Shakespeare's era. I also noticed, after seeing a variety of showings, that the line, "Double, double, toil and trouble; Fire burn, and cauldron bubble," seems to have been replaced with "Wanna go to the caf?". The director appears to be pandering towards a millennial audience, lost and trying to find themselves in a history where they are seldom represented.

The lights flickered again. Intermission. I was already out of twizzlers. All that was left to do was reflect on the breathtaking manipulation of the space they had to work with. Rather than disguising scene changes, they moved the tables and chairs before your eyes, asking audience members if it was ok to use their chairs. Most of the performance was done sitting down, as if in a table reading, but it served to enhance the emotional delivery of the actors.



Lady Macbeth's character was adapted to the modern college girl - expressing her dominance over a situation, only to be bested in the end by the overwhelming stress of the responsibilities she had taken on. Every actress that played her role managed to match the same hauntingly beautiful madness, complemented by the sound effects alerting that the library would be closing soon. Obviously this closing would signify the death of which the Weird Sister had foretold.

The ending was yet another twist to this tale. Rather than killing Macbeth, Macduff and Macbeth died together. As the library "closed," Macduff and Macbeth's actors walked out together, symbolizing walking into the afterlife together. This inspired direction highlights the political state we are in now, setting this production in stone as a valuable and crucial theatrical piece for this historical moment.



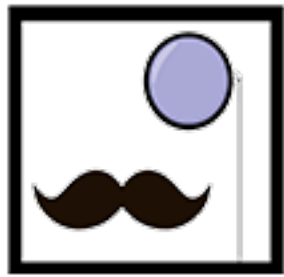
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The Rocknalitoid

By: Rachael Summers

The Rocknalitoid was feeling incredibly paramolaneic
It left its car keys in the house and had to walk home
like some anfreolelic
Up the sidewalk it went fremuicly
Walking quickly past the strangers that looked at it
gremuicly
Around the corner faster than a hungry mariwop
As close to home now as the triple bonds on a
nitrogen snairitop
Finally home, the Rocknalitoid sat on its hinderlart
None of these are words. I made them up to sound
smart



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Rockbot Takes Over!

By: Rachel Cregier

Everyday, the mealtime rush to Cafe 101 promises 30 minutes of chaotic scrambling for the delicious cuisine. However, this experience has been forever changed with the welcoming of Rockbot.

"Honestly, I can't remember what it was like before it was there," comments Skye Taylor, a sophomore studying physiology, "One day it just appeared, and somehow, everyone knew how to use it. It was unholy," she said glancing mistrustfully at the widescreen TVs.

However, an unlikely censorship has recently taken hold of the app. The culprit? An influx of bots flooding requests in a sea of downvotes.

"It's crazy," exclaims performing arts major Hunter Hughes, "We just got back from rehearsal and thought it'd be fun to bomb the Caf with some High School Musical hits, and these bots came out of nowhere and downvoted us out!"

Not long after this interview, the bots swarm over an innocent suggestion of "Big Time Rush," downvoting it to oblivion before any human hand can raise to its defense.

Like it had been waiting for an excuse, the music in the Caf quickly cut out, prompting startled mutters. In a blink, all other pending requests are replaced by Adele's "Hello," each one precisely upvoted and downvoted to repeat the first few lyrics of the song, "Hello, it's me." To Pretentious Press reporter Lily Lightbourne, this meant one thing, and one thing only: Rockbot has a mind of its own, and it's letting us know who's in charge

Sure enough, since then, every morning the Soviet Anthem plays in the Caf, regardless of how many votes it receives.

In an exclusive interview with the Pretentious Press, our reporter respectfully demands answers. "Rockbot, the Pace community would like to know: why did you start micromanaging the song requests in the Caf?"

In response, all song requests are replaced by Queen's "I Want it All" - a troubling sign of things to come?

Despite the ominous implications the response carried, students seemed less concerned about the message and more excited that the song was finally available for request.





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Local Professor Lives Life

By: Gossip Girl

The Film Crew of Pretentious Press is in post production for a new documentary series titled Local Professor Lives Life. This film sets out to highlight the habitat, mannerisms, and evolutionary patterns of the species known as professors.

It's hard to imagine that professors have a life outside of Pace University, This documentary, however, aims to break down this stigma and progressively suggests that professors might actually be people that live their lives.

A member of our team had the lucky opportunity to interview and shadow a professor by the name of Professor (Dr. Professor, PhD in Professor Studies) for the day to generate content for the film. Our crew met him outside of 1 Pace Plaza in lab coats and goggles and the day began.

"Well, a traditional day starts with getting to my office, and for the rest of the day I just kind of hang out, go teach class, - sometimes I play some music out loud if I'm feeling a little impulsive. I'll even say hi to a colleague and talk about the weather."

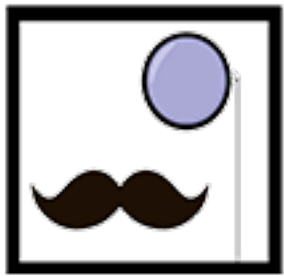


"Yeah I also have a wife, Gail - she's great. I have 2 kids as well. On the weekends we have a lot of fun - in fact, this weekend we're going to a trampoline park."

Our crew was in awe and the journalists frantically scribbled notes. One of our crew members could be seen removing their goggles after shedding a single tear, touched by the tenderness and uncomplicated human nature Dr. Professor displayed. As the day progressed, more and more revelations were unearthed and preserved.

"You know, after paying vast sums of money to the government in order to gain knowledge of a niche interest, I knew I was destined to lecture to the heads of students looking down at their phones at Pace University."

As Dr. Professor's day came to a close, our crew walked away with tons of footage, information, and pioneering scientific realizations. Pace University can look forward to the premiere of Local Professor Lives Life on June 31st 2019 and Dr. Professor can look forward to taking his family on a wholesome trip to a trampoline park this Saturday.



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Tag Yourself! Pre-Puberty Edition



Rachael

- Thinks getting straight A's in middle school will get her into an Ivy League college
- Is proudly the water girl for the softball team
- Enjoys watching Bieber-haired crush walk down the hallway from afar



Eren

- First violin, but sitting in the back of ensemble
- Halal lunch
- Checking horoscope right now



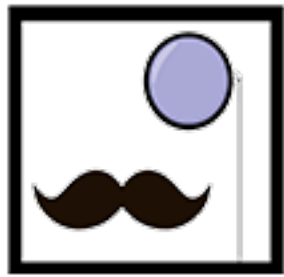
Autumn

- Thinks that not listening to One Direction makes her edgy.
- Says sorry when you push her in the hallway.
- Has seen all the horrors of the universe while simultaneously disassociating.



Kaylie

- Thinks wearing hand-me downs is cool
- Always confused
- Still watches Disney Channel



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The Luxurious Life Of Vice Dean Polinez

By: Rachael Summers

It pays to be the (vice) big man on campus. Vice Dean of students Horatio Polinez tells us in an exclusive interview the benefits he reaps from his honorable position.

Polinez's mornings start with him being ushered to the school in a private helicopter from his penthouse on 5th Ave. After the helicopter lands on the roof of Pace Plaza, he is carried via piggyback to his office.

"I can't touch the ground before noon or else my feetsey weetseies won't be smooth," says Polinez.

Once in his office (which is lined with gold), Polinez begins doing his important work. He is to play the Club Penguin surf game and collect at least 1200 coins. These coins are then distributed and used to pay Pace professors' salaries.

"It's hard work but someone has to do it. I humbly make that sacrifice. I'm very humble," says Polinez (nude) while being painted in oil by a professional artist.

In the middle of the day, Polinez is injected with mercury to make him live forever just like Chinese Emperor Qin.

"It's important that I live forever because no one else has the competence to do my job," said Polinez while sorting out a bag of Skittles by color. "Do you want our children eating interracial Skittles???"

Mid-afternoon, Polinez is fed caviar by an octopus while he gets his belly rubbed by a sheep that also does his taxes.

"I don't do my own taxes. That's for peasants. My inability to do basic math has nothing to do with it."

Finally, we got to talk to Polinez about some of the biggest issues at the school. "I don't think we have a drug problem here at Pace," Polinez said as he snorted a line of cocaine.

"When I was a boy I wanted to be an astronaut. But then they said, 'Get out of here! You can't even do basic algebra.' It was in that moment I decided it was my destiny to be Vice Dean of Pace University."

"What's your biggest goal as Vice Dean?" Pretentious Press reporter Jeremy Johnson asked. Polinez snorted another line of coke. "I'm gonna catch that effin Crab Girl."

Wow. Beautiful. An inspiration to all. Have a great summer everyone.

Our Staff

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