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## Week in review: laurels and darts

■ Editorial

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Posted: Friday, November 18, 2011 12:00 am

By The Daily Targum | 0 comments

When President Barack Obama was campaigning in 2008, one of the criticisms raised against him was the assertion that he was an elitist who was disconnected from the American people. Herman Cain seems to be taking strides to assure that the same accusation will not be made against him. At a campaign event in New Hampshire, the Republican presidential candidate reportedly announced, "We need a leader, not a reader." Cain made the statement as an attempt to defend his poor job of demonstrating his foreign police knowledge. According to The Associated Press, Cain believes "the president does not need to know every detail about every country." He may not need to know every detail, but he should make an effort to know as much as possible. We give Cain a dart for defending his ignorance instead of owning up to his flaws.

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As Thanksgiving rapidly approaches, so does the holiday's less heartwarming money-draining brother, Black Friday. While some brave — or possibly insane — shoppers love the rush of standing in line at midnight, waiting for the outlet mall to open, this is not a universal feeling. In response to a Tampa, Fla., Best Buy's decision to open at midnight for Black Friday, store employee Rick Melaragni has posted a petition on [Change.org](#) condemning the store for putting profits before people and preventing its employees from enjoying a full Thanksgiving holiday with their families. In the words of Melaragni's petition, "All Americans should be able to break bread with loved ones and get a good night's rest on Thanksgiving." We give Melaragni a laurel for rallying against one of America's biggest flaws: letting greed get the best of us, even during the holiday season.

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Gov. Chris Christie regrettably resorted to the slippery-slope fallacy on Wednesday night when speaking out against Obama's health care reforms. Speaking at the University of Delaware, Christie suggested that the health care reform could lead the government down the road into micromanaging the lives of its citizens, asking, "What's next? I am mandated to eat broccoli?" Christie is usually far better than this when it comes to tackling issues he dislikes head on. It is rare to see him resort to these weak, illogical games when he is on the offensive. We give Christie a dart for his remarks. If our governor is going to criticize health care reform, we expect him to do so intelligently.

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Jamie Tworowski, who spoke Tuesday night to a group of students at the Rutgers Student Center on the College Avenue campus, has been working to promote his vision of a world free of depression, addiction and self-hate. He is

### Pendulum

What is your favorite tradition?

- A table covered in c
- Spending time with
- Time off from schoo
- Enjoying a maratho

Vote



Cale

November						
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the founder of the nonprofit movement To Write Love on Her Arms and has spent most of the past five years spreading his message of hope in the face of struggle, informing. Nearly 20 million individuals suffer from depression in the United States, Tworowski cites. He adds that depression is the leading cause of suicide, and suicide itself is the third leading cause of death. As college students deal with the daily tumults associated with classes, relationships and financial situations — life in general — it's important to realize many of our own peers may be struggling with such issues. We give Tworowski a laurel for founding the movement and urging anyone who may be struggling with depression or addiction to seek help. To Write Love on Her Arms may be the place to start.

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The list of green card holders currently journeying on that long road to citizenship in New Jersey may come as a surprise to many — 400,000, according to Anastasia Mann, program director for the Eagleton Institute of Politics' Program on Immigration and Democracy. In an effort to make this list just a bit shorter, the Institute recently held its first citizenship ceremony, naturalizing a total of 34 candidates from Middlesex and Somerset counties. We applaud the Institution's efforts in assisting this process. Though we here at the University may sometimes take for granted our status as home to one of the most diverse communities of students in the nation, it's important to realize that the state in which we reside also shares this characteristic. The University community, as well as the state, is a melting pot of cultures, ethnicities, backgrounds and traditions — and with about one-quarter of New Jersey's residents being foreign-born, we have only these individuals to thank for this standout diversity. The Institute, as well as all those who participated in the ceremony, deserves a laurel. Despite our differences, it's nice to be united under one common name — we're all Americans.

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3

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Don't knowingly lie about anyone or anything.

4

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No racism, sexism or any sort of -ism that is degrading to another person.

5

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