

# the EXCELSIOR

## The Kingsman to Host USG Presidential Debate



Candidates are getting ready to debate for the first time this week. PHOTO/ Zainab Iqbal

BY ZAINAB IQBAL

The Excelsior’s rival paper, The Kingsman, is getting set to host the first USG presidential debate this week.

Currently, there are three tickets on the ballot: President of Young Progressives of America (YPA) Carlos Jesus Calzadilla-Palacio with running mate Nailah Pressley, who’s the vice president of WBCR; former CLAS representative Hamza Khilji with running mate Zain Qureshi, who’s a part of the B.A.-M.D. Program; and CLAS speaker Alyssa Taylor with running mate Ethan Milich, who’s the current CLAS deputy speaker.

“I feel very passionate about having a debate. I think that campaigning on social media is effective, but it is difficult for voters to properly gauge who they support,” Khilji said. “There’s a lot of limits for expressing your campaign on social media, but in person, you can get directly

to the point and explain your logic and reasoning.”

Khilji believes a debate would be particularly helpful if “it were allowed to run in a manner where candidates had an opportunity to respond to each other’s platforms instead of just answering solely on their respective platforms and moving on.”

“The value of rebuttals is to be able to show why a certain issue may not be as relevant as it sounds and to see if it is even necessary in the first place. Moreover, it tests the ability of the candidates to respond to unexpected questions and shows their temperament as leaders,” Khilji said. “I think currently, while everyone is campaigning, it is hard to decide what the right choice may be. It also provides an opportunity to engage the voting public in a way that social media doesn’t. I think that through the debates and through cross-examinations, it will be easier for voters to decide

what platform is best and necessary for the campus.”

Calzadilla-Palacio is also very excited about the debate and is “absolutely not nervous.”

“The debate is extremely necessary for students to be able to listen to candidates running and to be informed about real issues faced on campus. I am very excited to speak to students about my vision that is very different from everyone else’s.”

“Students essentially have two choices: real change or same old, same old,” Calzadilla-Palacio said. “This is a great opportunity for our campaign to address serious issues happening on campus from crumbling infrastructure to tuition increase. But also, to talk about making this a fun campus and increasing school spirit.”

If Calzadilla-Palacio wins the ticket, he will resign from the YPA campus e-board because “that is the ethical thing to do.”

On the YPA national level, he will make the decision after the election and “will make changes if necessary.”

“My first and number one priority is serving Brooklyn College students and representing them,” Calzadilla-Palacio.

Taylor and Milich, in contrast to the other candidates, feel a debate isn’t beneficial. As of now, it is unclear whether or not they will attend the debate because of scheduling conflicts.

“While we understand in theory the benefits of a debate, we feel that in the current climate at Brooklyn College, it gets limited exposure. We believe that there are many other ways to use that time to promote each candidate and their platform,” they said in a joint statement. “In addition, one hour is a limited amount of time to fully grasp the concepts that need to be addressed. We understand the interest in building this

tradition here at Brooklyn College, but do not believe that it will reach a majority of the 14,000+ Undergraduate Students that have a vote in this coming election.”

“We trust that the undergraduate students of Brooklyn College will see our approachability as we encourage any feedback or criticism concerning our roles as student leaders over the past year and how we can represent them more in the future.”

The Kingsman’s editor-in-chief Quiara Vasquez said she’s very excited to be hosting the debate.

“The election this year is very competitive,” Vasquez said. “There are three tickets and they all represent very different groups of students and are all equally qualified.”

The debate is scheduled for Thursday, April 11 from 12:30 pm to 2 pm in the SUBO penthouse.

### INSIDE THIS EDITION

News, 2-3	Opinions, 3-4	Arts, 5	Sports, 6-8
The New Club for Stand-Up Comics is Here	The Endless Workload	The Twilight Zone’s Reboot: The Comedian	Luka Doncic vs Trae Young: Battle for Rookie of the Year
	+ more		+ more



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THE EXCELSIOR

# The New Club for Stand-Up Comics is Here

BY M.A. RAHMAN

The newly created Brooklyn College Heckler's Club presented its first stand-up show in which students across campus were invited to get a shot behind the open mic before a crowd of roughly a dozen of their fellow peers.

"We're still a small sized club, but I really enjoyed it. I definitely enjoyed watching everyone else's acts," said Nessa Bratslavsky, a senior, psychology major and President of the Heckler's Club, satisfied by the days event, remaining hopeful more students will gradually be excited to join the relatively new club.

For students like Bratslavsky who grew up watching stand-up comics like Nicole Byer or Norm Macdonald and having the opportunity to share their sometimes awkward/unpleasant encounters in unexpectedly humorous way felt more meaningful than just a way to cope with said experiences.



Kenyatta LeSeur (left) takes hold of the stage, captivating the audience. PHOTO/ M.A. Rahman

"So I was out with this guy and he kinda kept giving me a weird vibe until I left his car even though he got me this suspicious jar of lemonade to drink later which really was all I was looking forward to doing," Bratslavsky said on stage before quickly arousing mischievous laughter across the room.

Naturally, much of the material was improvised across acts revolving around poor Tinder dates, personal pet peeves, rants, and the occasional and sur-

prisingly well received rap.

Stepping onto stage with an unusual swagger, a student not affiliated with the Heckler's Club began one of the more stand out acts of the evening.

For his novel act, Kenyatta LeSeur, a Graduate, Industrial/Organizational Psychology Contraction major, elected to question the audience on their interests and attributes then rap about them with few brakes of silence gaining great applause by the end of his skit.

Maintaining that his act had little to no rehearsal, cited 'confidence' as a major factor for his acts success, elaborating on the one mindset required to achieve this end, LeSeur said "It's just the way you carry yourself, know how you work [on stage], know that you are great."

A near absence of crude, shocking, or toilet-style humor was conspicuous amongst the varying acts, for organizers of the event, this was by precisely by design.

For some cynical observ-



## EVENTS LISTING

MONDAY, MARCH 18 -  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 31  
**We Stand Against Hate - History of Free Speech: The Vanguard Years at Brooklyn College**  
**2129 Boylan Hall**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10  
**The Caribbean and Climate Change: Vulnerability, Resistance, and Resilience**  
**12:50 PM - 2:05 PM**  
**150 - Brooklyn College Library**

THURSDAY, APRIL 11  
**Choosing Your Ideal Major: What Can You Do With It?**  
**12:30 PM - 2:00 PM**  
**384 - Brooklyn College Library**

**DCAS Orientation: How to Get a Job/Internship w. Dept. of Citywide Svcs.**  
**12:30 PM - 2:15 PM**  
**TBA**

**Sustainability Lecture**  
**12:30 PM - 3:00 PM**  
**4411 Ingersoll Hall**

**Puerto Rican Independence Movements: A Panel Discussion**  
**2:15 PM - 6:00 PM**  
**Woody Tanger Auditorium**  
**Brooklyn College Library**

THURSDAY, APRIL 11  
**The medieval/early modern divide Along the franco-spanish border On religious conversion & the paper economy**  
**5:00 PM - 6:30 PM**  
**2405 Boylan Hall**

**LAMEM - The Late Antique Medieval-Early Modern Faculty Working Group**  
**5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

**Zipporah's Pout: Temporality and the Emotional Life of (Jewish) Images**  
**5:30 PM - 7:00 PM**  
**2405 Boylan Hall**

**Flatbush Forum: NY Health Act**  
**6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**  
**Woody Tanger Auditorium**  
**Brooklyn College Library**

FRIDAY, APRIL 12 -  
SATURDAY, APRIL 13.  
MONDAY, APRIL 15 -  
TUESDAY, APRIL 16  
**THE LESSER MAGOO by Mac Wellman**  
**2:00 PM - 3:30 PM,**  
**7:30 PM - 9:00 PM**  
**Don Buchwald Theater**  
**Leonard & Claire Tow Center for the Performing Arts**

TUESDAY, APRIL 16  
**Sarah E. Wright and Black Radical Harlem in the 1960s**  
**11:00 AM - 12:15 PM**  
**5th Floor - Student Center**  
Sarah E. Wright (1928-2009) is well known for her seminal book, This Child's Gonna Live, a pioneering work of fiction centering around the life of an impoverished black woman in Maryland. Dr. Robyn Spencer will talk briefly about Wright's internationalist consciousness and anti-Vietnam War organizing in groups such as the Harlem Writers Guild, the Cultural Association of Women of African Heritage, the On Guard Committee for Freedom, and the United Afro-American League in 1960s Harlem.

**Careers for Business Majors: Fashion, Insurance, Media, Consulting**  
**12:15 PM - 2:15 PM**  
**4th Floor - Student Center**

**Philosophy Department's Sprague & Taylor Lecture**  
**2:15 PM - 3:30 PM**  
**Woody Tanger Auditorium**  
**Brooklyn College Library**  
This year's speaker is Dean Zimmerman, Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Center for the Philosophy of Religion at Rutgers University.



For now the club's scope remains narrowly focused on arranging as many stand up events as possible. "If students want us to do more things like workshops then will do that," Bratslavsky said, open to new ideas.

# The Endless Workload

[illegible]

tain work would allow you to manage your time better and have the time to do whatever you need to do as well as activities that bring you joy. You can also find what's taking up most of your time and can make the right adjustments to your schedule in order to get your priorities straight. Sometimes that would mean dropping a part-time job to finish school or dropping school in order to meet ends meet. Either way, sacrificing your mental health and maximum efficiency because of a poorly managed schedule is never a good deal. As we age, the work only gets harder and heavier. Starting now to have a balanced schedule and learning how to manage time well will go a long way for you in the future when you're set and settled in your career. Hang out with a friend. Go play your favorite sport. Take a sabbatical. Recharge your mental state and go back to it when you're ready.

# The Latest Technology is Making Mobility More Manageable

**SEE “THE LATEST  
TECHNOLOGY IS MAKING  
MOBILITY MORE  
MANAGEABLE,” 4**



**CONT'D FROM "THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IS MAKING MOBILITY MORE MANAGEABLE," 3**

voice-recognition technology from companies like Nuance enables people to carry out 'no-touch' typing on their computer, phone or tablet.

**The EvoWalk**

Something that offers a discreet and effective way of helping people with limited mobility in their lower limbs is Evolution Device's wearable device, the EvoWalk. Designed for people living with some paralysis in their leg(s), this technology comes as a 'sleeve' that is worn on the leg and stimulates par-

ticular muscles. It also uses sensors to monitor the user's movements. The result is that technology improves the person's gait and enables them to walk further with relatively little discomfort. Furthermore, the device provides people with the opportunity to mingle socially without feeling as self-conscious as

they might do without the sleeve. This can be particularly helpful to students who are new to college and wanting to meet new people.

The rise of technology in modern times may be seen in both a positive and negative light by people. However, few could argue that the developments in assistive tech-

nology are extremely encouraging. For college students with mobility issues, this sort of technology means that the support is available to help them feel included and to reach their fullest potential.

# Breathe in, Breathe out

BY SHAUNA CARLOS

Describing college as stressful would be the understatement of the year. We all know that exams, homework assignments, and pressing deadlines were what we signed up for, but this can't be it! Personally, I find myself feeling burnt out with the piles of work that never seems to have an end date and leads to a negative attitude and lack of energy. With this realization, I spent some time trying to find different coping methods that could help me progress through the semester without the mental and emotional strain.

Prioritizing the tasks in your life effectively can be life changing. How many clubs/organizations are you apart of? How many classes are you taking? What occupies your time? Write your answers out on a piece a paper, then list each activity based on importance. Once you figure that all out, adjust your lifestyle accordingly. If you're a part of club that you listed as least important, leave the club! Don't allow yourself to devote time to things that aren't adding to you. What classes are you struggling



Coping methods can help with handling stressors in college. PHOTO/ Flickr Creative Commons

in? Send your professor an email explaining any difficulties you may be having in his/her course. You'll be surprised by how many professors are eager to help their students. This brings me to my next point: stop allowing your classes to stress you!

As students, we are in complete control of our academic success and in order to truly recognize that, we have to be aware of the tools accessible to us. I remember working (more like strug-

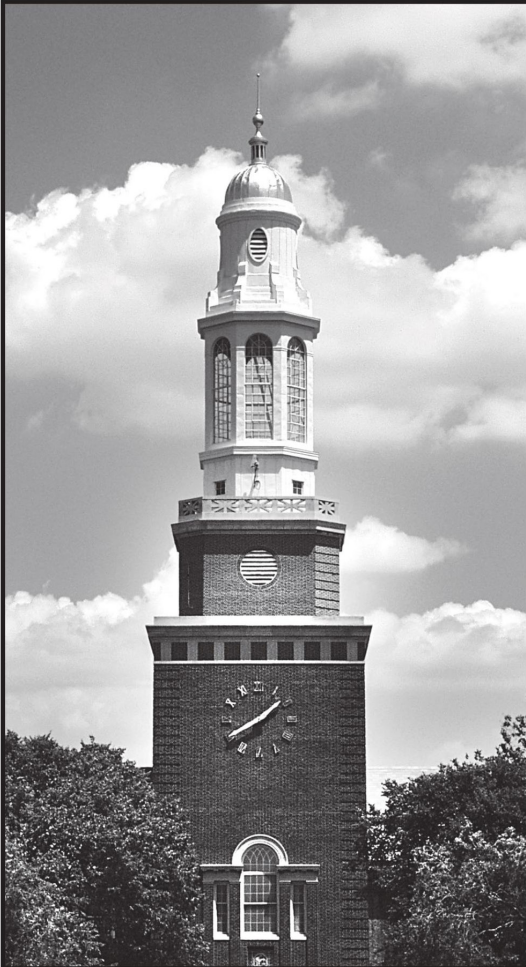
gling) to write an essay for one of my English classes. A couple of days before the deadline approached, my professor sent out a reminder email to hand in the paper at the beginning of class except for those who spoke to him about an extension. When I read that part of the email, I immediately thought "extension?" why didn't I think of that instead of spending the night frustrated and overwhelmed. Another thing I would suggest is being hon-

est with yourself. You know who you are as a student and the first couple of days of the semester usually gives us a good sense of what the rest of the term will look like. If you don't like the grading rubric or style of the professor, check to see if there is another class available. If you know you're not a morning person and each semester you've tried to see if you could do better and it didn't work out, take afternoon or night classes. Especially if

the professor is critical when it comes to attendance. See if your class is an available option for Pass/Fail, that way you can still get the credit without your GPA taking a hit. Work smarter, not harder!

As a writer, I personally enjoy putting pen to paper, but journaling can be therapeutic to anyone. Dedicate some time throughout your week to vent about what's going on in your life. Write down all the good things and accomplishments, so when you're having a bad day you can look back at it. Write out your goals so you can have a constant visual of what you're working towards. Make "you" a priority! Find an activity you enjoy. A physical one would be great because you're having fun while staying active! Allow that to be your stress reliever.

College is difficult but it should also be fun! It's the perfect place to network with people with similar passions, build lifelong relationships, and develop yourself as a person. Don't let these years pass you by because before you know it, you'll be walking across a stage in your cap and gown!



Brooklyn College

## STUDENT TOWN HALLS

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Wednesday, April 17 • 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 14 • 12:30 p.m.

Jefferson Lounge, Fourth Floor, Student Center

Share your concerns about campus affairs in an informal town hall setting.



# The Twilight Zone's Reboot: The Comedian

BY CARMEN SAFFIOTI

One of the most iconic television shows ever-made, *The Twilight Zone*, was given the reboot treatment. The new series is only available on CBS All Access, a streaming service, but the series' first episode, *The Comedian*, is available for free on YouTube.

The episode follows struggling comedian Samir (Kumail Nanjiani), and his unrelenting ambition to "make it." The episode explores the cost of success in the 21st century and has Jordan Peele's artistic imprint all over it—darkly humorous and reflective of society. *The Comedian* doesn't exactly live up to the legacy that the original left behind, but it is intriguing and full of potential in its own right.

The real question, however, is the series worth the \$15 a month for CBS All Access?

The original anthology was written, produced, and narrated by Rod Serling. The series was a mainstream success when it ran from 1959 to 1964. It was given two revivals previous to Peele's, one from 1985-89 and one from 2002-03, neither of which, critics say, live up to the artistic value of Serling's original. There was a lot of rumors about a



"The Twilight Zone" was given the reboot treatment. PHOTO/ CBS

third revival leading up to the actual announcement in December 2017, Jordan Peele was named to be one of the executive producers following the success of his first feature film *Get Out*.

Peele was likely put on as one of the producers for the show, not only for his popularity, but because his work has a tendency to incorporate social issues into his themes and messages. This is similar to Serling, whose original anthology brought

awareness to issues like class, race, and war. This, may make the third revival the most successful of the three.

Since the first episode was the only episode to premiere so far, audience members cannot binge this series, but instead have to meditate on each episode one week at a time. *The Comedian* is an interesting debut—it leaves me wondering, however; do the writers have more up their sleeves or is this the best that they got?

The protagonist, Samir, is dorky and relatable, but becomes increasingly unlikely as the episode goes on. While in a bar, Samir runs into a famous comedian played by Tracey Morgan. Morgan gives Samir the power to succeed but only if he "gives" part of his personal life to the audience. Meaning that if Samir mentions someone who he knows personally during his time on stage the audience will break out in guttural laughter, but

the person he mentions will cease to exist. The person will not just go missing, rather reality changes so that the person will have never been born. This supernatural concept is a metaphor for how comedians must "give" themselves to the audience, and how, unforgivingly, the audience will consume.

The acting was very solid and definitely gives this third revival a fighting chance of making it. Nanjiani, who is a comedian, and has played a comedian before in his rom-com hit, *The Big Sick*. Nanjiani truly knows how to explore the complexities and pitfalls of a struggling comedian, probably because he was one and can relate to Samir's character better than most of the audience. The cinematography of the show is dark, literally. Most of the scenes take place in the dead of night, and the lighting—no matter the setting—is reminiscent of a lowly comedy club. The biggest problem of the episode was its predictability, the final resolution can be seen from a mile away. However, it doesn't take away from the overall message of the show.

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you prefer,  
you may remain anonymous.**



# Luka Dončić vs Trae Young: Battle for Rookie of the Year

BY CONRAD HOYT

On NBA draft night 2018, the Dallas Mavericks and Atlanta Hawks engaged in a trade; the Mavericks sent their fifth pick and a 2019 first-round top 5 protected pick to the Hawks in exchange for the number three overall pick. In essence, the Mavericks were trading up to select Luka Dončić, the Slovenian wonder boy who had been on the draft radar for a while due to his emergence for Real Madrid in Spain. The Hawks seemed content to wait for the number five pick, where Trae Young was waiting, and it didn't hurt that they were compensated with another first-round pick.

At the beginning of the year, this seemed like a foolish trade for the Atlanta Hawks. They seemed like a team without a direction, and amidst Dončić's emergence, Young struggled. Many experts before the draft believed Dončić would go number one overall, and it would only be due to the ineptitude of the first two franchises (Phoenix Suns and Sacramento Kings) that he would not be chosen first.

After all, the year before, Dončić won the EuroLeague Championship and MVP for his team Real Madrid before declaring for the NBA draft. His play-making ability, shot mak-



Trae Young (left) and Luka Dončić (right) are both strong candidates for Rookie of the Year. PHOTO/ Sports Illustrated

ing, size and intangibles had executives foaming at the mouth at the chance to rebuild their franchise around him. It was clear that when the Mavericks saw him slide to the third slot, they were willing to send an extra draft pick to the Hawks to get him. No one would believe they have second thoughts now. Dončić firmly planted himself as number one in the Rookie of the Year race, leading an otherwise futile Mavericks team to a record around .500 in the early stages of the season. From day one he was the best player on

the court for the Mavericks, and the entire organization seemed elated to have him. Dončić, in an interview with EuroHoops.net, went so far as to say that it is easier to score in the NBA, "Here [in the NBA] it's easier to score compared to Europe, of course. In Europe, the court is smaller and here there is the three seconds rule. I think it's easier to score here."

On the contrary, Trae Young was a player whose stock had fallen a bit before the draft. Even after leading the NCAA Division One in points and assists for Okla-

homa, executives questioned if he possessed the size for his positive attributes to translate to the NBA. Common comparisons people made were that to Stephen Curry, a superstar in the NBA, but no one can be the next Stephen Curry, right?

Well, turns out he's pretty darn close. Of course, both Curry and Young are their own players and want to be treated as such, and Young has not proven he can be a great player on a winning team, but over the last two months, he has been nothing short of spectacular. With several game-winners already under his belt, Young has shown the flashes of what made him so special at Oklahoma.

He is a great distributor, especially at his size, finishes surprisingly well at the rim, and can shoot from practically anywhere on the court. His play with other young talents such as John Collins has been a bright spot for the Hawks this year, and the fact that they have been winning games lately when other teams are clearly tanking means the team is setting up a winning culture. After a brief rebuild, the Hawks now have pieces to build around, cap space, and a head coach in Lloyd Pierce that seems to have his whole team bought in.

Now let's look at how the two rookies' brief resumes stack up. Dončić is currently averaging 21.2 points, 7.7

rebounds and 5.9 assists per game while shooting 42.7 percent from the field and 32.6 percent from three. In contrast, Young is averaging 19.1 points, 3.7 rebounds, and eight assists, while shooting 41.9 percent from the field and 32.6 percent from three. The Mavericks are 31-48 and the Hawks are 29-51.

Rookies often struggle with being the most efficient, so those low shooting percentages are not so worrisome. Both players have picked up on the speed and physicality of the NBA quickly, and both have shown a knack for playing big in the clutch.

It seems foolish now to believe Dončić was not going to be a superstar in this league and to believe that the IQ and shooting Young possessed in college would not translate over to the NBA.

Kristaps Porzingis is on the Mavericks now and it will be extremely interesting to see how him and Dončić coexist next year in Dallas. Atlanta has another lottery pick this year, and whoever is chosen could wind up being a big part of the Hawks moving forward (possible a big three with Young and Collins).

No matter who you believe is Rookie of the Year, both of these franchises are headed for greener pastures, and it is in no small part due to the emergence of Dončić and Young.



PHOTO/ Getty Images



# The Notorious Trickster Conor McGregor "Retires" From The UFC

BY NICHOLAS WILLIAMS

Late night on March 26th, former UFC Lightweight and Featherweight Champion, Conor McGregor announced his retirement on Twitter.

The Irish mixed martial artist tweeted a statement on his departure from the UFC, “Hey guys quick announcement, I’ve decided to retire from the sport formally known as “Mixed Martial Art” today. I wish all my old colleagues well going forward in competition. I now join my former partners on this venture, already in retirement. Proper Pina Coladas on me fellas!”

This tweet shocked and confused UFC fans as McGregor is only 30 years old and is in the prime of his career as well as being a dominant fighter in the ring. Many people speculated that McGregor is fooling the fans and isn’t actually going into retirement. This isn’t the first time that McGregor fooled people about retiring as he announced his retirement out of the blue back in 2016.

McGregor tweeted this back in April 2016, “I have decided to retire young. Thanks for the cheese. Catch ya’s later.” Only later to come back, and defeat Nate Diaz in UFC 202 4 months later.



Conor McGregor, retired or not, is one of the biggest figures in UFC history. PHOTO/ USA Today

Tension with the current UFC Lightweight Champion Khabib Nurmagomedov may spark McGregor to come back out of his retirement to go another bout with Nurmagomedov. McGregor has never beat him, losing a fight at UFC 229. The thirst to be the best and take down Nurmagomedov may be a trigger into his return to the octagon. McGregor is still incredibly young and still has a lot of fight left in him.

On the other hand, there are other reasons to believe that this time around, he may actually stay retired. McGregor finished his ca-

reer with a record of 21 wins and four losses. Also, he has garnered enough money to go into early retirement as he is one of the box office fighters in the UFC. According to Forbes, McGregor is the fourth highest paid athlete of 2018, trailing that of Cristiano Ronaldo, Lionel Messi, and Floyd Mayweather. Along with this, McGregor hasn’t backed down from a challenge and with this, he has achieved a lot in the Octagon. In his first ever boxing event, even in a loss, McGregor surprised many with how long he was able to stand his ground against Floyd May-

weather Jr. back in 2017.

One major reason McGregor may stay retired for good is the legal trouble that he is currently facing. From attacking a bus window to recently stomping on a fan’s cellphone, McGregor has made some head-scratching mistakes in his career. Currently, McGregor was in headlines in a case of sexual assaulting a woman in his hometown of Dublin, Ireland. McGregor hasn’t been charged with a crime but is being heavily investigated. Along with this, a fan who had his cellphone stolen and stomped on repeated-

ly by McGregor has filed a lawsuit against him back in mid-March. The fan has accused McGregor of battery, assault and intentional infliction of emotional distress in the incident. These lawsuits may derail McGregor’s focus in the UFC.

Even with all of his lawsuits, McGregor may have hinted that he may return to the octagon in a tweet he posted on April 3rd, “I want to move forward, with my fans of all faiths and all backgrounds. All faiths challenge us to be our best selves. It is one world and one for all. Now see you in the Octagon.” Nothing has been confirmed nor denied about McGregor returning back to the Octagon.

Nonetheless, McGregor retired or not, is still one of the biggest figures and greatest fighters in UFC history. Ever since debuting back in 2008, he has dominated the competition in the UFC, and even having an unbelievable 15-win streak from 2011-2015. McGregor is big-time talent and fans can only hope to see him healthy, and finally strutting his way back into the Octagon.



LOOKING FOR

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# The New York Jets' Offseason Additions Thus Far

BY ANTHONY DYCE

The New York Jets put their faith in General Manager Mike Maccagnan this offseason by giving him a second chance while firing head coach Todd Bowles. Ownership was making it clear that they believed in Maccagnan because he has the right plan for the team, by drafting Quarterback Sam Darnold and a handful of other impact players like Safety Jamal Adams. The good news is that the Jets don't have to worry about the QB position this offseason but fill out other roster spots.

The Jets entered free agency with nearly \$100 million in salary cap space and were very active in pursuing free agents and resigning their own. This offseason is one of the most important in recent Jets franchise history, as they haven't been to the playoffs since 2010.

Here are the signings the Jets made so far:

Maccagnan biggest move of the offseason was signing Running Back Le'Veon Bell. This was a win for Maccagnan and the Jets. Bell was the best player on the market and perfect weapon to help QB Sam Darnold. It was no secret the Jets were interested in signing Bell and the only team to offer him the contract he desired. He signed a four-year, \$52.5 million deal with \$25 million guaranteed, this is a relative steal because they didn't have to overpay for the position. If things don't work out, Bell could be cut in year three without the Jets receiving repercussions from the contract. This move has no risk but high reward



Overall, the New York Jets did well in their free agent signings. PHOTO/ USA Today

because Bell instantly becomes the Jets best offensive player since Curtis Martin.

The Jets signed Linebacker CJ Mosley to a five-year, \$85 million contract which includes \$51 million guaranteed. The Jets added a four-time Pro Bowl player and arguably one of the best linebackers in the league. Jets overpaid for Mosley, making him the highest-paid linebacker in league history. He'll be a huge upgrade over Darron Lee, who is now expendable. Maybe they did overpay for him, but they had to be aggressive through free agency.

The Jets signed Wide Receiver Jamison Crowder to a three-year deal worth \$28.5 million which includes \$17 million guaranteed. Darnold has a true slot receiver, something new coach Adam Gase loves in his offense. The 5-foot-9 Crowder provides Darnold with a shifty, speedy target in the middle of the field. The Jets had to be aggressive to add another weapon to make this offense click.

The signing of wide receiver/special teamer Josh Bellamy was a good, low-risk deal for special teams. Bellamy signed to a two-

year contract for \$7 million but can be cut after one season. He projects as the fourth receiver for depth.

The signing of Brian Poole addressed the Cornerback problem for the Jets. They were fairly desperate for cornerback help after losing Buster Skrine and deciding to not sign back Morris Claiborne. Poole projects as Skrine's replacement as the slot corner. He signed a one-year, \$3.5 million contract.

The Jets signed QB Trevor Siemian, who agreed to a one-year, \$2 million contract. He provides experienced backup for Sam Darnold and mentorship, something the team needs with QB Josh McCown still mulling his future.

Trading for Offensive Guard Kelechi Osemele, the Jets flipped a fifth-round pick and sixth-round pick to the Raiders. The Jets get a two-time Pro Bowl OG. He fills a massive hole on their offensive line and allows them to stay out of what was a weak free-agent market for offensive linemen. The deal was a steal.

The Jets re-signed place-kicker Chandler Catanzaro, who kicked for them in 2017. It's a one-year deal worth \$2.3 million. He fills a need for the Jets, who let Pro Bowl

kicker Jason Myers leave the building as a free agent.

Resigning Defensive End Henry Anderson who played well last season for the team and brought him back for three years, \$25.2 million and \$17 million guaranteed. He earned his contract by leading the team in seven sacks tied with Jordan Jenkins. Pass-rushers are premium so they get overpaid nowadays.

Resigning Cornerback Darryl Roberts by giving him a three-year deal worth \$18 million with \$4 million guaranteed. The money indicates that the Jets see him as a starter opposite to Trumaine Johnson. He did start 10 games last season and played well. There's no harm in this signing.

Overall, the Jets did well in their free agent signings. Maccagnan landed Bell the best free agent on the market. Bell is an elite running back, he provides a security blanket for Sam Darnold and running game that is needed in their offense. They added another weapon on offense and difference maker on defense while the other signings filled a need. The Jets and GM Mike Maccagnan made some good moves but they still have work to do.



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