



SAADIA AHMAD '14 / THE COWL  
Corvino gives his lecture "Haters,' Sinners,' and the Rest of Us: The Gay Debate Today."

## Corvino Comes to Campus

by Kathleen Sullivan '14  
News Editor Emeritus

### CAMPUS EVENTS

Dr. John Corvino, associate professor and chair of the philosophy department at Wayne State University, gave his long-awaited lecture, "Haters,' Sinners,' and the Rest of Us: The Gay Debate Today," with a response from Dr. Dana Dillon, assistant professor of theology at Providence College, in '64 Hall on last Thursday evening, April 24. This event with Dr. Corvino and Dr. Dillon was originally scheduled for September, but was abruptly canceled and rescheduled for the spring by the administration of the College.

Dr. William Hudson, chair of the political science department, offered the following comments on the event: "Whoever in the administration canceled last fall's event did the College community a great service. Had the event been held last fall as planned, only a handful of students and faculty would have attended. I doubt that I would have gone. The controversy over the cancellation made possible

the standing room crowd today."

The size of the audience actually caused the organizers to have to add an additional two rows of seating to the front of the room before the lecture began. Dr. Christopher Arroyo, associate professor of philosophy and the principal organizer of this event, was the first to welcome the audience and provided the introductions for the speakers. He said, "This event has been a long time coming, as many of you know, and it couldn't have happened without the help and support of a great many of the members of the Providence College community."

Arroyo went on to thank all the co-sponsoring departments and programs, expressing further thanks to the heads of the original co-sponsoring departments for sticking with this event throughout this year.

In addition to the faculty and staff, Arroyo added, "This lecture simply could not have happened without the initiative, eloquence, and organization of our students and alumni." He made a point to thank every group and individual who had a hand in the support and preparation for this lecture.

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## Summer Reading Suggestion: Professor Alison Espach's *The Adults*

by Kealy Robertson '16  
A&E Staff

### LITERATURE

The *New York Times* states that *The Adults* is a "coming of age with a quick wit and a sharp eye...*The Adults* is as idiosyncratic as it is stirring." Providence College's very own professor has gained recognition for her captivating storytelling.

Alison Espach, a professor here at Providence College, also doubles as the author of the enticing novel *The Adults*. Her novel uncovers the challenges that life poses for everyday individuals. She creates a spiral of stories where the characters portrayed in the novel experience the hardships of life and love. The most intriguing thing she said that seemed to embody the novel as a whole was, "there is something fun—at least to me—about the chaos."

Espach tells her story, which takes place in suburban Connecticut, through

the eyes of teenager Emily Vidal. After experiencing the loss of life and broken love, Emily engages in some of her own adventures. *The Adults* portrays the utmost representation of the secret lives of many suburban families today. It unearths the far from perfect lives that many of us live today through the eyes of a growing girl.

The novel begins with Emily's father's 50th birthday party. During the celebration, Emily discovers her beloved father and her neighbor Mrs. Resnick embracing each other in an unusually passionate way. Soon after the embrace, Emily witnesses Mr. Resnick commit suicide by hanging himself. Though she could not stop him from hanging himself, as

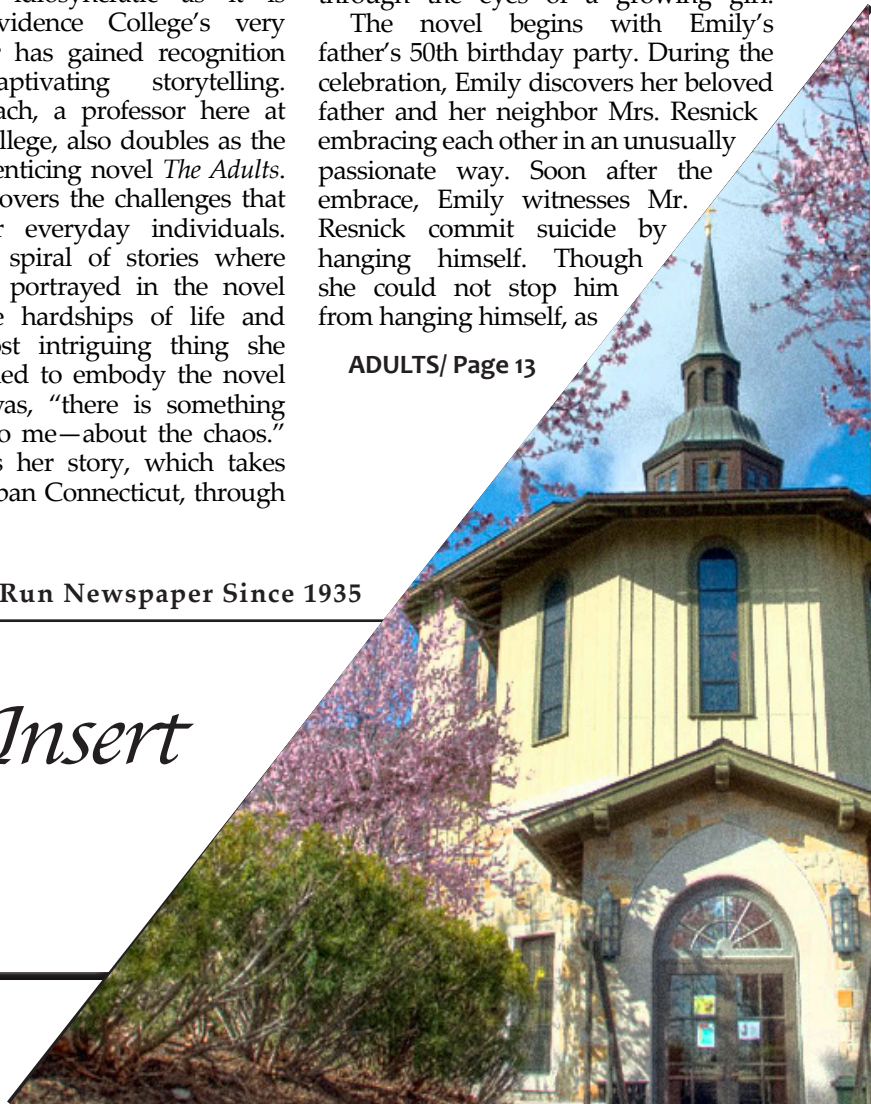
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### Commencement Insert Inside!





## Smith '13's Documentary Featured on PBS

by Elizabeth Nako '15  
News Staff

PC COMMUNITY

John Smith '13, student media graduate assistant at PC, will be making his film director debut next week on Rhode Island PBS. Smith's film *Restoring Smith Hill* investigates the operation of neighborhood restoration located in the Smith Hill neighborhood down the street from campus. Smith discussed, "The focus of the film is the Smith Hill Community Development Corporation (CDC), and the work that they do in this neighborhood, both in physical restoration of foreclosed homes and the social programs they provide to residents."

Smith graduated from PC last year as a social science major with a film minor. He currently works as a liaison between Dr. Sears and the three student media groups: PCTV, WDOM, and *The Cowl*. Smith talked about how this year he has "been working with the executives of each organization to develop ways in which the three media groups can work together on larger projects."

Smith mentioned how the idea for his film came to him when he was an undergraduate student at PC. He took film courses over the course of his four years with Father Kenneth Gumbert, O.P. In a film class with Fr. Gumbert during his sophomore year, Fr. Gumbert came into class talking about the restoration of many homes he noticed on Douglas Ave. on his

commute to PC that day. Fr. Gumbert told Smith's class that a documentary on the restoration of homes would make a wonderful final project. Smith chose to take up this film project, especially since his father Francis Smith was the executive director of the CDC. Smith made a five minute "mini-doc" for his final project. After the completion of his project, both Fr. Gumbert and Smith decided his "mini-doc" was worthy of pursuing as a larger film project.

Smith described how "From that point on, I worked for two years, documenting all that I could. I interviewed politicians, Providence College professors, community members and residents of the homes that were restored." Smith finished his film this past fall. After he finished his film, Fr. Gumbert, who has made many documentaries over the years past that have been aired on PBS, put Smith in contact with the Rhode Island PBS program director. Smith then sent the program director a copy of his film. After the program director viewed it, she contacted Smith and informed him Rhode Island PBS would be happy to air his documentary film.

Smith talked about how his film highlights PC's new partnership with the Smith Hill CDC. PC and the Smith Hill CDC have worked together to establish new programs and new spaces for both PC students and community members such as The Annex and the recently up-and-running Common Grounds Café. Smith is a firm believer that "this relationship between an

academic institution and a community development corporation may very well become the national model for neighborhood restoration."

*Restoring Smith Hill* will air on Sunday, May 4 at 6 p.m. on Rhode Island PBS. Also, Smith invites the PC community to a film premiere celebration on Sunday, May 4th from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the PC Smith Hill Annex held rain or shine. There

will be free admission, free food, and a campus shuttle will be provided to and from the event starting at 4:30 p.m. behind Raymond Hall. There will be large television screens on the site so both members of PC and community members can see the documentary. Smith wants his film premiere "to celebrate the film and the new partnership between the CDC and Providence College."



ANNA WIECIORKOWSKA '14 / THE COWL

Smith's undergraduate career at PC and his father's role in the community inspire his documentary.

## Corvino:

Continued from front page

In introducing Dr. Dillon, Arroyo stated, "I can think of no one better to offer the response today."

Before formally introducing Dr. Corvino, Arroyo explained, "If I'm honest, John had every reason not to come speak here today given what happened last semester and yet, he came."

Dr. Corvino began his lecture saying, "Well hello, it is a great pleasure to be here, finally." Before diving into his talk, he specified that the views he was about to express were his own, and he was looking forward to engaging in dialogue with the community.

He explained that it is a strange time in the gay rights debate because many say "that the debate is over and the gays won."

However, Corvino revealed through an anecdote about a conversation with a gate agent at an airport that the difficulty in talking about the issue of gay rights and same-sex marriage is still palpable.

Continuing on, he explained that he wanted to "say some things about the rhetoric of the gay rights debate and overall I want to talk about the ways in which the rhetoric sometimes makes our conversations harder to have rather than easier."

Corvino also specified that he intended to be an "equal opportunity critic" by looking at rhetoric that comes from both sides of the debate and examining them carefully.

The first phrase that Corvino commented on was "Love the sinner,



ANDRES TABORDA '15 / THE COWL

Dr. Dana Dillon responds to a question from the audience. She delivered the official response.

hate the sin," in the way that it draws a sharp line between the sinner and the sin, and draws a sharp line between who someone is and what they do when those are actually intimately connected.

Before going further, Corvino noted that he has always enjoyed speaking at Catholic colleges because "you take the big questions seriously," and consider issues in a thoughtful and nuanced way.

The next phrase he addressed was "It's not me who says so, it's God," simply because it is far too easy to set up the debate that way. The idea that "homosexuality and race are not the same thing" was included as well, and he cited ways in which analogies between the two movements were appropriate and reasonable, and ways in which they should be considered separately.

"It's just not natural" was the next claim on which he remarked. He listed a number of things that people commonly use to function on daily life that are not natural like alarm

clocks and cell phones, also poking fun at Friars Club saying, "These white polyester jackets - not natural."

He explained that the argument that homosexual acts violate the natural purpose of the sexual organs becomes a reductionist and dehumanizing one that disregards that sex can have a unifying function and breaks down the act to mere "parts" and "plumbing."

While addressing the "liberal" side of the debate, Corvino assessed the claim that "morality is a private matter; you shouldn't judge other people." He asserted that taking a moral stand is part of all people's responsibilities, and everyone should be concerned about how people treat one another.

Much to Lady Gaga's dismay, Corvino also commented on the claim, "I was born this way, therefore it's okay." He stated that he neither knows nor cares whether or not he was "born this way" and stressed the need for moral arguments rather than scientific ones on the matter of homosexuality.

The last claim he addressed was "Discrimination is wrong period,

and it should be illegal," noting that the tendency to want to shut down this debate is unfortunate. He ended his lecture with a plea for ongoing conversation, encouraging the audience to "do it for the sake of those who come after us."

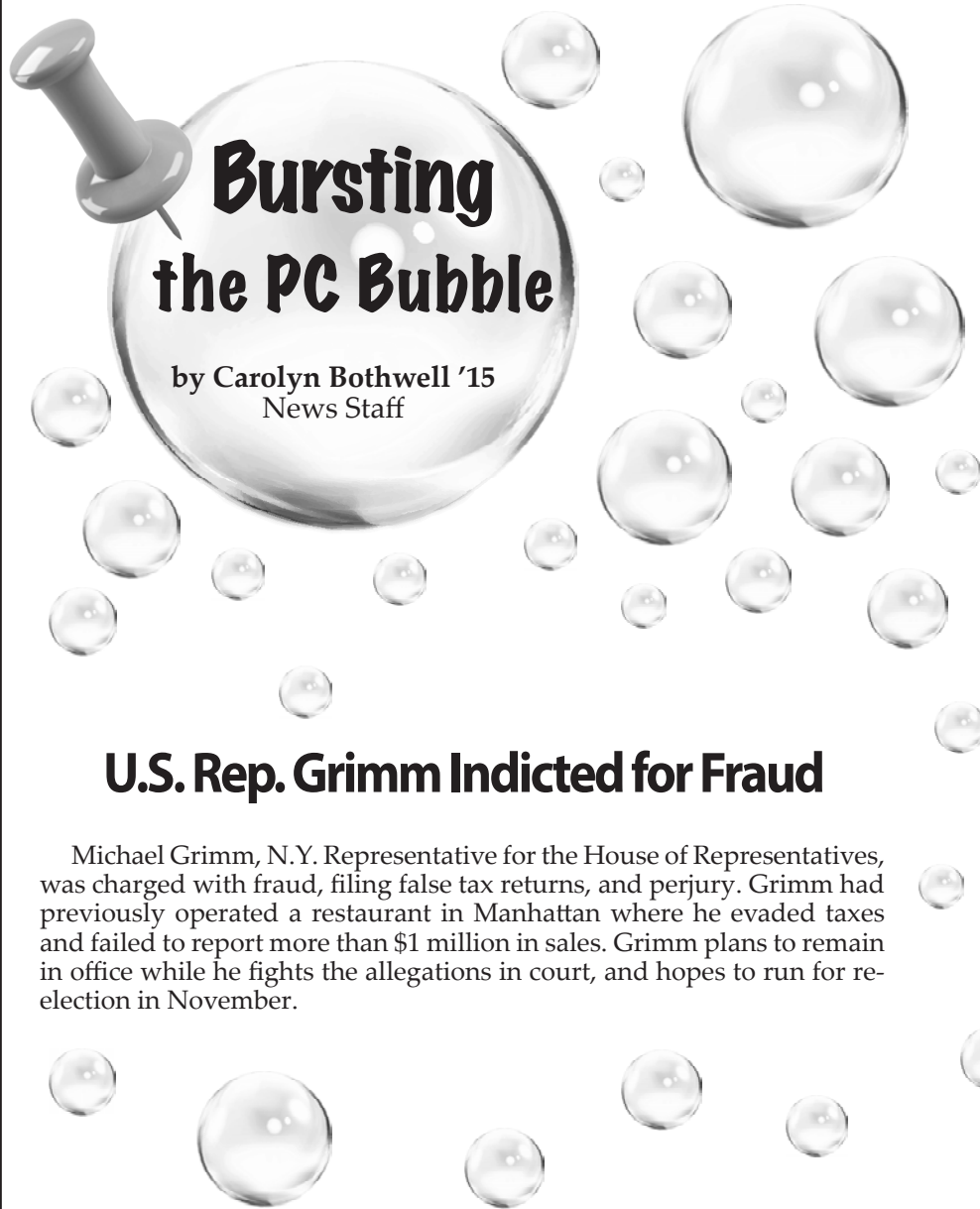
Dr. Dillon's response to Corvino's lecture included a call to work to "stop this hateful rhetoric here today" and reflected on how Dr. Corvino and herself "really share commitment to trying to get people to talk more deeply" about these issues.

She briefly discussed some of her understanding of Catholic teaching, including the fundamental dignity of the human person and how the fact that nothing compromises that dignity is the larger context in which to shape our dialogue.

She developed her own responses and explanations to the rhetoric Corvino shared in his lecture, and concluded with a call to "continue to be a community that asks and seeks answers together."

After the event, Dr. Corvino told *The Cowl*, "I was very grateful for the warm reception and thoughtful discussion. I was particularly grateful for Dr. Dillon's comments, and I hope that this could be a model for how we may move forward in dialogue on these issues."

Dr. Hudson further stated, "As a result [of the cancellation], many more of us had a chance to witness Professors Corvino and Dillon model how one engages morally contentious issues in a thoughtful, serious, civil, and enlightening manner. The College's Mission rarely has been fulfilled so well."



# Bursting the PC Bubble

by Carolyn Bothwell '15  
News Staff

## U.S. Rep. Grimm Indicted for Fraud

Michael Grimm, N.Y. Representative for the House of Representatives, was charged with fraud, filing false tax returns, and perjury. Grimm had previously operated a restaurant in Manhattan where he evaded taxes and failed to report more than \$1 million in sales. Grimm plans to remain in office while he fights the allegations in court, and hopes to run for reelection in November.

## Search for Malaysia Flight 370 Continues

On Monday, April 28, officials announced their next steps in the search for the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 that disappeared on March 8. Now, almost two months later, officers have planned an intense underwater search utilizing private contractors that will cost \$56 million. They plan to suspend all aerial searches and focus on the ocean floor. This search could take at least six to eight months.

## Silence in Response to Sterling's Racism

Donald Sterling, owner of the Los Angeles Clippers, was recorded making several racist remarks about African American basketball players to his girlfriend. The Clippers responded with a silent protest which included wearing their jerseys inside out, hiding the logos. The National Basketball Players Association has demanded that Sterling not attend any of the playoff games this season. Many professional players are speaking out against Sterling. On April 29, NBA commissioner Adam Silver issued a lifetime ban and a \$2.5 million fine for Sterling.

## South Korean Ferry Arrests

On Monday, April 28, authorities arrested three people from the Korea Shipping Association for destroying evidence after the ferry sunk in South Korea. Investigators also raided a Coast Guard office in Mokpo and seized documents and evidence from the day of the accident. Nearly 200 bodies have been found dead and about 100 are still missing.

# Congress Updates

by Kathleen McGinty '16  
Asst. News Editor

### STUDENT CONGRESS

Recommendation SCRC 64-14, introduced by Melissa Scott '14, was passed. The bill concerns the extension of St. Dominic Chapel hours to 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Card access to the chapel would be required between the hours of 1 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. According to Scott, Major John Leyden, executive director of Safety and Security, is willing and ready to implement such a recommendation so long as student support persists. Father James Cuddy, O.P., also asserted that one of the nice things about the hour extension is that it puts the chapel on par with Slavin, already open to students 24/7 and regulated with card access swiping points.

Recommendation SCRC 64-15, proposed by Kevin Salvaggio '14, was also passed. Under the recommendation, a map would be installed in the Ruane Atrium to serve as a navigational resource, with the possibility of maps being posted in other locations throughout Slavin.

The 64th Providence College Student Congress officially adjourned for the 2013-2014 academic year. A separate session then began where members of the 65th Student Congress were sworn into office by Executive President Bobby Arruda '15.

### RUN-OFF ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2015:

For the fifth and final representative seat:  
**Lauren McNulty** (81 votes)  
James Cromie (77 votes)

# Faculty Senate Updates

by Andres Taborda '15  
News Editor

### FACULTY SENATE

The Providence College Faculty Senate met for this past Wednesday to vote on two important pieces of legislation. However, as President Fred Drogula put it, "Unfortunately, democracy is often slow." All votes were pushed back to next Tuesday's meeting, which is the last of the academic year.

Prior to any legislation, the Senate was set to vote to send two of its members to the Committee on Academic Rank and Tenure (CART) for six-year terms. CART reviews faculty applying for tenure and recommends approval or denial to the president of the College. Senator Giuseppe Butera motioned to move the vote until next Tuesday so senators could learn more about the slate of candidates. The motion passed on a voice vote.

The first piece of legislation related to academic rank and tenure. It amended multiple clauses in the faculty handbook to provide clarity in what tenure-track professors need to be granted tenure.

The bill also added a different type of sabbatical. According to the language

in the bill, faculty members wishing to apply for tenure would have the opportunity to apply for a sabbatical after three years at the College to conduct research and ideally get published by peer-reviewed journals.

Debate on this issue was heavy on a list serve for the Faculty Senate. Throughout most of Wednesday leading up to the meeting, professors engaged in lively debate responding to each other's comments through email.

The bill, however, did not make it to a final vote and was moved to the next Tuesday's calendar. Senators were instructed to send all amendments to the president or secretary of the Faculty Senate prior to Friday at 5 p.m. No other amendments will be accepted after the deadline.

The final piece of legislation related to the recommendation of a policy for outside speakers coming to Providence College. This comes in light of the events this year, which began with the postponement by the administration of a lecture by Dr. John Corvino. Corvino, who was supposed to speak in September 2013, spoke at the College last week.

Faculty Senate meetings are open to the Providence College community. The next and final meeting is set for Tuesday, May 6 at 2:30 p.m. in Moore Hall.



Sens. Paul Czech (left) and James Keating (right) debate pending legislation at Wednesday's meeting.



## Updates:

Semester Delivery Total: 2717 lbs.

Week Delivery Total: 298 lbs.

# Students Organize Cooley Motivational Speech

by Meaghan Dodson '17  
News Staff

LECTURES

On Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 7 p.m., Providence College's very own Coach Ed Cooley gave a motivational speech in Mullaney Gym. After an outstanding basketball season, which—of course—included winning the NCAA Big East title, Cooley shared the secret to his success.

Cooley expressed his confidence in the "power of belief." He claimed that in order to be inspired and to inspire others, you have to have "it." Cooley's life story is proof that he undoubtedly possesses "it," as he was born in inner-city Providence and, despite major setbacks, was able to attend Stonehill College and go on to become the coach of a Division I college basketball team. He attested that although he was never the greatest basketball player, he was determined and never gave up. He offered Bryce Cotton '14 as a current example of the "power of belief," as he was recently named the MVP of the Big East Tournament.

The proceeds of the entire event went to the Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ocean State. There were basket raffles, a 50/50 raffle, and a half-court shot competition to raise



ANDREW KONNERTH '17 / THECOWL

Coach Cooley discusses the power of belief and the role it has played in his own life.

money for the foundation. In keeping with the organization's mission, Cooley emphasized the importance of mentorship and leadership. He attested that he could not have gotten to where he is today without the support of his family and friends, so he uses every opportunity to give back to his community.

The event was sponsored by management majors in Professor Tim King's Organizational Theory class. Lauren McNulty '15, one of

the organizers of the event, reflected, "People want to hear Coach Cooley speak. He's so inspirational. This was an event that has not already happened on campus, so we figured we could really get the word out about how important our cause is through him, because people would listen."

Cooley admitted that he feels like every day is a dream for him, and his only hope is that he will never wake up. He greets each day with a smile because, as he stated, today is the only

thing you can change, so it is important to take your life into your own hands.

In a moment of spontaneity, Cooley auctioned off two pizza parties, where he promised to join the highest bidders and 20 of their closest friends at their homes. When one adult bid \$300, the child topped it with an offer of \$400—and Cooley announced it was sold!

Charles D'Alessandro '17, who attended the event and was very much motivated by Cooley's speech, commented, "He was a true inspiration. He opened my eyes to what having a positive attitude can do to change one's life."

Near the end of the event during the question and answer segment of the program, one of the youngest members of the audience asked Cooley the question, "Are you going to be at Providence forever?" Luckily for the Friars, Cooley responded—yes... forever a Friar.

The night attracted almost 150 people and it raised a total of \$2,110. When combined with online fundraising, PC raised almost \$3,000 for the foundation. Any member of the Providence community who would like to make his or her own contribution to the Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation can donate online at <https://fundly.com/m2/big-brothers-big-sisters-of-the-ocean-state>.

## A Night of Dance and Fun

by Jackie McCarthy '14  
News Staff

CAMPUS EVENTS

It is easy to believe that we live in a safe world where bad things will never happen to us. No one expects to experience tragedy, but, unfortunately, tragedy happens every day without reason. In the summer of 2011 in Wayland, Mass., Lauren Dunne Astley was killed at the hands of her then-boyfriend. Many suffered grief at the passing of this beautiful, talented, and inspirational young woman, but her death also spurred a desire in her family and friends to educate people on domestic violence and the preventative measures that should be taken against it.

Lauren Dunne Astley's parents, Malcolm Astley and Mary Dunne, created the Lauren Dunne Astley Fund shortly after their daughter's death. The mission of the Fund is "to promote dynamic educational programs, particularly those in the areas of the development of healthy teen relationships, the arts, and community service." Abby Elcock '15 and Andrea Tempesta '14, who both knew Astley personally, brought this story of domestic violence to the attention of Providence College's Project Save Committee. The Project Save Committee provides educational opportunities and resources to talk about sexual assault and violence education.

Bring Back the Dance took place in Aquinas Lounge on Saturday, April 26. The dance is a spin off of Bring Back the Date, a sit-down dinner that took place last year and last semester. The entry fee for these events are collected and donated to specific funds. This year, the Bring Back the Dance Committee, Project Save, and Elcock and Tempesta decided to donate the money collected at Bring Back the Dance to the Lauren Dunne Astley Fund.

This was the first year that Project Save has held Bring Back the Dance. Over 100 students attended the dance over the course of the evening. Marian Salama, a hall director on campus and a supervisor and committee member of Project Save, said, "The event is fun, but I think the student population that's going is going to support the cause. They're going because they want to educate, raise awareness, and they believe in what we're supporting. It's not about whether it is a sit-down dinner or a dance party." The event raised over \$500.

Photos of Astley hung on the Aquinas Lounge, as well as musical note cutouts which represented Lauren's love of music, doubling as a location for attendees to write personal messages of support and awareness. "It made it a night of dancing and learning," said Elcock. It was a night of awareness, education, and fun, and a celebration of Astley's life. The celebration began at 9 p.m. and ended at midnight with Astley's favorite song.

"Through my eyes," said Elcock, "people on campus and people, once they leave Providence, need to be aware that tragic things happen, but there are resources available. No one should feel scared or alone, but know that there is a support system here at PC."

Salama added, "It's very unfortunate that it takes such a personal experience for us to talk about this issue. As much as it hurt so many people, these are the stories we need to embrace and share with others to educate both males and females."

The point of the Lauren Dunne Astley Fund is not to talk about Astley's ex-boyfriend or to grieve about what happened to her. The point is to acknowledge that tragedies like this can happen, and to create a desire in the community to stand up and make them stop.

## So, What Does 10,259 Mean?

by Andres Taborda '15  
News Editor

SPECIAL EVENTS

The truth was finally exposed as to what the number 10,259 means. Students have been guessing for days as the Office for Institutional Advancement publicized the event with posters around campus, on napkin dispensers, and on social media.

With commencement just around the corner, one of the more logical guesses around campus was that the number represented how many seats there were at the Dunkin' Donuts Center, which is actually just under 12,000.

The answer, released to students in an email Wednesday, April 30, is that 10,259 stands for the amount of donors Providence College has. Since student tuition fees only get the College's budget so far, it relies on the financial help from outside sources, whether it is alumni or individuals who simply want to contribute to the development of Providence College.

The Office of Institutional Advancement held a philanthropy event in the Slavin Center where students were able to say "thank you"

to those who make the many things that Providence College offers possible.

By attaching a word to the phrase "I am forever grateful for," students reflected on something that makes their experience at the College special. Students were photographed with their signs of thankfulness and were featured on a Tumblr page created by IA. The website is [gofriarsblog.tumblr.com](http://gofriarsblog.tumblr.com), where the photos will stay up.

Bobby Arruda '15, executive president of Student Congress, said, "The event was very empowering as we are coming to the close of a very big and eventful year at the College." He continued, "It was great to see students come around and attach a word to something that they are thankful for when it comes to their experience here."

Arruda told *The Cowl* that he is thankful for Student Congress. "It was nice to think about how much Congress has done for me the past three years," he said. "I have grown as a leader and as a person because of it."

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MORGAN PEKERA '15 / THECOWL

Zach Jost '16 (left) and Seth Pinches '16 (right) pose for a photo thanking Providence College donors.

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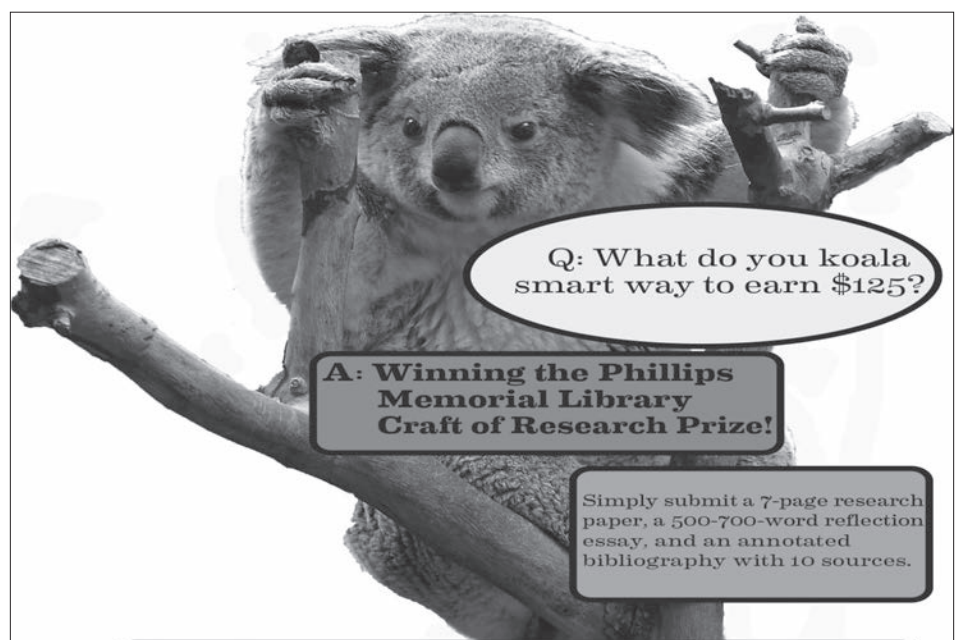
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BY NOEL COWARD

*Spring Dance Concert*

*Student Film Festival*



# OPINION

## What If Religion Did Not Exist?

*Today's Religion-Centered Problems May Be the Fault of Humanity*

by Olivia Beesley '15  
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

A friend of mine was once asked by a Korean tourist, "Who is that man?" while pointing up to a statue. A little taken aback, he replied simply, "Jesus," thinking that this single noun would clear up the issue for anybody. However, after receiving a quizzical stare and a few moments of silence, he realized that a little more clarity was needed. "Jesus Christ, the Son of God," he added. Surely this would suffice? The tourist had never heard of such a man.

While it is hard for us in our Western society to imagine someone who has never heard of Jesus or Christianity, we can easily imagine a denial of both. Last week, Rhode Island's Governor Chafee declared May 1 (Rhode Island's very own "Day of Prayer") as the "Day of Reason" in appreciation of atheism. As many of you reading will know, reason and faith can complement each other in Christianity. However, in an atheistic context, "reason" is

utilized as an instrument of attack rather than one that supports faith. In this sense, it struck me as a little inappropriate to declare May 1 a "Day of Reason."

Chafee's proclamation made me consider not only the dialogue between faith and reason, but also allowed me to harken back to the Korean tourist who I had been told about.

It not only made me ask, "What if someone had never heard of Jesus?" or "What if Christianity didn't exist?" but "What if religion did not exist?"

This challenging and engaging idea made me ponder the purpose of religion in the world today and the prospect of a life without it.

Coming from a Christian background, I find it unusual to consider any religion in terms of practicality

rather than spirituality. While many can highlight the fact that religion throughout the ages has not only provided benefits, but also implicated many hardships and disadvantages, I would like to ask the question "Is religion really the problem?" While it may be easy to answer with a simple

"Yes" and cease to finish reading this article, I encourage you to take a step back from the magnifying glass that society holds up to religion. Perhaps it is time that we took a look at the larger picture and question whether religion really is the source of our problems today. Maybe we need to stop pointing the finger at smaller issues and turn it to the root of these issues: humanity.

Regardless of your beliefs

concerning who created humanity, we can be sure of one thing—humanity created religion. If this is true, then surely we are the source of all so-called religion-related problems? Indeed, I have always wanted to ask an atheist the question: "Do you have more of a problem with the idea of religion, or the idea of God?" While, as a Christian, I cannot answer on behalf of the atheist, I would like to suggest that the problem can be sourced in human-made religion.

It seems that the human attempt to bring God into our world fails to meet the perfection of God. Furthermore, any human-made creation holds some flaws, just like we do. Isn't that where the saying comes from? "We are only human." Our issue seems to be more with our invention of religion rather than God and spirituality. I suggest that we need to focus on the elimination of corruption within humanity, rather than trying to erase the small scratch of religion on the larger painting of humanity and life.

So, is religion the problem, or are we? While people have every right to move away from religion and reject it in today's world, perhaps this break up needs to be done in a truthful way: it's not you, it's me...or rather, it's us.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.KURIOSITAS.COM

## Dangers in Unionizing NCAA Athletes

*Unions Pose Risks for Potential Strikes and Unrealistic Demands*

by Brianna Abbott '17  
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

Athletes across the nation jumped, ran, and kicked for joy when the NCAA recently passed a new rule that allows for unlimited free meals and snacks for athletes. Whether the athlete has a full tuition scholarship or simply walked onto the team, the NCAA says that the athlete can now receive free food. Some students, however, want more, and now "the NCAA faces significant legal pressure to allow college athletes to unionize or be paid," according to *Sportsgrind.com*. Northwestern University has already unionized its scholarship football players. Though an extra granola bar after lift is completely reasonable and preferred, unionizing college athletes

takes college sports one step too far.

"I feel very strongly that there is an exploitative relationship, that these students' rights aren't respected. When I have our star basketball guard saying he wants to join a union, I feel obligated to listen," says Matt Lesser, a Connecticut Democrat who would be voting on union legalization. Though athletes often have grueling schedules filled with classes, practices, lift, and sleeping, constantly working out can be strenuous; that is the cost of being a student and an athlete simultaneously.

Athletes at top schools are the most taken care of students on campus. They are bombarded with free swag, excellent training facilities, personal trainers, academic services, and early registration for classes. Now students get unlimited meals and snacks at all times. If the athletes still believe that they do not have the rights that other students have, the other students do

not have the responsibilities and the perks of the student athletes.

Furthermore, unions have a general trend of forming for the greater good and then taking advantage of that good. Lamar Alexander, a senator on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions says, "Imagine a university's basketball players striking before a Sweet 16 game, demanding shorter practices, bigger dorm rooms, better food, and no classes before 11 a.m." Some of these demands may be slightly exaggerated, but the threat of athletes taking advantage of union rights is very real. The athletes, especially at big football and basketball schools, would get their way without fail because the public schools want them to play. A football team could strike right before a championship game that they would then lose by forfeit, and the coach would most likely get fired for not

meeting their demands and losing the game by default. The teams could demand not to take classes at that point—well, not really. They are still students—and the coach would have to agree.

If the students really believe that they are being exploited, they should treat the situation in the same way that they advocated for unlimited meals and snacks—take it directly to the NCAA. Student athletes could lobby to the NCAA for stricter laws regarding practice schedules, etc. If the coaches do not adhere to the rules, the players could then inform the NCAA or the school, and the coach would either have to change his ways or be removed. That way, the entire nation of student-athletes has the same restrictions and rights. It certainly worked out when it came to food.

## Falling in Love With



by Jacquelyn Kelley '17  
Opinion Staff

CAMPUS

In my DWC class the other day, my professor asked a classroom full of freshmen if they had fallen in love with someone or knew someone who had fallen in love over the course of this academic year. I was surprised to see hands rise all around me, and those who were raising hands were just as surprised to see that my hand remained idle. I felt like an outcast in a room full of love-struck individuals.

The professor's question stayed with me that day because it was so provocative, but by the end of the day I came to believe that it was also too specific. He asked if we had fallen in love with someone, as in a significant other, to which my answer was no. But, if he had asked if I had fallen in love with something over the course of my freshman year, my hand would have immediately shot up.

Although I have not fallen in love with a particular person this year, I have fallen in love with college itself. I have fallen for the school spirit that is showcased at every one of our sporting events. I have fallen in love with writing for *The Cowl*. I have fallen in love with the courses I have taken and with the professors who have taught them (just to clarify: I don't love the professors in a creepy way, but in more of a respectful and appreciative way).

I have fallen in love with the view from the 10th floor of McVinney. I have come to know and love the many friends and acquaintances I have made, and have thoroughly enjoyed our adventures in the city of Providence together. The love I'm describing may not seem traditional or look like the love you find in a Hollywood movie, but it's love nonetheless.

We so often associate "falling in love" with a person, but it doesn't have to be another human being that brings about such affection in us. We forget that we can fall in love with just about anything. We can fall in love with reading because it exposes us to new worlds. We can fall in love with running because it releases stress. We can fall in love with traveling because it is full of excitement.

It is often these seemingly ordinary things we fall in love with that are so important because they are the loving relationships that will hold us up when our human relationships crumble. Falling in love with a significant other has its benefits (I am not a total cynic when it comes to human love), but sometimes falling in love with the simple, everyday aspects of our lives is just as vital to our overall happiness. Therefore, to answer the professor's question in its entirety:

No, I have not fallen in love with someone in particular this year, but I have fallen in love with the many memories I have made. And the best part? These memories won't be breaking up with me anytime soon.



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

CAMPUS

There's little chance that I'll ever be invited to give a Commencement address. Surprisingly, there's not much of a demand on the graduation circuit for obscure and unaccomplished priests with receding hairlines. But I've got a computer and a *Cowl* column, so here comes the speech that I'll never get a chance to deliver.

Congratulations, members of the Providence College Class of 2014. My message to you this morning is simple: These are not the best days of your life.

I'm sorry to contradict the heartfelt and teary-eyed sentiments of so many of you, but these four years—no matter how amazing they may have been—do not represent the pinnacle of your existence.

To prove that I know what I'm talking about, let me tell you about two pictures that I have on my desk. The first was taken during my senior year at Providence College. It's a picture of one of my roommates and me, snapped in the wee hours of the morning in the dank confines of our basement at 93/95 Radcliffe. We're sitting on repulsive secondhand furniture, under strings of Christmas lights, in front of a wall decorated with signs "borrowed" from the neighborhood. (Prophetically, one of the signs had been boosted from a parking spot in front of DiTraglia Hall

and says "Reserved for Chaplain.")

What makes the photo great is the look on our faces. It's pure joy. It's the result of a friendship forged over four years that seemed to pass by in an instant. We were certain that those were the best days of our lives and the fact that photo was taken at 4:00 a.m. shows that we were determined not to waste precious time on something as trivial as sleep.

The other picture on my desk is decidedly more solemn than the first. It was taken almost a decade later on a perfect spring day, and in a slightly more beautiful setting. Instead of basement couches with mismatched cushions, there are stately pews. Rather than tacky Christmas lights, there are majestic stained glass windows. The photo shows me kneeling in the sanctuary of St. Dominic Church in Washington, D.C. and was snapped at the moment that I was ordained to the priesthood.

In these last days, you seniors are all in the midst of posing for your own versions of that first picture. Instead of my roommate and me, it's you and yours. You're smiling and laughing, just like us. You're recognizing how lucky you are to be at Providence College, just like us. (And there's a decent chance you're in a gross basement sitting on nauseatingly nasty furniture, just like us!)

I look at that first picture and am reminded of where you are now. Are these days of grace and blessing? Without a doubt. Are they uniquely

wonderful, never to be repeated? Absolutely. Are they the best days of your life? My eyes shift to the other picture on my desk. I smile and say, "Not even close."

I wouldn't trade the gift of the priesthood for anything in the world, including the opportunity to go back to those days of joy in college. My roommate is living his boyhood dream of teaching history in a Catholic high school, coaching baseball and basketball, and has a perfect baby daughter with his beautiful wife (who, frankly, could have done better). Do you think he'd give that up for anything? Not a chance.

My ironclad conviction that these are not the best days of your life is not a denial of the goodness of four years at Providence College; it's an affirmation of future joys that surpass all you ever thought possible.

So enjoy these last weeks. Take your pictures and celebrate the blessings that you've received from the hands of God and from one another at Providence College. But don't be afraid to walk across the stage at the Dunk. There are new pictures to be taken. And while you might just have to take my word for it for now, the best is yet to come.

Congratulations, members of the Providence College Class of 2014. May God bring to completion the good work He has begun in you.

## The Right Attitude Can Change Your Perspective

### A Positive Outlook Will Carry You through Life

by Jenn Giffels '14  
Senior Staff Writer

SOCIETY

After a delicious late-night dinner with a friend of crab rangoon and cashew chicken, I opened the Chinese fortune cookie, pulled out the fortune and, blinking, read the faint blue type again: "Attitude is more important than facts."

Now, the fortunes inside the Chinese fortune cookies always seem to have that uncanny ability to speak to some aspect of your life at the moment while also happening to have your lucky number on the back as well. Sometimes, though, they speak louder than others, and, well, this was one of those times.

As a member of the Class of 2014, I can say that there are a lot of "facts" quickly approaching us right now: impending graduation, potential separation from some of our best friends who we've grown so close with over the past four years, the unknown of the working world, and saying goodbye to a home. It doesn't make a difference to us that countless classes have gone through this before, it still

affects us every bit as much because it is now our turn.

As the fortune advised me that night last week, our attitude about these inevitable events is what will make them amazing parts of our lives or as moments we dread. Certain emotions cannot be held back, and it is important to take time to feel the nostalgia and the sadness. But make room for the excitement, the gratitude, and the happiness.

Pause for a minute and reframe the situation: instead of being overwhelmed by finals, be excited to be almost done. Instead of being saddened by leaving your friends, be thankful for the opportunity to have met them. Instead of being scared of the future, be awed by the sense of possibility. I know we're older than the freshmen, but we're still very young to a lot of people!

After all, what is the alternative to these events happening? The events not happening. I think it is safe to say that most of us would not have wanted to not have this incredible experience at Providence College. Nostalgia is defined as "a sentimental longing or wistful affection for the past, typically for a period or place with happy personal associations." Therefore one

cannot experience nostalgia without having been happy in that moment in the past, so embrace the happy part of the nostalgia.

These quotes and sayings don't work for everyone. Or maybe you just don't like Chinese food and never get the fortunes. Some tear up at sayings like "The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be," while others laugh at how cheesy it is. But life is funny that way; everyone experiences it differently and even the same person can experience it differently with a change in attitude.

As the author of this article, I confess this is still hard for me to do. These next few weeks are full of many "lasts" for us seniors, and many uncertainties about how our lives will pan out.

But you know what? The future is something we create, it is not out there waiting to be discovered. So let's start creating.

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# End of the Road, Start of the Journey

by Mason Sciotti '15  
Editor-in-Chief

EDITORIAL

Well, we're finally here: the end of the year. How did we get here so quickly? I'm pretty sure that January was only about three weeks ago, but the calendar says May 1. I'd prefer to choose not to believe it, as I'm not ready to say goodbye to my junior year, a sentiment I'm sure you all feel as your year also comes to a close. As we look toward the summer recess and accept that it is upon us, I'd like to share some thoughts with each class:



**Freshmen**—You survived! You made it through your first year of college, no matter how impossible you thought it was. You probably feel like kings and queens of Providence College now; you know all the ins-and-outs of campus. You're no longer the new kids on the block. However, with experience should come a special understanding, an understanding that no matter how much you think you've seen, there's tons more out there. I challenge you to explore new interests over the summer and bring them back to PC in the fall.

**Sophomores**—How's it feel to be upperclassmen now? If you think that your first two years at Providence College went fast, believe me, the next ones go way, way faster. For the past couple years, you've been brought into the PC community. You've had the upperclassmen to look to for answers to your questions as you've figured things out, but you felt more comfortable than you did as a freshman. My challenge to you is this: come back next year ready to help. There will be a whole new class of freshmen that you've never seen before, and they will be looking to you for guidance. Reach out to them as those above you reached out to you; help them feel the love of the PC family.

**Juniors**—As a junior myself, I may feel a little biased towards the Class of 2015 (I mean, we are the best). We're going to be seniors next year, the big shots of campus. That's...terrifying. Our last year at Providence College is nearly

here, and we don't feel ready; at least I don't. My challenge to my own class and to myself is this: take a deep breath, and don't worry. We're going to get there, wherever there might be, I promise. In the meantime, let's enjoy our summer and our senior year. We only get one of them.

**Seniors**—Wow, this is it. You're done with college; cue the cheers and tears. You've put in your four years at Providence College and basked in all it's had to offer. You've given back your special talents and skills to your community; you've left pieces of you with PC. Now's the hard part. You go off into all corners of the country—and maybe the world—and you might feel unsure about starting in a new place where you don't know anyone. Never forget: Providence College is always with you. Just because you aren't physically on campus doesn't mean that you aren't always with those people you love and cherish in your heart. Go take Providence College with you into the world, and do great things. We know you will.

In closing, I want to give a special thank you to Kayla and Keely who have done so much for *The Cowl* this year. It's an honor for Kelly and me to step into the tradition that is *The Cowl*; you can count on us to keep it awesome. Thank you two so much for all you've done, things both recognized and unrecognized. We love you guys. Everyone, go enjoy your summer; be safe, happy, and healthy, and remember: just because you've left PC doesn't mean that PC has left you.

# Prayer Is Putting Faith in God

*We Look to Faith for Knowledge that Transcends Our Reason*

by Matthew Tinsley '16  
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

A recent article that appeared in the *Huffington Post* included a 1936 letter written by Albert Einstein to a curious young girl named Phyllis who had reached out to the famous physicist. In this letter, Einstein responds to Phyllis's question, "Do scientists pray?" Einstein's reply reminded me of the common confusion that people often feel when considering faith and reason together. In light of our approaching exams, I would like to redefine faith in order that our students remain confident in God's loving grace during these challenging moments.

To better understand Phyllis's question, we must first consider how intimately linked prayer is to our faith. By submitting our will to God's will, and thereby asking for God's loving intercession into our daily affairs, we reaffirm our faith in Him. To pray is to put your faith into action.

In his letter to Phyllis, Einstein

explains that "every occurrence, including the affairs of human beings, is due to the laws of nature." Thus, as Einstein continues, "a scientist cannot be inclined to believe that the course of events can be influenced by prayer, that is, by a supernaturally manifested wish." Einstein is careful to point out that the job of the scientist is to examine and explore the natural, material world. So, matters that involve metaphysics, such as prayer, are not relevant to the scientist's work.

Strictly speaking, Einstein is not saying anything heretical here. However, a logical positivist would infer from Einstein's words that prayer, an act of faith, is meaningless insofar as it is irrational. Put simply, it is easy to take Einstein's response a step further and reject God, whose existence cannot be verified under a microscope.

The Catholic Church teaches us that faith, like reasoning, is a mode of knowing. Faith is compatible with reason, yet stretches beyond it when the limits of our understanding have been reached. There are lots of things that we can know about this world by empirical verification. Yet there are

also things that transcend our limited capabilities of understanding, in which case, we look to faith as a proper response.

As Father Robert Barron explains in a recent video blog, we turn to faith "when reason [has] done all its work. Now, there's a surrender to a reality that I can't, even in principle, control, but one that beguiles me on the far side of reason." It is a mistake to set faith and reason at odds with each other.

With final exams just weeks away, great academic challenges await us. Students will be busy reviewing their DWC notes, memorizing chemistry formulas, and studying long hours in the library. It is easy to forget how important our faith is in demanding times such as these. I encourage you to set aside some time this week for prayer and reflection. You will not need your calculator or your geometry compass. Getting to know God better requires more than just our reason; it requires an act of faith.



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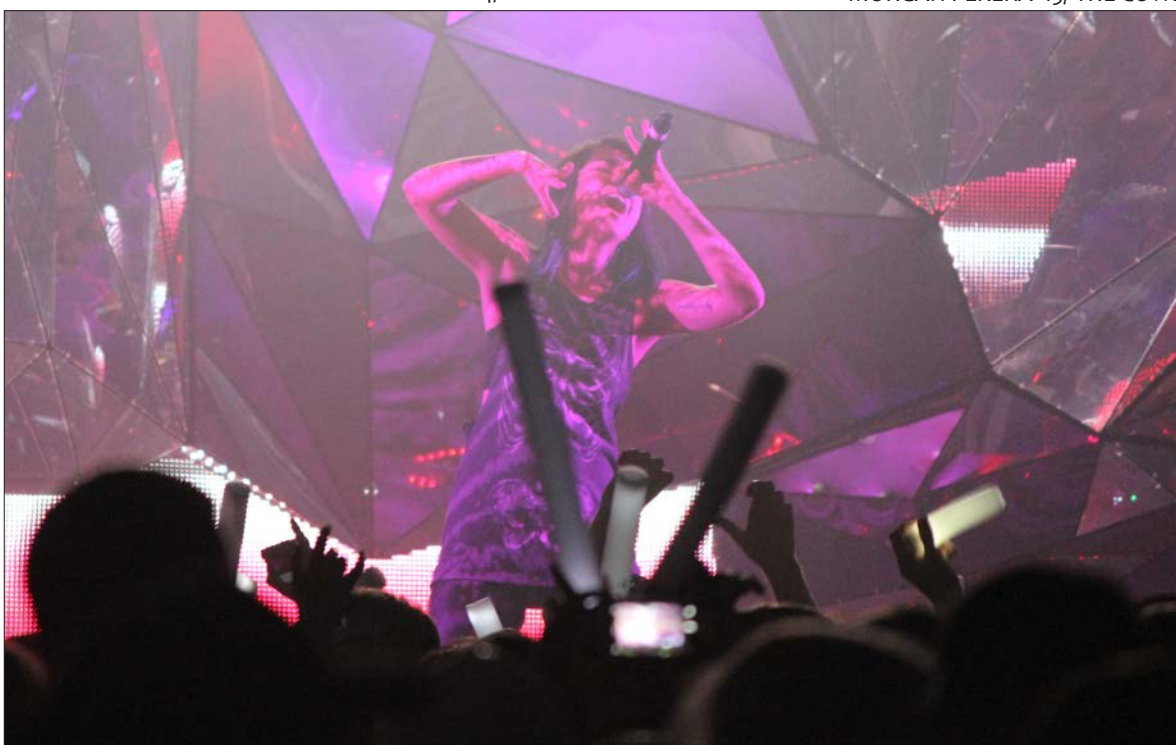
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**TOP LEFT:** The SAIL Office sponsors SUPERBINGO, a night of food, prizes, and bingo, including the chance to win an iPad, bike, flat screen TV, and much more.

**TOP CENTER:** BMSA's "Pieces of Me" Fashion Show, also sponsored by Afro-Am, features fabulous fashions while benefiting Autism Speaks.

**TOP RIGHT:** BOP's annual Clam Jam, entitled "Come Sail Away," features live music from the Grab Brothers Band, games, a bungee jump, rock wall, crafts, and of course, delicious BBQ featuring clams.

**MIDDLE LEFT:** Campus Ministry's Lemonade for Life volunteers hand out lemonade to celebrate life.

**MIDDLE RIGHT:** Verge Campus Tour brings Krewella and Radical Something to PC as part of BOP's annual spring concert.

**BELOW LEFT:** The Organizational Theory Class sponsors John McDonald, the vice president of adult services at Crossroads Rhode Island, as he speaks about homelessness in Rhode Island.

**BELOW CENTER:** The Class of 2014 Senior Giving Committee and the Office of Institutional Advancement hold a Senior Sendoff Celebration for students who made donations, featuring brief remarks from Fr. Brian Shanley '80 and John Ollquist '75.

**BELOW RIGHT:** The Asian American Club sponsors ImagineAsian, a celebration of Asian culture featuring free food, dance performances, crafts, and a Chinese Calligraphy demonstration.

Photos Compiled by Morgan Pekera '15, Photo Editor



# PROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

## *How are you preparing for finals?*



**"Reading my books, reviewing notes and power-points."**

Tiffany Devonish '17



**"Don't wanna think about it, we graduate afterwards."**

Emily Luongo '14



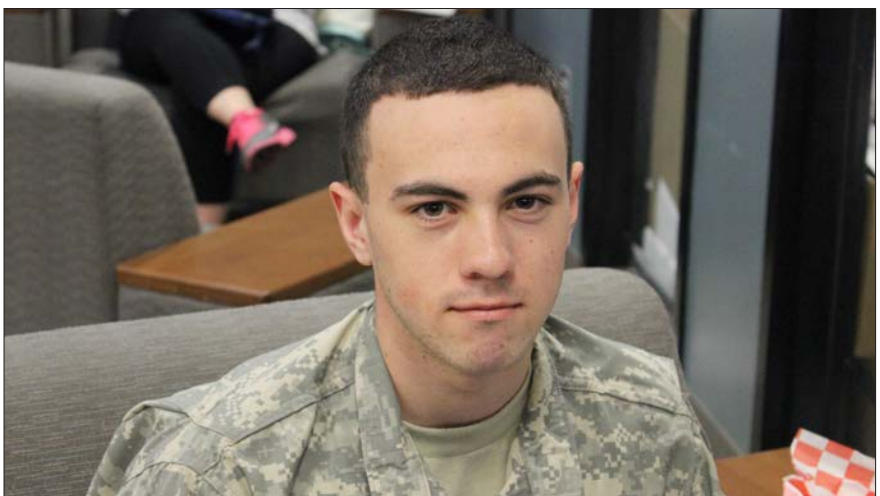
**"We're not!"**

Kareena Allard '15, Colleen Crowley '15, Alexa Marconi '15, and Julie Duignan '15



**"Nothing so far."**

Horace Robinson '17



**"A lot of caffeine, and not a lot of sleep."**

Matthew Monjay '17



**"Making study guides, rereading notes, and looking over power points."**

Darci Vierra '16 and Emily Matthews '16



**"Stocking up on RedBull."**

-Sleepy



## The Adults, a Novel by Alison Espach



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOBLOGGER.R-STONE.NET

### Adults:

Continued from front page

she views his death from her window, it is evident that no 14-year-old child should ever have to witness something so devastating. After a series of events, Emily's life begins to fall apart. Her parents divorce, her father moves to Prague, and Emily must grow up far too quickly. *The Adults* focuses deeply on the conception of maturity and the venture into adulthood. As the novel proceeds, the reader

uncovers Emily's secret affair with a young teacher. She becomes both seduced and a seducer herself. Emily is at a stage in her life where she does not yet understand the implications of such passion to the necessary degree. The storyline provides an innate look into the challenges and obstacles that teenagers today face. Neglected by her parents after their divorce, Emily seeks comfort in someone who, though she should not have relations with him, provides her with the distraction she needs at that point in her life. Though most teenagers have not had the

same experiences as Emily, the daily stresses and struggles that she faces are something relatable to every reader. Ultimately, Espach masters her use of the teenage voice through the depiction of her main character, Emily. She unearths the challenges that teenagers face as they learn to mature and grow up. Espach illuminates the struggles that even the most picture-perfect families encounter by creating a series of smaller stories within the novel. *The Adults*, though questionable with how realistic all events could be, does a wonderful job shedding light on the in-between stage of life that individuals experience in

their adolescent years when they are no longer innocent children, but are not yet considered adults. The novel itself does not mean to send out any message in particular. According to Espach, "There's no message. Or rather, there is no message that I set out to send. There are questions that I'd like the reader to be asking while Emily asks them herself, such as what does it mean to grow up? How do you know when you're an 'adult?' In what ways do our childhoods determine the rest of our lives?" *The Adults* is an enticing tale of the growth of a child into an adult through a world of utter chaos.

## Kern '14 Reverses Disney Tales

by Alanna Smith '14  
A&E Staff

FILM

With the release of *Frozen* still fresh in the collective pop culture mindset, Disney princesses have been seeing a definite resurgence of popularity. Every day, it seems like Buzzfeed has yet another princess-themed article or list: Disney princesses in their princes' outfits, Disney princesses dressed as other famous heroines, or something to that effect. A few of these are better than others, but few are very original.

This semester, Providence College student Kristen Kern '14 decided to put her own twist on this trend for her senior art thesis: *Arsy-Versy Fairytales*. Her thesis, which combined skills from her dual concentration in drawing and digital imaging, could be found in the Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery from April 14 to April 25.

So how did her show connect with Disney princesses, exactly? Well, it might help to know that "arsy-versy" is another term for "backwards." Kern selected five fairytale heroines—four of them princesses—and told their stories in reverse. Her subjects were Ariel,

Belle, Cinderella, Rapunzel, and Alice in Wonderland, and she drew from both the original stories and the Disney films based off of them.

The way Kern depicts them, the stories might actually be more fun than those shown in the movies. Confident Rapunzel flees from a clingy prince to find independence and solitude in a remote tower. Ariel is abandoned by her prince, and a kind sea-witch turns her into a mermaid. Belle's prince transforms into a hideous beast, forcing her to flee for her life to a small village. Cinderella, saddled with a foot-loving prince, is cursed to become a servant by a jealous fairy godmother. And Alice—Kern's personal favorite and the only non-princess—is a young girl with a major substance abuse problem.

The set-up of the gallery was fascinating. The five main stories were done in large comic book-style panels, while the rest of the space was filled with ink drawings that showed how the five characters interacted with each other. Kern's desk was placed in one corner in front of a wall filled with her concept art. This gave visitors the chance to see how the thesis grew from pages in a

sketchbook to full-colored pieces.

Kern's thesis is especially timely given the internet's obsession with *Frozen*—especially with the independence of the female characters and overall strong feminist themes. Her heroines would probably get along excellently with Anna and Elsa. None of them need or desire the guidance or acceptance of men. They are content to forge their own paths and write their own stories, so to speak.

One of the coolest parts of Kern's gallery was her single-panel comics showing her characters having regular conversations about boys, clothes, and

parties—with the added bonus of a unique fairytale-world context.

Kern has been a huge Disney fan since childhood. Some of her personal favorites include *Mulan*, *The Princess and the Frog*, and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. She said that other than time constraints, the biggest challenge she faced was trying to differentiate her design choices from the Disney style. She is considering expanding upon her "Arsy-Versy Fairytale" series, and one can only hope that she does. Her eye for cinematic comic panels and ear for realistic dialogue proves that she will have much success in such a field.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JULIETALKSTHESTARS.BLOGSPOT.COM

# The Perfect Summer Wardrobe

by Christina D'Adamo '16  
A&E Staff

FASHION

Summer is just around the corner and it is almost time to put those books aside. Undeniably, summer means warmer temperatures and humid weather. When it comes to a summer wardrobe, think easy and breezy. Demure silhouettes with V-shaped necklines and strapless backs are breathtaking. Bright colors and prints are summer musts. Metallic fabrics in a gray, white, or silver sheen are trending this season.

There are 10 summer wardrobe pieces that every lady should own for the upcoming months. Refresh your wardrobe with the following essentials.

The first essential is a basic tank. Basic tanks come in a variety of colors and patterns. A white or navy tank is practical, however, an embellished tank is another option. From sparkles to jewels and studs, an embellished tank gives an outfit instant appeal.

The second essential is a tunic. Opt for a lightweight tunic in a cotton fabric. A pastel tunic is recommended. A striped tunic is another possibility. Keep in mind that a horizontal stripe in navy or nautical red is most flattering.

The third essential is a chambray shirt. A vintage chambray shirt with classic detailing is preferred. The chambray shirt should be purchased in white denim or blue denim for versatility.

The fourth essential is denim shorts. Denim shorts come in countless styles and crops. Choose a style and crop that is flattering for your body shape. Avoid daisy-duke cut offs and wear a more classic fit.

The fifth essential is denim jeans. Boot-cut denim jeans are

preferred. White boot-cut jeans are suggested, especially for the summer months. Opt for clean-cut denim (as opposed to distressed denim).

The sixth essential is a mini or mid-length skirt. Purchase the skirt in a cotton or chiffon fabric. Skirt prints to consider are tribal, floral, or paisley. A skirt with subtle pleats or ruffles is complementary.

The seventh essential is a white dress. The dress should fall at the knees, or a few inches above the knees. The dress should cinch at the waist and flare at the hips. Avoid a body conscious dress.

The eighth essential is a maxi dress. One-toned maxi dresses are an option, however, two-toned maxi dresses are trending. The maxi dress should tie or buckle at the waist. This will elongate the body and accentuate the figure. The maxi dress should fall at the ankles and should not drag as you walk.

The ninth essential is a denim jacket. A denim jacket can be paired with any outfit and therefore is a go-to piece. Dress up the jacket or dress down the jacket for a completely new look. Purchase a cropped jacket in dark wash denim. Take a fashion risk and try a denim-on-denim style.

The 10th essential is sandals. Choose sandals that are comfortable and therefore walk-able. Avoid basic flip-flops and opt for statement shoes. T-strap sandals or woven-leather sandals are options. Mini-wedge sandals or low-wedge sandals are other options. The sandals should be neutral in tone, though silver or gold sandals are dazzling.

With these basic summer essentials, you are ready to soak up the summer fun, not to mention looking stylish and seasonably on trend. Remember: keep it polished, yet playful and have a wonderful summer.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANELESHEEK/BLOGSPOT.COM

# Let's Rant



PHOTO COURTESY OF NYDAILYNEWS.COM

## This Week: Neil Patrick Harris

by Katie Puzycki '17  
Asst. A&E Editor

POP CULTURE

It is undoubtable that nowadays people are far from shy when it comes to verbalizing their feelings and opinions. Whether good or bad, risking sounding rude, or otherwise, people are unashamed to speak in public. From neglecting to silence cell phones during moments that call for respect, to neglecting to use tasteful language in front of children or others in family-oriented or public places, to poor attitude toward others in general, the rudeness that prevails is endless. But how far is actually too far when it comes to being excessively vocal?

Such was the question when former *How I Met Your Mother* star Neil Patrick Harris had an outburst of sorts at a woman in the audience of the musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, in which Harris is currently starring. During the April 19 performance of this play, the fan reportedly yelled out, "I love you Neil" in the middle of the show, causing a somewhat harsh response from Harris, who replied with a charming "I'm doing something up here motherf\*\*\*r!"

Since then, Harris has been under fire by fans and the media alike. However, it seems as though there has been some confusion regarding the situation. According to Harris' rep, his response was "actually done in character." Going into the show, one should understand that it is centered on improvisation and audience interaction, and in Harris' defense, he was just going along with that standard.

In regards to the fan who started the interaction with Harris, perhaps it may have made more sense if she had referred to Neil more within the context of the show itself, and not the actor. It seems odd that someone would interrupt a performance

in such a way, whether it is allowed (as this one calls for some improvisation), or not. Although Harris says that his response had nothing to do with any personal issues with the audience member, it would not be unreasonable if it did.

It is hard to believe that another person in this situation would not have acted similarly if they too were interrupted during an important moment. Harris is a talented actor, and it is easy to understand the attention surrounding him. Regardless, it seems like this fan in particular has crossed the line with her statement in regards to respect and basic manners. Why is it that so many people have a hard time just being quiet? Contrarily, critics who are negatively portraying Harris in this situation are making the point that if he is such a great actor, then why didn't he just stay in character and go on with the show?

The latter question raises a good point, but Harris' reaction may have been a little more meaningful than critics are willing to believe. In a society where the term respect has little to no relevance in our lives, Harris' remark can very well be viewed as a great disciplinary reaction toward the whole of mankind. Whenever a person acts in a rude way, they are rarely called out on it, and if they are never corrected for their poor actions, then when will they stop acting that way? Probably never—old habits die hard. I think that Harris' comment is enlightening, whether he meant it viciously or as part of his character in the play. Harris, then, should probably receive some more support for his action, and hopefully from this experience, people can begin to learn and understand the importance of knowing when and when not to speak.

# 94th Publication of The Alembic

by Frank Flanagan '15  
Asst. A&E Editor

ARTS

Last Friday, April 25, 2014, members of the Providence College community gathered to celebrate the release of *the Alembic*, the Providence College affiliated literary journal. The journal, which has been fruitfully published since 1920, continues its release each spring.

*The Alembic* serves as a commonplace for fiction and poetry as well as photography and interviews with published authors. Works found in *the Alembic* are collected from all over the world. While the journal is affiliated with Providence College, submissions are accepted from students of the College and non-students alike. The submission process begins in August and concludes in December. During these months students at Providence College along with faculty advisors from the school oversee the production of the journal, where tasks range from submission reviews, formatting, and editing. The select students who participate in the production of *the Alembic* are responsible for its success.

Literary journals like *the Alembic* are not the types of literary companions one would find scanning the aisles of Barnes & Noble or a local library. The journals appeal to a far smaller audience, but in some cases one that is much more devout. Typically read by other writers, or sometimes people who are generally interested in literature, literary journals are supported by their readership as large or small as it may be. Other journals similar to *the Alembic* include *AGNI*, the Boston University affiliate

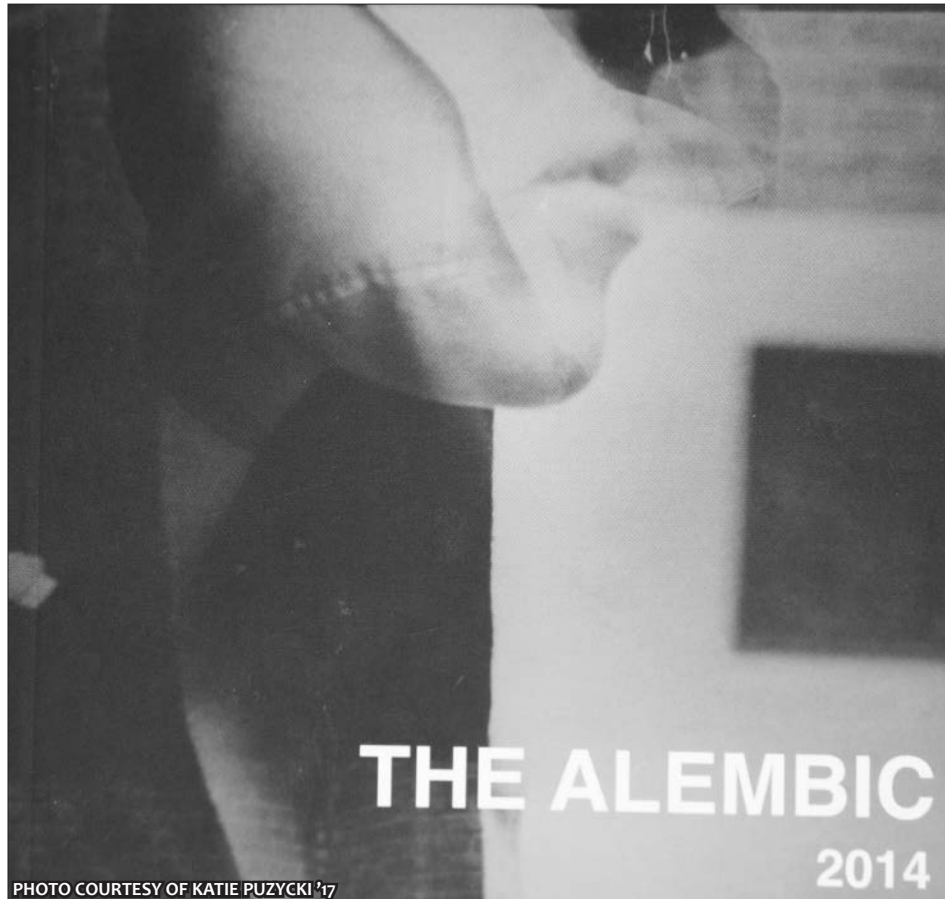


PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIE PUZYCKI '17

literary journal, and *Fence*, which is published through SUNY Albany. While the journals differ in their own unique quirks, and sometimes in the frequency and content they publish, typically their goal is always the same: publish exceptional literature.

This year's edition of *the Alembic* is composed of a balanced collection of fiction and poetry, photography, and author-interviews. The journal displays its diversity in accepted works with a wide variety of poetical and fictional forms, including verse and

free-verse poetry, alongside traditional short stories and more experimental forms of fiction. Twenty-three glossy pages beautifully exhibit both color and black-and-white photographs. The photographs range from portraits to landscapes and everything in between. Subjects from the photograph section of the journal include illuminated time-lapsed skies, a harrowing snapshot from events related to 2013's Boston Marathon travesty, human portraits, and breathtaking cityscapes. The journal is capped off with two student-produced

interviews from authors Blanche McCrary Boyd and Ellen Litman.

Leah Flanagan '16 was responsible for the design and layout of the journal. She had the following to say: "It was a good experience and I would definitely do it again. I only worked for the second semester once we decided on submissions. There were a lot of submissions this year, and a lot of the outside photography. We are definitely getting more national attention." Flanagan also went on to mention that there was a lot of thought put into the order which pieces were placed in the journal.

Flanagan had mentioned *the Alembic's* fairly recent web presence. The Providence College Digital Commons began publishing *the Alembic* online in 2011. Since then the database has posted editions from 1920-1930; the process will remain ongoing until every edition of *the Alembic* can be found online. Not only is web presence an exciting feature of *the Alembic*, but also the ability to appeal to a wider audience via the internet will certainly be a contributing factor in the journals gaining popularity. Looking back on old editions of *the Alembic* is a great way to see how the journal has grown. One obvious alteration of *the Alembic* over the past century is the sale of advertisement space in the journal, which no longer exists.

An alembic is a tool or apparatus used for distillation purposes. The journal's title conveys the sense that the journal is a pure and honest collection of fine work. The dedication and time put forth by students in order to succeed in each year's publication is a testament to the journal's purity, along with the journal's continued garnering of worldly submissions.

## Friar Fashion: Summer Looks for Men

by Isabella Goldstein '17  
A&E Staff

FASHION

Friar Fashion here again, your on-campus source for all of the new and exciting trends that can easily be incorporated into a college wardrobe. It seems, for the majority of the time, I neglect half the campus. Therefore, I have decided to give our males another handful of tips inspired by the runway shows of 2014 that will surely upgrade their appearance for the spring and summer seasons.

First, Friar Fashion says to add a pop of color to a piece of your outfit. Whether it is a pair of Nantucket red shorts, blue boat shoes, or a pink T-shirt, the incorporation of color is a young, bold, and fun way to brighten an outfit. Oftentimes, you guys are so accustomed to grabbing articles of clothing that are neutral-based tones in color, so spice it up!

Next, not only is adding a pop of color trendy, but incorporating the use of color blocking is as well. Experiment with stripes or try a shirt where only a quarter or so of it is a different color from the rest.

Third, I'm sure this will please all of you Friars since a theme of modern sportswear made a heavy impact on the runway for the season. Therefore, outfits with an athletic feel are perfectly acceptable and even rather appropriate for a spring or summer day. Try pairing some cool sneakers with a casual button down and nice pair of shorts. The look is clean and casual.

Fourth, because we have been experiencing such difficult weather this year, layering unfortunately remains essential for New Englanders. The spring and summer runways focused on building different pieces by placing articles of clothing on top of one another. Try a long-sleeved shirt under a short-sleeved sweatshirt. As always, choose layering fabrics in accordance with the weather. Thus, stick with thinner and lighter fabrics as we get closer to summer, which will hopefully bring warmer days.

Lastly, though we see the incorporation of prints on the runway year after year, the designers of spring and summer experimented with different types of prints and scales for a totally new 2014 look. Friars, do not be afraid to try pieces of clothing with stripes, polka dots, or even a Hawaiian print this year. Though bold, it will most definitely work!

I notice that most of the time guys do not dress well because they believe it takes far too much effort to do so, but in reality, it takes the same amount of time to pick out and put on a nice outfit as it does to scrub in sweatpants. Friar Fashion firmly believes in the mentality of looking and feeling good, so dress to impress. With a now updated wardrobe, you will feel much more confident when you are put together and surely succeed in whatever you wish to accomplish!

And so, that's my list of tips for you Friar fanatics. Please remember; whether you are wearing a casual outfit or, an impeccable suit, Friar Fashion says always be fashion forward!



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALIEXPRESS.COM

# MTV's Newest Drama: Faking It



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONFESSLEE.NET

by Mary McGreal '15  
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

The premise for MTV's new scripted teen drama *Faking It* is this—two friends, Amy (Rita Volk) and Karma (Katie Stevens), are not exactly popular at their progressive Texas high school—in fact, barely anybody even knows their names. All of that changes when Shane (Michael Willett), a popular student who is gay, decides that he is going to help the girls come out and accept their “lesbian” relationship. The only problem is, they are not actually gay. One drunken house party later, and most of the high school is now ready to vote them homecoming queen and queen.

So far, the acting is not exactly groundbreaking. MTV offers up characters who come across as far

too mature to be actual high school students. It is difficult to believe that *nobody* at the school wants to be friends with Karma and Amy before they are announced as lesbians. Perhaps a more realistic setting would have been a college campus with first year students as the main characters. But MTV has never been about realism and it is clear that nothing has changed with *Faking It*. You have the bottle blond who drones on about tradition, the dumb jock, and the popular gay guy. Some of the characters come off as caricatures, as opposed to depictions of the complexity of high school students. Stevens tells *OkMagazine.com*, “I just want to add the thing I was pleasantly surprised about is every single character is so layered and they really have their own story and their own personality. A lot of times when you have a show with four or five characters there is always going to be, not a weaker link,

but someone who doesn't get as much attention or as great a story written for them and I think the writers have done a great job. Fans are going to find something in every single character that they're going to like and relate to. I'm happy it turned out that way.”

The fact that the acting is not exactly revolutionary might lend to the flatness of some characters. But props to Liam (Gregg Sulkin), Karma's dream man, who is super concerned about consent. At one point—while Karma is kissing him in the art studio—he stops to ask, “Sorry, is that too far?” If MTV is not going to portray realistic high school characters, it might as well do something positive by modeling healthy, consensual relationships.

So far, Volk's Amy is the most likable character, and the redeeming aspect of the show. Amy is not so sure if she is actually faking her feelings for Karma. It will be interesting to

see how *Faking It* handles a situation where Amy might have to come out, but this time for real. Executive producer Carter Covington tells *Time*, “If I tried this, I really wanted one of the girls to have genuine feelings for her best friend, and to explore what that feels like. That's something as a gay man that I went through in the closet in high school, to have crushes on my friends and not be able to say anything.” However, at the root of the show is the idea that faking gay will make you cool. Matthew Gilbert of *The Boston Globe* writes, “The other review of *Faking It* would caution show creator Carter Covington to be careful. No one should think that the bullying of gays and lesbians is no longer a real problem. The fantasy element of the show is funny, but the irony of the situation needs to remain clear. Plenty of kids in the real world still feel as though they need to fake it—fake being straight, that is.”

## EDITOR vs. EDITOR

### This Week: Favorite Study Spot

#### Katie Puzycki

**Favorite Study Spot:** The Quad

**Her Views:** With finals week upon us, it is absolutely necessary to have the perfect studying spot to block out all of the noise, confusion, and disruptions of college life. Know that when it comes time for me to break out the books, I will definitely be out on the quad, enjoying the great outdoors. Studying outside gives you the best of both worlds, especially if it is nice out. You don't have to worry about being cooped up inside all day and missing out on some rays. Studying outside is also refreshing. A breath of fresh air can help you pull through all that Western Civ reading you failed to do the entire semester. A nice breeze, some warm weather, and the sound of birds chirping makes it all a little more bearable. Plus, there's the perfect balance of noise level, where its not so loud you can't focus, but not so quiet that you feel as if you may be literally going insane.

**Her Views on Frank:** Studying in your dorm room is just too risky. There are endless distractions in there that can keep you from actually getting anything done. And, if you're a real college student, chances are your room is too messy and cluttered to do any work without being distracted by the disorganization around you. Staying in your room can also unintentionally lead you into doing other things, like watching TV or playing video games. Or maybe your roommate will serve as a sufficient distraction, conversing with you for an hour about the party they went to last night, bringing their friends into the room, or droning on about their own failure to begin studying. Staying inside just adds to the monotony of studying itself. At least if you go outside, you can enjoy life a little more or at least enjoy it as much as you possibly can for a student entering finals week.

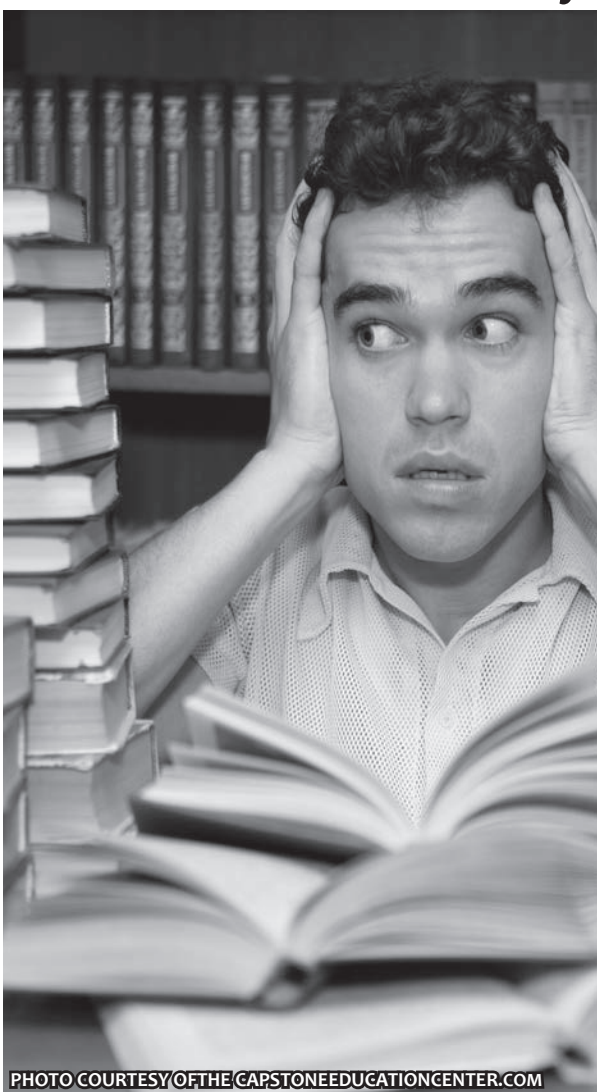


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CAPSTONE EDUCATION CENTER.COM

#### Frank Flanagan

**Favorite Study Spot:** His Room

**His Views:** Comforts, the right amount of silence, and a Keurig. The benefits of studying in your own room go on. With finals week in the not-so-distant future, you will find me parked at my standard Providence College-issued desk in Mal Brown. In your own space there is no need for headphones; study music is free to move about the cabin. Say goodbye to the steady and deafening buzz of the fluorescent bulbs in the library, and the uncomfortably warm or uncomfortably cold climate of common study spaces. I exercise dominion over my room, and its number one natural resource – coffee. Whenever I feel the need for a pick-me-up during long nights of study, I shift ever so slightly in my seat and command my desktop-placed Keurig to work its magic. Within minutes, without so much as a muscle moved, I am back to studying happily, distraction-free, and focused.

**His Views on Katie:** How could you possibly study on the quad? If the quad is really your go to study space, where you find yourself to be most productive, then you better hope for good weather. The sunlight and happiness typically found on a nice quad day could probably be scientifically proven detrimental to study ethic. Distractions and foreign noises run rampant in the quad. Studying on the quad is like playing with matches in a paper factory, it's just something you never do if you don't want a problem. Stick to your rooms, or the library if you must, but never the quad. Whatever you choose to do, best of luck!





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# PORTFOLIO

## STAY ALIVE

Page 19

May 1, 2014

by **Melanie Souchet '14**  
Senior Portfolio Staff

FICTION

The closet was too small and she'd brought too many clothes. The room was too small, and she'd probably brought too many things. But it was amazing what you could fit in the under-the-bed storage units. There was a system to her organization. She'd come up with the system on the fly, and it wasn't perfect, but hey, she had time to change it. She was going to be living in this small room for two semesters. She could tweak anything she wanted to.

The posters went up last. They made it feel like an actual room, like her room, not just some cramped college space. As she stood back and looked around the space, she felt a strange mix of pride and trepidation.

On the one hand, it looked pretty great in here. It was a space she could see herself staying in for a long time. She could study at this desk, she could sleep in this bed. But on the other hand, she was completely alone with an unfamiliar roommate (she had great taste in music, but she was still a stranger), her parents were gone, and she was suddenly all alone.

Being responsible for herself was suddenly a lot more daunting than it looked.

She sat down on the edge of her bed and took a deep breath. No, she could do this. It was like summer camp, sort of. Anyway, she'd already been pretty responsible for herself at home, hadn't she? She controlled her bedtime, she kept track of her work schedule, she remembered to make herself breakfast and lunch. That was a good start.

She could learn the rest from there. Anyway, home was only three hours away. If anything went seriously wrong, someone could come and get her.

"Hey!" The unfamiliar roommate peeked into the room. "We're going to get dinner. Do you want to come?"

She smiled and stood up. "Yeah, just let me get my shoes on!"

Semesters passed, buildings changed. The next room was a little bit bigger. The size of the closet hadn't changed, not much, but she was better about packing. She was a little better about packing. Maybe it just felt that way because the room was bigger and she no longer felt a slight sense of terror at the amount of things she was trying to cram into the tiny space. That was her theory, anyway.

Finals were almost over, but there was still studying for the last one. Then she could go home for winter break. Back up north, where everything was a bit colder and hopefully, there would be snow. Yeah, she wouldn't mind some snow. She kept the prospect of a white Christmas in mind as she struggled through the notes strewn across her desk. Just a little bit longer. Just a bit...

She groaned and let her head drop against the desk. She couldn't do this. Nope. She was too tired, too worn down by what felt like a never ending semester. The end was in sight, but it might as well be

the top of Mount Everest. How the hell could she reach the top when she was so tired?

Well, sleeping was probably a good place to start. She'd done enough for the night. She could read some more in the morning before the exam. As she climbed into bed, she tried to remind herself that she'd made it through the past two finals seasons she'd survived. She'd done pretty well, too (except in Latin, but she wasn't going to talk about that). She just needed some sleep, and then she could do this. She could kick it in the butt. And then she could go home.

More semesters passed. More finals seasons went by. When all was said and done, she found herself once again staring down a stack of books and another finals season.

The apartment was the biggest space she'd lived in, but she'd probably brought the least amount of clothes this time. It had taken her all

this time to learn her lesson, but even then, that had more to do with the suddenly increased distance between home and college than any realization that she really, really needed to start packing less. Three hours had become three days, and she really had to make sure she didn't over-pack to make everything fit in the car. It was also the nicest space she lived in, but that wasn't something on her mind. What was on her mind was that this paper was due tomorrow, and she had no idea how to end it.

Four years of a liberal arts degree told her that this was a metaphor for her life. College was ending for her (not tomorrow, but soon), and she had no idea how to end it. No real job waiting for her back home. No idea what her grades were going to be like. No idea what she was going to do. The upcoming commencement celebrations seemed unreal. Was college actually ending? Was this her life now? And what the hell was she going to do with it?

As she stared blankly at the opposing wall, she thought to herself: Well, I've done this before, haven't I? The finals, the starting over. She had to switch from being a high school student to a college one, to being a reasonably responsible adult. She could be a fully responsible adult, right?

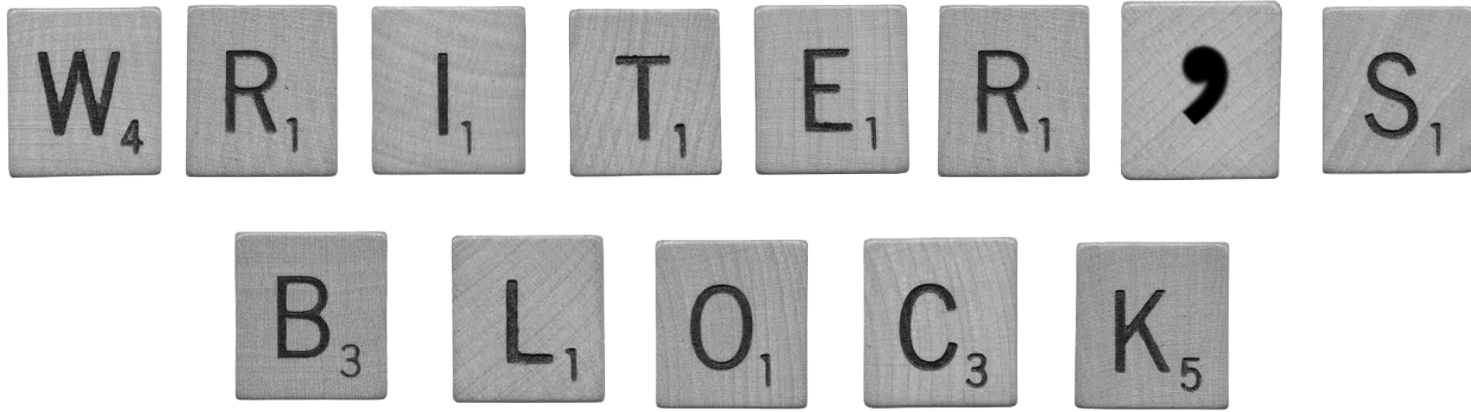
Well, she wasn't entirely sure about that. But she could definitely give it a shot. That had worked for her so far. She might have to white-knuckle it for a while, but hey, she'd gotten pretty good at that, too.

She could do this.

And, suddenly, she knew how she wanted to end this paper.



Illustration by  
Casey Lynch '14



by Ariana Pasquantonio '16  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

The stones we carry are heavy, but  
we've made do. To think that soon,  
we  
will be light enough  
to rise like balloons,  
our ethereal forms colliding  
and collapsing in midair,  
clumsy with freedom.  
We may never seem elegant,  
but I never cared much  
for propriety anyway.

So we will empty our pockets  
full of stones, we will  
turn them inside-out,  
we will pluck stones  
out of our hair, shake them  
loose from between our fingers, toes,  
we'll heave them into the sea  
and laugh while they sink.  
We will be  
free

*Two writers,  
one line:  
"The stones we carry  
are heavy, but"*

by Austin Harney '17  
Asst. Portfolio Editor

POETRY

The stones we carry are heavy, but  
If you're fun,  
You skip them across  
placid waters and compete to throw them  
the farthest.

They look heavy but  
happen to be the smoothest, smallest  
rocks that  
have been ground down and nestled into  
our minds

Small pains,  
narrow and sharp,  
distinct and concise.

The worst weight is knowing that these  
stones will always be there,  
and it doesn't matter if you find  
where they hide,  
for they tear and embed  
themselves deeper;  
a concrete parasite.



# GRADUATION DAY

by Kiernan Dunlop '14  
Senior Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Cameras flash as the graduates  
begin their slow march to the front of  
the auditorium. Their discomfort is  
palpable. The air conditioning broke  
the day before, and the only salvation  
anyone has is the small breeze from  
strategically folded programs. Everyone  
has smiles on their faces, though,  
because today is an important day.

"Doesn't Billy look so handsome in  
his cap and gown," a mother whispers  
proudly to no one in particular.

"It's too soon," another mother cries  
onto her husband's shoulder, "He's  
not ready, he hasn't learned enough."

"It's not too soon," her husband  
replies softly, trying not to upset her  
more, "He's learned all he could here  
and now he needs to move on."

The graduates make it to their seats,  
but stay standing per tradition. A large,  
stocky man in a light gray suit that  
must have shrunk two sizes overnight  
stands in front of the microphone.

"It is my great pleasure to present  
to you the Class of 2014, a group of  
students who have worked hard to  
cross this stage today. Though for  
some the path here may have been  
easy, for others the path here was  
strewn with obstacles and setbacks."  
He pauses for dramatic effect and  
wipes away the sweat that is forming  
on his temple, "But you persisted and  
made it here today and it is in your  
honor in particular that we are here to  
celebrate today. Before the ceremony  
officially begins we ask the graduates  
to sing the alma mater."

The song is off-key and hurried, but  
it still produces snuffles and muffled  
sobs in the crowd. Then the speaker  
allows the students to take their seats  
and the ceremony begins with the  
handing out of the highly coveted  
Student of the Year award.

"Each year we choose one student  
to receive this prestigious award  
who has exemplified the four pillars  
of our school: responsibility, caring,  
leadership, and courage. This year we  
have chosen a student who not only  
has all of these traits, but also worked

hard to achieve them. Katherine Hooper  
started her career here on a bad note.  
She didn't want to come to class, she  
didn't want to do her assignments, and  
she really didn't want to learn. But, over  
time she put those feelings aside and  
committed herself to what we try to do  
here and soon enough she was handing  
in assignments early and asking for  
more work outside of class time. Her  
dedication to becoming a better student  
is the exact reason why she has been  
chosen at the recipient of the 2014  
Student of the Year Award. Katherine,  
please come to the stage to accept your  
award."

As Katherine goes up to the stage  
the audience erupts in applause. The  
man in the suit bends over and hands  
her a certificate and Katherine beams,  
showing the gap where her two front  
teeth should be. Her mother runs to the  
front of the seats to get the best picture  
and her father says, "That's my little  
girl" to anyone that will listen.

"We at Sunnyside Kindergarten  
believe Katherine is more than ready to  
enter the first grade with the skills she  
has acquired here. She is reading and

writing at a second grade level and  
right on track with math. Let's give  
Katherine another round of applause."

The rest of the graduation goes  
on without much trouble. Each of  
the students in their tissue paper cap  
and gown goes up and gets his or her  
diploma and only one student burst  
into tears complaining about a paper  
cut, three fewer than last year. Only a  
couple of the boys decide it would be  
fun to tear their gowns into little pieces  
and use them as spitball ammo and  
only four get antsy and start running  
around the auditorium before they can  
be wrangled back into their seats.

When it's finally over the students  
line up in the back to get the ice cream  
they were promised, and the parents  
talk in little groups about the benefits  
of public school over private school. In  
the back of the room Katherine Hooper  
smiles as ice cream dribbles out of her  
mouth and down onto her gown.

# Listomania

## Rejected Listomania Ideas

Places Flight MH370 Could Have Gone

Best Strip Clubs in Providence

Past Identities of Tiff and Earl

The Rightful Owner of Crimea

Things *The Cowl* Has Done To Piss Off the Student Body

Hottest People on *The Cowl*

Health Risks to Students that PC Knows About

Possible Animals Ray Meat Could Actually Come From

Places PC Students Have Thrown Up

Stuffed Animals that Are Afraid of Miley Cyrus

Reasons Why *The Cowl* Is Better than Friars Club

Rejected Slogans for Andres Taborda's Campaign

# Reality

by **Branan Durbin '16**  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

It follows me.  
It follows me, wherever I go—  
high, and low—  
and I don't know  
how to escape.

I've tried to clean  
my mind eye's slate,  
but it won't erase.  
Is this my fate?  
To run the chase  
of a phantom idea?  
To be held down  
by uncontrolled mania?

Clouds envelop me,  
my mind runs from me—  
I stand in the midst  
of spinning misconceptions.

I long for the day  
it rolls away,  
and reality  
again protects me.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EOWYN61ROX

# Tiffany & Earl

*Making PC an emotionally stable place one  
letter at a time*

## This week...

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

I'm going to be a senior next year and am having trouble finding an internship for the summer. I'm afraid that I'm running out of time to build my resume, and that I will have nothing to do this summer. What do I do?

Sincerely,  
Trying not to be homeless

Dear Homeless Hottie,

Internship Shminternship...who even cares about building a resume? What you should be worrying about building is your hot bod.

Seriously though. I mean, I was once like you, the words "work work work" being drilled into my pretty, wrinkleless, tanned head by advisors, parents, etc., so I applied for an internship and went on a shopping spree (duh) for the hottest business casual clothes a girl could buy; but after my first day on the job, I realized that working friggin' blows. Like a big one. Like nobody is stylish, it's all gray, shoulder pads, and stale coffee, and they want you to be the slave to the grind.

Listen to me, hot stuff: don't be anybody's slave! Business casual really isn't that cute at all. So I went back to J. friggin' Crew and returned all of their suit wear in exchange for maxidresses, and guess what? I began livin' L-I-V-I-N! Don't fall into the trap of being captive to capitalism or being oppressed by the internship man; grab a summer shandy, tan those pecs, and who gives a friggin' flip if you become homeless?

You go to PC, how poor can you be? (P.S. I hear homelessness is so in right now...a little scruff and dirt looks good on a person...)

XOXO

Dear Apathetic Andy,

Look at you throwing back brewskies all semester, thinking, "Hey, it's junior year, I don't have to worry about the real world because that's all senior year mumbo jumbo." Meanwhile, the clock kept ticking away and you missed all those application deadlines. Well, you know what, Andy? You done messed up, kid. It's May now, and all those internships positions are filled up by pencil-pushing, brownnosing overachievers.

With no internship, how do you expect to build your resume? With no good resume, how do you expect to get a top-notch job on Wall Street? Ask Jordan Belfort. Ain't no way he became the Wolf of Wall Street without being someone's coffee bitch for a summer. But worst of all, Andy, how do you expect to keep paying for those brewskies without a job to fund your apathetic lifestyle?

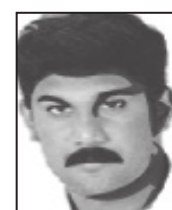
Here's your quick three step solution: Become a permanent super senior, grow an ill mustache, and come hang out with Earl on *The Cowl*. The pay sure as hell ain't good, but it'll get you those brewskies.

### 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

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# PROVIDENCE

*Thanks for an awesome year!*

*Have a safe, healthy, happy summer!*

# A Year in PC Athletics

## Remembering the Best Moments of an Unforgettable Athletic Year



PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

### Big East Champions

For those who know me, you probably think I am going to pick a Men's Basketball game, and you would be absolutely correct.

Because I was not physically at the Big East Tournament (the only downside of participating in Habitat for Humanity), I'm going to go with Senior Night against Marquette. This game had a lot of hype around it. For one, the game itself was crucial, as both teams were vying for seeding and a chance to stay relevant in the chase for a NCAA berth. On top of that, it would be the last time Friar fans would get to see Bryce Cotton '14 and Kadeem Batts '14 at the Dunk. On top of all the story lines heading into the game, the actual game itself was probably the best of the year for a Friar basketball fan. The student section actually showed up, and the Dunk was electric, as it should be every game. It took two overtime sessions for the Friars to come out on top, and was a game in which Davante Gardner of Marquette hit a full court game winning shot as time expired, which didn't count after review. It was a game in which Josh Fortune hit two "three-and-ones" in crunch time. It was a game closed out by no other than Bryce Cotton in front of his family from Arizona in his final game at the Dunkin' Donuts Center.

It was a feel-good night, and one that any Friar fan in attendance will not forget. It proved to be a vital win too, as the game secured seeding for the Friars in the Big East Tournament. We all know what happened after that.

-James Kirby '15



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROHAMAS.WORDPRESS.COM

### The Freshman Experience

To pick my favorite sports moment of the year is probably one of the hardest things I've been asked to do as a writer for *The Cowl*. I might have to say it's having a national champion on campus (you go, girls). There was that one time when we beat the then number-three team in the country in Schneider Arena. Or that time we came from behind to beat Marquette in overtime by scoring four points in the last 30 seconds to win by one on Senior Night.

Maybe it was traveling down to Bridgeport to see the Men's Hockey Team destroy Quinnipiac in the opening round of the NCAA tournament. Or it could have been high-fiving Coach Cooley in Madison Square Garden after the Men's Basketball Team won its first Big East Tournament since before I was born. Or better yet, getting an all-expense paid trip to San Antonio to watch an incredible NCAA tournament game.

Alas, no. My favorite sports memory had to be last week in the quad, when with a bloodied hand, I made a one handed catch to win a game that has no name, and its objective is to simply catch the baseball thrown into the air. It was a good time. My mom would be proud. Suck it, Jake.

Here's to my next three years being as good as the first one. Go Friars.

- Bryan Blum '17



PHOTO COURTESY OF JBMORONREPORT.BLOGSPOT.COM

### Men's Hockey Defeats Quinnipiac in NCAA Tourney

With the history of great hockey teams here at Providence College, it had been a very long time since the Men's Hockey Team was unable to win an NCAA tournament game.

Before this year, the Friar Faithful had waited 23 years for a team to secure a tournament win. However, the fans were rewarded for this patience this season, when Head Coach Nate Leaman's team knocked off defending runner-up Quinnipiac 4-0 in the first round of the tournament.

The Friars were considered minor underdogs in a game played in Bridgeport, Conn., the home state of the Quinnipiac Bobcats. Nevertheless, the team did not let this affect them, as they attacked the Bobcats with an offensive barrage, rewarding Jon Gillies '16 for his outstanding play in net. Gillies saved 37 shots in the game, blanking every attack that came his way.

Even with a second-round loss to Union, who would go on to win the championship, the Friars proved that they can play with any team in the country. This heightens the excitement for next season, when the team will be returning nearly every key player of this year's exciting post-season run.

Coach Leaman has proved his innate ability to develop the skills of young players, and this will undoubtedly be the case with the core players returning next season.

Last but not least, elite point scorer Ross Mauermann '15 will return for his senior season in Friartown, and will most likely be in competition for the end of season NCAA awards next year.

-DJ Anderson '16



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTUBE.COM

### Double OT Thriller Between PC and Marquette

It was, by all accounts, a season to remember for the PC Men's Basketball Team. I could have chosen one of the obvious two choices for my favorite PC sports moment of the season—the program's first NCAA tournament appearance in 10 years, or the victory in the championship game of the Big East against a high-powered Creighton team.

These were monumental games, no doubt, but instead I chose perhaps the most thrilling basketball game I saw all year, college or pro—PC's 81-80 double overtime victory over Marquette.

This game truly had it all: a frenzied atmosphere at the Dunkin' Donuts Center, NCAA tournament stakes clearly on the line for both teams, clutch shots down the stretch, and a typically phenomenal performance by senior guard Bryce Cotton '14.

I remember the days leading up to the big game especially well. Providence coach Ed Cooley had repeatedly called for a truly rowdy crowd the night of the Marquette game, and the PC fans certainly delivered.

The game was back and forth all night. Josh Fortune '16 was deadly from the three, LaDontae Henton '15 was grabbing boards and making big plays, and Carson Desrosiers '15 made a free throw to send the game into its first overtime.

But Cotton's 25 points, seven rebounds, and nine assists clearly made him the outstanding player of the night. When Cotton shrewdly forced a jump ball late in the second overtime, just as it seemed Marquette would win, PC's season was given new life. It was certainly a night to remember for PC men's basketball.

-Nate Svogun '16



# SPORTS

## Where Will You Be Attending Future Sporting Events?

### Making Sense of PC's Campus Developments

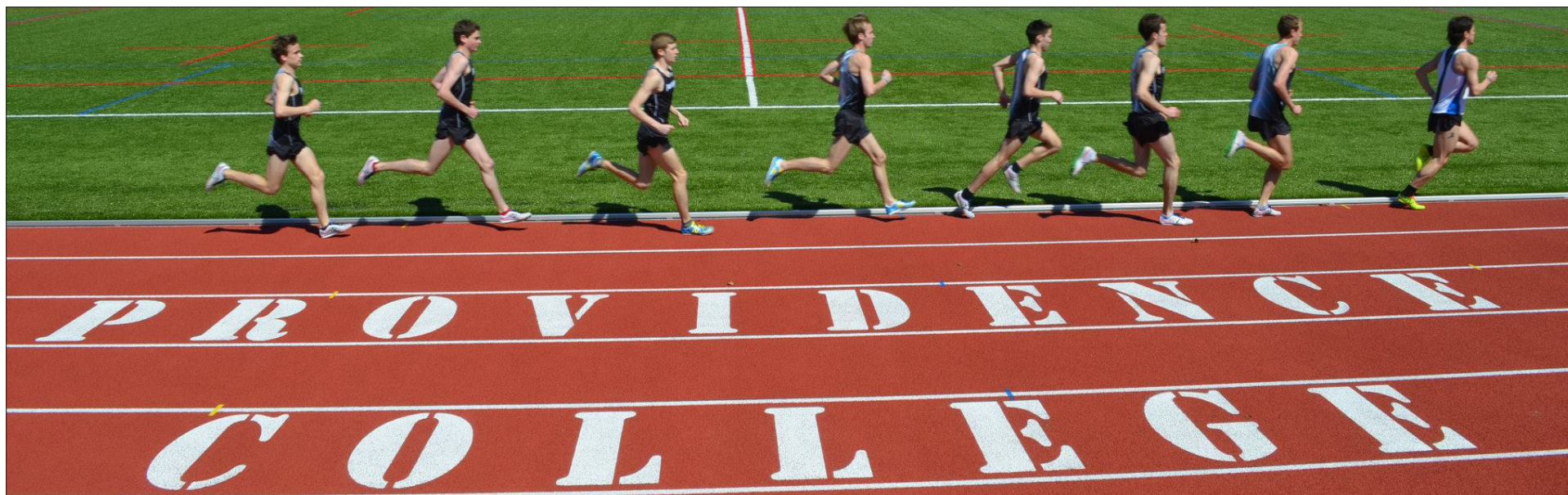


PHOTO COURTESY OF GRACE THEK '13

by **Veronica Lippert '15**  
Sports Staff

#### ATHLETICS

In the recent years, Providence College embarked on a campus transformation that leaves parts of the College barely recognizable for graduates of even five years ago. Residence Halls have been renovated, Dore Hall closed with plans to transform into a school of business, and most recently, there was the opening of the Ruane Center. Also involved in this transformation is the Providence College Athletic Department. The fall of 2012 saw the renovation of Mullaney Gym, but the project kicked into high gear last fall. Schneider Arena, largely untouched since its opening in 1973, had a massive renovation aimed at creating a state-of-the-art facility while also maintaining the aura of old-school

hockey apparent in previous seasons.

The other major construction project for Providence College this past fall was the Ray Treacy Track. With the track's completion, one of the most consistently successful programs at Providence College can now host home meets. Its grand opening occurred on April 12, just before hosting the inaugural Friar Invitational. Also in the track complex is Hendricken Field, where the Men's and Women's Soccer Teams finished out their seasons. They left behind the nearly 40-year old Glay Field with its divots and mud puddles, most likely for good.

The move to Hendricken is not a permanent one, as the first stages of construction will begin this summer on Chapey Field, which will host soccer and lacrosse once completed. The field will be built

next to Schneider, along Huxley Avenue. Though construction will begin this summer, the grand opening will not be until spring of 2015 at the earliest. With Hendricken Field and the other facilities, there is no rush to complete Chapey, and the College does not want to inconvenience students or faculty in any way.

For those who feel something was lost in the move to Hendricken, such as a sense of intimacy or a decided home field advantage, Chapey should be more to their liking. Without a track surrounding the field, fans will be far closer to the action than on Hendricken. The groups that often congregated along the street at Glay, which could make 500 fans look and sound like double that, will have space to do the same on Chapey. Additionally, the problems with the actual field of Glay, such as the inconsistent footing and unlevel

surface, will not be a problem on the high quality turf being installed on Chapey. Some parking in the Raymond lot near Schneider will be lost, but plans for a new lot are currently in the final stages and will more than compensate for the parking lost in the Raymond lot.

The next two projects for the Athletic Department are still in their final planning stages, but will include a new softball field and a new set of tennis courts. The main question still to be answered for the new softball field is where it will be located. The most likely areas are the intramural softball field or Glay. The tennis courts will be built next to Chapey Field, on top of the parking already there, but there are a few details yet to be worked out.

## Tennis Led By Young Contributors



PHOTO COURTESY OF HILLSTREETBLUES.WORDPRESS.COM

by **Joey Ciccarello '16**  
Assistant Editor

#### TENNIS

Last Friday saw the Providence Friars Tennis team end their season with a win in the Big East Tournament consolation match over Creighton, capping off a relatively successful season despite their 6-16 record. Individual standout performances perforated the entire season for the Friars, led by Hannah Zangari '16, who was one of the team's

top performers this year. Zangari's season was highlighted by Big East Player of the Week honors in the first week of April. She was honored for her performances in matches versus Villanova and Temple, in which she won four out of five matches.

She was the only Friar to take home the honor of player of the week this season, showing how outstanding her performance was. Overall, Zangari won seven singles matches and 12 doubles matches on the season. She

looks to build her strong sophomore year campaign headed into next season, where she is sure to be one of the top performers once again.

Zangari usually teamed up with classmate Alana Prinos '16 during doubles pairings, and together the pair logged five wins throughout the season. Prinos, despite never earning player of the week honors like Zangari, had just as successful a season. Prinos was the winningest singles player, and the only Friar singles player to win double digit matches. Prinos finished with a record of 14-14 in singles matches, and won 16 games in various doubles pairings. Her most successful doubles pairing came with Jennifer DeLuca '17. The duo, when paired together, dominated their opponents, finishing with a record of 8-3 in 11 doubles matches together. Prinos and Zangari also won five singles matches together, and Prinos added three doubles victories when paired with Maria Clara Bernardez '14.

The season's highlights included a trip to Puerto Rico in March, as well as a dominating win over Villanova in Big East conference play. The trip to Puerto Rico featured a 7-0 victory over Valparaiso, as the Friars won every match against the overmatched Crusaders. A few weeks

later, the Friars snapped a four game losing streak with a 6-1 victory over Villanova in Philadelphia, led by victories from Prinos, Zangari, DeLuca, and Amanda Pitocco '17, as well as a doubles victory from the pairing of Bernardez and Karen Ramirez '15. Unfortunately, it was the Wildcats who had the last laugh last week, ending Providence's season with a 5-1 victory at the Big East Tournament opening round. While the Friars captured a victory the next day over Creighton, it was simply a consolation victory, and did not further advance the season.

Overall, eight Friars pitched in for singles victories this season. While Prinos' 14 wins led the team in a landslide and DeLuca finished in second with 10 victories, multiple players, led by Zangari, finished third overall in wins. Zangari was joined by Ramirez and Olivia Hogan '16 with seven victories on the season. Other victors this season were Bernardez and Pitocco with five wins each. With all these contributors returning, Providence has a lot to look forward to next spring on the tennis courts.





Class of  
**2014**

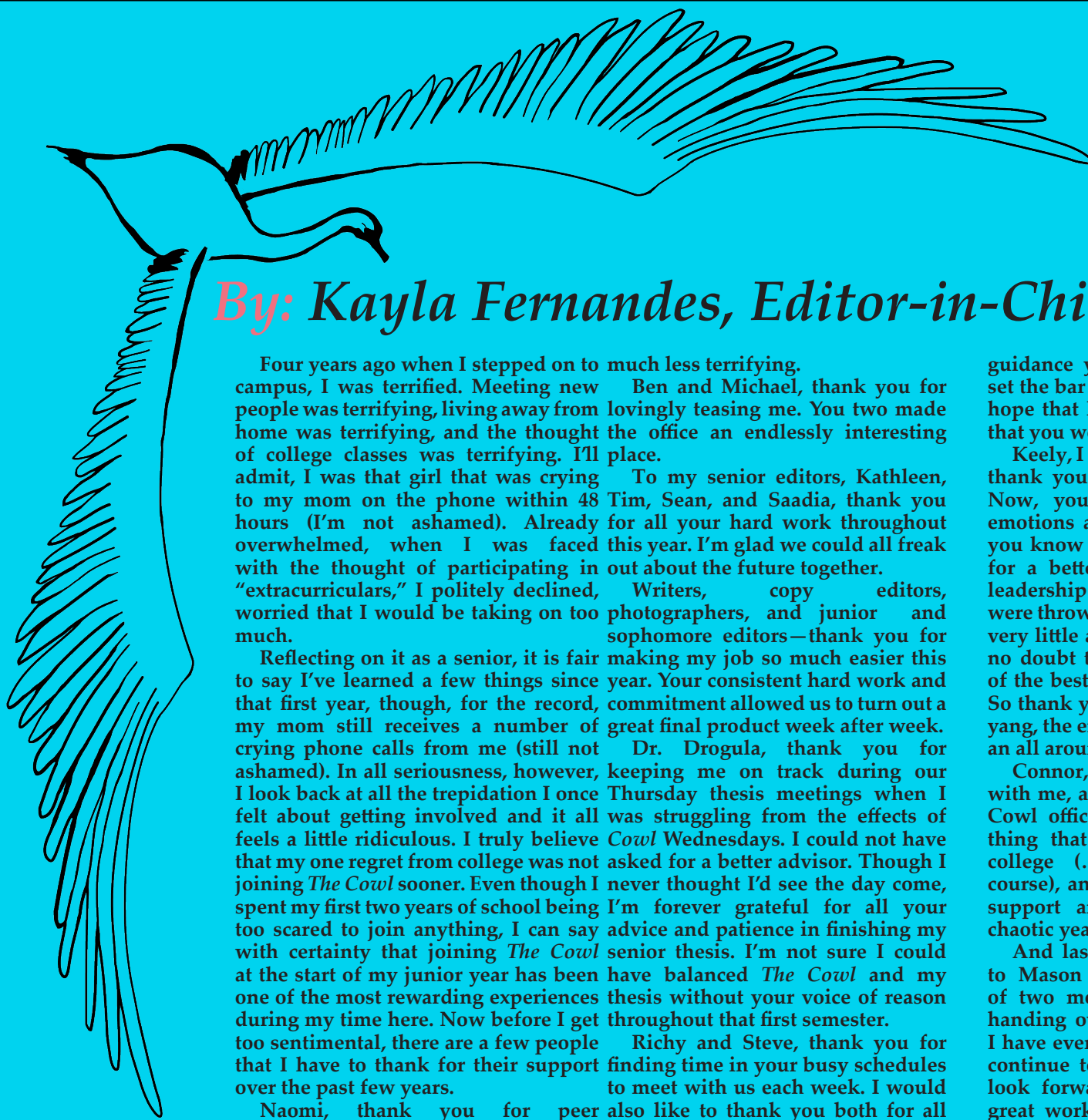
# COMMENCEMENT



**Swan Songs: pages 2-3, 6-7**

**Summa Cum Laude: pages 4-5**





## By: Kayla Fernandes, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

Four years ago when I stepped on to campus, I was terrified. Meeting new people was terrifying, living away from home was terrifying, and the thought of college classes was terrifying. I'll admit, I was that girl that was crying to my mom on the phone within 48 hours (I'm not ashamed). Already overwhelmed, when I was faced with the thought of participating in "extracurriculars," I politely declined, worried that I would be taking on too much.

Reflecting on it as a senior, it is fair to say I've learned a few things since that first year, though, for the record, my mom still receives a number of crying phone calls from me (still not ashamed). In all seriousness, however, I look back at all the trepidation I once felt about getting involved and it all feels a little ridiculous. I truly believe that my one regret from college was not joining *The Cowl* sooner. Even though I spent my first two years of school being too scared to join anything, I can say with certainty that joining *The Cowl* at the start of my junior year has been one of the most rewarding experiences during my time here. Now before I get too sentimental, there are a few people that I have to thank for their support over the past few years.

Naomi, thank you for peer pressuring me into joining *The Cowl*. Without you, I probably never would have thought about applying. Thank you for exploiting our roommate bond and encouraging me to get involved.

Andrew, thank you for hiring me based mostly on Naomi's assurance that "all history majors can write." You and the quirky World News staff made my first few weeks on *The Cowl* so

much less terrifying. Ben and Michael, thank you for lovingly teasing me. You two made the office an endlessly interesting place.

To my senior editors, Kathleen, Tim, Sean, and Saadia, thank you for all your hard work throughout this year. I'm glad we could all break out about the future together.

Writers, copy editors, photographers, and junior and sophomore editors—thank you for making my job so much easier this year. Your consistent hard work and commitment allowed us to turn out a great final product week after week.

Dr. Drogula, thank you for keeping me on track during our Thursday thesis meetings when I was struggling from the effects of *Cowl* Wednesdays. I could not have asked for a better advisor. Though I never thought I'd see the day come, I'm forever grateful for all your too scared to join anything, I can say advice and patience in finishing my senior thesis. I'm not sure I could have balanced *The Cowl* and my thesis without your voice of reason throughout that first semester.

Richy and Steve, thank you for finding time in your busy schedules to meet with us each week. I would

also like to thank you both for all the advice you've bestowed on us this year.

Arman, thank you for trusting me enough to lead *The Cowl*, and for always being there to help out.

Though I'm still traumatized by the one time you told me to redo that "all history majors can write." You the entire World News section at midnight on a Wednesday, I'm grateful for all the wisdom and

guidance you imparted on me. You set the bar pretty high, and I can only hope that I was at least half the EIC that you were.

Keely, I don't think I can accurately thank you for all that you've done. Now, you know how I am with emotions and sentiment, but I hope you know that I couldn't have asked for a better person to have shared leadership with this year. Though we were thrown into these roles knowing very little about one another, there is no doubt that you have become one of the best friends I have made here. So thank you for being the yin to my yang, the emotion to my stoicism, and an all around great AEIC.

Connor, thank you for putting up with me, and for being the unofficial *Cowl* office mascot. You're the best thing that has happened to me at college (...besides *The Cowl*, of course), and I thank you for all your support and love throughout this chaotic year.

And last but certainly not least... to Mason and Kelly, I can't think of two more capable people to be handing over the reins to next year. I have every confidence that you will continue to be amazing editors and look forward to seeing all of your great work. Mason, I will miss our nerdy conversations and your ability to remain calm even when everyone else is freaking out. Kelly, I will miss your singing, dancing, and always enthusiastic greetings upon entering the office. I'd wish you two luck but I don't even think you'll need it—continue being awesome! I'm already proud.



## By: Jackie McCarthy, News Staff Emeritus

So, no more late nights hurriedly writing articles. It has been two and a half years since my first day as a member of this paper. It started as an attempt to "branch out" and "meet more people." At first, I was a member of the Web Staff, putting the paper copy of *The Cowl* on the Internet. Shout out to the Web Staff, because I know what it feels like to have to sit inside on a beautiful day, moving and formatting text. Thank you to Fabian Bustos for taking my place as "Web Master" when I wanted to start writing. And to those on the Web Staff now, you have done so much to improve the site—it's beautiful! The Kathleens, Andres, and Christine—you are amazing editors and friends. I am thankful you have been so patient with me as a member of your staff. I've loved getting to know you all. Writing for *The Cowl* has been an experience I won't soon forget. It has gotten me more involved, and, more importantly, it has given me a voice. I have not been here the longest, and I am certainly not the most talented writer here, but I am lucky to have played a minor role in the workings and success of this paper. Those late nights writing will be sorely missed.

## By: Matthew Santos, Opinion Staff Emeritus

Go figure, I feel like I just wrote an article about things coming to an end, filled with nostalgia for the conclusion of my college career. Lo and behold, here's another ending, my *Cowl* Swan Song. I remember the first article I ever wrote for this paper about bathroom stalls in McDermott having their dividers ripped off the hinges and sitting on the ground. It was side-by-side with another article under the title "Mad in McDermott," and for those of you who don't know me, I don't really get mad often at all. Needless to say, I was a little alarmed with how things started off, not wanting to come off as "that angry writer." It's funny to think of how minute that little worry seems more than four years later. Since then, this newspaper has been a steady, weekly presence pervading my collegiate career: I started writing the first month of college, and here I am with a sendoff in my last month. It's always been a constant means by which I can reflect and share thoughts, a wholly cathartic experience. For those of you who have read anything I have written and helped share in that therapeutic weekly occurrence, thank you. To my past Opinion Staff Editors: Chris Slavin, Jenn DiPirro, Genevieve Ilg, and Kelly Sullivan, thank you for reading everything I write, for putting up with my incessantly late work, and for offering great advice over the years. Special thanks to Chris Slavin for getting me to write for the paper and for signing off on emails with "Knuckles, Chris," which always put a smile on my face. Shout-out to Max Widmer, a fellow Opinion Staffer my sophomore year, for always writing phenomenal articles: you were/are an inspiration to try and do better. Thanks Richy Kless for being our moderator, and for just being an awesome guy in general. Thanks to *The Cowl*, it's been real.



**By: Emily Goodnow, Portfolio Staff Emeritus**

Home is a relative term. Throughout my career at Providence College, the friends I have made, the classes I have taken, and the organizations I have been involved with have served as key structural elements of my home. While I am reluctant to graduate from Providence College, I know that this particular home will not be as far away as it seems. I will still feel like I am still living in Cunningham Hall when I see my roommates after we graduate. I feel incredibly lucky to have lived with five caring and fun girls this year. Thank you for creating such wonderful memories, ladies. I will also feel like I am returning “home” to Providence College each time I relive the days of DWC with my best friend Allie. I am so glad that I sat next to you on that first day of class. Your constant support and sense of humor make you a truly spectacular friend. I know I will still feel like I’m a part of the PC Figure Skating Club when I see Open Skate Night events on Facebook next year. I feel blessed to have formed a special bond with my teammates. I will miss skating with you all so much. Over the past four years, I have settled into my Providence College home and developed an increasing sense of comfort here. I will miss living at PC, yet I know I will relive my college experience each time I connect with the people who made it meaningful.

**By: Amanda Brown, Portfolio Staff Emeritus**

During Freshman Orientation I missed the downtown tour because I got sick from Ray food. But that week I also saw my first shooting star, sleeping on a blanket on the lawn next to McVinney until sunrise. One night I stayed in the library past closing. A cleaning lady found me hiding in the bathroom. We both screamed. Then laughed. I learned not to go to 8:30 a.m. class in pajamas just because I could. The fro-yo machines kept me sane. My heart started pumping WDOM frequencies. My feet danced even when I was tired. *The Cowl* forced me to write no matter how crazy life got, and for that I am grateful. I learned to like pencils, because math got hard. I lost a faith and embraced a philosophy. For six months I went to Australia and called a deadly spider pretty on my second day. I snorkeled in the Great Barrier Reef, skydived above it, and went white water rafting. In New Zealand I abseiled down a raging waterfall in the rainforest. Since I was eight years old I wanted to sing in a band. Huxley won Battle of the Bands and Rock Against Hunger. I ran my first 5K. Happiness, I came to know, is more important than money—but money is important. Thayer Street made me love Indian and Japanese food. I met Passion Pit at Lupo’s. I had pancakes and Merlot for breakfast. On Halloween the people of Eaton Street called me Pocahontas. While everyone else took Amtrak home for Christmas, I was on a Peter Pan bus – not as fun as the Buzz Bus. People loved me and hated me and changed me. Someone told me that petricore is that smell before rain. It’s those things that will always stay with me.

**By: Keely Mohin, Associate Editor-in-Chief Emeritus**

My initial thought upon sitting down to write this fond farewell was, obviously, “what exactly is a swan song?” Am I the proverbial swan? Aren’t swans epic jerks? Why should I want to be a swan? Am I supposed to channel swan spirits like they are familiars or patronuses or something?

A casual Google search informed me that the name was derived from a myth about swans singing before their deaths (thanks, Wikipedia). I still do not totally get it (and I really hope I’m not dying), but I have gathered enough information to get the general gist: I am supposed to say goodbye.

This is especially creepy because I still see myself as that grotesquely naïve, awkward 18-year-old girl who was still secretly afraid of boys, thought her mother would instantly know the moment she had a drink underage as though she had “ESPN or something,” and preferred a quiet evening at home with a Harry Potter novel over totally raging with mah gurlz. (Ok, so now I just prefer Netflix. Whatever).

Creepy or not, clichéd or not, I would definitely not be here without the support and presence of some important people.

Mom and Dad, you two make parenting look easy. You are my touchstones for morality, kindness, and integrity, and I would have amounted to approximately 43.76 percent of the person I am today without your love, your lack of judgment, and your generosity.

Kate, as I’ve gotten older I’ve come to appreciate you so much more as a sister. You are hilarious and cooler than I could ever be. Thank you for

helping me dress like a girl and navigate the bizarre rituals of female upkeep (manicures, pedicures, eyebrow waxing, etc.) You rock.

Aunt Jackie and the Jacknow clan (yes, her name actually alliterates), thank you for being my second family and paying me to babysit even though I didn’t do anything but drink your Diet Cokes and do my homework.

Arman, I know we’ve carefully crafted this persona that we’re totally chill and cool and, you know, don’t actually show emotion toward one another in public because that’s disgusting (I don’t think we’ll ever be, gasp, Facebook official), but I’m going to break the mirage for a moment. You are the absolute paradigm of selflessness and the epitome of benevolence. Thanks for being awesome, but most of all, thanks for being mine.

Courtney, Eliza, Erika, Mary Alice, and Sharon, you girls are the nicest roommates I never thought I’d have. The summer before freshman year, I had mentally prepared myself to be a friendless loser. Thanks for proving me wrong.

Iryna, thank you for entering Mohin holidays without judgment. You are incredible, and the business staff is exponentially better than it probably ever was because of you.

Kayla, I don’t think we were the only ones who thought we were an unlikely pair. I’m so glad we were wrong. Thanks for being a fantabulous new friend and for putting up with my OCD tendencies like a champ.

My fellow senior editors—Kathleen, Sean, Tim, and Saadia—some of you I knew from the

beginning (shout out to awkward orientation encounters with Tim), and some I just got to really know this year. You are all uniquely interesting people, and I’ve probably developed an inferiority complex with each of you at one time or another (take that as a compliment).

Portfolio staff—your section has meant so much to me. It was the first place where I felt at home at PC, and I’m so proud of everything you do. Write on.

Cowlers of the past—Ben, Chris, Catherine, Billy, Dara, Connor, Michael, and more—PC would not have been the same without you. Here’s to nights at Café 412 (I’m STILL not over its closing), and banquets that I wish never ended.

Richy, you are the human embodiment of *The Cowl*. You know the answer to every question, the procedure for every problem. I wish we had spent more time together this year, and I know the sacred tomagatchi is in capable hands with you.

Steve, thanks for the Monday morning chit-chats.

Mason and Kelly, you two are going to do a remarkable job next year. You each have a Zen demeanor that I simultaneously covet and admire. Good luck, minions.

And finally, thanks to every Cowler. I may have stalked you via email, carried on incessantly about deadlines, and looked uptight and harried more than once this year. I just wanted to make all of you proud and showcase all of your work with the pizzazz that it deserved. I hope I succeeded (even slightly).



# Cum Laude

Karl Hoegler



Jennifer Giffels



James Brodeur



Ashley Berube



Elaine St. Germain



Catherine O'Donnell



Kelsey O'Hare



Michelle Nogas



Elizabeth Karas



Andrew Rondelli



Daniel Kubala



Alyssa Martino



Ekaterina Protsenko



Ealish Cassidy



Meghan Keane



Kerry Fleming



Keely Mohin



Kathryn Graf



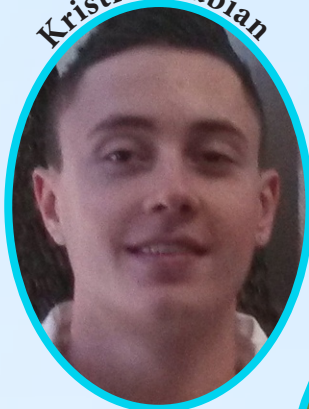
Erika Flanagan



Kelly Vail



Kristian Fabian



Nicholas Wallace



Laura Wells



Stacy Thomas



Katie Sacco



Lauren Gallant



Meaghan Lambert



Mary Alice Sallah



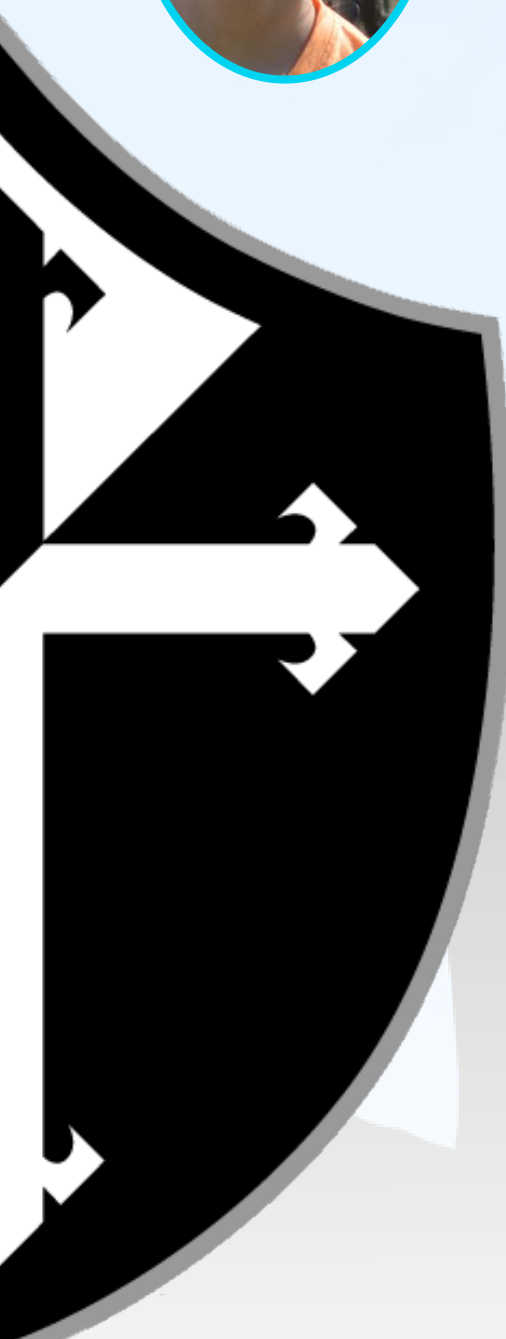
Maggie North



Matthew Santos



# 2014



### By: Alanna Smith, A&E Staff Emeritus

For a girl who had absolutely no interest in attending Providence College, I sure have had a great four years here. Thanks to a horde of excellent friends, wonderful professors, and many happy accidents, I will graduate with more memories than can be adequately summarized in this short space.

Writing for *The Cowl* was one of my happy accidents. Having the sudden freedom to write about any geeky topic gave me a sense of confident independence. It inspired me to visit New York Comic Con twice. The second time was with a *Cowl*-sponsored press pass that earned me an audience with many of my pop culture idols.

Other memories have been divided among the many groups at PC that I devoted my time to: Campus Ministry and PC for Life, with whom I went on three Marches for Life; the Science-Fiction Club, for which I am proud to have held the mantle of president; my D&D friends and all our tears of hysterical laughter. And of course, there is the PC Music Department—I'll have to leave it there, because words will not suffice to express my appreciation.

There are a hundred or more people I wish I could personally thank for how they positively affected my time here, but I will have to generalize. For all of my professors in the English, Spanish, and Music departments (and everyone in between). For my first friends and the undying affection of the nickname "Piranha." For everyone who never criticized my deep love for *Star Wars*, *WoW*, and Dave Matthews Band. And of course, for my family—especially my mother, who insisted I attend her beloved alma mater.

I may be 7,500 miles away in Nepal next year, but my heart will be here with my PC family.

### By: Sean Bailey, Sports Editor Emeritus

*Cue Green Day horrifically catchy, sappy, emotional, pre-American Idiot hit "Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)."*

It is here, I guess. This is the last article in my *Cowl* career, of my college career, and quite possibly of my newspaper career. It is so cliché to say that it all goes by so quickly, but it is so applicable. However, this whole Swan Song section is cliché, as is the Green Day song, so I'm going to run with a sappy clichéd article. It seems like just yesterday that I got my first newspaper job with the *Lowell Sun* during my sophomore year of high school. Then came the *Groton Landmark*, to which I could never thank the Sports Editor there, Ken Blanchette, enough for all he has done. He was a tremendous mentor and friend to me.

*Time grabs you by the wrist, directs you where to go, / So make the best of this test, and don't ask why, / It's not a question, but a lesson learned in time.*

Then in college came my way overdone and nervously submitted *Cowl* application to John Butler, the then Sports Editor. I was so excited when he emailed me that I got the job, and right away began covering sports. Flash forward two years to when Bridget Stack changed the course of my *Cowl* career by taking me on as her assistant Sports Editor, a title I was extremely proud of. She taught me a lot about how to lay out the paper, and drunkenly email my section if need be. My favorite time, though, was the trip to Chicago, where I made some of the best memories.

*So take the photographs and still frames in your mind, / hang it on a shelf in good health and good time.*

But the people who made the biggest impact were my family. My mom and dad, for their love and utmost support no matter what I wanted to try. My brother for being the best friend I could ask for. My Aunt Bubsie and Uncle Jack who loved my articles so much, and always gave me the best encouragement. So this article is for all those who have helped me along the way.

*It's something unpredictable, / But in the end that's right, / I hope you had the time of your life.*



### By: Tim Morris, A&E Editor Emeritus

It was not until my senior year of high school when I first heard about Providence College. If it were not for a casual conversation that I had with Dr. Michael Gomez, then-principal of St. Joseph's Preparatory School and a fellow Friar, the past four years of my life would have unfolded quite differently. And so here I am, an editor of *The Cowl* and a member of Student Congress. There are so many people who, in one way or another, brought me out of my shell, motivated me, and connected me with the student body. For that, I'd like to begin by thanking Catherine Northington and Arman Oganisian. Catherine, the eccentric voice you give to your writing continues to be the standard to which I compare my own, and I already regret not being able to attend the Pennsylvania Bacon Festival. Arman, I hope that one day we can combine our fortunes to reopen Café 412 and restore it to greatness. I will always think of your devout empiricism whenever I form an opinion. Of course, I also owe much to my friends—particularly the boys of Huxley Avenue—and my classmates. To Keely Mohin and Kayla Fernandes, your patience was infinite and your diligence proved that all obstacles can be overcome. Each Sunday night, I will remember our weekly exchanges at the editors' table. To those on Student Congress, my second family, you embody the excellence that the students of Providence College are capable of achieving. The lessons that we learn from one another shape us now and forever. Come to every meeting with enthusiasm and open-mindedness. Finally, I would like to thank those most responsible for helping me realize my potential. To the administrators and faculty of Providence College, you have fostered in me a passion for veritas and equipped me with the means to seek it in my personal and professional life. To my family, I can never adequately express my gratitude for the sacrifices that you have had to make to put me through college. You encourage me whenever I begin to doubt myself, keep me focused, and remind me to look for the good in all people, places, and things. I love you.

### By: Marisa Uργο, A&E Staff Emeritus

When I first started writing for *The Cowl* as an uptight, weirdo freshman, I was nervous. I imagined students furiously ripping apart my articles in disgust, setting them ablaze and starting a campus-wide fury of disdain for my writing. However, somehow that did not happen. *The Cowl* actually became a fun way to get my opinions out there, and I was always flattered when people said they read my articles (and did not set my article on fire while blasting Metallica as I originally envisioned). So thanks, *Cowl*, for being cool. Thank you *Cowl* staff, but especially Kayla (Mal Brown 303!) and Keely, and thank you to our readers.

Since this is a Swan Song, a final farewell to my fellow Friars, I feel compelled to bestow my wisdom (or lack thereof) on all of you. The best advice I can give to you is this: It's what you make it. Do what makes you happy, but remember that getting out of your comfort zone is the key to growing. Appreciate every minute because it goes by too quickly. The moments you remember will be going to trivia with your pals on a Tuesday night at The Abbey, having an impromptu life chat with your roommates where you all end up in happy tears, lying in bed in Aquinas and wondering aloud to your tired roommates, "Is the present really the past?" I'll remember my senior bow in the Angell Blackfriars Theatre, when my friend surprised me with a Valentine's Day Reese's Cup, and most of all, I'll remember nights on Radcliffe with Kevin and our friends when I wanted to pause the world because I was so happy. It's the little moments that you'll hang onto, not the Civ Tests or skipping class for a nap. Be grateful for every second.

### By: Jennifer Giffels, Opinion Staff Emeritus

It all happened during a sophomore year Civ lecture, when Genevieve Ilg and I were talking about journalism and *The Cowl* (in addition to other very Civ-ly things, of course). The next week she let me write my first piece for the Opinion section, and before I knew it I was a regularly contributing staff member.

Since then I have been fortunate enough to cover a wide variety of happenings on campus, and I would like to take this time to thank all those readers who have ever picked up a copy of *The Cowl*. Thank you for listening to what my fellow writers and I have to say, and thank you for thinking our opinions are important enough to read.

As I graduate, I will be leaving a more open and diverse campus than that to which I came my freshman year. I now leave Providence College with the challenge of continuing to foster healthy and fruitful dialogue on a variety of issues. I hope more students will turn to *The Cowl* every week for reliable coverage of events on campus and in the world around us, and I hope this will inspire students to act.

I am a writer. I love the beauty of words and what they can express on a page. I love the feeling of completing a piece and being eager to share it with an audience. Mostly, I love sharing stories. I love sharing other people's stories, especially those which are often left forgotten or ignored. I love writing about a seemingly ordinary event, only to find the magic in that event.

Thank you, and to the seniors who will be graduating I hope that you can always find the magic wherever your paths take you.

### By: Kathleen Sullivan, News Editor Emeritus

Writing a Swan Song is hard. I'm grappling with the fact that I don't know whether I want this to be more funny or more sentimental, the fact that I am actually writing something for *The Cowl* where I get to express my own opinions, and the fact that it was due on Thursday and here I am writing it on Sunday night (sorry Mason and Kelly!). Oh, and that whole graduating and leaving Providence College thing too. The struggle is real, my friends.

So I'm just going to jump right in. First, thank you to Katie Caliva and Devin Murphy for putting in a good word for me when I first applied to write for *The Cowl* as I got hopelessly lost trying to find the office in the depths of Slavin my sophomore year. Thanks to my lovely editors Valerie Ferdon and Christine Rousselle, my awesome co-editor Andres Taborda, my trusty assistant editor Kathleen McGinty, and all the News Section writers. It has been a pleasure to work with you all and I'm honored to call you my friends.

Thank you to my fellow senior editors, Kayla, Keely, Sean, Saadia, and Tim, and the whole editorial board, because I couldn't imagine spending my Wednesday nights with a more wonderful group of people. A special shout out goes to everyone who helped Kathleen and me learn how to use InDesign during the first few issues this year, and for Christine and Andres for asking me to step up as News Editor this year. It was truly one of the best decisions I've made during my time here at PC.

Now, this is quickly becoming much more sappy and less sassy than I had wanted, but let's roll with it. If I've learned anything throughout my college career, it's that it is okay to admit that you were wrong and make a change accordingly. For example, I went to a different college for an entire year and then made the decision to transfer to PC. That being said, I also have to thank my sister, Bridget, and all who were part of the 2010 Late Night Madness video because after watching that, I knew PC was where I wanted to be. I also didn't think I would ever want to be an editor for *The Cowl* because there was no way I would be able to take on all that responsibility and time commitment. Now I'm sitting in McPhail's on Wednesday nights not knowing what to do with my life because I'm not needed in the *Cowl* office anymore.

I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to be part of something as great as *The Cowl*, and really grateful for all that my college experience has been through all the ups and downs, and even the year that I wasn't at PC. Being able to report everything our community does (good and bad) has been a great privilege, and I encourage the PC community to continue hold each other accountable, stay honest, and always strive for excellence in all that you do. And now that I'm approximately 200 words over my limit, I bid you all adieu!

**By: Olivia Beesley, Opinion Staff Emeritus**

OK, OK so this “swan song” is kind of cheating – I’m not *technically* a senior here at PC... in fact; I’m not a student here at Providence at all. But for the past four months I’ve had the pleasure of calling this beautiful campus my home. So while I may still be a cygnet, and this farewell song may not be as pretty as others, I assure you, it is no less heartfelt.

As a British student arriving here on the snowiest, coldest night here in Rhode Island, I was *overwhelmed* (along with being enormously jet lagged). In fact, I pretty much felt like clicking my ruby slippers three times and shouting “there’s no place like home.” I thought that I would never settle in here, and frankly, that I would miss my cups of tea and English crumpets far too much to survive in America. However, it turns out that I now prefer LaSalle iced coffee and a bagel (shhh, don’t let anyone back home know that I’m a traitor).

However, in all seriousness, I couldn’t feel more at home at PC and there is one reason for this—*you*. The way that each student here has embraced me and made me feel welcome has astounded me. The kindness and understanding that each lecturer has shown has overwhelmed me. For that, I couldn’t be more grateful. While simple gestures such as saying “Hey Olivia” or holding the door open for me may be second nature to you, I can honestly say that these simple actions have made an English girl forget that she is 3,000 miles away from home.

Coming from a secular college in England, I feel that the major difference between my college at home and PC can be found in the way that I see God’s love reflected in the college community. It turns out that Providence has lived up to its name.

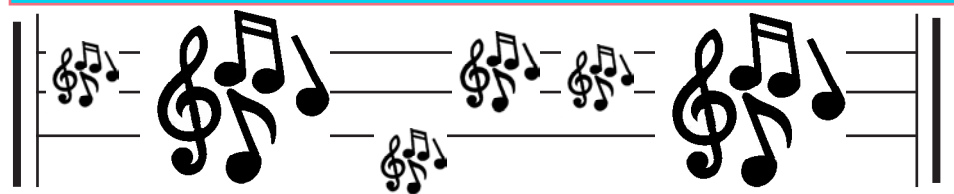
I want to send out thanks and love to all those that have invited me into their friendship groups, homes, and lives over the past few months, and particularly to those I have grown especially close to. Before I get too sickening and sentimental, I’m going to wrap this up.

Thanks Friars, I couldn’t have asked for a better home from home. You know who to call if you ever visit England. Just remember to bring me a LaSalle.

**By: Anna Wieceorkowska, Photo Staff Emeritus**

PC:  
With a  
Flaming  
Transition from  
High school to college,  
My goal in life was  
To flourish in knowledge.  
Yet through *The Cowl*, Residence  
Life, and Campus Ministry  
Providence College has taught me  
the importance of family.  
Hence, as a graduating PC Friar, I  
have one thing to say:  
Treasure every moment from  
September to May,  
For four years later after coming  
to PC,  
I look back on my years with  
sorrow and glee.  
From being a freshman  
To being a senior,  
I have developed the skills  
To be a leader:

A leader for my friends,  
A leader for my peers,  
My relationships will last me  
For many years.  
So, embrace your journey  
At PC; envelop yourself  
In its entirety:  
Adore the squirrel  
Scene on the green,  
But beware the ones  
Beyond the unseen;  
Embrace the changes  
Of the seasons,  
They make PC beautiful  
For so many reasons;  
Embrace the relationships,  
Embrace your fears,  
Embrace the challenges  
Throughout your years.  
Farewell, for now,  
My dear PC,  
But I’ll come back,  
Just wait and see!



**By: Melanie Souchet, Portfolio Staff Emeritus**

I started this thing on the sixth floor of McVinney in a double and ended it on the fifth floor of Mal Brown in an apartment. Over the course of four years, I read more books than I feel comfortable counting, wrote enough pages to fill at least two books (likely more), cut my hair, switched states, wrote for strangers, attended a silent disco, questioned why we never did silent disco again, learned how to take the bus to the airport and back, and got hooked on more television shows and other assorted geekery than is probably healthy.

It was rough in places. I had my all-nighters of pain and despair, my moments of questioning why I chose to enter the field I entered, moments of loneliness, and moments of frantically emailing my parents because everything was going Horribly Wrong (capitalize those words, that’s how bad). But in the end, I read a lot of things I never would have read otherwise, thought about a lot of things differently than I would have otherwise, overcame all obstacles thrown at me (barely, in some cases, but overcoming is still overcoming). And I’ve met some of the best people on this planet, my dear friends (you know who you are), and I wouldn’t trade that for anything.

I’m ridiculously in debt for at least 10 years, but I think that 17-year-old me would be proud of the 21-year-old walking off this campus. That’s what matters, really.

To all incoming freshmen I have only this to say: “Don’t worry about it. If I can make it through this unscathed, so can you. Just keep your chin up, stay positive, and try not to die. Good luck.”

**By: Saadia Ahmad, Photo Editor Emeritus**

In attempting to craft the perfect *Cowl* Swan Song that fully depicts my Providence College experience with all of its overarching themes, small but significant details, lessons learned, and connections made—along with my story of stumbling into the vocation of interfaith dialogue and conflict resolution that was born out of my interfaith experience as a Muslim at a Catholic college, a path that I arrived at solely because God’s Providence plucked me off the waitlist here—I soon enough came to understand that such an ambition is impossible to achieve perfectly. Albeit a powerful and moving one, human language can only serve as a substitute in portraying the depth and intricacy of our lives. The rest is known, felt, and understood best to ourselves, those with whom we share such moments, and God Himself, stored forever in the memory banks of our hearts and souls and in the infinity of God. Days, weeks, months, years, and a lifetime after, I may return to find a missing sentiment or one not fully conveyed to my Friar family. But for now, this is what I am able to offer, and I trust that it is enough.

Our lives are not our own: they are built upon and revolve around the relationships we develop and form with one another. Who we are does not exist in isolation from those who become family. Thus, in lieu of a more lengthy letter detailing my specific experiences and memories as a Friar (forever), I simply want to publicly express my gratitude to those faculty and staff members who have transformed me for the better (those names listed in bold are individuals who dedicated an extraordinary amount of time and effort to encouraging, supporting, and nurturing my intellectual, emotional, and spiritual foundation throughout my time here):

- |                                 |                                  |                           |                          |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Dr. Tony Affigne</b>         | Dr. Fred Drogula                 | Dr. Deborah Johnson       | Fr. David Orique, O.P.   |
| <b>Fr. John Allard, O.P.</b>    | Mrs. Gail Egan                   | Dr. Julia Jordan-Zachery  | Mr. David O’Connor       |
| Dr. Bill Allen                  | Mr. Nedzer Eriulus               | Mr. Charlie Joyce         | Dr. Charlotte O’Kelly    |
| Ms. Sarah Attwood               | Fr. Tom Ertle, O.P.              | <b>Dr. Sandra Keating</b> | Dr. Michael O’Neill      |
| Dr. Brian Bartolini             | Mr. Joe Gemma                    | Ms. Catherine Kelleher    | Ms. Anna Pezzullo        |
| Dr. Rick Battistoni             | Mrs. Emily Ghiorse               | Ms. Maureen Kershaw       | <b>Dr. Jeffrey Pugh</b>  |
| Dr. Ruth Ben-Artzi              | Ms. Denise Godin                 | <b>Mr. Richy Kless</b>    | Dr. Margaret Reid        |
| Ms. Kerry Bergin                | <b>Mrs. Kristine Goodwin</b>     | Dr. Laura Landen          | Dr. Pat Reid             |
| Dr. William Bonney              | Dr. Bruce Graver                 | Dr. Hugh Lena             | Fr. Kevin Robb, O.P.     |
| Dr. Suzanne Bornschein          | Ms. Althea Graves                | Dr. Ian Levy              | Ms. Marian Salama        |
| Dr. Joan Branham                | <b>Fr. Joseph J. Guido, O.P.</b> | Maj. John Leyden          | Dr. Ellen Salvatore      |
| Fr. Justin Brophy, O.P.         | Dr. Raymond Hain                 | Ms. Anne Lipsitz          | <b>Dr. Steve Sears</b>   |
| <b>Joe Cammarano</b>            | Ms. Sharon Hay                   | Dr. Nick Longo            | Dr. Ray Sickinger        |
| Dr. James Campbell              | Dr. Michael Hayes                | Mr. Rich Lumley           | Ms. Sara Spirito         |
| Dr. Peter Costello              | Ms. Leslie Heller                | Dr. Bryan Marinelli       | Ms. Kaytee Stewart       |
| <b>Fr. M. James Cuddy, O.P.</b> | <b>Mr. Kevin Hillery</b>         | Mr. Joe McCarthy          | Dr. Robert Stretter      |
| Dr. Gary Culpepper              | <b>Dr. Eric Hirsch</b>           | Dr. Susan McCarthy        | Dr. Eric Sung            |
| Mrs. Sherry Humes Dane          | Dr. Jeffrey Hoag                 | Ms. Sue McCauley          | Dr. Arthur Urbano        |
| Ms. Stacey DaSilva              | Dr. William Hogan                | Mr. Joe McDonald          | Mrs. Susan Wali          |
| Mr. Robert Deasy                | Dr. John Hogan                   | Dr. Terry McGoldrick      | <b>Mr. Michael Walsh</b> |
| Dr. Chard deNiord               | Dr. Bill Hudson                  | Mrs. Jane McGuirk         | Dr. Adrian Weimer        |
| Dr. Dana Dillon                 | Dr. Mark Hyde                    | <b>Dr. Keith Morton</b>   | Ms. Elena Yee            |
| Dr. Matthew Dowling             | Dr. Wanda Ingram                 | Fr. Mark Nowel, O.P.      | Mr. Rafael Zapata        |

See you later (I don’t believe in goodbyes: as the Sufi mystic, Rumi, said, “Goodbyes are only for those who love with their eyes, because for those who love with heart and soul, there is no such thing as separation”) are inevitable for us all and with everyone we come to know, care for, and love in life. But so too, then, by implication, is reunion. Until that time, we carry one another with us: everywhere, always, forever.

With much love, many prayers, and deep appreciation,  
*Fi aman’Allah* (in God’s care and protection),  
Saadia

*Saadia Ahmad*

**By: Patrick Shea, Sports Staff Emeritus**

I have put this off until the last minute, not out of senioritis or sheer laziness, but because I do not want to accept that my time here at Providence College will come to an end. It has been an incredible four year experience here at PC. This is hard to write because I have so many great memories here at Providence College that I cannot seem to pick just one moment of my time here. Whether it be knocking heads together during a rugby match with the savages of the Black Pack, hanging out and giving tours with the 73 other incredible students who make up Friars, scrambling to interview someone to get in that *Cowl* article before the deadline, cramming to prepare for that final exam you have put off studying for just a little too long, stomaching another Ray meal with a grimace along with friends, harassing and frustrating your roommates to no end just because you find it funny, finding out freshman year that that girl you really like is in your Civ lecture and seminar and before you know it you have been dating her for four years, Erin, or cutting class because you decided that spending time outside of the classroom with friends would be more enriching than another lecture and PowerPoint presentation. Maybe it is just the nostalgia setting in, but thank you to everyone in the PC community for making my time in college unforgettable. I will keep these memories, experiences, and friendships with me the rest of my life.

“Enjoy the journey. If you sprint right to the top, you can’t look behind you and see how far you’ve come.”

-Coach Cooley

