

*The Student Voice of Bryant University since 1946*

# The Archway

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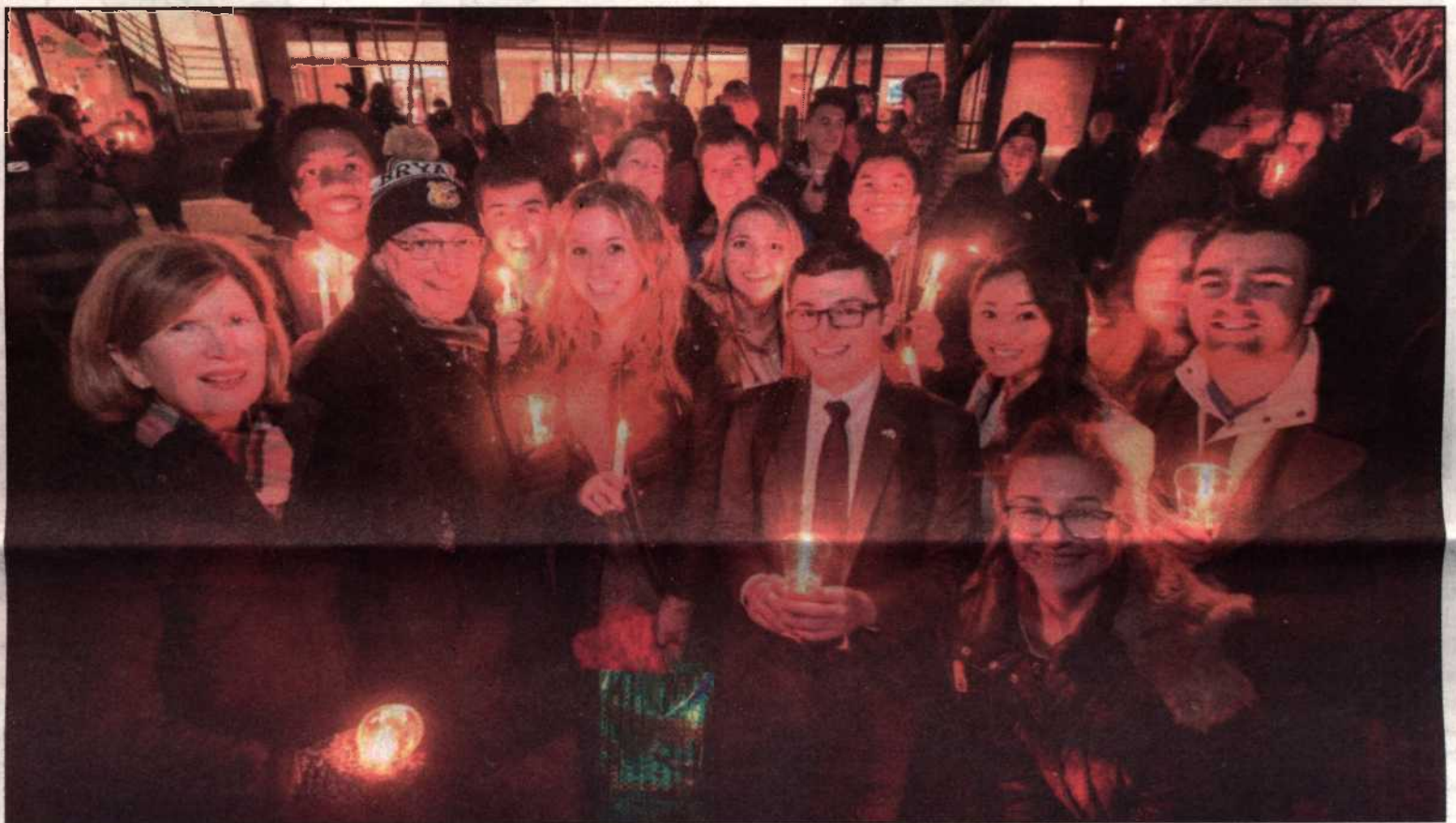
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## 42nd Festival of Lights illuminates Bryant's campus going into finals



The Machtley's pose for a photo with members of the Student Government and the SIF Oversight Board (Bryant University)

Christopher Groneng  
Editor-in-Chief

Bryant held its 42nd Annual Festival of Lights on Wednesday, December 5th. Hundreds of students, faculty, and staff gathered in the Koffler Rotunda at 7:00pm to listen to students sing, play instruments, and educate the community about various religious and spiritual holiday traditions and practices.

Speeches ranged in topic, from the Christmas holiday to Hanukkah, to the different religious practices of Hinduism and Islam, as well as Chinese holiday traditions.

Each topic was delivered by a member of the Bryant community, who afterward would light a candle situated on a table in the center of the Rotunda. This exercise, while is part of each holiday's practice, it also ties each holiday together thematically, with the concept of light acting as their point of cohesion.

Following the ceremony, President and Mrs. Machtley began the tradition of the lighting of the Rotunda, both lighting their own candles in the center of the rotunda and passing the flame onto students, who

had each been given candles at the start of the festival.

Once each individual candle was lit, The Machtley's then led students from the Rotunda to just outside Fisher Student Center, for the lighting of the holiday tree. In addition to the tree lighting, there was holiday-themed karaoke.

The celebrations of Festival of Lights began earlier in the day. The Student Alumni Association was up early to decorate the Rotunda for that night's event. Dozens of clubs and organizations set up booths in Fisher, where students could come and play games or participate in an activity. There was also a window decorating competition, where throughout the week leading up to the festival, clubs and organizations had the opportunity to decorate a window in Fisher, to be judged by the Student Alumni Association. The Archway took home the top prize.

Later in the day, Salmonson Dining Hall hosted a holiday dinner, which included a buffet-style selection of foods, free for all students.

Thanks goes out to the Student Alumni Association for the planning and execution of yet another harmonious and community-based celebratory event, and to all the students to volunteered their time to perform and give speeches.

## The Archway interviews Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

Matthew Carvalho  
Staff Writer

On November 30th, I was given the pleasure to interview the United States Senator Sheldon Whitehouse. It is always great to speak with Senator Whitehouse and I would like to thank the Whitehouse staff and Senator Whitehouse for helping to get this to happen.

Matthew Carvalho: I would like to thank you again for taking a few minutes to speak with me today. So, I do want to ask you a few questions about the upcoming legislative

session, but if it is alright, I would like to start off with asking a few timely questions that the news just reported today and yesterday if that is alright.

Sheldon Whitehouse: Sure.

Carvalho: The first question I want to ask you is: so recently the US Senate advanced a measure to move out American support for a coalition led by Saudi Arabia in Yemen. I wanted to ask what your thoughts are on this and how will this change our relationship with [Saudi Arabia].

Whitehouse: Well I think that the Saudi kingdom has really burned through its credibility with a lot of Americans, and in

particular with Congress. I think the continued persistence of civilian casualties in Yemen and the view on many parts, but a lot of the civilian harm is being done deliberately, bombing wells and things like that. With the added murder of an American columnist in their Turkish councilor office, and then a whole a stream of lies and prevarications about what went on has been pretty faithful in terms of the results which was a strong, bipartisan rejection.

*Continued on page 3*



# Meet The Archway Staff

Black and Gold and Read All Over



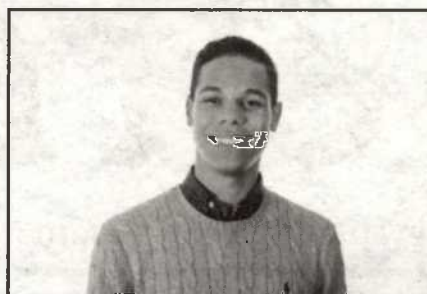
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## Department of Public Safety Log

EMT CALL EMT CALL / MEDICAL SERVICES  
RENDERED Dec 02, 2018-Sunday at 22:06

Location: Bristol House

Summary: DPS received a call from a female caller stating she believes she has co poisoning. EMS was activated. EMT's administer oxygen therapy, the patient was feeling better. No transport needed.

LARCENY Dec 06, 2018-Thursday at 19:00

Location: CHASE ATHLETIC CENTER

Summary: DPS received a report from a student that stated he had \$45.00 dollars stolen from his bag was in the Men's Pool Locker Room.

(MVA) MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT Dec 07,  
2018-Friday at 01:05

Location: SENIOR STUDENT PARKING LOT M

Summary: DPS received a call reporting a motor vehicle accident with two vehicle involved at the entrance to Lot M. Minor injuries were also reported. Smithfield Fire and Police responded. One person was transported by Rescue 3 to Fatima Hospital for treatment.

FIRE (BUILDING) Dec 07, 2018-Friday at 01:53

Location: Barrington House

Summary: DPS received an alarm from the Barrington House showing a Master Alarm all devices and sprinkler flow. Smithfield Fire Department responded. Cause of the alarm was reported as an activated smoke detector--but no fire or smoke in the building. System was reset.

EMT CALL EMT CALL / MEDICAL SERVICES  
RENDERED Dec 07, 2018-Friday at 12:05

Location: Bristol House

Summary: DPS received a call from reporting a student having pain in his back. EMS was activated. One person was transported by Rescue 3 to Fatima Hospital for treatment.

EMT CALL EMT CALL / MEDICAL SERVICES  
RENDERED Dec 08, 2018-Saturday at 06:06

Location: Hopkinton House

Summary: DPS received a call from reporting a student having a diabetic emergency. EMS was activated. No transport needed.

VANDALISM Dec 09, 2018-Sunday at 01:49

Location: Charlestown House

Summary: DPS received a call from reporting there was a male breaking glass in the hallway of a Residence Hall. The subject was identified and questioned about the incident.



# A letter from the News Copy Editor

I, David John Schmidt, the copy editor for the news section, thought that since this is my final semester and last issue of The Archway that I provide a thank you to all that have become a dedicated reader of mine and the news section of the Bryant University's Archway newspaper.

In the Spring of 2017, I started my Bryant University career, and joined the Archway as a contributing writer. During that semester I built a reputation as a continuous writer of articles, which in many ways I kept throughout my time at Bryant University. Yet, throughout my time in The Archway I had several great editor-in-chiefs, who in many ways allowed me to grow the news section into a major part of the paper because as the semesters came and went it became apparent that the news section always was filled. Not only that but many classmates of mine told me that they read my articles in the news and really enjoyed them as well as the other numerous articles within the paper.

After that first semester at Bryant and writing for The Archway, I became the copy editor for the news section of the paper. I held that position for the remainder of my Bryant career. In so doing I made sure that all the articles that I wrote were of the utmost factually based articles, with no to very minimum position taken. The reason being is that I believe that the newspaper no matter the type professional or undergraduate should be factual as well as neutral. Therefore, one could basically say that I was a reporter who only wrote about the facts and nothing more. Likewise, I also took great care and consideration when editing both the work of others and my own articles so that no one's

voice was lost. As I also believe that everybody's voices should be heard.

However, none of this would be possible without the immense help and support from the previous and current Editors-in-Chief of the paper; always encouraging me to unceasingly submit articles for the news section and what not.

Yet, all my success is because of you the reader. Therefore, I want to express my gratitude to all of you who took some time to read both my news articles as well as the numerous other articles within the paper itself. Without you, the reader, none of this growth of the paper or even my own growth as a writer would be possible. As a result, I want to thank all of you students, professors, and faculty members for always taking a copy of The Archway and turning to the news section and taking some time to read and digest the immense amount of news coverage. Moreover, I hope that my goal was met, which was informing the entire collegiate community of Bryant University on the international and national events that have occurred from 2017 to 2018.

Thank you again,

David John Schmidt, News Copy Editor

## Continued from page 1

I hope the effect of it will be the Saudis realize that despite the president's unexplainable attitude about them, they cannot just take America for granted and behave in this casual murderous fashion and expect no serious consequence.

Carvalho: Also, another thing that was recently passed by the US Senate was a measure to strongly condemn Russia's attack on the Ukrainian Navy. I also want to get your thoughts on this and how it will affect our ties with Russia as well.

Whitehouse: I think it's a little bit of a similar situation. I think we need to send a message to the other nations of the world that when they behave in despicable and unjustified ways, there will be a price for that. From everything that I have heard, the Russian Navy attack on Ukrainian vessels was hostile, unprovoked, lethal, and there have been no apologies or amends made. So, when you look at the history thereof the Russian little green men coming in and invading Ukraine and ceasing a lot of it for Russia, it's hard not to see this in the context of a continued Russian effort to destabilize the sovereign nation of Ukraine.

Carvalho: Going on to the upcoming legislative session, my first question on that is: what are your thoughts on the new Senate that will be starting up this next year in 2019 and your thoughts on the new members of the Senate?

Whitehouse: Well it's going to make it a lot easier for sketchy nominees to get through the Senate. We just stopped a judicial nominee, who had been directly involved in voter suppression schemes that federal account courts held were targeted at black voters with what the courts call "surgical precision". But we were only able to defeat that nominee by one vote because two Republicans were willing to vote against him. So, in the next Senate, those two Republicans could vote against an equally offensive nominee and he would be confirmed because their numbers grow in the Senate and they would still, with two Republicans objecting, have adequate votes to confirm this individual. So, there's a really hands-on example of what that difference is.

Carvalho: Could I ask who that nominee was?

Whitehouse: Barr is his last name from North Carolina.

Carvalho: What was he being nominated for?

Whitehouse: US District Court.

Carvalho: My next question is: what is the agenda of the new Senate Democrats for the session and what is your own agenda? What do you plan to do on your own for this?

Whitehouse: Well it may be a little bit optimistic to say that the Senate Democrats have an agenda. We



Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (Getty Images)

are the minority party, and the agenda of the Senate is largely dictated by the majority party. So, I would open with that one caution. I do note that because the house is now in Democratic hands, the leadership in the Senate, on the Democratic side, has the ability to work with the Speaker and her team in the house to help make sure that legislation that the house passes is [put] in a way that gives us the best chance of passage in a Republican Senate. So, I think the Democratic priorities in Congress are going to be infrastructure. We're long overdue for a major infrastructure bill. I think student loans would be an important priority; we're long overdue for relieving folks of the terrible student loan debt that is carried right now. I hope an expect that we will be able to pull together, with any luck, a bipartisan coalition to do a serious climate bill. We need to root out the dark money, the anonymous political spending that is such a plague on our democracy, and we need to keep up our good bipartisan progress in two areas. One is opioids and the other is oceans. So, I think that's kind of a priority list for me depending on what seems feasible and what can move at a given time.

Carvalho: That actually answers the first part of my next question, the second part I do want to ask is: how will the Democrats be able to try to successfully work with their Republican counterpart in the Senate as well as the president himself, and the Whitehouse, and the Cabinet members?

Whitehouse: There are two ways. One is by coordinating with our house colleagues to get bills sent over to the Senate. The second is that [despite] all of the news about partisan

wobbling and fighting, there's actually a considerable array of issues that have not been weaponized politically and where Republicans and Democrats work together quite well. The last two topics that I mentioned, opioids and oceans, are two of those areas. Another one is budget reform, we have, I think, a very strong bipartisan substance in the select committee I serve on to try to try to reform the budget appropriations process, and while we should run out of time this year, I think next year we take the substance of that and put it into new legislation. There's going to be a bipartisan activity. So, there's actually a fair amount of bipartisanship that proceeds quietly and without much other note or rancor.

Carvalho: My last two questions are directed more towards about you personally with the Senate. My first question is: a couple months ago with the Kavanaugh hearings, those are over now, but you did ask him about some of the terms he used, what they meant. You received some praise for this, you received some flak for it. I do just want to ask your thoughts on that, and about how it was trying to be used against you back in the election against Flanders, and do you think Kavanaugh was actually telling the truth about that at all?

Whitehouse: So I can answer the second question first. I don't think there's anybody who believes he was telling the truth about that. I'd yet to hear one person believe that he was telling the truth when he defined those terms, and I think the reason that the reason the rightwing got angry about that was he got basically called out making stuff up while under oath as a candidate for the United States Supreme Court. So, I don't have a lot of regret over that, and indeed as I engage with Rhode Island voters through the campaign and even afterward, the longest single sentiment that I get is "thank you for what you did in the Kavanaugh hearing". So, I think there was kind of a rightwing meme that they tried to develop about this, but I don't think it's stuck. It certainly didn't hurt me in the election, and to the contrary, I think this is the thing upon which in recent weeks I've had more support and more praise than any other issue.

Carvalho: In regard to this interview, my last question is: so what is next for Sheldon Whitehouse. Now that you've won this election, what do you plan on doing next? Is it just running for Senate again in six years or- what's your next goal?

Whitehouse: I'll make the decision about running again closer to the next election that seems like a long way off. I have no ulterior motive in serving in the Senate for Rhode Island. I have no intention of the executive office, or judicial office, or anything else. I've now been around the Senate long enough so I think I've built up considerable goodwill and credibility and have shown that I can be an effective, bipartisan partner, as well as an effective partisan advocate when I need to be. So, I'm very satisfied that the Senate is going to be a successful place for me in the years ahead and I don't have any other aspirations.

**Interested in current events? Like to write? Send in an article and get published! Send articles to [archway@bryant.edu](mailto:archway@bryant.edu)**



# Paris erupts into national emergency as 'Yellow Vest Protests' are waged

Patrick Flannery  
Contributing Writer

For the fourth consecutive weekend, anti-government protestors angry with the French government's raising of taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel descended upon Paris. The protestors, many donning yellow reflector vests, gathered all over the country with a singular message to the government- they want President Emmanuel Macron to resign.

As more and more anti-Macron protestors gathered, the protests took a violent turn. Police estimated that as many as 2000 protestors were arrested, roughly 126 people were injured (including 39 police officers) and caused millions of dollars in damage across the city. As many as 8000 police officers were assigned to the protests, and as violence and vandalism ran rampant, officers began to use tear gas and fired rubber bullets into the crowd. Protestors had taken to torching cars in the streets, breaking the windows of storefronts, and even vandalizing famous landmarks such as the Arc de Triomphe.

Protestors interviewed by French news sources expressed a strong resentment of President Macron's growing silence to the sinking French economy. To many, the increasing taxes serve as another example that the administration appears to prioritize the needs of the wealthy and the elite while ignoring the needs of the middle class. In an interview with NPR's Eleanor Beardsley, one protestor named Marie Noelle Santer stated "we have a president who is arrogant and who has pushed us to the limit, abandoning the poor and favoring the rich. What's happening is an insurrection. It's a revolution." The growing animosity towards Emmanuel Macron comes roughly a year and a half after Macron was elected president in surprising fashion. As more and more French citizens struggle financially, many have begun to turn their anger to Macron himself with chants of "Macron Resign!" echoing throughout the streets of Paris.

President Donald Trump took to Twitter to give his opinion on the riots, writing "Very sad day & night in Paris. Maybe it's time to end the ridiculous and extremely expensive Paris Agreement and return money back to the people in the form of lower taxes?". Macron's recent tax increases on gasoline and diesel fuel had caused the national average price of gasoline to grow to the rough equivalent of \$5.54 per gallon for the 2018 average. Protestors are believed to be largely white middle-class citizens that traveled to Paris from all around the country to join in the riots and make their voices heard. Moreover, it isn't simply Macron's policies that have inspired record low approval ratings, but his "elitist personality" that many believe neglects the needs of the middle class.

Macron has been silent so far in the wake of the most violent riots that France has seen in decades, opting only to tweet out his recognition for the good work of the police forces over the course of the weekend. Macron is scheduled to make a statement the morning of December 10th and until then the country is waiting with hope that a dialogue can be opened such that these violent protests may finally come to an end.



A protestor holds a sign in front of the Champs-Élysées (AFP)

## Salmonson Dining Hall: the premier dining option on Bryant's campus

Emilia Strazdis  
Contributing Writer

We all love to complain about the "gross" food served at our Salmonson Dining Hall, but perhaps this new survey will change your perspective. According to a 2018 survey conducted by Temple University and the Wisconsin HOPE lab, hunger is a pervasive issue across many US college campuses that affects millions of college students. 43,000 students from 66 colleges participated in this survey resulting in a new concerning statistic; 36 percent of these students had trouble getting enough to eat daily.

While some students are lucky to have financial support from their parents to get them through college, many others do not. For example, Cornell student Samuel Isaiah Williams could not afford a meal plan due to rising tuition costs and unexpected health insurance fees. Instead, Mr. Williams scopes out different school events where there might be some free food. To some Cornell student's free food is just a bonus. But to Mr. Williams, it is often dinner. At open mic night, there might be some boxes of pizza, or at a dorm movie night some chicken tenders. He says that at times it is challenging to find food, but Mr. Williams takes anything he can get.

Mr. Williams grew up in Guyana's capital, Georgetown, until his family chose to emigrate to the US in 2008 in search of a better life. His parent's main income came from selling hats from a street vendor in Guyana but wanted their children to have better economic and educational opportunities. When they moved to the US, the Williams family of 13, shared a 2-bedroom apartment in Brooklyn. There he attended Benjamin Banneker Academy and graduated on the honor roll. He was accepted by several prestigious universities but had to make a difficult decision based on the financial aid packages offered to him. Making his final decision to attend Cornell University, the University covered all of his first-year costs. However, due to climbing tuition costs and changing health insurance policies, he was unable to afford a meal plan. Along with taking 5 classes a semester, Mr. Williams had a large workload and did not have time to get a part-time job outside of school. Instead, he relied on canned goods and free food at student events to be his main source of food.

It is often easy to take things for granted, such as consistent food at our dining hall. But we must realize how blessed we are to have the comfort of never having to worry

about our next meal. At Bryant University we have many locations to get food, along with the many free SPB events that have free food. While we might look at these opportunities as an extra plus, we need to remember that there might be some people who rely on them as their main source of food.



Salmonson Dining Hall (Bryant University)

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# Amazon's profitability skyrockets as holiday shopping hits its peak

Daniel Wallein  
Contributing Writer

The holiday season is upon us and it is business as usual for the online giant Amazon.com. The company recently reported a third-quarter 29% increase in revenues to 56.6 billion dollars, up from 43.7 billion dollars in the third quarter of 2017. Amazon has estimated that their fourth-quarter earnings will be in the range of \$66.5 billion to \$72.5 billion, which is shockingly a modest estimate for them as their fourth-quarter earnings for 2017 were around \$60.5 billion.

This shows that although it may be a modest forecast for them, Amazon is still certainly moving in the right direction in terms of growth in the market. The same cannot be said for many other companies who have essentially been forced out of their various markets due to the power of Amazon. Amazon has developed a supply chain and distribution channel that allows for the company to provide their customers with virtually anything they want in just a few days, and they can do so in the comfort of their own home with a few simple clicks, rather than dealing with the typical hustle and bustle of the holiday season. This is why we continue to see stores like Toys R Us, Nordstrom, Sears, GameStop, and Barnes and Noble struggle to stay competitive in today's market.

These companies were once juggernauts in their respective markets, but now they have either been forced to close many, or all, of their brick and mortar locations or even shut down completely and file for bankruptcy. But who exactly is to blame for the results, or lack thereof in these various companies? Is it the companies themselves for failing to be progressive thinkers and failing to compete in an ever-changing market? Is it Amazon for bullying many other companies out of the market with the low prices and ease of access that they can offer? Or is it today's consumer, who has become either too busy, or even too focused on the luxuries that today's technology affords us, to actually go to a brick and mortar store to get their holiday shopping done? The answer most likely isn't one of these ideas in particular, but rather a combination of all of them.

Many companies have simply not done enough to actively change with the consumer mindset, which is now heavily focused on the consumer being able to get what they want, when they want it and at the price they want it. That is the business model upon which Amazon has built its immensely strong foundation and become the major online

juggernaut that it has. With its "Prime memberships", consumers can get practically anything they need in as little as a day; therefore, they can get what they want, when they want it and of course at the reasonably low prices that Amazon is known for. So, as we are in the midst of the holiday season, we'll see that people have various traditions or ways of celebrating the holidays. But we should also start to realize that if we take part in some holiday shopping on Amazon.com, then we are simply playing their game and contributing to the monopoly that they are surely becoming.



Online shopping has created a boon for Amazon (Lifehack)

## Juul: the past year and the future

Austin Kent\*  
Contributing Writer

Juul has become an extremely well-known trend recently especially among young adults. Concerns have been raised about the negative effects of smoking a Juul as it contains high levels of nicotine that have addictive qualities. In an attempt to curb teenage juuling, the FDA banned convenience stores and gas stations from selling flavors such as mango and nectar.

Fruity flavors are considered to be more attractive and kid-friendly. This flavor ban is a step in the right direction but young adults will still find other ways to get fruity flavors. Flavored products will still be sold in vape shops and online stores. The online stores do have strict age verification measures. The FDA's bans on Juul flavors is predicted to have negative effects on the Juul business.

One of the reasons that Juul is popular is due to its flavors. Consumers are attracted to the flavors offered by Juul as they are an alternative to regular vaping and cigarettes. Juul has controlled the majority of the e-cigarette market. These bans on Juul pods could be a good thing for other e-cigarette and vape companies as Juul most likely will take a hit.

Tobacco companies that manufacture their own vape will benefit as well and it is likely that tobacco stocks will see an increase in trading. As Juul continues to dominate the e-cigarette market and grows in popularity, it is reached a \$15 billion valuation.

Interestingly enough, Juul was created by a Stanford graduate student as a part of their thesis. In 2007, two Stanford students wanted to create an e-cigarette that would satisfy consumers in similar ways to a cigarette. Their inspiration was the fact that both were avid smokers looking to create an attractive substitute for cigarettes.

Juul labs generated \$224 million in retail sales over the past year. The retail price for a Juul is \$35 and a four pack of Juul pods cost \$16. The Juul brand sales blew up 621% year-over-year according to Nielsen data.

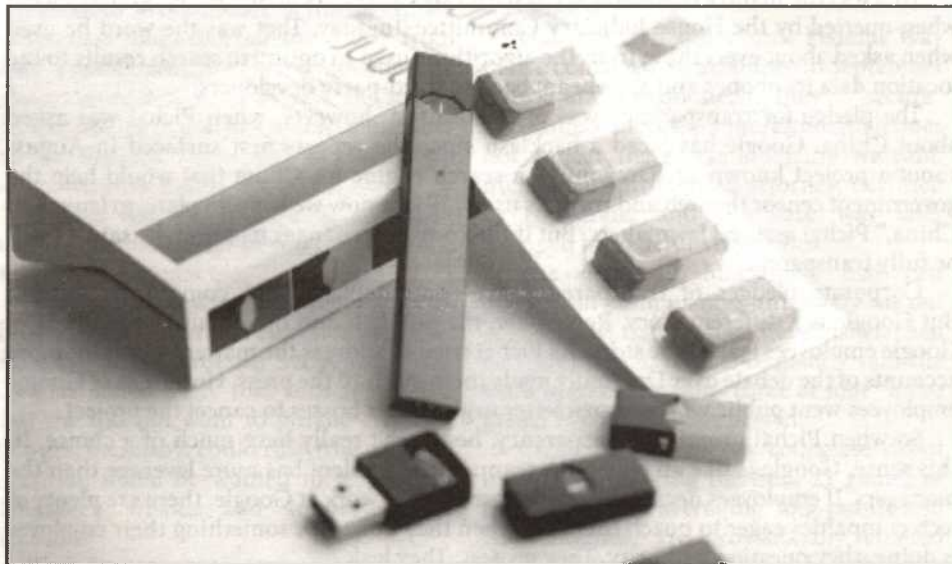
Juul has sold over one million systems and it is available at 12,000 convenience stores across the United States. These two graduate students were able to create a differentiated product and grow its brand name across the United States in a considerably short amount of time.

The Juul launched in 2015 in a USB drive shape and looks completely different than all other e-cigarettes. Most devices have a cap that needs to be unscrewed and the chamber inside will be filled with liquid.

The creation of Juul is a prime example of how assessing consumer needs before the consumer can recognize the need. The two Stanford students successfully created a quality substitute to smoking that was completely different than existing e-cigarettes available today.

This highlights the importance of differentiation in business whether it is a product or service. It is necessary to add value through offering a new product or an existing product in a different way.

It will be interesting to see how the Juul company continues to adjust to the heightening concerns about its health effects. If Juul is able to continue to adapt its product it will most likely continue to be successful.



Juul had to put advertisements to curb underage use (Juul)

\*This article, originally published in the December 7th edition of *The Archway*, has been republished to accurately reflect the name of the author.

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# Puerto Rico's new tax break lures money as an expiration date looms

Joe Light  
MCT Campus

One of the biggest breaks created by last year's tax law sits in Puerto Rico, a hurricane-ravaged island desperate for a recovery. But some residents fear tax history could repeat itself.

President Donald Trump's overhaul sets up "opportunity zones" in underdeveloped economic areas that try to lure investment with the promise of generous tax benefits. Almost all of Puerto Rico was deemed a zone, essentially creating a 3,500-square-mile tax haven that the island's governor hopes will bring more than \$600 million in new investment.

As of now though, the designation is set to expire after 10 years. If that sounds familiar, it's because Puerto Rico has been through this before. A previous corporate tax break led to a pharmaceutical boom, but when it phased out in 2006, the island saw dozens of manufacturers flee the island -- contributing to a fiscal crisis from which it's still recovering.

"Instead of leveraging that break to help local businesses stand on their own feet, we wasted it," said Carlos Serrano, a tax partner at Reichard & Escalera who works with the Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association.

Hurricane Maria exacerbated Puerto Rico's economic woes and devastated its infrastructure, causing an estimated \$90 billion in damage.

To jaded economists who watched the boom and bust, the new law could just be more false hope -- by giving tax breaks to wealthy real estate investors without fostering jobs-creating businesses.

"How do you build a plant that's going to produce something and then in 10 years pack up and leave?" says Zadia Feliciano, a professor at Queens College-City University of New York who has researched previous Puerto Rico tax breaks. Ten years "is not a long time for the kind of investment you have to make."

Puerto Rico has long used tax benefits to lure investment. New residents of Puerto Rico generally don't pay Puerto Rico taxes on passive income or federal income tax, spurring the creation of wealthy enclaves of mainlanders seeking the break. Hedge fund manager John Paulson in November at a conference said he was considering moving to Puerto Rico once his children leave for college.

The island used to have an even larger break for businesses. In the 1920s, Congress created a tax exemption for all income from non-U.S. sources as long as a company received at least 80 percent of its income from U.S. possessions such as Puerto Rico.

Revisions to the law in the 1970s and 1980s restricted it in a way that encouraged jobs-creating businesses, and the pharmaceutical industry created thousands of jobs on the island. But between 1995 and 2005, Congress phased out the benefit completely.

Feliciano's research, which compared Puerto Rico to U.S. states that didn't experience the change, estimates that the elimination of the benefit had the effect of cutting manufacturing wages by almost 17 percent and the number of manufacturing businesses by as much as 28 percent.

Unlike when it eliminated the benefit, which caught many manufacturers off guard, Congress created opportunity zones with a built-in expiration date. So instead of setting the island up for a crash once the zones disappear, the tax law might discourage long-term, jobs-creating investments in the first place, according to Feliciano.

Under the opportunity zone provision, investors can take capital gains from asset sales and plow them into funds that buy real estate or invest in businesses in opportunity zones. In turn, they can defer taxes until 2026 and potentially reduce what they owe by as much as 15 percent. If they hold the investment for at least ten years, they can also avoid paying capital gains taxes on the fund's appreciation. The change is estimated to cost \$1.6 billion over a decade.

The zones' expiration dates means that most investors will be focused on buying real estate instead of putting money into new businesses. Giovanni Mendez, a tax attorney in Puerto Rico, said he knows of at least eight funds that are buying up real estate on the island. A New York-based fund, which he declined to identify, has earmarked \$100 million for opportunity zone investments in Puerto Rico.

"Commercial real estate is moving very fast," Mendez said. "There's sort of a frenzy because of this." The IRS recently proposed regulations about opportunity zones, which could also make investments in startups more difficult since a certain percentage of the business's gross income has to come from within the zone. The rules also specify that even if a zone loses its designation after 10 years, investors can generally keep their tax benefits through 2047.

The zones were tucked into last year's tax revamp and were one of the rare features of the law with bipartisan support. Still, critics have said the provision was written so broadly that savvy investors and real estate developers could exploit it for projects they would have done anyway. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin earlier this year predicted the little-known break could attract as much as \$100 billion in investments in total.

Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rossello, who supports the island's zone designation, introduced legislation in November that's necessary to extend the capital gains tax breaks for investing in opportunity zones to Puerto Rico residents. The legislation, which is expected to be reintroduced next year, includes extra provisions like expedited permitting processes meant to entice development.

Matt Prober, a commercial real estate adviser and investor, said he and a team of other investors were motivated by the island's opportunity zone status to buy a 17,000-square-foot building in the capital city of San Juan that had been boarded up for about a decade. They bought it for \$600,000 and plan to invest twice as much in construction costs, eventually featuring a restaurant and four floors of office space.

Prober said private equity investors from the U.S. for the past several years had been slowly buying and rehabilitating properties, but with the limited window for opportunity funds, he thinks the pace will quicken. His own team of investors has raised \$25 million for a fund.

"I'm probably as optimistic as I've been for real estate in Puerto Rico in the last 10 years," Prober said, though he added that the short timeline for the break could limit its effectiveness. "I hope the government of Puerto Rico won't just see this as the one and only way out," Prober said. "There are other things they need to do to spur on development."

# Google CEO makes a promise to be more transparent about China

Eli Lake  
MCT Campus

Google would like you to know that it is transparent.

This was the mantra repeated over and over by Chief Executive Officer Sundar Pichai when queried by the House Judiciary Committee Tuesday. That was the word he used when asked about everything from the algorithms used to optimize search results to the location data its phones and apps beam back to third-party developers.

The pledge for transparency was most steadfast, however, when Pichai was asked about China. Google has faced a backlash since the reports first surfaced in August about a project known as "Dragonfly," a search engine for China that would help the government censor the web and track its users. "Right now we have no plans to launch in China," Pichai assured lawmakers. But if the company changes its mind, he said, "I will be fully transparent."

Corporate pledges of transparency are commonplace (and commonly broken). But Google is a different story. Remember, the public found out about Dragonfly after Google employees leaked the story. As Pichai tried to address the matter internally, more accounts of the debate over Dragonfly made their way into the press. Hundreds of Google employees went public with an open letter urging their bosses to cancel the project.

So when Pichai promises transparency, he doesn't really have much of a choice. In this sense, Google is like an elite NBA team: The star talent has more leverage than the managers. If employees decide they no longer want to work at Google, there are plenty of tech companies eager to poach them. So when they don't like something their employer is doing, they question authority. They protest. They leak.

That said, Pichai should have had a better answer when it comes to Dragonfly. He could have more fully explained his own thinking about why Google is willing to explore getting back into the Chinese market despite its history there. (Google left China in 2010 after it discovered a hack of its source code and the data of Chinese dissidents).

He did say that Google's "core mission is to provide users with access to information." But he could have also made the case why it is worth taking a risk again in China, and what steps his company would take to protect its intellectual property and its customers' personal data from a voracious Chinese national security state.

Even with such safeguards, it is still not worth it for Google. Instead of exploring how to get back into a country that targets foreign concerns and compels them to abet a Big Brother state, he could redouble his company's efforts to "provide users with access to information" in India, Vietnam and Indonesia.

For now, it's worth taking Pichai at his word when he promises transparency with China. Even if he wanted to keep Google's deliberations secret, his engineers wouldn't let him.



Google CEO Pichai discussing China with Congress (Getty Images)

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## Bryant's James Perry departs from head coaching position, moves to Brown

The Archway Sports Staff

On December 3, James Perry stepped down as head coach from Bryant University football. Subsequently, he was named the head coach of Brown University, his alma mater.

Perry was the head coach for Bryant from 2016 to 2018. During those seasons, the team had a high scoring offense, averaging more than 30 points per game and at least 400 yards of total offense per game in both seasons. He had a 12-10 record in his time here at Bryant University. He had 11 players awarded All-Northeast Conference selections, two All-American players, and two players win NEC awards.

"I would like to thank all the people at Bryant University for their support during my time as head football coach. I will be forever grateful to Director Bill Smith and President Machtley for giving me this opportunity. Their commitment to football at Bryant is unparalleled," Perry stated.

Bryant's athletic department has already announced that a nationwide coaching search will start immediately.



James Perry (Bryant University)

## San Diego State's Jalen McDaniels is sued for alleged filming, sharing of sex video

Mark Ziegler  
MCT Campus

Jalen McDaniels, a sophomore forward on San Diego State's basketball team, has been sued in a Washington civil court for allegedly filming a sexual act with a female student in 2016 while they were seniors at Federal Way High School outside Tacoma, and then sharing it with friends through social media.

Joan Mell, the attorney who filed the civil suit Wednesday in King County Superior Court, said she expects to file another invasion of privacy suit next week against McDaniels and the school district involving a similar incident with a different woman.

Federal Way police investigated the cases twice, once in 2016 and again this fall, and last month recommended two counts of voyeurism against McDaniels. The King County prosecutor, however, declined to press charges, according to attorneys on both sides.

"Jalen is aware of this investigation," said Jeremy Warren, McDaniels' San Diego-based attorney. "In fact, it has gone on for a couple years. The police have looked at it twice, and the D.A.'s office has rejected any criminal charges. He looks forward to his day in court. Right now, he's focused on being the best student and human being he can be."

SDSU issued a statement two hours after the suit was filed, indicating that McDaniels would remain in school and part of the basketball team. The decision, said a university source who was not authorized to speak publicly, was made by the athletic department in consultation with high-ranking officials in university administration.

"San Diego State University and SDSU Athletics take all allegations of misconduct seriously," the statement said. "An investigation completed by local municipal authorities in Washington state ... resulted in no charges. At this time, there will be no change in the individual's status at the university. The university will continue to monitor the situation."

Both women went public with their allegations in October and November but had not previously identified McDaniels, saying only it was a star basketball player on Federal Way High's 2016 state

championship team. The women held another news conference Wednesday afternoon with Seattle-area television stations to announce the civil suit, and this time named him.

The suit asks for damages "for severe emotional distress past and future" but does not specify monetary amounts.

"Jalen needs to figure out that women matter," said Mell, the attorney for the two women. "It's not about the money. If his paycheck to these women is 5 cents and he has to own the fact that it was wrong, good for him. Because that's what needs to be heard. He needs to acknowledge that you cannot do that, and no other woman should be vulnerable or victimized by Jalen McDaniels."

"If he says he recognizes that's wrong, he's going to get the benefit of not dragging everybody through a long, extended process and the damages are going to be a whole lot less."

Gwen Gabert said McDaniels, using his mobile phone, filmed her performing a consensual sexual act in a car in January 2016 without her knowledge or permission, then distributed the video to basketball teammates via a group chat. Gabert reported it to Federal Way police three months later, but no charges were brought due to what authorities said was a lack of probable cause.

Last October, another former Federal Way High student filed a \$3.5 million tort claim against Federal Way Public Schools, saying she told boys basketball coach Jerome Collins about a similar incident and he failed to properly notify authorities.

Tally Thomas said McDaniels filmed her performing a sexual act on one of his teammates from a closet, then distributed it on his phone. Thomas, a star athlete at Federal Way High, received a softball scholarship to play at Stanford but has since left school.

Both Gabert, 20, and Thomas, 19, said they have received therapy for depression, anxiety, eating disorders and other health issues. Both also said they have attempted suicide.

Gabert saw Thomas' interview with a Seattle TV station in October and called her that same day. She hired Mell and decided to pursue a civil case.

"I want him to be held responsible for his actions," Gabert told the Union-Tribune by phone Wednesday afternoon, "and I want him to have something that

will impact him (through) the years, maybe impact him forever, because of how serious it is - just have consequences."

"I did nothing wrong. I have consequences for the choice I made on my 18th birthday. I should have been able to make those choices and trust Jalen without having consequences that led me to almost take my life and still to this day be traumatized by what he did."

Thomas' tort claim requires that she wait 60 days before filing civil litigation against the school district. That waiting period expires Friday, and Mell said she has prepared a separate civil suit that names McDaniels, Collins and the school district.

At issue is a February 2016 meeting arranged by Thomas' father with Collins, both players and their fathers after basketball practice as Federal Way High was preparing to play in the state tournament. The Eagles would finish 28-0 and win Washington's 4A championship.

According to the police investigative report, both McDaniels and his teammate apologized, then deleted the video from their phones and instructed anyone else who received it to do so as well. The school district has since placed Collins, a member of the Federal Way Hall of Fame, on administrative leave.

Collins was unavailable for comment and has declined to speak with other media outlets when contacted.

After interviewing Bryant Thomas, Tally's father, Federal Way police detective Heather Castro wrote in her report: "Mr. Thomas stated Tally told him repeatedly that she did not want to pursue criminal charges, because it could ruin (the players') lives. He stated he wanted to respect his daughter's wishes and supported her decision."

The investigative report also says the players met with Thomas' mother to apologize, as well as with Thomas and Collins without parents present.

Castro's report says the basketball player who engaged in the sexual act with Thomas (and whose name was redacted) stated: "They decided it was over and they were going to move on with their lives. There was no talk about contacting police. They decided it was a family matter and they resolved it themselves."

After Thomas filed her tort claim in mid-October, a school district attorney reported the alleged incident to Federal

Way police. Castro opened a case on Thomas' allegations and reopened the closed case involving Gabert from 2016.

Her investigation included interviews with several of McDaniels' former Federal Way basketball teammates. Some said they had viewed the video; others said they had not but heard about it. Castro was unable to obtain a copy of the video as evidence.

Voyeurism laws in Washington require proof that a video was created for purposes of sexual gratification. A new law targeting the disclosure of intimate images without consent was enacted in 2015 but has a two-year statute of limitations, which has since expired in this case.

It is unclear whether McDaniels was technically a juvenile or adult at the time of both alleged incidents. Gabert said McDaniels filmed her on Jan. 26, 2016, which was her 18th birthday and five days before McDaniels turned 18. Thomas told police she first became aware of the video involving her on Feb. 13, after McDaniels had turned 18, but was uncertain when it was filmed.

Gabert's civil suit claims Federal Way police contacted SDSU police in September 2016 and requested they "secure" McDaniels' mobile phone, although it does not appear there was a seizure warrant. McDaniels, through an attorney, declined to cooperate, and the case was later dropped by Federal Way police.

The 6-foot-10 McDaniels had just arrived on campus and ultimately sat out as a redshirt that season. Steve Fisher, then the head coach, has subsequently said the team might have won "three or four" more games had McDaniels played.

McDaniels made his collegiate debut in 2017-18, starting the final 21 games of the season and averaging 10.5 points and 7.5 rebounds. He provisionally entered the NBA Draft last spring and worked out for more than 10 different teams before withdrawing and returning to SDSU.

This season, he is averaging 14.9 points and 7.8 rebounds for the Aztecs (5-4) through nine games.

McDaniels' younger brother, Jaden, is a currently a senior at Federal Way High and considered a top 5 recruit in the class of 2019. SDSU is among his five finalists, along with Kentucky, Texas, Washington and UCLA. He opted not to sign a national letter of intent in the November window, meaning his next opportunity to sign is April.



# Q&A: UConn coach Geno Auriemma talks managing players and expectations

Kelli Stacy  
MCT Campus

When coaches reach a certain level of success people want to peek into their minds and see the thinking, planning and strategizing — everything that went into building a winning program.

When I step into Geno Auriemma's office in the middle of November my goals are similar. He's led UConn to 11 national titles and produced some of the greatest women's basketball players ever. From Rebecca Lobo to Diana Taurasi to Maya Moore to Breanna Stewart, he's found a way of coaching that reaches a wide range of vastly different players.

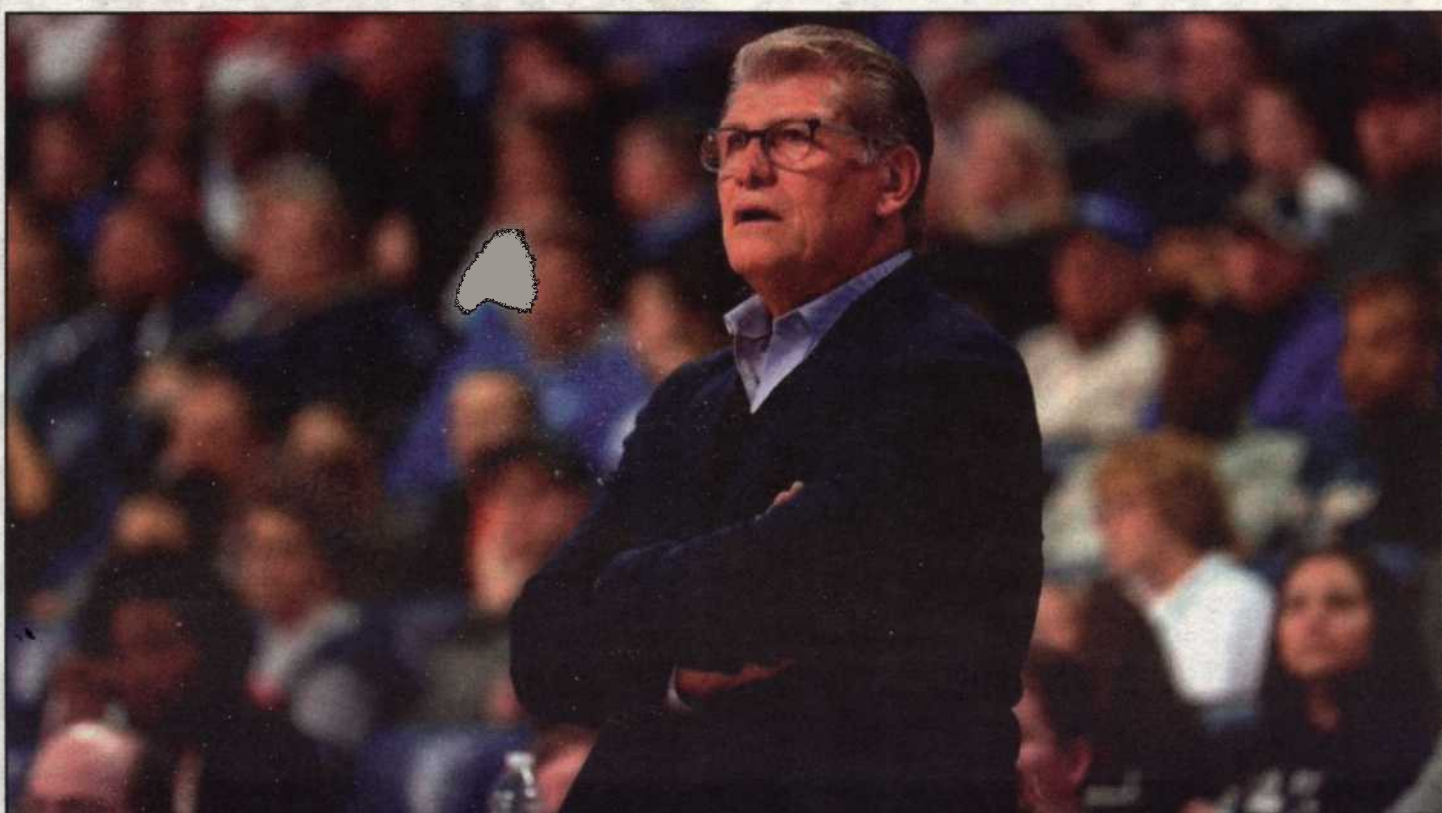
Managing a group of people is a delicate, exhausting process that not everyone is good at. Everyone is different and responds to different leadership tactics. Over the years Auriemma has been described as being too hard on his players by some, while others say he knows exactly how to motivate each player.

I sat down with the UConn coach to get a glimpse into his thoughts on player management, from how he motivates players to how to deal with the lofty expectations that come with playing at UConn. The following is a transcript of that conversation that's been edited for clarity.

**Q:** When you're working with a lot of different personality types how do you go about choosing who to be more strict with and who to be less strict with?

**A:** "It's gotten harder and harder over the years to try to figure that out. I think the trick for any coach is to make sure the players understand we're being critical of that basketball play you just made, we're not being critical of you as a person. But, in today's world they have a very difficult time differentiating between the two so the older kids that have been around for a long time have come to understand what means what. And the younger players, they're constantly looking around going 'What does that mean?' And a lot of times it means exactly what it means. What I just said is what I mean, and it has nothing to do with you personally. But in the beginning it's hard for them to separate the two."

"Coaches walk a fine line — I know I do — between do you just let it go and sugarcoat it and then game reality sets in and they're not prepared? Or do you take a shot at it and take the chance that what if they don't respond properly and everybody on the outside world goes 'Oh, you're being too hard on them?' It's a hard game, and it's competition, and it's not for the faint of heart. So you're going to get toughened up somehow. Either the kids are going to be hard on themselves and you can back off or they want to feel sorry for themselves and you have to step in and be hard on them. So the kids that are hard on themselves, I let them alone. They're putting the pressure on themselves that they need to put on themselves. But those guys that pretend 'Oh, I got this,' are the ones you've got to go like 'No, you don't.'"



Geno Auriemma (Jeff Roberson)

**Q:** There are some coaches who really believe in using a lot of positive reinforcement in practice and pointing out each thing a player does right. How do you find a balance between that and criticism?

**A:** "I think that the reality is everybody likes to hear 'good job' when they've done something really well. Most good players know when they've done something really good because it feels good, they know it, everybody's reacting to it. And you say 'They also need positive affirmation of it.' Good, that's true. Here's the issue that coaches have to deal with right now: A kid makes 10 plays, four of them are really good, six are lousy. Today, a lot of these kids want a big hug and a kiss for doing those four things great. The other six? They want you to completely ignore them as if it never happened, and that's not the way in the real world. The real world is 'I have to fix those six things.' I already know the four things you did well so we've already established what you can do well four out of 10 times. What if those other six times happen in the last minute of a game? So those four things you did right are meaningless, aren't they? So we've got to find a balance always as coaches. How do we manage that? With each kid it's different, but at the same time how many different ways are there to prepare a kid to play under pressure?"

**Q:** You've won a lot over the years and your fans have gotten used to it. This season you've talked about the possibility of losing a game, which has some of them worried. How do you manage expectations?

**A:** "We've probably won more than we should've won for anybody's health. What ends up happening is — and this gets lost in the social media world — people get on social media and they go 'Oh my God, this is what the world thinks.' No it's not. Ninety percent of the world isn't putting their thoughts and comments on social media. They're not going on whatever sites

and complaining about 'We didn't win a national championship the last two years.' Ninety percent of the people, maybe more, they just follow the team and they're happy. They like to see us play well, they like to see us win, but they understand there's winning and losing and understand that we've lived in a fairytale world for some time. People lose more games in a week than we've lost in the last five years. That's not the real world. We've created a world that's not real, but yet we live in it and we created it. Anytime somebody complains — I don't care how passionate you are — go live in the real world and then you'll see how good you have it."

"So what ends up happening for us in our world here in these offices is unless somebody tells us 'Hey did you hear this or see that?' We have no idea. We have no idea. We are really good with our players about 'Hey, just tune out the stuff,' and

so we do the same thing. We manage the expectations of our team for that year. So this year we have certain expectations for our team, and last year was for that team, next year will be for next year's team, and it changes based on what we have. Obviously you want to win a national championship — that's every year — but some years it's more realistic than others. And we've always understood that, and we try to manage it accordingly and we try to manage what the kids go through. I think sometimes people think 'Oh they're college athletes so they're open to whatever criticism because they're public figures.'" I guess they are; I guess we all are. It's all part of playing at UConn. You're going to get a lot of attention when you win, you're going to get a lot of attention when you don't win. And you can't have one without the other."



UConn students cheer at a game (UConn Athletics)

Interested in writing about Sports?  
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As we announced yesterday on the Bryant Football Coach's Show, we have scheduled FBS-member Central Michigan for the 2020 season.

This is our first-ever scheduled game against an FBS member and will take place on Sept. 26, 2020. -@BryantUFootball

**This Week's Scores**

**Men's Basketball - Game December 12**  
Hartford 91  
Bryant 74

**Game December 7**  
Columbia 90  
Bryant 68

**Women's Basketball - Game December 9**  
Hartford 67  
Bryant 57

**Game December 6**  
BC 83  
Bryant 46

**Week's Best Tweets**

**"Good luck on finals, Bulldogs!"**  
-@BryantAthletics

**"Naomi Ashley of @bryantwbbball and Adam Grant of @BryantHoops have been named the @NavigantCU Athletes of the Week!"**  
-@BryantAthletics

**"RECAP | @BashBe\_Humble scores a career-high 34 points, but the Bulldogs are defeated at the Chace by Hartford Wednesday night."**  
-@BryantHoops





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Dear Santa

Friday, December 9, 1977

Bryant College, Smithfield, Rhode Island

Volume 43 Number 11





## On the holiday classic, 'Baby, It's Cold Outside', getting banned on the radio

Kathryn Kalogeris  
Contributing Writer



A famous scene from the film "Elf" featuring the song (YouTube)

Every year, radio stations across the United States start playing Christmas music right after Thanksgiving. The holiday season is a time for joy, cheer, and listening to good music. The Christmas classic, "Baby, it's cold outside", written by Frank Loesser, has been

on radio stations' holiday song rotation since it was released in 1944.

The song is a call response song between a man and a woman. The lyrics tell the story of a cold holiday night in which the man is trying to get the woman to stay the night. The song never mentions Christmas or any other holiday, but it is played on the holiday song rotation for many radio stations because of its winter theme.

Earlier this week, several radio stations banned the song from their holiday song list. The song was banned because of the controversial message that it sends to listeners. Radio stations that banned the song claim that the message it is telling listeners is about date rape. People got this message from lyrics like "(I really can't stay) but, baby, it's cold outside", "(I ought to say no, no, no sir) mind if I move in closer", and "(say what's in this drink) no cabs to be had out there". After listening to the song more closely, radio stations felt that the song was inappropriate and that is why it got banned.

On December 3rd, 2018, the popular talk show "The View" did a segment on the banning of this song. One of the things that Whoopi Goldberg brings up is the fact that when the song was written in the 1940's, the times were different; therefore, the intentions of the song were not to send a date rape message. One of the guests that they had on the panel also made the point that this is her favorite Christmas song and how it is used in children's movies like "Elf". This is an important point that she makes because if the message the song was trying to convey was about date rape it would have never been put into children's movies and been remade by so many famous artists over the years.

In the same segment of "The View", Joy Behar compares the song to the song "Blurred Lines". This is an interesting point that she makes because "Baby, It's Cold Outside" and "Blurred Lines" are supposedly telling the same message. Since the songs were written during different times, Joy and the other panel members believe that the intention of "Baby, It's Cold Outside" wasn't about date rape because "it was an innocent thing at the time." Today, people are listening to the lyrics as if it is about date rape but at the time it was written people were not. On the other hand, the current song "Blurred Lines" is telling the same message, but because it was written today, we take it literally which makes the song worse.

After seeing both sides of this argument as to whether or not the song should be taken off the radio, I believe that the song should not have been banned. I agree with the people on "The View" that at the time of the song being written, the intentions were not for it to be about date rape. The song is a holiday classic that has been on the radio for years and to ban it now is mind-blowing in my opinion. Times change and at the time the song was written its intentions weren't to give a bad message to the public. I feel as though if the song wasn't controversial when it first was written in the 1940's it shouldn't be controversial years later.

## Redo the house race in North Carolina

Ronald J. Krotoszynski Jr.  
MCT Campus

The final undecided seat in the U.S. House of Representatives is now in the hands of the North Carolina Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement. After refusing to certify the result in the state's 9th Congressional District —where Republican Mark Harris leads by just 905 votes —the board is now investigating allegations of illegal ballot harvesting, tampering with absentee ballots and a leak of early voting results.

The question for North Carolina election officials —and potentially for the new Democratic House majority —is what to do now. Between possibly fraudulent absentee ballots and ballots not cast, there's simply no way to know who actually won. Constitutionally, there is only one credible solution: The general election, and probably the primary, must be re-run in the 9th District.

The House of Representatives, part of the "people's branch," was designed by the framers to be the most democratically accountable part of the federal government. A person must win an election to serve in the House. By way of contrast, the electoral college selects the president and, under the original Constitution, state legislatures selected senators. The 17th Amendment changed Senate elections to a popular vote in 1913, but midterm vacancies can in most states still be filled by an appointee of a state's governor.

No such provision exists for appointments to the House of Representatives. When a member of the House resigns or dies while in office, a special election must be held to fill the seat —even if this means that the people of a particular district must go without representation for weeks or even months as a result.

The imprimatur of direct democracy is so important, in fact, that a person duly elected to serve must be seated. The House has the constitutional authority to discipline or even expel a member, but only after seating him.

In the 1960s, the House refused to seat New York Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., voting to "exclude" him because of alleged personal and financial misconduct. The House declared the seat vacant and a special election took place. The voters of Powell's district, by an overwhelming margin, again returned him to Congress and that time he was seated.

The exclusion issue, however, went to the Supreme Court. In 1969, the justices held

that a person who secured the most votes and otherwise met the minimum constitutional requirements of age, citizenship and residency could not be excluded from the House. Chief Justice Earl Warren explained that "a fundamental principle of our representative democracy is, in Hamilton's words, 'that the people should choose whom they please to govern them.'"

In other words, if a district's voters want to send a scoundrel to represent them, that is their constitutional prerogative —so long as the scoundrel was properly elected.

In North Carolina, the election board can order a new general election if it concludes that the goings-on in the 9th District "taint the result of the entire election and cast doubt on its fairness."

If they refuse, the House is not without recourse. The House Committee on Administration can investigate, and if it harbors doubts in the election's validity, it can (and should) simply declare the seat vacant. That would force North Carolina to hold a new election, including new primaries.

Allegations of tampering with absentee ballots demand a serious response. Even so, making early or absentee voting even more difficult —in North Carolina or elsewhere —would be a misguided response. Making voting more difficult, through fewer polling stations that generate long waiting lines on election day, actually enables the type of ballot harvesting fraud alleged in this case. If one has to drive 20 miles and then wait for three hours to vote, of course you'd like that nice young woman to come pick up your absentee ballot at your house.

When voting is simple, easy and quick, the opportunities for skullduggery shrink. Several western states, including California, Oregon, and Washington, have adopted reliable and easy vote-by-mail programs. In these jurisdictions there were more than a few very close contests, but no credible allegations of widespread election fraud. Moreover, enabling more citizens to vote in House elections would significantly enhance the body's democratic bona fides and better fulfill the framers' intentions.

This is an important moment for American democracy. To certify either Republican Mark Harris or his Democratic opponent, Dan McCready, as the winner would be to seat a person whose legitimate election to the House is open to grave doubt.

The people of the 9th District have a constitutional right to select a person of their own choosing to represent them. North Carolina needs to permit them to exercise this right in a free and fair election —even if that requires an expensive and time-consuming do-over.

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# Pompeo is leading a foreign-policy farce

James Gibney  
MCT Campus

If a diplomat truly is, as the old saying goes, “an honest man sent abroad to lie for his country,” then Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has earned his pay. His speech in Brussels on “Restoring the Role of the Nation-State in the Liberal International Order” deserves a State Department Distinguished Honor Award for Intellectual Dishonesty.

“Multilateralism has too often become viewed as an end unto itself,” said Pompeo. “The more treaties we sign, the safer we supposedly are. The more bureaucrats we have, the better the job gets done.” Maybe I ran in strange circles during my eight years in the State Department, but few of my colleagues were in thrall to such simplistic thinking.

Pompeo then hurled rhetorical grenades at a row of multilateral bunkers: United Nations peacekeeping missions don’t work; the Organization of American States hasn’t brought freedom to Cuba; the African Union doesn’t advance the mutual interest of its members; the World Bank and International Monetary Fund just make things worse; the European Union puts the interests of its bureaucrats before those of its countries and citizens. Admittedly, each of those institutions is imperfect. But none lives down to the caricatures Pompeo made of them.

Finally, in his own Mount Suribachi moment, Pompeo brazenly planted the flag of American leadership on an international liberal order that this administration has worked harder to blow up than to build. Wisely, he beat a retreat after his speech, taking no questions.

So, let’s look at his points one by one. In attacking multilateralism, Pompeo claimed that the Trump administration’s mission is “to reassert our sovereignty ... and we want our friends to help us and exert their sovereignty as well.” Trump himself played up this same theme at the United Nations General Assembly in September.

But it’s not clear that multilateral agreements and institutions have actually done much to abuse U.S. sovereignty. The UN charter, for instance, clearly excludes intervention in any state’s domestic affairs. The U.S. veto on the Security Council gives it an unassailable backstop. America has unrivaled voting power in the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Many



Mike Pompeo and President Trump (Getty Images)

of the supposed threats to U.S. sovereignty that the Trump administration has cited have been either illusory — such as a hortatory compact on migration the U.S. pulled out of last year — or could be easily countered, such as a possible investigation by the International Criminal Court into U.S. actions in Afghanistan.

For its part, the Trump administration hasn’t been shy about trespassing on other countries’ sovereignty. Trump has threatened to invade Venezuela and to punish South Africa for its land-reform policies. By the end of 2017, he had also sanctioned nearly 1,000 individuals and entities. Apparently, there are limits to how much other countries can “exert their sovereignty” within their own borders if doing so goes against the interests of the U.S.

The liberal international order actually provides a legal basis for such interventions — if, that is, you’re willing to uphold it and play by its rules. The UN Security Council has passed hundreds of Chapter VII resolutions authorizing action to “restore international peace and security.” Many investigations and prosecutions by the ICC, to which all NATO members except

Turkey and the U.S. belong, have advanced many U.S. policy interests. Multilateral bodies also provide a forum for resolving lesser disputes. Trump’s animus toward the World Trade Organization, for instance, ignores the better than average (and better than China) U.S. winning streak in trade cases.

Even in those situations where international rules may constrain future U.S. behavior, they reflect trade-offs that negotiators have weighed and accepted. As Secretary of State Dean Rusk said to Congress in 1965 about the thousands of treaties and agreements that the U.S. had inked in the previous two decades, “We are constantly enlarging our own freedom by being able to predict what others are going to do.”

At their best, multilateral institutions allow their member states to leverage national power. Twice in the last decade, the U.S. Government Accountability Office has compared the cost of UN peacekeeping missions to U.S. boots on the ground and found them to be a much more cost-effective alternative. Fittingly, two days after Pompeo blasted his hosts at the EU for shortchanging the interests

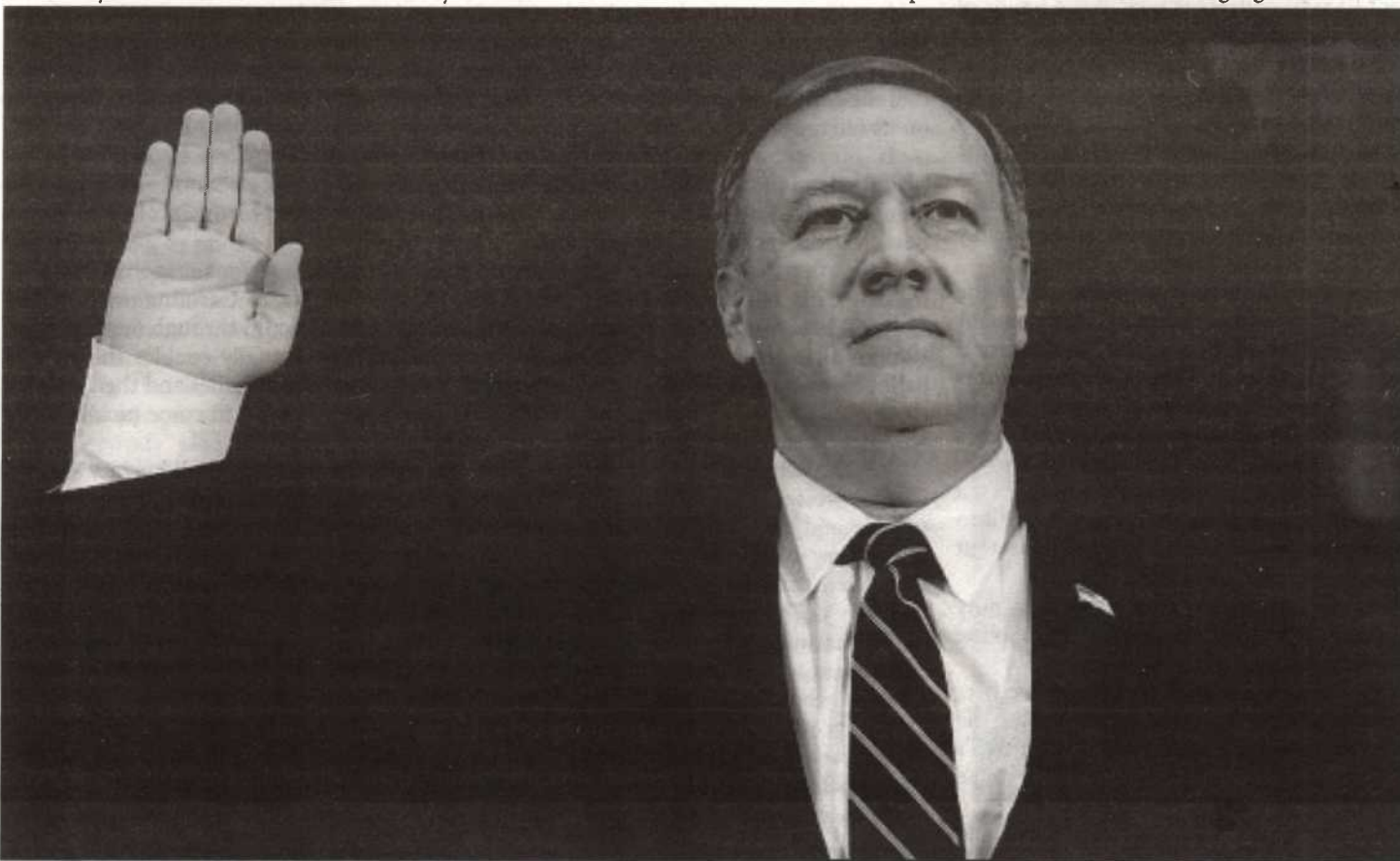
of its members’ citizens, news broke of a massive, multi-nation EU-coordinated raid on the ‘Ndrangheta crime syndicate in Italy — the kind of bust that no country can mount on its own.

Do multilateral institutions need review, reform and renewal? Well, what institution doesn’t? And as the largest funder from 2014 to 2016 for 24 out of 53 leading UN and non-UN multilateral institutions (compared with nine each for Japan and the U.K.), the U.S. has a strong interest in making sure they work effectively and advance the interests of member states.

But the way to do that isn’t to browbeat them, or to take your ball and go home when things don’t go your way. For all the weaknesses of the UN Human Rights Council, the U.S. withdrawal (Iceland took its place) won’t make it better, and makes it even less likely that offenders will be held to account. Moreover, China and Russia are busy building their own multilateral bodies or suborning existing ones like Interpol.

Pompeo claimed that the U.S. wants to create international organizations “that deliver on their stated missions, and that create value for the liberal order and for the world.” But the administration’s drastic budget cuts to the State Department and international organizations (which a more multilaterally-minded Congress has blunted) and its preference for bilateral over multilateral deals suggest it would rather they withered on the vine. Equally toxic has been Trump’s disdain for the work of experts and seasoned public servants — witness his recent repudiation of a searing U.S. government report on climate change’s economic impact.

One of my wonkiest jobs as a Foreign Service Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo was to cover Japan’s conduct in commodities groups such as the International Tropical Timber Organization, the International Coffee Organization and the now-defunct International Natural Rubber Organization. I never became an expert, though I did come to understand why Japan has such good coffee. I did, however, develop a healthy respect for the wonks, nerds and gnomes who inhabit the multilateral garden, tending to their countries’ national interests while advancing the greater common good. They need and deserve your support, Mr. Secretary, not your contempt.



Pompeo taking the Oath of Office (Getty Images)



## The Seven Deadly Sins...and then some

Thomas R. Maranian  
Variety Editor



The Seven Deadly Sins lead to a life of destruction, chaos, and a certain death (Wattpad)

**Lust.** It's in all of us. It is the word that describes an absolute wish and yearning for something such as money, power, sex, knowledge, and fame. Time itself has shaped lust for being related only to sex, but as human beings, there are so many more desires we have than for such a thing. We lust, above all, for material possessions, when really we have everything we need to pursue elation and lifelong success. We have love. So long as we love our neighbor as ourselves, there is no need to lust after material possessions. Lust leads us to do things we normally wouldn't. It drives us mad with uncharacteristic qualities we normally would not exhibit. Lust itself is not such a bad thing, if and only if it is directed towards a future eagerly sought after. Lust, in this sense, is equivalent to motivation. Without a reason for change, we would still be living in caves. Therefore, harness your lust towards achieving your lifelong aspirations and feats. Forget about finding your passion, for you will spend a lifetime looking and not doing. You already know what your passion is. Now is the time to direct your lust for that passion, correctly. Stop dreaming and get going.

**Gluttony.** At some point or another, it tampers with our focus and is, without a doubt, a result of some sort of stress. It also is the reason we find ourselves overweight, and question how and why, in the name of all that we stand for, we came to be in such a state. Look, you already possess the knowledge to control your body to a set weight. You know that taking in more energy than your body needs will result in a gain of weight, whether muscle or fat. You know that taking in less energy than your body needs will result in a loss of weight, likely fat before muscle. What enters the body is your own doing, not anyone else's; nothing is to blame but your poor judgment and habits. Do not give in to temptation. Temptation, for what it is worth, should be the eighth deadly sin! Be the master of your mind, body, and soul. If you let a temporary feeling like hunger control you, you have lost. Yes, hunger is temporary. Did you know that humans can survive far longer than you would expect without food, assuming water intake is heightened? Some say two weeks, but I say different! The body can surely last over 40 days. Now, that is not to say you must starve yourself. Control your emotions. Exercise your ability to stay empowered over temporary desires, for that is all hunger is. Train your mind to have all the willpower in the world and gluttony will become a petty thing, nonexistent in your life. Gluttony can be a tremendous learning lesson. If you fall to its unfortune, you will learn to never do so again, assuming you lose the weight and acknowledge its trepidation.

**Greed.** By their very nature, humans are greedy—every last one of us. Nature does not discriminate. We tend to take what we please and take more than necessary. We are greedy in that no amount of money will ever be enough. Two examples are as follows: a \$1 billion jackpot winning will never stop us from desiring more. The person who wins will try to keep on earning money in one way or another. All the knowledge in the world, compiled into one brain, would not be enough for that one person. He or she would desire more knowledge. The argument can go both ways, but I say neither are bad. A stasis and period of content is the death of advancement and progression. Settling in life will do no good to anyone, no matter how much you think it might. There is always work to be done on this earth, and by settling for what we have, rather than what we can continue to achieve, we fail this world and all those who are inhabitants. Most of all, we fail ourselves. An example of immoral greed is to win the lottery and

give no portion of it to those in need. If you win the lottery, do not be greedy with your money. Share it with those who are all so far away from the fortunes you possess. Be that guardian angel, that mystery man or woman, and that apostle of good word, deed, and thought. Greed, like lust, can be a good thing if properly applied.

**Sloth.** Laziness, alongside a whole number of other ideas such as a content state of mind and wasted time, is the death of productivity. You know exactly of what I speak. No one can say they have never been a sloth. Again, by our very nature, we are sloths; we shut our eyes and delve into a subconscious state of mind all 25,550 to 31,025 days of our lives, and if we are wise enough to take care of our bodies at a young age, then perhaps 36,500 days or more. Now, if we are smart, we will understand that this is all hypothetical. We, of course, must sleep. Without sleep, we die. The point is, do not say you are not a sloth. Every being that ever walked or flew the earth is a sloth. In a more practical approach, being idle during the day is a death wish. We will die at a much younger age than we would like. Those 30,000 days could turn into 20,000. Why? Because if we do not exercise our bodies, our minds, and our hearts, we will turn to gluttony, stupidity, and live with no one but our own selves. There are only two cases when being a sloth is acceptable. One is, of course, sleep. There is no choice for that. The other case is when we are on vacation. Sometimes, it is necessary to forget society and the loud of this world. We must allow ourselves to enjoy the great wonders of the earth. There is a choice to every other situation in life that demands our perfectionism and sincerity to come alive and vanquish the day's demons, challenges, and temptations. Do not fall to darkness. Do not fall to the period of stasis and content state of mind. You might enjoy being a sloth now and then, but your peers do not. You might want to kick back and pay the rest of the world no heed, but the world needs you, now more than ever. Resurrect your mind and devote every effort you can to making this world a better place than how you found it when you were born.

**Envy.** It drives us insane and makes us forgo our dreams. When you see others are on top of the world and are taking part in the fruits of the earth while you are still in a classroom, it can literally kill your ambitions. You might say to yourself, "What is the point if it has already been achieved? How can I be as good as him or her? I will never be as beautiful or smart as them!" You have failed yourself by saying this. That is okay because you will learn. Just learn now and let this be the end of it. Stop comparing yourself to others. You must make a name for yourself and not live vicariously through others. By doing the latter, you give them more power, fame, and status than they need to be in your mind. They should be mentors to you, not enemies. Your long-lasting journey called life will forever be in shadows if you allow it to happen. Do not live in the shadows. Step into the light and renew your mindset. You must live life to achieve what you have always wanted to achieve. You must do what is necessary to achieve those goals, no matter the sacrifices. If you wish to become a billionaire, you will not do so by tracking what celebrities do with their wealth. You need to build yourself up to that feat, not allow those who have already reached it to bring you down and tamper with your emotions. Envy can be a good thing and work to your advantage if you apply it in this manner: see what successful people have done and learn from their successes, but more so from their mistakes. Mistakes are made every day, just as failure occurs almost infinitely. Learn from them!

**Wrath.** Why do we so openly refute our neighbor? Why do we so openly seek revenge? If someone has done wrong unto you, do good onto them so that they may mirror that good behavior and friendliness. As much as life is a journey for you, you would be greedy to think it is only for you. Help your peers to rise with you and not against you. Vengeance drives us to do horrific and stupid things. We can sometimes make life-altering decisions based on when we are seeking retribution. If someone bests you in a game, good for them! Learn from your mistakes made in that game that allowed your opponent to win. Next time, you will beat them. But do not think it is all about vengeance. Similarly, anger can lead us down a dark path. Someone wronged you, okay, but that does not mean you should wrong them. If you openly make known you are out for vengeance, your enemies will have won. Bullies seek your retribution to further their own false feelings of power. Do not give them the satisfaction or false hope where there is none. Be humble, not vengeful. You are only one person. If you raise your hand against another, you will have many enemies to deal with, not just that one. You will surely be struck down at your own doing. Wrath can be a good thing in the sense that you see there are problems in the world that just seem to never change and

never improve, and out of your wrath for such things, you change the world and make it better. Are you starting to see the pattern? Good.

**Pride.** We are not in this world to boast of our achievements, nor are we here to seek egotism in the things we do that others have not. Let us say that you, yourself, figure out how to time travel. Do not take pride in that and boast to others for their appreciation and gratitude. For time travel will surely destroy our lives. Do not take pride in the fact that you might one day build a mansion for yourself while your brothers and sisters do not. You will surely grow gluttonous and slothful. Do not take pride in the fact that you are running a business while your peers are going to work for business owners one day. You are no better than the rest of us. No one is ever better than anyone. We are all equals. Do not take pride in the fact that you get a thousand likes on a social media post. It means absolutely nothing. You are a completely different person on social media, likely with some immoral motive, then you are in real life. Why do you so willingly desire the approval and appraisal of others for your life? Why do you feel the need to share with the world all that you do? The ones who change the world are almost always the ones who do so on their own time and without the need to seek the say-so from others. Pride can be a good thing in the case that you understand you have a gift for entrepreneurship, a gift for writing, or a gift for so many other things, and with that gift, you change the world. Upon changing the world, you do not boast about it or settle with it, but instead, you continue that drive for change and success. Do not forgo your gifts. Marry them and practice them every day of your life.

Those are the Seven deadly sins, but I am going to add two, myself.

As briefly mentioned earlier, temptation can very well add to this list of deadly sins. There are so many things that challenge us and tempt us at every second of every day, whether they are people we know, the immoral activities that those people take part in, or the deadly sins themselves. Do not be tempted by the devilish things of this earth. Do not be tempted by what your peers do. If you know what your path is in life that you wish to take and the things your peers do would only hinder your progression, simply say no. Always remember, feelings are temporary, success is everlasting. Do not be tempted to eat another serving of food. You would become a glutton! Do not be tempted to cast away help when you really need it. You would become lost! Do not be tempted to take what is not yours to take. You would become a thief and an unlawful human being! Do not be tempted to wish ill upon your peers. You will be all alone for the rest of your life. Take heed in these things and triumph over your adversaries. Fail to take heed in these things and just maybe will you learn that doing so will allow you to triumph. More than likely, you will lead a life no one is happy with, including you.

**Luck.** There is absolutely no such thing! No one should say, "Good luck on exams." It is not by luck in which we succeed. It is the hard-earned time put into studying the material that grants us an A. No one is controlling whether we succeed or fail but ourselves. To say we will need luck on our side is a downright misnomer to all that we do to achieve our goals. Luck did not serve us when this country was built from the ground. Our ancestors died for it! Luck did not serve us when man was put on the moon. John F. Kennedy is to credit! He did not need luck. He had a vision and that vision succeeded. Luck did not serve us when fire was discovered. Cavemen took rocks and scratched them together above firewood! They did not have luck. They had a mind. Luck does not serve us when the lottery is won. Someone bought a ticket and their numbers matched. Why should you see this as luck? Instead, see it as opportunity—opportunity to change the world. Stop discrediting yourself for the things you are responsible for; stop giving luck the credit when the outcomes are by your own hand. Why so much about changing the world? Because if not us, then who? If not now, when? If not today, will not tomorrow be more of the same?

And there you have it. Those are the deadly sins of humankind. There are, in fact, nine, not seven, in my eyes. The list could surely be added to. For now, I will leave it at that. Nine is enough to ponder about for some time. Let this day now be the Alpha; apply all that you have learned to your daily life and think twice before you act on any of these sins, until the Omega. They are, most definitely, sins. They may not be any of the 10 Commandments, but they are The Nine Deadly Sins humankind has grown so acquainted to, these past 4.5 billion years.



# Survival? Fantasy? Lessons to be learned

Thomas R. Maranian  
Variety Editor



(ChainImage) Home is where the hearth is; let that hearth guide you home no matter how far you stray

You come to your senses, to which you discover nothing is around you but the rustle of trees, winter weather, and darkness. Shortly thereafter, you realize you are naked. Where are you? You can only wonder. Your eyes can see no further than a few paces in all directions. You feel the cold, hard ground beneath your feet. What is that? A touch of snow? Lovely. You hear a wild echo singing aloft with the wind, loud enough to fill your every breath, thought, and instinct. What is more, the only ally you have on your side is fear. Do not be fooled into thinking otherwise! Fear is most definitely your ally; for when a man, woman, or child is with fear, the will to survive fills the mind, body, and heart. How you came to be in such a state of being and such a land is out of the question. It does not matter. The only thing that matters is what you are going to do from this point in time. Will you choose to live, or will you choose to let death take you? The answer is most certainly not the latter. You will choose strength; you will choose to oppose the forces of nature long enough to ensure your survival and escape.

You have no clothes, no shelter, no friends, no gear, no food or drink, no tools, and no cell phone or electronics. You are stripped of every last one of your material possessions. All you have is your wits and your physical body. There is only one logical thing to do, right away. By all that is good and all that is fair, you most certainly need to find a shelter and a source of heat. If not, you are finished. Forget about thinking positive or any of that pep talk. Not good enough! As much as contemplation of the future is a marvelous thing, if you sit on the ground and contemplate the future, in this scenario, you are wasting valuable time you will not have even just a few seconds into the future. The first thing that must come to mind is to find a shelter. A big decision you must make is whether to run, in an attempt to heat your body whilst finding shelter or preserve your energy levels for when you might need them later. Remember, you can only last about three days without water. However, because the temperature is subfreezing and not blistering hot, you might be able to prolong that for a while longer. Whatever the case may be, choose now and choose quickly. Every second wasted is a second lost. If you find a cave of some sort, then you are off to a great start. Start a fire. Utilize the classic two-rock trick. You will eventually get it, but you need to ensure you gather enough firewood.

If there is no shelter to be found for some distance, there is no sense in continuing the search in an unknown land. Build your own. Build a tepee or small hut if there is the material to do so around you. It likely will not be the case, so instead, get down on your hands and knees and start digging. Yes, that is correct, dig! The wind and cold air, that is so spitefully biting at your face, chest, and back, can be combatted by insulating yourself within the earth. Since snow is an excellent insulator, dig a snow trench or fort and hop right in. Be sure to gather as much dirt and soil, rocks, sticks, and any other material you can find. They likely all will provide some sort of insulation. It might get awfully dirty

and smelly down there, but you are in no position to complain.

Once you've rejuvenated some heat, you must get to work. Your life depends on building a fire. Once that is made, you are already so much better off. Get as close as you need to, in order to stay warm. It really is all a charging game. Heat your body just long enough that you are ready once more to face the cold. When you can no longer bear it, come back to the fire and warm up again. And of course, tend to the fire!

You start to hear that grunting and growling in the wind again. Something fast approaches. Do not be so foolish to run. Compared to animals, humans are very slow. With the extra rocks you have, sharpen a stick into a spear—if you have the time—or just hold a few rocks at the ready. They will act as tools in your defense. You wonder whether to step out of your shelter and face your predator or wait it out. You suddenly realize you are awfully hungry. The thought of food then comes to mind. You will need your strength to continue on, and so you decide to face whatever is out there. It cannot be worse than the cold, right? Wrong. It is a bear, and it is sniffing at your skin. Fortune is in your favor, it seems, because the bear decides to turn around. The fire scares it away. With your heart pounding in your chest, it seems you are now fully awoken and more aware of your surroundings. You will sharpen your sticks, now, to be sure you are ready for another encounter such as this that may not go as peacefully. Make a knife and spear to keep in hand. You never know what is out there.

Now that you have a shelter, a fire, and tools for protection, you will need to find a source of food and drink. The bear will just not cut it. You would be mad to try and hunt it down. You rush out of your shelter once the coast is clear and you search for food. The further you go, the easier it becomes to forget where your shelter is. Your footprints quickly become covered in another coating of snow. But there is hope. You come out of the forest—at least one part of it—and come upon a small cabin in the middle of a large expanse. You make the final sprint to the cabin, feeling the mighty cold on your feet, and barge in to find you are not alone after all. A man and woman, clothed in linen wraps and sharing both a cup of tea and a cooked steak, sit about a small table. They stare in awe at the sight of you. So, what exactly is this? How do you explain yourself when they speak a language unknown to you? You throw your hands up in defense to show you are harmless and in need of help.

The strangers see reason. You are clothed, fed, and warmed. Not a moment later, the two strangers reveal you are on an estranged island in a faraway land. You are brought before an established village not too far from where you are at present. Soon you become accustomed to their lifestyle of hunting and gathering and learn to live off the land just the same as the ancestors of the earth. You begin to believe it might not be so bad to forgo reality and live out your days in a land that seems all too fantastical. You come to truly appreciate nature for what it is and are no longer bothered by the cold as much as day one. Here you are on day fifty and feel like this is a life worth living. No troubles to be bothered with, no taxes to pay, and no stress to consume your being. The big decision you need to make is whether a return to reality is worth it. Well, in this particular situation, it is. This is not your life. This is not your world. This is a faraway land that is not your reality. You have family and friends to return to. There is work yet to be done back home.

When you think the coast is clear, you make a run for it, all to your great misfortune. The foreigners do not see reason. They burn you at the stake for trying to escape. That is when you wake up. It was all a dream!

There is quite a great number of lessons to be learned from a dream such as this, just as there is a lesson to be learned from all made-up stories. The mind wanders and the mind sees what it wishes to see. All of us, at some point or another, wish to be free from society and live in another time, another place, or another world. As much as we watch and read the tales of made-up characters and settings, they will never be so. There is no utopian society; there is no life worth living other than the one you live right now. It is yours for the taking. Survival in the wilderness is quite a fascinating topic. If it goes in your favor, it is tempting to continue such a life. We must always come home. No matter how far we stray from home, home is home. There is good in all that we do, in this life. So, if ever the situation arises where you are naked and afraid in the wilderness, and you are clever and strong enough to survive, make the right decision. Come home to the life you live, in the here and now, and learn to enjoy the wonders of this world. By all means, write, read, and study science-fiction, fantasy, utopian societies, and dystopian societies. We can learn much and more than we ever would have imagined by studying what is make-believe. As we should all know by now, one who is immersed in literature of the like lives a thousand lives before the end, while one who forgoes such a thing lives only one. What is to say we cannot immerse ourselves elsewhere for the sake of knowledge, inspiration, and intellect?

## 5-DAY FORECAST

Fri



41° 36°

Sat



46° 33°

Sun



42° 31°

Mon



43° 27°


Tue



37° 24°




## BASIC SURVIVAL SKILLS




**POSITIVE MENTAL ATTITUDE**

1. Set Goals
2. Focus on what you can control
3. Keep hydrated and nourished




**WATER**

1. Look for signs of water
2. Know how to purify and filter it
3. 4-6 liters/quarts per day minimum



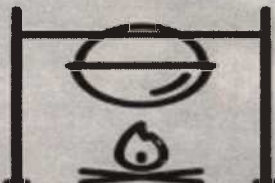
**FOOD**

1. Ration what you have
2. Learn to obtain local plants & animals
3. Understand how to prepare foraged food



**SHELTER**

1. Learn to build shelters
2. Use the tools you have in your BOB
3. Supplement found materials with your gear



**FIRE**

1. Every fire needs air, fuel, and ignition
2. Learn to build a basic log cabin or teepee
3. Cook food on coals, boil water on flame

**SURVIVAL MASTERY**  
Source: survival-mastery.com

A man is found murdered on a Sunday morning. His wife calls the police, who question the wife and the staff, and are given the following alibis:

the wife says she was sleeping,  
the butler was cleaning the closet,  
the gardener was picking vegetables,  
the maid was getting the mail, and  
the cook was preparing breakfast.

Immediately, the police arrest the murderer.

Who did it and how did the police know?

The maid; there is no mail on Sundays

I go on four legs  
in the morning,  
on two legs at noon,  
and on three legs in  
the evening.

What am I?

A human; crawls as a baby, walks as an adult, then uses a cane in old age

*See You  
Next Year!*



