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Wax on Felt's Halloween show



The Berkeley Beacon

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At Town Hall meeting, community discusses sexual assault

Laura Gomez, *Beacon Staff*

On Monday afternoon, the Cutler Majestic Theatre's ground floor section was nearly filled to its 300-seat capacity as students, faculty, and staff sat before the purple-lit stage.

The event congregated 275 members of the college community for a town hall-style meeting in response to allegations made by group of students who say Emerson mishandled their reports of sexual assault. These students say they've filed a Title IX complaint against the college with the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, drawing attention from local and national media.

"I'm not here today to talk to you about specific allegations of sexual assault on our campus," said President M. Lee Pelton. "But rather, I am here to tell you why this issue is so important to who we are and what we stand for."

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, commonly known as FERPA, prohibits an educational institution from disclosing personal information about students' records.

Pelton said acts of sexual assault and sexual violence undermine Emerson's capacity to function as a learning community committed to academic excellence.

He said he will authorize—pending approval by the Board of Trustees—a comprehensive, external review of Emerson's compliance with Title IX, a federal law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of gender in educational programs.



President M. Lee Pelton holds up the "Emerson Stands" bracelet, designed to unite the community. • *Andrew Harwood/Beacon Staff*

A panel of five other administrators—Lori Beth Way, senior advisor to academic affairs; Elise Harrison, director of counseling and psychological services; Sylvia Spears, vice president for diversity and inclusion; Ronald Ludman, dean of students; and Alexa Jackson, Title IX coordinator and associate vice president for human resources—sat on stage to answer questions from the public.

Professors and students alike stepped up to the two available microphones and expressed that the college should dismantle the notion that sexual assault is only a women's issue, called for more available counselors at the Center of Psychological and Counseling Services, and discussed what students can do to support their peers who are involved in cases of sexual assault.

Monica de Pinto Ribeiro Hancke was the first student to address the panel of administrators. A few words into her question, she apologized for the trembling in her voice.

"This is clearly something very important to me," she said, overwhelmed with emotion. "What training will faculty, other members

of our administration, and students have in addressing victim-blaming?" asked the senior political communication and performing arts double major. "Because I witness it from peer-to-peer and that is very hard to deal with."

Way answered her question and said that because there are misconceptions about survivors of sexual violence, like thinking the victims set themselves up for assault, it is difficult to respond in a caring way.

Way said she and Spears will lead a task force of faculty, staff, students, and alumni to conduct an internal review, and determine how to improve, Emerson's sexual assault prevention education, training practices, and efforts to create a culture of consent. A website will be launched to track its progress, she said.

Pelton said the college is now searching for a Sexual Assault Advocate, who will support survivors as they navigate medical, legal, and disciplinary protocols and oversee advo

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Faculty votes to start chair searches internally

Jackie Tempera, *Beacon Staff*

Emerson faculty members voted to begin searches for permanent chairs for academic departments in a faculty assembly meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 22. This decision will be passed on to the administrative academic affairs board for final review, according to Michaele Whelan, the vice president of academic affairs.

"There is no reason chairs can't come from faculty."
— Michaele Whelan, vice president of academic affairs

Currently, five out of the college's seven department chairs are labeled as interims, meaning they are professors from the department and were not hired during a national search, according to Whelan. These interim chairs are in the journalism, marketing communication, visual and media arts, communication sciences and disorders, and communication studies departments.

Whelan said she and President M. Lee Pelton developed this idea after a conversation they had shortly after she joined the faculty in July of 2013.

"We feel like we have excellent faculty," she said. "There is no reason why chairs can't come from the faculty."

Whelan said labeling chairs as interim is unique to Emerson, and is part of what prompted her discussion with Pelton.

"I think the label of interim is uncommon," said Whelan, who served as the vice provost for academic affairs at Brandeis University. "This is an Emerson thing. I've been at institutions where people have served as chair for a year, and they were still 'chair'—it was just a shorter time period."

Interim chairs are different only in title and appointment, said Whelan. When a chair steps down and the college hires a faculty member rather than completing a national search, this person is labeled an in

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New LA campus to incorporate more students

Jackie Tempera, *Beacon Staff*

When Kevin Bright arrived at 99 Summer St., an Emerson office space, workers in the quiet area were well-aware of who had walked through the doors. With his dramatic rustlings of his long gray hair, and his loud, raspy voice, Bright livened up the place.

Between bites of a salt bagel, Bright reclined in his seat and explained his vision for Emerson's new Los Angeles campus, located on Sunset Boulevard, which will open in January. In spring 2012, Bright, an Emerson graduate and producer of *Friends*, was named the center's director.

He said his goal for the new campus is to help students have a "California experience."

"Up until now, the LA program has been in the model of study abroad program," said Bright. "There haven't been a lot of de-

mands; students go there, get their internships and supporting classes, have a good time, and come back. But now you're going to be in middle of Hollywood, not stuck in Burbank."

The school's new central location will make traveling to classes and internships simpler, and help build a connection among Emerson students, said Bright.

Erinn Pascall, a writing, literature, and publishing senior, didn't apply for the LA program based on the lack of housing, she said.

"I did not consider the LA campus, one of the reasons being that I didn't have a place to stay," said Pascall.

Andrew Tiedemann, the college's vice president for communication and marketing, said consolidating students into one building will help them feel more comfortable during their time across the country. Currently, students live in the Oakwood

apartment complex in Burbank, Calif. among about 3,000 other young people, said Tiedemann.

"Now, there will be a sense of community," he said.

Jake Schwartz, a freshman visual and media arts major, agreed that the dorms will make the move easier for students.

"It's nice that in LA, a place where so many filmmakers go, having a place to stay will ease the transition," he said.

Bright said he hopes to better integrate students across the college, not just those in visual and media arts, journalism, and marketing communication students, who he said apply to the program most frequently.

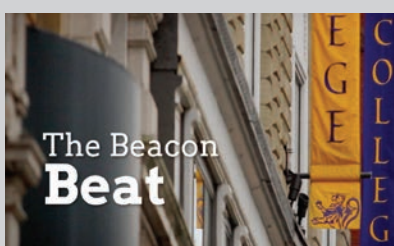
These plans include forging partnerships with local theaters for performing arts majors, and magazines for writing, literature,

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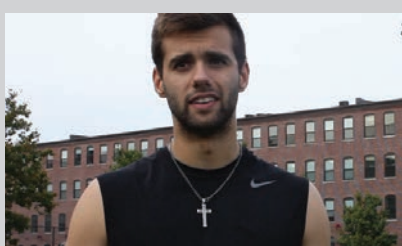


Kevin Bright, the animated chair of the LA center, talks about his plans. • *Kelsey Davis/Beacon Staff*

Online extras



The Beacon Beat: our weekly news recap
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Extended interview with Carter Bowers
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A look at Wax on Felt's Halloween show
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news

Chilean and Emerson students work to change national image

Christina Bartson, *Beacon Correspondent*

A Chilean flag and pumpkin carved with the words “change agent” sat at the center of a conference table on the sixth floor of the Walker Building. A Chilean student asked a group of Emerson students what they associate most with Chile: football, food, or the rugged, beautiful terrain. “Soccer,” they said in near unison, and laughed.

This focus group about American perceptions of Chile, held on Wednesday, Oct. 16, was conducted by 10 Catholic University of Chile students with 12 Emerson communication studies students. It was part of the Chilean students’ 10-day visit to Boston organized by Greg Payne, an associate professor of communication studies at Emerson, and Macarena Urenda, the director of public relations at the Catholic University of Chile’s Departamento Universitario Obrero Campesino, commonly referred to as DUOC, said Payne. The visiting students, who are studying public relations and marketing, came to work on an in-class rebranding campaign of Chile, a project they took on independently of the Chilean government, said Payne.

Payne led the public diplomacy workshop with Valerie Rubinsky, an Emerson communications management graduate student. Rubinsky coordinated the events at Emerson and directed the group of Emerson students.

“Public diplomacy is fostering relations through communication,” said Mehroz Sajjad, a communications management graduate student at Emerson, who participated in the workshop. “We’re building a relationship.”

The idea for the partnership began in August 2011, when Payne met Urenda at DUOC’s campus in Viña del Mar, Chile. Payne said he and Urenda wanted to connect students studying public relations at their respective institutions.

This year, they arranged for a group of students and professors from DUOC to travel to Emerson for a public diplomacy workshop. One professor came from each of the Catholic University of Chile campuses in Viña del Mar, Concepción, and Santiago. The group arrived in Boston on Oct. 13 and departed on Oct. 24.

The Chilean students attended lectures at Emerson and participated in conversations with professors working in public relations, political communication, and public affairs, said Payne. Emerson students were able to offer insights about how they think the world sees Chile, said Rubinsky.

At the end of the 10 days, the Chilean students presented their rebranding campaign to a panel of public affairs experts from Emerson and the city of Boston, said Payne. The group also created a Facebook page and built a website for the project.

The group will move onto New York City for a five-day workshop at New York University before they leave the country. Once they return to Chile, they

will continue to collaborate with the Emerson students on a video about the image of their country that the Chileans want to present. The video will be posted on the project’s website and on YouTube, and will be shown at conferences and meetings in the U.S., Europe, and South America.

Payne said that open discussions are critical to public diplomacy, a notion obvious during the Oct. 16 focus group. The Emerson students sat in a conference room, separated from the Chileans in the next room by a one-way glass partition, through which the Chileans could see the Emerson students. The Chileans asked Emerson students what they thought of Chile. Although there was only one Spanish-speaking Emerson student who could translate, the conversation flowed, hitting on American sightseeing, studying abroad, and Chilean food, and then veered toward the popularity of extreme sports in Chile. There was a lot of laughing, but the conversation served its purpose — discovering that Emerson students’ perception of Chile came from the commercial aspects of the country.

“We want to show the world the Chile that we know,” said Francisca Gomez, a senior studying public relations at the Catholic University of Chile, while listening to the focus group’s conversation. Gomez said she wants people to see the cultural side of Chile, not just the tourism.

Sajjad said the Chilean students know how to get their message across in dif-

ferent mediums.

“The people of Chile are their focus in the presentation,” she said, “and they’re trying to use an emotional appeal to present the people of Chile.”

Payne said the group plans to present its rebranding campaign next year at the International Academy of Business Disciplines, an international conference in Santiago, Chile, and at the European Public Relations Association’s annual meeting held in London.

“It’s crucial for universities—especially Emerson, because Emerson’s mission is communication—to not only reach out to the local community and form relationships, but also to have global civic engagement initiatives like we’re doing in Chile,” said Payne.

“What public diplomacy really epitomizes are people at the local and global level as change agents,” Payne added.

This project allows Emerson students to use the political communication skills they have learned in class and build meaningful relationships with their peers from another country. A group of Emerson students and professors plan to travel to Chile in 2014 to continue the project, according to Payne.

“For Emerson,” he said, “it’s another step forward in terms of civic engagement and reaching the goal that President Pelton has: to have more opportunities for students and professors to study and be involved around the globe.”

✉ christina_bartson@emerson.edu

SGA appoints committee member, picks contest winner



SGA president Paul Almeida addresses his constituents. • Andrew Harwood/Beacon Staff

Kathryn Bennett, *Beacon Staff*

The Student Government Association met in a closed meeting Tuesday to appoint a member to the Inclusive Excellence Committee. This committee was formed as a part of the Inclusive Excellence Initiative announced during President M. Lee Pelton’s 2012 inaugural address. The group, made up of Emerson faculty, staff members, and a select group of student representatives, will advise Pelton on issues of diversity and inclusion. It is a new committee, created this semester that will meet three times this year, according to SGA President Paul Almeida.

According to the agenda emailed out before the meeting by Almeida, SGA members had the opportunity to nominate themselves to serve on the committee, and gave one or two-minute speeches on why they were qualified. They were then voted on by the rest of the SGA. Non-SGA members were not allowed to be present at the meeting.

According to Almeida, Ernest Lesmana, the SGA’s multicultural commissioner, was selected for the Inclusive Excellence Committee.

The SGA also picked the winners of

the Trick or Lee contest it sponsored with Pelton. This vote also took place in a closed meeting. Until October 20, students could submit ideas for decorating Pelton’s home and creating his Halloween costume.

Freshman Emily White, a performing arts major, was chosen as the winner for the costume design portion of the contest. She will dress Pelton as David Karp, the founder of Tumblr. There were not any submissions to decorate Pelton’s home.

“While this is unfortunate, the house decorating portion of the contest will still be a community-centered event,” said Almeida. “Running this event for the first time has allowed us to gain valuable insight into how to source more submissions next year and run an overall better Trick or Lee program.”

The decorating will now be a community-wide event, hosted by the SGA. This solution was decided on during Tuesday’s meeting. Students can stop by his Beacon Hill residence from 2 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Oct. 31 to participate.

✉ @kathrynb56

✉ kathryn_bennett@emerson.edu

“Running this event for the first time has allowed us to gain valuable insight into how to source more submissions next year.” — Paul Almeida, SGA president

Administrators answer questions

Continued from Town Hall page 1

cacy groups, among other duties. The job description has been developed and posted on Emerson’s website, he said.

Mick Jacobs, a junior journalism major, asked how students should react if they feel conflicted in situations that involve allegations of sexual assault within a friend group.

Ludman said that the Dean’s Office and staff from the Office of Housing and Residence Life, like resident assistants, are available to guide students in such situations.

Jackson contributed only a few words during the hour-long meeting.

Harrison spoke about the emotional effects of sexual assault, and the resources that the college offers to students who need to cope with that experience, like access to therapists and counselors.

Suzi Pietroluongo, a performing arts major, spoke during the event, and said it is difficult to schedule a meeting with staff from counseling services because there aren’t enough counselors to adequately service the demand.

Harrison agreed with the senior performing arts major, and Ludman said he expects the external review to assess how Emerson can better support the needs of students.

Carole Simpson, a journalism professor who attended the event, asked how Emerson can get men in the community involved

in the conversations surrounding sexual assault.

“Why is it that the focus is always in the women, and there is nothing about what men should not do?” said Simpson, receiving applause from the audience. “Men are not told, ‘Don’t rape,’ and women are told, ‘Do not get raped.’”

Pelton and Spears responded by pointing to man-led movements against sexual violence at other colleges, which ally with women victims of sexual assault.

“I would challenge the men on our campus to think about what is Emerson version of that men’s movement,” said Spears.

Spears also said she expects the educational materials the task force puts forth to address that men are also victims of sexual violence.

Pelton closed the panel by displaying a new purple bracelet he was wearing, which says “Emerson Stands.” The bands, which he said reflect a pledge to the community’s commitment in the issue of sexual violence, were distributed for free at the end of the event.

“We stand together knowing that we can and must do better,” said Pelton, “because so very, very much is at stake.”

✉ @laura_gomezrod

✉ laura_gmez@emerson.edu

Public Safety Log

Tuesday, October 15

At 4:00 p.m., a student’s wallet was taken from his or her backpack on or near campus. The investigation is ongoing.

Wednesday, October 16

At 9:07 p.m., a student in Little Building was found in possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. The case is being handled by administrators.

Thursday, October 17

A student witnessed a man exposing himself at 2:34 p.m. outside of the Ansin Building. The indecent exposure case has been referred to another agency.

Saturday, October 19

At 1:25 p.m., clothing was stolen from the Emerson Barnes & Noble by an employee. The report is open.

Sunday, October 20

Outside of Little Building at 1:32 a.m., a student was threatened by another student. The student is facing academic sanctions.

At 2:30 p.m., items were reportedly stolen from a student’s backpack at 10 Boylston St. The investigation is open.

Monday, October 21

While walking near Little Building at 2:54 p.m., a student was reportedly assaulted. The investigation is open.

Sodexo brings in nutritionist

Angelica Lavine, *Beacon Correspondent*

Lauren Vislocky, a senior communication sciences and disorders major, said she has struggled with nutrition ever since she left her home in New Jersey to attend Emerson.

After joining the spirit squad for the college and working at a private gym, Vislocky said she discovered the importance of nutrition but never considered the idea of meeting with a dietitian. That is, until, she learned that Sodexo, Emerson's new food service provider, brought in Karen Jew, a nutritionist of its own, with whom Vislocky has already scheduled an appointment.

"Why waste time looking at nutritional information," said Vislocky, "when I can have someone telling me exactly what the healthy choices are?"

Jew said she reviews menus with students, pointing out the options available to them and soliciting feedback from them for ways Sodexo can better serve them. Students who visit her may have particular dietary restrictions or simply may be looking to identify healthier options, Jew said.

She said she also helps students understand and use Sodexo's new services, like Mindful, an online system that provides nutritional information for all food served by Sodexo on campus, and My Fitness Pal, a website that supplies a calorie counter and diet planner. She said she also some-

times handles inquiries from parents.

According to Steven Canario, Emerson's new general manager of dining services from Sodexo, Jew came to Emerson not because students requested more nutritional advising, but because a nutritionist is included in the services provided by Sodexo. Canario said not all colleges that use Sodexo for food services have an on-site nutritionist, although Sodexo has a nutritionist available to meet with any students in each area it serves.

Canario said that Jew is available to meet with all Emerson students, whether they are on meal plans or not, as frequently as they desire, and that at least 10 have visited her so far. Students can reach Jew by email or by stopping at her office in the dining hall to make an appointment.

"I think having Karen on board strengthens the team and provides an additional outlet for the Emerson community," Canario said.

Jew is not the only nutritionist on campus—Elizabeth Avery, also a registered nutritionist, works in the Center for Health and Wellness. Jew said she and Avery speak regularly and coordinate on student cases. She said Avery often refers students with specific dietary needs and food allergies to work with her, and Jew assists them with nutritional options on campus.

Avery said she covers topics like current and past diets, medical history, weight, and exercise routines in introductory appointments, which generally last 45

minutes.

Those sessions aim to set up individualized goals for students' best health, said Avery.

To schedule an appointment with Avery, students must call the Center for Health and Wellness—walk-in consultations are not permitted.

For students like Robin Leventhal, a sophomore marketing communication major, the dining hall must be navigated with caution.

Leventhal said she has Crohn's Disease, a chronic inflammatory disease of the intestines. She said it is essential for her to maintain good nutrition to help her avoid sickness and stomach pain.

Leventhal said she thinks it is honorable that Sodexo offers its own dietitian, and she appreciates that there is an expert with whom she could discuss Sodexo's food options to accommodate her specific dietary restrictions, if she needed to.

However, Leventhal said she has not visited Jew or Avery, although she said she was encouraged to do so by the college workers who helped her work out a meal plan after she was diagnosed with Crohn's Disease last January.

"I don't need someone to tell me what to eat," said Leventhal. "I already know what I can and can't have when it comes to food in the dining hall."

✉ angelica_lavine@emerson.edu

Kevin Bright discusses LA center plans



Kevin Bright, the LA Center's director, poses in front of the construction sight. Jenna LoSavio / *Beacon Correspondent*

globe, Bright said. New projection technology will be installed in the facility's theaters, and high-tech sound mixing studios will be put in place. The sound mixing equipment will be an improvement from that available at the Boston campus.

"My hope is that students start their films in Boston, edit it, and bring it to LA to sound mix," he said. "There is a lot of potential for students within that building."

Dormitory rooms in the building will follow the model of the Colonial Building, said Tiedemann. The rooms will be primarily singles within suites, but a few doubles will also be available, he said.

A common cooking area will be on the fifth floor of the 10-story building, said Bright. This large space will connect to a terrace with a barbecue, where students can sit around tables and fire pits, he said.

At the street level, Emerson Kitchen, a cafe, will serve snacks and sandwiches. In the morning, students running to their internships will be able to order breakfast from the cafe on their phones, or pick it up from a cooler within the building.

The building was designed by award-winning architect Thom Mayne, who has designed structures for Cooper Union in New York and the University of Toronto.

"I can't say enough about how great this building looks," said Bright. "When you see the real deal, it's pretty incredible; it is a work of art."

Another perk is access to two Zip Cars, or on-the-go rental cars, so students can use them for errands.

Along with a larger number of students, the *Will & Grace* set, a fixture of Emerson's Iwasaki Library, will move to California.

According to Tiedemann, this was Bright's idea, and was approved by President M. Lee Pelton after he checked with Max Mutchnick, the executive producer of the show and an alumnus of the college. Bright said he hoped this would ease student complaints with a lack of space in the library. The move will free up about 600 square feet, which will be dedicated to more seating. The library occupies 22,000 square feet in the Walker Building, said Robert Fleming, executive director of the library.

In the coming weeks, the original set designers from the comedy will fly to Boston to dismantle the apartment, said Tiedemann. The set has been in the library since 2008, when Mutchnick donated it.

"The *Will & Grace* set is coming home," said Bright.

✈ @jacktemp

✉ jacqueline_tempera@emerson.edu

Change to handbook alters chair search

Continued from Faculty page 1

terim chair, she said.

Interims are selected in a meeting between Whelan, department members, and the dean of the school, Whelan said.

Whelan said chairs—who ordinarily serve three to five year terms, typical across colleges—take on a large amount of responsibility. This individual is tasked with teaching and actively participating in research and service, she said. That individual must also articulate the goals of the department to administrators, lead academic programs, meet with students, develop procedures for tenure and promotion, and improve curricula, among other things, according to Whelan.

"It's a big responsibility," she said.

According to the faculty handbook, when selecting a chair, the dean of the school assembles a team of two tenured faculty members and one or two tenure-track professors from the department. That group then selects one or two faculty members from outside the department.

Then, the team usually receives 30 to 40 applications from professors across the country, said Whelan. Current faculty members are invited to apply, but are up against a large number of competitors, said Whelan.

If the proposed change to end national searches for department chairs is enacted, search teams' first step will instead be to look for viable options within a department, said Whelan.

Some current interim chairs said searching within the college was a good idea. This would cut down on the transition period and allow for more comfortable interactions between staff and the chair, they said. Many of the school's interims have served in that position for multiple years.

Don Hurwitz, interim chair of the marketing communication department, has held his position for four years. He said he liked the proposed change, but felt that whether a chair comes from within the school or not should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

"Sometimes, you are going to look at a department, and there will be options for the position," he said. "But there will be times where there is not a good candidate, and then you should do a national search."

William Wyatt Oswald, interim chair for the communication sciences and disorders department, agreed there are not always good options from within departments to take leadership roles.

He said he felt this was the case with his appointment two years ago. Oswald said he took the position after the original pick for chair, a professor from within the school, fell through. Since he is a scientist who studies climate change, he said he thought this was an odd fit.

"I am not a good fit for the long term," he said. "When I took the position, I not only had to learn about the chair position, but I also had to learn about my department and start paying attention to things I didn't need to know before."

Brooke Knight, interim chair of the visual and media arts department, came into his role this semester. He said he felt promoting department members to chair positions would be beneficial, a sentiment he said is shared by many professors across the college.

"If the chair comes from faculty, he or she is likely to return to the faculty and be more answerable," he said. "That person can advocate better, because they know the department better."

According to Whelan, the college will look for long-term candidates people to fill these positions after the handbook change is reviewed by the board. She said she did not know when these roles will be filled, but would start the search by speaking to the interim chairs about whether or not they'd like to officially accept the role.

"I think everyone likes to have a degree of certainty, but interim chairs fill a really important role sometimes," she said. "It is a way for faculty members to try out that role and see if they want to commit."

✈ @jacktemp

✉ jacqueline_tempera@emerson.edu

Continued from Bright page 1

and publishing majors, said Bright. He said he also hopes to have more communication disorders majors come to LA, because the area has a need for speech pathologists.

"There is a tremendous demand for these students," said Bright. "The jobs are really competitive in Boston, but they are more available in LA."

In the future, Bright said he hopes to develop a fifth-year program where visual and media arts students can study the business side of Hollywood, with a focus on how to pursue employment.

Now, graduate students will also be able to apply to the program, said Tiedemann. Bright said in coming years, students—both undergraduates and graduates—may be able to come to the campus exclusively to take classes without having to intern, which is a requirement in the current program's structure.

Bright's plans were vague, but he said this is because he does not know how the campus will function yet.

"It does take time," he said. "It's a new

building, and it doesn't have its sea legs yet. We don't know how we can best use it; the first semester will be a learning experience."

This year, the LA Program has seen its highest number of applicants to date, according to an email from David Griffin, director of international study and external programs, earlier in October. Applications are due Nov. 1, but Griffin said his department received 134 applications for summer 2014, fall 2014, and spring 2015 combined. There are 325 applications in progress for those semesters as well, said Griffin.

Last year, Griffin said he received 99 applications for summer, fall, and spring combined.

Bright said he is happy with the increase, because the building is being built to house more students. Currently, the school accepts 90 students; this January, 130 students will participate in the program, and in the fall, the facility will reach its maximum capacity with 200 students, he said.

Inside the building, a "distance learning" room with video conferencing equipment will be available so students can take courses with professors from Boston and across the

editorial

Ready, set, go

At issue:

Will & Grace set is moving to Los Angeles

Our take:

Good riddance

This semester, the Iwasaki Library underwent an ambitious restructuring. The process relocated collections, redesigned pillars, and brought in new desks, all in an attempt to offer more space for students to study, meet up, or hold events. The effort was commendable enough, but the slew of minor tweaks, which added 43 seats in total, ignored the room-sized elephant in the room: the 600 glass-enclosed square feet filled by a sitcom set.

Thankfully, the set of Will & Grace, donated to the school in 2008 by Emerson alumnus (and the show's co-creator) Max Mutchnick, will soon cease to be the bane of students seeking a seat in the library. The school announced Tuesday that Will Truman's apartment will be dismantled this Friday and subsequently relocated to the new Los Angeles campus, where, we presume, it will fill a more appropriate space.

With all due respect to Mr. Mutchnick, the return of this library space to actual library use remedies more than just an inconvenience. The set's awkward placement in the library has perfectly emblemized Emerson's tendency to stress image over

With all due respect to Mr. Mutchnick, the return of this library space to library use remedies more than just an inconvenience.

substance. Where there could have been stacks of books or space for students to study, there instead sat an unwieldy monument to the school's self-congratulation. Instead of the tools that actually make for an enriching college experience, there's the promise of fame and fortune. It primarily served to woo the parents of prospective students, who likely have no concept of just how much space the scenery took up.

We appreciate Mutchnick's consideration in offering a relic of his smash hit to his alma mater, and his success is certainly something for Emerson to be proud of: Will & Grace did break ground on television. But a collection of furniture does little to represent the ways the program opened doors in the industry, especially when the set is surrounded by barriers. There are more suitable — and less cumbersome — ways to honor an alumnus.

But if Emerson insists on keeping the set, the Los Angeles campus — now that we have one — is a better location for it. The NBC comedy was filmed there, after all. And despite efforts to expand the program, Emerson's LA experience will still be most appealing to students who

aspire to make it big in the entertainment business. With such a direct link to a Los Angeles success story, perhaps West Coast students will find the shrine an effective motivator. Let's just hope it doesn't end up in a library again.

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Letters

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The Berkeley Beacon

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Website
berkeleybeacon.com

Phone
(617) 824-8687

Twitter
[@BeaconUpdate](https://twitter.com/BeaconUpdate)

Office Address
Piano Row, Rm. L-145
150 Boylston St.
Boston, MA 02116

Editor-in-Chief
Evan Sporer

Managing Editors
Trelawny Vermont-Davis
Andrew Doerfler

Managing Editor and
Design Director
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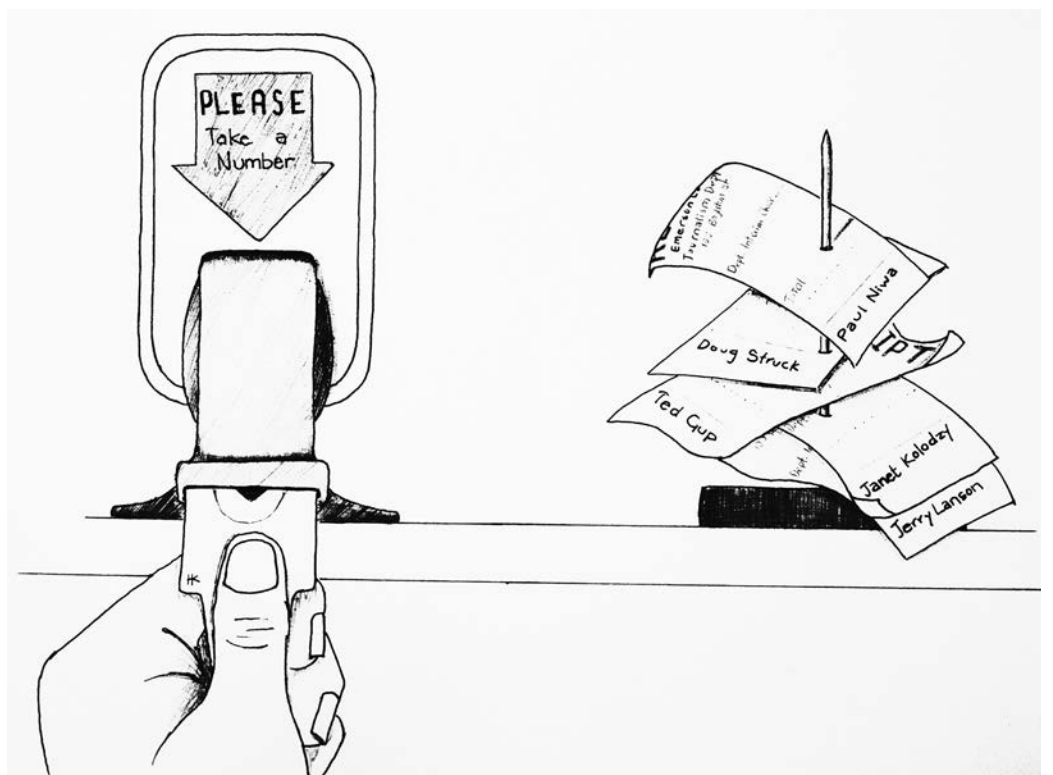
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Next up to serve the
journalism department...



opinion

One bad iPhone ruins the bunch

Ben Sack
Sack is a sophomore writing for film & television major & Beacon correspondent

The age of Apple is over—or at least it will be soon. Don't be sad—it had to happen eventually, what with its unsustainable business practices and ridiculously overpriced goods and all. And no, it's not because Steve Jobs is dead.

When new Apple products are announced, tech reviewers and industry analysts become so preoccupied with the discussion of features and specifications that they fail to address the most important factor in Apple's popularity: fashion. Buying a Macbook is like buying a Gucci handbag. You can certainly pay less money for the same amount of function, but you choose to pay more because the brand is in style. Until now, Apple has been extremely fashionable—enough to command thousand-dollar markups on computers compared to similar PCs, or to charge twice as much for an iPad as a competing tablet and get away with it. However, all that is about to change.

We have entered the final chapter of Apple's popularity, and it started with the

iPhone 5s and 5c release in September. The release of two concurrent iPhones marks Apple's failure to learn from the mistakes of their competitors. Year after year, iPhones beat Android devices in market share because consumers knew that when they bought an iPhone, they were buying the best iPhone. Android phones, meanwhile, were made in hundreds of models by more than a dozen different manufacturers. For every high-quality Android smartphone, there were numerous cheaply made, poor-quality devices ready to sully the reputation. It came as no surprise, then, that when a clear "best device" finally emerged in the form of Samsung's Galaxy S series, it wasn't long before Android overtook iOS in global market share.

With the Samsung Galaxy S4, Android devices have moved even further toward the model created by the iPhone—if a device is clearly the best, more people will buy it. Apple, however, is now straying from its own precedent with the release of the

iPhone 5c, the "budget" iPhone (I use the word cautiously, as it still costs more than most smartphones). A consumer buying an iPhone is not guaranteed the best anymore. The iPhone brand has been set on a course toward the kind of quality confusion that plagued Android in its early years.

The thing about fashion is that it is fickle, and brands tend to rise and fall based on the status of their signature. Apple has, unfortunately, made the iPhone its crown jewel. The sales numbers of the iPhone are the bellwether for the whole company. The iPhone release is the most anticipated of its products every year, and every new model is headline news. So when it finally finds itself runner-up to the next Samsung Galaxy or some other, cooler smartphone, the entire company will suffer. The iPhone is Apple's lead product, and when it isn't hip anymore, Apple as a whole won't be in style anymore, and consumers will start questioning whether that little glowing fruit on the back of their laptop is really worth the price.

After the new iPhones were announced, journalists and Mac fans claimed that it was the death of Steve Jobs that caused Apple's downward trend. I disagree. Jobs' ideas were ahead of their time, yes, but time has caught up to them. The industry has caught its breath, fashion has changed, and the true innovation lies elsewhere. In fact, Jobs' death might just be the only chance Apple has to reverse its course.

Apple has always been run like Willy Wonka's chocolate factory: a secluded genius locks the doors to his workshop and churns out products while going to great lengths to protect his secrets, as seen in *Apple Inc. vs. Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.* Perhaps it's time to start handing out some golden tickets—allow beta testing, product customization, and third-party development (like Google does) and then, maybe, the future of Apple might look a little brighter.

✉ benjamin_sack@emerson.edu



Photo illustration by Evan Walsh / Beacon Staff

Watch the iThrone

Ryan Catalani
Catalani is a junior video media arts major & design director and a managing editor of the Beacon

Soothsayers have always seen Apple's demise in their tea leaves.

The original Macintosh was panned by critics for being too slow, too hard to learn—it was the first consumer computer to use the graphic mouse-driven interface we're used to today—and of course, too expensive.

The original iPod was thought to be a sure failure, a sentiment expressed best in a concise review by the still-popular technology website Slashdot: "No wireless. Less space than a Nomad [MP3 player]. Lame."

The original iPhone was criticized for its extravagant price, lack of a keyboard, and combination of work and play functions.

And the original iPad—well, according to the commentators after its launch, who needs a tablet if you already have a smartphone and laptop?

Listening to the pundits, it might seem like Apple is perpetually skirting the precipice of failure, just one misstep away from making consumers realize that its wares aren't really that special. So banal is today's cycle of media reactions to Apple announcements that the commentary is easier to predict than the product itself: a quick dismissal, a grudging realization that the new gadget is not so bad, and an assertion that Apple cannot replicate this success. Wash, rinse, repeat.

The problem with these prophecies is that Apple is still very popular. Apple an-

nounced that it sold 9 million iPhone 5c and 5s models in the first three days after their launch, its most successful iPhone launch to date. Samsung, on the other hand, took nearly a month to move that many units of its latest flagship phone, the Galaxy S4. Apple says two-thirds of iPhone, iPad, and iPod owners have updated their devices to iOS 7, which just came out in September. Yet according to Google's own data, not even half of all Android users have updated to the latest software version, Jelly Bean, which was released over 14 months ago.

Apple's customers are happy, too. For each survey in the past five years, Apple has topped the smartphone satisfaction rankings compiled by the marketing research firm J.D. Power, while Nokia and Samsung grapple for second place. Perhaps more importantly, teenagers—tomorrow's trendsetters, and technological gurus for their elders—still love Apple. Of teens with phones, 55 percent own iPhones, according to a study released earlier this month by the investment bank Piper Jaffray, and nearly two-thirds plan for their next phone to be an iPhone.

There are some apparently paradoxical wrinkles. Apple's products often don't have the highest market share—worldwide, more people buy phones made by Samsung and Nokia. And seemingly worse, offering low prices is always Apple's last priority; its tendency to introduce new products with high

costs shows that it would rather sacrifice customers than quality. This, the prophets say, must spell impending doom.

These critiques, though, show a misunderstanding of Apple's core mission. It simply does not want to create products for the masses. Sure, no Apple executive would complain if everybody owned an iPhone and Macbook, but universal adoption is not crucial to the company's definition of success. Deep within Apple's DNA is a very different ideology, expressed succinctly in a TV ad that played this summer:

"We spend a lot of time on a few great things, until every idea we touch enhances each life it touches."

It's no secret: For this handful of premium products, Apple feels justified in charging premium prices, even if not everyone can afford them. This has been its formula for decades. Does this mean Apple is a luxury brand? Probably. No one at Apple seems to dispute it, anyway.

"Apple's market share is bigger than BMW's or Mercedes's or Porsche's in the automotive market," Steve Jobs, the company's late co-founder and former CEO, said in 2004. "What's wrong with being BMW or Mercedes?"

And just this year, current CEO Tim Cook hired two chief executives of major fashion labels, Paul Deneve of Yves Saint Laurent and Angela Ahrendts of Burberry, to work on so-called special projects and

retail, respectively. And like a luxury brand, Apple's goal is not to have the biggest market share, but the biggest mindshare—to become a company whose products not everyone owns, but everyone wants. This, after all, makes the goods that people do buy seem even more valuable. Like *Mad Men* and Louis Vuitton, Apple's products command a cultural influence that far outsizes their physical reach.

But providing a balanced perspective, and adopting the nuanced approach that not all companies have the same threshold for success, doesn't really drive pageviews. Besides, predicting Apple's imminent failure provides for more entertaining headlines. Most tech punditry is no better than the horse race journalism that dominates political campaign coverage—it's a constant, exhausting battle of comparisons and poll numbers.

Apple will be okay, as it has been for over 37 years. And with more cash on hand than the gross domestic product of most countries—\$145 billion as of April—the company has plenty of resources to continue releasing more products. You don't need tea leaves to tell you what this means: Those oracular predictions of Apple's impending collapse aren't going away, either.

✉ @magicofpi

✉ ryan_catalani@emerson.edu

arts

Looney tunes

Wax on Felt's annual Halloween show gets mixed reception

Tori Bilcik, *Beacon Correspondent*

Skeletons, hippies, wrestlers, and Minnie Mouse gathered in the Little Building Cabaret on Tuesday, Oct. 22 to have their ears pounded by a relentless beat of kick drum and bass. In a step away from tradition, the annual Wax on Felt Halloween show featured punk, hardcore, and sludge music to accentuate the holiday's dark side.

According to Wax on Felt President Lianna Foye and Vice President Virginia Wright, previous years exclusively featured acts covering other bands' songs. This year, they invited heavier local bands to create a spooky atmosphere.

Whether it was Hellal's overpowering bass and chilling screams or Chernabog's in-your-face stage presence, every band was fit to disturb.

According to Dave Vitola, bassist and vocalist for Boston-based punk duo deathdealer, who performed in the show, the band crafts a slimy and sloppy tone by combining overly distorted bass and raw wailing screams. Both members of the duo are self-professed fans of horror flicks, evidenced by their lyrics about ghosts, dead girls, and rats.

"This isn't music I would necessarily listen to on my iPod," said Becca Chairin, a freshman visual and media arts major attending the show, "but all the bands here have been fun to watch live."

Not everyone in the audience was so receptive.

"People would come in and then leave," said Sarah Heatwole, a freshman writing, literature, and publishing major on the Wax on Felt team. "A lot of people didn't stay for much of the show."

Some said they found unfamiliar music alienating.

"This was a small crowd that seemed to have very little interest in this type of music," said Pat Elwood, another freshman writing, literature, and publishing

major who is also part of the Wax on Felt team. "I've heard that Wax's Halloween show is usually a big deal at Emerson, but it's hard to say with the way this year's crowd turned out."

But an uninterested crowd was not the only problem the show faced. Between the excessive feedback and the lack of distinctive vocals, there were plenty of troublesome technical issues. The sludge punk vocals were washed out by the loudness of the guitars and drums that are characteristic of the genre—guitarist and vocalist Chris Wardlaw of the band Worms occasionally looked like he was just lip-synching.

Worms wasn't the only band affected, either.

"I wish I could actually hear myself during our set," said Johnny Capece, bassist and vocalist of xXBROKENHEARTXx, a hardcore punk band from Boston. "The mic-ing was really quiet for most of the show."

But despite the minor setbacks, performers at the Halloween show agreed that the night was successful overall, from fun performances to a fitting Halloween theme.

"Wild" is the best adjective I can think of to describe tonight," said xXBROKENHEARTXx's lead guitarist and vocalist Tyler Dack.

The band mirrored the fictional band Crash and The Boys from the popular manga *Scott Pilgrim Vs. The World* in its set, which was especially well-received by the crowd. They performed short songs that only lasted a few bars, and introduced them almost the same way every time, earning more than a few laughs throughout their set. Capece even dressed up like Scott Pilgrim for the show.

"Any show that we get to play for at least a few people who have never heard of us before is seen as successful in our eyes," said Vitola. "And we certainly did that tonight."

✉ victoria_bilcik@emerson.edu



Tyler Dack of the band xXBROKENHEARTXx performs. • Andrew Harwood/ Beacon Staff



A drummer dressed as a Teletubby from the band xXBROKENHEARTXx. Andrew Harwood / Beacon Staff

Girl Talk and the power of sampling songs

Nina Corcoran
Corcoran is a senior writing, literature, and publishing major & the Beacon music columnist.

"Generals gathered in their masses / Get out the way / Just like witches at black masses / Get out the way, bitch," is quite an introduction. That's Black Sabbath's "War Pigs" merged with Ludacris' "Move Bitch," a combination followed by Jay-Z, Alicia Keys, Jane's Addiction, the Ramones, The Doors, and Missy Elliot, because that's how music normally flows, right? It is in Girl Talk's "Oh No," and it looks like people like it that way.

With an ear for great songs and an eye for merging them, Gregg Gillis of Girl Talk shot through the music market with his 2010 album *All Day*.

Now, years later, Texas Judicial Law Clerk W. Michael Schuster has just wrapped up a study that looked at all the songs sampled on *All Day* and found that the copyrighted songs saw an increase in sales the year after the album was released, compared to the year before it was released. The 74-page study points out that to a 92.5% degree of statistical significance, the copyrighted songs sold better the year after *All Day's* release.

As a musician who creates music almost solely by sampling others' work, it's easy to take a jab at what he does. Where's the talent if the man isn't making

music himself? He's skipped years' worth of trial-and-error practice, instead opting to take on the difficult task of finding the highest peak in a song—which isn't always the chorus—that resonates the strongest with a listener. Decoding which part of a song is the most well-known is quite the challenge, and that's where Gillis succeeds.

Even from someone as notable as Black Sabbath, it's Gillis' mix of samples and their order that get people wrapped around his finger. He knew how to pull responses from people like "I haven't heard this in forever," "Oh my God, I love this song," and "Who sings this?"

Take a step back and think about recent songs whose samples are the most notable part about them.

M.I.A.'s "Paper Planes" still gets clubbers to roar when they hear the song's opening notes, a background part taken from "Straight to Hell" by punk godfathers The Clash; Kanye West's sample

of "Harder Better Faster Stronger" by everyone's favorite robots, Daft Punk, helped bring the electronic heroes to the forefront of mainstream music in 2007 with "Stronger"; and the bizarre use of Imogen Heap's emotional "Hide and Seek" in Jason Derulo's 2009 hit "What-cha Say" came out of nowhere.

All of these cases saw people broadening their appreciation of other genres, digging into music history vaults without even knowing it until the original song came on somewhere, and they started singing along.

Not to mention all the unlicensed samples on rap mixtapes like Mac Miller's use of an old Lord Finesse instrumental or Danny Brown nabbing Gorillaz's "Tomorrow Comes Today" for "Grown Up."

With every sample used in *All Day* (which, by the way, is a whopping 374, according to record label Illegal Art's website) comes a heightened awareness

of music. The instantly recognizable hooks were being tugged on by listeners who held the rest of the fishing line.

Being able to point out who wrote what is exciting, creating a game for listeners to see how many songs they recognize, how many they listen to already, and how many they haven't heard before. That desire to play creates an engagement between the listener and the record.

As a fun music quiz, a challenge to redefine what it means to create music, and a major increase in sales, sampling is looking quite nice.

Those sampled are benefiting from more than a revival of their song and a few extra bucks; they're gaining new listeners. As Schuster says in his review, it could be time "objective financial review of fair use and the market effect" takes place. As bitter as I may be (I'm looking at your Menomena sample, Schoolboy Q), it's hard to disagree.

So keep complaining, baby boomers. If there's no "good music" anymore, then it's about time we start building off what we've already got.

✉ nina_corcoran@emerson.edu

Baritones and bologna: Lunch with singing stars

Kavita Shah, *Beacon Staff*

On the afternoon of Oct. 16, musical theater students of Emerson College trickled into the Randall Lobby of the Paramount Theater, lunches in hand, and anxious chatter on their tongues. As they seated themselves around café-like tables, they talked quietly in anticipation of the arrival of three Broadway stars: Marc Kudisch, Jeff Mattsey, and Ben Davis of Baritones UnBound, a musical ArtsEmerson production that ran on the Paramount Mainstage from Oct. 8 to Oct. 20.

The stars and their creative team entered among a final wave of students. All three were dressed casually and nonchalantly sat down, remaining humble against the backdrop of conversations, despite a history of Broadway productions and Tony awards. After a quick introduction and a warm round of applause from the starstruck students, the three baritones helped themselves to lunch and began mingling for what ArtsEmerson coined the Brown Bag Lunch, a casual event designed to give the school's community a glimpse into the production and the artists themselves.

Baritones UnBound provides a musical history of the baritone voice, exhibiting its use in a variety of music styles, including show tunes, popular music, and opera. The production celebrates the revolutionary sound of the baritone as the "uncommon voice of the common man" and explores its disappearance in the past 30 years or so,

drawing sympathy for the modern-day baritone and depicting a living, breathing history.

The lunch, besides allowing Emerson students to meet celebrity professionals in the business, gave the stars a platform on which to give advice to prospective performers, writers, and adults in the working world.

"I think, for us as professionals, we have a lot of advice to offer students trying to make their way into the business," said Timothy Splain, the pianist for Baritones UnBound, who joined the three baritones at the lunch.

Splain has contributed to writing the play since its conception.

"When I was in college, I didn't know what was in the world," he said. "I didn't know what real life was like. I didn't know the process of getting a job. This [event], for us, is to offer that perspective. It's not what they talk about in the classroom."

The students in the room were wholeheartedly engaged in listening to Splain and the baritones discuss their lives and careers. Many had notebooks in front of them, while others rapidly typed notes onto their phones. Some students simply basked in the celebrities' presence.

Tara Feeley, a junior performing arts major, partook in the Master Class with Kudisch and attended the lunch prior to seeing Baritones Unbound. In the Master Class, eight students were able to work closely with Kudisch in a singing workshop. At the lunch, a comparatively more casual setting in which to talk to the stars, Feeley confessed her life-

"This makes them seem real, instead of just idols."

-Tara Feeley



ArtsEmerson hosted a luncheon with students and Broadway stars. • Photo Illustration by Chelsea Roden / Beacon Staff

long dream of meeting him.

"This is horribly embarrassing and I don't want to say it too loud, but... I've had the DVD version of *Bye Bye Birdie*, the first play Marc was in, since I was seven," she said. "I've been excited for this moment since then."

Feeley took her time in progressing around the room to sit in front of Kudisch—she first met the other stars and then quietly sat in the circle that had gathered around him throughout the course of the lunch.

"This makes them seem real, instead of just idols," said Feeley. "It reminds you that this can happen."

In bringing Baritones Unbound to a university setting first, the creative team hoped to get feedback in a pressure-free environment, said Splain. He explained that college students are more inclined to learn and absorb the production's message without critiquing it as heavily as critics in the business.

"The show is good for the university crowd because it gives a history of the baritone," said Davis, one of the three lead performers. "It starts a discussion, and it hopefully spurs composers and playwriting students to start writing differently."

Kudisch emphasized the importance of the production and his reasoning behind

creating the show in the first place. With a ring of engaged students surrounding him, Kudisch played up his theatrical side as he spoke to them.

"The show is saying that the baritone has disappeared. You see story. You see struggle. You see man struggling with humanity and finding his place," he said. "The way I see it, if you're going to put something on stage, you better have a damn good reason of doing it."

Mattsey, one of the leading baritones in the show, felt that talk-backs and events like the lunch helped them refine the show, while Davis said he sees them as a way of putting out their message in a more personal setting. Kudisch explained that he believes in helping each other, and nothing more.

"I live to witness that 'Aha!' moment in someone else. I had friends helping me, and I want to help others," said Kudisch. "The biggest advice I can give, though, is something that helps beyond connections in the business and beyond working hard. If you have an idea, just run with it. You'll run into walls. But, you know what? Now you know where that wall is."

✉ kavita_shah@emerson.edu

Playing Gay in Hollywood illuminates queer film history

Jason Madanjian, *Beacon Staff*

In one clip from the 1930s movie *Crooner*, a lesbian is depicted as having a deep voice, a short haircut, and most bizarrely, a monocle. In early motion pictures, a woman with a monocle was understood to be gay. While movies like *Brokeback Mountain* and *The Kids Are All Right* are recent, progressive examples of gay lifestyle in cinema, they owe a lot to the more subtle, if slightly wacky, depictions that came before.

As part of its month-long series of events for Queer History Month, Emerson's Alliance for Gays, Lesbians, and Everyone sponsored the most recent Bright Lights event, Screened Out: Playing Gay in Hollywood on Oct. 17 in the Bright Family Screening Room.

"It's so easy for people of our generation to forget queer history before now," said junior Dana Justine Nurse, a writing, literature, and publishing major who serves as co-president of EAGLE. "We kind of forget that gay people always existed."

The event was inspired by a book of the same name, written by Richard Barrios in 2007. In the book, Barrios chronicles the depiction of gay characters and relationships in film from the pre-World War II era up until the Stonewall Riots, a series of protests by the gay community of New York City in 1969.

For Barrios, it was the idea of a specific time period about a certain group of people that film historians had previously left unexplored that led him to write the book and compile the footage.

"The portrayals had to be very subtle and very coded," said Barrios at the event. "Sometimes they were brave. Sometimes cowardly. Sometimes just strange."

The two-hour program, featuring a guest lecture by Barrios himself, showcased clips from 20 different movies, starting with the 1930 film *Reaching For The Moon* and going up until 1970 with *The Boys In The Band*. The event complemented Barrios' book.

"I wanted to put together, on film, a medley of the many ways movies would show gay characters and relationships," said Barrios.

One movie showcased was the not entirely subtle 1950 film *Caged*, which features heavy gay undertones, as the film is set inside a women's prison. In fact, the newly incar-

cerated main character has to fight against the romantic advances of a fellow inmate. Consider it a precursor to *Orange Is The New Black*.

All of the clips were presented on actual celluloid film, with the grain and scratches of the prints aesthetically appropriate for this film history lesson. Often, screenings in the Bright Family Screening Room are digitally formatted, according to program director Anna Feder.

For senior interdisciplinary major Amber Bigwood, also on the EAGLE board, this event was just one of many meant to honor Queer History Month. According to Bigwood, it's critical that EAGLE sponsors events like this.

"It's extra important that we do this stuff because no one else will," said Bigwood. "Every group needs their voice."

But as Barrios said during his lecture, that "gay voice" wasn't always the most positive. One entry, 1969's politically incorrect *The Gay Deceivers*, was particularly guilty of this. The film was about two guys who pretended to be in a relationship to avoid being drafted into the army. Moments of campiness in the clip, which shows the two men moving into a gay-friendly condominium, had the audience both laughing and cringing. Of particular ire, the film's trailer, which played before the clip, called it "the darndest, gayest fairytale of the big screen."

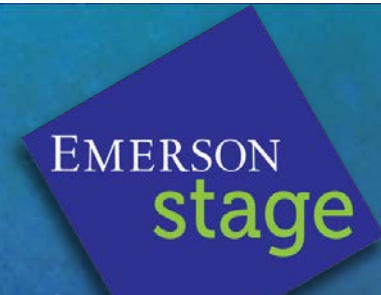
"Obviously," said Barrios, referencing that movie and many other politically incorrect clips, "in the 43 years since the last clip was made, we have come a long way."

And it's that progress that attracted EAGLE's attention. For the organization, this event was the perfect chance to illuminate a rare glimpse into old Hollywood and how gay people were portrayed, two things of particular interest for a school with many members of both communities.

Last Thursday night was just one reminder from EAGLE that queer history is worth remembering, according to Bigwood.

"It's easy to overlook what has already happened," she said after the event. "Tonight was an interesting moment to step back."

✉ jason_madanjian@emerson.edu

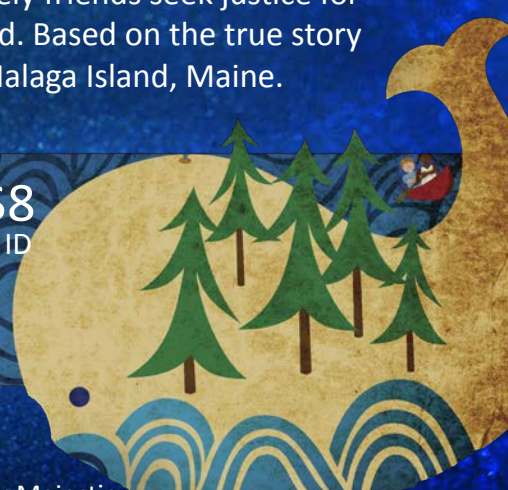


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Adapted by Cheryl L. West
Based on the Book by Gary D. Schmidt
Directed by Robert Colby

November 1-3
Semel Theatre / Tuftes
Fri - Sat at 7:30pm
Sat & Sun at 2pm

Two unlikely friends seek justice for their world. Based on the true story of Malaga Island, Maine.

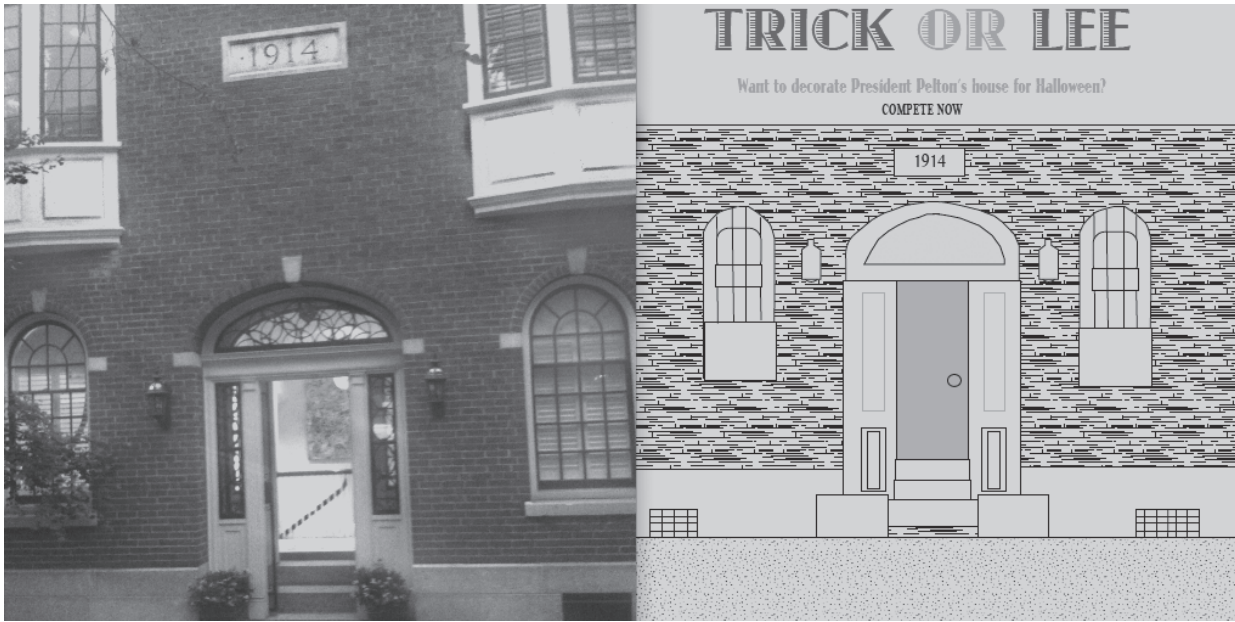


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lifestyle

Pelton embraces Emerson's Halloween spirit



An image of President M. Lee Pelton's house and a design template was provided to participants. • Courtesy of Leigha Morris

Deirdre Murray Beacon Correspondent

Halloween is a holiday of traditions. Whether it's decorating the house, dressing up in a costume, or going to a Halloween party, the day is marked by customs that seem as old as the holiday itself. This year, Emerson's Student Government Association tried incorporating President M. Lee Pelton into a new tradition by hosting a Halloween contest.

Trick or Lee is an event that gave students the opportunity to decide what Pelton's Halloween costume and house decorations will be, according to Leigha Morris, a junior marketing communication major and public relations chair for SGA.

The contest was split into two different phases, said Morris. The first allowed students to pick out a Halloween costume for

Pelton, while the second let students choose what decorations will be on his house in Beacon Hill. Participants, she said, could feature their designs by drawing on a Pelton paper doll and on the mock-up template of Pelton's house.

The contests were limited to a designated budget: \$150 for decorations and \$50 for costumes, Morris said. Besides the budget restrictions and a PG-13 content rating, she said students were encouraged to let their imaginations run wild.

According to Morris, Trick or Lee is the first event SGA has organized that has directly involved Pelton.

The contest required students to enter their submissions in teams of three to 10 members, according to the event's Facebook page. The page also encouraged residence hall floors, student organizations, and groups of friends to submit their ideas, which Mor-

ris said reflects the community aspect Pelton was hoping to achieve.

"He was talking to us about wanting to start a new tradition at school," she said. "Just something fun for the whole community to get involved with."

Applications were due Oct. 20 and the winner was selected at the Oct. 22 SGA meeting. Freshman performing arts major, Emily White, was chosen as the costume winner for her David Karp, founder of Tumblr, design. No entries were submitted for Pelton's home.

The ideas for costumes ranged from contemporary to classics, according to Morris. White thought Emerson's fashion staples of oversized glasses and flannel shirts would suit Pelton best.

"I feel like President Lee as a hipster would be really funny," she said. "I think that something with a social commentary to it would be better than a traditional Halloween cos-

tume."

Eli Levy, a freshman performing arts major, said he envisions Pelton as more of a Caped Crusader, to reflect his superhero qualities.

"I'm pretty sure the president could make a good Batman," he said. "I mean, I don't know what he does when he's not being president. For all I know, he really could be Batman."

As for the decorating contest, Dorothy Tomasini, a freshman writing, literature, and publishing major, said she thinks the stereotypical Halloween decorations would be best for the president's home.

"I'd try to make it look like a haunted mansion," she said. "Go all out with graveyard stuff and make it as creepy as possible."

While students said they are excited about the contest alone, the opportunity to interact with Pelton is another major aspect of the event.

Wesley Emblidge, a freshman visual and media arts major, said he thought this kind of behavior from the college's president was refreshing.

"When I was in high school, our principal was not involved in anything," he said. "I didn't even know what he looked like for a lot of the time. So it's cool that a president would do something like this. I wouldn't expect that."

Emblidge also said he thinks the contest is an example of Pelton's commitment to interacting with students.

"It's a great way to make it feel like he's more of a presence, because you can be involved with him."

Andrea Torres, a junior marketing communication major, said she felt Pelton's engagement brings a sense of community not only for the holiday, but for the college as a whole.

"Not many presidents would do that," she said. "It's very personal. It shows that we don't have that structure that he's above everyone. It shows that he's with us."

✉ deirdre_murray@emerson.edu

**"It's a great way to make [Pelton] feel like he's more of a presence."
-Wesley Emblidge**

Families conquer campus activities



A student enjoys quality time with her family at the President's Breakfast. Courtesy of Steve Forslund

Alyssa Gockinski, Beacon Staff
Jessica Waters, Beacon Correspondent

The campus crawled with a strange demographic—a mix of college students and parents adorned with Welcome Center swag bags, brochures, and souvenir water bottles labeled "Emerson College Family Weekend 2013."

More than 500 families registered to attend Family Weekend, which ran from Oct. 18 to Oct. 20, according to Jason Meier, director of student activities.

Throughout the weekend, families had the option of attending academic receptions, open houses, information sessions, and other events that showcased what Emerson is really about and what its students are involved in.

Katherine Raymond, Family Weekend chair, said the goal of the program is to make parents feel like part of the community.

"With classes, tours, and student organization panels, their [families'] insights are significantly broadened and they can feel

like Emerson Lions for a weekend," said the senior marketing communication major.

Raymond said she thinks each event hosted during Family Weekend is equally important and informative. She said families can create an itinerary based on their interests and choose which events they wish to attend.

"Family Weekend allows families to see their student grow, possibly see a part of their student they didn't know existed," she said. "It's an incredibly proud experience to see your student be involved, see where they go to classes, [and] see them grow."

Shih Lan Liu, an Emerson mother, attended the Emerson Channel Information Session and a music journalism class. She said she found the events very interesting and had a good experience.

"I am very excited to see my daughter for the first time in two months," she said. "I can see she is very happy here at Emerson and has made great friends."

According to Raymond, plans for Family Weekend started to formulate in April, when

a committee was selected. She said that once school started in September, the schedule and information for the President's Breakfast and the Welcome Center were finalized.

Meier said he was very impressed by how well the program was executed.

"It is no easy task, but these students made it look easy," said Meier.

The collaborative effort between students and faculty, he said, is also what made the event a success.

"So many campus departments and student organizations have to come together to showcase what [the college] provides," said Meier.

Saturday night's Family Weekend Talent Showcase and Sunday morning's President's Breakfast wrapped up the weekend's festivities, according to Raymond.

The Family Weekend Talent Showcase, hosted at The Cutler Majestic Theatre, featured a five-part musical theater performance. The show closed with a medley of songs from *Carousel*, in which all 56 performers participated.

Victor Bilcik, an Emerson parent, said he and his wife both enjoyed the showcase.

"It was very entertaining," he said. "The emcees [Breena Beck and Julia Sinks] were excellent and kept the show flowing nicely."

According to Raymond, The President's Breakfast, hosted at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, was a huge success. The buffet breakfast gathered families together one last time and served as the conclusion of Family Weekend, featuring a special speech delivered by President M. Lee Pelton.

"Students tend to sleep in while their families are attending our sessions, but I think the President's Breakfast really allows for everyone to come together in a beautiful setting at the Park Plaza and enjoy a breakfast together," Raymond said.

Matthew Chauby, a freshman visual and media arts major, said the event was uncomfortable because families were randomly seated with other families and faculty and subtly forced to socialize.

"I didn't like that they had faculty mem-

**"So many campus departments and student organizations have come together to showcase what [the college] provides."
-Jason Meier**

bers sitting at each table because it was intrusive to families' conversations," he said. "It was my last meal with my family until Thanksgiving, so I just wanted to talk to them."

Some students and families said they weren't interested in the events Emerson had to offer, and instead adopted their own weekend agendas.

Alexandra Nikolaidis, a freshman communication sciences and disorders major, said she visited Salem and dined at restaurants on Charles Avenue with her family.

"They just wanted to spend more quality time with me," she said.

Ashley Howard, a freshman writing, literature, and publishing major, said she went on trips to South Boston, the Esplanade, and Newbury Street with her family.

"I wanted to show them what I experience instead of what the school had to show them," she said. "Since they've seen Emerson before, I wanted to show them what my life was really like here, through my eyes."

Some students' families were unable to visit altogether. Amanda Gutierrez, a freshman writing, literature, and publishing major from California, said seeing other students with their families brought up feelings of homesickness.

"I guess that's what happens when you go to school 3,000 miles from home," she said.

Lindsey Piechel, a freshman visual and media arts major, said she tried to make the best of her solo time.

"I spent the weekend studying for my midterm, chilling in my onesie, and getting adopted by my suitemates' families," she said.

Raymond said the weekend's success comes from the college making families feel like they've come home.

"The Emerson community is not about just the students, but their family," said Raymond. "We are one big happy family, and that's what this weekend is all about."

Alyssa Gockinski

✉ alyssa_gockinski@emerson.edu

Jessica Waters

✉ jessica_waters@emerson.edu

Student's show hopes to thrill and terrify

Carl Lavigne *Beacon Correspondent*

Areana is obsessed with herself. Evan physically cannot make his own decisions. Phoebe and Mikki are two roommates on the wrong end of revenge. All of these characters have something in common on the upcoming narrative-horror show "Boston Uncommon."

Sam Beasley, a sophomore visual and media arts major, said he thinks the show breaks from the mold of traditional student-made television.

"There haven't been big narratives, as far as I know, like this on EIV [Emerson Independent Video]," he said.

According to Beasley, the show, which will premiere its one and only episode, takes after gritty television shows like "Breaking Bad" and "American Horror Story." He said his show was created to push the boundaries with plot twists that will make audiences' stomachs turn.

The horror genre, Beasley said, was a new and tempting prospect for him, because he had never directed a production before creating "Boston Uncommon."

"It's fun," he said. "It's over-the-top expressive."

The stories, all of which take place in modern-day Boston, are connected in subtle ways, he said. A narrator introduces the episode and guides the audience through the show's morals and lessons, Beasley said. Each character has a fatal flaw that drives each tale, which Beasley said are derived from classic campfire stories and myths with a twist. The characters, he said, are college kids Emerson students can identify and connect with, and he said he hopes that will aid the program's popularity.

The show, slated to air on the Emerson Channel this December, consists of three separate storylines, according to writer, director, and executive producer Beasley.

The first story, he said, follows Areana, who discovers a mysterious bump on her leg after a one-night stand with the boy next door. The second features Evan, a student who has a close encounter with death on the Esplanade, said Beasley. The final story, he said, finds Phoebe and Mik-



Students filming the first episode of "Boston Uncommon" around the city. *Courtesy of Sam Beasley*

ki in trouble after they steal drugs from their neighbor. How these divergent, disparate stories connect, according to Beasley, is part of the mysterious magic that will create suspense among viewers.

Beasley said he urges viewers to pay careful attention to the details when watching the show.

"Everything has a purpose," he said. "Everything is important."

The script, according to Beasley, was written in January. He and his co-executive producer, junior visual and media arts major Jessica Doughty, pitched it to EIV the following April. Beasley said the project has a crew of 40 people and that the show's budget is about \$5,000.

Beasley said he didn't just want to make another television show, adding that he wanted to blaze trails for other aspiring student directors, the way notables like Alfred Hitchcock and Stanley Kubrick did.

"I want to inspire other narrative TV projects," he said. "I want to expand what people think they can do with [television], at school at least."

Beasley said he came up with the idea to have the marketing team put together social media accounts for the show's different characters on Twitter, Tumblr, and Instagram. Though the accounts them-

selves didn't give anything significant away about the plot, he said they will build tension and add to the mystery while the rest of the crew is in the post-production process, Beasley said.

Kelsey Barrett, a junior visual and media arts major and the production designer for "Boston Uncommon," said this was her first time working on a horror project and she felt it was something special.

"This is something people will actually want to watch," she said. "Not a lot of people watch student films."

The production team, Beasley said, will be holding a special viewing party a few days prior to the release and details will be provided later on.

The show's tagline, "Turn off your lights. Hold onto your friends," illustrates the mood the cast and crew hope to evoke from its audience, Beasley said.

"It's very declarative," he said. "And hopefully a little controversial."

Thea Byrd, assistant Lifestyle editor and friend of Beasley, did not edit this article.

✉ carl_lavigne@emerson.edu

Health Matters

Getting rid of gluten

Stephanie d'Orsay *d'Orsay is an assistant athletic director at Emerson & the Beacon health columnist*

These days, you can't enter a grocery store without seeing the words "gluten-free" plastered all over various products. Gluten-free breads, crackers, cereals, and other products have taken over entire sections of grocery store shelves, and many restaurants now have sections of their menu dedicated to the trend. In recent years — with the help of the Paleo diet — gluten has become the enemy of the nutrition world and in popular culture. While those with Celiac disease and gluten sensitivities have a medical reason to avoid it, many individuals are now avoiding gluten simply to lose weight.

Gluten is a naturally occurring protein found in wheat, barley, and rye. Most commonly associated with wheat, it is found in most baked goods, such as breads and crackers.

Recently, gluten-free diets have become trendy, with many people eliminating the protein with hopes of weight loss or fat loss, regardless of having a medical condition.

The important thing to remember is that gluten is not inherently bad for everyone, and that gluten-free certainly does not mean healthy. When someone reduces the amount of breads and other processed foods they consume, weight loss may occur due to a decrease in sugars and starches. It is important to note, however, the types of foods that are replacing the more gluten-heavy choices. If "regular" bread is replaced by gluten free bread, consumers need to be aware that most "gluten-free" baked goods

The important thing to remember is that gluten is not inherently bad for everyone, and that gluten-free certainly does not equal healthy.

and processed foods actually have a higher amount of calories, sugar, and fat than their gluten-filled counterparts.

Taking the gluten out of a cookie does not make it a health food. For example, Trader Joe's gluten-free Crispy Crunchy Chocolate Chip Cookies have 150 calories per cookie, with nine grams of fat and 19 grams of carbohydrates each. On the other hand, "regular" chocolate chip cookies from the same brand have 140 calories, seven grams

of fat, and 17 grams of carbohydrates for two cookies. Clearly, the gluten-free option is not the best one in that scenario, unless there is a medical reason for it.


Although going gluten-free is a personal choice, and a healthy diet can be followed with or without this nutrient, avoiding it is not a magical cure-all. Whether your goal is weight loss or improving your general health, try focusing your attention on processed foods versus non-processed foods, instead of gluten versus gluten-free. Including more whole, natural foods such as vegetables, eggs, and lean meats in your daily life will do far more for your health than a gluten-free label on a package. Remember, deciding to be gluten-free does not make you healthier — it's what you choose to eat instead of gluten products that can make or break your diet.

The truth is, just like any other diet or food trend, what works for some might not work for others. Avoiding gluten can make some people feel wonderful, while others may notice no difference.

The most important thing is finding out what works best for you, whether that includes gluten products or not. Instead of focusing on what foods you need to avoid, try to pay more attention to the things you do eat. Include as many whole, minimally-processed foods as possible in your daily life, and you'll be well on your way to better overall health.

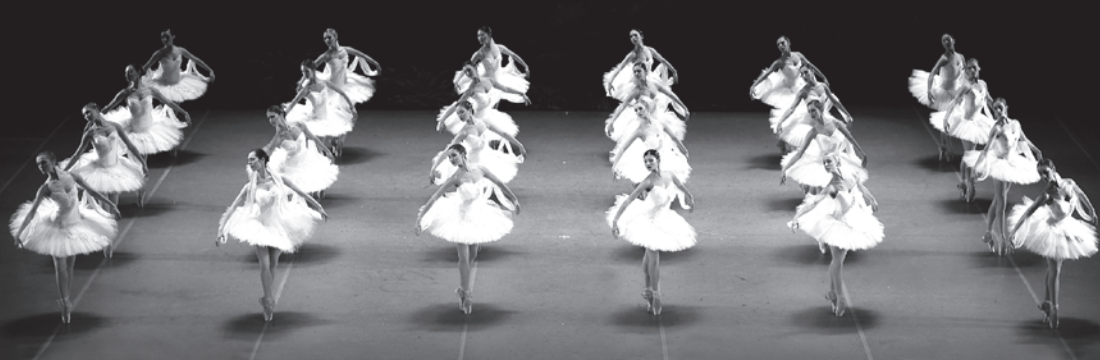
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sports

Lions King: Bowers ain't no passing craze Sophomore sensation leads NEWMAC in saves

Connor Burton, *Beacon Staff*

On game days, while most of his teammates are listening to pump-up music, Carter Bowers can be found listening to the Disney station on Pandora radio.

"I play better when I listen to that," said Bowers, the sophomore starting goalkeeper for the Emerson men's soccer team. "It calms me down."

Bowers is especially fond of *The Lion King* classic "Hakuna Matata," which main characters Timon and Pumba famously translate to mean "no worries" in Swahili.

"Keeper is so tactical and you need to know where you are at all times," Bowers said. "When you're calmed down and your mind is so relaxed, you're like, 'Alright, this is the decision that needs to be made. I need to go to ground here, I need to come out and get the ball here.'"

That problem-free philosophy has helped thrust Bowers — who hails from the sleepy Portland suburb of Gorham, Maine — to the top of the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference with 72 saves over 13 matches while wearing the No. 1 jersey for the Lions.

He sits 10 saves ahead of Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Jeff Wong with only two NEWMAC games remaining — against Clark University and Babson College.

The second-year starter has arguably been the Lions' most valuable player, and one of the best goalkeepers in the conference during Emerson's first year in the NEWMAC.

Like many diehards of the sport known as "the beautiful game," Bowers said his interest in soccer goes beyond Emerson, the college game and even the United States.

"Besides the [Boston] Celtics, Chelsea F.C. is my favorite sports team," said Bowers, who can often be found wearing his blue Adidas Chelsea track jacket in support of the London-based club. "It's a big part of my life. I watch every single game."

Bowers said he "fell in love" with European soccer, especially the English Premiership, after he got hooked on playing the EA Sports FIFA video game series.

"Since then it's kind of taken off," Bowers said. "My favorite player in the world is Eden Hazard on Chelsea, and now I will always pay attention to the [English] Premier League until the day I die."

Now, during the week, Bowers can frequently be found streaming three UEFA Champions' League matches at



Carter Bowers launches a goal kick at Rotch Field. • *Evan Walsh / Beacon Staff*

once on his computer, often in between classes.

In high school, Bowers was a two-time all-conference basketball and soccer player for Gorham High, which plays in the Southern Maine Activities Association. After being the starting goalie on his team for two years, Bowers realized that he wanted to continue his soccer career in college.

Bowers said several schools recruited him, but he felt Emerson was the best fit.

Emerson men's soccer head coach Jared Scarpaci said he has noticed significant improvement in Bowers' play compared to his freshman season starting in net.

"He came back [this year] as a more mature player," said Scarpaci, now in his 11th season with the Lions. "He's more technical and tactically aware.

He's keeping a level head, reading the game better, and is in the right place now, rather than diving into the right place."

Junior center back Pat Lowndes said that Bowers' consistency and in-goal presence has improved significantly since 2012.

"There was a dramatic change this year," Lowndes said. "It's too bad that it doesn't show up on the scoreboard. He's challenging a lot of balls and comes out of [goal] a lot more, which is great for us. He's much more vocal and consistent."

Lowndes said he wasn't surprised to hear that Bowers leads the NEWMAC in saves.

"We gave up way too many shots in early NEWMAC games and we were in those games because of Carter," Lowndes said. "I'm very confident with him

as our keeper going forward."

Tim Hardy was Bowers' high school teammate and is now a senior starter in goal for Gordon College, located in Wenham, Mass., which plays out of the Commonwealth Coast Conference.

Bowers described Hardy as a mentor. "I don't think it's surprising because of his work ethic and his athletic ability," said Hardy on his former understudy's breakout season. "He always put the team first."

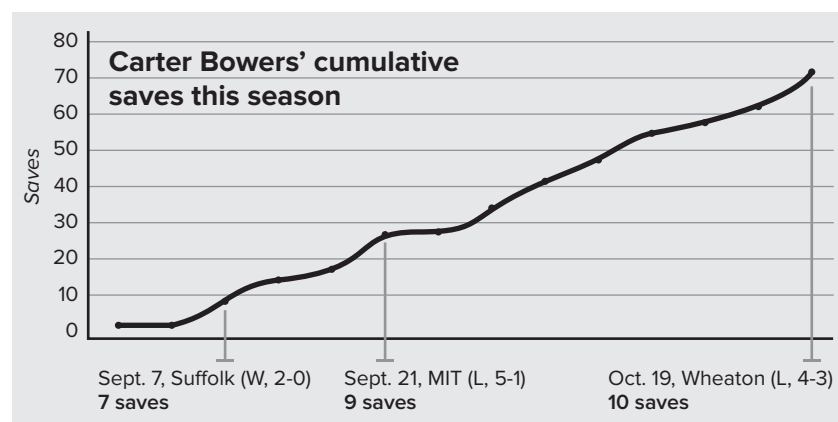
For what it's worth, Bowers said, if he could, he'd trade those saves for a few more wins.

"I'm proud of that and it's nice to get recognition, but I'd rather be seeing less shots and winning more games," Bowers said. "The guys around me, especially the back four, don't get enough credit."

In the past 14 matches, men's soccer is 6-8 and has lost all five NEWMAC matches, but Bowers said this season has been important for the Lions' development.

"This year has been tough, but getting this exposure now is going to be huge for us," Bowers said. "We really need to focus on the competition we will be facing next year."

The men's soccer team might not yet have "no worries," but with Bowers a rock in net, the Lions are one step closer to being competitive in the NEWMAC.



Ryan Catalani / Beacon Staff

@mypevvarren

connor_burton@emerson.edu

Next Match

Men

Soccer:
Clark (Mass.)
vs.
EC
at Clark
10/26
at 1 p.m.

Cross-Country:
NEWMAC
Championship Meet
at
Franklin
Park
11/3
at noon

Women

Soccer:
Coast Guard
vs.
EC
at Rotch
Field
10/26
1 p.m.

Volleyball:
MIT
vs.
EC
at MIT
10/29
7 p.m.

Cross-Country:
NEWMAC
Championship Meet
at
Franklin
Park
11/3
at 11 a.m.

Women's volleyball hosts annual Dig Pink match

Carl Setterlund, *Beacon Staff*

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the Emerson women's volleyball team contributed to the cause by holding a Dig Pink fundraiser on last Saturday, Oct. 19, during an early afternoon victory against the University of St. Joseph (Conn.), a past Great Northeast Athletic Conference foe.

The Lions handled the Blue Jays with ease, downing them 25-10, 25-7, and 25-14, at Brown & Plofker Gym for their most lopsided win of 2013.

The final result was far from the point, though, as Read and the team set a goal to raise \$500 to give to The Side-Out Foundation, a popular nonprofit associated

with volleyball-related fundraisers for breast cancer research.

"Almost all of us know someone, whether it's a family member or a friend of a friend ... that has been affected by some form of cancer," Read said.

Read said he first started doing the fundraiser at Wheaton College, where he was the women's volleyball head coach from 2006 to 2010. He brought the annual tradition to Emerson — where it's now in its third year — when he came aboard in 2011.

"Last year, leading right up into our Dig Pink game, I actually found out my aunt had breast cancer," Read said. "There's been some other people on the team as well that have been affected from it. It's nice to know that we're trying to bring

awareness to it. It definitely touches a little close to home for some of us."

The Emerson team adorned itself with self-purchased pink headbands, shoelaces, and socks, and several players made treats for a bake sale.

"We also sold some extra T-shirts and sweatshirts to kind of go towards it," Read said, citing contributions from a bake sale, donations, and raffle tickets. "A little bit there kind of goes a long way."

The team created a page on the Side-Out website for this year's fundraiser, which has relied entirely on the Emerson volleyball community.

The page showed \$200 worth of online donations as of Oct. 24: two \$50 pledges, and one for \$100. All three came from family members of current Emerson play-

ers Kat Rice, Katie Towey, and Kat Westbrook.

Read tallied up the total donations on Wednesday, reporting that the team exceeded its fundraising goal and raised a total of \$513. He added that they are still seeking donations online.

According to Read, St. Joseph was not an active participant in the fundraiser.

"I let them know," Read said. "They kind of had a busy week."

Assistant sports editor Connor Burton did not contribute to or edit this article because he is member of the men's volleyball team.

@carlsetterlund

carl_setterlund@emerson.edu

Emerson sports roundup: Oct. 17-23

Connor Burton, *Beacon Staff*

MEN'S SOCCER

Record: 6-8, 0-5 NEWMAC

Oct. 19: Wheaton 4, Emerson 3

Player of the Match: Adam Halliday

Sophomore forward Adam Halliday notched two goals for the Lions in their loss to the visiting Lyons (11-5, 4-1 NEWMAC) in a conference match at Rotch Field. Halliday's second goal of the contest came in the 53rd minute and tied the game at 2-2. In the 70th minute, senior midfielder Ole Eriksen gave the Lions their first and only lead of the match with a header on a high pass from freshman Austin Alphonse to the top right corner of the net. Sophomore goalkeeper Carter Bowers finished the game with 10 saves. The Lions were outshot 32-14.

Oct. 23: Emerson 6, Fisher 2

Player of the Match: Adam Halliday

Sophomore forward Adam Halliday scored two goals for the Lions as they toppled the visiting Falcons (4-11) at Rotch Field. Sophomore midfielder Dan Knight and junior midfielder Evan Gooden scored their first goals of the season as Emerson outshot Fisher 39-14. Sophomore goalkeeper Carter Bowers racked up four saves on four shots on goal from the Falcons.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Record: 6-8-1, 1-4-1 NEWMAC

Oct. 19: Springfield 2, Emerson 0

Player of the Match: Melanie Escobar

Freshman goalkeeper Melanie Escobar had seven saves for the Lions in their loss to the Pride (9-4-1, 5-1-1), who are tied with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the top record in the NEWMAC. Springfield provided the only offense, outshooting Emerson 19-0 in the match. The Pride also shut out the Lions in corner kicks 14-0.

Oct. 22: Babson 2, Emerson 1

Player of the Match: Allie Altman

Junior goalkeeper Allie Altman notched 10 saves for the Lions in their double-overtime loss to the Beavers (9-3-3, 4-2-1) at Hartwell-Rogers Field. Emerson's first and only goal came in the 77th minute when sophomore Tayllar Righini knocked in a rebound off a header from senior Samantha O'Donovan. The Lions were outshot 28-8 in the match.

MEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY

Oct. 18: Saints Invitational (8K)

Runner of the Meet: Mike O'Connor

Freshman Mike O'Connor finished in 68th place with the fastest time (30:23) for Emerson at Franklin Park. Senior Brendan Stackhouse finished second-fastest for the Lions, coming in 94th place with a time of 31:34. The Lions finished 11th out of 16 teams. Ian MacLean of Babson College was first overall with a time of 26:56.

WOMEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY

Oct. 18: Saints Invitational (5K)

Runner of the Meet: Ali Dokus

Junior Ali Dokus finished first for the Lions and in 12th in the field with a time of 20:45 at Franklin Park. Coming in second for Emerson (33rd overall) was junior Jenna Castro with a time of 21:57. The Lions' next-best finish came from freshman Savannah Hubbard, who took 89th place with a time of 24:35. Emerson finished in eighth place out of 14 teams. Marina Capalbo of Babson College came in first overall with a time of 19:29.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Record: 15-10, 4-4 NEWMAC

Oct. 19: Emerson 3, St. Joseph (Conn.) 0

Player of the Match: Kat Rice

Senior Alyssa Thorne had a match-best seven kills as the Lions made quick work of the visiting Blue Jays (8-15), winning by set scores of 25-10, 25-7, and 25-14 in their Dig Pink Game. Junior Kat Rice had six kills and only made one attacking error. Rice also had a block and five service aces, and served for seven straight points during the third set, which was Emerson's best stretch of the match. Sophomore setter Juliana Tucker (22 assists, four digs) and freshmen Julianna Augustine, Annie Hall, and Jessica Hamilton each had three kills. Jamie Morgan had eight digs and had a strong match on the serve.

Oct. 22: Coast Guard 3, Emerson 1

Player of the Match: Alyssa Thorne

Alyssa Thorne had 17 kills to lead the visiting Lions for a fourth consecutive match, as they fell in New London, Conn., to the Bears (19-6, 5-3) in a NEWMAC match by set scores of 25-27, 25-20, 25-17, and 25-23. Freshman middle blocker Julianna Augustine came in close behind Thorne with 15 kills, while Kat Rice contributed 12 kills and Alex Lynn 10. Sophomore setter Juliana Tucker paved the way with 53 assists and 13 digs as Emerson won a close first set. Senior defensive specialist Jamie Morgan had 23 digs.

@mynetvarren

connor_burton@emerson.edu

Male Athlete of the Week:



Evan Walsh / *Beacon Staff*

ADAM HALLIDAY, forward, men's soccer

Halliday, starting in his fifteenth straight game, racked up four goals on six shots on goal in two matches, improving his season total to seven. Halliday assisted on the first goal, his fifth of the season, in the Lions 6-2 rout of the Falcons. With nine shots in the match, Halliday propped himself atop the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference shot total list with 59.

Female Athletes of the Week:



Lauren Foley / *Beacon Staff*

SAVANNAH MOSSER & LACEY RUSSELL, women's tennis

Seniors Savannah Mosser and Lacey Russell capped their Emerson careers with a 6-3 doubles win over Suffolk University on Oct. 18. Mosser went 9-2 on the season playing at second singles, while Russell was 8-3 at first singles. Together, they went 8-3 as the Lions' first doubles pairing. Mosser was the 2010 Great Northeast Conference Player of the Year as a freshman. She went 41-4 in singles play in her collegiate career, including a 20-match win streak. Russell was the 2011 GNAC Player of the Year, and finishes out at 36-8 in singles. The banner-athletes went 45-5 in doubles play.



Jenna LoSavio / *Beacon Staff*

Women's tennis wins three of five to close out season

Carl Setterlund, *Beacon Staff*

Four-year stars Lacey Russell and Savannah Mosser endured an up-and-down tenure during their time at Emerson, but one of the college's most successful tennis duos ever closed out their career as Lions with one last win against former Great Northeast Athletic Conference rival Suffolk University, 6-3, on Friday, Oct. 18.

Emerson finished at 3-8 and 2-6 in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference, but the Lions won three of their final five matches after starting the season 0-6. That season-ending stretch included the program's first two NEWMAC wins over Smith College on Oct. 5 and Clark University on Sept. 28.

Russell and Mosser won all nine matches they took part in during those wins.

"I think that they've had some obstacles over the past couple years with some different coaching," said current head coach Sue Sookasian, who took over from Emerson

women's basketball coach Bill Gould – the interim coach – on Sept. 11.

Sookasian made a point to characterize Gould's impact on the team as positive.

"They stuck together and really gelled as a unit," Sookasian said. "It was great to end the season with a couple of wins."

Russell won in straight sets at first singles against Suffolk, Mosser did the same at second singles, and then they combined for an 8-1 victory in first doubles.

Mosser only lost two sets combined over both matches in the season finale.

"You don't see players of their caliber come along very often," Sookasian said. "The one-two combination of Lacey and Savannah was almost a sure winner going into every match. They were athletically talented, their tennis game was great, but just their mental toughness, they really have the whole package."

@carlsetterlund

carl_setterlund@emerson.edu

AD Search Continues

Carl Setterlund, *Beacon Staff*

In two weeks, on Nov. 7, the ball will finally get rolling on the process to hire Emerson's first permanent athletic director in nearly a year and a half as Alden & Associates, Inc.—a firm the school hired to find its new athletic department leader—visits the Emerson campus to begin the proceedings.

Dean of Students Ronald Ludman announced the hiring of Alden & Associates in an Aug. 13 email to student-athletes. He said it was the search firm, not Emerson, that recommended the two-month gap before making a two-day visit to Boston.

"From that, we're going to finalize the posting announcement, which will indicate to prospective candidates the qualities and experiences that we're looking for," said Ludman, who has overseen the athletic department since former AD Kristin Parnell's resignation in May 2012.

Stanford Nance has served as interim athletic director over the same period. He was formerly the associate athletic director under Parnell.

Ludman said Dr. Betsy Alden and one associate will visit Emerson to meet with what he called a "cross-section of the college community, including athletes."

"All the representatives from the athletic program will have an opportunity to meet

"All the representatives from the athletic program will have an opportunity to meet with the two representatives from the search firm,"
-Dean Ronald Ludman

with the two representatives from the search firm," Ludman said.

From there, Alden & Associates will prepare a job posting to be released shortly after the new year. According to Ludman, an annual meeting of athletic administrators from all three NCAA divisions is scheduled for later in January.

He said the timing of the posting is intended to coincide with that meeting.

On Oct. 15, Emerson announced its hiring of a new athletic administrator—2008 Emerson alumna Lindsay DeStefano, a former two-sport player and multi-year softball captain during her time as a Lion.

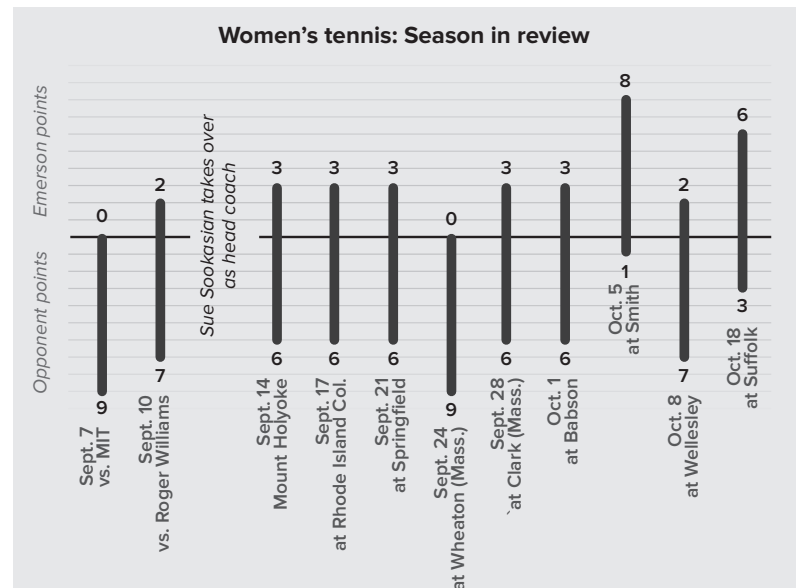
DeStefano will replace Dr. Vaughn Calhoun, who left the Emerson athletic department to take a position as a professor at Anna Maria College in Paxton, Mass. in the summer of 2013.

"The position may get re-engineered a bit, but it's to replace the vacancy when Vaughn left," said Ludman, who did not have a role in the hiring.

Ludman said he has not yet had an opportunity to speak with DeStefano, and that Nance was in control of the search committee.

@carlsetterlund

carl_setterlund@emerson.edu



Kelsey Drain, Beacon Staff

Any prospective Emerson student is bound to hear an overly excited tour guide say something along the lines of, “We’re a very vertical campus. If you don’t like elevators, you shouldn’t come to Emerson College.”

After a few weeks at the school, it quickly becomes apparent how true that is: Students need to build a strong relationship with and understanding of the elevators in the academic and residential buildings. Daily activities on this perpendicular property rely on these mechanisms. The school has 51 elevators — varying in size and efficiency — and will soon add a few more. The college has proposed a new 18-story residence hall in the Boylston Place alley. Confined to a few city blocks amid the congestion of downtown Boston, Emerson has nowhere to build but up, forcing a sometimes-bitter embrace of elevators.

The decorum, behavior, and culture found in Emerson’s elevators are unique to every passenger while also holding students together — sometimes a bit too closely.

It starts early. Every year, one of the first things new students learn during orientation is the art of elevator etiquette. Rules are drilled into the nubile freshman brains: If you’re going to the fifth floor and someone presses six, get off there and take the stairs down a floor. Don’t take the elevator to the second or third floor.

Many riders take a hard line with these edicts.

“This year, I have a class on the second floor, so I go up to the second floor from the first floor on the elevators,” confessed performing arts major Suzi Pietroluongo, who said she suffers from knee problems. “I’ve had people honestly sigh when I press two. Sometimes I ask if anyone would mind that I press two.”

Occasionally she gets a passive aggressive response: “I’ve had people tell me like, ‘Oh it’s not me that’s missing out on the exercise, it’s you.’”

Sophomore journalism student Bridget Morawski said she previously lived on the third floor of Piano Row, and said residents were advised to be polite and take the stairs up to reduce elevator traffic. At Emerson, deciding whether to ride or walk to the third floor is practically a moral issue. It’s like an 18 in blackjack; you don’t know whether to fold or hit.

More difficult than navigating to the third floor of Emerson’s steep campus can be surviving the overly intimate social situations that arise in elevators. Seeing your professor on the elevator always requires some quick thinking and problem solving: Saying the wrong thing, or not saying anything at all, could jeopardize their impression of you. Seeing your best friend’s ex requires a

“I’ve definitely eavesdropped on some pretty funny stories of night-before epics of these college kids.”
—Eric Hofbauer, jazz history professor.

Ups and Downs

Surviving — and embracing — a vertical campus

quick, dirty look, and then a long glance at your phone. Others, unable to handle the claustrophobic encounters, avoid the risk entirely — they’re the kids who come into your fifth floor classroom huffing, puffing, and sweating.

“Sometimes in the morning, I’ve noticed everybody is kind of in sleepy mode and it’s like that awkward silence moment where everybody is in close proximity, close quarters,” said Eric Hofbauer, who teaches jazz history at Emerson, of his in-elevator interactions with students. “You can hear a pin drop.”

Despite the discomfort, Hofbauer said most try to maintain some cordiality.

“My students always say hi, especially ones from past semesters and stuff,” said Hofbauer, who also teaches jazz history, ensemble, guitar, and composition at University of Rhode Island, where he doesn’t take elevators in academic buildings. “Everyone says ‘hi’ and ‘how’s your semester going’ and stuff. They’re very friendly.”

The awkward elevator ride is a familiar scene: Students are sardined between people they sort of know, eye contact is rapid and competitive, everyone is on Instagram, a professor makes a feeble stab at conversation, and the doors of a packed car open to eager students who will wait for the elevator longer than they’ll be on it.

But some students refuse to let the tight space interrupt a juicy conversation, Hofbauer said.

“I’ve definitely eavesdropped on some pretty funny stories of night-before epics of these college kids,” said Hofbauer. “I don’t really know if they notice I’m standing behind them- I’m tall, I stand in the back, so they might not notice that there’s actually a faculty member in the elevator.”

Others use their post-class elevator ride to discuss how busy they are. They will say it in poetic ways like, “Have you ever heard the expression ‘squashing mushrooms in a rainstorm?’” Thus commences a laundry list of assignments, extracurricular tasks, and internship applications that have to be completed before Friday.

It’s hard to imagine Emerson as a traditional, flat campus. How would students have a tete a tete after class to say “Did you start the paper?” or “I’m dropping this class” without riding the Tufte elevator from the 10th floor?

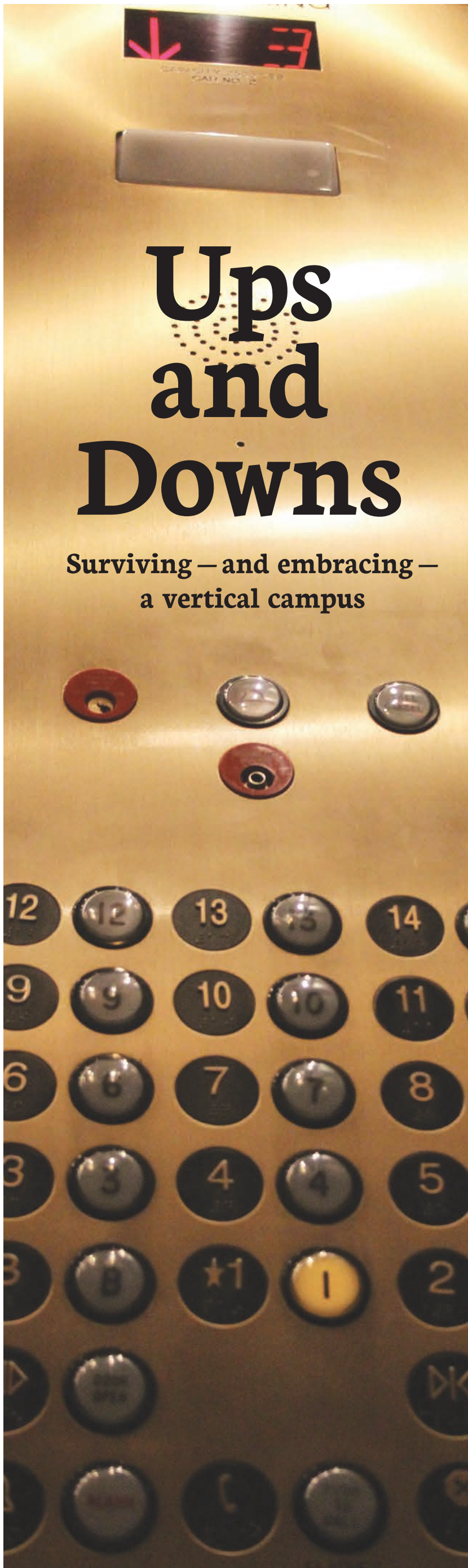
On more horizontal campuses, students have found benefits to avoiding the elevators.

“There are a lot of elevators [at Boston College], but people take the stairs because they are all about fitness,” said Emily Clark, a senior English major at BC.

But with Emerson’s anxious elevator encounters comes the possibility of growth. You can embrace the forced interaction offered by the vertical campus, and maybe even meet a new best friend riding up an elevator in the Ansin building. Future students will certainly have plenty of opportunities — as Emerson expands upward, the micro-society that exists within the elevators will only continue to reach new heights.

✉ kelsey_drain@emerson.edu

🐦 @kelsey_drain



Emerson students follow unique etiquette on the campus’ multiple elevators. Andrew Hardwood/Beacon Staff