

THE COWL



Vol. LXXIII thecowl · thecowl.com

Providence College

March 20, 2014

THE TASTE OF VICTORY



by James Kirby '15
Sports Staff

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ten long years have passed since the Providence College Friars have gone to the Big Dance. Twenty years have gone by since the Friars were Big East Tournament Champions. In Ed Cooley's seven-year career as a head coach (first five being with Fairfield University) he has yet to get a taste of the NCAA Tournament. All three streaks came to an abrupt and joyful end when the Friars took down Creighton University on March 15 to win their second ever Big East Championship title and thus solidifying a place in the coveted field of 68 of the NCAA Tournament with an automatic bid.

"It is just a vindicating feeling to know the Providence Friars are Big East Champions. This is something that our school and our city hasn't seen in a long time so for us to finally bring this home is top of the list," said an elated Bryce Cotton '14, who was selected as the MVP of the tournament. The feat of winning three games in three straight days is more impressive considering the team essentially has a six-man rotation. Four Friars, Cotton, LaDontae Henton '15, Josh Fortune '16, and Tyler Harris '16, played every minute of the title game.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

DR. TEMPLE GRANDIN NAMED AS 2014 CLASS COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

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Miss America Reigns Supreme at PC

by Meaghan Dodson '17
News Staff

CAMPUS EVENTS

On Tuesday, March 18, 2014 the "PC Presents: Miss America 2014 Lecture" was held at 5:30 p.m. in Slavin's '64 Hall. Nina Davuluri, the 2014 winner of the pageant, visited Providence College and brought with her a completely different perspective of what it means to be crowned "Miss America."

The event began with an opening speech by Victoria Cuartas '15, who recently won the title of "Miss Providence College" through the Miss RI America Scholarship Program. Cuartas is a first-generation American citizen whose parents immigrated from Colombia and Venezuela, and in the competition she promoted a platform of "Immigration Assimilation: the Rhode to the American Dream." Cuartas emphasized that culture is a source of unity—not division—and she praised the evening as being a "magnificent

celebration of diversity."

After Cuartas's speech, Davuluri ascended the podium. She began by posing a question to the audience: What do you first think of when you hear of the Miss America Pageant? While many people associate the pageant with high heels and swim suits, Davuluri explained that the Miss America Organization is actually built upon four pillars of style, service, scholarship, and success. She attested that even though the style portion is the one aired on television, the other three pillars are what truly define the organization.

In terms of service, Miss America is a businesswoman who is responsible for networking with various organizations. Davuluri is the National Goodwill Ambassador for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, works with women in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program, and collaborates with the Department of Education. Davuluri emphasized that her role as Miss America is first and foremost a job.

Regarding scholarship, the nonprofit organization gives out

\$45 million each year to finance women's education. Davuluri personally received approximately \$92,000 throughout her career. She used some of this money to finance her education at the University of Michigan (from which she received a degree in brain behavior and cognitive science) and plans to use the rest to support her graduate studies.

Finally, the 24-year-old achieved success when she became the first Indian woman to win the title of Miss America. In the competition itself, she performed a classic Indian dance fused with elements of Bollywood moves—even though people said Bollywood would "never win." She affirmed that it was important for her to represent her heritage, and she asserted that it was time for the pageant to reach out to a new demographic of American women.

Davuluri has struggled to come to terms with her identity as an Indian-American. She spoke about how she grew up in a conservative town in Oklahoma where people would often ask questions such as "Will you have an arranged marriage?" out of ignorance. She admitted that college

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UNDER THE HOOD Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

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A&E

Kealy Robertson '16 ranks St. Patrick's Day parades around the country. Who did it better? New York, Chicago, or Boston?

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Portfolio

Portfolio welcomes new writer Ariana Pasquantonio '16. Check out her first poem, "414 Saint-Sulpice."

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NEWS

Students Serve over Spring Break

by Kathleen McGinty '16
Asst. News Editor

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

One hundred forty Providence College students traveled across the eastern portion of the United States last week as part of the College's annual Habitat for Humanity spring break service trips. With an applicant pool of approximately 200 students, demand for this year's trips remained relatively consistent with last year's 220 student participants, but about 60 were turned away from the week of service due to insufficient funding.

"We had to scale back the numbers due to a lack of funding," said Heidi Fraitzl '14, the president of the PC chapter of the Habitat for Humanity executive board. "We had to do it by a lottery system, unfortunately."

According to Fraitzl, these spring break trips receive funding in part from fundraisers, such as the "Great Grilled Cheese Event" hosted this past fall by the PC chapter of Habitat for Humanity, and by a \$200 fee charged to students who participate. The Office of Mission and Ministry and Campus Ministry subsidize the remaining cost of the service trips not covered by fundraising or student fees.

Fraitzl expressed her struggle with and the difficulty of seeing students willing to spend their week off engaged in service turned away. However, she

stated that the lottery system appeared the only fair way to select participants.

The College typically sends 110 students on Habitat for Humanity trips over spring break, with last year's jump to 220 students amounting to the largest collegiate group serving the organization.

Despite this year's curbed participation, students appeared to enjoy their week building homes.

"It was a really good trip," said Fraitzl, who traveled to Pittsburgh, Pa. with her group last week. "I didn't hear of anybody who had a bad time. It's a great cause to be involved with."

The Habitat for Humanity spring break trips, largely organized by students on the PC chapter's executive board, including Fraitzl, Laila Etefagh '14, Casey Gemas '14, Meagan Sullivan '14, Nick Ackerman '15, Bryan McNamara '15, Emily Reers '15, Anna Vecchi '15, Griffin Young '15, and Emmy DiRenzo '16 with oversight and assistance from Father Justin Brophy, O.P., sent nine groups to work on homebuilding.

These groups, comprised of 10 to 15 students each, scattered across Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania for the week to help Habitat for Humanity in achieving its mission of eliminating substandard housing. Fraitzl noted that the international, nonprofit organization views housing as a human right, and according to its website, it has built or repaired 800,000 houses and served more than four million people around

the world.

Last week, Fraitzl and her group were involved in demolition work, flooring, dry walling, and painting to rehab a home and make its living conditions more suitable for an incoming family. Other groups in different locations worked from the ground up, building an entirely new home.

According to Fraitzl, the fate of next year's Habitat for Humanity remains largely unknown and rests on both the PC chapter's fundraising efforts and

the administration's budget.

"Hopefully we'll be able to send more [next year]," she said. "We're going to try, but we can't guarantee anything."

The PC chapter of Habitat for Humanity is already looking toward next year as it hosts a basketball tournament next Saturday, March 29 to raise money for future spring break service trips.

Fraitzl encourages any students who did not get into a Habitat for Humanity trip to reapply next year.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF COASTAL FAIRFIELD COUNTY FACEBOOK PAGE

Students participated in service projects like building houses and rehabbing existing homes.

America:

Continued from front page

was the first time she was immersed in Indian culture, and it was there that she became actively involved in her sorority, student government, and Indian-American organizations.

Having been crowned Miss America, Davuluri now lives a "whirlwind" lifestyle. She travels 20,000 miles a month and stays in no place longer than 48 hours. She does everything from talking with Congress members and senators to flipping pancakes at local IHOPs; from posing for photo shoots to meeting with President Obama himself. She mused that she is no longer a shy, young girl but has grown into a woman who can approach any situation with confidence and grace.

Davuluri divulged that she has been the target of some racial backlash. Immediately after her win, some people used social media pages to accuse her of being a terrorist, while others upbraided her for not doing more to represent the Indian-American community.

Nevertheless, Davuluri embraces her role as a businesswoman and always strives to present herself from a scholastic standpoint. Her attire for the lecture testified to this assertion as she was dressed in a blazer and dress pants, with her hair in a bun and very natural-looking makeup.

When a member of the audience asked if she ever feels objectified as a woman, Davuluri responded that she fully embraces her femininity. When talking with congressmen and senators, Davuluri stated, she has the advantage of immediately capturing their attention and directing it towards important issues she is addressing.

Two attendees of the lecture, Nicole Lipari '14 and Hayley Brown '14, agreed, "Being Miss America seems like a very challenging job because you're always on the go and need

to have full composure 24/7. It's extremely admirable that Nina has overcome so many obstacles to get to where she is today."

Davuluri also commented upon the very subjective nature of beauty, saying that true beauty starts from within and is realized through maturity and the support of family and friends.

When asked about how PC can promote diversity, Davuluri suggested to begin by reaching out to the leaders of various organizations on campus because they have the ability and drive

to inspire the students.

The entire event was sponsored by BMSA, Student Congress, BOP, SMA, Student Affairs, and Residence Life. After the lecture, Cuartas reflected, "Miss America's visit to PC was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I am so proud that the BMSA diversity committee were able to make this historical event possible for PC and Rhode Island, especially since Miss America's message complemented the committee's commitment to diversity."



JESSICA HO '14 / THE COWL

Nina Davuluri shares her path to becoming Miss America 2014 and her experiences thus far.

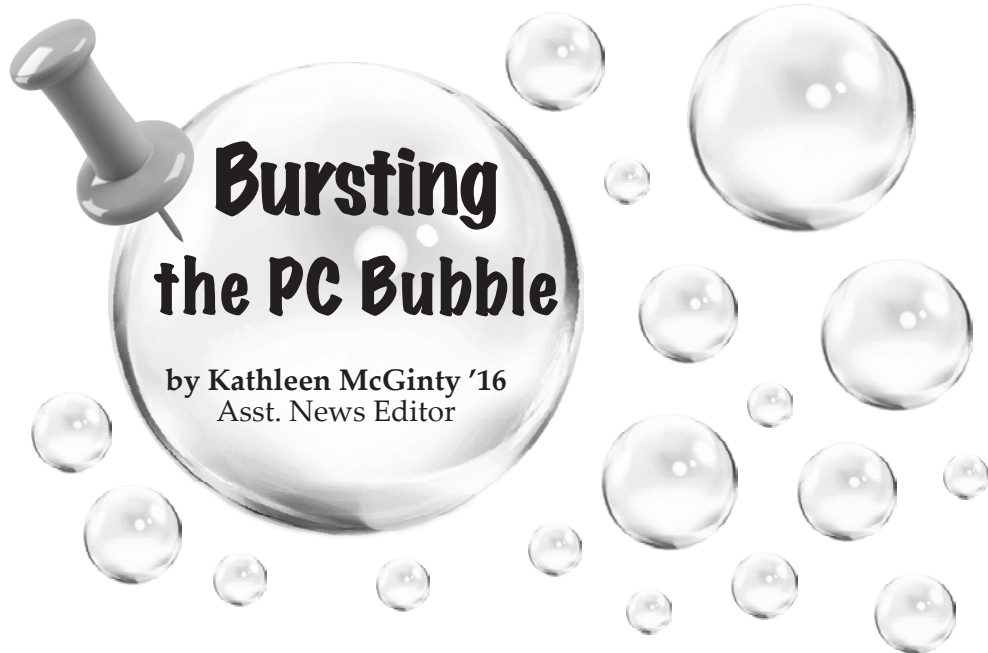


Updates:

Semester Delivery Total:
1,520 lbs.

Week Delivery Total:
144 lbs.

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Bursting the PC Bubble

by Kathleen McGinty '16
Asst. News Editor

U.S. Searches for Missing Malaysian Jet

The White House announced this past Wednesday, March 19 that the FBI is now working in tangent with the Malaysian government to help search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, the flight headed toward Beijing that disappeared midflight on March 8 with 239 passengers on board. Twenty-six countries have now joined the Malaysian government's efforts to locate the jet. The cause of the plane's disappearance still remains unknown, but new developments indicate that the captain, Zaharie Ahmad Shah, owned a flight simulator in his home from which data was deleted in early February. The FBI is believed to be investigating the simulator.

Kindergartens in China Drug Students

Earlier this week, kindergartens in three of China's provinces confronted accusations of doling out prescription drugs to their young students in an effort to increase attendance. Parents, unaware of the schools' decision to do so, are now seeking medical treatment for nearly 2,000 students with side effects from the drugs including dizziness and various aches and pains. The accused kindergarten schools receive compensation based on students' attendance rates.

Sanctions Imposed on Ukraine and Russia

After Russian President Vladimir Putin's signing of a treaty to annex Crimea, the U.S. and the E.U. imposed sanctions on select Ukrainian and Russian officials. Nearly 96 percent of voters in Crimea cast ballots in favor of a referendum to join with Russia. The peacefulness of the takeover remains in doubt as a soldier was killed Tuesday on a Crimean base being surrounded by Russians and Crimeans supporting Russia. The White House plans to impose further sanctions.

Revived British Coin to Circulate in 2017

The United Kingdom's Royal Mint plans to unveil a new £1 coin in 2017 in an effort to combat the prevalence of counterfeit coins, believed to account for three percent of existing £1 coins. The coin is expected to be roughly the same size as the existing one, with the Queen's head on the back. The design on the front of the coin will be determined by the public. According to BBC, Chancellor George Osborne believes that this new £1 coin, one of the oldest circulating coins, symbolizes the advent of "A more resilient pound for a more resilient economy."

Holi: A Festival of Colors

While a sea of green covered campus this past Monday, March 17 in celebration of St. Patrick's Day, some celebrated the Hindu Festival of Colors, also known as Holi. The holiday marks the end of the winter and the beginning of spring, and celebrations include throwing colored powder and liquid on one another to create a rainbow of colors. Holi celebrations and meaning are believed to have evolved since the ancient festivals held in India, with rituals performed by married women to ensure the well-being of their families.

Congress Updates

by Kathleen McGinty '16
Asst. News Editor

STUDENT CONGRESS

Student Life revealed that they are working to get puppies to bring to campus during finals week.

Academics discussed their work on a theology course integrated with service learning.

Legislative Affairs announced that executive election nominations are occurring this week. Elections will occur next Tuesday, March 25 and Wednesday, March 26 on Sakai.

Members of Congress voted to recognize the Anscombe Society under SCB: 64-09. The club, which was put on probation last year due to issues with financial forms, has recovered since. Treasurer Mary Alice Sallah '14 noted that the club has been great through the whole probation process.

Commencement Speaker Revealed

by Andres Taborda '15
News Editor

COMMENCEMENT

With commencement ceremonies less than two months away, College officials and the Commencement Core are slowly releasing details for the Class of 2014's festivities. On Wednesday, *The Cowl*, per tradition, was able to break the news regarding this year's commencement speaker. Dr. Temple Grandin, an autism awareness advocate and best-selling author, will join the Class of 2014 at the Dunkin' Donuts Center on May 18 to deliver her speech and receive an honorary doctorate in science.

According to a press release by the College, Grandin is also a leading innovator in the livestock industry and an engineer.

Grandin was born in Boston and was diagnosed with autism. At the time, autism was considered a form of brain damage.

With extensive speech therapy, Grandin began to speak at the age of four.

Throughout her childhood, Grandin was teased as she struggled with her speech. However, this did not stop her from achieving several academic accomplishments. She earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Franklin Pierce College in 1970, a master's degree in animal science from Arizona State University in 1975, and

in 1989 received a doctoral degree in animal science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Grandin, a current professor of animal science at Colorado State University, has used her experiences with autism in her quest to further develop the livestock industry.

In 2010, *TIME Magazine* named Grandin as one of the "100 Most Influential People in the World." She has also been featured in multiple print publications as well as the major television networks and cable news networks.

Grandin's life story was the focus of an HBO documentary, *Temple Grandin*. The film was well-received and won seven Emmy awards and Golden Globe.

Aside from over 400 articles published, Grandin has authored two *New York Times* bestsellers: *Animals in Translation* and *Animals Make Us Human*.

Joining Grandin to receive honorary degrees are The Honorable Francis J. Darigan, Jr. '64, who will be receiving an honorary doctorate in laws, Raymond Murphy, who will receive an honorary bachelor of arts degree, Sister Margaret Ormond, O.P., who will receive a doctorate in religious education, and Carolyn Rafaelian, creator and acting CEO of Alex and Ani, who will receive an honorary doctorate in humanities.

Providence College Student Congress meets every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in Ruane LLOS. Meetings are open to the public!

Executive Elections

Congress



Abigail Hevert
Secretary

I, Abigail Hevert, intend on running for the position of the 65th Student Congress Executive Secretary. Although I am not present on campus to campaign, as I am currently studying abroad, I have assembled an incredible team to do so on my behalf. It would be one of the greatest privileges of my college career to serve the community of Providence College in an organization in which I so firmly believe: the Providence College Student Congress. As a member of Student Congress since my sophomore year, I have been able to help pass key pieces of legislation, such as one that offers SHEPARD Safe Space training to faculty and staff as well as a piece about the creation of a poster campaign about sexual assault awareness. Further, my three consecutive years as an Orientation Leader would prove to help me understand the entire scope of the PC community, including our wonderful freshmen. My work with Project SAVE (Sexual Assault Violence Education), as well as my continued education as a social work major would also allow me to bring a keen social awareness to the 65th Student Congress as we try to better ourselves, as students, and our college.

Zak Harvey
Treasurer

Progress and tradition. The idea of tradition is one in which Providence is founded upon. Our school has a rich lineage of alumni, athletics, and organizations. Though it may seem different, the idea of progress is intertwined with tradition. Though tradition may lie in our past, we are looking for progress in the future. Both progress and tradition are contributing factors to my decision to run for Executive Treasurer of Student Congress. For those of you who don't know me, I am a sophomore from Castleton, Vt. double majoring in economics and political science. I served as the Class of 2016's president last year, and currently sit on the Outreach Committee. My qualifications to be treasurer lie in my experience as a class executive, but also outside the classroom. Last summer I interned with a wealth management firm. Due to my understanding of the finance industry and the allocation of funds, I have been offered an internship with NASDAQ this upcoming summer. This race, however, is based on much more than qualifications. This race is about a vision. A vision of Providence College where Student Congress can effectively allocate student funds, make sure clubs are passed to appeal to all students, and budgets are balanced. As Executive Treasurer of Student Congress I look forward to serving students from every class to promote an even stronger and more cohesive student body.



Ally Rohmann
Treasurer

My name is Ally Rohmann and I'm running for Executive Treasurer of the 65th Student Congress. I have been involved with Student Congress for three years on the Committee on Clubs and Organizations, and am currently serving as the Chairperson. Throughout my experience I have worked with students of all grades and backgrounds, faculty, and the administration to establish new clubs on campus, regulate the actions of current clubs, and implement legislation to help expedite and simplify club processes. I am also currently on the Student Congress Finance Committee, which reviews club budgets annually and allocates the Student Activity Fund. With a strong finance background and understanding of the allocations process, along with the relationships I have established with clubs across campus, I believe that my leadership skills are tailored to this position. I have dedicated my time to Providence College, working to improve the campus to be the best it can be, and I would be honored to take this next step to a greater leadership position. Please vote Ally Rohmann for Executive Treasurer on March 25 and 26.



Bobby Arruda
President

My name is Bobby Arruda, and I am asking for your vote to be Executive President of the 65th Student Congress. I have been dedicated to the Student Congress for the past three years serving as a member and the current chairperson of the Committee on Legislative Affairs. I have worked closely with all classes and committees to develop and implement changes in various aspects of student life. I believe that the Student Congress exists to determine what the student body would like to see accomplished and pursue solutions through communicating with administration, faculty, and students. I would like the opportunity to play a greater role in this process, and I know I have the experience, values, and leadership skills necessary to make progress and get things done on campus. I am honored to be a member of the PC community, and my priority is ensuring that all students enjoy their experience here and come to love Providence College as much as I do. I am prepared to work my hardest for all of you in leading the Student Congress, so please vote Bobby Arruda for Executive President on March 25 and 26.

Michael Hagan
Vice President

Two years as Congress representative for the Class of 2015 have led me to the sincere belief that I am best able to serve our community as Vice President of Student Congress in the coming year. Join in building a Congress that truly belongs to the student body. Our Congress will be boldly committed to focused, integrative leadership inspired by an abiding love for PC. We will work collaboratively with student organizations and administrative offices to advance student interests and strategic goals. Congress will develop a habit and protocol of rigorous self-evaluation. Together, we will raise the organization to its highest form and function. We will aim not to impose but rather model effective leadership to the campus community.

We will introduce a robust legislative agenda in keeping with the strategic goal of making PC "a nationally recognized, premier, Catholic, liberal arts college that is a first-choice destination school." We will not dodge vital questions and issues simply because they are difficult or inconvenient.

The Vice President is uniquely qualified to serve as an executive and legislative leader, and I will work cohesively to deliver on these twin duties. Let's build our best Student Congress together. Our community deserves nothing less.



All photos were submitted by the candidates.



Matthew Pavia
Vice President

To the Members of the Providence College Community:

My name is Matthew Pavia and I am asking for your support to be Executive Vice President of the 65th Student Congress. Throughout my time at PC I have been a committed member of the Student Congress, serving as the Vice President for the Class of 2015, and I have stood as a voice for our community. While it has been a privilege to serve as the VP of my class, I am looking to play a greater role in PC's continued transformation. My goal for the 65th Congress is to make Providence a nationally recognized institution through our ability to adapt to the evolving times. The time is now to work with the administration to make PC a place where everyone feels welcome, a place that everyone can call home. As the Executive Vice President, I will work for greater diversity on campus, the establishment of a recognized academic freedom policy and facilitate the integration of our strategic plan. Most importantly, I want to be a listener, to understand the issues of my peers, and work to put their ideas into action. Together, let's shape the Providence College of today and transform the PC of tomorrow.

As an individual of leadership, trust, and passion for PC, I am willing to fight for what is right and stand up for the community that I call home. On March 25 and 26, please vote: Matthew Pavia as the Executive Vice President for the 65th Student Congress. **Us, We, Family, Together, Friars.**



BMSA

Aida Cruz
President

I am writing this letter to express my desire to run for the President of the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs (BMSA). Being a part of BMSA for the past two years, I have come to realize that BMSA is an essential part of promoting diversity and emphasizing the Student Affairs Friar Foundational Four Pillars. I am currently the Secretary of BMSA and prior to that, I was a Public Relations officer for the Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS). I am also a Resident Assistant and a co-director of the Step-UP! Program. Being in leadership positions has allowed me to develop skills necessary to further goals, both personally and the organizations that I take part in.

As President, I would like to give future members of BMSA something that prior members gave to me when I was a first year student: a welcoming and enriching environment. With that, I would also like to develop a sense of community within BMSA, as well as a deeper connection with other organizations. I have, and will continue, to put all of my effort into our events and members in addition to being open to criticism and input.

Thank You.



Kai Bartlette
Treasurer

I am running for Treasurer of BMSA simply because I want to do more for my organization and I know I will do a good job. As Treasurer and one of the Administrators, I hope to make the right changes for the upcoming BMSA community that will make us better in the long run. I want to revive the energy and passion of BMSA members and the best way I can is through taking on a more administrative role. Being a math major, I am good with numbers but it also means that I am an organized and efficient person. I have a calm personality that I know will be a soothing comfort to the rest of the BMSA community.



Matthew Henry Smith
Vice President

It is my sincere intention to run for the office of Vice President of the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs at Providence College. The office of the Vice President is one that communicates between the Board and other organizations, among which are Student Congress and the Board of Programmers. As someone who has contacts in myriad student organizations—and who frequently attends Student Congress meetings—I am a sensible option for VP. However, the idea of running for the office of the Vice President of BMSA was one which was presented to me by others who cited my involvement, dedication, and ability to communicate across a broad spectrum of ideologies as reasons I would serve best in this capacity. Election to this office would formalize my current practices of activism, inter-cultural dialogue, and advocacy. I am a proud Friar who is very much eager to begin serving the campus in this capacity.



BOP

Danny Murphy
Vice President

I, Danny Murphy, respectfully ask for your support in running for the position of Vice President of the Board of Programmers.

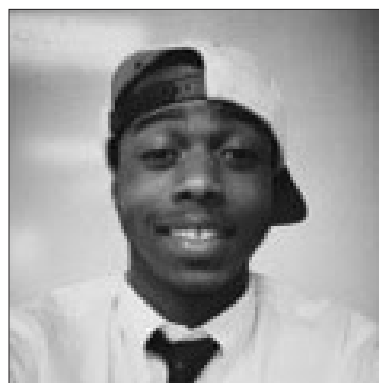
BOP has given me the opportunity to grow as a student, event planner, and leader. With the skills I have acquired on the Lecture and Weekend Programming committees, I plan to prove to all of you exactly what I have learned. After two years on the Board, I have witnessed the commitment and work ethic that is absolutely essential in planning the best events possible. I promise to support each event that takes place with my full dedication. On top of supporting all of you guys, part of the role of Vice President is to serve as a moderator between BOP, Student Congress, and BMSA. I believe I have the necessary skills to communicate with each organization and develop a close relationship as to better our entire Providence College community. I hope to continue to prove myself to each of you as a leader. Every person on the Providence College campus contributes to our great Friar name and I hope to make next year a year that no one will ever forget.

Thank you!



Brannon Walker-Hodges
Secretary

My name is Brannon Walker-Hodges and I am currently a sophomore who is majoring in sociology with a minor in writing. As a member of the Events Committee of BMSA, I am committed to continuing to promote diversity at Providence College and upholding the core values that BMSA was founded upon. I consider BMSA a family whose cohesiveness and determination toward the common goal of unity has had a significant impact on the campus community. As Secretary, it would be my responsibility to keep the cohesiveness together by being available to address any concerns that the BMSA community has in an organized, professional manner. I believe my outgoing, sociable personality would have a positive impact on each individual member in regards to not only being available as a resource they can easily refer to, but also as a brother who sincerely cares about their well-being and success on a consistent basis. Furthermore, it would be my responsibility as an executive board member of BMSA to represent the club in a highly-regarded light by the Providence College community and the state of Rhode Island.



Grace Agresta
Secretary

I, Grace Agresta, am writing this letter of intent to show my utmost desire to run for the Secretary position of the Board of Programmers.

Having the opportunity to be on the Social Committee has given me a chance to step up and do big things. Planning larger events like Provapalooza and Clam Jam have truly developed my leadership skills, as well as my organizational and teamwork skills. In addition to being on BOP, I have had the chance to be a member of the Providence College Women's Rugby Team, where I currently hold a leadership position. I have been able to balance my time between the two clubs, which shows efficient time management. I know how to have fun, but I also know when it's time to be serious. Everything I do, and every event I plan, I do with passion, determination, and purpose. I will strive to keep the relationships between the executive board and BOP members strong through constant communication.

With that being said, I would be honored to be your Secretary. Everything I would do, I would do whole-heartedly and in the best interest of the board. BOP has a commendable reputation that has been passed down from year to year. I want to be someone who contributes to the Board of Programmers' name. Thank you.



Eric Rivera
Secretary

I am Eric Rivera and I am running for BMSA Secretary. Throughout my first year in BMSA, I have fallen in love with the club and want the best for it in the upcoming future. Promoting diversity and teaching others about different cultures has been an amazing experience which is something that is near and dear to my heart. I believe it is important to embrace each others' similarities and differences so that we can create a unified campus through the understanding of each others' stories and backgrounds. If elected as BMSA Secretary, I will do my part and give my best effort to make sure BMSA keeps moving in a positive direction. As Secretary, I will make sure to keep a clear line of communication between the executive board and the members along with any possible staff, faculty, other organizations, and guest speakers that will need to be contacted. With strong organizational skills and an eye for detail I will make sure all information will be double and triple checked for accuracy. I hope to be able to serve my club and my school as BMSA Secretary.



Vincent Whalen
Treasurer

I, Vincent Whalen, am running for the position of 2014-2015 Treasurer of the Board of Programmers.

It is hard to believe that nearly two years have passed since I became a member of this outstanding organization. Since April 2012, I have learned so much about myself and others through planning, executing, and improving campus events on both the Diversity and Lecture Committees.

I am confident that my accumulated knowledge of PC's and BOP's procedures for student programming will enable me to guide this Board effectively. I also possess the leadership, maturity, organization, and accountability necessary to manage the \$250,000+ budget of BOP and to maintain accurate financial records for both SAIL and Student Congress. I plan to improve the PC experience for my 4,000 fellow students by securing the funding needed to put on the best events that BOP can offer the PC Community.

In short, to work with and learn from so many unique individuals around campus pushes me every day to embrace all that this organization has to offer. As a member of 2014-2015 BOP Exec, I hope to give back to the school that has already given me so much.





Camaraderie of Friar Fans is Truly Heart and Soul



by Matt Santos '14
Opinion Staff

CAMPUS

Spoiler alert: I plan on shamelessly adding to what has undoubtedly been an unrelenting topic of conversation this week. Safe to say, it is an exciting time to be a Friar. Our Men's Basketball Team makes its first NCAA Tournament appearance in a decade, our Men's Ice Hockey Team reaches the semifinals in the Hockey East Tournament, and campus buzzes with anticipation. With our Women's Cross Country Team winning a National Championship this past season, little old Providence College is doing some big old work on a national stage. As a senior, I can't help but feel a little bit giddy and a whole lot blessed to bear witness to all of this excitement.

If we actually flash back to freshman year, fellow seniors, the difference seems truly astounding. The Keno Davis (pour some out)-led Friars finished 15-17 (4-14 in the Big East). Even with the nation's second-leading scorer in MarShon Brooks (pour a little more out), the season surely seemed a let-down for our first year at PC. On top of that, our Men's Ice Hockey team finished 8-18-8. Ouch. Aside from some stellar MarShon performances, there was not a whole lot to cheer for between those two teams those days.

But over the past four years, just as the Class of 2014 has matured, so has our campus, our sports teams, and our successes. And amidst it all, a passion has thrived for our teams and an excitement for our successes now seems rewarded and galvanized in this final year. While the woes of defeat have been many, a time to truly be happy and fulfilled has finally come. It

could not have come at a better time.

I'll leave you with this: this past weekend's Big East Championship game offered one of my all-time favorite PC memories. Winning was fantastic. It presented a height for which the Friar faithful of the past few years have hoped for but never witnessed. However, the victory came in a unique atmosphere for me and about 40 other Providence seniors. Miles away from our beloved Friartown and thirsting for the basketball action, seniors on a spring break trip to Punta Cana crowded, huddled around a computer screen at the resort, cashing out five dollars of internet for each 30 minutes of enthrallment. We watched a live stream over the web, and cheered and chanted as the Friars willed themselves to the underdog victory. On our last night of spring break, we dedicated ourselves to the basketball team and cheered as if we were courtside.

A confused lobby full of strangers witnessed a particularly raucous "Let's Go Friars."

Those of us in our final year at Providence saw something which seemed so tremendously far-fetched during that 2010-2011 season. We watched in a unique setting, with a binding camaraderie, and with breaths held. There is something to be said about that kind of passion and camaraderie, that shared underdog spirit with which our small school competes. It truly is Heart and Soul. It's been there for some time now, and it is finally paying dividends, leaving us with something to be proud of and many memories to be cherished. My dad graduated from PC in 1986, and during that year the Friars made it to the Final Four. Not sure if some of that mojo has any potential to still linger for Cooley and Co. But that would not suck.

How Many PC Students Does It Take to Build a House? *Walsh '17 Reflects On Her Time with Habitat For Humanity*

by Carolyn Walsh '17
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

While some people may have spent their spring breaks lounging on a sunny beach or sightseeing in a fancy European city, I spent mine in the less-than-picturesque Carney's Point, N.J. as a Habitat for Humanity volunteer. As a first-time participant in Habitat, I wasn't sure what to expect, or even if I would like it or not.

Watching the campus empty out on the last day before break as I had to stay behind admittedly made me feel like I should have just opted for spending my break at home. However, after completing my Habitat experience, I can definitely say it would have been a mistake for me to not have gone on the trip.

Helping out on my group's project taught me more about my own capabilities and myself than any binge-watching session of Netflix at home ever could have. As cliché as it may sound, working in an area like Carney's Point and interacting with some of the local people really opened my eyes to the many privileges that I am lucky to have, but have often taken for granted. Habitat for Humanity helped me to better connect with the PC community and allowed me

to take some time away from the stress and distractions of everyday life at PC. Above all, I learned that when you give selflessly, you receive more in return.

For our project, my group built and finished a wheelchair ramp for an elderly disabled woman. Prior to the trip, my personal experience with any kind of tools was nearly nonexistent, unless one counts watching various shows on the HGTV network as "experience." Now, I am confident in my ability to hammer a nail, drill a screw, and even use a circular power saw without something going horribly wrong. My own determination to help my other group members and contribute to the project as best as I could drove me to try new things. The amount that I accomplished with Habitat gave me better confidence in myself that I can in turn apply to other areas of my life. There's no reason why I can't do well on an exam if I am able to drill through concrete!

After spending nearly a week in Carney's Point, N.J., it became clear just how needed and impactful organizations like Habitat for Humanity are. The area is mostly depressed with little wealth-generating industry. While the church that my group stayed in was nice, it was by no means the standard definition of luxury. Being on this trip allowed me to burst out of my own bubble, to take a step back, and reflect on just how lucky and blessed I am in my life.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICIA ROTH '15

My group's construction manager, who has worked with Habitat on many projects, told us about how many of the children in Carney's Point do not have the opportunity to go to college because of their parents' financial situations; because of this, many kids grow up lucky to even have vocational jobs. However, the sheer generosity and friendliness that people showed us, even providing us with lunch on more than one occasion, proved that money and wealth are certainly not the keys to leading a good life. Still, Habitat gave me the opportunity to start appreciating the good things in my life a little bit more.

Habitat also helped me form a new appreciation for the Providence College community. It was amazing to see to what extent the combined determination and focus of my group could accomplish. It was wonderful to be able to meet and connect with people whom I most likely would have never met, had it not been for Habitat. My leaders also did an excellent job of balancing the work with the play by planning fun outings to places like Cape May and Philadelphia (Philly cheesesteaks are God's gift to mankind).

I would say that my spring break Habitat experience could easily rival any MTV special ever aired.

FRIAR IN FRANCE

by Christina Moazed '15
Opinion Staff

ABROAD

By the time this article is published, I can only hope that skydiving in Switzerland has successfully returned my body in one piece. I'm not hardcore enough to take my laptop with me and live-post my experience jumping out of a plane.

As of now, I should be riding a camel in Morocco and sandboarding in the Sahara desert. But not simultaneously. Time will only tell if quicksand exists according to Mario on Nintendo 64. My confidence is high, since the game accurately portrays the consequential effects after an unlucky individual commits debatably the worst mistake of his or her life by slipping on a banana peel. If you have ever jumped down a large green pipe, let me know what happens.

I practically felt as though I was living in a fairytale land during one of my excursions to a medieval village in Belgium. Imagine Shrek's house by the swamp. Or, if you Google Bruges and click the Image tab, you will have a slightly better picture. Or a few hundred pictures to be precise.

If you haven't noticed, my literary style fades in and out of reality. Blending movies and childhood video games with mystifying terrains of today seems to coincide with one another. What is considered to be real and what is perceived as fantasy?

Interestingly, there are secluded villages out there that perhaps view our culture to be surreal. So people actually freeze water to put in water to make cold water? These same people also type on a rectangular device to communicate with someone in the same room on a daily basis? How outlandish!

Every culture is unique, but stumbling upon different civilizations will make you realize peculiarities back home. Almost all museums in Europe, and various other public buildings for that matter, were never intended to be museums, but were originally royal palaces, train stations, or medieval fortresses. I had to overtly explain that in America, our museums were actually meant to be museums and not massive palaces intended for one family.

Our own lives are perceived to be so normal that we forget what the standard of normal is around the world. You should have seen the jaws that dropped after I explained that a single cow produces 400 Quarter Pounders. I bet you didn't even know that. And in Providence, it is illegal to sell toothpaste and a toothbrush to the same person on a Sunday. I guess we're not that normal after all.

Journalists Have a Duty to Report the Full Story

by Jenn Giffels '14
Senior Staff Writer

SOCIETY

For all of us writers here at *The Cowl*, choosing our topic for the week's edition is always a key decision. There are the weeks where it seems like nothing interesting is happening, the weeks where everyone you know suggests you should write about something different, and the weeks where you have so many ideas you wish an edition came out daily.

Why is choosing the topic so important? Well, first and foremost, it determines if you, the audience, will read our articles. If we haven't hooked you by the first few sentences, or sometimes even the title, then there goes the work we put into the article and what we have to say might as well be written on the underside of an abandoned bridge.

But how far is a writer allowed to go in order to hook his or her reader? When does the news become entertainment?

Where is the line between a catchy title and a deceiving or exaggerated title? A recent *Guardian* article by James Ball about *Upworthy's* headlines explains this website's use of the "'curiosity gap' headline, a link that contains almost no information about the video or article you're about to click, but which pulls you in, regardless." Is this a clever tactic, or an annoying practice?

How dedicated should a journalist be to the ethical duty of reporting on important matters to the public, even if they may seem "boring" compared to other events? Should the local television news always end with those heart-warming tales about rescued dogs and inspirational stories of all-star high school athletes, at the compensation of airtime for stories covering more "depressing" issues?

Is it possible to provide unbiased coverage? Many newspapers and



NICOLE CORBIN '15/THE COWL

online news sources will have commentary or opinion sections, like our very own *Cowl*, yet does this suggest that the other sections are not biased? Merely choosing the topic for the article can suggest a bias, since that story was more important to the writer than another one he or she could have chosen.

And lastly, is it acceptable to turn a tragic event into the latest television drama, with the public on the edge of their seats waiting to find out what will happen next with the Malaysian Airplane Mystery?

Yes, it is a topic of international importance and yes, the story and the victims deserve media attention. As a recent CNN article states, "Amid the void of information on their fates, it seems at times the passengers and crew of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 have been reduced to a number."

The number is 239. Some other numbers to consider: 585,720, the predicted number of Americans who will die from cancer in 2014 according to the American Cancer Society; 3.4 million, the estimated number of people who die annually from water sanitation and hygiene-related causes according to water.org. You get the

picture: death occurs from all sorts of unwelcome circumstances, and all of the causes of death deserve attention and research for their solution and prevention.

Whether part of the 239, the 585,720, or the 3.4 million, none of these individuals deserve to be reduced to a number. But when it comes down to it, the media only has so much airtime and so many pages to fill. So how is it decided which stories will make it?

The Malaysian Airplane Mystery works because it keeps viewers coming back to find out more information. Every detail is being reported; the latest story on *The New York Times* website carries the specific headline, "Pilot Spoke to Air Controllers after Shutdown of Data System."

The story has important international implications, and should be covered. But so do many other stories, which unfortunately for them, lack the ability to be converted by the media into the latest entertainment mystery. I end with two questions: By what criteria should news content be chosen and is there an ethical duty to the public and to the victims not to milk the story for entertainment purposes?



by Fr. James Cuddy, O.P.
Campus Chaplain

CAMPUS

I had the best seats in Madison Square Garden for the Big East tournament last week. On the first night, I was seated in the second row at center court, immediately behind the play-by-play announcers. On the second night, I was in the fourth row behind the bench. But it was on the final night that I laid claim to the best seats in the house. They were about halfway up the arena and off to the side.

A word of explanation is in order. But to do so requires taking a trip all the way back to the fall semester of 1994. That's when my love affair with Friar basketball began. I lived on the second floor of Guzman Hall with guys who would later become my best friends. And we were all huge basketball fans.

Many of our fondest PC memories are basketball related. There was the time when the shuttle bus to the Dunk was stuck in traffic on the

The Best Experiences Are Shared Experiences

highway before the Syracuse game our freshman year. Everyone on board was frantically shouting and begging God to make the bus to move. But as game time drew near and we hadn't budgeted in 15 minutes, one of our guys convinced the bus driver that he had to let us off the bus immediately. Tired of listening to our whining, he opened the door and watched as 50 face-painted Friar Fanatics sprinted down the highway toward the Dunk, to the terror of the other motorists.

Then there was the story of Mark Adams. One of our best friends and a guy who walked on to the team during our freshman year, Mark was our generation's Ted Bancroft. The fans would chant his name when he was on the bench and go nuts when the coach would finally put him in. On Senior Day, playing against Notre Dame on national television, Mark only got into the game in its final minute and his teammates worked to get him a shot. As the seconds ticked away, he caught the ball and heaved up a turnaround three-point shot that miraculously found the bottom of the net as the clock expired. It elicited a cheer as loud as anything I've ever heard at the Dunk.

All of these stories of Friar games still bring a smile to my face. But what I love is not just the basketball memories in themselves, but the friends with whom I made them.

So after the semifinal game last Friday night, I got on the phone and called my old roommates in Boston and told them to get down to New York the next day. Text messages flew back and forth, wives were persuaded, and plans were made. A few hours later, they were in the car speeding southbound.

And that night, with tickets not nearly as coveted as the ones I had on the previous nights, we stood and cheered once more. As ever it was in the past, our joy was made sweeter because it was shared. We celebrated an improbable title and gave thanks for the gift of brotherhood that's endured for 20 years.

The best seats aren't necessarily the ones closest to the floor; they're the ones that you share with your friends.

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The Cowl welcomes guest opinions and letters to the editor from members of the Providence College community and outside contributors. All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, a phone number, and an email address where he or she can be reached. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length and will be printed as space permits. Guest commentaries should be limited to 500 words in length, and only one will be published per week. The Cowl reserves the right to edit articles for grammar. Submissions must be emailed to TheCowl.office@providence.edu no later than 9:00 p.m. on the Sunday before publication. We do not print previously published articles. Email responses to cowlcommentary@gmail.com, and remember a guest submission is only an email away!

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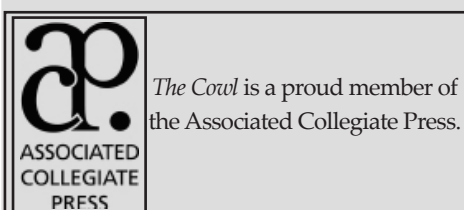
The Cowl is committed to accuracy and carefully checks every article that goes into print to ensure that the facts are presented clearly and truthfully. If you find an error in any article, please email the Editor-in-Chief at thecowl@providence.edu. Corrections will be printed as necessary.

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AEIC Finds New Appreciation for PCBB

by Keely Mohin '14
Associate Editor-in-Chief

EDITORIAL

Upon entering Providence College many moons ago, I determined to "reinvent" myself and shed all former high school baggage and/or characteristics that I had ultimately deemed unnecessary for me, the



new Keely Mohin. That included all forms of physical activity.

I have since created a persona that rejects athleticism in all of its forms, and I have made it a bizarre point to refer to all games as "Sportsball." All of this, of course, stands in direct contradiction to my former involvement in sporting teams and organizations throughout my childhood and painfully awkward, zit-scattered adolescence.

Littered in my bedroom and basement at home are dozens of faux-gold basketball, soccer, swimming, and track medals dating back to, well, probably kindergarten. I even played travel basketball for a spell of time (insert gratuitous shout-out to my former Renegades teammates here) and was the freshman cross country MVP in high school. (I know, I peaked. From now on everything else will be a slow, painful decline into mediocrity. And just in time for graduation, too.)

I credit my transformation to burnout, laziness, and a bizarre

John Hughes plot-of-a-rat-pack-movie fantasy that I could "be a new person." It has been a long time since I cared about anything sports, and I thought it would remain that way until death.

But then Men's Basketball clinched the Big East Championship.

I will admit it—I was shocked at how excited I was. But then I read interviews with Coach Cooley and the team, clicked furiously through all of those posts on Facebook, and saw the incredible response of the PC community upon the return of the team.

So, I am not saying I will hit the gym anytime soon or even sort through my old uniforms. I do, however, have a heightened appreciation for our athletes (and for active people in general) and wish Men's Basketball the best of luck in the NCAA Tournament.

Conversing with Like Minds Fosters Ignorance *Diverse Opinions Keep the Mind Fulfilled*

by Brianna Abbott '17
Opinion Staff

CAMPUS

Colleges and universities pride themselves on being academic melting pots of diversity and depth. They brag about being well-rounded and varied. Though colleges continue to become more and more ethnically diverse, they still have leagues to go in terms of diversity of opinion. The academic melting pot of college life often shuts out ingredients or opinions that do not coincide with the rest of the recipe; they shout over the opinions and refuse not to hear. It is a serious problem, especially in the city of Providence. Though being firm in an opinion is wonderful, it is not-so-spectacular if you will not even let the other side have its say.

Opinions were silenced in the Providence area back in October of this academic year when a group of students at Brown University protested a lecture given by Raymond Kelly, the New York Police Department Commissioner. Kelly's lecture, named "Proactive Policing in America's Biggest City," was to discuss and support a stop-and-frisk policy. Some students at Brown, however, were adamantly against the practice and

refused to acknowledge the other side. Jillian Lanney and Carolynn Cong of the *Brown Daily Herald* explain, "Protesters reacted vocally to mentions of Kelly and his policies throughout Orr's introduction. When Kelly himself took the stage, protesters' boos mixed with applause. As soon as he began to speak, many protesters stood with their fists in the air and began shouting in unison, after which neither Kelly nor... two administrators present...could regain control of the auditorium." Not only did the students not agree with the speaker, but they did not even allow him to speak simply because his opinion was not their own. They could not even know his complete opinion; there was not enough silence to allow them to hear.

About a month earlier back in Friartown, a similar issue arose when Providence College cancelled a gay marriage lecture by John Corvino, an advocate of same-sex marriage. Even though Providence, specifically Hugh F. Lena, released a statement explaining the College's somewhat unknown policy that both sides to a major argument must be represented and stated that Corvino's opponent, Dr. Dana Dillon, did not have time to prepare for the lecture. According to Scott Jaschik of *Inside Higher Ed*, "Lena's explanation angered many at the campus, who said...that he was

changing the rules for organizing events."

Other speakers, such as Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, a pro-choice advocate, have come to speak on the campus without a debate for a large issue, and it is believed that the College required an opponent for Corvino because his views on same-sex marriage do not coincide with the college's standpoint. An opinion was once again silenced because its audience does not unanimously accept it, but if something were to be accepted by everyone, then it would lose its power of being an opinion.

People are drawn toward opinions that they agree with; conservatives watch FOX News and liberals read *The Boston Globe*. Everyone is comfortable with conversing with like minds; however, these practices often leave the mind unfulfilled and ignorant. Sometimes the other side isn't even allowed a word to explain themselves, and valid opinions become whispers lost in the indignant roar of the dissenting crowd. If the crowd allows a silence to fall and people to speak, however, everyone will be more educated and academically nourished for it. Isn't that what the education system is all about?

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(One day only!)
Wednesday, April 9
'64 Hall, Slavin Center
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Come join us for this One-Stop Shopping event!
Free Food and Refreshments!

* Pick up your cap and gown: Be sure that all financial obligations are satisfied with the Office of the Bursar. Account balance information may be viewed on Cyberfriar. Indebtedness to the College will prohibit pick up of your cap & gown. Also, Federal Direct/Perkins Loan recipients must complete an exit counseling session. Information regarding this counseling will be forthcoming from the Student Loan Office. Failure to complete this exit counseling will also prohibit the pickup of your cap & gown.

* Pick up your Senior Packet containing invitations for family and friends and the Student Guide to Commencement, which outlines specific times, locations, etc., to make this a memorable weekend.

* Visit with your classmates.

* Find out who you'll be sitting next to at Commencement.

* Pick up your guest tickets to Commencement.

* Get your number in line for the Commencement processional.

Attendance is mandatory and a photo ID is required. Please notify the Office of College Events via e-mail at colevent@providence.edu or by phone at ext. 2344 in advance if you are unable to attend.

**PC School of Continuing Education Presents
APRIL SHOWERS RAFFLE**

A raffle a day during the month of April
\$20 a ticket / 30 chances to win



Prizes include: gift cards to movies, restaurants, Barnes & Noble, local bakeries and coffee dealers, athletic tickets, Target, Shell Gas, Stop and Shop, and much more !!!!

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Tickets available in the SCE Office, Harkins 109



Lecture and Q&A with
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Friday, April 4th @ 6pm
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For more info/events around RI: moneysmartweek.org

Events @ PC
What Are You Worth? Salary Negotiation for Grads Wed. 4/9 @ 5:00pm
Money Matters for College Students: Tips for Saving, Spending & Budgeting Tues. 4/8 @ 6:00pm & Wed. 4/9 @ 6:00pm
Library 233

McPhail's Line Up

FRIDAY: GAMEWATCH



JUNIOR NIGHT

(After #PCBB)

LIVE MUSIC BY 'INSIDE OUT' & PIZZA!
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ALL PC STUDENTS INVITED!

FULL BAR W/ PROPER ID

SATURDAY AT 9PM!

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COVERING ALL OF TODAY'S HITS



Film Showing and Discussion

Facilitators: Dr. Eve Veliz and Coach TBA

March 27, THU, 4:30pm

Slavin 64 Hall

Sponsored by Student Multicultural Activities (SMA), Athletics, Recreational Sports, Sociology, Black Studies, Asian-American Society, Sociology Club and the Office of Institutional Diversity

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This week in P After Hours

Thursday 3/20
9:00 pm in McPhail's
Rock Against Hunger & Open Mic Night!

Come to McPhail's for exciting entertainment and to support a great cause! Sponsored by S.T.O.P Hunger, Campus Ministry & WDOM! Free Pizza & Ice Cream

Saturday 3/22
9pm in Overlook Lounge
Speed Dating!

See how many new people you can meet! We'll provide a list of questions to get things started. Every attendee will be entered into a raffle for a date package: dinner and a movie for 2! FREE pastries and coffee from LaSalle. Sponsored by Residence Life, SHEPARD, and PC After Hours.



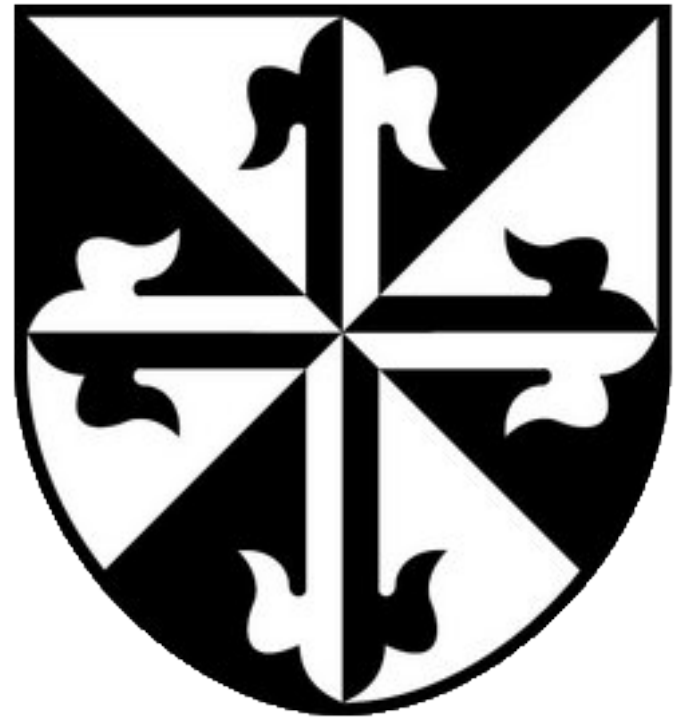
PHOTOGRAPHY

The Cowl 11

March 20, 2014

Dominican Days 2014

As per its annual tradition, the Office of Residence Life sponsors Dominican Days, a week-long program that provides the community with opportunities to learn more about the Dominican tradition, and the founding of Providence College, and how Friars live out their mission on campus in varying capacities and roles. Major events included a BBQ, game night, fish fry, as well as Letters to Dominicans sponsored by Things for Thursday and a "Diary of a Dominican" event featuring Fr. James Cuddy, O.P., and Sr. Leslie Straub, O.P. as speakers.



ELYSE BUTTERWORTH '15/ THE COWL



ALI HURLEY '15/ THE COWL



MORGAN PEKERA '15/ THE COWL



MORGAN PEKERA '15/ THE COWL



ALI HURLEY '15/ THE COWL



PROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

Where were you when the Friars won the Big East?



"Watching the game at my friend's house."
Amanda Hartmann '17 and Kerry Smith '17



"We were in Disney World!"
Sean Barbary '15 and Gretchen Barrett '17



"I was at Buffalo Wild Wings."
Billy Dumais '17



"We were at the Garden, but it felt like the Dunk because it was so loud."
Tim Dalton '15 and Sean Ahearne '14



"We were celebrating in Prague!"
Kyle McCandless '14, Kelly Allen '14, and Alex Gerry '14



"We were in DiTrag watching with our Habitat group."
Michaela Bolotin '16 and Nikelle Petrillo '16



"Not in the record books as Big East champs..."
-The Creighton Blue Jays



Game of Thrones: Season 4 is Coming

by Mary McGreal '15
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

April 6 marks the beginning of the fourth season of the award-winning HBO show *Game of Thrones*, loosely based on George R.R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* series. What should a viewer expect from this season? Well, probably the death of more characters, if anything we have already seen is a hint. Executive producer, writer, and director David Benioff tells *Rolling Stone*, "Some of the most shocking and mind-blowing scenes of the entire series come at the end of this season. There are some very bloody confrontations." Gruesome violence is nothing new to fans of the show. Last season consisted of nine episodes, including "The Rains of Castamere." During what came to be known as the Red Wedding, the matriarch of the Stark family, Catelyn, her son Robb Stark, King in the North, and his wife Talisa were all murdered at the hands of the Freys. Nothing adds a bit of festivity to a wedding like a massacre, right?

Even after the Red Wedding, it is the ladies of Westeros and Essos who have it all under control. Arya and Sansa are the only remaining Stark women, Daenerys is on the move with her dragons, Cersei is doing her thing in Casterly Rock, and Brienne of Tarth is busy fighting off bears. So for a show that boasts so more epic female characters, the lack of equality in certain areas is disappointing for most, including the actors. According



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIEDESKBACK.COM

to the *NY Daily News*, Sibel Kekilli, who portrays Shae, a prostitute who is in a relationship with Tyrion Lannister and handmaiden to Sansa Stark, asked a reporter at a London press conference, "Why are all the women naked?" She continued by saying that she wanted the "good-looking guys" like "Conleth Hill, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, and Peter Dinklage" to strip down on screen. Another actor, Carice van Houten, who plays the Red Priestess Melisandre, told the *Independent* that

she believes there should be more male nudity. She is quoted as saying, "Hell yeah! Of course it has to be functional and it mostly is. But in general that's what I like about the show, not the sex per se but the nudity is part of life."

While it is true that nudity is a part of life, as fans of *Game of Thrones* know too well, life can only last so long. In the April edition of *Vanity Fair*, co-creator D.B. Weiss talks about the need to know when it is time to stop the show. He says, "I think the desire to milk more out of it is what

would eventually kill it, if we gave in to that." So how long would it take to kill a show that revolves around killing its characters? Benioff tells *EW*, "Once we got to the point where we felt like we're going to be able to tell this tale to its conclusion, that became [an even clearer] goal. Seven gods, seven kingdoms, seven seasons. It feels right to us." So seven season it is. And with the start of the fourth season not yet upon us, fans have plenty to look forward to.

After a Successful First Season, Vice Returns

by Frank Flanagan '15
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

Last Friday, March 14, *Vice* returned to HBO for a second season. *Vice*, a nonfiction/documentary series, premiered last year with a very warm reception. The series is a leg of Vice Media, a Brooklyn and Montreal-based publication and website. *Vice* is marketing its new season under the slogan "See the world differently," a sentiment which they successfully portrayed in the first season.

The series, which was nominated at last year's Emmys for Outstanding Documentary or Non-Fiction Series, looks for just as much success in its second season. Last year's 10 episode season covered a lot of ground as well as a large variety of content. *Vice* took trips to Afghanistan, exposing the Taliban's manipulation of children; North Korea following Dennis Rodman and the Harlem Globetrotters through the elusive country; as well as a few other places. *Vice* also featured domestic episodes where reporters examined the gang-ridden warzones of Chicago and a gun-raising pastor in Albuquerque, N.M.

The success of *Vice* is not surprising to anyone familiar with Vice Media's growth over the past several years. *Vice Magazine*, which was first issued in 1994, has since grown into a haven-like network of multimedia websites for the millennial generation. Vice Media has expanded from magazine, to website, to



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR.COM

websites, to TV series. Concerned with the ever-changing political sphere, revolution, and war, Vice Media still finds space for those interested in the contemporary arts, photography, and meaningful entertainment.

It is apparent in both the TV series and the websites' content that *Vice* is a little bit different. Their reporters dress freely, their vocabularies do not evade profanity as most reporters' vocabularies do, and the nature of their reporting is not always mainstream. Vice Media co-founder and front man Shane Smith is a tough-looking, bearded man, who is almost always photographed in jeans and a plain black tee shirt that is just small enough

to exhibit his colorful arm tattoos. What most people don't realize is that Mr. Smith has built himself a \$400 million media empire without so much as a hint of political correctness. Smith's blunt exterior is fashionable and almost necessary for his image. A recent *BBC News* article compared Smith to Australian business and media mogul Rupert Murdoch who has invested \$70 million (five percent) in Vice Media.

Smith also hosts the *Vice* series and finds himself in new territories each episode. Part of *Vice's* appeal to the younger generations has to be their fearless and anti-hero-like leader. Alongside Smith are more "put-together," in society's sense of the phrase, *journalists*. *Vice* is executive produced by Bill Maher, who has never been afraid

to go there, as well as award-winning journalist and *TIME Magazine* editor-at-large Fareed Zakaria. *Vice's* liberal and rough look is only the exterior of a great system of thinkers and innovators.

This season viewers can expect the same hard-hitting immersion journalism that *Vice* offered in its first season. Season 2 premiered last week with a trip back to Afghanistan examining US-funded reconstruction projects as well as a trip to Brazil, exploring Rio de Janeiro's corruption, which can surface as a major issue in wake of Olympic preparation.

Director Spike Jonze (*Her*, *Being John Malkovich*) spoke to *Variety* earlier this week about *Vice*. In regards to their growth in season 2 Jonze had the following to say: "I think they are getting better at pre-production, they are getting better at research, getting more patient with finding the people to tell these stories before they go there—therefore [the stories] are just getting richer." Jonze, who has publicly been a long-time fan of Vice Media, has also contributed to the website in the past alongside regular celebrity contributor James Franco.

The program airs Friday nights at 11 p.m., will run through May, and is highly anticipated by its cult following. Anyone who has never heard of *Vice* should give it a try; the episodes are only 30 minutes long and the website has loads of free content. The first episode of the second season is currently free to view on their website. *Vice's* goal is less to entertain and more to enlighten. Watch *Vice*, you may just "see the world differently."

Disney on Broadway

by Alanna Smith '14
A&E Staff

THEATER

In 1991, Disney did what had previously seemed impossible: it released a musical animated film that broke dozens of records, including becoming the first animated feature to ever be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture. The movie was, of course, *Beauty and the Beast*. Three years later, Disney released a stage adaptation of the film: the first in what was to become a long line of successful—and not so successful—stage musicals.

Beauty and the Beast ran for 13 years in New York, becoming the eighth longest-running in Broadway history. Its critical and financial success convinced Disney to consider transferring more films from the silver screen to “the Great White Way.” The next show in the lineup was *The Lion King*, which debuted in 1997... and is still running today. It won multiple Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and is currently the fourth longest-running Broadway show ever.

Almost a decade passed until Disney released another stage production based on one of its animated films. The next two entries, opening in 2006 and 2008 respectively, were *Tarzan* and *The Little Mermaid*. Despite the exciting stage techniques that both shows used—*Tarzan* featured complex acrobatics and harness work, and most of the cast members in *Mermaid* roller-skated around the stage to mimic swimming—neither were successful with critics or audiences, and both closed after a little over a year.

Disney Theatrical Productions found more success in stage adaptations of the live-action musical films *Mary Poppins* and *Newsies*. The first of these premiered in London before going on to run for seven years in New York. It is still playing in several international venues. *Newsies* was not expected to be successful, due to the “cult classic” status of the film which it is based on. However, due to ecstatic reception by audiences and its winning of two Tony Awards, the show had its run status

changed from limited to open-ended.

The most recent Disney stage musical debuted this week on Broadway: an adaptation of the 1992 film *Aladdin*, which won the Academy Awards for Best Original Score and Best Original Song when it was released. A version of the production came out in 2011, and it was received with mixed reviews by critics. This has led to adjustments being made before its release in New York in hopes that it does not follow in the footsteps of *Tarzan* or *The Little Mermaid*.

Publicity stills show that the costumes and set designs for the show are as beautiful and sumptuous as one could hope. The cast has been praised for their vocal talent and energy, especially James Monroe Iglehart, who plays the Genie. One especially exciting casting decision is Jonathan Freeman as Jafar, the villain, for Freeman voiced the character in the original film. The show features songs from the movie, and more importantly, several songs that were cut from the movie. These songs were written by Alan Menken and the lyrics by Howard Ashman. Ashman died tragically before the film was completed, but is still considered one of the most important figures of the Disney Renaissance era.

There are still more musicals in the works, of course. There are rumors, for example, that an adaptation of *The Jungle Book* is being considered for production. Outside of rumors, Alan Menken has recently stated that a revival of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* will be coming to Broadway within the next few years. This film, considered one of Disney's darkest and most musically complex, was adapted into a highly successful musical in Germany.

The stage musical that audiences seem to be most excited for at the moment, however, is that based on Disney's most recent animated film *Frozen*. In January, Bob Iger, the CEO of Disney, promised that an adaptation of the film is already being developed. This is good news for fans who haven't been able to let go of “Let it Go” and other wonderful songs from what many critics have called Disney's best musical since the Disney Renaissance.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALADDINMUSICAL.BLOGSPOT.COM



PHOTO COURTESY OF CELEBUZZ.COM

by Kelly Laske '16
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

On a recent cover of *People Magazine*, you will find a happy couple laughing and embracing their two children. It is not the embracement of Brad and Angelina or Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner, but Trista and Ryan Sutter, two people who met on the very first season of *The Bachelorette* and are still together over 10 years later. The cover comes as a shock to many, seeing as only four couples from the 28-season franchise have actually made their love last. The question is, why have so few successful couples come out of the show? After one of the most controversial seasons yet, starring Juan Pablo Galavis, the motives of the producers and contestants come into question. Do the creators of the show want the contestants to find love or drama-filled situations on the show?

This past January, Juan Pablo Galavis, a previous contestant, began his journey of love on *The Bachelor*. Like other seasons, the show quickly spiraled out of control, from Galavis making controversial comments about sexuality and marriage at a network party, to being called “narcissistic” and “arrogant” by various contestants when the cameras were not rolling after they left the “fantasy suite.” Although it is common for contestants to turn against the Bachelor or Bachelorette, this season had more women despise the Bachelor than ever before. After making sexual comments to her and telling her he regretted many of their encounters, Clare expressed her gratitude for not being chosen. Andi, who is actually set to be the next Bachelorette, and Sharleen both decided that Galavis was hyped up by the network and was not the kind of love they were looking for. At his proposal ceremony to Nikki Ferrell, Galavis refused to propose to her or say he loves her, with Ferrell claiming she does need him to express his love to her verbally. Galavis' season ended with contestants feeling used and violated,

making them feel anything but loved.

Galavis' season is not the only one that has questioned the motives of the show and its producers. One of the show's most famous stunts was bringing back Brad Womack as the Bachelor for a second time, even though he had an extremely hurtful season by falling in love with two women and refusing to pick either of them. Even though the contestants on the show hated Brad Womack, producers knew their decision to give him a second chance would be all over the headlines, raising their viewership and ratings.

In 2012, during Ben Flajnik's season, *The Bachelor* casting took a hit for choosing “the meanest cast member of all time,” Courtney Robertson, who spent her time on the show harassing the other women instead of finding love. Although she won the show, Ben was unaware of her derogatory comments and the relationship never lasted.

The franchise took another hit in 2011 for bringing Bentley Williams on the show, even though he openly expressed that he did not like the current Bachelorette and only came on the show hoping it was previous contestant and blonde bombshell Emily Maynard. Maynard's season was another that seemed like it had planted drama. Maynard, a mother of a young girl, Ricky, said she wanted someone who would love her daughter as much as herself. Kalon McMahon openly expressed the fact that he did not want kids, calling Maynard's daughter “baggage.”

It is safe to say this franchise is no longer about finding love but finding drama. After over 28 seasons and only four lasting couples, it is evident that ratings are more important to the producers than their contestants finding love on the show. But with a sudden drop in ratings due to Galavis' rudeness, it is obvious that Americans are getting tired of the constant drama and tearful exits. With two more seasons in the works, the question is, will the show continue to falter because of Galavis or regain its viewership because of a new handful of drama?

The Best St. Patrick's Day Parades

by Kealy Robertson '16
A&E Staff

FASHION

St. Patrick's Day is a widely-celebrated holiday in which people across the country gather together to honor their heritage by wearing outrageous amounts of the color green. Throughout the United States, many large cities celebrate the holiday by hosting parades and themed events to draw in the Irish, and anyone who claims to be even one percent Irish, who want to celebrate the luck of the Irish.

New York City and Boston are very well known for their celebrations. Boston is considered one of the greatest cities to celebrate the holiday. Considering it is a city with a long history of Irish tradition, Boston has become a hub for the Irish, drawing in more than 600,000 people. On St. Patrick's Day, they throw one of the largest parades and open their Irish pubs for people to celebrate their heritage and the Irish culture. Within New York City, people gather to watch the parade where marching bands, bagpipers, and many other sources of entertainment flood the streets to celebrate the Irish tradition.

Chicago outdoes both New York and Boston by dyeing the Chicago River green for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. This is considered a modern day miracle in Chicago. For the past 40 years, Chicago has been carrying out this tradition. They claim that a leprechaun assists in their transformation, as the river changes from a starting color of orange to the

perfect shade of Irish green. All those who take part in the holiday traditions can enjoy the breathtaking coloring of river. Chicago also hosts a shoreline sightseeing cruise where individuals can explore the different branches of the river and come to learn about how the Irish tradition has helped shape Chicago throughout the years.

Many are aware of the celebrations that take place in New York and Boston; however, across the nation, there are many other large celebrations taking place in smaller areas. In Savannah, Ga., St. Patrick's Day is their largest celebration and it also happens to be the second-largest celebration in the United States. They draw in about 400,000 visitors to the city's celebration each year. Savannah has a rich tradition of Irish heritage. They hold a parade within the city to celebrate the Irish traditions and attract visitors by holding many popular Irish-themed events before and during the holiday.

Closer to campus, in Newport, R.I., the traditions of St. Patrick's Day are not lost. In Newport, locals celebrate their Irish heritage by hosting a parade that many residents attend. Newport is one of the most beautiful beach towns in Rhode Island and on St. Patrick's Day, it is dressed up with the colors of Ireland, celebrating the years of Irish tradition.

Each year, St. Patrick's Day is a popular event that attracts every ethnicity and heritage to the celebration of the Irish traditions. St. Paddy's Day ultimately becomes an excuse to take a day off, dress up in green and orange, and celebrate what has come to be known as Irish tradition.



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EDITOR vs. EDITOR

This Week: Favorite Existential Crisis

Tim Morris

Favorite Existential Crisis: Finding a Job

His Views: The serial optimist Friedrich Nietzsche once said, "If you gaze long enough into the abyss, the abyss gazes also into you." I am a passenger on the Train of Unemployment. I rest my head against the window as entry-level positions race by, appearing and disappearing from view. Was that an opening at Dunder Mifflin? Before I can click, the deities running this career website have added 20 more links, 20 more pathways into the future. I am overwhelmed. Who will hire me? The question expands within my consciousness. Each application is a desperate plea for a lifetime of material sustenance. Feed me. Clothe me. Finance my one-bedroom apartment in Brooklyn. One day, if mankind can crush the technological monster it has created, my children will stare into the same abyss. There is no escaping the circle unless, of course, I win the lottery.

His Views on Serena: Life is more than a beating heart. It is a series of journeys – to and from the bathroom, to and from the kitchen, to and from work. You cannot refuse; however, the journey can refuse the journeyman. I have witnessed many a Providence College student, dressed in his finest flannel or her shortest dress, chase after a cab. The frustration is more than a drunk twenty-something can bear. Phones are thrown, voices are raised, and beers are crushed. Swimming against the current of intoxication, the young Friar has an epiphany. Another cab will come, but those wasted minutes can never be regained. The line grows outside of Whiskey Republic. By the time you arrive, your friends have made it inside. The bouncer denies you. But can you blame him? You're the one who spent \$125 on a fake identity. Thanks, Obama.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CAMPUS CAREER COACH.COM

Serena Ambroselli

Favorite Existential Crisis: Missing a Cab

Her Views: Perhaps the greatest source for information is the grapevine. My friends on the other side of the legal drinking age face an enduring dilemma anywhere between one and seven times a week—missing a cab to the local establishment of nighttime merriment. Imagine what it feels like to be reduced to nothing more than an empty shell, no more meaningful than the can of beer you left in the elevator: going down, down, down a dark abysmal shaft of the unknown, taunted by vague exclamations of enjoyment. The sense of purpose and happiness that once resided in you is warped into something as fleeting as the cab you didn't make it into, disappearing into the horizon of shattered dreams.

Her Views on Tim: They say it's not so much about the destination as it is the journey. The journey allows us to build character and revel in the wonders of self-discovery. Trekking along the winding roads of fulfillment, you wonder why anyone would ever want to make it to the end. The final destination can offer nothing more than idleness and sorrow, but the journey is the reason you become the real you. We are only in this physical world for so long—do you want to reminisce on your years regretting the time you wasted in a cubicle, or do you want to smile at the fond memories you have of refashioning all those cover letters? Life is naught without experiences to color the canvas of your existence.

Idina Menzel Shines in *If/Then*

by Marisa Urgo '14
A&E Staff

POP CULTURE

About eight years ago, I discovered Broadway actress Idina Menzel, and have been her biggest stalker—I mean fan—ever since. You might know Ms. Menzel from her newest credit, Elsa in *Frozen*, or from her Broadway performances in *Wicked* and *Rent*, among many others. When I heard that she was starring in a brand new musical, *If/Then*, I immediately booked tickets for spring break. I've seen Menzel perform in solo concerts, but until last Wednesday, I had never seen her actually perform in a show.

The cool thing about *If/Then* is that it was basically written for Menzel. The book/lyrics are written by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey, who are known for their Tony Award-winning hit *Next to Normal*. The director, Michael Greif, directed *Rent* back in 1996, with Menzel and her friend, Anthony Rapp, who also stars in this production.

It is absolutely refreshing to have an original musical on Broadway, something that is not derived from a movie or book. The story follows Elizabeth (Menzel), a woman who gets out of a ten-year marriage on the West Coast and comes to New York City to find love and happiness (eerily like Menzel's real life at the current moment after divorcing Taye Diggs). Elizabeth is always wondering "what if," and this is a musical representation of how our lives are determined: is it chance, or fate?



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMAGES.BWWSTATIC.COM

After meeting her two friends in the park, Lucas (Rapp) and Kate (LaChanze), it is clear that we are about to watch the two parallel lives that Elizabeth lives. Will she get coffee with Lucas or listen to music with Kate? One choice will affect the rest of her life, and we get to see the results of each choice play out. If it sounds confusing, it is because it is. At times, it is difficult to tell which storyline you are following. There are subtle hints, like lighting changes and small costume accessories, but it is easy to get them mixed up. That being said, *If/Then* is still in previews, so it is possible that things could change.

The musical is absolutely a "star-vehicle," and Menzel shines. She belts her way through beautiful melodies

and you can hear the emotion in her voice. The best part for me, however, was her acting. It was phenomenal to see her finally do something funny. Her dry quips are so entertaining that obviously comedy comes natural for Idina. The same can be said for LaChanze and Rapp. Kitt and Yorkey have created engaging characters, and in almost three hours, I was rarely, if at all, bored (I think we can all agree that in two and a half to three hours, our attention tends to wane). Part of this might be that all the plot switching kept you on your toes.

If I had to describe it in one word, I would say "modern." The musical as a whole was like Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George* had a baby with *Next to Normal*. The set appeared

simple at first, but a rotating platform and transforming cubes prove to be intriguing and versatile. The music is edgy, but to be honest, I can really only remember a few songs. One that stands out was called "What the F---", which was a montage of Menzel sleeping with different men on different "paths." As for costumes, they were contemporary and Idina looked fantastic in jeans and plethora of sweaters. Of course. Not that I'm biased...

If you get the chance to go to New York, then go to see this musical. If it wasn't for Menzel's star-power, I actually think the musical could stand on its own. It would lose a certain charm and I can't predict it staying long after Menzel leaves, but it does have its own merits.

Places to Shop in (and around) Providence



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEWPORTBESTREADGUIDE.COM

by Christina D'Adamio '16
A&E Staff

FASHION

Providence offers a variety of shopping experiences. From large shopping malls to small boutiques, there is something for everyone. With a little planning, you can shop Providence and the surrounding area. To guide you on your shopping adventures, consider the recommendations provided.

For large shopping malls check out Providence Place Mall and Garden City Center. Providence Place Mall is about five minutes from the College, while Garden City Center is about 15 minutes from the College. Providence Place Mall is located at 1 Providence Place. The three-story mall provides an urban shopping environment. Shops range from high-end retailers such as Ann Taylor, Banana Republic, Brooks Brothers, J.Crew, and White House | Black Market, to more affordable vendors such as Express, Gap, H&M, LOFT, and Old Navy. The mall offers a variety of shoe stores such as Clarks, DSW, Foot

Locker, Payless, and Vans. The mall also offers a variety of jewelry and accessory stores such as Coach, Michael Kors, Sunglass Hut, Tiffany & Co., and Vera Bradley. Do not forget about the large department stores, such as JCPenney, Macy's, and Nordstrom. For other needs and services, the Providence Place Mall has bath/beauty, housewares/home, sports/fitness and technology/electronic options. Need a shopping break? Grab a quick snack or leisurely dinner at the provided vendors and restaurants.

Garden City Center is located at 100 Midway Road, Cranston, R.I. The village provides a sophisticated shopping environment. The center houses 60 high-end retail stores. Shops include: Ann Taylor, Anthropologie, Chico's, Banana Republic, Gap, J.Crew, J. Jill, Jos. A. Banks, Lululemon Athletica, and White House | Black Market. The center offers select shoe and accessory stores such as Clarks and Francesca's. For other needs and services, the center offers select bath/beauty, health/fitness and technology/electronic options. Need a shopping break? From cafés to bakeries and bistros, your craving will be satisfied. For other large shopping

malls, check out Westminster Arcade, Warwick Mall, and Emerald Square.

For a large outlet mall, check out Wrentham Village Premium Outlets. Wrentham Village Premium Outlets is located at 1 Premium Outlet Boulevard, Wrentham, Mass. The village is about 30 minutes from the College. With over 170 retail stores, it is worth the drive. Save money on favorite designer brands including Adidas, Banana Republic, Brooks Brothers, Calvin Klein, Coach, Cole Haan, DKNY, Elie Tahari, GAP Outlet, J.Crew, Kenneth Cole, Michael Kors, Polo Ralph Lauren, Salvatore Ferragamo, Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5TH, and Tommy Hilfiger. Need a shopping break? The village offers a variety of fast food options. Grab a bite to eat and return to your daylong shopping adventure.

Looking for another shopping daytrip? Check out Newport R.I. Newport, R.I. is about 45 minutes from the College. There are numerous shopping areas, including Thames Street, Long Wharf Mall, and Brick Market Place. With the variety of shopping centers, Newport offers a mix of retail stores such as Banana Republic, Brooks Brothers, Jos. A. Banks, J.Crew, and

White House | Black Market. Newport offers a variety of boutiques such as Mandarin Boutique, Isoude Boutique, La Bella Boutique, and Vintage to Vogue. For other needs and services, Newport has health/beauty, home goods/décor, jewelry, shoes, and sporting goods options. Need a shopping break? From local ice cream shops to corner delis and fine restaurants, your stomach will be dancing. If large shopping centers are not for you, downtown Providence has much to offer. Check out the following areas: Federal Hill, Thayer Street, and Wickenden Street. The streets are minutes away from the College and offer a relaxed, college town shopping experience. Boutiques range from eclectic and funky to modern and upscale. There are a variety of stores to shop with eateries along the way.

Discover the shops that make Providence buzz and have fun exploring the local area. A whole city is before you and the shopping opportunities are endless. Toss on a comfortable pair of kicks and go make some unforgettable purchases.

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OFFICE OF ADMISSION: STUDENT SUMMER ASSISTANTS

The Office of Admission is seeking current PC students who are interested in working in the office during the summer months. Responsibilities include giving campus tours, speaking to prospective student audiences and assisting the Office of Admission staff with various projects. This is a full time position, and students should be available from Thursday, June 12 until Friday, August 29, 2014. Though we will be able to accommodate between 5-10 days of vacation per summer assistant we will not be able to hire any student who needs more than that amount of time away from the office. Please note that on campus summer housing is not available.

Students who are interested in applying should pick up an application in the Office of Admission, Harkins Hall 103.

Applications are due by Monday, March 31, 2014.

Please contact Faith Allen in the Office of Admission at faith.allen@providence.edu or 401-865-2535 with any questions or for more information.

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PORTFOLIO

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March 20, 2014

414 SAINT-SULPICE

by Ariana Pasquantonio '16
Portfolio Staff

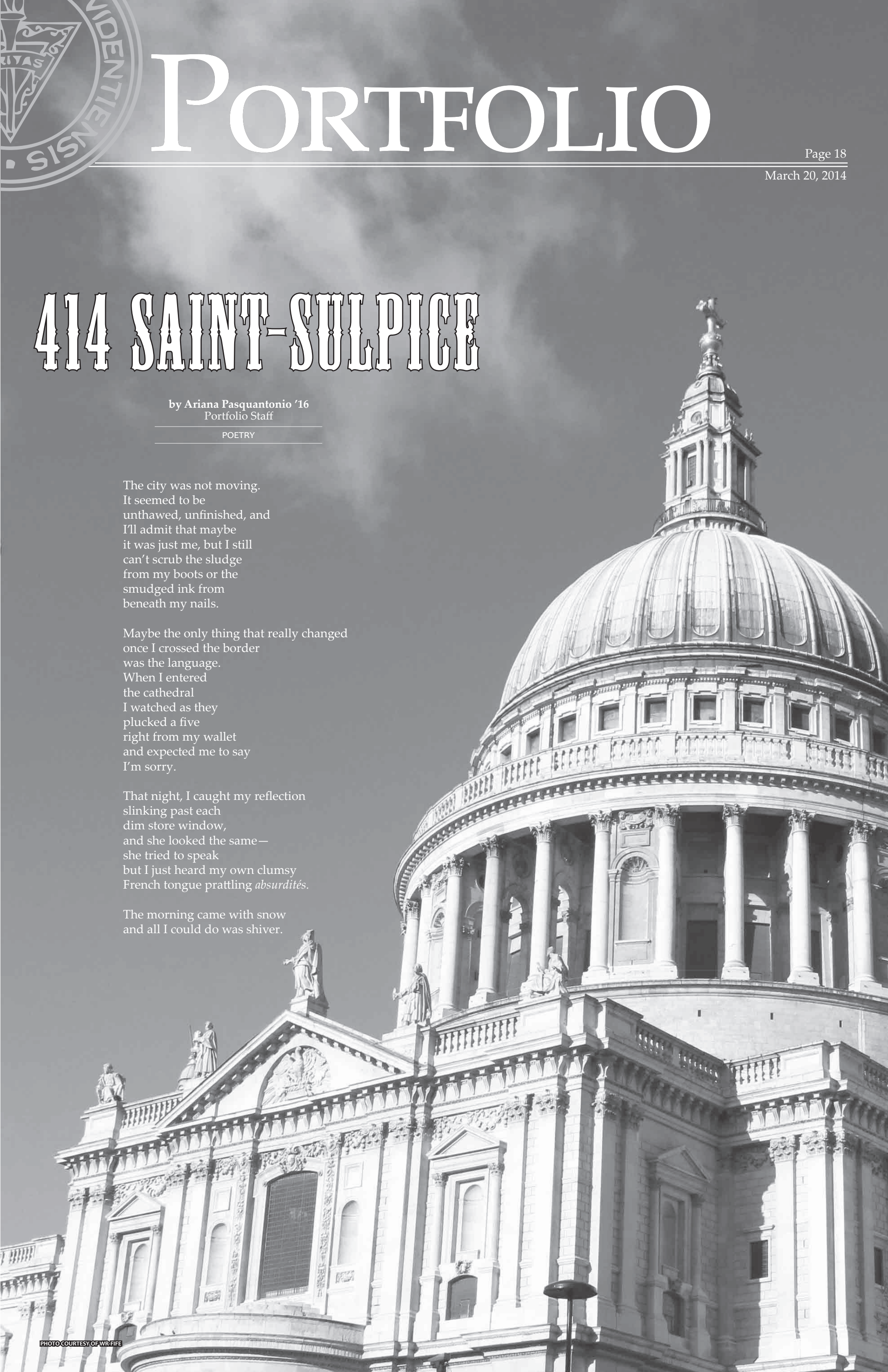
POETRY

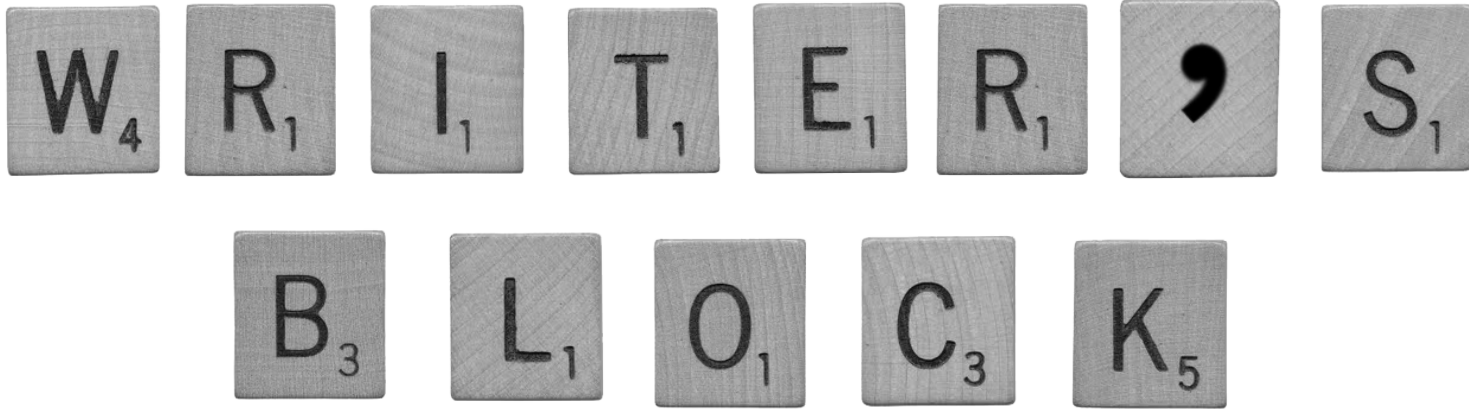
The city was not moving.
It seemed to be
unthawed, unfinished, and
I'll admit that maybe
it was just me, but I still
can't scrub the sludge
from my boots or the
smudged ink from
beneath my nails.

Maybe the only thing that really changed
once I crossed the border
was the language.
When I entered
the cathedral
I watched as they
plucked a five
right from my wallet
and expected me to say
I'm sorry.

That night, I caught my reflection
slinking past each
dim store window,
and she looked the same—
she tried to speak
but I just heard my own clumsy
French tongue prattling *absurdités*.

The morning came with snow
and all I could do was shiver.





by **Branan Durbin '16**
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

If the sun went out tomorrow,
I would miss its streaming rays
pouring over the world like honey,
filling each crack with sweetness
and soothing the roughest of days.

The morning's gentle glory
would lose its transient magic—
no more could I watch it form
a halo of your messy hair
from over the edge of my coffee cup.

I'd hold with fondness, memories
of it playing with leaves in summer,
shining through and in between them
as they'd dance and alter color,
rejoicing in their bright green splendor.

But if the sun went out tomorrow,
I think I would miss most
soaking in its warming light,
sitting close beside your tired frame
as we'd watch it burn up in the sky.

by **Emily Goodnow '14**
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

If the sun went out tomorrow
And darkness envelopes us,
I'd stumble in the shade
To search for you.
If we have no light tomorrow,
Because the sun changes his mind,
I'd crawl along the earth's crust
Until I find you.
Your humor would radiate,
Smile would glow like a candle,
Laughter would emit spirit,
Touch would thaw my icy hands,
Voice would enlighten me.
If the sun oversleeps one morning,
He refuses to rise from the bed,
I will not look for him,
I will find you instead.

*Two writers,
one line:
"If the sun went out
tomorrow"*



Rock Star

by **Melanie Souchet '14**
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Drink your milk, stay in school, don't do drugs. Those were the three general life rules. I did the first, barely managed the second, and failed on the third. Did it count if it was just smoking, not hard drugs? Didn't matter. Mr. T was probably still disappointed in me.

I didn't really need to do the hard stuff, anyway. Sleep deprivation and the raging head cold I'd developed were enough to emulate a bad high. Get some rest, dude, they told me, you're going to wear yourself out. No rest for the morally dubious, but still somewhere in the "good" end of the spectrum, I'd replied. There was a tour going on, our chance to actually Make It. It was also our second tour ever, which meant that there were still a few kinks in our overall game plan. But, hey, we'd only left the drummer behind once this time. That was an improvement.

When I woke up that day, it was the afternoon. The bassist had fallen asleep with his head on my shoulder, and of course he was drooling. I shoved him off, not really because of the drooling, but because I felt worse than I did yesterday and it was an unspoken rule that only one of us could be sick at a time. "You're screwing up my shirt, dude," I complained to save face. He

grumbled and leaned on the backup guitarist instead. "Weirdo."

I meant it with only the utmost kindness and admiration for his bass-playing skills.

Truck stop meant fresh(ish) shirt and a round of cold medication. No drinking for me, not tonight, but getting only four hours of sleep in the back of a moving car created a close enough effect to being drunk, so it didn't matter. Everyone else ate. "Come on, dude, you've got to have something," said the lead guitarist.

"Nah, dude, I'm not hungry." My stomach seemed to be intent on cutting its way out of my stomach with a dull plastic knife. I hid it well, or tried to. "I'll eat something when we get to the gig. Don't worry about it."

They dropped it, thank God, or whoever was listening at the time.

I wasn't lying. I did eat when I got to the gig. They were offering free chips, and I had to at least try some. I regretted it immediately and found myself doubled over in an alley. Not even five o'clock yet, that had to be some kind of record. Don't throw up. You're not going to throw up, because you're fine. Come on, champ, you can do this.

I took a few deep breaths and slowly straightened up. See? There you go. Just get some water and get back in there, you have to practice.

Water did help. I was sure I'd be fine

once I got back inside, where it was cool and dark and no one could see that I'd suddenly taken on the complexion of a vampire. Except the drummer, who gave me the disapproving look. "What?"

"You know what."

"I'm lead singer, dude, I can't bow out of a gig."

"We'll all bow out. You look like trash, man. I know this is important..."

"Really important."

"But I don't want you dying or anything."

"Who said anything about dying? I'm not gonna die." I slapped his shoulder. "I'm immortal, remember?"

It might have been the lighting, but for a second he looked like he might cry from the stupidity of that sentence. I was the one who said it and even I fully acknowledged it was stupid.

Openers went first, and that would be us. Rock 'em, sock 'em, soften 'em up for the main event. Or suck really bad to make the main event look better by comparison. I liked to think we were doing the former. The good news was that my unwashed, grungy, cold-ravaged appearance wasn't too out of place in the grungy, unwashed, drunk-people-ravaged bar. The better news was that no one had started booing at us or throwing bottles.

The really bad news was that the pain in my stomach was getting worse. Had been the entire set. I powered

through, like a champ, because if I didn't, who would? We had to do this set. We had to do this tour. And the sudden barrage of anxiety that I covered with a winning smile and winning vocals wasn't helping the pain. Was the pain getting localized? That couldn't be good.

We had just finished up a cover of "The Sweater Song" to reasonably modest applause. "Yeah, Weezer, am I right?" I said, to more enthusiastic cheers of approval. "I..."

It hit me then. I knew the feeling, like the feeling in the alley, but stronger this time. No, no, not here, get off the stage, get off the stage.

"I..."

I didn't get off the stage, but I also didn't throw up into the mic. At least people were spared that. The silence that settled in once my gagging died down was a mixture of shocked, disgusted, and concerned. Okay, this was bad, but I'd had worse. Shake it off. Smile. I straightened up. "Uh, anyway, here's 'Wonderwall.'"

Then, in the most unfortunate yet kind of hilarious moments of timing, I passed out.

So much for immortality.

Paradise Is Where I Am, Part 3: A Safe Town

by Jose Martinez '16
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Darkness, and then some red, followed by more darkness.

That's all I see.

All I hear is a distorted bleeping noise...and the longer it goes on it begins to sound something like a synth organ.

I'm being torn in half...some kind of force is grabbing my legs and arms, trying to separate my east from my west. It feels like it's going on forever. The pain is colossal, and what's worse is that it feels no closer to ending. Tear me in half already! Tear me in half... Tear me...in half...

"How long again?"

"Three months."

"And I wasn't found frozen or anything?"

"Nope."

"Not even the slightest bit of frost?"

"Negatory."

Ajl, the village healer, sits by my side after my waking up from a rather unpleasant rest. According to him, I woke up hyperventilating, sounding as if I was running out of breath, sweating heavily at the same time. This was followed by about 15 minutes of random screaming, Ajl trying to calm me down before it turned into a small fight, starting with me trying to claw his eyes out. It took Ajl and three other village people to restrain me...I usually don't hit that hard.

"I shouldn't be alive," I realize.

"I know," he replies.

"I shouldn't be talking to you, I should be talking to some scientist in

a big and bright lab, in the year 4,000 or whatever. Like in those old and tattered pulp novels I find around the house."

"It was cold...but it wasn't cold enough that you would have been frozen alive," he begins to say, "It was brutal enough for you, however, to have died of frostbite, with temperatures as low and wind as bitter as when they found you."

"Wh-what happened to my metal? I need to get it over to Donna, my family needs the supplies, or else they're going to—"

"Iana, Iana, don't worry about any of that. Your family is all taken care of."

"Really now? And Donna?"

"Donna is the one doing the taking care of. All that nourishment and hospitality, it's being handled by her."

Good ol' Donna. Even after months of disappearance, after months of skimping out on scrap metal, after months of being unable to help her as a customer, she still finds it in her heart to help out.

"Well, is it fine if I went to go see her? Even if it's just for a few minutes, I want to thank her for everything that she's doing," I ask.

"I'd let you go," he says, "But it's pretty late. She has probably turned in for the night, and you'd be depriving her of precious sleep. Which is what you need as well. I know you think you feel fine, but just to be on the safe side—"

"I gotcha, Ajl, I read you loud and clear."

"Can I get you anything? A drink, a little bit of bread or cookie?"

"No thanks Ajl, I should be fine."

"You sure? Last offer before I go to bed myself."

"Yeah, I'm fine. I'm honestly not hungry."

"All right then," he says while heading out of the house door, "Try to get some rest. Some real, unrelated-to-comatose rest."

I chuckle a bit, resting my head against the pillow. I close my eyes, picturing my family, their worried faces turning into expressions of relief. They'll chastise me for a few seconds for going into the mountains even though I've been warned countless times of the dangers that lie there. But their scolding will end and I'll be embraced in big warm hugs, wet forehead kisses, light noogies, and countless other forms of affection that I can't think of at the moment. We'll catch up on the family gossip, joke a bit, and mow down a lot of the supplies provided for by Donna. In just a few hours, probably eight, I'll get to see my family again. I'll get to see them again, and we'll put this whole catastrophe behind us.

The actual, physical pain doesn't come until later on, during what must be the dark of the night. I'm dreaming of being within a purely white space, free from extreme cold, and then it becomes dark red. The clouds begin to rain blood, my shirt tatters into shreds, and I become a human target practice board as cuts begin to form. I wake up, unable to breathe for a few seconds before I tear off the shirt I currently have on. The dream was real, except the cuts are replaced by several stab wounds that appear as they have long since closed and mended. Where did I

get these from? And why has it taken it this long for me to experience the pain?

I walk towards the door. I know Ajl needs me to rest, but surely a few seconds of Puentes Helados cold won't hurt, right? I open the door and I step outside, and things immediately begin to feel off.

A couple of armed villagers, guards perhaps, are stationed a few meters from the door. A good five steps in the loud, crunchy snow is enough to set them off. They stand to attention, assume an offensive position, and point these long, sharp-looking spears in my direction.

"Woah, woah, what the hell, guys?" I yell, "What's the meaning of this?"

"Ma'am, stand back and return to the complex!" one guard orders.

"What, no! I won't—" I begin to say.

"Hey, somebody get the chief, the Scarlet has woken up ahead of schedule," another guard orders.

Scarlet, what? I think, my face forming an expression of panic and disbelief.

"There's no need to. I heard everything, and I figured curiosity would get the best of her," a familiar voice cries out.

Ajl appears before me, motioning for the guards to stand down. Shock doesn't come close to describing my feelings at the moment.

"Ajl, what the hell is this? Look, if you need me to get back into the house, I'll get back inside, but there's no need for this dumb overprotection—"

"This force isn't for your protection, it's for ours. As it stands right now, you are a threat to the entirety of Puentes Helados."

A Small, Quiet Town

by Kiernan Dunlop '14
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Nothing ever happened in my town. In fact, I wouldn't doubt if it had the least amount of crime in the country, not that there was much crime anywhere in those days. Everybody knew their neighbors, so if anything went wrong, which it rarely did, everyone knew exactly who to blame. When three prize-winning American Yorkshire pigs went missing from old Mr. Atkinson's farm and ended up on the third-floor of the local high school, the first person who was called down to the principal's office was Troy Dennison. Troy was all Elk Falls had to call a criminal and he barely lived up to the name. Pranks were his expertise, and he was most proud of tying 52 students' shoelaces together at the basketball tournament, causing a series of tumbles when the fans stood up to leave. You would be hard-pressed to find anything more dangerous in Elk Falls than Troy Dennison.

On any given day you could find most of the population of Elk Falls in the village. Family-owned stores with window boxes full of pansies lined the streets and you would find more people walking than cars driving by. Little old women would spend the day in Rita's hair salon gossiping about which one of their long deceased husbands was the greatest war hero. I spent most of my time at Mac's Soda Bar since my parents had let me get a job there when I turned 16. The pay was fair and I could drink as many mint chocolate malts as I wanted.

I started my lunch shift as usual: making sure all 12 booths were wiped clean and had full napkin dispensers, wiping down the eight stools at the counter, and filling the ketchup containers. As I turned the sign on the glass door from closed to open a few of the normal customers sauntered in and shouted a hello in my direction. As I was getting ready to serve them, someone walked in whom I had never seen before. From the hushed whispering that began among the patrons, I knew none of them had seen him before either. Sadly, I don't think it would be an exaggeration to say that was the closest any of us had ever been to a man like him.

The man walked up to the counter, sat down, and ordered a grilled cheese sandwich and a vanilla malt. I took the

order and told him it would be right out. As I turned my back and went to the kitchen, I heard some noise coming from behind me. It was one of the other customers, Tom Collins; he had thrown his menu down and would not stop staring at the man at the counter. Then when the man looked up Tom couldn't take it anymore and shouted, "You know a person like yourself has no business in this town and even less business talking to that little girl."

The man stood up and asked, "Aren't I a paying customer just like yourself?"

"You think you're clever boy, don't you?" Tom shouted as he moved closer to the man. Mac came from the back and stood in front of Tom, not to stop him but to protect him.

"I have the right to refuse service to anyone, boy, so walk out of this restaurant and walk out of this town," Mac said and Tom made a grunt in agreement. Seeing he was outnumbered the man walked out of the shop and I followed him with my eyes. I looked at the two men and could see the sense of pride they were feeling from what they had just accomplished. I took off my apron and walked home. I never wiped another table at Mac's Soda Bar again.



MASON SCIOTTI '15 / THE COWL

WAKING UP FOR CLASS

by Austin Harney '17
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Today I walked into the ole' institution,
(A real horror-show day),
But there's horror shown
As I walk
Throughout the hallways.
I see every teacher and student
With fizzing static vision mindlessly
Following into their respective place,
For every chess piece has its pace.
And every chess piece is just like the pawn.

But as I stepped into class and saw the Romeo and Juliet
And saw the ties that keep me here and saw the perilous fixation
This "school" has cast upon me,
I stopped and thought:

I have become formulated life
That modulates and engineers its branches
And leaves
To satisfy the ideal of preparation.
"To live one day,"
Not to venture into the Earth
Or become one with life and myself.

I have been taught not to breathe, but to be breathed for.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HORTONGROU



Austin Harney

Austin Harney, born in the parking lot outside of Big Tony's, led an entirely uneventful life. He was an average student throughout his entire academic career, and his favorite foods include bread and butter, vanilla ice cream, and grilled cheese. He studied accounting at the University of Nebraska, where he became president of the Neutrality Club. He is an avid daydreamer, and often imagines himself doing entirely mundane things such as taking a walk or fighting samurai warriors. After graduation, he became the investment manager for Captain Kirk of the *Starship Enterprise*. On his only adventure aboard the *Starship Enterprise*, Austin was left behind and got lost in a ripple in the time-space continuum. Finding himself in the year 1910, Austin met and studied poetry and beat-boxing under the master poet William Yeats. The time stream then dumped him in 2014, where he now attends Providence College. No further details are known about his age, interests, and whereabouts.

Tiffany & Earl

Making PC an emotionally stable place one letter at a time

This week...

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

I'm a senior getting ready to graduate, and my school is already bombarding me with emails about Senior Giving. I'm broke, though! I've got student loans to pay off, and I'm still looking for a real world job for after graduation. What am I supposed to do?

Sincerely,
Broke and Stingy

Dear \$trapped \$enior,

Why would you even consider giving this school any more cash than you already have given? You have probably just sealed up the final installment of your \$200,000 tuition and sent it to the bursar, so how can your class even consider asking you to pull out your pockets and wave the Hoover flags to give even more money to this place? I say you pinch your pennies and pull together whatever money you can scrounge together and spend it on yours truly. Or any other college Princess for that matter. Spring has sprung, and it is the season of flings; love is in the fresh, crisp air, and your money is better spent on the birds and the bees (or froyo, I am all about that life nowadays). Moral of my story: the school sucks out enough of your money (and your soul), so don't even bother with senior giving; just buy me pretty things instead, and I'll love you!

XOXO

Dear Selfish,

You strike me as someone who is only looking out for themselves. You are the worst type of person. You're the guy in the Phil Collins hit, "In the Air Tonight," who walked by a drowning man without offering any assistance. If there was only 100 pounds of food left in the world, you would steal and pillage all 100 pounds. You buy the cake and eat it too. Then eat another cake. I realize now you must be morbidly obese with all these cakes and pounds of food.

Well, it is time for you to drop your cakes. You need not only to lose weight, but you need to look past yourself. And I don't mean just losing enough weight to see past your gut, or potentially discover your long lost groin. It is time you take your proverbial cake and not take the other one.

Now I know what you're thinking, "But Earl, you are always for a capitalistic form of taking as much as you can, through strength and cunning." I am. That is why you need to admit defeat and give more money to the stronger and bigger (maybe not smarter) college.

Think about it. They have already swindled your fat and feeble minded self of 200,000 dollars. They won. They have taken your money, and your dignity. They have buried you in debt. It is time for you to sacrifice what you have to those who have bested you. Because that is how capitalism works. That is how America is.

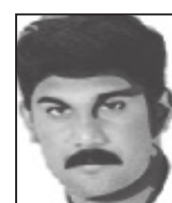
So drop that cake, fatty! You haven't earned it like your college has.

Disclaimer

The Tiffany & Earl feature is a satirized account of Providence College. Both the question and answers are purely works of fiction. Tiffany & Earl are anti-heroes whose comments ultimately satirize the stereotypes they each represent.



Tiffany



EARL

PC Men's Lacrosse Building on Strong Recruiting Classes

Alex Corboy '17 Making a Name For Himself During His First Year in Friartown

by Joey Ciccarello '16
Sports Staff

LACROSSE

When Chris Gabrielli came to Providence to take his first head coaching job, he brought a track record of success after a long stint as an assistant at Duke. Moving from a national powerhouse to a dormant and rebuilding program is always a tough task, but Gabrielli has the Friars Lacrosse Program seemingly ahead of schedule, leading them to eight wins last year and off to a

strong start this year. He has pulled in two solid recruiting classes, and is reaping the benefits of both; numerous underclassmen have helped the Friars to their three wins this season.

No freshman has helped the team as much as attackman Alex Corboy '17, who most recently had five points in a 14-11 victory over Fairfield University. "We put in a lot of work this off-season," Corboy remarked, "we have worked really hard and now it's starting to pay off." Corboy is the Friars' top goal scorer this season, having poured in a remarkable 17 goals in his seven starts this year. Sean Wright '14 and Andrew

Barton '14 lead the Friars in overall points with 22; Wright has 14 goals and eight assists, while Barton has 12 goals and 10 assists.

Corboy receives high praise from Gabrielli, who has shown tremendous maturity and knowledge of the game throughout his first year. On top of that, there is nowhere to go but up for the freshman, as Gabrielli says. "We know that he [Alex] will continue to improve each week and get even better," the coach remarked, also pointing out that Alex has been able to gel very well with his older teammates. Corboy, furthermore, could not be happier

with his decision to become a Friar. "The College has made a tremendous commitment to the lacrosse program and athletics in general," Corboy said when asked about why he chose PC, "I saw a bright future for our team and myself here at PC." He added that the team has "bought in" to Gabrielli's approach to coaching, which includes an emphasis on fundamentals, in order to have the early success they had this season.

While a recent three-game losing streak has been somewhat of a setback for Providence, Gabrielli and Corboy have lofty expectations for the up-and-coming Friars. "My goal and my teammates' goal is to play in May. Which means we want to play in the NCAA tournament," Corboy replied when asked about this season's goal. He did not stop there, adding that the Friars wanted to "establish [them]selves as a national presence," something that they have never been recognized as. Gabrielli also wants to have the season continue into May, which would be a welcome sight for the long-struggling program. "We would love to extend our season into May, but in order to do that we must continue to grind and focus on the little things. If we can do that, we think we will have a chance to play in May," Coach Gabrielli pronounced. He also added that his team must focus on the day-to-day improvement in order to be successful throughout the rest of the season. A chance to end their losing streak looms this Saturday with crosstown rival Brown. A chance to become national top dogs will present itself down the road, but for Corboy, Gabrielli, and the rest of the Friars, being top dogs of the city would be a huge step forward.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLISON WIGAND

Victory:

Continued from front page

Brice Kofane '14 also provided some key minutes throughout the tournament.

Surprisingly, it was revealed that the Friars might not have secured a spot in the NCAA Tournament if they had not won the title and subsequently the automatic bid. However, the Friars have proven the doubters wrong all year and they ensured that nobody would stand in the way of getting Friartown back to the big dance. The day after the championship game, Cooley pointed to a sign in front of a packed house in Alumni Hall joined to celebrate the accomplishment that simply said, "What Bubble?" The Friars, after spending the last four weeks on both sides of the bubble, would be returning to the NCAA Tournament and on top of that missing the "play-in" round. The rejoice of Friar fans could have been seen in its fullest when the entire gymnasium erupted when it was revealed on Selection Sunday the 11 seed Friars will face off with the historic program of University of North Carolina on March 21 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament in San Antonio.

The team has championed the saying "Heart and Soul" for weeks now. Although it is a bit cliché, there may not be a better mantra to describe this Friars team. The opening line for Friday night's game against UNC has

the Friars as five point underdogs. The Friars were also underdogs to Creighton. The Friars have proved this year that mental toughness is just as important as physical toughness.

Regardless of performance in the NCAA Tournament, fans will always remember the special and improbable run of the Friars in the Big East

Tournament. Cooley remarked during his first press conference as head coach of the team three years ago that it will be a process but "we will win and we will win big." With gradual improvement every year thus far under Cooley, President Fr. Brian Shanley O.P., remarked that Cooley is "ahead of the curve." The next step after last year's

NIT quarterfinal run was an NCAA berth. After many obstacles, off-court dilemmas, and dwindling faith of the fan base at times, Cooley has done just that. As Cooley put it after the championship game, "It has been a great journey, and hopefully it's just the beginning." At this time in the season, "Heart and Soul" means everything.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

Men's Hockey Cracks the Hockey East Semis

by DJ Anderson '16
Sports Editor

MEN'S HOCKEY

Coach Nate Leaman's Providence College Men's Hockey Team appears to have hit their stride at the perfect time. Going back to Feb. 21, the team has won six straight contests, most recently sweeping Maine in the quarterfinals of the Hockey East Tournament. Since that date, the team has outscored their opponents 20-11. They were also able to beat Maine four straight times between the regular season finale and the Hockey East tournament, a very tough feat in any sport.

The team hosted Maine for both games in the quarterfinals of the Hockey East Tournament. They won the first game 3-1, outplaying their conference opponent throughout the entire contest. However, the real key to the team's victory was their outstanding start. Trevor Mingoia '16 and Derek Army '14 scored in the first 20 minutes of the game, putting the Friars up 2-0. The Bears answered with a goal of their own in the second period, but could not hold off the furious offensive attack of the Friars. Mark Jankowski '16 scored the dagger later in the second period. His goal added separation in the one goal game, and the Bears were not able to build a comeback.

In the second game the team continued to score at an alarming rate. They got the best of both goaltenders for the Bears, burying four goals to earn a 4-2 win. Nick Saracino '16 was outstanding in the win, scoring two

goals and making the best of nearly every offensive chance that came his way. Army also scored for the second straight day, with Ross Mauermann '15 adding a goal of his own as well. Friar goaltender Jon Gillies '16 was a brick house in this game, stopping 36 Maine shots throughout three periods. Most impressively, Gillies was able to stop 15 shots in the third period. There were

several times when the Bears looked like they were going to get back in the game before being stopped short by Gillies.

The two game sweep moved the Friars to the Hockey East Semifinals where they will play the University of New Hampshire for a chance to appear in the league championship. The teams split their two game series earlier in the

year. Unlike those games, this series will be played on neutral ice, taking place on the ice of the Boston Garden. The Friars will look to transition their hot offensive attack to the semi-finals, which will have much higher stakes than last weekend's series. The first game will be played on March 21, and the times of the second and third games will be scheduled based on that result.

PHOTO COURTESY OF COLLEGBLOG.WEEL.COM



Editor's Corner: A Method to the Madness of Brackets

by Sean Bailey '14
Sports Editor

BRACKETS

It is the most wonderful time of the year. No, I do not mean Christmas. Or Easter. I am talking about a holiday that is greater than every holiday rolled into one massive ball and wrapped in the finest of wrapping. I am talking about March Madness.

And with this come millions of brackets, where we all try to predict the unpredictable. However, there is no clear strategy to picking that perfect bracket. Instead, let me share with you some of the ways in which you can properly predict the winners this March.

You can go with the patented "research and pick technique." There is no abbreviation or shortened way

to address this strategy, because the strategy itself is all encompassing. It involves researching each game, analyzing each team's strengths and weaknesses. Who holds the rebounding edge? Who is the better free throw shooting team? While many devoted fans will no doubt employ this strategy, it is not for everyone. The research can become tedious and time consuming. Not only that, but all of college basketball's pundits never accurately pick a bracket, in spite of all the analyzing and research they put into their jobs. So, while you may sound smart discussing Mercer's rebounding efficiency compared to Duke, you might not pick the right team.

That is when you could go with the "flip a coin" option. So many matchups are a toss up as to who would win or lose. Why not put this sports cliché

into motion by flipping your favorite quarter to predict a winner?

But for those of us who are too poor for quarters, maybe you should try the "which mascot would win in a fight" theory. This has gotten me very far in my time, especially when the Florida Gators won back-to-back titles (seriously, what beats an alligator in a fight?). Using this method, it is easy to conclude that Providence could beat North Carolina (a Friar with healthy heels can beat up a lone heel wounded with tar). This strategy fails with teams like the Louisville Cardinals though, who won the championship last season.

If that does not work, it is always safe to go with the "who is the cutest mascot strategy." While this strategy eliminates PC immediately (the Friar is flat out creepy), it has proven effective in recent years. I used this strategy when

picking the Butler Bulldogs to back-to-back national title games (where they lost to an even cuter UConn Husky, and devilishly handsome Duke Blue Devil).

Finally, there is the unpredictable "pick as many upsets as you can" strategy. This plays right into March Madness' motif of underdogs can pull anything off. When using this strategy you should make sure to pick a lot of upsets, and if one of them happens be sure to boast about it loudly. That way you look smart, in spite of what is sure to be a terrible bracket.

No matter how you do it, our brackets are sure to be quite flawed. So, just relax and enjoy the games. Because what I can predict is that these games are going to be crazy. You do not need any sort of technique to know that.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHACODDINGSTUFF.BLOGSPOT.COM



SPORTS

The Most Exciting Time of the Year



FLORIDA

Part of me wants to put the Friars in the Final Four. Maybe I'm just fearful that Ed Cooley might read this, but think: we've got a team that thrives on winning streaks. The national champion is ultimately the team whose winning streak comes within these next two weeks. So let me begin by saying that if we make it past Iowa State, we're in. If not, then Virginia takes our bracket. The Final Four is as far as they'll make it, however.

In the West: Creighton. The best is yet to come from Doug McDermott, and the Jays will escape playing top-seeded Arizona after the Wildcats' second-round loss to Oklahoma State—assuming Marcus behaves himself.

In the Midwest, I'm taking the reigning champion and should-be one seed, Louisville. They'll shatter Wichita State's undefeated season, move past Jabari and the Blue Devils, then take down Creighton to advance to the national final.

In the South: Florida. Except Kansas, I don't think any team threatens the Gators. This is the most consistent team we've seen all year. Their defense – one of the nation's best – allows just 57.9 points per game. That should be the deciding factor in defeating many of the high-powered offensive teams they'll likely face. They'll win it all.

-Billy O'Brien '17



ARIZONA

This year's bracket is a story of regions. A few of the one or two seeds have much clearer paths to the Final Four than others, as many of the best teams in the country ended up in the same region. Wichita State has one of the toughest regions in recent tournament memory, as they may have to match up against Louisville and either Michigan or Duke on their way to Northern Texas. On the other end of the spectrum is Arizona. They were placed in the West Region, which is widely considered the easiest out of the four regions.

The Wildcats' toughest matchup could come against Wisconsin, a team that they match up with very well. Arizona has big and athletic players in Kaleb Tarczewski, Aaron Gordon, and Rondae Hollis-Jefferson. These players will present matchup problems that nobody in their region will be able to deal with. Besides the Cats, I think that Duke, Michigan State, and Florida will make a run to the Final Four.

Even with the loss of star forward Brandon Ashley, I think that Arizona is the best team in the country. They certainly stumbled a bit after his injury, but have hit the ground running in the time since. They look like one of the most dangerous teams in the country at this point. A combination of great guard play and physical, gritty play from their forwards will propel this Arizona team to a national championship.

-DJ Anderson '16

TOURNAMENT



PREDICTIONS



MICHIGAN STATE

For starters, the Florida Gators are the number one overall seed this year, and I believe they will represent the South region in this year's Final Four in Dallas. I expect them to defeat second-seeded Kansas in the Elite Eight to advance to Dallas. The Gators will meet another team who has started playing well at the right time: the Michigan State Spartans, out of the East region. On top of that, the Spartans are healthy for the first time all season, having suffered through injuries to top players Branden Dawson and Keith Appling this year. The Spartans feel that they were under-seeded as a number four seed, and look to upset top-seeded Virginia and third-seeded Iowa State en route to a slugfest with Florida. The East also plays host to the Big East Champion Providence Friars, who have a tough draw with sixth-seeded and supremely talented North Carolina.

On the other side of the bracket, I believe that defending National Champion Louisville will make it out of the Midwest region and get to Dallas. This is a loaded region; the top four seeds are undefeated Wichita State, last year's runner-up Michigan, as well as Duke and Louisville. However, the Cardinals have rolled through their schedule as of late, including a 29-point defeat of Houston, a 61-point defeat of Rutgers, and two defeats of American Athletic and former Big East rival Connecticut. They will meet West Champion Creighton, who is my dark horse pick for the Final Four. As Friar fans know, Doug McDermott is the best player in the country; look for him to fill up the stat sheet and carry the Jays all the way to Dallas.

In the Final Four, I have Michigan State beating Florida, and Louisville beating Creighton, with the Spartans eventually beating the Cardinals in what should be a championship for the ages, and bringing Coach Tom Izzo his second national title.

-Joey Ciccarello '16



PROVIDENCE

Providence will win the NCAA Tournament. You read that correctly, and for our non-English readers, I will rephrase that. Los Friars voy a ganar el Torneo de NCAA.

Why, you ask? One: I want them to. Not only do I want the Friars to win because I am a part of the Providence family, but I'm in the Pep Band (shout out to my boys) and I get to travel with the team as long as they keep winning.

Two: Bryce Cotton. The things that I love the most in order are God, family, country, and number 11. The most valuable and most underrated player in the country just won the Big East Tournament MVP and averages 21 points a game and 39.9 minutes a game. The man cannot be stopped. That is scientifically proven.

Three: At this point, I'm pretty sure God wants us to win. Everyone knows that God is a Dominican, but this season has enough miracles to be looked at by the Vatican for sainthood. At the beginning of the season, the Friars were projected to be one of the last teams to make the tournament, and that was before losing Kris Dunn, Rodney Bullock, and Brandon Austin. Then only playing a six-man rotation, the Friars went 20-11 in the regular season before winning the Big East Tournament for the first time in 20 years. It's either divine intervention or Cooley genius. I think it's a combination of both.

Now for the first time in 10 years, the Friars are in the NCAA Tournament, and with divine Providence in the form of Bryce Cotton, the rest of the field need not show up because the Friars are going dancing, and they are about to waltz their way to their first-ever championship.

-Bryan Blum '17