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Who We Are

The Boundary is Victoria University's very own satire paper. Since 2017, we have been satirizing news and events relevant to the University of Toronto, as well as anything in dire need of ridicule.

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Send an email to boundarynews@gmail.com, and we'll get back to you within the millennium.

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59 THINGS NEWER THAN "NEW" COLLEGE

Daniel Golden

Currently in its 61st year of alleged "Newness", the wood panneled corridors of New College scarcely live up to its forward thinking name. As part of its zealous war against misnamed institutions, the Boundary has dutifully compiled a list of just a few of the discoveries, inventions, and global events that postdate U of T's allegedly contemporary college

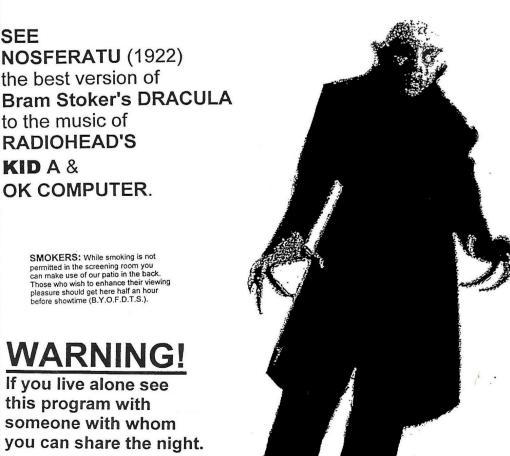
Roller blades, instant coffee, the Beatles, Bic lighters, Ctrl-Alt-Delete, cassette tapes, Doug Ford, MTV, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the McRib, New City Hall, the idea that meteors killed the dinosaurs, the CN tower, MRIs, Post-it notes, Saturday Night Live, the opening of the Scarborough RT, Rob Schneider, the closure of the Scarborough RT, Casio wristwatches, Buffalo wings, the Rubiks Cube, the discovery of HIV, snowboarding, the Cultural Revolution, light beer, the election of Richard Milhous Nixon, ZIP files, The Godfather, Uno, the Heimlich maneuver, Pet Sounds, Pet Rocks, Pop Rocks, the forty-two year reign of Muammar Gaddafi, microwave popcorn, paintball, the Canadian Constitution, Beta Max, St. George station, American involvement in the Vietnam War, your dad (probably), Radiohead Kid *Dracula*, Astroturf, the Atari 2600, the re-election of Richard Milhous Nixon, the introduction of touch-tone telephones, Gen X, crack cocaine, the FLQ, boxer briefs, the Ford Pinto, barcodes, Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robots, the Civil Rights Act, Yorkdale, the resignation of Richard Milhous Nixon, the eradication of smallpox, Zimbabwe, Woodsworth college.







RADIOHEAD KID DRACULA





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Philosophy Student Excited for Trolley Driver Internship

Jonah Wineberg (Nov. 2, 2023)

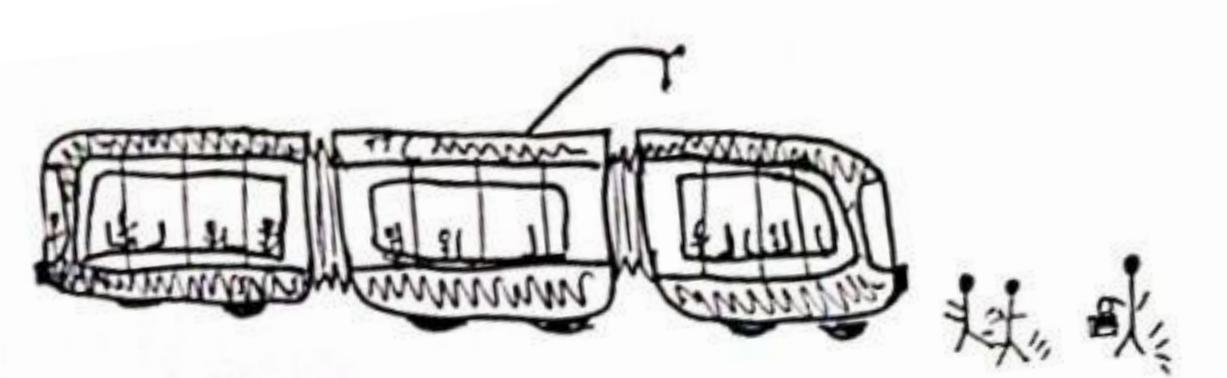


Experience without theory is blind, but work without pay is a great way to enter the stale job market! Following this precept closely, Immanuel Barnett, a second-year philosophy major and rail transport enthusiast, recently announced his acceptance for a trolley conducting internship.

According to Barnett's so-called employer, the trolley driver program requires interns to direct trolley cars onto the correct and most utilitarian track. These vehicles often face malfunctions, so Barnett will also be required to solve any mechanical errors that arise, otherwise known as "trolley problems."

Though Barnett is a committed philosophy student, reportedly "thinking all the time," when asked about his least favourite unit of his major, Barnett revealed that he hates moral philosophy. "It's so boring. I could barely pay attention during those lectures," shared Barnett. "I can't remember a thing from those classes. Thank God I don't have to deal with those dumb ethical dilemmas anymore."

Since he started the internship, Barnett reports that has noticed a strange number of passersby getting stuck on the tracks. The second-year brushed this off, saying that dealing with pedestrians isn't his job. "I'm just here because I love trolleys. I don't want to deal with too much pressure," he explained. "Even if I have a couple of responsibilities, nothing could possibly ruin trolleys for me."



Econ Major Still Waiting For Daddy's Love to Trickle Down

Kéah Sharma (Nov. 13, 2023)



For students who failed to pursue a program that would eventually lead to medical school, majoring in economics is a great alternative route to winning daddy's love. Taking a program steeped in the great works of Reaganomics and Thatcherism and guaranteed to overprescribe individualized solutions to systemic problems was advertised as a surefire way to impress dad. But, much to many students' dismay, daddy's love has yet to trickle down.

"I just don't understand," said third-year Econ major Megan Bhatt, "I thought that my dad's love would eventually trickle down to me, but I have yet to feel anything. He keeps buying mega yachts and investing overseas, so I know he's loving life right now, but, weirdly, the level of love I'm feeling has remained stagnant. That's not what theory suggests." Bhatt's relationship with her father quickly strained after she entered university and started believing in mental health. Since then, her enrollment in the art of wealth hoarding program is the only thing keeping their relationship afloat. Heartbroken, Bhatt expressed deep dissatisfaction with the situation: how could supply-side economics ever fail her?

The Boundary contacted Bhatt's economics professor, Dr. Gash, to comment on the situation. "As we know, poverty is a choice. So, the poverty of love Megan is experiencing should have been alleviated with her decision to pursue economics," Gash claimed. "If we want to be scientific, the lack of love she's experiencing could technically be a good trend for the economy. If people aren't loved, they'll probably die younger, and corporations could save billions on pensions!"

After all, how is it possible that poverty could be a policy problem? There's simply no way it has to do with rising housing costs, low wage increases, or the itty bitty social safety net. In the famous words of the father of North America and sex icon Ronald Reagan, "Poverty isn't caused by a capitalist market system that works because of labour exploitation and environmental destruction, it's just a thing that happens when these young people do drugs or become laaaaazy. Fuck wealth taxes, tenant rights, and a society that can save those most vulnerable—who needs it when you have trickle-down economics!"

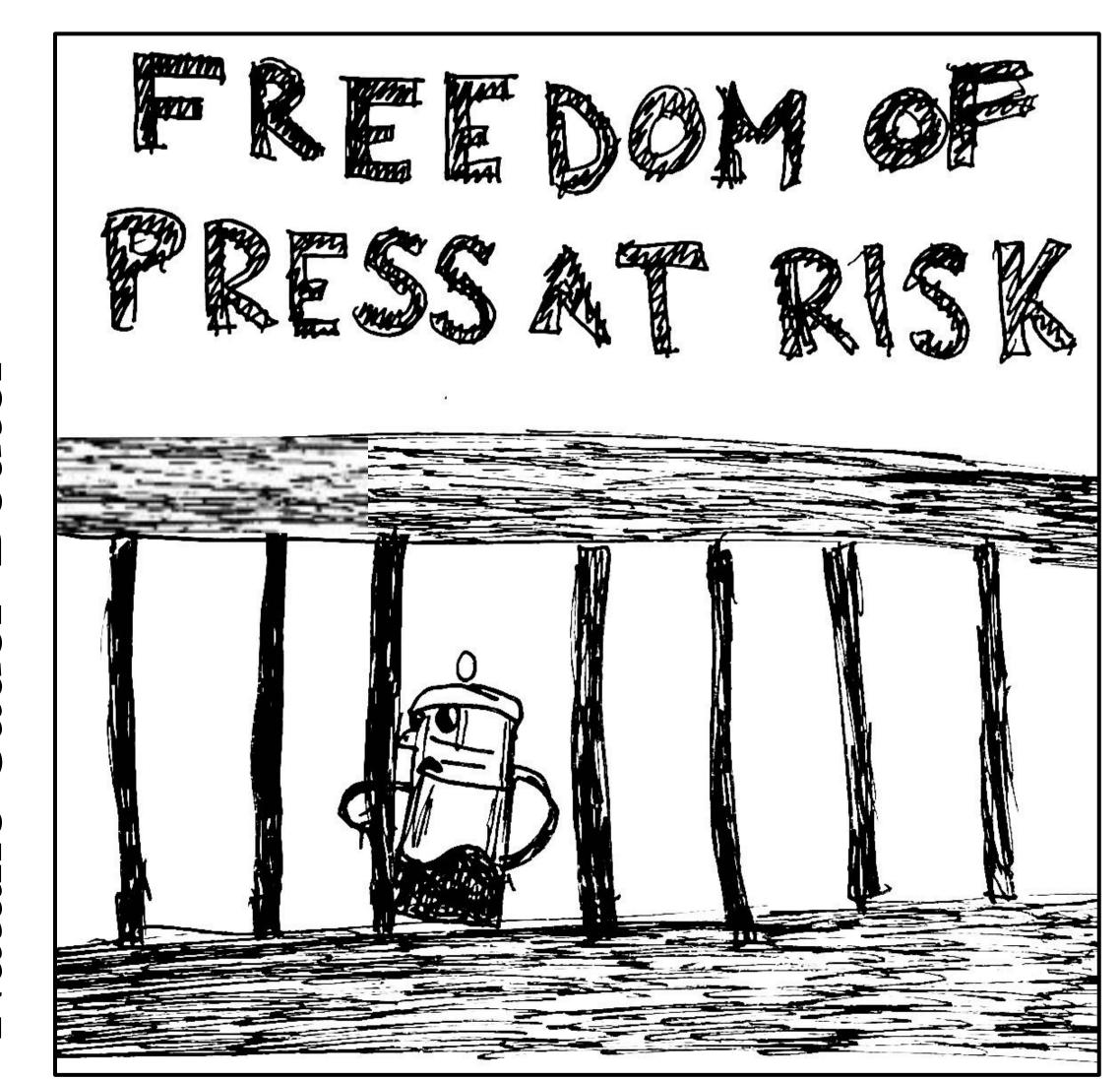
Robarts Security Requiring Students To Take Off Shoes Before Entry

Clare Mooney (Oct. 16, 2022)

As the largest academic library in Canada, Robarts boasts comprehensive collections, plentiful resources and sought-after study spaces. Despite its nausea-inducing lighting and dungeon-like architecture, Robarts remains a popular study spot on campus. But, with all the traffic it attracts, a good library knows that gatekeeping knowledge from the masses is of the utmost importance. To keep out any member of the greater public hoping to gain some critical consciousness from a good book, swiping your T-card and making prolonged eye contact with security is imperative before entry. Today, Boundary intel reported a new security change: shoe removal upon entry.

Guests have also been asked to empty water bottles, remove electronics from their bags and present forms of ID besides their T-Card. The community, out of confusion over the new rules, requested an explanation from staff. A member of the security team gave the following statement: "We take safety very seriously, and we would not want to allow access to learning to those who are undeserving. The possibility that an outsider could enter at any moment and sneak a glance at a rare book is a risk we are not willing to take. Any student unwilling to remove their shoes upon entry will not have the ability to sign out books, use the printer, or wait in line at Starbucks for forty minutes."

Students have had mixed reviews on the new policy; "I was fine with it until I was asked to do a 'random' strip search," said a third-year engineering student. Another student, a fourth-year marketing major, commented, "What's Robarts?" The Boundary regrets to report that this new policy marks a step back from collective liberation through education. As for the effectiveness of these new guidelines, only time will tell.



"Nothing Beats a Pumpkin Spice Latte" Girl Discovers Crack

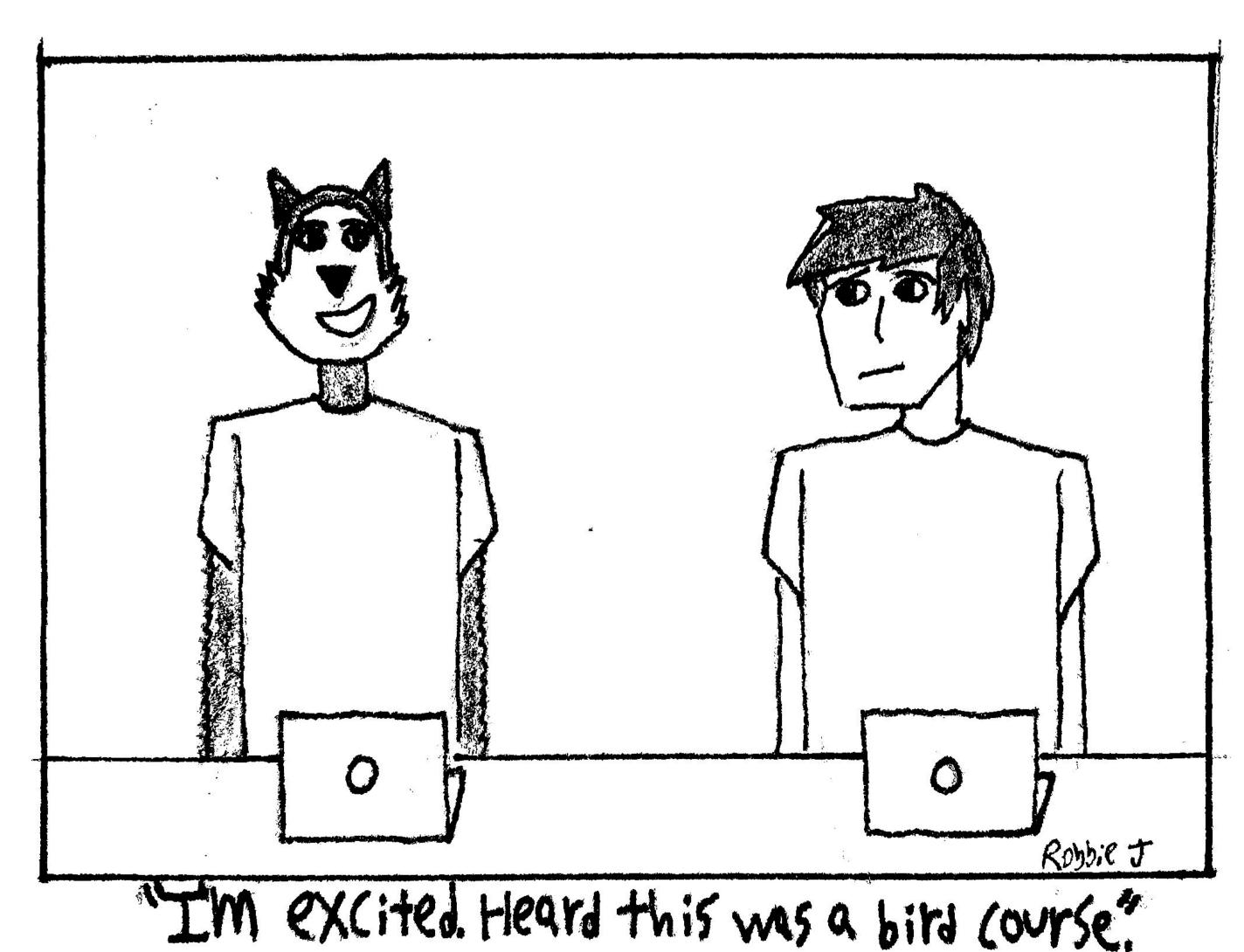
Jonah Wineberg (Oct. 25, 2023)

Fall is finally here, which means all the classic seasonal drinks are back. Ashley Taylor, however, has turned over a new leaf and has found a treat even more satisfying than a pumpkin spice latte: crack cocaine.

"Crack is so amazing," reported Taylor to The Boundary. "I can't believe this stuff hasn't gone viral sooner." Taylor has worked smoking or having a "light roast" of the delectable rock into her morning schedule, citing it as the perfect pick-me-up for a busy day. Since switching to crack, her productivity in finding more crack has increased dramatically.

"Crack is definitely my favourite new trend, I literally can't stop having it," said Bailey Kruger, another fall enthusiast. Crack fans are purchasing personalized pipes to match their fall aesthetics, buying them in chic colours like "autumn orange" and "back alley brown." Kruger recommends the life hack of sprinkling pumpkin spice into your next hit to capture the spirit of the season.

Crack is soaring in popularity with students looking for a new alternative to coffee, becoming the hottest fad since TikTok discovered the subway. It acts as a quick, invigorating, and still somehow less expensive alternative to Starbucks.



A Robbie Janzen Cartoon

How Much Should You Be Tipping Your TA?

Ryan Ballout and Kéah Sharma (Oct. 11, 2023)

According to an anonymous source, a new potential outbreak is sweeping across UofT. Contrary to popular opinion, it's not the seemingly inescapable fall cold out to infect us all, but rather a greater enemy: tipping. Tipping has evoked silent frustration amongst Torontonians for years, with some claiming the practice has gotten out of hand. This month, one daring TA took tipping to a new level as she waited by the tutorial door with the dreaded 15%, 18%, and 20% iPad screen glowing.

The Boundary sat down with this TA, Stefanie Guberman, to discuss what inspired this bold move. "I'm going to be real with you," Guberman stated. "I've had to go on strike one too many times in my TA career, and honestly, I realized it's time for me to take this into my own hands. My roommate works at a cafe downtown and tells me about the stare-downs he has with customers as he flips the payment screen their way. He doesn't break eye contact until they've hit that 20% tip mark, and, honestly, it's pretty metal." Guberman was inspired to be the master of her own destiny by following her roommate's lead and implementing her own tipping system.

Some of Guberman's students approached The Boundary with concern, citing nostalgia for hard work as currency: "I miss the days when my grade would only be changed if I spent six hours in office hours debating my TA to convince them I deserve a higher grade. That...that takes dedication," one student said. Another student lamented, "I miss the under-the-table bribery. Now that it's all in the open, I'm no longer able to get what I want by threatening a phone call from my daddy or e-transferring a couple hundy in secret."

Boundary intel suggests that students should be tipping their TA in well-meaning "thank yous" and the amount of head nodding that could break your neck. After all, why join TAs on a picket line or support their ability to live comfortably when one can bombard them with time-consuming questions after class to show appreciation?



בְּכָל־דְּרָכֶיךּ דָעֵהוּ וְהֹוּא יִיֵשֵׁר אִרְחֹנְּירְּ:

"In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight""

Proverbs 3:6 (KJV)

Commentary

This only applies to metaphorical paths. In this age of sin divine intervention can no longer be relied upon to build straight roads, or to get construction done in a timely manner.

Student Upset About Gentrification, Reason for Gentrification

Daniel Golden (Oct. 13, 2023)



Grab any wide-eyed urbanite off the street and ask them what the biggest problem facing this city is. Without a doubt, from each and everyone of them, you'll get the same answer: gentrification. As property values skyrocket, businesses and residents in neighbourhood after neighbourhood are being forced to pack their bags and make room for yet another Starbucks.

"I just can't stand it" squeals Jane Sauer, a third-year Urban Geography student from her converted textile factory loft. "It's like nobody but me is really appreciating the dangers of this phenomenon. This city used to be a place where ordinary people could live. With the way things are now I bet most of them could just barely afford a three-bedroom condo. Oh the inhumanity!"

And Sauer isn't the only person concerned about this uncontrollable urchin-inducing urban upset. Those looking for a cheap bite to eat are finding fewer and fewer places serving discount souvlaki at all hours of the night. Others, looking to take in the city's cultural diversity, can hardly tell the difference between the boutique hairdressers of Chinatown, the Danforth, or Little Tibet. Worse yet, dozens of crusty old men have spent years wandering up and down Yonge looking in vain for a theatre which might satiate their X-rated delights.

"It's like, we stopped the Spadina Expressway, but for what?" laments a Sonic Boom tote-bag wielding Sauer, "So that we could replace it with half a dozen bubble tea shops — no not you sir, yes just the small milk tea, thanks."

Despite the extracurricular activism of champagne urban reformers like Sauer, gentrification moves along. And while they threaten to toss residents onto the streets, bankrupt local businesses, and destroy the city's social fabric, perhaps there is a silver lining to each new condo that graces the skyline. After all, this correspondent's landlord seems to think so, and when have landlords ever steered us wrong.

MORE FROM THE DRAWING BOARD

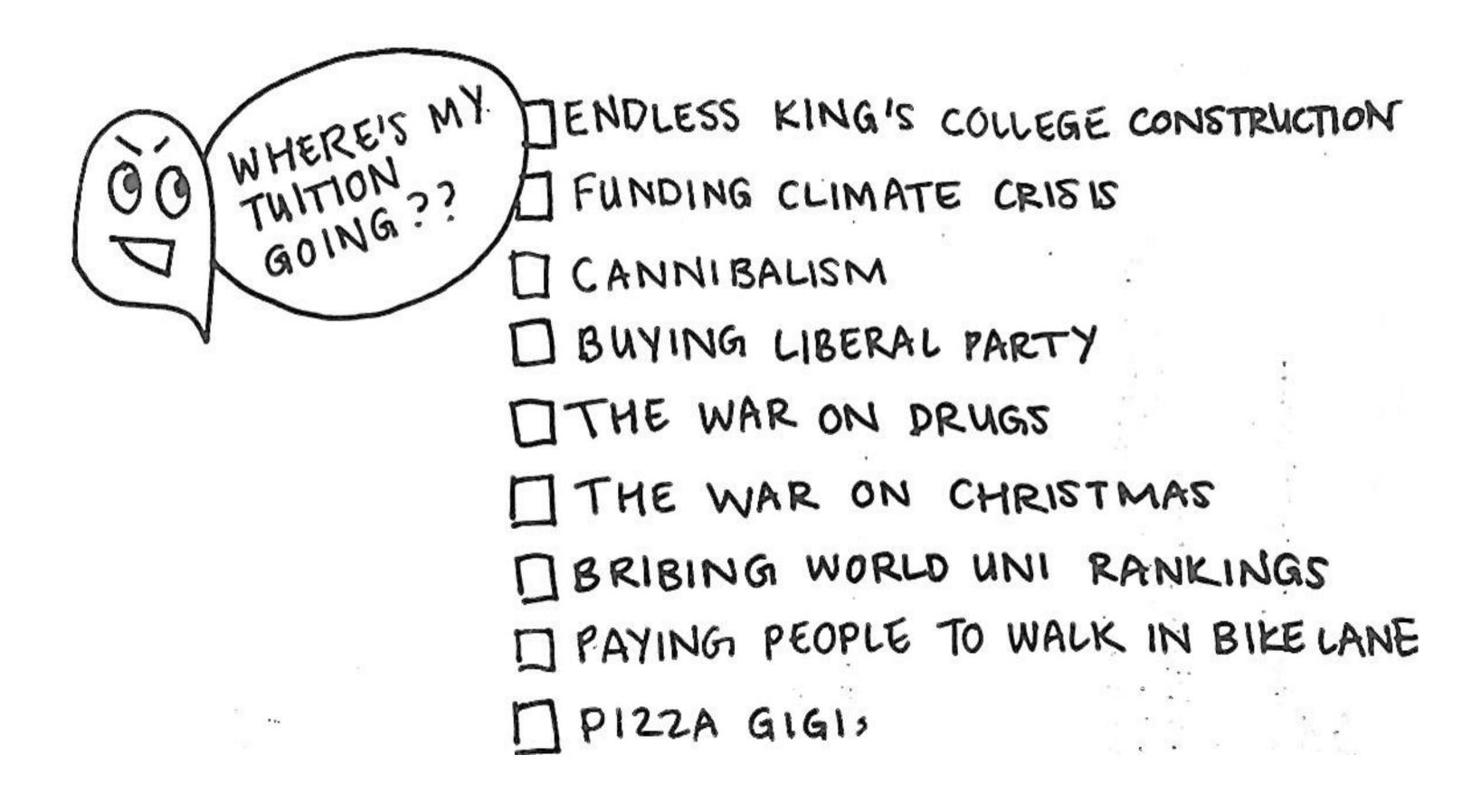
Natalie Cader-Beutel



passive agressive Improv

CAMPUS FINANCE REPORT

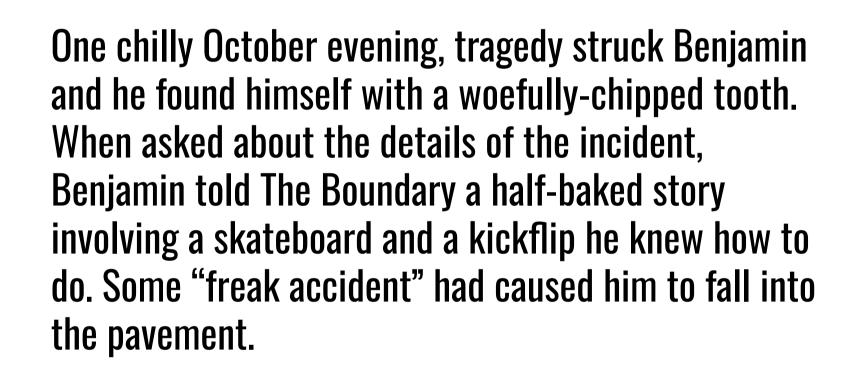
Kéah Sharma



Darn! Friends With Benefits Doesn't Include Dental

Hannah Teather (Oct. 20, 2023)

Benjamin Murphy, a second-year engineering student, was brimming with excitement when he first hooked up with Jenny Smith, the girl he sits next to in the English course he's taking to fulfill a breadth requirement. His friends, who he assured us are very cool, had told him all about the pluses to a "friends-with-benefits" relationship. Benjamin was excited to take full advantage of the benefits he thought would come from his non-committal English class romance.



Soon after, Benjamin was rushed off to the nearest dentist, where he had faith everything would be easily sorted out and he would go back to his normal, everyday, chipped-tooth-less life. The dental team was able to make quick work of his tooth, restoring his smile to its former glory.

But that's when the real devastation hit. At the end of his visit, Benjamin was handed a bill amounting somewhere in the hundreds. His face paled, light glinted off the cold sweat on his forehead, and he felt his hair stand on end. What about his benefits? How could the promises of his not-relationship with Jenny betray him like this? He felt his heart drop into his stomach when the person behind the desk informed him all he had known had been a lie.

Benjamin wants his story to be a cautionary tale to all who hear it. Before assuming the benefits, please do your research. Or maybe learn to commit.



