

Commencement Speaker Replaced with Old Man Telling Each Graduate the Date of Their Death

BY MICHAEL CAMPBELL

Renée Fleming, often referred to as “the People’s Diva,” has reportedly issued a statement announcing she will not be speaking at Ryan Field during the 2018 commencement ceremony. Instead, university officials announced, she will be replaced by a blind old man who will tell each graduate the date of their death. When asked why she had chosen to step down, a tear-stricken Fleming responded, “April 20, 2018,” before sprinting away with her face in her hands.

According to reports, the man will forego the typical commencement address to the graduating class in favor of walking silently amongst the rows of sitting students, placing a pale, scarred hand on the forehead of those he selects, and announcing to the audience the date at which their life will cease.

“Yeah, he came to our

school last year,” said a recent graduate of the University of Washington, Mark Hayburn. “He walked right up to me, stopped, and put his hands right on my temples. I felt so cold, like my energy was being drained into him. Then he said, ‘September 12, 2079.’ I have a consulting job lined up, but it all feels so fleeting and inconsequential now.”

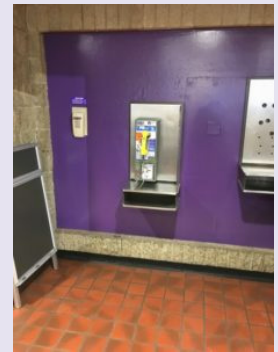
Hayburn allegedly proposed to his girlfriend of 4 weeks following the ceremony and the two are planning an indefinite road-trip around the American south.



“I think it’s inspiring,” stated Northwestern official Greg Warburton, “instead of generic you-can-do-anything speeches, these kids are getting real motivation. I wish someone came up to me 30 years ago and said, ‘hey, you’ve got 70 more years, get it done.’ Who knows where I’d be now.”

At time of press, the Flipside has attempted to reach out to the old man but only received a short email in reply, reading, “February 15, 1996,” the date of birth of the member who sent the email.

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Bald Men Passing on Street Quietly Acknowledge Each Other

NU Campus Tours to Eliminate Backwards Talking

BY MICHAEL MILLER

Bringing an iconic feature of Northwestern campus tours to an end, assistant director of undergraduate admissions Justin Clarke announced today that, among other changes, tours to prospective students will no longer involve backwards talking.

“In our office, we always strive to make our tours

inclusive, and today, that means including all those prospective students and their families that only understand forward-spoken English,” Clarke said.

After a recent tour, one prospective student expressed disappointment at the planned change.

“I don’t really get what the controversy is about. I found my tour guide to be very cheerful and informa-

tive. For instance, I learned all about Yad Ollid, which I think is a Hillel event,” said Alyssa Weaver.

One positive result, she acknowledged, was that parents will no longer be able to embarrass their kids by trying to backwards speak with the tour guide.

Despite now needing to learn new icebreakers, some tour guides agreed that it was time for a change.

“Niosiced siht gnikam er’yeht yhw dnatsrednu I os, ruot eht fo ecnatsbus eht morf yawa ekat semitemos did ti tub, sdrow ym revo gnippirt tuohtiw sdrawkcab klat ot woh gninrael fo duorpb eb syawla ll’I,” tour guide Jack Mettenberg said.

As part of the same announcement, Clarke also said that campus tours will no longer end before they begin.

Student Who's Watched 243 Hours of Netflix This Quarter Pissed about 30-Hour DM Commitment

BY MICHAEL MILLER

Expressing dismay at the large amount of time he would be giving up this weekend, area student Tim McClouth, who this quarter has logged upwards of 10 full days watching various TV shows and movies on Netflix, told reporters that he is pissed about Dance Marathon's 30-hour commitment.

"Don't get me wrong, I like that it's for charity and all, but does DM really have to take 30 freakin' hours? It's gonna kill my whole weekend," McClouth, who spent eight hours one Saturday in January watching Trailer Park Boys, said.

"I mean, I feel like I could do DM in one afternoon and get the same out of it," continued

the same person who watched every season of American Dad at least three times to "pick up on the subtle jokes" he may have missed at first.

Sources close to McClouth confirmed his sentiment. "Yeah, Tim's been acting all put out because of DM, and whenever he feels that way, he usually starts streaming a classic crime noir or 90's sitcom," his roommate Jared Simmons said, noting that McClouth also binge-watches content whenever he's tired, stressed, relaxed, brooding, or upbeat.

At press time, McClouth had just purchased HBO GO as a reward for meeting his DM fundraising goal.

"I deserve this," he tweeted. "Also, I finished Netflix."

NU College Republicans Finally Recruit an Ethnic

BY ALEX KURLAND

The NU College Republicans scored a huge victory for diversity early this past Thursday. According to the token conservative in your politics seminar, the group has managed to expand their membership in the latest round of mid-midterm-season recruiting by an unprecedented three new members, only two of whom were Anglo-American.

NUCR Secretary of Press Relations Wally Saxton, WCAS '19, was proud to announce later on in the day that the third new recruit was indeed "an ethnic." Carlos Montez, Medill '21, of Cuban-American descent, confirmed that he had joined up with the College Republicans after reading their Facebook post for Abraham Lincoln's birthday.

"I knew that Honest Abe

was big on black people's civil rights, pragmatic compromise, and telling the truth," Montez said. "I figured, since he was a Republican, the modern party must also love those things."

In addition to diversifying their membership with Montez, the group is hoping that their selection of Steven Moore this winter will show that they accept people of any race who make over two million dollars a year.

"We know the liberals won't bother to protest his trickle-down views, just like they don't pay attention to any economic issue that isn't free healthcare," said Saxton.

NUCR had been without anybody whose family came from outside of western Europe since 2015, when former president Blake Mansfield graduated along with his "one black friend."

Investigation Finds 6 Murder Allegations in Unread CTECs

BY EMILY BAKER

After discovering allegations of sexual harassment and bullying in the CTECs of Medill Professor Alec Klein, the university decided to actually start reading these student reviews. This turned out to be a very wise decision when a total of six murder allegations were discovered among the general responses.

Flipside investigators attempted to track down the students who had made these claims, but only managed to find five out of the six, the sixth having allegedly transferred to Berkeley, although no records of this transfer could be recov-

ered. Of the five, only two were willing to speak with reporters; the others declined comment, one adding that they "really enjoy being alive."

Brian Clark*, WCAS '19, agreed to meet with the Flipside only undercover of nightfall in the depths of Tech. He claims his suspicions were aroused when he stayed after class one day to barter for a better grade. "Before I even got the words out, she just looked at me and said, 'Deal with the grade you got or you'll end up like the last one,'" he said. Clark then reenacted the moment, drawing his finger across his neck sinisterly for dramatic effect.

Leanne Williams*, WCAS '20, communicated with reporters only over a burner phone with encrypted messages. "This guy was a super creepy professor, but I took it in stride because he's old and teaches econ, and that shit will drive you insane, you know?" said Williams. "But then I went to his office hours, man, and I swear there was a human hand sticking out of his trash can!"

The university has since searched the unnamed professor's office, but found nothing of consequence. Williams stated this was likely because the incident occurred last spring. "The body is probably decay-

ing beneath the Lakefill as we speak," she said. The university responded by saying they had searched the Lakefill following these claims but found nothing unusual other than the occasional sad boy brooding on the rocks.

Due to lack of evidence, the names of the accused professors have not yet been released, but the university has urged students to continue using CTECs as their main outlet for reporting these allegations. Sources say they will probably review them by the end of next quarter, or maybe in the fall.

*Name has been changed to protect the witness.

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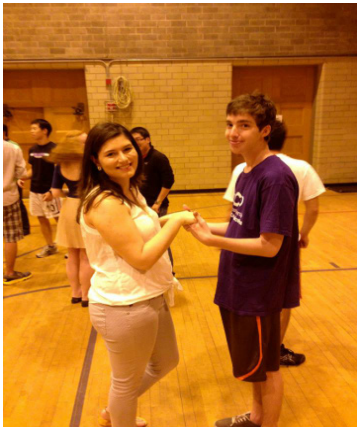
Despite Best Efforts of BLAST, White People Still Can't Dance

BY ARNOLD JOHNSEN

Northwestern's Ballroom, Latin, and Swing Team announced today that despite years of concerted efforts, white people simply cannot dance.

"We tried, we really did," said BLAST president Anita Quizphe, WCAS '18. "We do shows, classes, social media outreach, and we've achieved a lot. But the whites are... well, like I said, we tried. And so did they."

BLAST emphasizes inviting and training up inexperienced dancers who might feel intim-



idated by other dance troupes on campus. According to some members, this strategy has had immensely positive results.

"I was an awful dancer before I came to college," said Kyle Jung, MEAS '19. "Just atrocious. But a friend talked me into joining BLAST, and I've learned so much about music and culture, not to mention finding some self-confidence."

Asked to evaluate the progress of his white classmates, Jung was less optimistic.

"It's, uh, hard to make comparisons," he said. "But... Well, I'm not saying there aren't exceptions. One of our best dancers is so white she once got a sunburn in October."

"But the overall trend isn't budging, no matter how hard we try."

The Flipside is working to confirm reports that white students angered by BLAST's comments are starting a dance troupe called "Just Jump, Fist Pump."

In Historic Move, Professor Closes Ad at Bottom of Youtube Video

BY ARI MOSTOW

Flags were raised and parade floats filled the city streets in celebration last Thursday after economics professor Ronnie Leggins closed an ad at the bottom of a Youtube video he was showing his class.

Sophomore econ major Troy Engels—the self-proclaimed Millennial Ambassador to the Baby Boomer Generation—tweeted a speech to mark the historic day.

"Today is the beginning of a new era—an era of, like, hope and stuff," he declared. "We, like, literally have a long and tough fight ahead, but I totally believe that one day, teachers and professors across the country will learn how to close Youtube ads when they're playing videos for a class!"

According to sources, it is still unclear whether Leggins actually meant to close the ad, or if he just accidentally clicked on the "x" when he was trying to enter full-screen mode. Nevertheless, his students were amazed.

Sources in his Econ 320 lecture say Leggins has never been concerned before about the emotional toll it has taken on his students. "I never thought this day would come," cried Shirley Pinkman between tears of joy. "That said, I still don't understand how Professor Leggins managed to win the Nobel Prize twice and yet has only just



figured out how to close a Youtube ad."

Despite this tremendous sign of progress, expert predictions show that it will still be at least another 200 years before professors learn how to move the cursor off screen so that the streaming bar disappears.

Area Student Asks Advisor if He Can Drop All 4 Classes

BY NYLE ARORA

In a far from unprecedented move, McCormick freshman Thomas Stevens tried not once, not twice, but four times in the last week to drop his array of "soul-crushing" engineering classes.

"I wasn't all that surprised by the first visit," said Stevens's advisor, Gary Kraps. "Of course, I let him drop the EECS class he was complaining about at the time. I was even lenient when he showed up the next day in



tears about his DTC class."

"I mean, it is technically against school rules for a student to take less than 3 classes a quarter, but I'm willing to bend the rules a little when it comes to McCormick. No one understands their pain like I do."

"I had to draw the line when

he wanted to bail out of Math 220," Kraps continued. "At that point, he was basically in SESP! That goes against the very nature of whole-brain engineering."

After the fourth visit, Stevens was seen storming out of Kraps's dingy office in the

basement of Tech, vowing to get his revenge on the man who refused to end his torment. When asked about Stevens's ominous declaration, Kraps was unfazed. "Please. He's a McCormick student in Week 6 of class. He doesn't have the time, energy, or proper amount of sleep to even see anything past his EA textbook."

Stevens has since decided the reasonable thing to do would be to design a Death Star on MATLAB to be used on Kraps's house.

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Greenpeace Execs Keep 10% of All Whales They Save

BY GRANT KEGEL

In keeping with the requirement for nonprofits to disclose all financial information and salaries of directors, Greenpeace executives revealed Thursday that they kept “10% of all whales saved” in 2017.

“This is ridiculous,” commented morally superior vegan Rudy Brooks. “First Kony 2012, now Greenpeace. It makes you wonder if you can trust any of these so-called nonprofits.”

Brooks also expressed confusion as to what the report really meant.

“Also, when they say ‘10% of all whales,’ do they mean 10% of the population of whales? Or like, do they mean they get to keep a flipper or something?”

The “Free Willy”-inspired

organization defended its salary choices in a statement.

“What difference does it make if the whales we save go back in the ocean or just chill in one of our gold-plated backyard swimming pools?”

The nonprofit added that it wasn’t planning to eat them or anything, but just wanted the whales for a niece’s birthday, and would return them to their normal lives of being hit by drunk fishermen’s boats.

Greenpeace is also expected to part ways with its CEO, who tweeted in the aftermath of the report that the organization should now switch to “saving animals who make cute dolls and shit. If these ugly ass blobfish ain’t selling merch like the pandas at WWE, they don’t need saving.”

Freshman Wakes Up as UChicago Transfer After Mixing Antibiotics and Tequila

BY CAROLINA ALVAREZ

After a night of heavy drinking while on antibiotics, WCAS freshman Adam Hanson has reportedly transferred to the University of Chicago.

A source close to him said Hanson was put on Amoxicillin this past weekend after already having committed to attending a Tequila Tuesday mixer, though Hanson claims he does not recall this event.

“I think I blacked out somewhere around my sixth Tequila Sunrise, and by the time I came to, I was sitting in a classroom inside this really gothic-looking building. All the students around me looked dead inside. I later found out I was in a Par-

ticle Physics class at UChicago.”

Hanson’s roommate, John Chesner, commented on Hanson’s past experiences with tequila. “Once, Adam ran off to the Lakefill and got into an altercation with one of the ducks because it, quote, ‘quacked at him the wrong way.’”

Still, Hanson’s tequila transfer surprised even Chesner. “He’s done some pretty crazy things, but I never thought he’d do something this reckless.”

At time of press, when asked if he plans on coming back to Northwestern, Hanson said he wasn’t sure how he transferred out in the first place but planned on repeating this Tuesday’s events in hopes he wakes up in his Russian Lit class.

PHA Bans Ritual Sacrifice of Ugliest Rushee This Year

BY SARAH LOWE

In the spirit of cultivating a safe environment for the women of Northwestern, the Pan-Hellenic Association has decided to finally ban the unofficial, long-standing tradition of sacrificing the ugliest sorority rushee by burning her at the stake in the spirit of sorority excellence.

Phi Delta Gamma sorority rush chair Emaleigh Blair had some qualms with this historic decision. “I really think this is going to negatively impact inter-sorority relations on campus,” she huffed. “This used to be such a great way to meet girls in other chapters. Some of my closest non-Phi DG friends have come from the annual meeting where we decide which uggo we’re gonna barbecue.”

Sources within PHA who

prefer to remain nameless explained the ritual’s meaning. According to one source, “the idea is that by burning a girl at the stake we’re making her like a phoenix, where she dies all weak and gross but rises from the ashes in the image of sorority excellence, which is hot with a killer ‘fit. Obviously, that never happens and we just have to get someone off Craigslist to clean it up, but like, that’s the vague goal.”

Although this illegal act has been officially banned, some worry that renegade upperclassmen will take it upon themselves to continue the tradition underground. While there’s no word on who the freshman target this year may be, Blair remarked that “that Slivka freshmen who wore an Aeropostale t-shirt and Toms for set three better fucking watch it.”

Morty Plans Econ Professor Parade Down Sheridan Road

BY TURNER MANLEY

After discovering President Trump’s plans for a military parade, Northwestern President Morty Shapiro plans to mimic these efforts by parading the entire Economics Department down Sheridan Road.

“I wondered, what do I have complete dominion over? And then it hit me: a 10 billion dollar endowment and some of the world’s most brilliant minds.” Shapiro then described how he called the Economics Department together with the big red button on his desk.

Morty will begin by sequestering all of NUPD (on and off duty) to blockade Sheridan from any traffic for one week before and after the parade

in order to accommodate a lengthy set up and an equally long tear-down stage that will conclude with a block party.

The parade itself aims to garb the Economics Department in costumes of Morty’s favorite superheroes and TV characters. Tenured professor Jack Añejo, who specializes in long term economic depreciation in countries with over-protected GDPs, told sources, “I’m dressing up as Barney the Dinosaur and marching to the beat of Katy Perry’s Roar.”

At press time, eight people have RSVP’d on Morty’s Facebook event and at least hundreds are expected to attend once Morty offers a free quarter of tuition to everyone who shows up.

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