Reflecting on Pope Francis’ U.S. Visit

by Sarah Kelley ’17
Opinion Staff

RELIIGIOUS FREEDOM

Upon attending the canonization mass of Junipero Serra at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., I was taken aback by the number of people who were so entirely captivated while hearing the message of Pope Francis. Speaking in various languages during the first ever canonization Mass on U.S. soil, the Pope’s devoted tone expressed a clear message of loving and accepting nature of God and Catholicism.

SERRA/ Page 6

by Edward Walrod ’16
Opinion Staff

SPIRITUALITY

I did not intend to go see the Pope for the purposes of finding spiritual meaning. I am not Roman Catholic; I am and continue to be a Presbyterian. But, much like Christianity itself, I found what I did not expect. I found a call to ecumenism.

ECUMENISM/ Page 5

by Carolyn Walsh ’17
Asst. Opinion Editor

HUMANITY

In the moments leading up to Pope Francis’ arrival, the atmosphere among the roughly 25,000 people gathered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., was one of anxious anticipation. However, that anxious anticipation immediately transformed into overwhelming euphoria and joy the second Pope Francis came rolling by in his popemobile, gleefully waving and smiling at the massive crowd. Joy and excitement are certainly reactions you would expect people to express when being in the presence of any major world figure, be it a famous musician, actor, or even political leader.

POPE/ Page 5

News

2

Opinion

5

Photography

11

A&E

13

Portfolio

18

Sports

22

Opinion

Get one staff writer’s take on Take 3 and other on-campus dining options.

Page 7

A&E

Read about comedian Amy Schumer’s recent rise to stardom.

Page 14

News

Did Coach Cooley reign supreme in this year’s Iron Chef Battle or did Kellimee Goodwin take home the title?

Page 2
Cycling Through Life: A Journey Across Africa

Ginestet Bikes from Cairo to Cape Town in 7,500 Mile Adventure

by Zak Harvey '16
News Staff

LECTURES

This past Monday in the Slavin Fishbowl, Dana Ginestet, visiting professor for the Global Studies and Public and Community Service Studies departments, told the room of students and faculty the heartwarming and incredibly inspiring story of her first adventure in Africa.

Upon flying into Cairo, Egypt, Ginestet embarked on a journey that would bring her more than 7,500 miles from the northern tip of the continent to one of its most southeastern points, Cape Town, South Africa. This journey was not by plane, car, or boat, but rather by bike. Professor Ginestet embarked on the Tour d’Afrique. During the journey, Ginestet biked not only for the adventure, but also for a cause; she represented a foundation fighting to end malnutrition.

As she wrote in her journal, “The stars fell into alignment as 2010 approached, and it became clear that this was the year to make it happen.”

This dream had been in the works since 2006, when Ginestet learned of the Tour d’Afrique, and as 2010 approached it was meant to be that she would embark on this transcontinental journey.

This was the first time she had been to Africa, and she would come to take on the hottest deserts, the deepest valleys, record rains, and the highest peaks during her time there. However, neither these nor countless other obstacles prevented her from achieving her goal.

One of the most heartwarming anecdotes she shared during her talk was the story of a young girl in one of the small villages the convoy passed through on their journey.

Ginestet may very well have been one of the first white people this young girl had seen in her life. As Ginestet approached, the little girl shied away but eventually warmed up to Ginestet. As the caravan was leaving the village, the little girl approached Ginestet one last time to give her the necklace she wore around her neck. The hospitality and generosity of the African people became evident time and time again across the journey from Cairo to Cape Town.

Ginestet wrote, “People throughout Africa relate to the bicycle. They don’t hesitate to approach a cyclist with a broad smile and an outstretched hand to greet and to cheer and to welcome. The bike, in some respects, broke down any language barrier that existed.”

One student asked during the talk whether or not Ginestet’s parents were worried about the trip. Ginestet said, “Oh, absolutely. They were opposed to it for years, but finally realized that this was something I wanted to do and had to get out of my system.”

Ginestet also shared that one family member said to her as she was leaving, “What’s the worst that could happen? Say this trip isn’t everything that you imagined and you come home on a plane. We’ll still be here and love you all the same.”

During her travels she spent three weeks on antibiotics in Ethiopia, went through 23 bottles of sunscreen, crossed time zones, cycled through 10 different countries, and, above all, had the adventure of a lifetime.

Ginestet wrote in her journal, “In spite of the challenges, I would not have wanted to experience my first trip to Africa any other way. The incredible journey exposed me to some of Africa’s most alluring and fascinating places and people, and to the freedom of my own legs and at my own speed was rewarding as it gets.”

Ginestet summarized the exhilaration and importance of her journey by bicycle she felt while biking across Africa when she wrote, “The bicycle as a means of travel and discovery was the key to the intimacy I felt with the land and the people encountered. Traveling by bicycle allowed me the opportunity to discover new places, cultures, and countries at the speed only as fast as my own legs could pedal. Without a windshield to block the elements, I felt the grit on my teeth, wiped the rain from my eyes, caught bugs in the sticky sunscreen on my skin. Without a motor to drown out the sounds, I heard the patter of children’s bare feet running behind me and the quietness of the desert in the night.

Ginestet concluded, “I climbed every hill and cruised down every valley all the way from Egypt to South Africa. Each day I traveled at my own pace and stopped when I wanted to taste the food, play with children, and marvel at the wildlife along the road.”
Friar Focus: The ROTC Experience at PC

by Meaghan Dodson ’17
News Co-Editor

ON CAMPUS

Walk around campus on a Wednesday morning, and you will see ROTC students in full uniform making their way to class. But, besides this weekly scene, do you really know what these men and women—the future leaders of our nation’s military—actually do? What is ROTC and what does it mean for Providence College students? Here is your chance to find out.

Freshman and sophomore year, ROTC is like a high school class that meets at PC; a 3-credit elective that fulfills the social science requirement. These first two years are a chance for students to see what ROTC is about, and, as Douglas Kingsley ’18 stated, “to teach the basics of what the Army is a profession, and what it means to live a life as a leader in the U.S. Army as well as any other field of work.”

The class is every Wednesday from 2:30-6 p.m., and it is open to PC students as well as to those from neighboring schools such as Brown University and Bryant University. Freshmen and sophomores are encouraged, but not required, to do early morning workouts unless they have previously signed a contract, which binds them to a commitment in the Army after college. Students who wish to continue with the ROTC program must commit by the end of sophomore year.

Junior and senior cadets begin more advanced courses that focus on learning how to lead. All members of ROTC will graduate college as 2nd Lieutenants (2LT) and will have to load people who have been in the military for much longer than any of the cadets.

Junior year is big for ROTC students because these “Majors” are cadet non-commissioned officers of the battalion. The MSIs are the bridge between the seniors and underclassmen, and as contracted members of the Army they must attend early morning training and help reinforce the mission of all cadets.

Physical Readiness Training (PRT) is held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, beginning around 6:30 a.m. Cadets get into formation and make the proper addresses before proceeding with running and body weight workouts. Although the workouts vary, what never changes is the physically demanding nature of the routine. Cadets are thus prepared for the rigors of the Army life while also learning how to work and act as a single unit. As officers in the U.S. Army, it is imperative that members maintain a high level of physical fitness in order to more efficiently lead their subordinates and accomplish the mission at hand.

Another important aspect of ROTC is teaching cadets how to live a life based on a moral and ethical framework. By incorporating “The Seven Army Values” (loyalty, duty, respect, honor, integrity, service, and personal courage) into one’s life, it develops the individual into a stronger leader.

Kingsley states, “We are taught to selflessly serve others by putting the well-being of others before that of our own. ROTC is not meant to develop ‘warriors’ but rather leaders who can be self-sufficient as well as focused on helping others.”

Once a semester, all cadets take an Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT), with requirements that vary based on age and gender.

Other important events in the ROTC calendar include September move-in day, Warrior Skills Training (WST), Leadership Training Exercise (LTX), and summer training camps.

Cadets assist with campus move-in day each September in order to both give back to the school and introduce freshmen to the ROTC program. ROTC students also serve at school events such as basketball and hockey games.

WST is the first ROTC event of the year, and it gives underclassmen an idea of what the program really is. Underclassmen are taught the basics, issued equipment, given their uniforms, and educated about the Army’s customs and courtesies.

LTX is a weekend activity that takes place once a semester. It is here that the cadets put into practice everything that they have learned both in and out of the classroom.

Finally, summer camps are ways for cadets to build up their skills and prepare for the school year. The Cultural Understanding and Leadership Proficiency Program (CULP) gives cadets the chance to travel to other countries and be paired up with that country’s military. Some cadets choose to hone specific skills at the National Guard Basic Military Training School, while others take part in the Cadet Initial Entry Training (CET) to further learn what ROTC is all about.

Every rising senior needs to complete the Cadet Leadership Course (CLC) the summer before their final year. The senior four-week camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky allows cadets to bond with and learn from students across the country. Ideally, it is after this program that cadets are ready for the responsibilities of senior year.

Seniors essentially the leaders of the College’s battalion. MSII Week takes place the first weekend the seniors arrive back on campus, and it is here that the seniors, or “MSIIs,” plan out the entire year. Although seniors plan all the training sessions and facilitate activities/training weekends, Kingsley remarked, “At the end of the day, we’re still freshmen.”

A cadet’s time in ROTC is evaluated during his or her senior year. School grades, PT scores, leadership roles and events, and other factors are all taken into consideration during the process.

Graduates are commissioned officers in the Army, and they can choose one of three options in their post-graduate career. They can apply for Active Duty and make the military their full-time job, or they can opt for either the National Guard or the Army Reserve. The latter two are more part-time jobs where officers train to maintain Army standards but also hold civilian jobs or attend graduate school.

As his PC ROTC career comes to a close, Kingsley reflects, “ROTCh has changed the way I go about every aspect of my life, from interacting with others to simply going to daily class. It has made me a better and hard-working person.”

What Happens At PC, Stays At PC

Casino Night Brings Vegas Theme to Providence College

by Sabrina Guilbeault ’18
Asst. News Editor

ON CAMPUS

On Friday, September 29, the Office of Student Activities put on an annual Casino Night. Students had the opportunity to try their luck, enjoy a Vegas-style show, and enjoy free food and great prizes. “It’s an event we look forward to every year,” said Karen Hay, director of student activities.

“Casino Night is a large scale event so it took a lot of planning,” continued Hay. The Office of Student Activities worked right up to the night of the event in order for it to be successful. “We began working on it in July,” she said.

“We had students from all four years in attendance and people stayed right until the end,” said Hay. Students had the chance to win while playing Black Jack, Money Wheel, Texas Hold ‘Em, and Bingo. “Many students tell us it’s an event they won’t miss and always look forward to attending.”

“We had over 300 students attend so it was well attended,” said Hay. If students were not really into gambling, there was also lots of free food and there was a dancing Piano Show for students to listen to and enjoy. Students had the opportunity to win great prizes such as Apple TV, Big East Tickets, a Keurig, a mattress topper, and a multitude of gift cards. Students were given play money to use in the games for a chance to win.

“I’d like to extend a huge thank you to all of our volunteers and staff who worked the event,” said Hay. “A special thank you to Karen Dumas for her work to make the event such a success.”

Bringing Peace of Mind to Campus

Center for Mindfulness Offers Support System to Students

by Sarah Gianni ’18
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

While college is often referred to as “the best four years of your life,” it is no secret that students still deal with the stresses and challenges that life inevitably brings. For some, the struggle lies with friends and family, specifically when friends and loved ones struggle with addiction. In order to help students who may be dealing with this specific problem, Providence College offers a confidential and anonymous weekly support group sponsored by the Personal Counseling Center (PCC).

“The meetings are for all undergraduate students to attend, and they provide a space where students are encouraged to speak about how addiction has impacted their lives and the lives of their family members,” said Sinead McCarthy, program organizer.

The weekly group session is held every Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Center for Mindfulness on the first floor of Davis Hall across from Sandella’s Flatbread Cafe. “Much of the discussion is based on what students need in the moment,” said McCarthy.

“We offer opportunities for students to share their personal experiences, as well as ask other students for support or advice on specific matters,” she said.

The Center for Mindfulness is an integral part of the therapeutic process, as it is part of the PCC, and usually led by a group facilitator. During the group, students are able to discuss the impact of addiction on their lives, from interacting with others to simply going to daily class. It has made me a better and hard-working person.”

The conversation is often a therapeutic one, and students are encouraged, but not required, to do early morning workouts unless they have previously signed a contract, which binds them to a commitment in the Army after college. Students who wish to continue with the ROTC program must commit by the end of sophomore year.

Graduates are commissioned officers in the Army, and they can choose one of three options in their post-graduate career. They can apply for Active Duty and make the military their full-time job, or they can opt for either the National Guard or the Army Reserve. The latter two are more part-time jobs where officers train to maintain Army standards but also hold civilian jobs or attend graduate school.

As his PC ROTC career comes to a close, Kingsley reflects, “ROTCh has changed the way I go about every aspect of my life, from interacting with others to simply going to daily class. It has made me a better and hard-working person.”

Students who may wish to receive help but do not feel comfortable in a group setting are encouraged to set up an individual appointment at the PCC.

“All undergraduate students have access to the PCC’s resources,” said McCarthy.

For those who are interested, the phone number is 401-865-2343. In addition, the PCC can also refer students to off-campus therapists and support groups if preferred.

“We need these groups on campus to help build awareness and support for the entire PC community,” said McCarthy.
John Boehner to Resign from Congress

House Speaker John Boehner announced on Friday, September 25 that he would be resigning by the end of October. Boehner stated, “My first job as Speaker is to protect the institution. It had become clear to me that this prolonged leadership turmoil would do irreparable harm to the institution.” Boehner had been struggling toward the end. He was trying to devise a plan to keep the government open for the rest of the year. It is said that the Republicans who did not have enough pull had continually undermined Boehner. According to Representative Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin, Boehner’s resignation is seen as “an act of pure selflessness.” As stated in the New York Times, “Mr. Boehner’s announcement lessened the chance of a government shutdown because Republican leaders, joined by Democrats, will almost certainly go forward with a short-term funding measure to keep the government operating, and the Speaker will no longer be deterred by those who threatened his job.

Congress Updates

by David Toro ’16 and Meaghan Dodson ’17

Kristine Goodwin, vice president for student affairs, addressed Congress about sexual assault and dating violence. She announced that the number of Personal Counseling Center staff members has increased and that the sexual assault resource page on the Providence College website has been updated. A campus climate survey has also been conducted to shed more light on the issue of sexual assault on campus.

The topic of safety off campus was discussed. People spoke out saying that some calls made to PC Safety and Security were denied because they pertained to off-campus incidents; however, the PC administration has been very attentive to off-campus student activity in past years. Concerns of Providence Police were also addressed as they seemed to be more concerned with breaking up parties than with helping victims of violent attacks.

Additionally, Congress members fostered talks about recent events occurring on campus. 500 tickets were sold on the first day of Senior Ring week. Providence Police were also addressed as they seemed to be more concerned with breaking up parties than with helping victims of violent attacks.

News Co-Editor

O'Connor enthusiasti calls new members to the first Art Club meeting of the year.

Club Spotlight: Art Club

by Meaghan Dodson ’17

Add some color to your life with the Providence College Art Club! This organization meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Hunt-Cavanagh Hall and provides its members with the chance to meet new people, take a break from homework, and express their creativity.

An email is sent out every Monday to let members know about the week's homework, and express their creativity. Pictures of the finished crafts are displayed on @pc_artclub, the club’s Instagram account. There are even club Pictionary nights closer to finals week.

The club is not commitment based, so members are encouraged to show up when they can or whenever they see a craft they like. Tom O’Connor ’17, the club’s secretary, stated, “It’s a nice, low-stress club. It’s a great way to get involved on campus and to meet people in all different grades and majors.”

In addition to its weekly meetings, Art Club also co-sponsors several events on campus such as PC’s annual Stuarstock concert.

O’Connor, a member of the club since his freshman year, continued, “I like being able to take a little time out of the week to just relax and have fun with friends. Art Club is definitely one of my favorite things to be a part of here at PC.”

Xi Jinping and the US-China Relationship

Chinese President Xi Jinping recently called for a better understanding between the U.S. and China. Jinping met with President Obama to discuss issues such as cybersecurity, climate change, and trade. During Jinping’s state visit keep Obama said, “The United States welcomes the rise of a China that is peaceful, stable, prosperous and a responsible player in global affairs. And I’m committed to expanding our cooperation even as we address disagreements candidly and constructively.” China is pledging to establish a new cap-and-trade system to restrict polluting emissions. On the matter of cybersecurity, Obama claims that he and Jinping, “have agreed that neither the U.S. or the Chinese government will conduct or knowingly support cyber-enabled theft of intellectual property, including trade secrets.”

Caterpillar to Cut More than 10,000 Jobs

On Thursday, September 24, the American Corporation, Caterpillar Inc., said that job cuts could near 10,000. Between now and the end of 2016 more than 5,000 cuts will be made. As the global growth outlook darkens, the moves are aimed to cut $1.5 billion in annual costs. Ten percent of the company’s revenue is generated in China. China’s economy is shifting from infrastructure-led growth to more consumer driven growth, and this shift is causing a dramatic economic slow down. Countries that have trade ties to China are being affected.

Over 700 Die in Hajj Pilgrimage

Over 700 people were killed near Mecca at one of Islam’s holiest events. Two Muslim pilgrims collided at an intersection on Thursday, September 24. This tragedy marks this year’s pilgrimage as the deadliest there has been in 25 years. Saudi Arabian officials are looking into the accident and trying to plan ways to stop this from occurring in the future. This is the second accident to happen during this year’s Hajj, the first accident occurring when a crane fell and killed 107 people and injured at least 238 more. Fawaz Gerges, a Middle East expert at the London School of Economics, stated, “The reputation of the kingdom is on the line. The fact is, despite everything Saudi Arabia has done, accidents and tragedies continue to happen.”

PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM O'CONNOR '17

O'Connor enthusiastically welcomes new members to the first Art Club meeting of the year.
Being amongst the crowd at the Basilica that day, though, I noticed that there was something uniquely special about the enthusiasm surrounding Pope Francis: it was fueled by hope. As the “People’s Pope,” Pope Francis’ message of a commitment to love, mercy, and social responsibility translates into hope for positive change not only in the Catholic Church but throughout the world as well.

Since his election to Papal Office in 2013, Pope Francis has challenged both the negative perceptions and realities of the Catholic Church. Instead of indulging in a luxurious lifestyle like past popes, Pope Francis has opted to ditch the Prada and grandiosely papal apartment, embracing modesty and humility instead. Rather than taking a hardline, defensive approach to Church doctrines, he has made outreach his primary focus. His now famous phrase, “Who am I to judge?” given in response to a question by an interviewer regarding gay priests, has come to reflect a new direction for the Church under this new pope. The mindset of Pope Francis appears not to be one of fervent condemnation but rather one of mercy, open dialogue, and reconciliation.

For those people who may feel alienated from and embittered by the Church’s teachings and practices, Pope Francis’ gentle tone and emphasis on compassion is like an outstretched hand inviting them back to a church that lovingly embraces them. It is a hopeful sign that even as the conditions of the world we live in continue to change at a rapid pace, Church under Pope Francis can be strengthened by and adapt to these changes. Under the merciful and inclusionary approach of Pope Francis, there is hope for a Catholic Church that can prosper in the modern world, rather than be weakened by or— even worse—isolated from its greater challenges.

Throughout his historic trip to the U.S., Pope Francis continued his mission of hopeful outreach. Turning down an invitation to dine with members of Congress, he decided to have lunch with homeless men, women, and children in Washington, D.C. As poverty is an issue of particular importance to the Pope, he has spoken passionately numerous times, including in his address to Congress, about the urgent steps the world needs to take to abolish it. In his lunch with the homeless in D.C., the Pope showed by example how ordinary people can begin to help reduce the damaging effects of poverty by simply standing in solidarity with those in need and showing them the love and mercy they deserve. In his speech to Congress, Pope Francis said, “Each son or daughter of a given country has a mission, a personal and social responsibility.” It is certainly part of our collective social responsibility to reach out to those who are excluded and marginalized from society’s benefits.

Pope Francis, of course, is not perfect. He is only human. Some people may believe that the changes he is invoking within the Church and in its image go too far, while others believe they do not go far enough. However, through his merciful message to all humanity Pope Francis shows that compassion is far more important than holy perfection.

Regardless of Pope Francis’ actual theological views that the media may or may not have reported accurately on his ability to command, such perceptions of him make him the man most able to believe that the changes he is invoking would undoubtedly bring mutual benefits to all denominations involved. The need for another Vatican II-esque meeting is apparent and clear. A formula for reunification while retaining theological (not hierarchical) integrity must be put in place. While smaller ecumenical meetings and advances have come in decades since, nothing as sweeping or as significant as Vatican II has happened in the last 50 years to help all toward unity. It is certainly part of our collective social responsibility to reach out to those who are excluded and marginalized from society’s benefits, and to help alleviate their suffering. Although the Pope does not expound a detailed plan on how to reduce poverty, his message is far stronger than any political policy. Pure human goodness, love, and acceptance are ultimately the greatest cures for extreme suffering, because they raise hope of real change in communities and in society’s hearts.

Pope Francis shows that compassion is far more important than holy perfection.

Walrod: Answer the Pope’s Call for Unity

Continued from front page

After two hours of waiting in the media line and receiving my press credentials, I met my colleagues on the media riser. We were next to the shared the riser with the New York Times and The Associated Press. It was completely surreal to be six feet away from Pope Francis, as he greeted the crowds in his popemobile. We were next to the riser and yelling “Abba” (meaning father in Aramaic). In that moment, all my views that the media may or may not have reported accurately on his ability to command, such perceptions of him make him the man most able to present a plan of cooperation that would hopefully one day lead to union. Pope Francis has implored us to be stewards of the Earth and to each other. In order to fulfill this we must forge our reservations and be willing to look beyond tradition in order to find common ground.

According to the numbers of 2015 so far, Roman Catholics comprise about 48.7 percent of the Christian population, followed by an increasing number of Protestants and Orthodox. Could we imagine if Christendom acted as a whole? The increased resources and cooperation would undoubtedly bring mutual benefits to all denominations involved.

The need for another Vatican II-esque meeting is apparent and clear. A formula for reunification while retaining theological (not hierarchical) integrity must be put in place. While smaller ecumenical meetings and advances have come in decades since, nothing as sweeping or as significant as Vatican II has happened in the last 50 years to help all toward unity. It is clear what we as Christians must do—we must vigorously seek ecumenism and work toward unification. The Pope made this abundantly clear, and we must translate our messianic goals into practice.

The Cowl’s Opinion staff was situated on a media riser, a mere six feet away from Pope Francis, as he greeted the crowds in his popemobile. The Cowl shared the riser with the New York Times and The Associated Press.

Opinion writers (from left to right) Sarah Kelley ’18, Carolyn Walsh ’19, and Edward Walrod ’18 are pictured inside of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception as they cover the Pope’s canonization mass of Junipero Serra.

Continued from front page

OPINION

Pope: Be #Popeful

October 1, 2015

Continued from front page

Walrod: Answer the Pope’s Call for Unity

Continued from front page

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Serra: His Conduct Was Anything But Saintly

Continued from front page

Yet, as the Mass went on, and a short biographical account of Junípero Serra—the Franciscan monk who was named a saint through this canonization mass—was recited, it seemed as though the love and acceptance that Pope Francis had been promoting earlier would be lost in the controversial disagreement surrounding this Friar. While Serra has been recognized as one of the great evangelizers of North America, creating 21 missions between 1769 and 1782 and converting countless natives of what is now modern day California and Mexico, do these activities really justify his canonization?

The actions of Serra in spreading Christianity to natives also evoked violence, forced assimilation, caused destruction of culture, and led to the loss of thousands of natives’ livelihood. The devastation and damage toward native peoples as a result of Serra’s and other evangelizers’ work seem to be anything but saintly, and this needs to be acknowledged.

As an 18th century Franciscan Friar and philosophy teacher, Serra, left his homeland of Mallorca and, in his life, volunteering to travel to missions of the New World. Working throughout California and Mexico, Serra and other missionaries were recognized as being on a divine purpose within both the Church and the state.

As representatives of the Church, the missionaries’ aim was to spread Christianity to the unbaptized, including the natives. Because they were paid state functionaries, the missionaries were viewed by the natives as enforcers of assimilation. The missionaries imposed their Spanish culture and ways of life upon the natives and forced them to become subject to the Spanish throne. Violence and coercion were an integral part of the missions. From the patrimonialistic view of the Friars and explorers alike, natives were treated as inferiors who needed to be taught the correct cultural, religious, and political customs in order to be saved from their barbaric lives. If they attempted to leave the missions, they would be tracked, brought back, and punished with violence or floggings.

Violence and coercion were an integral part of the missions. From the papalistic view of the Friars and explorers alike, natives were treated as inferiors who needed to be taught the correct cultural, religious, and political customs in order to be saved from their barbaric lives. If they attempted to leave the missions, they would be tracked, brought back, and punished with violence or floggings.

While Pope Francis applauded Serra for the holy life of devotion that he led, others have identified him as cruel and unmerciful toward the native people. From the historical account of Elias Castillo, author of A Cross of Thorns: The Enslavement of California’s Indians by the Spanish Missions, the current saint was known to use violence, in the forms of both beating and whipping, in order to gain compliance and submission from the natives. Castillo also reports that many people did not actually enter the missions of their own accord, but were forced through kidnapping to enter these establishments of so-called holy intentions.

Ultimately, the mission systems introduced by Serra, along with various other religious orders under the leadership of the Church, allowed exploitation, abuse, devastation, dehumanizing treatment, and disease to ravage thousands of native tribes, causing irreparable damage and loss for those past populations.

Although the development of the mission system and its impact on native populations cannot be attributed to a single individual, the canonization of Junípero Serra truly deflated the Pope’s message of spreading the love and acceptance of the Catholic Church. With Serra’s history being so innately linked to the mission system and all of its destructive effects, it seems as though his canonization reveals either an obliviousness and insensitivity of the Church toward the history of native populations, or even worse, an implied approval of the missionary efforts and their devastating impact. Either way, in recognizing the overall effects of the mission system in relation to the exploration of the New World territories of many native populations, there is no denying that the evangelizing efforts of Junípero Serra can be called anything but saintly.

Go Back to Basics, Zuckerberg

Universal Internet Access Will Not Eliminate Poverty

by Jacquelyn Kelley ’17

Mark Zuckerberg, the CEO of Facebook, has supposedly found the key to solving world poverty. According to the technology guru, hardship can be easily eliminated if we simply provide poor communities with access to the Internet. Although poverty-stricken areas may gain something from the World Wide Web, it is safe to say that the gift of internet access alone will not free them from poverty.

Zuckerberg claims that poverty prevails due to a lack of interaction between the communities on either end of the earth. He claims that if areas lacking technological innovation are given universal access to the Internet, they will be given the opportunity to contribute to an online dialogue that they would otherwise know nothing about.

“By giving people access to the tools, knowledge, and opportunities of the Internet, we can give a voice to the voiceless and power to the powerless,” said Zuckerberg.

He is correct in assuming that internet access would be advantageous. If poor communities were to have access to the Internet, then awareness of their suffering may increase and donations to their communities may increase as well.

It should come to no one’s surprise, however, in assuming that internet access is the most valuable asset one can provide a needy neighborhood. According to the World Food Programme, there are 795 million people on earth who do not have enough food to maintain good health. Water.org reports that there are 750 million people on our planet who are without clean water. Finally, a 2005 U.N. study reports that there are 100 million homeless people in the world and 1.6 billion people who live in unsafe housing.

How can Zuckerberg prioritize internet access for the poor when they do not even have access to basic necessities like food, water, and shelter? Pope Francis emphasized in his speech to the U.N. on Sept. 25 that our world must focus on fulfilling basic needs. “At the same time, government leaders must do everything possible to ensure that all can have the minimum spiritual and material means needed to live in dignity and to create and support a family. In practical terms, this absolute minimum has three names: lodging, labor, and land,” said the Pope. He did not include internet access in his short list.

Zuckerberg’s solution not only fails to acknowledge that access to basic needs is far more important than access to the internet, but also neglects the fact that learning how to use technology can be extremely difficult.

So what if Zuckerberg pays to provide internet access to every little village on earth? His donation means nothing unless he also provides instructors who can effectively explain how to use a computer in the native languages of these communities.

Zuckerberg’s campaign to increase internet access for the poor began two years ago when he started Internet.org. Most recently, he has joined the U.N.’s effort to eliminate poverty by the year 2030.

According to Zuckerberg, there are five billion people in the world without internet access. Would it be nice to see all of those people connected to the World Wide Web? Sure. Can they survive without internet access? Absolutely—they already are.
PC Students Are Hungry for More Dining Options

by Wesley Tralk ’16
Opinion Staff

Students Hope For More Frequent Class-Wide Events

by McKenzie Tavella ’18
Opinion Staff

OPINION

PC Campus

The Cowl 7

College students like to eat. We have all heard at one time or another the phrase “Freshman Fifteen,” and for good reason. There is a huge market for late night meals on a campus, and everyone seems to realize it. Whether it’s Wings Over Providence at 9 p.m., a food truck at midnight, or Big Tony’s at 3 a.m., the local food dispensaries have all figured out the simple truth that students, particularly Providence College students, crave food. The only one who does not seem to get the memo is PC.

To be fair, there is plenty of food on this campus. Almost every event seems to have free food, albeit usually the same three or four items that we’ve all had time and time again. That being said, there is hardly any diversity in all the food available once the clock strikes a certain time.

Outside of the traditional meal plan choices at Raytheon and Alumni, there really is not that much available on-campus. Raytheon, which you almost certainly will be at least every other week, the only choices you have on-campus are Sandella’s and Yella’s, the grill, Yella’s, or Slice of Life. Alumni certainly gets the pizza thing, but-Jonah, if you can get over how awful their food really is. Even then, choices are limited.

Ray is long closed by the time a PC student craves a late night snack, obviously, as is Friar Buyer. Dunkin’ Donuts, if you’re feeling like a sweet tooth, is also not much help. Alumni was actually fully open. By 10 p.m., the only part of Alumni still serving food are the ORC, Grill and Slice of Life. This is for a reason limited (and fairly unhealthy) selection, meaning students are more likely to just go to a food truck if they want anything besides a cheeseburger, unless they have nothing but Friar Bucks to spend.

I get why most of Alumni is closed; it is probably not worth it to staff and stock Wings on Friar or Ultimate Baja so late at night. However, it makes no sense that they close so early. Certainly it wouldn’t hurt if Wings at least stayed open until 10 p.m. or so, since I am sure more than a few people would order grilled cheese. Still, considering how many people get sandwiches at Yella’s, I am sure it is plenty worth to it stay open at least until midnight.

On the weekends, it gets even worse. Wings and Baja do not open at all, and Ray brunch is just not worth it. If I am hungry around noon (i.e. lunch time) the only options for me are Sandella’s, the grill, Yella’s, or Slice of Life. Alumni certainly gets the pizza thing, but-what would you do if I have to (which I obviously do), but what I truly don’t understand is why Take 3 is not an option on the weekends. Its premise is the knowing link between you and wings–you can exchange meal swipe for three select items at Alumni. Yet even when Ray is open on weekends, begold holidays, Take 3’s food is completely unappealing. I don’t think it is available to more than just students, but as it is not, there is just no reason it cannot apply to weekends. Place it in a limited set for an hour or two, and give us the same flexibility in how we use them, yet for some reason the usage is restricted in specific ways for a specific reason.

What do you think? Do you have a favorite food truck or eating spot? Do you feel that PC should do anything differently to better fit students’ needs? Let us know in the comments section.

Bring On the Friar Festivities

Students Hope For More Frequent Class-Wide Events

by Patricia Krupinski ’16
Guest Opinion

OPINION

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WSUSIGNPOST.COM, CLIPARTPANDA.COM, CLOUDCLIPART.COM

Yet another year I feel like an outsider on 9/11. As someone from New Jersey, I can still remember the terror that filled me as I watched the Towers fall. I remember not understanding what had happened, waiting to pick up friends and watching my parents wait for my uncle, who worked in the Pentagon, to call us and let us know he was all right. I spent weeks sleeping with my parents because of nightmares.

I want to make this clear: I am not related to the 9/11 victims. I just want to call us and let us know he was all right. I spent weeks sleeping with my parents because of nightmares.

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OPINION

Do Not Take the Little Things for Granted

by Gabriella Nigro '16

Associate EIC

EDITOR’S COLUMN

On Sunday morning after grabbing a strong coffee, I strolled through campus toward the library. Recently obsessing about my to-do list, I could barely enjoy the new autumn scenes around me. Yet before I entered Phillips Memorial Library, I noticed a plump squirrel perched below a forked tree. I kept walking and noticed another smaller squirrel in the upper left hole of that same tree. Stopping myself, I could not help but laugh. Those little, pesky rodents are always around, "chillius," as we say.

As I stopped, I decided to pull out my phone for a picture, the smaller squirrel in the knoll. My feelings changed as I glanced down and noted flies circling a lame piece of fur. The first squirrel that had originally been near the ground paced its way towards the still mound, a smaller squirrel. Fascinated, I realized the bigger squirrel started shallowly breathing and erratically twitching. Was she in distress?

I watched in horror as the bigger squirrel started nipping the smaller one. The lame squirrel moved its head and blinked, still barely alive. Nipping its legs and stomach, the bigger squirrel took the smaller one in its mouth. Hearing a cry from the other smaller squirrel in the tree-hole, I realized the bigger squirrel was the mother, and her baby had fallen from the tree hole.

Again, angst infiltrated my body as I watched the bigger squirrel take the smaller one in its mouth and scale the tree. A decent 25-foot scaling; how would they both fall to the ground?

I was silent as I watched the mother carry her limp baby up to the hole. I do not remember a squirrel ever leaving me unable to breathe. Almost at the knoll of the tree, I certainly did not know how they both fit in the hole.

For 20 seconds, the mother tried to fit her limp child in the hole with no success. I gasped as I even saw the smaller sibling of the squirrel help pull the other baby in the tree. Eventually, the dying baby fell from its mother’s grasp to the ground. I let out a scream.

A tear was still paining on the ground when he landed.

I had reached my threshold for “excessive,” and mutely walked through the library doors. They were squirrels... just animals. But I spent the rest of the day completely bewildered by the pain I felt.

Through this I realized: don’t ever take anything for granted, because even the most overlooked details have profound meaning.

TANGENTS & TIRADES

Our Comfortable Campus Is Too Conducive to Sleep

by Brianna Abbott '17

PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRALSCAPE.COM

Pope Francis Embraces Human Greatness

by Matthew Tinley '16

Providence College really needs to make certain places on campus less comfortable. That probably sounds a bit racy, but it’s crucial to someone who is prone to falling asleep anywhere at anytime. You start by occasionally drifting off while reading philosophy, and suddenly someone approaches you because she remembers you as “the girl who always slept in the McVinney lounge” two years later. There have been a lot of embarrassing pictures in a lot of public places, but the fault really does lie with the public places. The couches in the library are relaxing and are patterned to look just enough like bacon to make anyone tired, hungry, and incapable of doing work. The rest of the library and the Great Room in Ruane are so quiet that you cannot help but doze off. Each of those places are prime study locations, but your estimated study time has to include nodding off and napping. Don’t even get me started on the 10:30 p.m. Mass. I don’t care how inspirational the homily is; the soothing music and dim lights at the end of the day actually feel like they’re tucking you into bed after a long day in the library, during which you’ve probably already slept. It’s better than having a gross, uncomfortable campus, but there’s a certain danger that goes along with comely couches and a lack of coffee.

Do Not Take the Little Things for Granted

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The Cowl reserves the right to edit articles for grammar. Submissions must be emailed to The Cowl office: editor@thecowl.com. Photographs must be submitted in .jpg format with a resolution of 300 dpi for print. Photographs will be returned if properly labeled with author name and email address.

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TOP LEFT: A night for students to paint a picture of PC, while being guided by an artist, was held in McPhail’s. Students who are 21+ were able to enjoy a drink from the bar.

TOP RIGHT: Fr. Ambrose Little, O.P. and Fr. Philip Neri Reese, O.P. discussed the nature of happiness at Theology on Tap.

BELOW: Students try their luck at the popular Casino Night, the next best thing to Vegas!

MIDDLE RIGHT: This week at Things for Thursday, students decorated their own cupcakes.

BOTTOM LEFT: Students watch Coach Cooley as he battles in a cook-off at Raymond Dining Hall.

ABOVE: Cultural Education and Programming sponsored a poetry reading in both Spanish and English for Hispanic Heritage Month!
What is your favorite thing about fall?

“Sweaters.”
Michelle Ea ’17

“Wearing sweatpants all day long 24/7.”
Bui Thanh Tung ’17

“The cooler weather and being back at PC.”
Joe MacKoul ’16

“Seasons changing, apple picking, and pumpkin carving.”
Emily Hurley ’17

“Apple picking, Halloween, cooler weather, and pumpkin everything.”
Laurel Gumbart ’18, Hailey Lovett ’18, Julia Pinkava ’18, and Mary-Kate Rogers ’18

“The weather, football, Halloween, candy, and the foliage.”
Andrew Hopkins ’16, Jack Ganey ’16, Mike Finnerty ’16, and Joe McElhinney ’16

“Thanksgiving turkey.”
- Charlie Brown, Woodstock, and Snoopy

PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM
“Til It Happens To You”

Lady Gaga’s New Song and Music Video Sends Support to Victims of Sexual Assault

Lady Gaga released a new music video recently and it is shockingly but necessarily somber. Entitled “Til It Happens To You,” Gaga speaks about the presence of sexual assault on college campuses. The song, co-written by Gaga and songwriter Jeff Bhasker, was made for the Take Back the Night 2015 concert and is a call to action for change. The video is directed by Ryan Charland ’18 and features footage from The Hunting Ground, a documentary on college sexual violence. It was released at the Sundance Film Festival this past February. The video is shot in black and white and follows three women who each experience sexual assault in different ways. One is raped by her boyfriend, one for her sexual orientation, and one is drugged at a party. The video is not extremely explicit in showing the sexual assaults, but it is bluntly obvious what is going on throughout the video. This is coupled with simple but strikingly powerful lyrics: “You tell me hold your head up / Cause when you fall you gotta get up / Til it happens to you, you don’t know how it feels.” The end of the video presents stunning data: “One in five college women will be sexually assaulted this year unless something changes.” In addition to this, a study at Oklahoma State University reports that six percent of men will also experience sexual assault.

The music video starts an important dialogue on college campuses. The end of the video shows friends and family members of the three victims talking to them, encouraging viewers to be supportive of their friends and report any instance of sexual violence they see or hear about. The number for the Sexual Assault Hotline, 1-800-656-HOPE (4673), is provided as well. As a popular artist, Lady Gaga is becoming somewhat of a champion of social justice, using her music to speak about LGBT acceptance, anti-bullying, and now sexual assault. Gaga herself recently reported that she was raped at 19 and that four sexual assault victims inspired the song. Annie E. Clark, Andrea T. Pino, Sofie Karasuk, and Kamilah Willingham wrote to Gaga and Warren thanking them for the song. According to Billboard, they wrote: “The release of your song will have an unparalleled impact on the culture of campuses nationwide. Imagine a survivor who, after hearing your song, no longer feels isolated or alone... We want to thank you both for having the courage to write and perform this song and for allowing your talent, your music, your lyrics, and your voices to tell our stories.”

The music video for “Til It Happens To You” can be found online. The video, paired with the song, amplifies the power of the subject. It is simply made and simply written, but leaves a powerful and stunning impact on its audience. The video has already accumulated over 13 million views on YouTube and will certainly spark a discussion on collegiate sexual violence nationwide. For colleges looking to find a new way to educate their students on sexual assault, this may be the way to leave a lasting mark on the student body. It is a shocking, moving reminder of campus violence and, more positively, the power of one’s friends, who Gaga depicts as an important support system for victims. A portion of the proceeds from the sales of “Til It Happens To You” will go to organizations that help survivors of sexual assault.

The Horror Film Renaissance

The current horror film industry seems like an endless stream of sequels, remakes, reboots, and cash-ins. A new standbys. Found footage (Paranormal Activity, V/H/S), excessive gore (Saw, Hostel, The Human Centipede), and remakes (Poltergeist, Evil Dead) dominate the market. Recently, filmmakers have begun using these tropes to their advantage by presenting familiar concepts in fresh ways, as in 2015 when found footage feature Unfriended, in an effort to break the chain of clichés that continually sell tickets. Real hope for horror rests in those filmmakers who are willing to put their faith in the intelligence of the audience. Instead of getting screams through cheap tricks, like false jump scares, surprise music notes, and bloody props, directors have begun to provide psychological terror that keeps audience members discussing the film long after the credits have rolled. An excellent example of this is The Babadook (2014). Director Jennifer Kent managed to provide imaginative and thought-provoking scares through dialogue and atmosphere (two components that are sadly overlooked in many blockbusters) and in doing so raised questions about parent-child relationships, the loss of a loved one, and being a single mother. In this vein of “smart horror” David Robert Mitchell’s feature It Follows, can be found. It eschews the typical horror storyline with its genius plot: a teen is pursued by a shapeshifting and oft-invisible creature whose curse is transmitted as a supernatural STD. Like The Babadook, It Follows raises both questions and goose bumps. Teen sexuality and fate in particular are central themes to be considered. Further away from paranormal concerns, The Gift (2015), from writer, director, and star Joel Edgerton, can be found. Jason Bateman and Rebecca Hall play a married couple being pursued by a character from the husband’s past (Edgerton). Never has such a simple concept been so misleading. By the finale, Edgerton addresses how well we truly know our loved ones and how our actions affect others. All the while completely subverting expectations and leaving audiences slack-jawed. It takes a rare talent to make a viewer empathize with the “bad guy.”

Not all horror films need to be deep and contemplative. Luckily, the recent trend of quality extends to those flicks that are just good and scary fun. M. Night Shyamalan’s The Visit is receiving critical attention despite its director’s notorious record. The combination of basic fears and comedic child leads is resonating with viewers and reviewers, something that should be good news to both movie buffs and Shyamalan himself. Scary movie season is just beginning in anticipation of Halloween and there is no better time for creative and fine features. Oct. 16 marks the return of Guillermo del Toro (Hellboy, Pacific Rim) with Tom Holland and Jessica Chastain in Crimson Peak. Del Toro’s project looks to be the rare gothic tale for modern fans. Featuring English mansions, ghostly secrets, and a unique visionary director, Crimson Peak could be fantastic. Hopefully, it will be the next entry in the string of excellence.
Explore Providence:
Tortilla Flats
by Isabella Goldstein '17
A&E Staff

While Chipotle may be the greatest creation on Earth, if you are looking for a better atmosphere to enjoy your delicious Mexican food in, check out Tortilla Flats on Hope Street in Providence. A Tex-Mex and Cajun cantina, Tortilla Flats is a warm, welcoming, and fun environment perfect for snacking on some chips and guacamole or ordering a mouth-watering burrito.

This past weekend, there was an hour-long wait for a four-person party around 7p.m. Unfortunately, the restaurant only accepts reservations for parties of six or more, so the wait was unavoidable. After finally being seated, the service seemed to be a bit inefficient; it took a decent amount of time before our waitress came over to even get our beverage orders. Unlike most sit-down Mexican restaurants where chips and salsa come free, this was not the case here. However, after munching on, or rather devouring, two orders we did receive a third free. The salsa and guacamole were excellent!

The menu was large and offered a wide variety of selections from tacos to ribs to fajitas to chimichangas. Our party had a great deal of time to make our decision, since our waitress was not very attentive. For instance, she did not rush over to fill our empty waters or sodas and did not return to get our food orders until awhile after giving us our drinks. However, the food did come out rather quickly in comparison to the speed of the beginning of the meal. Our table was soon filled with fresh chicken and steak fajitas as well as a burrito, all of which came with heaping amounts of toppings such as tomatoes, cheese, rice, tortillas, salsa, and a delicious side of cucumber salad. Given the prices, the portions were decently sized as well. Although we did not have any room for dessert, the selections, such as a molten chocolate lava cake, fried ice cream, and cinnamon sugar churros, looked absolutely scrumptious.

Overall the prices were reasonable, but certainly costly for college students—like any other sit-down restaurant. However, if you are looking for a neighborhood restaurant with a great environment that serves quality Mexican food, you should certainly head on over to Tortilla Flats. I would certainly come back again, so why not deviate from your regular Chipotle order and give it a try!

Let’s Rave:
This Week: Amy Schumer

by Kelly Laske '16
A&E Staff

If there is anything that has traveled from zero to 100 recently, it is Amy Schumer’s career. Just a few short months ago, almost no one knew her name—infact, if you showed me a picture of her back in March, I would have had no idea who I was looking at. In June, things quickly changed. Whether you wanted to see her or not, you had to. Standing in line at the grocery store I saw her face on the cover of a magazine. That was until I happened to glance further down the newstand only to realize she was on the cover of not just one, but three magazines. Fast forward two months and I’m staring at Schumer on my television, smiling from ear to ear, while holding an Emmy high above her head.

The question is: how and why did someone get so big so fast? Schumer simply went from struggling to stardom. She knows life can be tough, as her Upper East Side, wealthy childhood was taken away from her when her father’s successful baby furniture business went completely bankrupt. Back in 2007, Schumer felt like she was on fire until she fell short of winning the title on Last Comic Standing. Although she was trying to make it big doing stand-up comedy as a whole.

Trainwreck racked in $30 million in its opening weekend, completely shattering box office predictions. Whether this sounds cliché or not, there is simply no other way to put it—Schumer is relatable. Her personality is infectious. She is not trying to be funny, she just is. When you see her sitting courtside at a basketball game, you want to sit next to her. What made Trainwreck so phenomenal was that it did not even seem like Schumer was acting. What makes her even more appealing is that she is not stick thin with long legs. She is proud of her body and completely flaunts it. I am so happy that Schumer is the new face of comedy—not just women’s comedy, but comedy as a whole.
Grey’s Anatomy: 12 Seasons and Counting

by Kealy Robertson ’16
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

Last Thursday night marked the start of the 12th season of Grey’s Anatomy, a show that has held audiences’ attention year after year. The new season began with Meredith Grey asking the question, “Why are we here?” and then began to spiral for the next hour. Last season we lost the beloved Derek Shepherd in a car crash, leaving fans across the country in tears. It is hard to know what will come of this season, but once again, the producers hooked their audience with just the first episode.

There always seems to be a lesson with each episode that is released, and the moral of this week’s show had to do with accepting one another for who they are. Two teenage girls were admitted to the hospital after they decided to try and leave the world together by standing in front of a train. They would have rather died together than lived another day apart. It starts when Jess’ parents find out about her relationship and decides to send her away to camp to “fix” her. Jess’ mom is a bully and the other girl in the relationship, Cali, decides to take a stand against her, defending a young girl who had been made to feel so small. Finally, Maggie becomes violent and attacks Jess’ mother by punching her. Jess’ father intervenes, putting an end to the mother’s bullying and defending his daughter. Not only did the episode send the message that love conquers all, but it also recognized the psychological impact of bullying through the doctors’ reflections on their childhoods.

There was a strong message about the importance of standing up for oneself, and the episode emphasized the importance of refusing to quit or give up something you have worked for. Bailey was just about to throw in the towel in her race to become Chief of Surgery when her husband refused to let her quit. She realized that though she may have to compete for the job, she was just as well-qualified as her competitor. Not only did she follow her passion, but she sets the board straight, giving various arguments as to why she was the best candidate while also saving the life of a patient. Her willpower was inspiring.

What will happen next? The show left us wondering about the future of Avery and Kepner. It made us ask if Bailey was cut out to be Chief of Surgery, or if one of the newcomers would sweep the position out from under her. Everyone is watching Meredith, wondering what will come over her without Derek by her side, but it seems that her relationship with her half sister, Maggie, and Derek’s sister, Amelia, will continue to grow throughout this season.

Fasten your seat belts and prepare for a season in which the cast of Grey’s Anatomy will continue to save lives and surprise us with each and every episode.

PHOTO COURTESY OF www.vcpost.com

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Texticate
by Joey Aiello ’17
Portfolio Staff
Dialogue

Two guys sitting in a car
John: Sam finally texted me back, hopefully she’s not mad at me anymore.

iPhone screen
Sam: we should talk later
John: ok

Cut to two girls at lunch
Jess: What’d he say?
Sam: He said okay.
Jess: But how’d he spell it?
Sam: What the hell? He just said ok.
Jess: He’s definitely annoyed with you then.
Sam: But I didn’t do anything! I just said I wanted to talk.
Jess: He probably doesn’t want to talk.

iPhone screen
Sam: Does our relationship mean anything to you?

Back with the two guys in the car
John: What the hell?
Evan: What’d she say?
John: She just comes out of nowhere with, ‘Does our relationship mean anything to you?’
Evan: Well, what’d you say?

John: She said we should talk later and I said okay.
Evan: How’d you say okay?
John: Okay?
Evan: Yeah, but how’d you spell it?
John: O-K
Evan: Ahh that’s the mad okay.
John: What...
Evan: Yeah most people only use that spelling when they want to imply they’re annoyed.
John: How the hell was I supposed to know that??
Evan: I don’t know, you’re just supposed to I guess. It’s like an unwritten rule.

iPhone screen
John: I didn’t mean anything by that spelling of okay
Sam: Oh so you know there’s a difference?
John: I guess?
Sam: Do I annoy you John?
John: Is this really over how I spelled a word?
Sam: It’s so much more than that

Back to the two guys in the car
John: Who comes up with this stuff?
Evan: Everything kind of just happens and you’re just supposed to know it. Like for instance, there’s emojis now, so if you use the semi colon and parenthesis smiley face then you come across creepy because only old guys on Facebook are still using that crap.
John: You can’t even use that anymore?
Evan: You have the emoji keyboard right?
John: Yeah.
Evan: So why would you need to? You have a better option now.
John: It just seems weird to me that people can imply context off of such meaningless things.
Evan: Hey them’s the times, man.
John: Who’s said “them’s the times” this decade?
Evan: Don’t hate the playa, hate the game.
John: Okay now you’re just rattling off uselessly vague sayings... this all just seems so arbitrary, none of this would happen in real conversation.
Evan: Texting is a different beast my friend. There’s so many unwritten rules. Another one is don’t have your read receipts on.
John: Why not? Isn’t it good to know if someone saw my text?
Evan: No! It’s such a power trip to do that. If you have your read receipts on you never look okay when you stop answering. It’s like I saw your text three hours ago and I didn’t answer because I don’t give a damn about you.
John: But that’s never the case at all!
Evan: But that’s what it feels like.
John: I don’t want to text anymore.
Black-Out in the Corner:

Discomfort Leads to Action

by Chennah Sharpe '17
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Black-Out in the Corner:
Discomfort Leads to Action
by Chennah Sharpe '17
Portfolio Staff

We fear making the wrong choice, taking the risk,
but you have to get started.
You don’t have to be great,
just get started on the life
you’ve always envisioned for yourself.

To Breach the Sky

by Jonathan Coppe '18
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Before my eyes there roll, a sky apart,
The clouds, which hang so low they tempt the touch
As if a man by his sheer will
Could breach the sky and by his hand fulfill
The jubilant wondrous dreams that fill the heart,
As if, propelled by wonder, he could rise
And claim dominion o’er the great white plumes
And in one moment rule the air,
With all its tempests, gales, and weather fair,
And make his habitation in the skies.

Such thoughts of mighty work consume my ink
As are beyond the hope of men to dream.

Some men will do great things in turns
While yet my hand can only craft these words
And little more. And yet there is to think:

That these enormous creatures overhead,
Which billow through and in their might strike awe,
Are little more than dust and weakness frail
Before the strength of that Almighty Finger
Who drew into the sky the moon and stars.

Sucky Supers, #1

a comic by Abigail S. Henry '16

This week, Portfolio is pleased to premiere the first installment of
our illustrator Abigail’s new ongoing comic panel, entitled Sucky
Supers. Look for a new story every other week!
Listomania

Things Freshmen Do: A Savenger Hunt

Swarm
Scream with their Roommates
Fill the Banquet Tables in Ray
Get Lost
Wear Lanyards
Say “Meeger”
Panic Before a Civ. Quiz
Get to Dunks at 7:30 a.m.
Say “Where’s Dore?”
Complain Melodramatically
Blast Music Out of McDermott
Friday Night RIPTA Swarm
Discover the Shuttle

Check off each Freshman Moment as you see them to join in the fun!

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

As the school year begins to get underway, I find myself pulled in many different directions. There are so many fun activities! I feel like I’ve signed up for every club on campus and then some, plus I’ve been making so many new friends to spend my time with when class is over for the week. Between Chess Club, Circolo Italiano, Future Friar Executives, Anime Club, my new buddies, AND Civ., how can I manage to choose what fun things to do?

Sincerely,
Overstretched and Overtired

Dear Poor Time Management,

Wise monks of old would retreat from the chaos of this world by climbing on top of large pillars to pray, only leaving when absolutely necessary.

This life of isolation with nothing to do but meditation isn’t for everyone. Hence why I think you would be much more suited to the life of a warrior monk at one of China’s many Shaolin temples.

Think about it. No longer do you have to worry about hectic college schedules or awkward family dinners. The only requirement is for you to give up everything and cut off all contact with your loved ones to go on a relaxing yet daring and certainly dangerous adventure of a lifetime.

Your day will start at 4 a.m. with meditation, cleaning, and a small breakfast. Followed by prayer, scripture recitations, and more meditation. Then an intense borderline physically abusive martial arts regimen. Your day then ends at 2 a.m.

How about you shut it with your first world problems, be grateful for these opportunities, and actually consolidate your schedule.

Lots of love,

Dear Overstretched and Overtired,

Get used to the feeling. If you are not constantly overstretched and overtired, you are doing college wrong. Literally the whole point of college is to do everything possible in the world at the same time, then go party all weekend, every weekend.

Only sleep when it is appropriate, such as in the wee hours of the night, or through boring classes that have nothing to do with anything in the world. Like ethics. Or Civ. Especially Civ. Just remember the old Latin saying: *Amici in perpetuum, Gradus muti sint.* Friends are forever, grades are dumb.

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

Making PC an emotionally stable place one letter at a time

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.
The Cowl has entered the 21st century.

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Sports.
The success this season has certainly been a team effort, as many players have contributed to other important victories. In another Atlantic Coast Conference matchup, the Friars took an early 1-0 lead off a goal by Zimmerman and managed to shut out Syracuse 1-0. Madison Doherty ’18 assisted on the game’s lone goal, and goal-keeper Kristyn Shea ’17 made four saves in the shootout.

“It was a very important win for the team against a talented Syracuse side,” commented Head Coach Sam Lopes after the victory. “I love this team and their commitment to representing themselves, their families, and our program.”

“I think the highlight of the season so far were those two ACC wins,” said Ugolik. “We all worked for those and it felt great to get the result. I look forward to having more highlights with this team heading into conference play.”

The early season success continues beyond ACC play. In one of the most exciting games of the season, Casey Eshey ’19 scored the game winner off the assist from Zimmerman with 14 seconds left in regulation to beat Maine 2-1. Ugolik scored the other goal off of an assist from Eshey.

“The team played well tonight against a well-organized Maine team that has a few talented players,” said Lopes. “We certainly made it harder on ourselves by not getting the second goal when we got in behind their backs on several times, but credit to the group. They could have given up after Maine’s late goal, but they regrouped and it was great to see them get a well-deserved win.”

As the Friars move out of non-conference games and begin Big East play, they will have to continue to play at a high level. Although they lost the conference opener to Georgetown 2-1 in double overtime, there is no reason to believe that the women’s team will be slowing down anytime soon.

“I certainly think the team can be Big East contenders and ultimately making an appearance in the NCAAs would be the goal,” said Ugolik. “I’ve never been on a team that had more of a family atmosphere, coaches and staff included, and that were all so driven to get better as people and players everyday. Now we have to carry it over to league play.”

The Friars look to continue their success against Xavier in Cincinnati on Oct. 4 and against Butler at home on Oct. 11.
Men’s Soccer Falls at Georgetown
Starts Big East Play 0-1

by Nate Svogun ’16
Sports Staff

MEN’S SOCCER

Last season’s Big East Men’s Soccer Champions will have to wait a little longer to get their first Big East win of the season. Opening up their in-conference schedule, the Friars fell 1-0 in a tight contest against Georgetown last Saturday, dropping to a 4-3-1 record for the season.

The 25th-ranked Georgetown Hoyas are just one of the many reasons why Big East play will be even more challenging than it has been in the past. Together with teams like the national no. 1 Creighton Bluejays and the up-and-coming Xavier Musketeers, the Hoyas will certainly make it tough for the Friars to repeat their conference championship run from last year.

The Hoyas came into Saturday with a strong record, including an impressive 2-1 win at home against no. 11 Maryland. They have been ranked in the Top 25 all season thus far—but so had the Friars until three weeks ago, registering 7th, 8th and 18th ranks nationally in the first few batches of rankings.

In the most recent NSCAA coaches’ poll, the Friars still received 10 votes out of a possible 24 to get into the Top 25, barely missing out on making the cut for the week. For all intents and purposes, they were on level ground with the no. 25 Hoyas, with a nearly identical 4-2-1 record to compare with Georgetown’s 4-2-2 mark. Both teams hovered around the 25th-30th rank nationally in the polls for the week.

It might have simply been the field advantage that gave the Hoyas the edge, and eventually the victory, in this match. As both teams entered the game, it was clear going into the half that more aggressive play was needed to break the 0-0 draw. The Friars came out with this kind of aggressive play early in the contest and were able to get their first Big East win of the season.

Veteran players Kayla Fitzgerald ’17 and Abigail Dix ’17 led Providence’s attack, recording seven kills on the day, and second sets, 25-16 and 25-11 respectively. In the third set, they held the advantage in possession for much of the time, scoring first half, falling out a resilient PC defense with short and quick lateral passes. The Friars could not maintain possession for long periods of time, and were often forced to watch the Hoyas play keep-away.

Georgetown’s Arun Basuljevic came close to scoring several times in the first half. Ben Seguljic ‘18RS stopped his first shot just minutes into the match, and a powerful volley of his soared just over the crossbar with a minute left in the first half. Seguljic was forced to make three saves in total in the first half, of the five total shots attempted, while Georgetown’s goalie was not forced to make a single save on three Providence shots. With the offense somewhat tentative on both sides, it was clear going into the half that more aggressive play was needed to break the 0-0 draw.

The Friars came out with this kind of aggressive play early in the contest and were able to get their first Big East win of the season.

For their first Big East home game on Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. They will be hosting the Georgetown University Hoyas, who are also coming off of two losses. Providence is hoping to use this game to get back on track and start another winning streak as they enter a stretch of five home games.

Volleyball Opens Big East Play

by Lauren Altmeyer ’17
Sports Staff

VOLLEYBALL

This weekend, the Providence College Women’s Volleyball Team began Big East play against opponents Xavier University and Butler University. Although the Friars did not come out of the weekend with the results they were hoping for, the effort was clearly there, as both games proved to have some extremely close finishes.

The first matchup saw the Friars take on conference leading Xavier Musketeers in Cincinnati, Ohio. Providence was able to keep the score close throughout the first set, but ultimately could not hold on for the win, with Xavier edging them out 25-22. The next two sets, however, were not as close as the first, with scores of 25-13 and 25-11. So far, Xavier remains undefeated in the Big East and now holds a record of 4-0 all-time against the Friars.

Veteran players Kayla Fitzgerald ’17 and Abigail Dix ’17 led Providence’s attack, recording five kills each. These two players are a major reason for the Friars going into the weekend ranked 11th nationally in kills. Other major contributions to the effort came from setter Jordan Wiesler ’16 and defensive specialist Michelle Cruz ’17. Wiesler recorded a team-high 13 assists while Cruz racked up 14 digs, another team-high for the night.

On Saturday afternoon, the Friars ventured to Indianapolis, Indiana to take on the Butler Bulldogs in their second Big East match of the year. In a close contest, the Bulldogs raced off to an early lead in front of their Homecoming Weekend crowd and won the first and second sets, 25-16 and 25-11 respectively. In the third set, however, the Friars tightened up and led for most of the game, thanks to some stellar play by Emily Horner ’19 and Marina Rose ’17. Horner recorded seven kills on the day, while Rose paced the Friars with her nine kills and 11 digs.

As it came down to crunch time, the Friars were leading 20-18. The Bulldogs were able to push aside a serving error and an attack error to tie the score up at 22-22 late in the game; however, Horner did not back down, and gave the Friars the lead once again after two straight kills. In the final moments of the game, the Bulldogs were able to tie up the score, and secure the shutout victory after a hard-fought battle. Cruz and Fitzgerald once again led the Friars defensively with a combined total of 30 digs. Wiesler, who led the team in assists last year, collected 18 assists in the game to give her a total of 268 on the year.

The Friars will be back in action for their first Big East home game on Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. They will be hosting the Georgetown University Hoyas, who are also coming off of two losses. Providence is hoping to use this game to get back on track and start another winning streak as they enter a stretch of five home games.
The American League and National League end-of-year awards will be announced sometime in the beginning of November. Nevertheless, the 2015 regular season will conclude this week and a couple of awards that may still be up for grabs. The most important awards, known as the Most Valuable Player, which is given to that league’s best overall player, and the Cy Young Award, given to the league’s most dominant pitcher, have a couple very interesting races this season. The American League MVP, and National League CY Young, will be decided in the final week of the 2015 Major League Baseball season.

American League MVP
Toronto Blue Jays Third Baseman Josh Donaldson: A month ago, dreams were Donaldson’s to lose. In August, Donaldson hit for an average of .324 with 11 home runs and a mind-boggling 35 runs batted in. However, in September he came back down to earth, hitting for an average of .289 with only five home runs and 14 runs batted in. These are certainly not pedestrian numbers; Donaldson has still produced in the middle of an explosive Blue Jays offense. However, the strength of Donaldson’s supporting case cannot be disregarded, as he is playing with Edwin Encarnacion and Jose Bautista, two of the most feared home run hitters in baseball. This is no fault of his own, as you cannot blame the 29 year old Donaldson for the Blue Jays first ranked offense. Nevertheless, he has not had to carry his team in the way that the other American League MVP candidate has had to.

Los Angeles Angels Centerfielder Mike Trout: To many people, Mike Trout is having a down year. His average, run totals, and stolen base totals are all down from his first three seasons, in which he placed second in the MVP voting for the first two years, and first in the third year. However, Trout has carried his Angels through the playoff race in September. Defensively and offensively, the Los Angeles slugger has been winning ball games for his Angels. In August, Trout has totaled his highest home run total in his four-year career this season, totaling 40 home runs over 552 plate appearances. He has also raised his average to .295, making it wholly possible for him to crack .300 by week’s end. Disregarding his overall numbers, Trout’s best case for the American League’s MVP award could come this week as his Angels fight for an AL wild card spot. If Trout can lead his team to the playoffs, bypassing his Houston Astros in the process, then he could be taking home the award at season’s end.

National League CY Young
Los Angeles Dodgers Starting Pitcher Zack Greinke: Zack Greinke has been an incredible story this season. His current earned run average, the ultimate measure of a starting pitcher’s individual success, currently stands at 1.69. If his ERA stays at or below that number, it will become the fourth greatest single-season earned run average in the modern baseball era, trailing only 1968 Dwight Gooden, 2005 Tim Lincecum, and 1994 Greg Maddux. Every single one of these players won the CY Young Award in their respective seasons. Many fans will look to criticize Greinke’s win total, which currently stands at 18 for the season. However, if Greinke received more run support in the first half of the season, his win total could have been well over 20. When looking at the top ten overall pitchers in terms of ERA, Greinke is the only teamates Clayton Kershaw and Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Gerrit Cole in run support. Like Trout, Greinke could win the award in the final week of the season, when he makes his final start. With wins in this final start, Greinke could solidify his first place CY Young finish.

Chicago Cubs Starting Pitcher Jake Arrieta: Jake Arrieta has been a very pleasant surprise for the Cubs this season. Prior to this season, Arrieta boasted a career record of 19-7 with a 3.53 ERA. Last season, he was certainly a swing in the right direction, posting career bests with 10 wins and an ERA of 2.53. This season, the Cubsace has exploded onto the scene, with a 21-6 record and a 1.82 ERA. In his last ten starts, Arrieta has been nearly untouchable, posting a 44 ERA with a 10-0 record. During this stretch, the 29-year-old has been a rock in the Cubs rotation and is one of the main reasons that his team is making their first playoff appearance since 2008. Arrieta will have a chance to conclude his amazing regular season this weekend, when he takes the hill against the weak-hitting Brewers on Friday night.