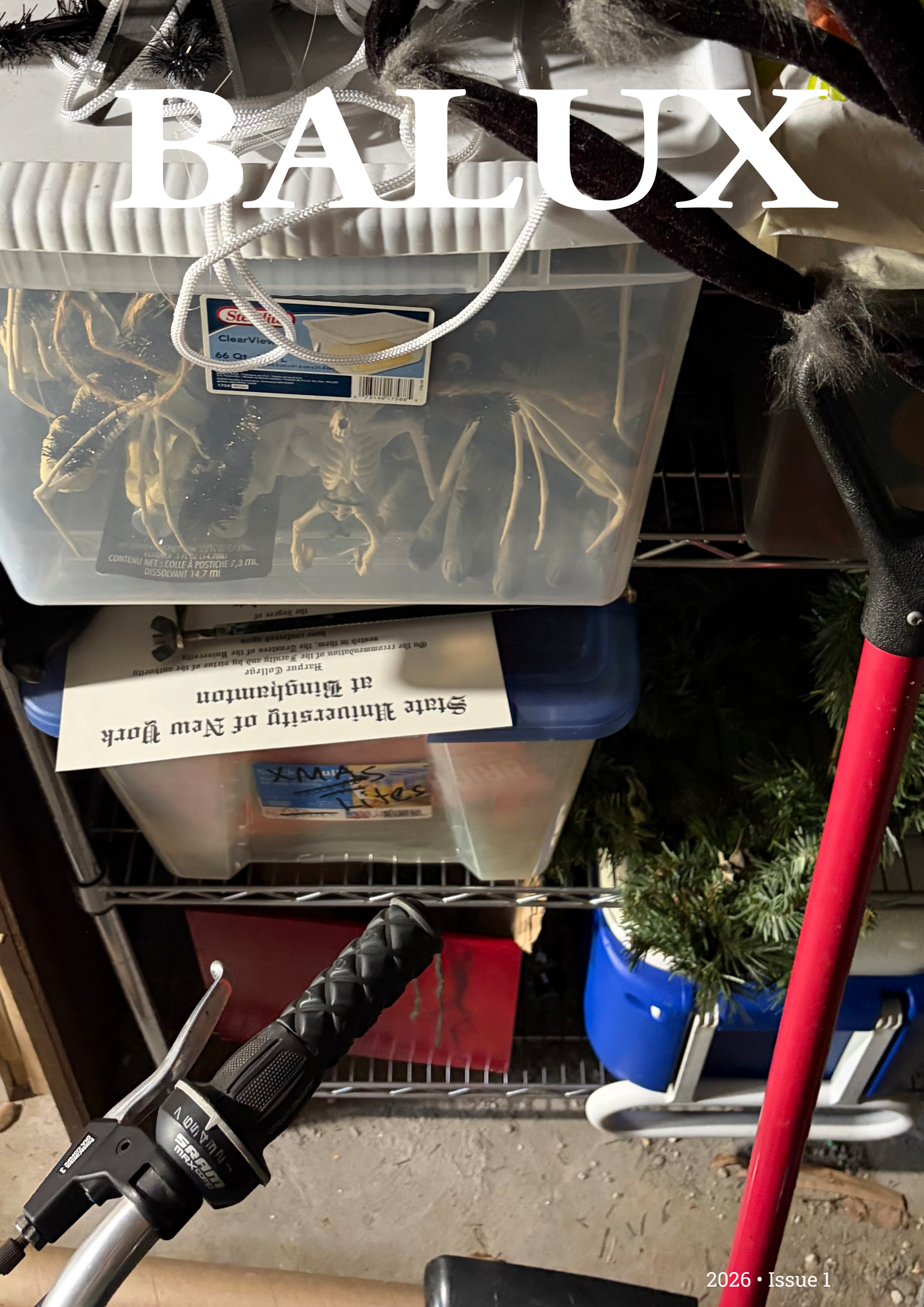


BALUX



Letter from the editor



Hello fellow Binghamton University alumni! It's me, Dustin Glick, back after a brief hiatus of 26 years with a new issue of what appears to be the same college humor magazine you remember reading while hungover after a night of mistakes at a filthy frat house or townie bar.

Some things have changed, of course. For one, I'm old and shitty now, just like you. The name of this magazine has changed as well. I switched around the letters so now it's called BALUX, but you can call it the old name if you want because it sounds better, and because nothing matters.

But one thing hasn't changed: This mag is still hilarious (if you're high). So please, if your attention span hasn't been absolutely demolished by screen time over the last decade and a half, take a look inside. Read words and laugh when they are correctly combined in a fashion you find humorous. And if you see a video that doesn't start playing, don't worry, it's not broken, it's just something called a photograph.

Yes, I know what you're thinking: How am I supposed to insert this information into my brain while I'm at work, running on my desk treadmill and eating a salad? Can't you make it into a podcast or possibly a gif? The answer: I could. But I prefer not to. Because I'm old school. Or just old. Or both.

- Dustin Glick, Editor in Chief

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Alumni Spotlight:

John Eric, Class of 2000

Since graduating Binghamton in 2002, John Eric has done some stuff, none of it memorable in any way.

"I forget what I actually majored in," says Eric. "But it doesn't really matter, since I haven't used anything I didn't learn to accomplish any of the things I didn't do."

Eric's mind-blowingly average life is not noteworthy in a single way, even to those who know and appreciate him.

"Yeah, he's just, like, a guy. You know?" says Jane Eric, his wife of 14 years. The couple met sometime in the late '00s, probably through an app or something, or maybe mutual friends. They have some kids who do things like soccer and school.



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*Readers should be aware that the paragraph above was generated by artificial intelligence.

While not impressive even in the slightest, Eric's professional career as a guy who sits in an office doing stuff on a screen is totally fine.

"I make a decent living, all things considered," mumbled Eric. "We can afford our yearly summer trip down to the Jersey Shore. Boy the kids just almost love it so much, and Jane's parents come too, which is certainly tolerable."

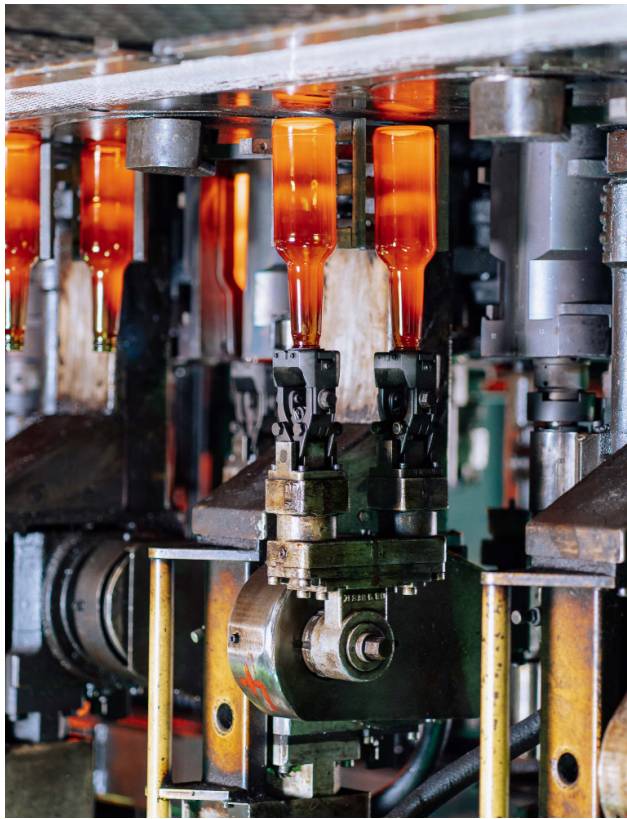
Eric does plan to make some sort of donation to Binghamton at some point.

"They're not gonna name a new library after me or anything like that, but I think later in the year I might shoot over \$15," Eric dubiously stated. "It's the least I could do. Actually it's not the least I could do, because that would be nothing, which I've already done quite a bit of."

Looking ahead to 2027, John plans to attempt little and achieve less.

"I do need to go through all our streaming services, see what we really need to be paying for," whimpered John. "All these little monthly payments, that's how they get ya."

John proceeded to utter additional inanities we cannot report because the journalist conducting this interview stepped in front of a moving street sweeper.



School of Science Stuff Purchases New Thing

The Binghamton University School of Science Stuff announced the purchase of a new thing the other day. Known as something like an “electro-pneumometer-gravmotrono-scope”, the device is the only one of its kind in the tri-city region.

“We’re super excited about the new moglamitronobob,” said Stan Stimm, Dean of STEM & STEAM. “No one actually knows what it does, but it sounds impressive and they’re letting us build an entire lab for it.”

The state-of-the-art piece of equipment was purchased for \$57 million, and will be used for various research projects, experiments and justifying the ridiculous cost of a child’s tuition in 2026.

Campus News

Sports Child Achieves In Ball Activity

Celebrations are well underway for Binghamton star athlete, Ron Anjump. The sophomore recently brought home a trophy or plaque after a competition of some sort.

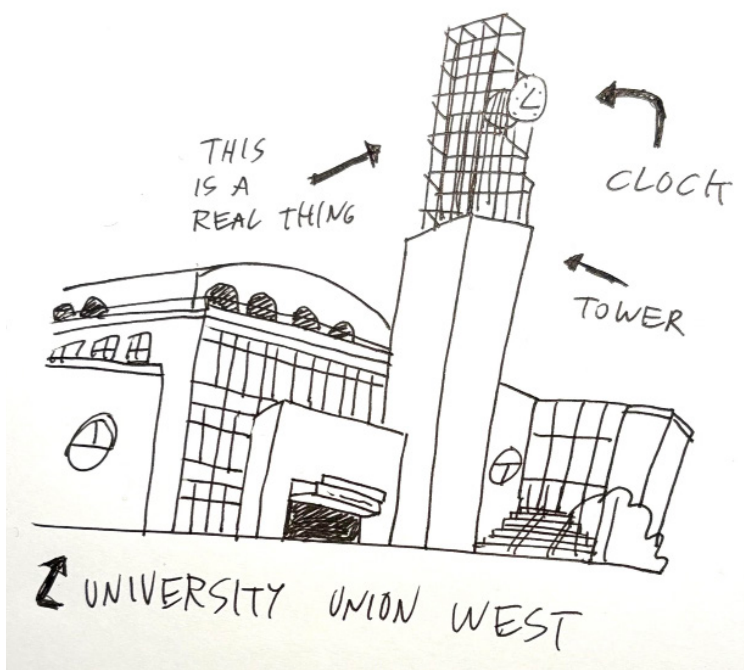
“The entire campus congratulates Ron,” said Orb Sphereman, Binghamton’s Head of Balls. “His achievement on the field-court last week marks the greatest sporting accomplishment of a Binghamton athlete since the school went from division XVII to division I in 2001.”

Anjump broke state records in several areas with his performance, mostly by running fast and throwing stuff. The University plans to honor these feats by replacing the nature preserve with a new 70,000-seat sporting arena and T-shirt factory.



Binghamton Loves Huge Clock

9 facts about the beloved university clock tower you may never have seen in person or even know exists depending on how ancient you are



Time: What is it and who owns it?

While you may or may not know what a clock is, you might not realize that for most of human history, clocks did not exist. That means mankind was free to live a natural, leisurely existence, with each day guided solely by the sun's gentle movement through the sky. Imagine how pleasant that would be compared to your life, segmented into arbitrary slices that stressfully serve to ensure your obedience as a worker and productive member of a soulless materialistic society. LOLZ!

1. The clock tower is constructed of steel and confiscated bongos
2. Its total weight is roughly who gives a shit pounds

3. The clocks mirror features seen elsewhere on campus, including the blank, empty faces of the students
4. Just a year after its completion in 2001, the east-facing clock gained consciousness and quickly fell into a bout of crippling depression
5. The clocks are powered by freshmen tears
6. The tower steel is painted Pantone 666 – the color of the beast
7. The clocks are clocks
8. They go tick tock tick
9. How about those clocks, amirite?

Alumbar Support:

Talking Health With Dr. Alan Wu

Alan Wu, class of 1998, is a practicing physician with over 20 years of experience in helping people be more healthier and have thicker, redder blood. BALUX's editorial intern Bula sat down with Dr. Alan to discuss how aging alumni can stay fit.

Bula: What are some key health screenings Binghamton alumni should prioritize as they age and get shittier all over their ugly bodies?

Dr. Alan: I recommend regular screenings for blood pressure, peer pressure, heeby jeebies and blood sugar sex magik, as well as the occasional scramogram, colonpoke, and skin flick. But don't take my word for it – make sure to discuss your personal and family history with your doctor or the guy you buy fentanyl from in the parking lot.



B: How can Gen X fossils and geriatric Millennials maintain a healthy weight during these sad years?

A: Focus on a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, raw milk and Athletic NA beers. Incorporate regular physical activity, whether that's running, biking, pickleball, or anything you see old people doing during the parts of the pharma commercials where they list all the side effects like "headache, diarrhea and suicidal thoughts."

B: How important is mental health at this stage of life, and what can alumni do to stay mentally sharp as the world disintegrates around them?

A: Mental health is vital. I'd say get adequate sleep, maximize social engagement, and keep learning new things to help keep your mind sharp, but instead you'll probably just keep doom scrolling until your eyes bleed. More realistic advice: Up the strength of your THC seltzers from 5mg to 10mg. Bare minimum you should start sleeping better.

B: Are there specific exercises or physical activities you recommend?

A: Try kettlebells. Is that still a thing? How about burpees? I definitely hear that word a lot. Maybe just hangout with someone who does that HYROX

race and do what they do, but to an extent that you don't pee yourself and pass out.

B: Should the fading apparitions reading this consider any supplements or vitamins?

A: While a balanced diet is best, some individuals may benefit from vitamin D, calcium, or ketamine injected directly into the eyeball in the morning before work.

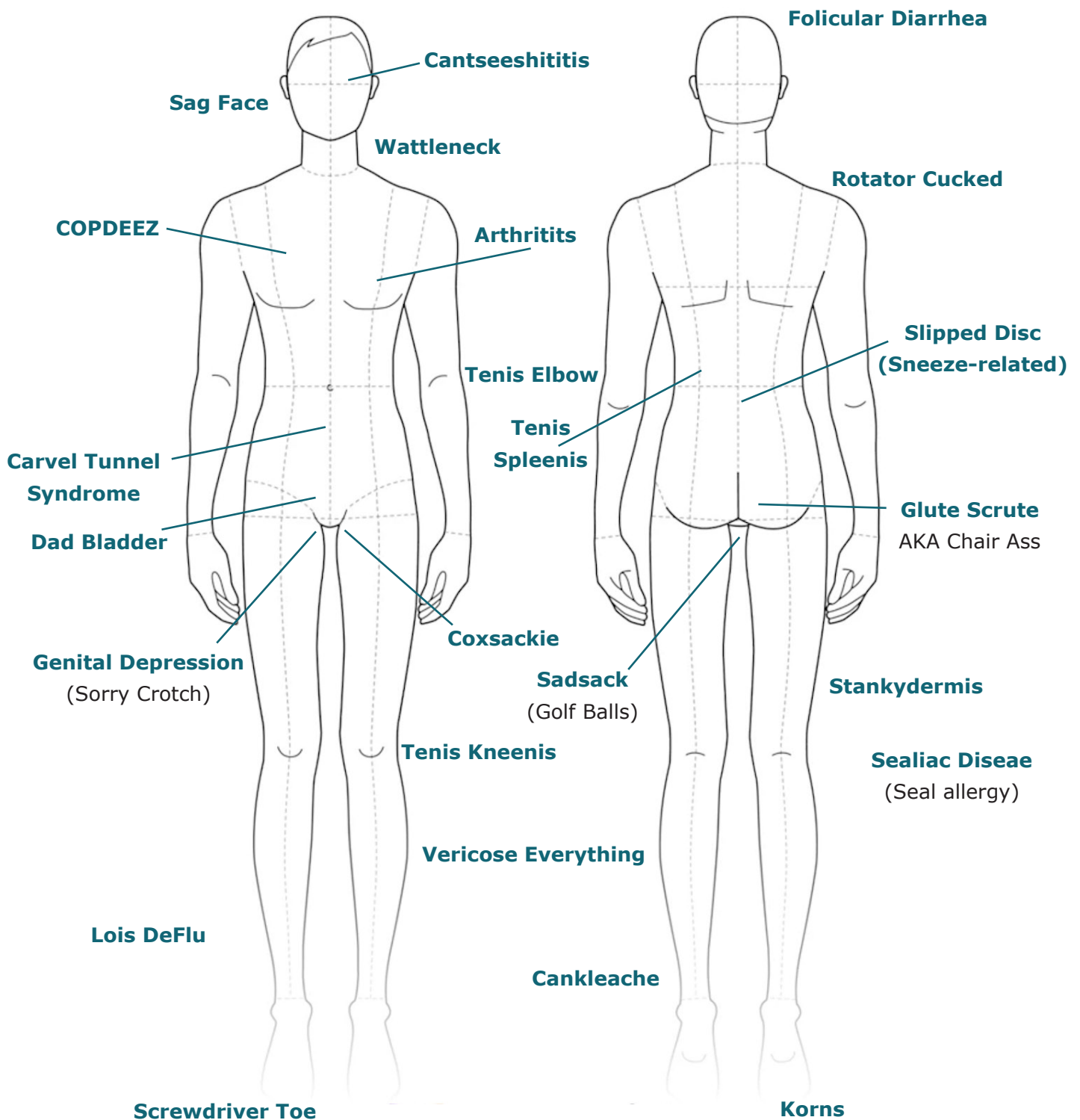
B: How often should these balding fucks see their healthcare provider for check-ups?

A: Typically, an annual visit is recommended, but your doctor may suggest more frequent visits based on your health status. But, like, just because you woke up and your knee hurts for no reason doesn't mean you need to rush to urgent care. You're just old now and things will hurt for no reason, more and more often until the day the grim reaper finally comes calling with his sweet scythe of relief.



Middle age injury chart

Remember when you could party all night then wake up the next morning and head to class with little more than a minor headache at worst? These days, most of us can get 12 perfect hours of sleep and still need to stretch for 30 minutes upon waking to avoid feeling like a sack of rusty staplers all day. And that's why the BALUX staff has created this handy chart to help you pinpoint and analyze your various age-appropriate aches and pains.



Classifieds

So you got canned. Maybe it's because your middle-aged salary has grown too high and your company realized they can replace you with two juniors and still save some money. Maybe you've been a victim of sweeping cuts attributed to AI. Either way, you got no job and you're no spring chicken. But fear not — BALUX has your back, and maybe even your front depending on how well that front has held up to the bloating and/or saggifying powers of age. Here are some job postings you may be qualified (or desperate enough) for.

Home DeTop Customer Servicer: Key responsibilities include pointing to aisles, blocking off aisles, stocking aisle shelves, having visited the British isles, and knowing way too much about screws. Candidates must be able to drive tiny forklifts and ensure all giant metal carts have at least one broken wheel.

Trader Joanne's Grocery Pal: Time to turn that I-just-got-laid-off frown upside down! If you like packing groceries with a smile on your crow-footed face, come on down and join a team dedicated to making food shopping fun, even when there are 75 irate customers waiting for you to bag their groceries. Hey, this place sells alcohol too. You're gonna need it. Requirements: An ability to cheerfully placate morons.

Marfa's Rosearria and Nursery: Like gardening? Got a sweet collection of houseplants that bring you joy? Ever fantasize about working in a flower store? Well you'll love it here — for two weeks. Then your aging back will ache from infinite bending, your creaky knees will feel like they're stuffed with sawdust, and you'll realize "hey, outdoor jobs still require you to work when it's raining out or 98 degrees with the scent of burning Canadian forests in the air." Candidates must be able to lift 50-pound bags of mulch, 75-pound bags of compost, and infinite bags of sadness.



Lonely Fans Email Ghostwriter: Do you get joy from taking advantage of other humans at their saddest, most vulnerable moments? If so, this is the job from you! Enjoy the quality of life that comes with working from home while masquerading as the sexy 22-year-old woman your readers think they're corresponding with. Requirements: Typing skills, internet access, lack of morals, filthy mind, profuse knowledge of pornography.

Warehouse Robot Mechanic: As part of the human workforce taking care of our future robot overlords, you'll either be the last or first to be slaughtered in the coming human apocalypse. Until then, this position offers a high hourly wage and competitive benefits.

B.A.Q.

How often does what you learned at Binghamton help you in your post-college life?

- (A) Daily
- (B) Never
- (C) Wait, people learned stuff in college?
- (D) I couldn't have set up my Only Fans account without it

Your Greek life experience has given you

- (A) A job
- (B) An STD
- (C) Eternal gratitude cell phones with cameras did not exist when you were in college

Remember that time at The Sports Bar?

- (A) Sadly, yes
- (B) No, and also I can't believe it was named "The Sports Bar"
- (C) Of course I remember the moment my children were conceived
- (D) You mean the time I played The Spin Doctors' "Two Princes" on the jukebox 17 times in a row just to be an asshole?

Which bar had a trough to pee in instead of urinals?

- (A) The Ratt
- (B) My good sir, I did NOT frequent any establishment that served alcohol for the majority of my time at Binghamton, for I was underage and that would have been a criminal offense!
- (C) They make men pee in a trough? How many at once?

How much do you drink now compared to how much you drank in college?

- (A) I was straight edge living in chem free housing back then, but after a few decades in the real world I'm currently addicted to tranq
- (B) I'm stone cold sober. I feel I owe it to my liver donor.
- (C) Aburt the serm

What's your fondest memory of Binghamton sports?

- (A) The time the rugby team drank 100 pitchers in honor of the campus pub
- (B) The time we changed our mascot to the same one a way more successful division A team had
- (C) The time the basketball team recruited a bunch of criminals, including a guy who almost murdered someone and fled the country
- (D) Binghamton had sports teams?

Why are you permanently impaired?

- (A) Knee injury caused by falling into beaver damn while completely baked at nature preserve
- (B) Threw back out from sneezing while holding a toddler
- (C) Caught brain worm from beer pong game at frat house
- (D) Majored in philosophy

Binghamton Alumni Quiz

Describe your hair in college vs. today:

- (A) Blonde / grey
- (B) Short / gone
- (C) Curly / sparse
- (D) Mostly on head / mostly on back

Your freshman roommate is now:

- (A) Rich
- (B) Cancelled
- (C) MAGA
- (D) All of the above

How is AI affecting your life?

- (A) I'm sitting on the beach in Martinique sipping Aperol spritzes at this very moment as 12 AI agents run my business
- (B) My spouse is currently dating a chatbot
- (C) After being laid off from my well-paying white-collar career I was jobless for quite some time, and I now work at Home Depository stacking those heavy propane tanks and praying one explodes
- (D) That's a great question that highlights your curiosity and eagerness to understand a very important situation! Would you like me to tell you more about the pros and cons of AI?

If you had a chance to talk to your college boyfriend or girlfriend again, what would you say?

- (A) Whyyyyy? (insert quiet sobbing)
- (B) Oh... look at you... You look... different.
- (C) You still have my Now That's What I Call Music! Vol 3 CD and I haven't been able to listen to "Nookie" in almost 30 years.
- (D) You never told anyone about that time with that thing, right?

What's the most boring thing you've experienced as a parent?

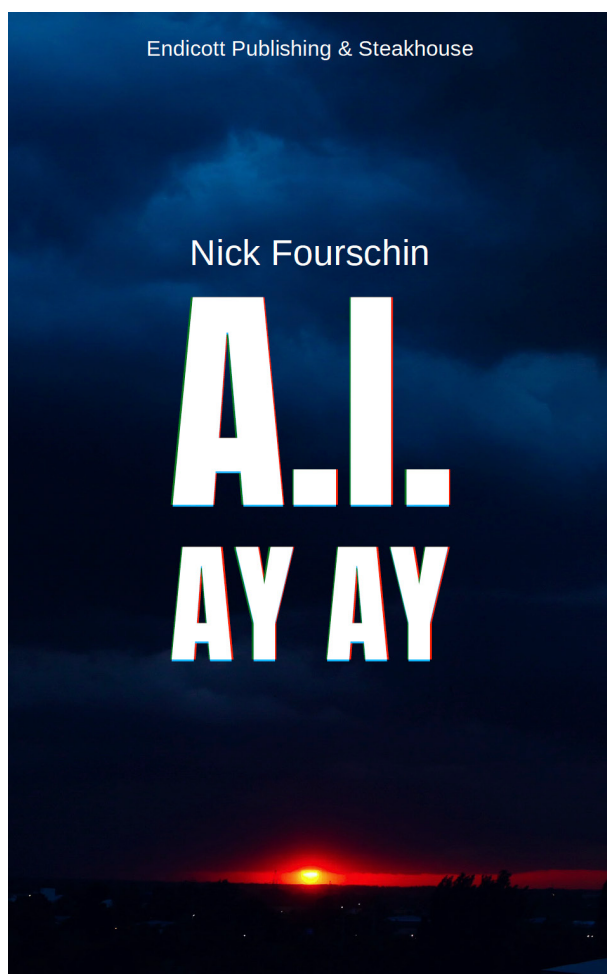
- (A) 5-hour Mother's Day dance recital
- (B) 19-12 Little League game with 46 errors
- (C) Rubik's Cube and cup stacking regional championships
- (D) Trying to have a basic conversation with your child during dinner

What game did you play most while you were at Binghamton?

- (A) Goldeneye
- (B) Mario Kart
- (C) Pong
- (D) Instead of video games I played acoustic guitar in public to seduce a mate (unsuccessfully)

To calculatlte your score: A = 5 B = 6.7 C = 3.1453 D = the current value of Bitcoin Combine the total value of your answers, then call your oldest Boomer relative and without explaining, loudly repeat your score until they give you their social security number.

Alumni Publishing Roundup

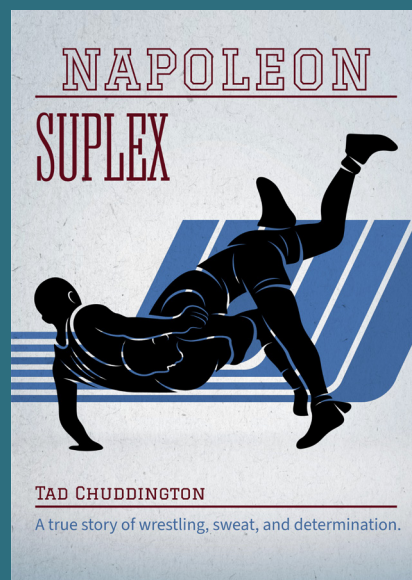


A.I. Ay Ay

Nick Fourschin, Class of 2000

Endicott Publishing & Steakhouse

Some people (supposedly) make money with AI. Others make money off AI. That's what the author of this tome attempts to do, as the completely unqualified Fourschin wanks on about everyone's least favorite topic for 475 pages. While the author does not offer a single interesting take throughout the entire book, he does include the word "AI" roughly 14 times per page, making this one of the books of all time.



Napoleon Suplex

Tad Chuddington, Class of 1991

Beef Sister Books

This moving autobiography chronicles how Chuddington's time on the Binghamton wrestling team shaped his character and defined his path. Through discipline, resilience, and weekly drunken brawls with frat boys and townies alike, he forged a mindset that propelled him beyond the mat and into a successful career trading crypto. His story is a testament to how sports can transform an entire future, even if it turns your ears into weird little nubbins first.

A History of Tubes

Carla Donutz, Class of 2003

C-Town Publishing

In this fascinating yet dense 700-page non-fiction masterpiece, Donutz covers the entire history of tubes and their underappreciated importance to mankind, from the very first ancient tubes discovered in Mesopotubia, to Mike Oldfield's Tubular Bells, to the 2025 tubiversity discovery of the sub-atomic tubes that make up the very fabric of the tubiverse. Tubes.

Ranked: Midlife Crisis Activities

VIBE SCALE

10 = Most desperate

1 = Safest most harmless fun

- Writing and self-publishing a novel - 1
- Writing and self-publishing an autobiography - 6
- Buying a convertible - 2
- Buying a motorcycle - 6
- Buying a Polaris Slingshot - 8
- Buying a Cybertruck - 10
- Buying a cabin upstate - 1
- Buying land upstate and building a doom prepper compound - 10
- Repurchasing your old Nintendo and Sega consoles and setting up an "arcade" in the basement - 4
- Taking a GLP-1 - 2
- Running an ultramarathon - 4
- Joining a swingers club - 8
- Buying and restoring an old boat - 4
- Buying and restoring a meth lab - 10
- Quitting a corporate job and taking out a huge loan to start a business - 4
- Quitting and taking out a huge loan to start a restaurant - 7
- Taking out a huge loan to start a llama milk farm - 10
- Getting into Warhammer - 8
- Getting into MC Hammer - 8
- Getting into a war - 10
- Getting a tattoo - 1
- Getting a face tattoo - 10
- Visiting a National Park - 1
- Visiting everyone National Park - 5
- Moving into a National Park - 10
- Anything involving Pokemon - 7
- Geocaching - 2
- Relaunching your old college humor magazine - 7,000

Expert Parenting

Advice from Alumni Psychology

Graduate Dr. Lisa Churtliss

As parents navigate the evolving challenges of raising children in today's fast-paced world, many seek guidance from seasoned professionals like Dr. Lisa Churtliss (class of 1997). A licensed child psychologist with over 15 years of experience, Dr. Churtliss has dedicated her career to understanding child development and family dynamics.

"Children need to feel heard and respected," Dr. Churtliss explains. "You, on the other hand, no longer mean shit. Just wake up, go to work, return home, prepare food, do chores, listen to whining, and repeat until you're a dried up husk of the once wild human your college friends nicknamed 'Lisa Shirtless.'"

Dr. Churtliss advocates for establishing consistent routines, which she says provide children with a sense of stability. "Predictable schedules help children feel safe and understand expectations," she notes. "You can also embrace your own predictable schedule — mine includes a daily bottle of Sauvignon Blanc and a 15-mg indica gummy."

In an era dominated by screens, Dr. Churtliss advises setting healthy boundaries. "Designate specific times for devices and encourage outdoor play and face-to-face interactions," she recommends. "And remember to model the behavior you wish to see in your children display. That means keep your doomscrolling to the bathroom, where you also do all your crying and occasional napping."

Beyond discipline and routines, Dr. Churtliss highlights the importance of nurturing independence. "Allow children age-appropriate responsibilities," she says. "I mean, my parents used to let me go clubbing at Tunnel when I was only 14 and I certainly don't have any deeply ingrained trauma dating back to those experiences."

As a proud Binghamton alum, Dr. Churtliss credits her education with laying the foundation for her career. She encourages fellow parents to remember that patience, love and wealthy grandparents are the cornerstones of effective parenting.



College Drop Ins

The campus library, once a space reserved for the anxious energy of 19-year-olds cramming for tomorrow's exams or secretly changing all the computers' homepages to pornography, now hosts a different demographic: adults who have traded corporate burnout for dorm life.

"This all started as a joke," said Granch Eversworth, a former marketing executive who abandoned their corporate life to re-enroll at Binghamton last September. "I was having drinks with some buddies and bitching about work as usual, and joked 'Hey, we've been having the same conversation for 20 years, we should just quit this shit and go back to college.' And we all had a good laugh but then I was like, oh wait... no really, why not — it'll take weeks for my teenage kids to look up from their phones long enough to even notice I'm gone."

The shift represents a growing phenomenon where middle-aged individuals are re-enrolling in universities not to climb

A growing number of alumni are fed up with reality and choosing to go back to college.

by Sheeza Sumgal

the career ladder, but to completely bail out of adult life due to the absolute shittiness of the world they've inherited. These graying students report that the structured environment of academia offers what the modern workforce lacks: predictability, a sense of communal purpose, and no need to fill out timesheets or pay Con Ed bills.

For Bob Upandon, 46, a former logistics manager, the return to school was a direct response to the volatility and mindboggling dullness of his previous industry. After being laid off during a restructuring that eliminated half his team, he found himself stressed about money but relieved to wake up each morning without having to think about analyzing performance metrics for hose clamps.

"I spent 23 years becoming an expert at some stupid shit no one cares about, including me — no, especially me," Upandon says, adjusting his glasses as he organized his Nihilism 101 notes. "Have you ever had to explain the importance of rubber tube procurement to another Little League dad because he casually asked what you do for a living? Sometimes I would just stop talking in the middle of a sentence and change the topic to anything else, even like, 'Hey look, a lanternfly.' But yeah, now I'm back at Bing and life is fantastic."

Upandon's experience is common among the group. They view the classroom not as a place of competition, but as a sanctuary from the precarious nature of modern employment and the grinding demands of a day job that is pointless at best and actively harmful to the world at worst.

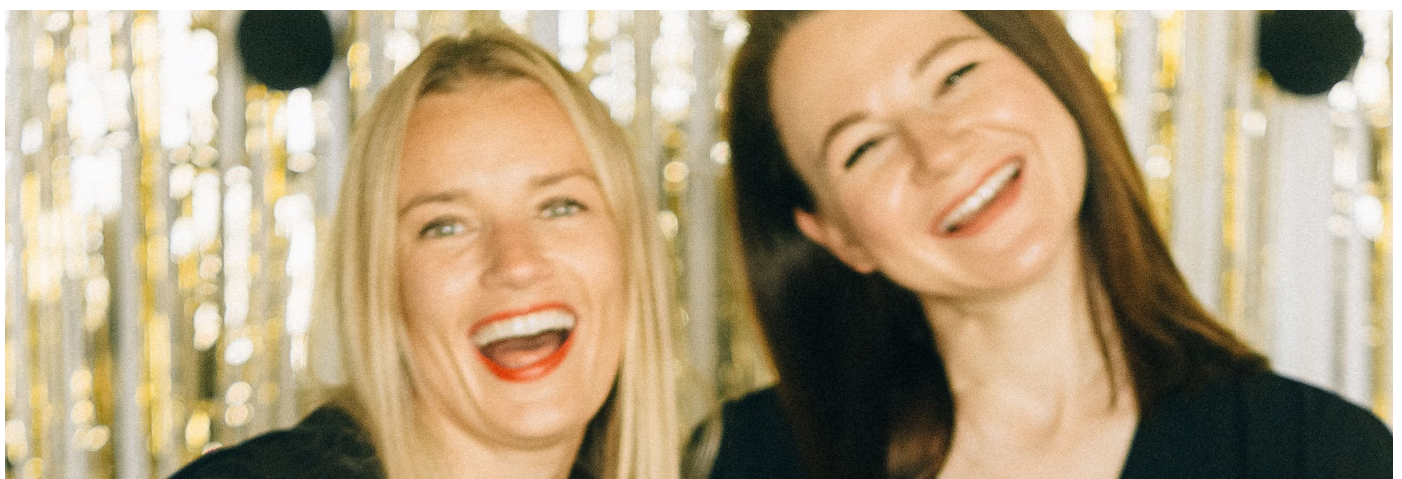
Sarah Hair, 49, left a high-pressure law firm to pursue a degree in environmental science. She describes her previous life as a performance art piece where she was constantly playing a part she didn't believe in.

"People think we go back because we want better jobs," Hair explains. "But I already had a good job. I went back because after the pandemic, commuting an hour to a sterile office building 4 days a week felt like one of those scenes in *Hellraiser* when someone gets their skin ripped off by chains, except at least the people in the movies are still able to experience emotion. Now I only go to class for 15 hours a week and spend the rest of the time reading romance novels and taking photos of tufted titmouses in the nature preserve. Sometimes just for fun I sit in the library where it's quiet and I'm surrounded by adorable students worried about their silly meaningless exams... god it's hilarious and relaxing."

Perhaps the most unexpected benefit is the social connection. The modern adult world is often characterized by digital interaction and physical isolation. On campus, however, these older students find themselves integrated into a diverse community.

"Even though I don't care about grades, I've actually joined a few study groups," says Zonner B. Snippins, a former project manager. "After spending 90% of every day sitting in an office attending video calls with people in other states, talking to another human face to face is heavenly, even if most of these humans are unbearably naïve and don't understand any of my '80s pop culture references."

For the middle-aged student, going back to college is not about education; it's about rebuilding the social fabric that the modern economic landscape has frayed, and being able to get hella high before noon without facing any ramifications. Will the trend continue? Will more adults opt out of society and return to school? As with just about everything else in this modern world, no one will care either way.

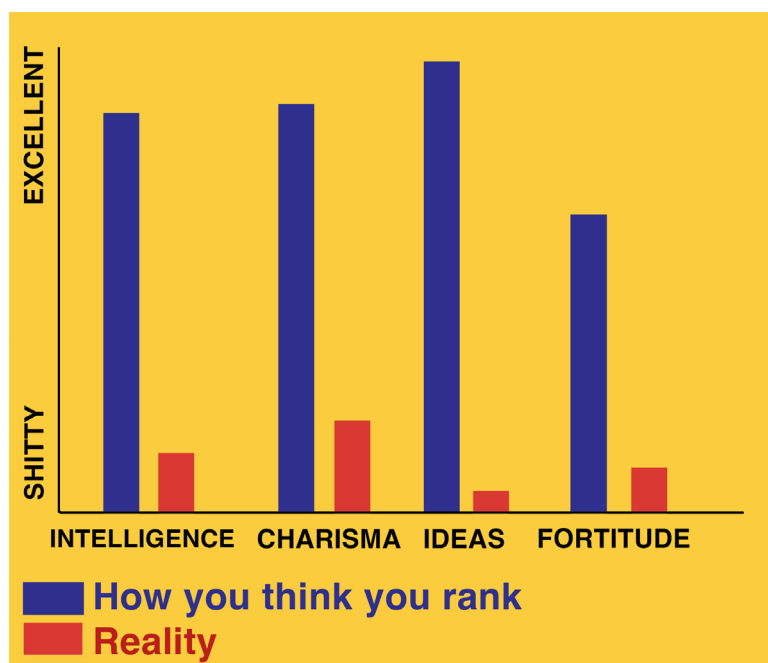


The Science of Sucking

Ever wonder why so many of your former classmates are so rich and successful while you are totally mid in every way, despite your amazing talents, astounding intelligence and fantastic ideas? Well, brain surgeon and tire replacement expert Dr. Geraldine P. Willikers (class of 2003) thinks she knows why.

"Here at the Pittsburgh Center for Smarts & Brain Stuff, we've been studying the cerebral activity of non-achieving middle-aged Americans for the last 10 years, and we've come to some fascinating conclusions," says Willikers. "94.7% of average schmoes 35-55 with overwhelmingly uninteresting lives have never considered the fact that their lack of success is due to their high degree of sucking as an individual."

Willikers and her team used advanced techniques that can only be comprehended by genius STEM majors to show just how unimpressive the personal characteristics and qualities of the average frustrated self-proclaimed underachieving genius am. Here, stupid, look at this chart:



"Wow, this really explains a lot," says John Eric, class of 2000. "For so long I was not-so-secretly jealous of the incredible lives some of my former classmates have been living, and confused that I haven't been able to achieve at the same level despite how fucking awesome I am. Turns out I'm actually



just average to shitty in most aspects. That explains so much – what a relief!"

Now that Willikers has boring basic loserdom figured out, her next step is studying what makes the best of us excel at the highest levels.

"I can't divulge too many details because I don't want that stupid bitch Charlotte (Tucker, Cornell University class of 2004) from the New York Brain Institution to steal my shit again," whispered Willikers while paranoidly looking around the room. "But we're working toward determining a specific atom only found in the brains of rich, talented winners with amazing lives and families way better than yours, and once I can prove it I'm going to shove it in her smug face."

Sick Data: Time Edition

2026 Top Music Charts

- “Murder Whore”

“I Ain’t Not Didn’t”

“Canción Para Bailar”

“Workin’ For It”

“Heartbroke Breakup”
- Lil Teeny Infant f. Slutt Titty 69

- MGRMF4X67dTheWrench f. Baptist Jackson

- Algo En Español

- Gracie Bezos & The Nepos f. Troy Buffet

- Taylor Rodrigo-Carpenter

1996 Rathskeller Music Charts

- “Macarena”

“C’mon N’ Ride It (The Train)”

“Gangsta’s Paradise”

“No Diggity”

“Doin’ It”
- Los Del Río

- Quad City DJ’s

- Coolio featuring L.V.

- Blackstreet featuring Dr. Dre

- LL Cool J

Your tuition decades ago: \$4,405

Binghamton tuition today: \$7,070

Tuition of whatever school your kid/s will go to: \$LOLZ

Price of Big Bear 40 oz in 1996: \$0.99

Price of Big Bear 40 oz in 2026: \$1.79

Thing	Then	Now
Stuff	Affordable	Expensive
You	Taut	Saggy
Phones	For talking to friends	For enslaving mankind
Politics	Snore-enducing	Relationship-destroying
Job interviews needed	2 to 3	5,000
The future	Bright	Literally on fire
Mets	Disappointing	Disappointing

ASK RUSS’S GHOST:

Q: Dear Russ’s Ghost, two of my best friends got into a fight and are now no longer speaking. Is there any way I can broker a peace without getting myself wrapped up in the drama, or should I just stay out of it? — Meena F.

A: Meena, you’re speaking to someone who has seen the afterlife and you’re bothering me with this trivial shit? Fuck off. — Russ

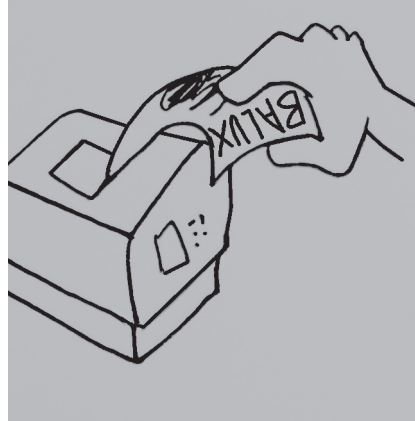
This issue is dedicated to Russ Wishart and Gus Guley

How to obtain a printed copy of BALUX

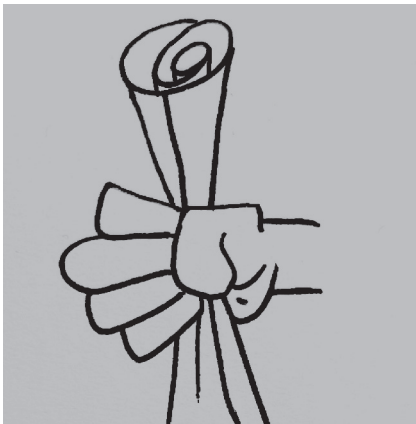
Step 1: Print this file



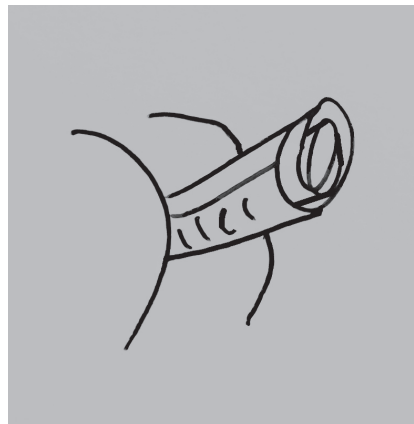
Step 2: Retrieve from printer



Step 3: Roll into tube



Step 4: Insert into anus



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