How Much Do You Know About Your Campus?

Shedding Light on the Role of Cocaine at Providence College

The Double Life of Dr. Hyde

by Kathleen McGinty ’16
News Staff

Facility Profile

With the sound of what he calls his “whispering piano solos” playing softly in his office, discussing his own college experiences, and love of the outdoors, Professor Mark Hyde of the Department of Political Science may come across differently than his students expect.

“I’m really not as hard in class as I appear,” said Hyde lightheartedly, “and I don’t really mean it when I yell at them.”

Since he was 25 years old, Hyde has been a professor of political science at Providence College, instructing courses in empirical political analysis (required of all political science majors and minors), public program evaluation (a class focused on methodology), and American politics. Upon coming to the College immediately after completing graduate school, Hyde was not much older than his students.

“I had more in common with the students than the faculty when I first started,” he stated. That may still be the case.

Hyde, who grew up in the small mill town of Ware, Mass. has always been interested in political science. He entered his freshman year at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass., as a declared political science major and continued on to receive his master's degree and Ph.D in political science from Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich.

During his undergraduate years, Hyde had what he calls the

That powdery white substance that has been seen at parties lately is probably not leftover sugar, and sniffling students might be up to more than just seasonal allergies. Fall not only brings in a new season and a new school year, but recently it has also brought in an increase in drugs both on and off campus, according to PC Security.

Some students have reported seeing casual drug use at parties as of late. Providence College has never been known to have a large drug scene, as the College usually sticks to its Princeton Review number one ranking in hard alcohol, but it seems as if the College is breaking into the realm of party drugs.

Students have been taking their partying to the next level, using various substances such as cocaine, ecstasy, the novelty drug “bath salts” which is a form of cathinones that give off the same effect as cocaine or amphetamine, and other various “designer drugs.” The drug scene seems to have emerged at the College around the time of the spring concert last semester when guest Avicii performed at Schneider Arena. Students took the rave theme a little further than just wearing neon spandex, and a significant amount of attendees were on MDMA, or the pure form of ecstasy known as “Molly.” The experimental drug use led to a number of transports to Rhode Island Hospital on the night of the concert.

Some students interviewed felt uncomfortable and surprised to find out that people were using cocaine and other drugs at parties. A smaller percentage of those students felt ambivalent about being in close proximity to cocaine and felt that as long as they were not on the drug, they did not care what other students were doing. When asked about the appearance of drugs in the Providence
What We Are and What We’re Not

This past week has been a time of significant self-reflection for the editorial board of The Cowl regarding our mission and identity as a media organization. We wish to communicate who we are to the Providence College community—our students, faculty, staff, administration, alumni, and subscribers. We deliver news, entertainment, education, and discussion to the Providence College community—our students, faculty, staff, administration, alumni, and subscribers. We deliver news with integrity, entertain respectfully, educate autonomously, and discuss freely.

This last point is crucial because we are open to publishing all opinions. We have published articles which contained student quotes criticizing The Cowl. We consistently publish guest commentaries which contrast the views of our own writers. We publish all opinions whether they are critical or supportive of The Cowl. We are, and always will be, an open and free forum for discussion.

Our identity is ambiguous. The Cowl does not have one solid identity. We have staff members, but our staff members are not an agent of the faculty. When a world news article is composed, a political science or economics professor does not review it. They do not offer their own views, which would introduce faculty bias in a student newspaper. We do our own investigation, fact-checking, and composition. We are not an agent of the faculty. When a world news article is composed, a political science or economics professor does not review it. They do not offer their own views, which would introduce faculty bias in a student newspaper. We do our own investigation, fact-checking, and composition. We are not an agent of the faculty. When a world news article is composed, a political science or economics professor does not review it. They do not offer their own views, which would introduce faculty bias in a student newspaper. We do our own investigation, fact-checking, and composition. 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by Matthew Daniele ’15
News Staff

Student Congress Discusses Club Appeal Process

Providence College’s 63rd Student Congress gathered on Tuesday, October 2, to hear new amendments proposed by the Committee on Clubs and Organizations. The proposed legislation would refine the appeal process clubs need to go through in order to gain an official status. The meeting was headed by Vice President Amy Balle ’13, because President Justin Gomes ’13 was out due to personal work.

The Class of 2013 kicked things off by announcing the new Friar food truck which would be selling food like pizza, chips, and coffee at sporting events. Legislative Affairs reported issues on SAKAI with the freshman elections. The polls opened on Clubs and Organizations. The new Friar food truck which would be selling food like pizza, chips, and coffee at sporting events. Legislative Affairs reported issues on SAKAI with the freshman elections. The polls opened on October 19 in order to collect money for the Get in Touch foundation for breast cancer prevention.

The Class of 2014 reported that they sold approximately 411 class rings, the profits of which will go into funding Junior Ring Weekend. No class in the past 10 years has sold over 400 rings.

Student Life unveiled their plan for a new Friar food truck which would be selling food like pizza, chips, and coffee at sporting events. Legislative Affairs reported issues on SAKAI with the freshman elections. The polls opened on October 19 in order to collect money for the Get in Touch foundation for breast cancer prevention.

Thus, Professor Hyde must not really mean it when he yells at them. He became a little more serious about playing sports and immersing himself in social aspects of college. “I was concerned more with life experiences than I was with my academic career,” Hyde said. “I used to ride around on my motorcycle, get in difficult situations sometimes...I’m not sure how much I should tell you about that,” he added laughingly.

Yet Hyde admitted that he got in trouble with his motorcycle once, losing his license, granting him a memorable experience after his freshman year in college. Traveling to Yellowstone National Park to work for the summer sans motorcycle, Hyde was forced to hitchhike alone back to Massachusetts, a trip that took him about a month.

“That was an interesting experience,” Hyde remembered. “I met a lot of interesting people who gave me rides.” Following his freshman and sophomore years in undergraduate school, Hyde buckled down and began to dedicate himself to his studies.

“Because I have a little more serious about my academic work and really began to enjoy it,” he said. With his interest in the field of political science growing, Hyde knew that he wanted to stay in college. Becoming a professor seemed to Hyde like the perfect way to do so, and PC appealed to him more than any other the job offers he received in New England, where he wanted to return upon completing his graduate studies at Michigan State.

In addition to his passion for political science, Hyde enjoys spending his time outside of the classroom riding his bicycle, hiking, going to the beach, and restoring old cars and trucks. This past summer, he worked as a ranger at a wildlife refuge on the Martha’s Vineyard island of Chappaquiddick, helping to maintain the refuge’s trucks. Hyde said he enjoyed the time he got to spend both outdoors and on the beach.

Yet now that the academic year has commenced and Hyde has returned from Martha’s Vineyard, two other sources of enjoyment have been restored to Hyde, the first being reconvening with his colleagues.

“My colleagues, are great and interesting people,” said Hyde. “You can’t ask for more than that, to have colleagues at work who are bright, interesting, and willing to talk.”

The second? Working with his students.

“I really like watching my students grow up over four years...watching them mature, graduate. Then I keep in touch with a lot of my former students, so it’s fun to see what they’re doing.”

Thus, Professor Hyde must not really mean it when he yells at them.
Who Was Fr. T.S. McDermott, O.P.?

by Jackie McCarthy ’14
News Staff

PC HISTORY

McDermott Hall is home to five floors of Providence College’s male undergraduates. As one of the three buildings that surround the Aquinas Quad on the upper (West) campus, McDermott is in a convenient location. It is in close proximity to Raymond Hall, Phillips Memorial Library, Albertus Magnus Hall, Harkins Hall, and the Slavin Center. McDermott residents get the best of both worlds as they experience the life of single-sex living, as well as being directly across the undergrads from females living in Meagher Hall.

The resident hall was named for Reverend Terence Stephen McDermott, O.P. Fr. McDermott was a native of Thrall, Iowa and graduated from the University of Iowa and the Dominican House of Studies. In 1906, McDermott entered the Dominican Order. He was ordained a priest in 1913 at the Catholic University of America in Washington, and, shortly after, joined the army as an Army Chaplain during World War I. McDermott died in April of 1963 at the age of 76 at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, but his memory lives on in McDermott Hall.

The Cowl’s series on Providence College’s history continues this week with a look at the life of Fr. T.S. McDermott, O.P., the namesake of McDermott Hall.

During his lengthy position as Provincial, Fr. McDermott also worked to develop Dominican foundations in the Midwest and give back to his home region, although he was only head of priories east of the Rocky Mountains. After serving his time as Prior Provincial, Fr. McDermott was elected the temporary leader, or Master General, of the Dominicans. This post is considered the second most influential position in Rome after the Pope. He is the only American to have ever held this position.

While Fr. McDermott was an influential figure in the Dominican order, he was also an influential figure on the Providence College campus. Fr. McDermott “led PC through 25 years of growth and development,” according to archived documents on the dedication of McDermott Hall. His guidance resulted in the expansion of the faculty and curriculum, and the addition of five buildings to the PC campus. Just as Fr. T. S. McDermott had a long and changing career in his time as a Fransican so has McDermott Hall. It started as a facility used for classrooms and departments and now is home to an all-male dorm, then a coed dorm, and now it is an all-male dorm once again. Fr. McDermott also lived in the basement of the building in April of 1963.

The College currently holds an 80:20 ratio when it comes to study abroad, and there would be a conflict between Junior Ring Weekend (JRW) and the College’s study abroad program. Who Was Fr. T.S. McDermott, O.P.?
The Class of 2016 elected their new president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and class representatives on Oct. 2 and 3 on SAKAI.

Elected president was Zachary Harvey ’16, an economics major from Castleton, Vt. Harvey, who said he was “humbled” by his election to office, says that he hopes to improve safety on campus, particularly with Huxley Avenue. Harvey hopes that through his position he will be able to install some sort of traffic light system, with a push-button “walk” and “don’t walk” sign.

Class of 2016 vice president Kelley Garland ’16 is from Wantagh, N.Y., and is currently undeclared. She ran with Harvey as an unofficial ticket. Providence College was her first choice school, and said that being elected vice president was “such an honor.” She comes into this position with prior experience leading clubs in high school, and she said that she hopes to unify the school.

Elected secretary after running unopposed, Julie Bash ’16 is a native of North Reading, Mass., and comes into the position with four years of secretarial experience in high school. Bash is currently undeclared. She hopes to inform her fellow classmates about the inner goings-on of Student Congress and wants to be fully connected with the class.

Treasurer Aaron Golding ’16, a native of Bridgewater, N.J., is a finance major. He hopes that he will be able to host lots of on-campus events for his classmates.

Andrew Moses ’16, Shane Fitzgerald ’16, Bryan Wenke ’16, Ryan Walsh ’16, and Christopher Mackin ’16 were elected as class representatives.

The reputation of McPhail’s was once again put to the test this past weekend with Friday night’s glow party. Despite the council’s protests to the “public nuisance ordinance,” off-campus houses that have five or more rowdy people are in danger of violating the law. If the police have to break a party up, the house will be decorated with a sticker that shows others that the house violated the ordinance. Be careful who you party with!

The first week of the program began with a lecture by Marshall on the overarching topic of safety and why it is important. The following weeks will consist of guest instructors giving lessons on different methods participants can utilize to protect themselves from attackers. The guest instructors include a professional boxer, Jarrod Tillinghast, and a ju-jitsu instructor, Samantha Demers. Deputy Chief Paul Shanley of Brown University, the brother of Fr. Shanley, O.P., teaches the participants martial arts and an armed state trooper, Officer Delaney, teaches the students about date defense. Date defense includes methods that can be used in situations where the attacker is not a stranger, and what to do if put in an uncomfortable or dangerous situation while on a date.

Marshall explained that each instructor leads two classes, one of which is held at PC. The other is held at an off-campus location. These field trips include a visit to a boxing ring, and a ju-jitsu studio. The focus of all the classes is to provide the students with techniques that will allow them to get away from an attacker.

“They are taught to strike and get away. They aren’t going to be boxing for twelve rounds,” Marshall affirmed.

Different techniques that the classes will touch upon include how to throw a punch “without breaking your wrist,” how to use weight against the attacker, what particular parts of the body to strike, different stances, gaining a sense of awareness, and personal space in relation to reaction time.

Some of the most important and essential lessons this class emphasizes is to be aware of your surroundings and to remember “it won’t ever happen to me” mentality because the danger is real. He explained that the lessons taught in this class are so important off campus too. Whether “at home, at the mall, downtown, or as an adult,” it is important “to know how to get the person to stop and get away.” Marshall explained that this class is about gaining a realistic confidence in the face of an attacker. It is understood that participants will not remember every move taught in the class, but as long as they know at least one technique that they are comfortable with using, that is a success. “It’s about having these avenues that they didn’t have before,” He added, “I hope code enforcement at the Class of 2013’s senior night, many students still attended the party on Friday. However, according to some students in attendance, the former glory of the famous McPhail’s glow parties was nowhere to be found.
Ask PC: Politics

“Who do you think won the Oct. 3 debate?”

“Romney. I think that he stood up for himself. Only in this country do you have to apologize for past success. I think we’re due for some real change.”
- Brendan Collins ’13

“I don’t think there’s any winning in a debate. There are certain areas where one had stronger arguments than the other.”
- Anthony Rosenbauer ’14

“No one. I think Jim Lehrer did a poor job as moderator and the debate suffered.”
- Anthony Cherry ’14

“I don’t think anyone did. I think that there was a poor moderation job. He had no control.”
- Nicole Sadoski ’13

“I think Romney did.”
- Kerry McCrossen ’16

“No one. I think Jim Lehrer did a poor job as moderator and the debate suffered.”
- Anthony Cherry ’14

“President Obama, because he actually gave straight answers and Romney did not.”
- Bomi Docanto ’14

“I’m not well informed enough to state my opinion.”
- Kate Ryan ’14

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COCAINE: Drug Being Spotted Around Campus

Continued from front page

College party scene, the Office of Safety and Security responded that they have noticed an increase in student usage of ecstasy and designer drugs. The Office of Safety and Security also cautioned students to be aware of their drinks being unknowingly compromised. There have been incidents in the past in which students have had substances slipped into their drinks. Part of the issue regarding the party scene is that students are aware of what is going on but are just apathetic to the situation.

The Core Alcohol and Drug Survey, founded by the US Department of Education, is intended to survey the drug and alcohol usage and attitudes of college students. The most recent survey of PC students was reported in 2011. According to the survey, 86.5% of students consumed alcohol in the past year, 79.9% of the students consumed alcohol in the past 30 days, 73.7% of undergraduate students consumed alcohol in the past 30 days, and 60.7% of students reported binge drinking in the past two weeks. Although these statistics are not surprising, the drug usage statistics are lower than expected. 36.5% of students have used marijuana in the past year, and an even less 3.4% of students admit to being current illegal drug users.

These numbers are relatively low in comparison with other institutions and in relation to the amount of student observant drug usage recently. The most frequently reported drugs used in the past 30 days were as follows: marijuana 18.3%, cocaine 1.7%, and amphetamines 1.0%. A whopping 84.1% of students indicated that they would prefer not to have drugs available at parties they attend. When PC students were compared with a group of students from 118 other universities on drug usage, they were relatively below the mark. Providence College students scored a 1.7% usage of cocaine in the past 30 days compared to a 1.5% in students from other universities, a 1.0% of amphetamine drugs compared to a 3.0% in outside students, and a 9% of designer drug usage compared to a 1.1% in other students. When surveyed on drug usage over a lifetime, the College racked up a 4.0% usage for cocaine, while outside students had an 8.2%, a 3.8% compared to a universal 11.9% for amphetamines, and a 2.4% compared to a universal 7.4% for designer drugs.

Support your Friars!

Sunday, October 7
Women’s Soccer vs. USF
1:00 p.m. – Clay Field

Saturday, October 13
Men’s Soccer vs. PITT
1:00 p.m. – Clay Field

Friday, October 12
Men’s Ice Hockey vs. Sacred Heart
7:00 p.m. – Schneider Arena

LATE NIGHT MADNESS
9:30 p.m. – Alumni Hall

What is RefWorks?

Drop by the Library Wednesdays in October to find out.

10/10 & 10/17
3:00-5:30pm
PC Speaks: Students Discuss Study Abroad

by Becca Larrivee '13 and Lynnzie Marinaccio '13
World Staff

Studying abroad in Cape Town, South Africa was easily the best decision I've made at PC. Where else can you swim with sharks, pet cheetahs, and waddle around with penguins?!?! I can't wait to go back.
—Grace Schierberl

Studying abroad is truly a one-of-a-kind experience. During my time abroad, I became fluent in another language, travelled throughout Europe, experienced new cultures and made friends from all over the world that I hope I'll have forever. My one regret is that I didn't study for a full year. I wish I could've had more time. My only advice is that NOT studying abroad is a mistake—if you have the opportunity, go! It will be the greatest four months of your life.
—Olivia Jelenik

My study abroad experience in Geneva, Switzerland was more than I ever could have anticipated. I loved getting to know the city and becoming a part of its international community. Witnessing international diplomacy firsthand was amazing! Spending time in the UN and various NGO offices opened my eyes to the kind of work I hope to do in the future.
—Jenn Bell

Studying abroad is, undoubtedly, the best time of my life. Exploring my cultural heritage, while also meeting extended family members, brought my experience full circle. I recommend studying abroad to everyone. The experience will change you, make you a better person and a more well-rounded individual that will succeed in today's global society.
—Pat Bonner

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—Nate Holterman

My study abroad experience in Ireland was, undeniably, the best time of my life. Exploring my cultural heritage while also meeting extended family members brought my experience full circle. I recommend studying abroad to everyone. The experience is irreplaceable.
—Pat Bonner

Studying abroad is an increasingly popular educational path at Providence College, with 308 students last year participating in fall, spring, summer, and fall programs in more than 55 different countries, making 41% increase from the previous year. This year, the school expects a 20% increase in the number of students who choose to study abroad. In honor of International Education Week, we embarked on the challenging task of sharing some of the experiences of the senior class's returned study abroad students in one page article. While each returned student could easily fill a book with his or her stories and pictures, this compilation briefly reflects some of the highlights of a few of those students' trips.

Photos courtesy of the respective students
"Popcorn Lung," an Insidious Threat

by Ben Remillard ’13
World Staff

DOMESTIC

If you have ever felt a debilitating weakness in your lungs after eating a bag of popcorn, then you may be suffering from a respiratory problem known as “popcorn lung,” where scar tissue and inflammation block the airways in your lungs. Chances are, however, that you needed to eat about two bags of popcorn a day for a decade to develop this problem. That is exactly what Wayne Watson did.

Watson was recently awarded $2.7 million for his exposure to diacetyl, the artificial flavoring used to give popcorn its buttery taste. Watson claims that on a good day he now only has “about 50% lung capacity.” ABC News reports that the condition is commonly found in workers at popcorn manufacturing plants, with workers dying or needing lung transplants because of the high amounts of diacetyl they were exposed to. ABC reports that workers recently settled a lawsuit in their favor, proving the risks of the chemical.

Among the companies sued were Glister-Mary Lee Corp., The Kroger Co., and Dillon Companies Inc. Watson claimed that companies never warned consumers that diacetyl was dangerous. Yahoo.com reports that the flavoring has also recently been linked to Alzheimer’s. Pop Secret and Orville Redenbacher, two titans in the popcorn world, have announced changes to their formulas as a result of the case.

The Cowl stopped by McPhail’s, Providence College’s best source of free popcorn, for some questions. Emily Hanoian, a senior who works at McPhail’s, informed us that the bar uses Orville Redenbacher, one of the brands that will be changing their formula due to the ruling. While they have used other “generic” brands of popcorn in the past, McPhail’s is “sticking with” Orville Redenbacher for the time being, after using it on and off last year. Hanoian told us that the bar uses about 16-20 bags of popcorn per day on average, and has been giving free popcorn since the bar opened in 2002, adding that free popcorn is “a McPhail’s staple.”

Having only worked at McPhail’s for about a semester, Hanoian said that she has not yet felt any negative effects due to her proximity to too much popcorn. She told us that she does not know of anyone who complained about popcorn lung-like symptoms while either working at or attending a McPhail’s sponsored event in the past. Although she was concerned over the newfound risks of too much popcorn, this selfless barkeep responded, “It’s more important that students have an ample supply of popcorn” than her own lungs become damaged. She added that the results show that popcorn is “safe in moderation,” “it’s delicious,” and that she has some “every shift.” While she does understand the danger she puts herself through at work, Hanoian will continue serving the PC student body all the popcorn they can eat. With Orville Redenbacher stating that they will be changing their formula within the next year, Hanoian stated that the new changes should make popcorn a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone once again.

Protests Erupt in India over Nuclear Plant

by Conor McGinley ’15
World Staff

INDIA

The Kudankulam Atomic Power Project is nearly operational, but it is far from being received with open arms.

The massive nuclear plant, located in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, will be able to produce two gigawatts of electric power, enough to power thousands of homes and businesses. However, it will also produce an immense amount of concern for the inhabitants of the surrounding area. With the horror that was the Fukushima nuclear disaster of Japan still fresh in their minds, the people of southern India fear the possibility of a safety failure, one that has the potential to affect nearly one million people.

The people opposed to the project refuse to sit idly by. Every day, thousands of people flocked to the rocky shore of the Bay of Bengal, and stand steadfast in the murky water as Kudankulam looms in the distance. With hands clasped, protesters form what has come to be called a “water strike.” Refusing to withdraw from the premises, they hold picket signs, look towards the sky, and say hopeful prayers. The majority of these protesters identify with a group known as The People’s Movement Against Nuclear Energy. Founded in 2003, this collection of Indians has dedicated years to stop the construction of Kudankulam and preserve the bay area that they call home.

Nuclear power has been a source of debate since its conception in the early 1940s. Undoubtedly, it has had its fair share of mishaps. From Chernobyl to Three Mile Island, history has given us reason to respect the damage that this energy can create. Yet despite the fears of “protesters,” there is no preventing the project’s completion. Recently, the National Disaster Management Authority declared that Kudankulam, along with the rest of nuclear plants in India, are completely safe. Although not enough to quell the fears of the local populace, this declaration from the NDMA brings a much-needed sense of security to the scientific community, and makes it certain that the plant will become fully functional without a hitch.

This project will undoubtedly supply much-needed energy to southern India as well as decrease the likelihood of devastating power cuts in the area. However, for many, nuclear energy is not the only option. Many members of the People’s Movement Against Nuclear will not stop fighting for the time being, after using it on and off last year. Hanoian told us that the bar uses about 16-20 bags of popcorn per day on average, and has been giving free popcorn since the bar opened in 2002, adding that free popcorn is “a McPhail’s staple.”

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Tech giants Apple and Samsung have been playing legal battleship in 10 countries for almost a year and a half, trying to “sink” each other’s tablet and phone sales. Until this week, despite Samsung’s promise to appeal the verdict, Apple had more reasons to celebrate the trial results since it was awarded over $1 billion in restitutions in the US on August 24, 2012. The jury stated that Samsung violated a number of Apple patents like “bounce back” scrolling and tapping to zoom. The deadlock on the tablet patent issues, however, was broken this Monday, October 1, with the US court decision to lift the temporary sales ban on Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1. As Reuters suggests, Samsung may benefit from the ruling in the near future when the holiday shopping season begins.

Besides the South Korean tech giant, Apple also has legal feuds with Motorola Mobility Holdings Inc. and HTC Corp., which, like Samsung, make phones running Google’s Android system. Observers often comment on those trials as “Google cases” or “Android wars.” If Apple has such an urge to attack Google’s Android operating system, why is it not suing Google directly? According to legal experts’ opinions expressed in The Wall Street Journal, “It is easier to prove damages against a company that sells devices to consumers, as opposed to Google, which gives handset makers Android for free.” In addition, Apple has a chance to offset one possible defeat with multiple gains by suing a number of hardware makers.

In the future Apple may end up weakening Android OS positions, but will get another contestant. The current legal developments may put the Windows Phone 8, which will be released before the end of 2012, into the spotlight. Microsoft developed an original mobile OS for it and should be able to defend it with solid patents. If it chooses to offer its OS to smartphone companies, they may prefer it to the Android OS challenged in the lawsuits. Meanwhile, Apple may choose another target for its legal attacks—Amazon.com with its Kindle Fire device running Android OS.

As the Apple-Samsung case persists for months, Richard Posner, one of the judges involved in the Apple-Samsung hearings, comments, “Judges have difficulty understanding modern technology and jurors have even greater difficulty.” Unfortunately, the US Trademark and Patent Office may have the same problems. The long-term court cases fought by the smartphone companies raise serious questions about the patent system and its efficiency.
Commentary

PC INSECURE: Wi-Fi Falls Students

by Jenn Giffin '14
Commentary Staff

We waste so much time waiting for the Wi-Fi to restart, we spend more time dawdling in our notebook than doing homework. When a few tired students trudge their way to the lounge on a Sunday night to finish homework, the last thing they need is the Internet connection to refuse to cooperate.

I’ll even give you the benefit of the doubt and assume you’re not a procrastinator because you’re sitting in the library bright and early on a Saturday morning, all your college papers spread out and a vanilla latte in hand. You open your computer to look up exactly what Hegel’s theory on antithesis, thesis, and synthesis is again, and you’re greeted by an exclamation point over the Internet signal. Don’t tell me you’re not frustrated.

Now what do you do while the Internet connection frolics in wonderland for a while and then, follows the yellow brick road a little ways? I find I often turn to my phone; text and check pointless posts on Facebook for 10 minutes until the Internet decides to rejoin me.

Work on another assignment while I wait, you say? Well let’s see. For Spanish I need the online dictionary, for Theology I need the online textbook, for Global Economy I need to stream the podcast and upload my post to Sakai, and... well, you get the idea.

Practically all of our assignments require at least some use of the Internet. Even plugging in an ethernet cable (which is available only in dorms) does not always work...

The first week of the semester I visited my freshman friend in her dorm, expecting to serve as an infinite loop of an upperclassman who would help her and her friends. The first question she asks me? How to connect to PC-Secure. And no, I couldn’t figure it out at my phone; text and check pointless posts on Facebook for 10 minutes until the Help Desk was able to quickly fix the problem. Cyla Kalinowski ’16 admits, but should it really be that much of a hassle? “It never made any sense to me,” she comments in regards to why the Internet posed such a problem when she first arrived at PC.

Nick Wallace ’14 also finds himself exasperated with the faulty Internet connection. “PC-Secure is inconsistent and annoyingly frustrating. It will work in my common room and then not in my bedroom. It freezes at the climax of every football game and is certainly not reliable enough to use when registering for classes,” he explains.

Other colleges don’t seem to have scared off their Internet connection quite as badly as we have. Nina Monestine, a junior at Boston University, comments, “I have PC’s campus. Kevin Giffin, a freshman at Babson College, comments, “I have Wi-Fi everywhere. Literally.”

The right to a secure and reliable Internet connection is not a basic human right, and I have no plans to petition the UN to include it in its Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As one of almost 4,000 undergraduate students at the College, I do think we are a large enough audience to ask for just a little better. If it is a money issue, I will politely direct one’s attention to the dark ethical shadow with which it is inseparably tied.

The College will not become a nationally recognized flagship of Catholic higher education in the United States until it widens its geographical reach to harvest the best and brightest from not just New England, but around the country. Early decision will disproportionately represent Northeastern applicants most familiar with PC. The College must exemplify Catholic social ethics in all it does. Can alumni donate to entirely good conscience to an institution that gives preferential treatment based on wealth instead of merit? Early decision is unfair, manipulative, and unbecoming. It betrays the mission and strategic plan. As Friars, may we put an end to it by fall of 2013.

Early Decision Betrays Mission of PC
The Program Privileges the Already Privileged

by Michael Hagan '15
Guest Commentary

Two weeks ago, Providence College announced its new early decision admissions program for prospective students of the Class of 2017. In a short write-up by Liz Kay for PC News, the program is praised for giving to “students who truly want to attend Providence College...an opportunity to show that and commit early.” Kay goes on to write enthusiastically about the competitive edge early decision applicants will have in the admissions process, “admission officials expect to accept a higher percentage of students who make the early decision commitment—up to 70 percent,” and that “even using conservative estimates...early decision could yield...nearly 18 percent of the incoming class.”

There exists, though, a darker story that PC News fails to report. There is a shameful reality about this new admissions program that the President’s Cabinet does not want you to know if, at best, overlooked, or, at worst, embraced. There are dangerous consequences that put the College at risk of stumbling in its climb to achieve regional, racial, and social diversity that the administration either is hiding from us, or fails to see. The new early decision program will grant a competitive advantage to wealthier applicants for whom enrollment at a first-choice institution is not contingent on total awarded financial aid.

The evidence of the College’s guilt of preferential treatment for the wealthy is not written into PC News, nor is it written into any initiative of the school’s strategic plan; instead, the writing is specifically on the walls paid for by a robust capital improvements budget. It is cut into meticulously trimmed lawns around campus. The words are spoken when Fr. Shanley, O.P. once explained to people that he wants to be in the same sentence with Notre Dame, Georgetown, and Holy Cross when people talk about really good Catholic schools. Providence College is pushing to move up in the higher education world. Our school offers far too dynamic of an academic, spiritual, and social experience to just lie in the shadow of South Bend and Chestnut Hill.

The guilt is not in this admirable and ambitious goal; it is in the means by which we are trying to move towards it. By adopting a program to help ensure that nearly a fifth of incoming students are affluent enough to commit to a school before considering the dollars and cents, it takes away acceptance letters from applicants who do not have the luxury of choosing another school.

The case is often made for the merit of early decision that schools use it to avoid dipping too far into their waiting list when some early action and regular decision accepted students inevitably choose another school. Yes, having to accept larger quantities of students and then having to pull large numbers from a waiting list just to fill spots does make a college appear less competitive, but early decision is by no means an ethical solution to this problem. Accepting binding applications merely manipulates statistics to shine a better light on the school. Is that faint light worth the dark ethical shadow with which it is inseparably tied?

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A PERSPECTIVE ON POLICY

by Genevieve Ilg '14
Commentary Editor

Kudos to Science Majors, Bio Department

Biology, chemistry, and biochemistry majors at Providence College have it the hardest. As freshmen, they are expected to take General Civ, calculus, and two science courses. They have approximately nine additional hours of class time per week for labs, which are taught in conjunction with the courses’ lectures. For the Class of 2016, biology, chemistry, and biochemistry majors have a 15-credit hour load, which is equivalent to the course load of an accelerated schedule in three credit courses (the standard). For the rest of the article, I will refer to the biology department, since my experience has been with that department, but note that students enrolling in other biology majors aren’t alone. By sitting among these students in Fr. Nic’s Introduction to Biology course for majors, BIO 103, I realized how admirable it is for a freshman to kick off his PC experience with the biology department—one of the strongest and most saturated departments at PC.

A few freshmen have approached me before and after lecture inquiring as to how they could thrive at PC. To have an upperclassman sitting near you could be intimidating; I am, by virtue of being in my third year, more seasoned and organized student. And after I answered their questions, I simply explained my predicament. I came into PC in my freshman year of high school, and it has been five years since I discussed amino acids, five-carbon sugars, and kinetics. Unlike me, there are students fresh out of high school that jumped right into research and are well ahead of the curve.

For the second year now, nearly 20 freshmen were invited to take the Phage Hunters course, a new, alternative biology lab to collect, isolate, and annotate the DNA of phage—viruses that feed off bacteria. Phage has the reputation for placing students in post-graduate programs at the country’s finest institutions (Brown Medical School seems to be a popular placement as two sophomores gained early admission to the school last semester), while also providing students with undergraduate research opportunities that take them from the laboratory to the international conference circuit. This is due in part to the College’s institutional affiliations and strength of its faculty. (For example, Dr. Pellock, O.P., and Fr. Nic, who are both teaching freshman biology, have earned their Ph.D.s from MIT. Dr. Perdue, a new adjunct instructor teaching a third section of BIO 103, got her doctorate from Cornell.)

The rigor of our program speaks to that. For example, an average accelerated bachelor’s of nursing degree program requires Anatomy and Physiology I and II. Microbiology, at most universities, requires one semester of General Biology in the first year of college. PC Microbiology and Anatomy and Physiology are all upper level courses in extremely high demand.

After having casual conversations with both students and faculty in the biology department, it is clear that PC is having a difficult time staffing the curricular demands of the students within the department. For example, my lab is a double lab, and we have to share our materials while conducting our experiments. Others tell me it’s nearly impossible to get registered for particular upper-level electives that are essential for core curriculum requirements. It is evident that the biology department is falling behind. I wish I could have met sooner in my career. We are pushed to the limit, and I doubt that adjustments will be made to accommodate its dedicated students.

The Department of Health Policy and Management (HPM) will always be my first love. I have gained an incredible amount of respect for the freshman biology majors that have possessed us for the last few weeks. Between lab, assignment deadlines, Phage Hunters for some, and with research opportunities and honor society inductions abound, I’m still amazed as to how they do it, and how my friends in the program have survived.

From Big Screen to Small Campus: Mean Girls Exist at PC

by Kaylee Miller ’13
Commentary Staff

CAMPUS

Please forgive me while I state the obvious: girls are mean. Whether it involves a boy, a friend group, or a crush, girls can get very nasty towards one another. And why? When you think about it, we are all thrown towards the media brainwashing and common goal mind: to get a great education, make great memories, and prepare ourselves for the real world. Yet, we concern ourselves far too much with the little things in life, ultimately breaking us ourselves and one another.

If any girl has gotten through a semester, let alone a month with dealing with some drama, I commend you because that feat seems almost impossible to me. Whether it be clothes, roommates, or plans for the weekend, there is always something that we are nitpicking at one another with. As I am preparing for graduation in the spring, I’m realizing I am sick of all of the constant drama. We don’t deserve to do this to ourselves, and we don’t deserve to do it to each other.

One example in particular comes from my own personal experience. If two girls in a group of friends get in an argument, it is likely that the rest of the group will feel obligated to side with one person or the other. Perhaps that is human nature, perhaps we are channeling our inner Darwinian selves to find that there is power in numbers and it is survival of the fittest. But that is not the way that we should let our emotions play out. When two people come into conflict, the group should be willing to help rather than preparing to add more fuel to the fire.

This is not just a cue I am taking from Mean Girls. As I mentioned above, as that movie is, this is something that I have come to find over my three years at PC. I have met and gotten to spend my time with, but there is also a good number of people that I have left touch with and feel very disappointed about. I can’t say that I hold a grudge against anyone, but I wish that many of these dramatic, negative, and pointless conflicts had never occurred. There have been adjustments to be made, and feelings of abandonment over the years that I ever would have wished to experience. But maybe this is the point of college after all: finding out who you are and who you want to spend your time with. I encourage everyone to gain a true sense of self and work towards meeting and spending time with the people who mean the most to you. There are so many people who I wish I could have met sooner in my college experience, and I am finding now that I might have been too afraid or too self-conscious to get involved with them. I wish I could have put time towards meeting them. Get to know your likes and dislikes, do not be manipulative or vindictive towards others, and always remain true to yourself.
COMMENTARY
October 4, 2012

To Achieve Human Potential, Speak Up in Class
by Beatriz Forster ’14
Commentary Staff

By starting with the phrase “sex is awesome,” Emily Corr again concedes that she is assuming that everyone understands their side of the issue and even stands with them. Unfortunately, she goes on to make the idea that sex is so great later with some narrow understandings of this intimate relationship between two people.

Corr assumes that nobody is having meaningful sex outside of marriage (“Because it’s so great, we should mean something.”). It seems that as an outsider to the world of intimate relationships, it is easier for her to be fostering the communication and comfort level needed for safe sex, good sex, and consensual sex. This isn’t to mention the fact that not all Americans are allowed to marry, which means that Corr has restricted them from the sacrosanctity of sex for a lifetime. Homosexuals have the same right to fulfill sex that heterosexual do, and to say otherwise is to condemn over four million Americans to a life barred from a certain level of deep and fulfilling intimacy with their partners.

Carr then mentions some of the risks of the birth control pill,kłading it as a “stalking” device. She points out my stats about the necessity of comprehensive sexual education and the improper part that the pill plays in many relationships. Unfortunately the Pill, like all medications, may have some negative side effects. For comparison, some of the side effects of ibuprofen as listed on WebMD are more severe in comparison with eye-sight, hearing problems, heart attack, abnormal heart rhythm, chronic kidney failure, etc. These side effects do not keep many of us from using ibuprofen because of the benefits like the Pill’s, outweigh the risks.

Instead of vilifying the Pill, we need to understand the many reasons why someone (both married and unmarried) may use it, beyond their basic peace of mind on the subject of pregnancy. Its applications are wider than simply birth control (though a woman or couple’s desire to use the Pill as a family planning device both within and outside of marriage should be respected). Much acne is the result of unsafe hormones—a problem solved by birth control. Birth control protects against sexually transmitted diseases, as noted by WebMD. The female orgasm and anatomy, how to say “no,” and positive body image are some of the side effects Corr mentions in the context of the Pill’s use. As noted by Corr’s article, birth control will be an important part of many women’s lives, and it is their right to know all the information.

Carr’s ignorance of these applications and benefits points to the problem that I mentioned two weeks ago: we need comprehensive sexual education. The Guttmacher Institute has found that 49% of Americans will have sex before marriage. It seems clear that our focus should not be on abstinence but on safety and the fostering of healthy relationships (from which everyone can have the committed, love-filled, respectful sex that Corr mentions only married couples can have). Just because a couple is having sex within a marriage does not mean that they are having fulfilling sex. Information on the female orgasm and anatomy, how to have safer sex, the value of learning how to say “no,” and positive body image are some precursors to a happy and healthy sex life.

Interestingly enough, Corr completes her article with an ironic admonition: “Don’t judge others, because you never know what storm they’ve been forced to walk through.” I would urge her to do the same. The assumption that abstinence is the best choice for everybody hints at deep judgment, simply displayed in her very next sentence: “People do choose to be sexually active are not immoral in any way, but that doesn’t mean that I am going to let them tread in those dangerous waters while I fully know there is another incredible option just waiting for them [emphasis my own].”

The Debate Continues: Sex and College Life
by Stelliana Chalkiadakis ’13

Guest Commentary

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Which PC professor would make the best US president?

“Dr. Hyde—he’s the man!”
Meryl Ertelt ’13

“Dr. Hyde—it is better to be feared than loved.”
Hannah Howroyd ’13

“Dr. Devine—he understands the American people.”
Josh Cuddy ’13

“Dr. Cammarano—because he’s my capstone professor (brownie points?)”
Gabriella Carbone ’13

“Dr. Reid—with age comes experience.”
Raymond Oliverio ’15

“Dr. Goodrich—because he’s the president of Faculty Senate (extra credit?)”
Vincent Golemme ’13

“Dr. Grzebien—he knows his stuff and is always smiling.”
Matt Iorio ’16 and Ryan Casey ’16
The newly elected officers and student representatives for the Class of 2016 will be sworn into Student Congress this upcoming week.

For the first presidential debate, the College Democrats, College Republicans, and BOP sponsored a “Road to the Future USA” event in McPhail’s on Wednesday night, showing a screening of *The Ides of March* before tuning into the first of three debates for the presidential election. There was also an absentee ballot and voter registration drive.

This past Tuesday, October 2, the International Student Organization held its International Meet and Greet Dessert Night as part of International Education Week, providing the campus community with the opportunity to enjoy cultural treats and play trivia games.

The College held a Legacy Admission Information Day this past Saturday, September 29, inviting the children and relatives of alumni to learn more about PC and the general college application process.

The Career Education Center held its annual Major/Minor Fair this past Wednesday, October 3, with representatives among students and faculty providing information for each of the College’s academic departments.

The College was introduced to Silent Disco this past Saturday night, in which headphones were provided for listeners to choose one of two DJs to tune into. The event was sponsored by BOP, BMSA, PC After Hours, Residence Life, and WDOM.
Once Upon a Time, there was this show. It has been almost a year since ABC's Once Upon a Time first aired. This past October, however, no one seemed to expect that the show would gain the following that it did. Perpetuated by the writers of Lost, television critics and watchers expected it to flop—how could anything live up to it? I watched the show's first episode with a similar mindset. After faithfully watching the first season of Lost for six years, I hoped that Once Upon a Time would be a fifth as good as its predecessor.

Well, the show huffed and puffed and blew my expectations away. I may be a Lost fan, but I am a kid at heart. The show appealed to the part of me that missed sitting down to watch The Wizard of Oz and The Sound of Music every Sunday night. For those of you unfamiliar with Once Upon A Time, it is a quick plot summary to bring you up to date.

The series is set primarily in a small town called Storybrooke. The residents of the town are far from ordinary. They are fairytale characters, forced from their world and cursed to live on Earth in stasis and amnesia for 28 years. That is, until a woman named Emma Swan shows up, lured by the son she gave up for adoption years before. Her son, Henry, tries to convince the skeptical Emma that the curse is real—and that she is the only person who can break it. As the first season progresses, it is revealed that Emma is the daughter of Snow White, and that Henry's adoptive mother Regina is actually the evil queen who laid the curse on the town. It may sound slightly unbelievable on paper, but the premise certainly works on screen. The show utilizes the flashback method made popular by Lost, paralleling the Earthly lives of the characters with relevant events from their lives in the fairytale world. The writers twist the source stories just enough to make them new and interesting, but they leave plenty of nostalgic tidbits and references to both classic Disney films and Lost.

I will try not to drop too many spoilers for those of you who have yet to watch it, but season one ended with a bang. Suffice it to say, magic was released into the “real world.” The premiere episode of the second season on Sunday was a pretty solid follow-up to that finale. We got to see tearful, joyful reunions between some of our favorite characters, as well as some not-so-friendly actions towards the “evil queen” Regina. We were also introduced to some new (yet familiar) characters, such as Sleeping Beauty, Prince Phillip, and Mulan. Swirling rumors suggest that more new faces will show up, including Captain Hook, Aladdin, and Scrooge McDuck.

If you have not already scourd the Internet for Once Upon a Time episodes before finishing this article, I strongly suggest that you do. It is a must-watch for both Disney and Lost fans. It blends strong female characters with lots of action to appeal to everyone. And, most importantly, it is a lot of fun.

Mumford & Sons: Babel

Last week, almost three years after the release of their first album, Sigh No More, Mumford & Sons released their sophomore album, Babel. The English folk rock band toured this past summer, stopping in Providence in early August. In anticipation of the release of their album, new music was showcased on their tour. Mumford seems to have decided not to stray far from its roots as a folk group, which is understandable, given their great commercial success since the release of their first album. Babel obviously had a lot to live up to, and, in my opinion, it did quite a good job of it. I have never played an instrument and could not carry a tune, but that being said, I think I have the band's musical formula down. With some exception, most of their songs start out slow, and sometimes soft, and rise into a grand, toe tapping, hand clapping crescendo. Not that there is anything wrong with having a formula, because if it is not broken, why try to fix it? Babel delivers 12 solid songs in the same vein as Sigh No More. My favorite song off the new album is “I Will Wait.” It has high energy and optimism, working its way into an enthusiastic refrain: “And I will wait, I will wait for you.” Other songs that caught my attention were the sentimental “Babel” and “Lover of the Light,” which advises the listener to “love the one you hold.”

Below, “The Boxer,” Mumford’s take on the Simon & Garfunkel song, and “Where Are You Now?” As my friend said, Babel is one of those albums you might have to listen to a few times in order to fully appreciate it. I have to say I agree. The subtle nuances of each song might not be clear on first listen, but with time, Babel is bound to become a standby favorite of many.

Don't Miss:

Babel: "Lover of the Light" "I Will Wait" "Not With Haste" "Holland Road"
PHOTOS COURTESY OF SMALLPOINTCAFE.COM

by Haley Webster ’14
A&E Staff

FEATURE

Just a quick walk up from Kennedy Plaza, Westminster is one of the hidden gems of the Downcity area. The road is flanked with old brick walkways and curtained by stringed lights that make the street glow each and every evening. The combination of small boutiques, historical buildings, and looming financial buildings make this pocket of downtown a wanderer’s paradise. Its location near Thayer Street, Kennedy Plaza, and the State House also make this spot key for people-watching.

Small Point Café

This little eatery is tucked among the mix of high-rise corporate buildings and quaint boutiques that encase Westminster Street. The cozy ambiance makes this coffee shop the perfect place to duck in for your favorite caffeinated beverage or a baked good that will most likely be as big as your head. If you are not into gorging like me, then you will still find Small Point the perfect place to fly through some reading, hammer out a paper, or just watch the characters that wander up this beautiful street. The tempting aroma of the fresh baked goods and roasted coffee will force you into settling down in one of the window seats. The prices are college-student affordable and are extremely reasonable for the high-quality (and fair trade) coffee that they are constantly brewing. If you go mid-day, be prepared to wait in a 10-15 minute line, but do not fear as the twisting line is well worth the wait. Try the pumpkin latte and you will not be disappointed.

Clove

Clove features a unique blend of casual and sophisticated menswear and womenswear that breaks the mold. You will not see these brands or quality at Providence Place. While some of their items are what some would call “investment” ($500 or a top), their jewelry and accessory selection makes Clove the perfect gift-buying destination. The store is spacious and stark white, providing a relaxing and refreshing shopping environment. If you can get past the prices, then Clove is the go-to for adding pieces to your fall wardrobe.

Symposium Books

Ever notice how there is not a big-name bookstore in dear old Prov? That is because Barnes and Noble just cannot compete with places like Symposium that offer a different type of experience for bibliophiles. You will not walk in and get flanked by a cardboard display of The Hunger Games, but you will find books on topics like the Kennedy Conspiracy and the best bike paths in Spain. Sort through the compact stacks of reasonably priced treasures, and you will surely leave with a few eye-openers to break up the monotony of your required course readings.
Move it, Move it with Motherland

by Sarah O’Brien ’15 Assistant A&E Editor

With Late Night Madness fast approaching, students are eagerly anticipating dance groups that will be performing. One of these is the annual BMSA versus BOP dance-off, as well as numbers from Dance Club and Dance Team, but this year there will be a new group taking the court. Meet the Motherland Dance Group, made up of about 30 members who celebrate the African culture through dance.

Though not yet an officially recognized club, the Motherland dancers have been meeting regularly to fulfill their goals for this year and to spread the word about their mission. They cite this undertaking to be “to build a community on campus that appreciates African culture, through social activities that engage students in issues of Africa and the African Diaspora.” Co-creators Jermoh Vainga Kamara ’15 and Precious Ansah ’15 expressed a feeling of nostalgia for the inclusion of cultural celebration throughout their high school years, and decided that they had to take advantage of a chance to establish this at PC.

“When I was in high school, we had international shows. I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I didn’t feel completely fulfilled. I’ve had international shows. I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I didn’t feel completely fulfilled. I’ve had international shows. I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I didn’t feel completely fulfilled. I’ve had international shows. I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I didn’t feel completely fulfilled. I’ve had international shows. I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I didn’t feel completely fulfilled. I’ve had international shows. I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I didn’t feel completely fulfilled. I’ve had international shows. I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I didn’t feel completely fulfilled. I’ve had international shows. I felt this was missing on campus, and last year I didn’t feel completely fulfilled. 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RED DOOR RENTALS

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didn't show up the next night. I said him even more. But it didn't. probably should have had me hating over DC comics. The ensuing debate me that he preferred Marvel comics cans of soda and casually informed one night he showed up with two space for the first week or so. Then his credit, he respected my need for invaded by a complete stranger. To and reflect, not to have my privacy to this playground to watch the stars on my nighttime aloneness. I came out I didn't like him at first, this interloper laughed and said he liked me already. Pick-up line I'd ever heard. He

sentence was probably the strangest dead by now.”

stars we're looking at are probably "hello" or "what are you doing out here so late?"

The first thing he said to me wasn't I'd never seen him there before. He was sitting on one of the swings. park as I often did when insomnia hit. couldn't sleep and had gone to the summer midnight. I, once again,

I actually missed him when he

It was this: “You know, a lot of the stars we’re looking at are probably dead by now.”

I told him point-blank that the sentence was probably the strangest pick-up line I'd ever heard. He laughed and said he liked me already. I didn't like him at first, this interloper on my nighttime loneliness. I came out to this playground to watch the stars and reflect, not to have my privacy invaded by a complete stranger. To his credit, he respected my need for space for the first week or so. Then one night he showed up with two cans of soda and casually informed me that he preferred Marvel comics over DC comics. The ensuing debate probably should have had me hating him even more. But it didn’t.

I actually missed him when he didn't show up the next night. I said so when he appeared again. The way he smiled, you'd think that I had just told him Santa Claus was real after all.

His name was Gabriel Teague. He was my age, with an obscene amount of freckles and hair so red it outshone the stars. That was its natural color, he claimed, and I believed him. Gabriel didn't have the patience for hair dyes. He didn't even have the patience to match his socks. "Who looks at your socks anyway?" he questioned. "Like, really stops to examine your socks and say, 'Hey, those don't match?'" I do, I retorted. I like socks."

"Well, you're weird, McGee." It didn't matter to him that my first name was Rachel; to Gabriel, I was always McGee. "The sort of weird that doesn't care if a man matches his socks or not. The world needs more people who don't care about the similarity of sock colors."

We shared notes on sleep deprivation, on bands we both liked. It was a nice friendship, uninterrupted by my usual frustration with humanity as a whole and with his apparent lack of friends aside from me. I started sleeping better after I met him, though I didn't let my newfound desire to actually lie down and rest cut into our nightly meetings. I wouldn’t have let anything do that.

For a while, I thought he was like me: plagued by insomnia and a fractured circadian rhythm. He’d never corrected me, probably because the truth was much more complicated. The only reason I found out was that he showed up one night wearing sunglasses, with a bandage on his hand from the blisters. He apologized for lying to me. “Deliberate withholding of the truth is still lying,” he said numbly. “Don’t try to argue otherwise, McGee.”

Gabriel called it vampire disorder, but the medically correct term was Xeroderma Pigmentosum. The inability of the DNA to rebuild itself after being exposed to UV light. He told me that he couldn't go outside during the day for extended periods of time, and he sometimes had to wear sunscreen indoors lest any of the light sources inside give off UV light. He told me that he'd already beaten off skin cancer once. He was 12 at the time. The growth had been caught early and removed, but there was always the fear in the back of his mind that one day it would come back. He didn’t tell me that most people who had the disease didn’t live past early adulthood. I figured that out on my own. “I mean, I know it could be worse,” he added. “A hell of a lot worse. I could be dead right now, yeah?”

"Yeah.

"And I can’t really say it’s been the worst experience. I have seen some damn nice meteor showers. And who hasn't wanted an excuse to become nocturnal?"

"I guess.

"And if I didn’t have it, I wouldn’t have met you."

The thought gave me some pause. "Am I really worth…?"

"Yeah. You really are, McGee."

I wasn’t sure how to respond at first. Fortunately, he kept talking. "Did you know there are places in the world where there's six months of darkness? It was one of the few times that Gabriel didn't make eye contact with me as he spoke. "The north and south poles. There's complete sunlight for the other six months. You could alternate between the two locations and never see the sun again. I wouldn’t have to worry about whether it’s safe to go out or not. I mean… it’d be colder than the deepest circle of hell, but I think it’d be worth it."

I nodded. "I’d go with you," I said. Gabriel was apparently stunned speechless at first. "You would?" he asked quietly.

"Yeah. I would."

It wasn’t quite an “I love you”, but for us, it was good enough.
A Twitch Upon the Thread
by Justin Fernandez '15
Portfolio Staff

We were born without vision. Our eyes never saw the New York Skyline Shining with bright hope from across the river. We never saw the great rise and fall Of the mountains of Galicia, That pave the forested path to Saint James. We never saw the great plantations That our grandfathers’ father, built on Foreign shores, in another time; in another place. We never saw the Atlantic’s waves Kiss the coast’s dusty lips with the passionate brush That carried us off to a new life; to a new world, Darkened with these unsatisfying illusions Of lust and longing that filled our lungs.

We were born into this world with The expectations of expecting Blind men and women to see. So instead, We now wander through cracks and crevices; Live in caves, and grope around in the dark for Vain direction. Misled, we wander into The nests of vipers and cobras, and fall to Their venomous fangs of lies and deceit, Buried deep within our feet, always pulling us down And filling our mouths with blood and dirt. But still we pick up and move forward; Connected by this line of thread sewn Into our bleeding hearts, we can feel your touch. So with a little twitch upon the thread, We get up and wander once again.

We were born without any vision; Immune to the illusion of reality, But victim to the touch of man; Destined to a search for something more Than blind meanderings in the dark, Like a rolling stream through the mountains, Passing ‘round and around the sides Before finally reaching the bottom. And so, at the bottom of the viper’s den, We grab hold of this long thread sewn deep Into our hearts, and follow the great pulls And slight tremors, until at last we see the end.

Story
by Elizabeth O’Neill ’16
Portfolio Staff

I am not what I do or what I have done. I am not my past, I am not my present. I am a story. I am a story tattooed upon my arms, over bruises and scars, a story etched across my face over yesterday’s smudged makeup, a story sewn into my skin over pale flesh. I am a million words, I am a million pictures, I am a million melodies, I am a million tragedies, a million tears, a million mistakes, a million heartbreaks. I am a story.
Dear Tiffany and Earl,

I’ve made some really good friends at PC so far. But all of them keep talking about how excited they are to catch up with their high school friends over Columbus Day weekend. I don’t have friends from high school, and I’m afraid my new college friends will forget me when hanging out with their old BFFs. Do they not treasure our blossoming friendship like I do? How do I make sure I don’t lose them?

Yours truly,
Paranoid Patty

This Week: Fearing for my Friends

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

I’ve made some really good friends at PC so far. But all of them keep talking about how excited they are to catch up with their high school friends over Columbus Day weekend. I don’t have friends from high school, and I’m afraid my new college friends will forget me when hanging out with their old BFFs. Do they not treasure our blossoming friendship like I do? How do I make sure I don’t lose them?

Yours truly,
Paranoid Patty

Tiffany & Earl

Making PC an emotionally stable place one letter at a time

Dear Wallflower,

I think if you are so ineffectual that your friends will forget you when they don’t see you for three days, you simply aren’t large enough. Think about it. Right now, you have no distinguishing characteristics. If you work out and bulk up, you’d become “that girl with the amazing musculature.” Soon after, you leverage that into “that hot girl with the enormous muscles.” Then “that striking paragon of beauty” and finally “That Being Which Is Before All Else, Supporter of the Dome of the Sky, Atlas, She Who Endures and Surpasses, the Rock of Ages.” It’s pretty cool, and you can totally put your deadlift on your resume. “Hello, future employer. Did you know I can smash your desk to smithereens with my finger? Ask me about my deltoid measurements!” Instant popularity.

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- Expert Execution

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- Quarter Page: 8"x5" - $100.00
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All local and on-campus full page advertisements receive a complementary tweet from The Cowl’s twitter, @thecowl.

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**Publication Dates**

**Fall**

- September 6
- September 13
- September 20
- September 27
- October 4
- October 11
- October 18
- October 25
- November 1
- November 8
- November 15
- November 22
- November 29

**Spring**

- January 31
- February 7
- February 14
- February 21
- March 7
- March 14
- March 21
- April 4
- April 11
- April 18
- April 25
- May 2

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**Payment Method**

Payments are only acceptable in cash or check. They must be delivered by mail or in person to Richard Kless (Providence College, Slavin Center 116A, Providence, RI 02918) by the due date. Make sure to discuss these options with your assigned Business Associate. Checks must be made payable to “The Cowl, Providence College”. A PDF of the newspaper will also be available on our website for your convenience.

**Graphics**

All advertisements/graphics should be sent to your personal Business Associate by 5:00pm on the Tuesday before the publication date. Advertisements should be in PDF, JPEG, or PSD and should not contain color (for best quality, we recommend PSD). We print on 11x17 paper (tabloid). Please measure your graphic accordingly to avoid distortion. We do not make graphics.

**Contact Method**

Contact the Editor, Associate Editor, or Managing Editor if you have any questions or issues. The most efficient way to resolve any issues is to contact your personal Business Associate. If you are not a current client, e-mail either the Managing Editor, Editor-in-Chief, or Associate Editor-in-Chief. If you are a prospective on-campus client, please contact our On-Campus Business Associate. If you are a national advertisement agency, please contact the Managing Editor. Note: local ad rates apply to local, privately owned businesses only. All national advertisement agencies pay national ad rates, even for local accounts.
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The Cowl boasts six writing sections—News, World, Commentary, Arts & Entertainment, Portfolio, and Sports. Each section aims to serve the Providence College community in its unique way, from reporting to entertaining to creating dialogue. Our issues, available on news stands throughout campus and online at www.thecowl.com, are released on Thursdays.

Disagree With Us

The Commentary section is an outlet for students to voice their opinions. Our Commentary staff weekly tells us what they think, but The Cowl is also here to hear what you think. We encourage responses to pieces found in The Cowl through Letters to the Editor and independent opinion pieces through Guest Commentaries.

Join Us

The Cowl was founded 76 years ago and today is one of the largest organizations on campus, boasting a collective staff of 100+. We would love for you to become part of us. In addition to our writing sections, The Cowl has business, advertising, photography, and copy editing staffs. All staffs are seeking new talent; applications can be picked up in the new Cowl office in Lower Level Alumni, room LL06.

…See you on Thursday!
Who Will Win the NL CY Young Award This Season?

R.A. Dickey

Besides Johan Santana throwing the franchise's first no-hitter back in June, Mets fans have not had much to celebrate in a while. R.A. Dickey intends to change that. The CY Young Award is the highest pitching award one could receive, and Dickey appears to be leading the race. The last Met to win the award was legend Dwight Gooden in 1985. The CY Young winner is rarely a guaranteed choice. With the likes of Gio Gonzalez, Matt Cain, and Johnny Cueto, this race will be no different. However, the stats do not lie; R.A. Dickey should win the NL CY Young this year.

Dickey is the clear favorite for CY innings pitched. Dickey is also second in the league roughly 28% of the Mets victories. In fact, Dickey is responsible for is the exact same case of "King" but when that pitcher is on the that wins do not mean anything, the entire league at 20. Every he has the second most wins in As if you need any more evidence, strikeouts in the National League. With all things considered, R.A. Dickey is among the top three in ERA, WHIP, and has the most strikeouts in the National League. As if you need any more evidence, he has the second most wins in the entire league at 20. Every knowledgeable fan can tell you that wins do not mean anything, but when that pitcher is on the Mets, it means a great deal. This is the exact same case of "King" Felix Hernandez who won it in 2010 with a measly record of 13-12. In fact, Dickey is responsible for roughly 28% of the Mets victories. Dickey is also second in the league in innings pitched.

With all things considered, R.A. Dickey is the clear favorite for CY Young, Mets fans rejoice.

Craig Kimbrel

Many argue that the CY Young should be awarded to starting pitchers only. However, this year an exception should be made due to the fact that one closer is having a year yet to be seen by anybody. No, this closer is not fireballer Aroldis Chapman of the Cincinnati Reds; this closer is Craig Kimbrel of the Atlanta Braves. With a fastball in the high 90s and an unhittable slider, he is on his way to equaling the success of closing greats Mariano Rivera and Trevor Hoffman. Kimbrel, while pitching a miniscule ERA of 1.02, has struck out almost half the batters he has faced this year, leading to his astonishing strikeouts per nine innings rate of 16.5. No pitcher has ever come close to striking out the percentage of batters that Kimbrel has, not to mention that Kimbrel’s batting average against .123 is the lowest ever by any pitcher with a minimum of 50 innings pitched. One final stat that should sway voters is that Kimbrel’s WHIP is a ridiculously low 0.65, meaning he lets roughly one runner on base every two innings. He has only blown three saves this season, making him one of the most reliable and most shutdown closers not only in recent memory, but in major league history.

To paraphrase ESPN baseball analyst Jayson Stark, R.A. Dickey, Clayton Kershaw, Gio Gonzalez, and even Chapman are having great seasons, but none of them can be characterized as "unparalleled" or "historic." These two words are just the words to describe Kimbrel’s season, and two reasons why he should be the NL CY Young winner for 2012.

-James Kirby ’15

In the Spotlight

Men's Soccer: Soccer’s struggles continued this week, as the Friars dropped a tough match against nationally ranked Marquette. The team will look to regroup on the road, with a match set against Columbia for Saturday.

Women's Soccer: The women entered the week on their first losing streak of their season. The Friars finished the week with a 1-1 record, dropping a tough match at Georgetown 1-0. The team rebounded nicely, with a clutch win against DePaul 1-0. Freshman Lauren Elia ’16 netted the lone goal for the Friars, who square off against Marquette Friday at 3 p.m. at Glay Field. The week continues with a match against USF at 1 p.m. on Sunday, in what will be the last game at Glay Field.

Field Hockey: PC had a tough week, losing both of their games. It started with a 4-2 loss against number five UCinn. Then PC had to turn around and square off against Dartmouth at home. This affair unfortunately ended with a 3-1 loss for PC. The Friars will look to rebound against Syracuse Saturday at noon at home, before traveling on Monday for a game against Vermont.


In the News

Running the Good Race: On Saturday, Liam Sullivan '15 and Dean Sears finished first and second in a 5K memorial race in Providence. The race was in honor of Steven K. Latimer, a young man who died in a shooting in Providence. This race was to raise awareness of the violence which takes place in Rhode Island. Sullivan, a member of Student Congress, was one of eight Friars to run in this race.

Quick to the Podium: Sarah Collins ’16 has added hardware to her dorm with a 3-1 loss for PC. The Friars will look to rebound against Syracuse Saturday at noon at home, before traveling on Monday for a game against Vermont.


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Cross Country is Worth the Second Look

by Bridget Stack ’13
Sports Editor

Repeat After Me: Cross country is worth a second look. In actuality, it is worth the first glance. The Providence College Track and Field and Cross Country teams are the best on campus. Want to argue with me? Just look at the facts: every year, both the men’s and women’s teams make the Big East Tournament—if only we could say it was a surprise. Also, runners from both teams consistently make the NCAA tournament. It is easily the most successful team in the history of Providence College. There is more than enough proof of this. Three former Friars made the Olympics. The Olympics—the highest level of sporting competition that exists. There is even a current Friar, Emily Sisson ’14, who competed in these past Olympic Trials. What other sport can boast that fact?

Cross country comprises runners from multiple countries: Australia, Ireland, and New Zealand. These runners find their way to Providence College, compete versus the best runners that are currently enrolled in college, and win. People may argue that cross country is not a sport, that it is only running. In fact, that is the opposite of the truth. The women’s cross country team has members that run a five kilometer race—slightly over three miles—in just over 17 minutes. To break that down for you, that is around a 5-minute mile. The leader on the men’s squad completed the eight-kilometer race in a little over 24 minutes. That is a just under a five mile race, with the pace being 5:27. Let’s see any other athlete do that. Running may not be the most glamorous sport, nor is it one that is often spotlighted, but Providence College should be proud to boast some of the best runners in the world at the collegiate level. So, once again, repeat after me: cross country is worth a second look.

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The Providence College Men’s Hockey Team introduced a new player on Sept. 20. This newly “drafted” Kevin Rich, a seven-year-old boy from Mansfield, Mass., has struggled with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and other illnesses throughout his childhood.

Team Impact is a non-profit organization that carefully matches children facing life-threatening diseases with college sports teams. This program allows a child to form new friendships and create a positive environment for moral support during his or her recovery. Currently, Impact has over 3,000 participants including children, families, student-athletes, and coaches in the northeastern area. On this special afternoon, Rich was warmly welcomed into his new Friar family at Schneider Arena. At the induction ceremony, captains Tim Schaller ’13, Kyle Murphy ’13, and Myles Harvey ’13 presented Rich with an official PC team jersey, complete with his favorite number, 17, on the back. Once he was officially a member of the team, Rich’s fellow Friars proceeded to show their new teammate around Schneider Arena and the players’ locker room.

As the season progresses, this new teammate will continue to make a impact on the team, not on the ice, but off. The relationship between Rich and his new teammates is two-fold: Rich will teach the team what perseverance and strength are, while the team will show Rich what it is like to be a member of a winning team.

Head Coach Nate Leaman explains that the team first became aware of Team Impact during the final regular season game against the UMass Lowell River Hawks. On this day, the Friars were moved by a young boy named Nick, who was present outside of their locker room and performed a ceremonial puck-drop before the game. The Friars saw this child every time they saw the River Hawks, and upon investigation, learned that the Providence College Women’s Soccer Team had adopted a child named Julia Castagna through the program at Team Impact.

After the season, Coach Leaman got in contact with Jay Calnan, the CEO of Team Impact, in order to help the Friars become involved in this organization. In August, Team Impact contacted the men’s team and announced that a hockey enthusiast and grandson of an alumnus would be a fantastic match for the Friars. Nine players were selected to be a part of a leadership group that would specifically aim to make Rich feel as welcome as possible to the Friars.

Before this meeting, the team learned about Rich’s struggles with illnesses, especially his battle with leukemia, which is the most common form of cancer discovered in kids. In addition to cancer, Rich also experienced two bouts of pancreatitis and four months of vocal cord paralysis. This brave young boy was diagnosed with leukemia in Sept. 2009 and endured a two-month stay in the hospital. He lost 10 pounds in 10 days at one point because he was unable to eat or drink anything. After he returned home, Rich was required to meet with doctors and undergo steroid, antibiotic, and chemotherapy treatments.

Today, Rich’s prognosis remains positive as he continues to grow stronger and transition back into a normal life filled with school and sports. This season, the men’s hockey team looks forward to creating a deeper friendship with Rich. Coach Leaman explains, “We want Rich to be involved as much as possible. The team can learn as much from Rich as Rich can learn from us.” Rich’s presence at team events will continue to touch each the players that they should appreciate their health and hockey careers.