

# PROVIDENCE COLLEGE: CELEBRATING OUR TIME



1917 - 2017





## Friartown Welcomes the Class of 2020!

### Convocation Kicks Off the Centennial Year With New York Times Columnist, Nicholas Kristof

by Marla Gagne '18  
News Co-Editor

ON CAMPUS

"Happy birthday! You don't look your age," said Nicholas Kristof, *New York Times* columnist and Pulitzer Prize winner who spoke at the 2016 Academic Convocation.

Kristof, along with Providence College staff, faculty, and students, gathered in Peterson Recreation Center on Aug. 31 to welcome the Class of 2020 and celebrate PC's 100 year anniversary.

Throughout the campus, Providence College held various events to welcome the 1,055 new students and recognize the College's special centennial year. Convocation kicked off with faculty lectures throughout the day, discussing topics such as liberal arts education, psychology, health care, and race. Everyone was then welcomed to attend a celebratory mass and take a "PC 100" aerial photo over Hendricken Field. Focus then turned to Slavin Lawn, where a lunch market was hosted, featuring Rhode Island specialties and Federal Hill favorites.

Students, faculty, and staff then gathered in Peterson where Hugh Lena, provost and senior vice president, welcomed the Class of 2020 and recognized their accomplishments. The Class of 2020 is made up of 54 percent female and boasts nine valedictorians and eight salutatorians. Seven hundred and eighty one students participated



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL

Academic Convocation speaker Nicholas Kristof encourages freshmen to make change one "drop in the bucket" at a time.

in community service, 877 participated in varsity athletics, and 266 students participated in music, theatre, art, or dance.

President of the College, Father Brian J. Shanley, O.P., greeted students and immediately starting discussing a classic DWC figure—Aristotle. Referencing works he has students read when taking his ethics class, he brought up Aristotle's

greatest question of finding happiness. Fr. Shanley hoped students would treat college not only as a step towards a good job, but a place to find a "deep sense of purpose about [their] lives."

Mary Pat Caputo, who is president of the national alumni association council and represents the 55,000 PC alumni, told freshmen "you are forever a Friar" and "made a wise choice" for choosing PC. Andrew Konnerth '17, president of student congress, told freshmen they are now making their own history, shaping and molding themselves. He hopes all students will "walk together this year, knowing we are not alone."

After these welcoming statements, Kristof took the stage to share his own experiences and address students. Kristof won two Pulitzer Prizes in journalism for his coverage of China's Tiananmen Square democracy movement with his wife, Sheryl WuDunn, and for his work in 2006 regarding the genocide in Darfur. He has traveled to more than 150 countries, confronted disease and wars, and has written four best-selling books with his wife. He currently serves on the board of Harvard University and the Association of American Rhodes Scholars.

Looking at the freshman common reading, Kristof was excited to hear students were reading *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*. As a journalist, Kristof has often seen the inability of girls and women to access education around the world.

He told students that in 1990, he was in a rural part of China. In this small town, the brightest student, a young girl, was not allowed to go to school because she could not afford the \$13 annual school fee. *New York Times* readers soon stepped in and changed that situation, using donations to allow the young girls of the area to go to school. It was the first time that "education was not based on chromosomes, but based on intellectual capacity," said Kristof.

Kristof then emphasized the need for education not just for the individual, but the community. Education was the "fundamental transformation of the entire country of Pakistan" and moved beyond the girls. As Kristof traveled around the world post 9/11, he saw and continues to see an overemphasis on military and the often forgotten or underappreciated education. "[Education is a] powerful and cheap way to transform not only the individual, but society," said Kristof.

So how does a man who sees violence, poverty, and repression around the world continue to stay positive and optimistic about change? Kristof simply said he believes in a "drop in the bucket" attitude. What the individual does will not solve the problem and can seem like it gets you nowhere. A whole room of people cannot give 60 million girls the resources they need to read. But each person can contribute and make a difference for at least one person. And those "small drops in the bucket—that is how you fill buckets."

## Construction Continues on PC Campus

### What's Been Started, What's Been Completed, and What's In Progress

by Patrick Healey '17  
News Staff

CONSTRUCTION

With a new year of school comes new additions to the Providence College campus. The summer of 2016 has brought significant changes, the most notable taking place on Huxley Avenue and on the new Arthur F. and Patricia Ryan Center for Business Studies on lower campus, which is scheduled to be completed for next semester.

There has been a lot of remodeling of the campus lately, with the relocation of Glay Field and the construction of Chapey Field at Anderson Stadium, and there are more improvements to come.

PC's campus is modernizing with every passing year, and this trend is continuing in a big way. Soon the sounds of drills and sights of bare soil will transform into beautiful buildings and scenery that will enhance students' PC experience in many ways.

The Huxley Avenue construction is an especially exciting project that has been highly anticipated in Friartown ever since it was announced. After the project is completed, there will no longer be a street intersecting upper and lower campus, ultimately giving the entire campus a more unified feel. Without the flow of traffic cutting through the College, walking through campus should prove to

be more efficient, less stressful, and, most importantly, safer. There will be a guard house in the middle of a very aesthetically pleasing roundabout to replace the old Huxley security gate.

The Arthur F. and Patricia Ryan Center for Business Studies, which is quickly taking shape where Dore Hall used to be,

is perhaps the biggest project in the works here at PC. Beginning at the start of next semester, this will serve as the center for business and have a modern look that will accommodate the rapidly growing business program at the College.

This new building will emphasize PC's dedication to making the school a premier

destination for students who want to study business. It will include the latest technology and modern construction, highlighted by a glass front and halo skylights in the entrance.

Albertus Magnus Hall is also receiving renovations on campus, thanks to a \$1 million donation from Leo Caiafa Jr.'s family, whose great-niece currently attends PC and is studying psychology. Caiafa Jr. passed away in 2013. The Lucille and Leo Caiafa Jr. Center for Psychological Sciences will be part of the expansion of Albertus Magnus Hall.

The College has expressed its deep gratitude for this extremely generous donation, and plans to both modernize Albertus Magnus Hall and unite it with Hickey and Sowa Halls.

Finally, the houses that were damaged by the fire on Eaton Street last year have all been repaired and are currently being lived in by PC students.

Overall, the campus has undergone many changes this summer, but those are just the beginning of yet another set of PC transformations. The College has made it clear that it has made a strict commitment to improving and modernizing the campus with every chance it gets, giving proof that PC is continuing its upward trend. It is all with the goal of making the campus feel more modern and unified, and more importantly, making sure that PC students are equipped with the best educational resources available.



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL

Construction continues to be done to the Arthur F. and Patricia Ryan Center for Business Studies.



# Timber! Smith Quad Tree Taken Down

## Risks of Structural Failure Prompt PC Administration to Take Action

by **Daria Purdy '19**  
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

This semester began with a significant change to the face of the Providence College campus. The Northern Red Oak tree, located on Smith Quad in front of Howley Hall, was removed due to a high risk of structural failure. The tree greatly enhanced the beauty of campus and was beloved by students, but the risk of injury to members of the Providence College community from the tree was deemed too great to allow it to remain. The tree was removed before move-in day, as students moving into residence halls such as Suites, Bedford, and Davis would have needed to travel near or under the tree in order to move in.

The decision to remove the tree was not made lightly, according to John Sweeney, senior vice president of the finance and business division and chief financial officer. "This was a decision I wish we didn't have to make," laments Sweeney. "It was a beautiful tree. The trees on our campus help to make this place special. But the risk to the community was too great."

Beginning in 2011, the College has employed Bartlett Tree Experts to conduct an inventory, status, and management plan for over 2,000 of the trees located on campus. The team of arborists conducted a visual inspection of each tree, and identified 34 that should be removed due to the extent of damage on the tree and the likelihood of it falling and causing injury. This inventory was updated in

2015, during which it was discovered that the oak tree on Smith Quad had significant structural defects and is likely to fail or fall. In the original assessment by Bartlett Tree arborists, it was asserted that "the tree may look healthy from a foliage standpoint, but there is clear evidence that it is unable

to compartmentalize decay and unable to produce new wood." The assessment also explained that "there are enough faults and defects in major structural tree parts that in our experience deem the tree an unreasonable risk of failing." A second assessment conducted by Schwartz Tree

Care concurred with the first assessment, saying that the tree did not have an effective wound response mechanism and posed a danger to vehicles and pedestrians in the immediate area.

City Forester Douglas Still inspected the tree and offered some alternatives to removing it entirely. His recommendation was to "remove all deadwood in the crown, and make reduction cuts where appropriate to remove some weight from some of the branches." Further measures he recommended were to build a decorative fence around the tree to prevent students from walking or sitting near it. Despite these proposed alternatives, according to Sweeney, "we again consulted the independent arborists and they were not convinced that the proposed approach (suggested by Still) would remove the damage of tree failure (falling or loss of major limbs) and were convinced it would destroy the beauty of the tree."

Acting on the assessments of the arborists, staff removed the tree in order to prevent any possible injury or damage. The tree was featured in the animated campus transformation presentations, as it was an important part of future plans for the campus. To remove a tree that was integral to campus beautification was a hard decision, but one that removes the risk of injury from tree failure. According to Sweeney, the College has arborists searching for mature trees to replace the one that has been removed. The plan is to install the new tree when the weather is cooler and more suitable for transplant. The transplant of a new tree could cost over \$10,000.



The beloved Smith Quad tree was removed this summer due to an "unreasonable risk of failing."

PHOTO COURTESY OF WARREN GRAY

# Malala: Inspiring the Providence Community

## Nobel Peace Prize Winner Touches Hearts with Her Speeches and Book

by **Meaghan Dodson '17**  
News Co-Editor

COMMON READING

On Thursday, July 28, 2016, 6,000 people filtered into the Dunkin' Donuts Center in downtown Providence. The speaker for the evening was an internationally known human rights activist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate. She is also a high school senior.

Malala Yousafzai was 11 years old when she began advocating for female education, speaking out against the Taliban who had taken over her home country of Pakistan. When she was 15 years old, a gunman shot her at point-blank range as she was coming home from school. The Taliban attempted to silence her, but since then her message for equal education has been heard worldwide. On her 16th birthday she spoke before the United Nations, and at age 17 she became the youngest person to ever receive a Nobel Peace Prize.

During her talk, Malala stated that all she has accomplished in the fight for equal education is a result of passion, a love of learning, and the encouragement of her parents. She discussed how a person does not have to be exceptional to make a change—one simply has to be brave enough to speak out.

Malala discussed how her nonprofit organization, the Malala Fund, is built on three principles: advocate, amplify, and invest. She seeks to advocate her cause to world leaders, to amplify the voices of the younger generation, and to invest in the future by doing ground-level work, such as building schools in third-world countries. Within the past three years, Malala has done service

work in Nigeria, Jordan, and Lebanon, and Kenya and Rwanda for her 17th, 18th, and 19th birthdays, respectively. She stated how her goal is to "speak for young women so they can learn how to speak for themselves," and that, although she received the Nobel Peace Prize, the award "wasn't given to me—it was given to children. Children won that prize."

Malala's visit to Providence is especially fortuitous as her autobiography, *I Am Malala*, is Providence College's official 2016-2017 Common Reading book. During freshman orientation this past week, the incoming Class of 2020 was broken up into small groups to discuss the book.

Christian Dean '20 stated, "I really liked *I Am Malala* because it gave insight as to what life is like in a country other than the United States. It helped me appreciate the opportunities I sometimes take for granted."

Ann Manchester-Molak '75, assistant to the president and the executive vice president/treasurer of the College, stated that *I Am Malala* has been near the top of the Common Reading Committee's list for several years, and the committee was waiting only for the book to be released in soft-cover format.

Manchester-Molak revealed that there were many factors that made *I Am Malala* an ideal choice. First and foremost, the book stresses the importance of education, and especially the importance of equality in education. When students read about how hard Malala fought for her right to be educated, Manchester-Molak stated, they will hopefully become aware of how easy it is to take their own education for granted. *I Am Malala* also plays an important role in raising awareness of other nations and cultures because the

modern world, as Manchester-Molak stated, is "a global society, where we need to be aware of the hopes and dreams of others." Furthermore, as a nineteen-year-old woman, Malala is exactly the age of the PC students who are reading her book.

Malala and her message will be repeated throughout this upcoming academic year.

The value and importance of education will be emphasized as the College celebrates 100 years of educating PC students, and the winner of the 2016 Common Reading Essay Contest will be revealed later in the year. Furthermore, Shiza Shahid, the co-founder of the Malala Fund, will be the guest speaker at this year's Freshman Family Weekend and will play a key role in giving a voice to both the book and the nonprofit organization.

Manchester-Molak summed up what she wishes the PC community will get out of Malala's example, stating, "Malala stresses the importance of equality in education...that every human being has the right to become who he or she is meant to be."

Malala's first-person account hopefully will encourage introspection, as well as thoughtful dialogue with others, as we move through the academic year."

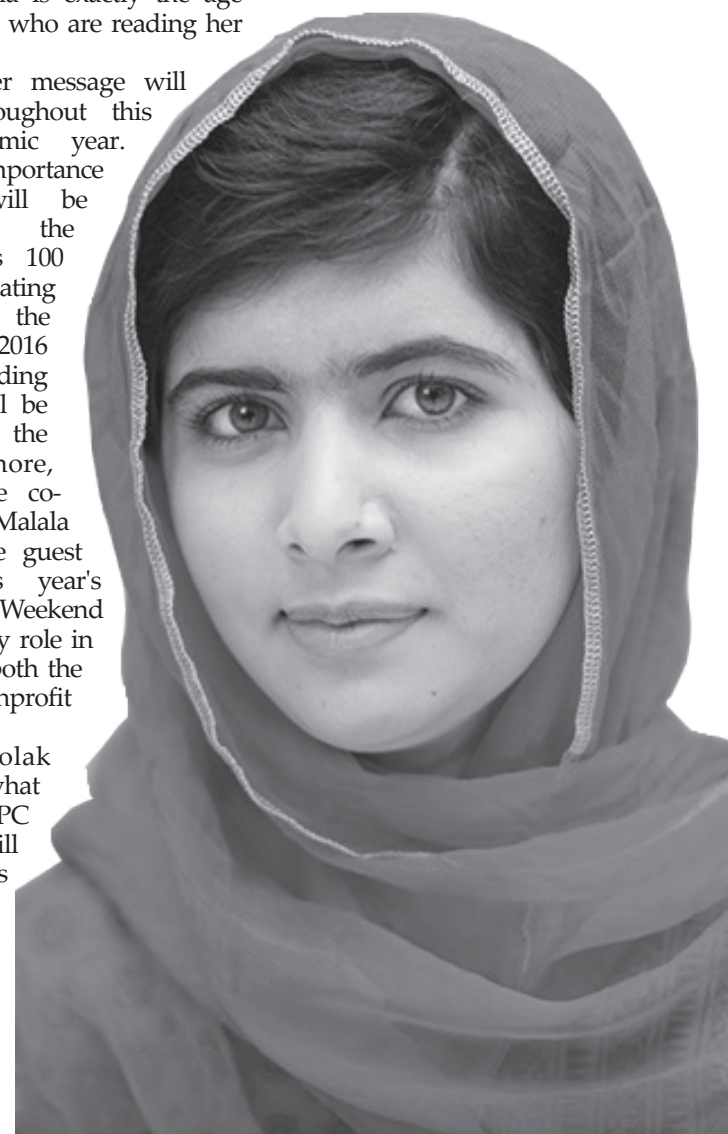


PHOTO COURTESY OF LIVE.WORLDBANK.ORG





## Bursting the PC Bubble

by Gabriella Pisano '18  
News Staff

### Rio Olympics 2016

Every four years, the world comes together to watch men and women compete in summer sports. The 2016 Olympics saw athletes from over 200 member nations come together in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This was the first ever Olympics to take place in South America. A total of 11,303 of the world's best athletes competed in the events. The United States had a total of 121 medals, 46 gold, 37 silver, and 38 bronze. The U.S.'s 121 medal count is the most won by any country since the 1988 Olympics in which the Soviet Union claimed 132 medals.

### Changes to Facebook's Trending Feature

After Facebook was accused of promoting more liberal viewpoints, an overhaul of the trending feature has come to be. The trending news feature on Facebook keeps users up to date on currently "trending" topics. In the past, staff members have had an input as to how the news was displayed and worded. After complaints from conservative users, Facebook has decided to limit staff input so that fewer individual views will be expressed. Facebook is taking this step in an effort to allow users to form their own opinions on what is going on in the world. With all of these updates, users will still see the personalized views they are used to, but the wording will be simplified and instead the focus will be on the number of other people talking about the topic.

### Louisiana Flood Prompting Help

After the most recent flood in Louisiana claimed the lives of 13 people and ruined over 60,000 homes, Raycom Media to have a benefit concert to raise money to help the victims. Henry Connick Jr. and Randy Jackson are set to co-host the event. "Louisiana Rising: A Benefit Concert for Flood Relief," will feature more than a dozen local bands. This flood is said to be the worst natural disaster to hit the United States since Superstorm Sandy in 2012. The flood caused about \$20 billion dollars in damages, and many are hoping that the event will provide both monetary and emotional aide to those affected.

## Congress Updates

by Marla Gagne '18  
News Co-Editor

CONGRESS

This week's Student Congress addressed the election dates for the 2016-2017 academic year.

#### Freshman Elections:

Nomination Period: Tuesday, September 6 & Wednesday, September 7

Elections: Tuesday, September 13 & Wednesday, September 14

#### Fall 2016 Special Elections:

Nomination Period: Tuesday, September 6 & Wednesday, September 7

Elections: Tuesday, September 13 & Wednesday, September 14

#### Executive Elections:

(Executive elections will also be used as a special election if a space must be filled)

Nomination Period: Wednesday, March 15 & Thursday, March 16

Elections: Wednesday, March 22 & Thursday, March 23

#### Regular Class Elections:

Nomination Period: Thursday, March 30 & Friday, March 31

Elections: Thursday, April 6 & Friday, April 7

Congress meets every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in Ruane LL05.

## Check Out PC's Clubs!

A Cappella Club	Gaelic Society
Accounting Association	Health Care Club
Active Minds	Heart to Heart
African American Society	History Club
American Marketing Association	Investment Club
Amnesty International	Irish Dance Club
Anime Club	ISO
Anscombe Society	MESA
Armenian Society	Mock Trial
Art Club	Motherland Dance Club
Asian American Society	OLAS
Ballroom Dance Club	Outdoor Adventure Club
Best Buddies	PC Democrats
Biology Society	PC Finance Society
BMSA	PC Lifestyle and Fashion
BOP	PC Pals
Campus Ministry	PC Republicans
Chemistry Society	Philosophy Club
Chess Club	Photography Club
Circolo Italiano	Pre-Dental Society
Classics Society	SAA
Colleges Against Cancer	Science Fiction Club
Council for Exceptional Children	SEAC
Dance Club	SHEPARD
Dance Company	Simply Healthy
Economics Club	Six Gents
Education Club	SOAR
Entrepreneurship Society	Sociology Club
Fête Française	Student Congress
Film Club	Tierra Latina
Footprints Gospel Choir	Toastmasters
Friar Divers	Urban Action
Friar Faithful	WDOM
Friars Club	Women Empowered
Future Friar Executives	Women Will

The annual Involvement Fair takes place on Sunday, September 4 from 4-6 p.m. on Slavin lawn. Stop by to get more information about how you can get involved on campus!



# Pre-Orientation Programs Prepare Students

*Members of the Class of 2020 Participate in Service and Orientation Opportunities*

by Benjamin Bauchiero '18  
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

What's the best way to enjoy your freshman year? To come to school a week before classes start and participate in one of the many pre-orientation programs that Providence College has to offer.

The four major programs that the College offers are Faithworks, Urban Action, the International Student Welcome Program, and Transitions. Faithworks and Urban Action are similar in many ways; both are service-oriented groups that spend their days helping out the greater community around Providence, Rhode Island.

Faithworks is a faith-based community service program that works strictly at Catholic service sites. They worked diligently at different locations, one of which was the foundation My Brother's Keeper. This program worked to deliver furniture and food to families in need, keeping with the program's mission statement "to bring the Love and Hope of Jesus Christ to those we serve." They also worked at programs such as Little Flower House and Jeanne Jugan Retirement Home.

Not only did this program serve its community in a number of ways, it also served as a tool for incoming freshmen. Members from Faithworks explained that during the day students were allowed to ask questions regarding their upcoming first year of college and the coordinators were able to share helpful tips in tricks on how to thrive during their time at PC. This program had 42 participants with 10 coordinators leading the program.

Urban Action follows a similar schedule; however, their service sites are not specifically Catholic nor necessarily connected to a Catholic mission. It is a five day program in which incoming freshmen volunteer during the week at various locations throughout the city of Providence. One of the major activities that Urban Action does on a yearly

basis involves cleaning up some parks in Providence. They worked to pick up the trash around the park to beautify the area.

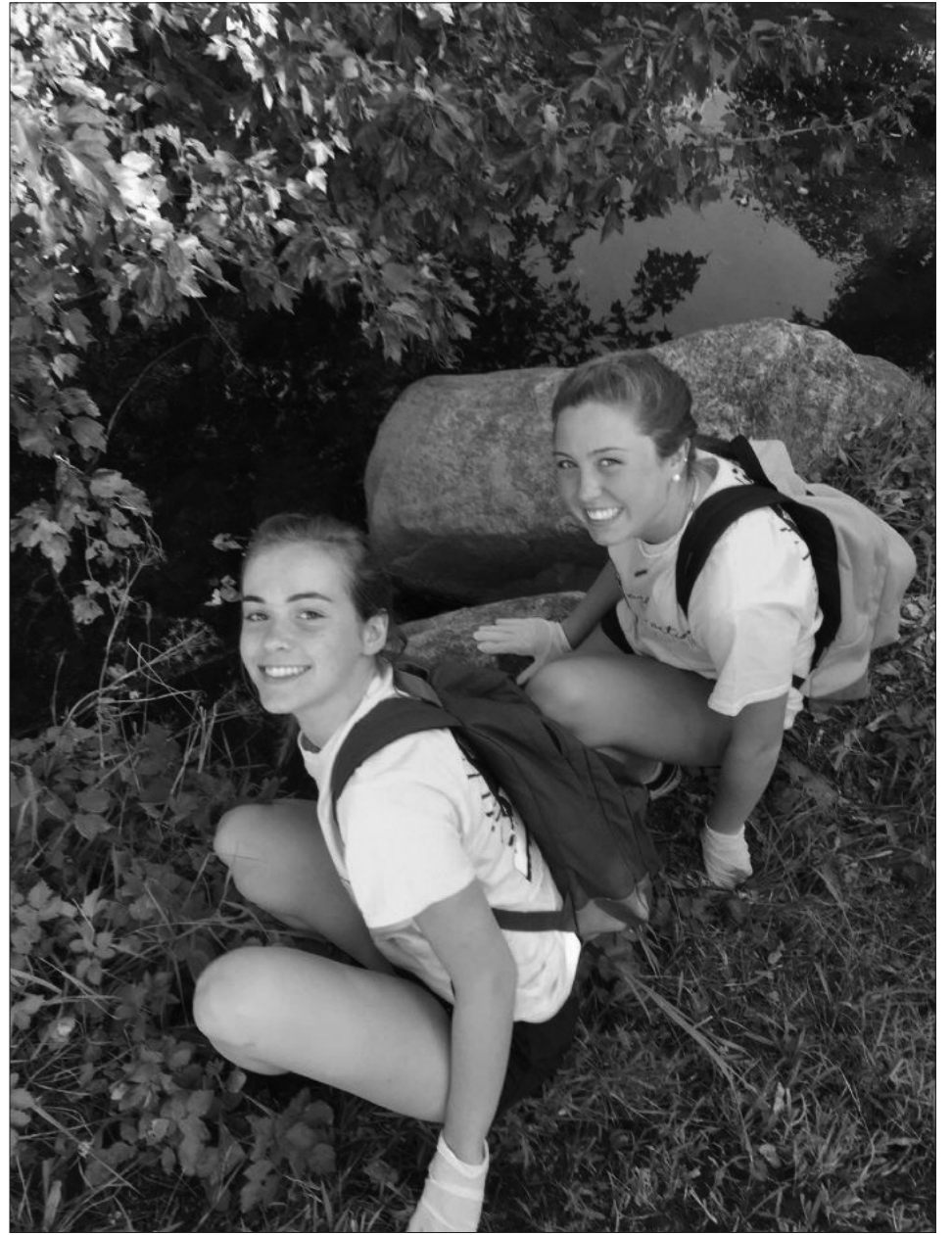
Students are also able to learn and ask questions about what to expect during their freshman year. Activities are provided for all the students during the night to ensure that they are both having fun and meeting their peers with whom they will share these next four years.

The third major pre-orientation program that the College offers is the International Student Welcome Program. This program is designed to help assimilate international incoming students and prepare them for the upcoming school year. The Welcome Program is led by the Assistant Dean of International Studies and the Welcome Program International Student coaches, and is assisted by various PC staff and faculty.

The students in this program are able to meet faculty members who will be extremely important throughout their time here at Providence College. In addition, they learn more about their student visas and are able to go on shopping excursions, allowing them to be prepared for the year to come.

Transitions is another popular program at Providence College that has a mission to "build trust in our students and help them reach their personal and career goals throughout their college career." Some of the activities that the students participate in involve training in social and cultural transitions and bystander training, as well as specific training regarding Providence College resources.

Included in this program are numerous of activities that allow for the incoming freshmen to bond with their peers. Scavenger hunts, burger challenges, and movie nights are a couple of activities that were provided for these students. The Transitions program helped ease the move from high school to college and prepared new students to succeed during the best four years of their life.



Freshmen students help clean up Neutaconkanut Hill as part of the Urban Action program.

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEFAN PUENTE '17



The "Red Team" is all smiles as it prepares for the annual Faithworks Olympic Games.

BRIANNA ABBOT '17 / THE COWL

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# OPINION

## Dealing with Development *New Facilities Worth Annoyance of Construction*



PHOTOS OF HUXLEY AVENUE DURING CONSTRUCTION AND AFTER ITS COMPLETION.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE.EDU AND TWITTER.COM

by Taylor Godfrey '19  
Asst. Opinion Editor

### CAMPUS

For students returning to the Providence College campus this week, it is clear that much has changed in the few short months we were away. Huxley Avenue is almost unrecognizable, and what once used to be Dore Hall is now looking like a full-fledged business center. All of the construction on campus hints at promising things to come, as long as we are willing to struggle through it.

This time of year seems to be the season of construction. Everywhere you go roads are closed, bright orange traffic cones and neon yellow tape abound, and driving is made more treacherous as cars struggle over bumpy pavement. It is a nuisance that

is unavoidable in the outside world, and now on campus as well.

No one wants to have to deal with construction. It makes commutes longer—even if you only have to get from Ruane to Sienna, skirting around construction will take precious minutes that could have previously been spent sleeping. Students living in Davis Hall and other buildings are now treated to a view full of piles of dirt and beeping trucks. The construction sites are a blight on the physical appearance of campus as well as a source of frustration for students, even though we know they will not be around forever.

In the midst of all of this confusion, it seems that the normal response is usually to complain. It takes longer for us to get to class, our campus has been torn apart, and we are unsure when the craziness will really end for good.

It is understandable that students are fed up, or at least a little bit leery about the disturbance in their normal schedules and routines. However, as bothersome as the construction is, the end result is definitely going to be worth it.

The expression “it is going to get worse before it gets better” comes to mind when thinking about the construction on campus. Yes, we would rather not have to contend with these issues, but think about all the problems these new projects will solve. No more seeing your life flash before your eyes when a RIPTA bus does not stop for you in the crosswalk! No more business classes being held in random buildings around campus because there is not one designated building! And think about how beautiful and functional the campus will be without the street running

straight through the middle and the rather old looking Dore Hall being one of the first buildings you see as you pull up to campus.

As irritating as all this construction is, it is a necessary evil in order to bring about the changes that will make our campus even better than it already is. Change never comes about easily, but for the continuation of the College’s functionality in the rapidly changing world and its ability to serve its students, progress is key. We can moan and gripe about the struggles of living on a campus under construction, but we have to remember why we are doing it. As a community and as a school, we must keep moving forward, for both our own sake and for the sake of the future Friars in the years to come.

## Family Has No Definition

### *We Need to End the Stigma Against Non-Traditional Families*

by Carolyn Walsh '17  
Opinion Co-Editor

### SOCIETY

Among the skilled athletes competing at the 2016 Rio Summer Olympics, American gymnast Simone Biles’ performance earned her a spot among the best of the best. Biles, who has not lost a competition since 2013 and who is the most decorated American female gymnast in World Championship history, was able to establish her greatness by winning four gold medals for Team USA while captivating the world with her extraordinary talent.

However, in the midst of Biles’ triumph, a controversial comment and tweet about her family from NBC sports commentator, Al Trautwig, represented a low point in the Olympic Games. During a broadcast, Trautwig incorrectly referred to Biles’ grandparents, Ronald and Nellie, who adopted her from foster care when she was young, as not being her parents, despite Biles previously stating that she considers them to be her parents. In a later tweet, Trautwig reiterated his opinion that Biles’ grandparents should not be considered her actual parents but after online backlash grew, he deleted it and issued an apology.

Although Trautwig’s comments were ignorant and rude, they helped



SIMONE BILES AND HER PARENTS.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HEAVY.COM

to shine a light on some of the stigma that surrounds certain family arrangements as well as the need for our society to accept and support the many different kinds of families that exist.

In America today, the nuclear family, composed of a mother, a father, and 2.5 children, is no longer the prevailing norm. Due to changing social and economic conditions, America has seen a rise in diverse family arrangements, including adoptive, multigenerational, and kinship care families. According to a recent report from the Administration for Children and Families, the number of adoptions of children in foster care has been increasing steadily over the last decade. Similarly, in a 2014 report, Pew Research Center cited an increase in multiple genera-

tions of one family living together due to the lingering effects of the economic recession and the influx of ethnic and racial minority immigrant groups to the U.S. over the past decades. Then there are kinship families like Biles’, where grandparents or other relatives step up to take on full child-rearing responsibilities because parents may not be able to care for their children. These families may not fit the traditional nuclear definition of family, but that should not be seen as reason to demean or ostracize people who are a part of these kinds of families.

Trautwig’s insistence that Biles’ grandparents are not her parents proposes that the legitimacy of a family depends on the nuclear definition, and also ignores the fact that many adoptive, multigenerational, and kinship

families have significant difficulties to overcome and deserve support. It should not be strict biological bonds that determine a family, but rather it should be love and strength. It took an incredible amount of love and strength for Biles’ grandparents to adopt her out of foster care after her birth mother became dangerously addicted to drugs and alcohol. The guidance, stability, and comfort they provided her with in her childhood is what any real parents would do for their children. Their support is no doubt what helped her blossom into one of the greatest gymnasts in history. Ultimately, the Biles are a testament to the fact that families help children prosper, and that every type of family deserves access to support systems. Since many adoptive, multigenerational, and kinship families can face an array of issues, from financial to health, because of their circumstance, support services can go a long way in helping to strengthen these families and get them the help they need.

As a society, it is becoming increasingly essential that we end the stigma surrounding different kinds of families and that we provide ones that are less advantaged with the supports they need. Family is the foundation of all of our lives, and it is time that we respect and help one another.



# Is Clickbait the Future of News?

## *What Harambe Has Taught Us About The Media*

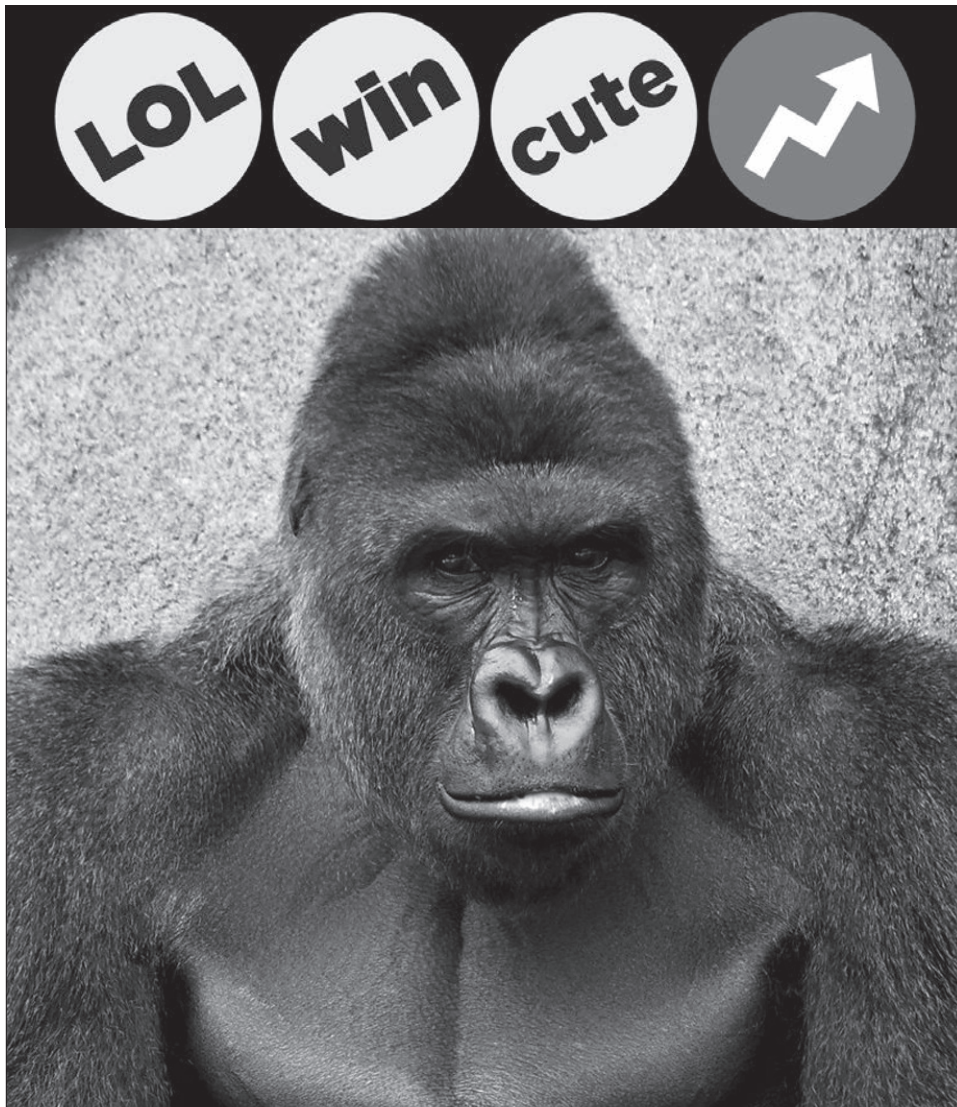
by Daniel Barton '18  
Opinion Staff

SOCIAL MEDIA

In this day and age, the American media is not pressed to find news stories to report. With the current racial climate, as well as the 2016 presidential election, the news cycle is very rarely dry. That is true, at least, for major news outlets such as CNN, Fox, and NBC. Yet there seem to be new outlets that are grabbing the attention of young people across America.

Independent blogs, the most notable examples being Barstool Sports, Total Frat Move, and BuzzFeed, and a less notable outlet, Tap-Talk, have used social media to divert the attention of young, college-aged Americans from some of the most important news stories of the year, to internet fads.

A phenomenal example of this is the popular story that took place this past May at the Cincinnati Zoo in Cincinnati, Ohio, where a child fell into the cage at the gorilla exhibit. The child was approached, grabbed, and dragged through the exhibit by Harambe, a large male silverback, who was promptly shot and killed out of fear of harm to the child. The incident, which was initially widely reported on both large and small media outlets alike, came along with a great deal of criticism. There were animal activists claiming there could have been non-lethal measures taken by the zoo to keep the gorilla alive, and there were Internet commenters saying that, if anything, the parents



# BuzzFeed

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FREELOGOVECTORS.NET, MARKETINGBEES.COM AND KTLA.COM

of the child should have been shot, for doing such a horrendous job looking after their child.

Nonetheless, the Internet exploded with support for the fallen gorilla. "RIP Harambe," "Harambe was an inside job," and "Avenge Harambe" T-shirts lined the Internet's virtual shelves, and became the next internet fad. It seemed that for a better portion of this past summer, a common Facebook or Twitter feed would have real, informative political writings sandwiched between headlines that read ridiculous statements such as "Hillary Killed Harambe" or "Zoo animals everywhere act up in attempts to avenge Harambe." It was impossible for your average internet user to escape.

All of the credit for this fad goes to independent online blogs, and the extent to which the fad caught on shows the inability of the major news outlets to appeal to America's youth. Young people are not going to the major news outlets for their news every day. They look to the headlines on Barstool and know that even a site based around political satire, sports gambling, and popular culture will report an actual news story if it is deemed important enough.

Major news outlets are slipping further and further out of range of the young people in America, despite many news outlets expanding their social media presence. The fact is that independent Internet blogs use characters, satire, and internet fads to appeal to the "millennial" generation, and major news outlets will simply fade away if they cannot catch up.

# No More Bashing Millennials

## *Young People Do Not Deserve Harsh Criticism*

by Hannah Paxton '19  
Opinion Staff

SOCIAL

As young adults, we are often labeled as the spoiled, self-centered generation. It is a stereotype that older generations seem to so stubbornly believe, whether as a way to put the blame on young adults for today's societal problems or as a means to dismiss the newer generation. Either way it has become common practice to classify young adults as the generation that is too wrapped up in themselves and their technology to pay any attention to the world around them. However, this is a dangerous stereotype, as it creates obstacles for not only this generation, but for generations to come.

With all of the resources and technology that we have today, this generation could easily become the most educated in American history, as well as the most technologically experienced. What should be viewed as something good is leading to many generalizations that people make about the values and mindsets of young adults. It does not matter what kind of person you are because, at the end of the day, all any older person sees you as is a narcissistic kid whose greatest achievement is staring at your phone for hours straight.

It is true that most people our age are often seen with some form of technology, whether it is a phone, a laptop, or an iPad, but that does not necessarily have to be a bad thing. Those who were born before the time of the Internet and cellphones are most familiar with a world without them. They see young people nowadays texting or listening to music with headphones and think that they live in their own world, that they could not possibly understand anything beyond the screen in front of their faces.

This criticism towards young adults does not just apply to technology, but to almost every aspect of their lives that is even slightly different from when they were younger. Today, people wear whatever they want, do whatever they want, and be whoever they want. But instead of being treated as a positive change in the world, it is merely viewed as a change, and an unwelcome one at that. Instead, we are meant to act, dress, and be a certain way. Otherwise, we are nothing more than ignorant and immature.

An attitude like this is harmful not just to young people, but to everyone. If everyone is meant to fit into a certain box, then nothing will ever change. This seems to be what older people want. But struggling to keep everything the same and "how it should be" perpetuates the idea that nothing should ever change. And if nothing in the world changes, then the world cannot grow to be better. If people are not allowed to grow and change, then everything that is wrong and imperfect in the world will never be able to change itself.



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

## Accuracy Watch

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

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# New Year Brings New Changes

by Katherine Puzycki '17 and  
Jacquelyn Kelley '17  
Editor-in-Chief and Associate  
Editor-in-Chief

EDITOR'S COLUMN



We come back to campus this fall at an exciting time for Providence College. Our community continues to grow as we welcome the Class of 2020 and take in the campus transformation unfolding around us. We are celebrating the College's Centennial as well as the eight-hundredth year of the Dominican Order, which are both monumental accomplishments for the founders of our institution.

Just as the freshmen are beginning their college journeys, we are embarking on a journey of our own at *The Cowl*. Having recently completed our annual Summit training for editorial staff, we observed former writers transition into leaders. We were really impressed by their enthusiasm and are thrilled to see their energy and new ideas come to fruition.

We are hoping that, as you start the new year at PC, you are filled with the same excitement. The celebration of one-hundred

and 800-year-old traditions is not an opportunity that everybody can partake in; Making the most of this time will only add to your memories of your time spent here, whether you are just beginning to make them or have watched them grow over the course of three years.

For some, the start of college might carry with it daunting tasks like making new friends, starting classes, or learning how to navigate newfound freedom. Because of this, it might be easy to let your current fears overshadow the exciting new opportunities before you. We encourage you to approach this year with open minds and challenge yourself to join in on the events taking place around campus.

As classes begin, we hope that all of you have a wonderful start to the school year, and that you, our readers, look forward to our publication each week.

## TANGENTS & TIRADES

### Dunkin' Donuts Is a Drug

You may be surprised to learn that Providence College has been permitting the sale of drugs on its campus for a long time. Students have formed long lines to pick up these drugs right in the center of Slavin. Why is such a seemingly dangerous transaction allowed on a campus ruled by traditional Catholic values? Because these drugs are the Dunkin' Donuts coffee, donuts, and breakfast sandwiches that so many PC students, faculty, and staff rely on to get through the day.

Dunkin' has created a strong presence on campus and in the subconscious of many individuals who cannot help but make a trip to Lower Slavin to get their daily order. While the caffeine found in coffee is a drug recognized by the FDA, Dunkin' Donuts as a brand has become drug-like in the way its customers need it over and over again. Its consumers often consistently return—think about your roommate who gets Dunkin' every day for breakfast and talks about fighting the urge to grab another coffee in the afternoon. Imagine the line on Sunday mornings at around eleven—you'll be spending at least fifteen minutes waiting. Caffeine, of course, has no dangerous effects in small or moderate amounts, but remember that every time you need coffee, it is not your own decision but rather a command from the drug lord Dunkin' Donuts.

- Kevin Copp '18

### A Message For New Tutors

After attending tutor orientation this past Thursday, I remembered how scared I was spring semester freshman year to just apply to the tutoring center, let alone officially become a tutor. I began to think about the new tutors, or "newbies" as they were referred to during orientation, and how nervous they must be to begin tutoring fellow students. I want the new tutors to know that they are not alone in this—we all were anxious our first tutoring session and the tutees, or students who are being tutored, are also afraid! However, I promise you that once you complete that first session, you will feel so relieved and accomplished. Knowing you helped someone truly is the most rewarding feeling. My advice is to hang tough through the first-day jitters, be friendly and yourself, and to always come to every session with a smile on your face. Why? Because even though your first session may be over at this point, your tutee's may just be beginning.

Now, after that first dreaded hour is up, you can start to enjoy yourself and your time at the tutoring center, whether it be in the general tutoring center or the writing center. I personally am a tutor at the writing center, and although we are small, we are still mighty. By this I mean that I have noticed many returning tutees, or ones that come back often, and ones that are no longer making the same mistakes they once did during sessions and in their essays.

Growth. I notice growth, and at a tutoring center, what could be better than that? Just know that in every session, you have the opportunity to directly and positively influence a fellow student's life. So make that hour a complete one.

- McKenzie Tavella '18

### Time To Change Language Studies

Within the past couple of weeks, I have taken on a new adventure—that being the European Continent. With anything that is new, there is often a lot to learn. In my time here so far, I have learned one thing; compared to other countries that view English as a true second language, the United States falls significantly behind in that category.

The first country I entered was England; therefore, I was expecting to be greeted by the English language. Yet, as time went on, hitting more countries, such as France and Italy, it became quite evident that I was a minority in my inability to act as a multilingual person.

In trying to become more acquainted with my surroundings, I often turned to the civilians of that specific country, aware that they most likely know better than anyone else. When I did, I often used the phrase, "Parlez-vous Anglais?" Most would respond that they only spoke a little. Yet to my surprise, they held conversations better than I could have ever imagined. When I asked them how they knew English so well, they simply said, "Well, we had to learn it in our schools." Why is it then in other countries learning other languages is so important, but in America it appears we cannot care less? In my opinion, it would, in fact, better our country and the citizens within it if we created a change in America's educational system and the ways in which we enforce multilingual education.

- Kelsey Dass '18



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# PHOTOGRAPHY

The Cowl 11

September 1, 2016



KIMBERLY LEZAMA '18/ THE COWL



KIMBERLY LEZAMA '18/ THE COWL



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL

**ABOVE:** Students decorate their own fish bowl and take home their new pet goldfish, sponsored by BOP.

**BELOW:** Students and faculty gather to be a part of the PC 100 group photo.

**TOP LEFT:** Students attend classes on the first day of school.

**TOP RIGHT:** Students of the Class of 2017 order rings for their Senior Ring Weekend.

**BELOW:** The PCA cappella group, strictly speaking, performs at Providence College Academic Convocation.



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL





# PROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

## *How would you describe your first day of classes?*



**"Nostalgic."**  
Madeline Boffi '17



**"The first day is hectic but fun."**  
Shawn Reynolds '19



**"A little overwhelming, especially civ."**  
Riley Mullin '20 and Jillian Jianos '20



**"Busy and exciting."**  
Cara Milluskey '19 and Caleigh Rockwal '19



**"Eventful. My professors were approachable and intelligent, and I am excited for the new semester."**  
Gabriela Chiaramida '18



**"It was enjoyable and only had one class, it was great."**  
Dan Clark '20 and Nick DeMeo '17



**"Great meeting the new Friar fans."**

**- Friar Dom**

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.PINTEREST.COM

Photos Taken By Kimberly Lezama '18, Assistant Photo Editor





## A Look Inside Anaclastic

by **Luiza Alves '19**  
A&E Staff  
CAMPUS

Many agree that after watching *Pitch Perfect*, a movie that showcases a college's A cappella program and its quirky members, A cappella became more recognizable to those with no vocal talent as something cool, fun, and creative. Nevertheless, singing with no musical instruments other than their voices was always of interest to Providence College's all female A cappella group members, Anaclastic's Erin McCarthy '19 and Lindsey Madeira '19.

Each year, the A cappella program hosts auditions in search of their newest members; McCarthy and Madeira were lucky enough to be chosen as the only two freshmen girls to join their group of singers. McCarthy knew she'd be auditioning since "[she] was in an all girls A cappella group in high school and absolutely loved it." Madeira had done "chorus and A cappella in high school but wanted the experience of a more student directed and oriented program, and had heard about PC A cappella before coming to school in the fall." Both wholeheartedly agreed on the fact that anyone with little to extensive experience is encouraged to try out. Madeira believes that "anyone who likes singing should audition. [Anaclastic] does not require any previous experience, like knowing how to sight read or having been in chorus before." McCarthy notes that "some of [Anaclastic's] strongest voices had never sung in an organized group before trying out. [All members] are at different levels of experience which just helps all be creative!"

When asked what being in Anaclastic meant to McCarthy and Madeira, both

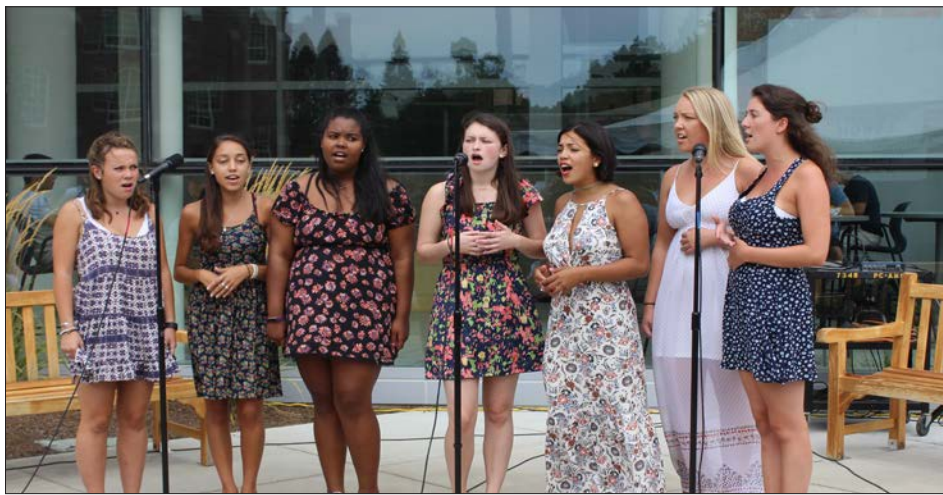


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COWL PHOTOGRAPHY

A cappella group, *Strictly Speaking*, performs.

pointed out that it quickly became more than just singing together for the school. McCarthy stated that "being in the group means everything to [her]. [She] is honored to be able to sing next to not only some of the most beautiful voices [she] has ever heard, but some of [her] best friends too." Madeira agreed, saying that "being in Anaclastic means so much more than just singing in a room to [her]. The girls are practically sisters and it is sometimes the least stressful part of [her] day and week. [She] can go to absolutely any of them if [she] ever needed anything and it made the adjustment to PC that much easier." The group being all female is new to Madeira and "is a completely different experience because [she'd] always been in coed groups, so finding songs with ranges that [all of the girls] can hit is different from what guys can hit with their lower voices." Nonetheless, she "loves the all female aspect." McCarthy added that they can also "sing songs that are geared toward empowering women and girl power songs. It is also just so fun to be in a group with all girls and having some similar yet some very different

voices and being able to harmonize all of them together." Personally, Madeira stated that "A cappella has let [her] experience a different side of college, doing something that [she] is passionate about outside the classroom." She has also "gained more experience harmonizing, because [Anaclastic] arranges all of the music [themselves]." McCarthy couldn't agree more on what difference the group has made to her freshman year. "[Anaclastic] completely changed my entire freshman year," she stated, and continued that she "would not have been nearly half as comfortable with school and [herself] if it were not for meeting the girls so early on in the year." As for her singing, she believes that "the group has allowed [her] to use [her] voice more creatively and not be afraid to try challenging songs."

Madeira's favorite song to sing with everyone is "Somewhere Only We Know" by Keane, pointing out that they "have been eyeing 'Hide & Seek' by Imogen Heap for a little while, though [she] is not sure if [they] will do it, but would absolutely love it if they did." She is also inspired vocally by Alicia

Keys, claiming to have been "singing along to her music since [she] could remember." McCarthy's favorite song to sing with Anaclastic is "Landslide" by Fleetwood Mac, and gave me a glimpse of just how fun the group is when they are together stating that, "at the end of almost every rehearsal [they] all belt out 'Stone Cold' by Demi Lovato and [they have] never performed it, but it is so fun and kind of a little tradition [the group has]." McCarthy also wants to "try the song 'Sunday Candy' by Donnie Trumpet and The Social Experiment," because [she] thinks "doing a piece with some rapping and singing would be so cool." Furthermore she is inspired by "everyone in the A cappella program, but celebrity wise, [she] would have to say Christina Aguilera and Miley Cyrus in between her Hannah Montana and 'Bangerz' transition phase."

Some words of wisdom? Madeira advises that "if anyone is having doubts or is nervous, they should still come and meet us all and hopefully before they sing for [them], [they] are able to calm their nerves a bit." She goes on to say that she "never really feels nervous performing because [she] is on stage with 12 of [her] best friends." Also she says they "are a pretty easy going, friendly group and were all in the same shoes at some point, whether it was one year ago or three. If anyone likes to sing and wants to try it, [she] hopes that there would not be anything holding them back." McCarthy states that they "are so so excited to meet new people and find [their] new sisters, so please please audition even if [anyone] is unsure. [She] was so unsure if [she] would make it and it worked out beautifully for [her]." Auditions are to be held on Sept. 11, but Anaclastic encourages all to visit their table at the Student Activity Fair where they'll perform live!

## Gene Wilder: Iconic Actor Dies at 83

by **Patrick Lovett '17**  
Asst. A&E Editor  
CELEBRITY

On Monday, August 29, Actor Gene Wilder passed away in his home at age 83 due to complications from Alzheimer's disease. Best known for his roles in *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*, *Blazing Saddles*, and *Young Frankenstein*, Wilder was and will continue to be widely recognized for his ability to evoke laughter, thought, and a sense of wonder from his audiences.

It has been made known that Wilder had been dealing with Alzheimer's for three years prior to his death but kept it secret because "he simply couldn't bear the idea of one less smile in the world," his nephew said.

Wilder's family, friends, and coworkers were quick to pay tribute to the legendary actor following his death. His family released a statement saying, "he passed holding our hands with the same tenderness and love" he had exhibited throughout his life. The statement fittingly ended with a quote from *Willy Wonka*, saying, "We are the music makers, and we are the dreamers of dreams," thereby representing the depth that so often accompanied Wilder's comedy.

Director Mel Brooks, who often



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIRED.COM

Gene Wilder as Willy Wonka in *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*.

collaborated with Wilder, called the late actor "one of the truly great talents of our time," saying additionally, "He blessed every film we did with his magic and he blessed me with his friendship."

Countless others added to the outpouring of love and admiration for Wilder. Actor Billy Crystal said, "His legacy of films is inspiring. A true genius," while film critic Leonard Maltin wrote, "Bless you for all these years of laughter and love, such warmth and humanity. Thank you, thank you, thank you."

Much of the admiration for Wilder has been in relation to his role as Willy Wonka, an eccentric chocolate factory owner who inspired the imaginations of countless children—some of who have grown up into actors, musicians, and celebrities.

Rob Lowe, Larry Wilmore, James Franco, and James Gunn are but a few who have expressed their appreciation for that role which played such a big role in their childhoods. The quirkiness, charm, and wit that characterized Wonka helped to immortalize Wilder as the likable and nostalgic figure. For it is near impossible stop from feeling like a kid again when watching him sing, "Come with me and you'll be in a world of pure imagination—Take a look and you'll see into your imagination."



# Setting Gillette On Fire

## CountryFest Comes to New England

by Ryan Cox '18  
A&E Staff

MUSIC

The 2016 New England Country Music Festival brought an unofficial close to the summer with Kenny Chesney's "Spread the Love" tour that came to Gillette Stadium for its final shows on Aug. 26-27. The tour boasted both an impressive and diverse bill of Chesney, Miranda Lambert, Sam Hunt, and Old Dominion, catering to the incredibly wide range of tastes that today's country music includes. The seats at Gillette Stadium were packed tight both on the floor and up into the nosebleeds, welcoming more than 60,000 fans total for the two-show weekend and for the nearly six-hour concert. Despite the long night, Chesney's raw energy and message to "Spread the Love," created a positive environment where he could connect with every one of the fans in the stadium.

Foxboro, Massachusetts, and Gillette Stadium hold special meaning for Chesney, who coined the name of his fanbase, "No Shoes Nation," four years ago at Gillette. Throughout the concert, Chesney reminded fans how much he loves playing in New England, playing some songs in his set that he doesn't play anywhere else, including his

2005 song "She's From Boston." He constantly thanked the New England crowd for working hard and playing hard, two of the qualities of No Shoes Nation, according to Chesney. Wearing a Patriots tank and displaying a Patriots helmet in front of the drum set, Chesney's appreciation for Gillette Stadium was clear as he jumped around the stage, often walking to the smaller "sandbar" stage to work the crowd. He closed the night by bringing up two young fans who each received a signed football helmet, one Patriots, the other No Shoes Nation.

Chesney's energy on stage was electric, and his performance was an hour and a half of nonstop music, a mix of his greatest hits ("No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problem"), new music ("American Kids"), and covers (Steve Miller's "The Joker"). Chesney brought out Old Dominion for his 2015 hit "Save it for a Rainy Day," and Lambert for "You and Tequila," his 2010 duet originally recorded with Grace Potter. With 23 years in country music under his belt, Chesney's sound has undergone several shifts in style while staying true to his core, island-influenced vibes,

making for a night that was as laid back as it was energetic.

Lambert's set was also a mix of her own music and some cover songs as she brought her brand of driving, rock-influenced country music that shatters the mold of the country girl stereotype. She rocked the stadium with hits like "Gunpowder & Lead" and "Mama's Broken Heart," then pulled back for powerful ballads "Over You" and "The House that Built Me." Lambert also performed her current single "Vice," a power ballad based partially around the divorce between her and country star Blake Shelton.

Appealing to the pop-country fans at Gillette Stadium were rising star Old Dominion and more-pop-than-country artist Sam Hunt. Both brought their own unique styles to the night. Old Dominion blends what they call "old-fashioned country charm, lyrical wit and rock n' roll grit [with] radio-friendly hook-heavy pop nuggets" (source: olddominionband.com). They played their recent hits, including their latest, "Song for Another Time," as well as other songs from their album, *Meat and Candy*, and their self-titled EP. Hunt's music is much more pop and R&B-influenced, and his unique talking style is evident in his hits, such as "Break Up in a Small Town" and "Take Your Time."

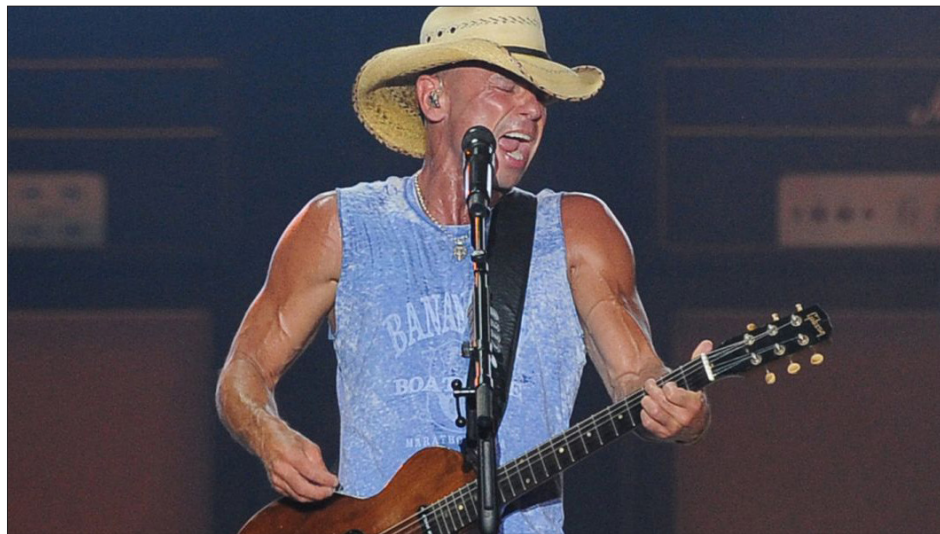


PHOTO COURTESY OF AXS.COM

Kenny Chesney performs at Gillette Stadium.

# Summertime TV: The Best & The Worst

by Joe Clancy '18  
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

To date, 2016 has been a great year for the small screen. High ratings have been achieved not only by traditional cable networks, but also for the streaming providers. According to the Nielsen media rating agency, an average American spends more than five hours per day watching television. Therefore, it is safe to assume that the Providence College community is watching a good amount of television each week (after homework is finished, of course). With such a wide variety of program options to pick from, it is worth determining which shows are "binge-worthy" and which shows are bombs.

**Zombies** have seemingly taken over many television shows this summer. By just turning on the television or flipping through your social media, it seems as though the world is obsessed with a plague that will eradicate nearly the entire population and the survivors will become "chew toys" of the reanimated.

**Lone Survivor: *The Walking Dead***- In its sixth season on the air, AMC's *The Walking Dead* has shown its fans that you do not have to be a premium network to have blood, violence, and character death. The show boasts an 8.6 rating from IMDB and an 85 percent on Rotten Tomatoes. At the conclusion of season six this April, 14.2 million viewers watched mankind try to struggle on.

**Zombie: *Fear the Walking Dead***- The spinoff series of the hugely successful *Walking Dead* started off very promising, with 10 million viewers for the first episode, and received favorable ratings. However, the show's critical response



PHOTO COURTESY OF THENEXTWEB.COM

Kevin Spacey poses for a promotional photo.

and viewership have taken a slide, as shown by this Sunday midseason reprisal which only garnered 3 million viewers.

The use and popularity of satire as entertainment has increased significantly in the past year, with that trend continuing over the summer. 2016 has been one of the craziest election cycles of the modern era and the late night talk shows have really been given an arsenal of comedic ammunition.

**Jester: *Full Frontal with Samantha Bee***- It has been a year since the late night satire legend Jon Stewart left the air. However, a number of his understudies are now hosting their own programs. Samantha Bee's *Full Frontal* has been dubbed by critics as the true heir to Stewart and is even boasting a 100 percent approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

**Clown: *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah***- Trevor Noah is coming up to a year now since he took over for Stewart at *The Daily Show* and it is clear that he is

much more reliant on his co-workers to deliver comedic gold. Reception is still generally favorable, yet the viewership has sank tremendously compared to Stewart's show.

Home Box Office is proving to be an up-and-coming power within the television arena. Currently, HBO is not only the "cool kid" of the television world, but with 126 Emmy nominations in 2015, it has become the "jock" as well.

**King: *Game of Thrones***- It is almost impossible not to hear the mention of this show on a Monday morning. Not only is *Game of Thrones* hugely popular, but it boasts a 9.5 rating on IMDB and 94 percent on Rotten Tomatoes.

**Disco: *Vinyl***- Like Disco of the '70s, Vinyl seemed to be the wave of the future. Featuring the firepower of legendary directors Martin Scorsese, Terence Winter, and Mick Jagger, the show held great promise. Despite receiving a warm critical response and an 8.0 IMDB rating, the show was canceled after just one season.

With the expansion of Netflix streaming excellent original content, it proves that it is actually worth buying your own subscription and not just stealing your neighbor's password.

**President: *House of Cards***- If there were ever a better look into the inner workings of the White House, this would surely be it. For the past four years, *House of Cards* has eerily mirrored the crises facing our nation and now offers us the opportunity to decide, Underwood 2016? The show boasts ratings of 9.1 on IMDB and was even included at the Presidential Correspondents Dinner.

**'90s Nostalgia: *Fuller House***- Everything was better in the '90s, including *Friends*, *Nirvana*, and *Pokemon*, so what would be better than checking up with your favorite San Francisco family twenty years later? However, with a 33% rating on Rotten Tomatoes, *Fuller House* is like Adam Sandler's career—it should be kept in the '90s.



# EDITOR VS. EDITOR

## This Week: Favorite Twitter Meme

### Patrick Lovett

**Favorite Meme: Caveman Spongebob**

**His Views:** One that is still on the rise and I greatly appreciate is the Spongegar meme. This caveman version of the beloved cartoon is almost too perfect for many scenarios. Any situation that evokes an instinctual, desperate, and frantic reaction calls for it, which, as a college student, I feel is commonplace.

Now more than ever, when we are back at school and thrown from the comfort and ease of summertime, Spongegar will be relevant. Every pop quiz, every late night of studying, every time you come into view of the line at Dunkin'—it's all reminiscent of that primitive anxiety in each of us—our inner Spongegar.

So, if you're an avid tweeter or just a meme aficionado, I highly recommend welcoming Spongegar into your life. Because, time and time again a situation will arise that requires a visceral reaction and Spongegar is here to help.

**His Views on Paige:** Pepe scares me. I feel like if he were a cute or just not horribly frightening I might have some sympathy for the frog for being so sad. However, that is not the case. Maybe its his baggy eyes or the strange shape of his mouth, but something about him creeps me out.

Regardless of my disgust, I do understand the reason for using him. We can't always be a Crying Jordan, sometimes we're a different kind of sad. This is actually what I imagine comes after the Spongegar reaction in a lot of cases. You get a quiz you aren't prepared for (Spongegar triggered) and then out comes Pepe when you get your grade back.

So, while Pepe may be scary and we may not want to face him, there are times where he's helpful in explaining this thing we call college.

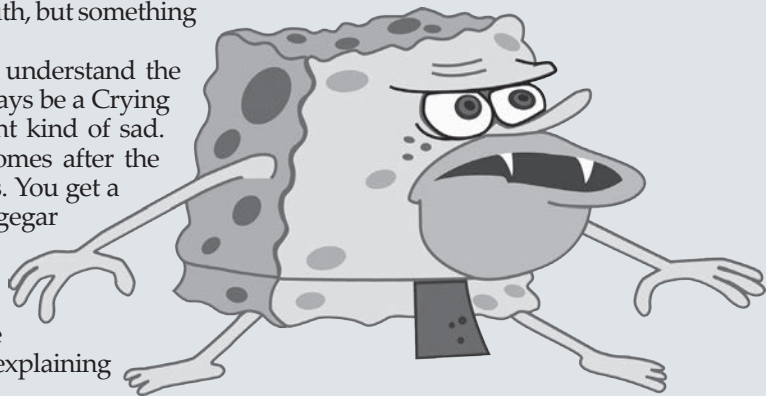


PHOTO COURTESY OF NEOGAF.COM

### Paige Calabrese

**Favorite Meme: Pepe**

**Her Views:** Although there are countless memes floating around Twitter nowadays, Pepe will forever be an original. There is a Pepe meme for every emotion and situation you can imagine: being stuck in traffic, going to the doctor, falling down the stairs in front of the dining hall, and endless more.

Pepe's classic expression is one that can be interpreted multiple ways: skeptical, frustrated, judgmental, confused, or stressed. There are even versions of Pepe that smirk, cry, and lift weights at the gym. How could you possibly go wrong with a meme as versatile as Pepe?

The next time you need to throw shade at the person who stole your parking space, judge the soccer mom at the grocery store who lets her children climb on the shelves, or express your frustration over how your professor changed the guidelines for an assignment after you handed it in, you can bet there will be a Pepe meme that fits your needs.

**Her Views on Patrick:** Spongebob is a staple of the Millennial generation, and Twitter could not possibly exist without Spongebob memes. There are certain scenarios to tweet about that call for the blatant aggression, frustration, and anger that only Caveman Spongebob can convey. However, Caveman Spongebob may be too angry and too aggressive for most situations, making him less versatile than he could be.

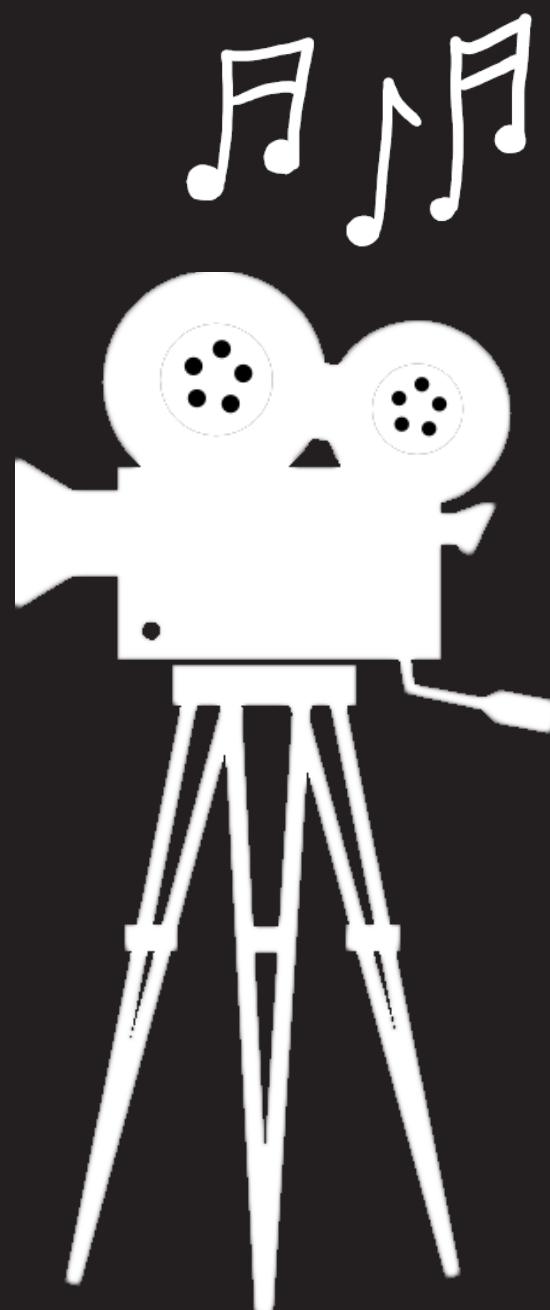
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## The Buzz On Clubs

by Marisa Gonzalez '18  
Portfolio Staff

SHORT STORY

"Ok Kimmy. You can do this. Just go up to the big, scary tables with the intimidating people. No problem. Just breathe. You can totally do this!" I muttered to myself as I stared at the massive sea of people roaming around tables like sharks looking for their next kill. When a towering poster board caught the attention of one of the roaming students, the person standing next to it plastered a welcoming smile onto his face. Another unsuspecting student was captured by the bold, colorful letters painted across the board. I would soon be one of these students, or so my mother wanted me to be.

It is my freshman year of college and as I left home, my mother left me with some parting advice, "Now Kimberly, college is a huge milestone. You are all grown up now and you are on your own. Don't be stupid. Be the bright woman I know you to be. Don't make me disappointed. Go out there and show Newton College who you are. That being said, don't show them too much. I don't want you to bring home a jerk. A good way to get yourself out into the college scene is to join clubs. So please if you want your dear, old mother to be proud remember two things: don't bring home a jerk and join clubs. Love ya hon. Bye."

Ok, so I only had to do two things to make my mother proud. No pressure right? Nope! As soon as I walked into

the sea of eager sharks, pressure began to build inside of me. It's difficult to join a club when every single club I have joined in middle and high school ended up being a disaster. It also didn't help that I generally didn't like to talk to people. I tried to stop walking. I really did, but my stupid feet were going on their own. They led me to a poster board covered in sparkles and pink pom-poms. Cheerleading club. Definitely not something for me to try. In high school I attempted to branch out and auditioned for marching band. I was pretty good at the flute and figured I needed the exercise. During the audition I had to follow a line of marchers while having my upper body facing the right. I had no idea where I was going and ended up crashing into the marcher next to me. Soon the field was littered with fallen marchers and smashed flutes.

My feet then brought me to Drama Club. In middle school I auditioned for *Waiting for Godot*. I was quickly a laughing stock when I mispronounced "Godot." After that the director made me the tree. So I quickly passed the Drama Club. I really wanted to stay a human. After wandering around the sharks and welcoming smiles, my feet stopped at a board that read: "Stargazers: Always Looking Toward Greatness!" "Yes!" I thought, "I could totally do an astronomy club." I quickly signed up. Big mistake. You

see, at events such as the club fair, it is imperative to read the whole poster board before signing up. When I was about to put down the pen a manicured hand stopped me.

"What is your vocal range?" "What?" "Vocal range, you know singing." Oops. I lifted my head up to find emerald eyes staring back at me. "Umm." Real eloquent. A chuckle interrupted my stammering; "I am Pauline. I'm the president of this A cappella group." A cappella! Oh poop. "Ok, so you seem to not know your range. That's ok. You signed up so you have to come to the first meeting. It's on Friday at 4 p.m. See ya then." Pauline's eyes were quite piercing. If I did not come to the meeting, I was pretty sure she would find me and feed me to the sharks.

And that is how I ended up auditioning for an A cappella group. The audition took place in the gym. All the hopefuls stood in a circle. Pauline stood in the center. Her voice was very commanding. "Ok newbies. Please sing your names and tell me why you want to join this club." One by one, the hopefuls sang his or her name and explained why they signed up. I was doomed. What was I going to say? Hi. I signed up because Pauline's eyes saw into my soul? Um no. Oh and I can't sing. My panicking was interrupted by a beautiful tenor. It bellowed "Ross." I was blown away. Ross seems like such

a tough name but this guy managed to make it sound like an angel's. I swear birds flew by as his name was sung. Now I was super doomed.

Suddenly it was my turn. I cleared my throat and squawked out "Kimberly." Millions of birds fell out of the sky. Pauline was quite taken a back. "Wow. Ok. So that was interesting. But sadly, this group is not looking for interesting. We are looking for good so I am sorry but you did not make it." "Maybe I can try a different pitch." "No. To be fair to everyone else you only get one shot." Well, that sucked. I buzzed my lips in annoyance. This also shocked Pauline, but in a good way.

"Whoa! Was that you? That was way better than your singing." "Um thanks." "You totally sounded like a trumpet and that could give us an edge in competitions. So I know I told you to leave but we could use your unique ability so um you're in." Ok weird turn of events. But I accepted. And you know what? I had a fun time. After Pauline accepted me into Stargazers, I realized that one didn't have to change him or herself to fit into a club. A person just had to believe in their true self and greatness will shine through. It may seem tough but it worked for me. I buzzed my lips to greatness and led the Stargazers to a first time Nationals gold.



# HEAVY HEARTS NEVER LOSE BEATS

by Matt Farrell '17  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Dreams die, stream of consciousness psychotic,  
A safe haven painted in blood  
By a self-proclaimed martyr, with no burden for murdering.  
Wading in the water, waiting to live,  
But blood is thick.

Hot lead burns thin skin,  
Cold men scold the dead in life.  
Condemned lives forced to survive, tortured for sport.  
Masses use God to condemn lovers,  
But use faith to pray for loss, but who was lost?  
Their identities ignored.

It wasn't just any victim, any perp, any traitor.  
It's all relative in America, memories become relevant revenants  
Of the slain.

Stains bleached but colors still so bright,  
A Pulse is still here, and a flag is waving in sight.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTYIMAGES.COM

# First Essay

by Abby Johnston '17  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Dredge up opinions,  
Swat the horseflies  
Named Worry, Sloth, Petty,  
Busy and Distrust...  
Rinse off the apathy.

Tear off sheets of numbness,  
Wake up meter,  
Roll effort out of bed,  
Make my hand begin  
That stumbling tread.

Bring a psalm to my soul  
Rub out the blur-  
The film off this word-tin.  
Let beauty stretch out:  
Fill this data-dead skin.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM

# This Is My Goodbye

by Clara Howard '19  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

I don't know how to talk to you anymore.  
There are so many things I want to say.  
So many apologies I want to make,  
So many rewinds I want to take.

I wish I'd met you sooner.  
I wish we'd had a chance.  
But at the same time,  
I don't wish I had never told him yes.  
I don't wish that you never met her,  
Because maybe she'll make you happier  
Than I ever could.

But I can't help but wonder.  
That pesky "what if..." won't leave me alone.  
And my brain conjures up so many scenarios,  
It's like I'm being forced to watch a tragedy of my own making—  
Over and over and over again.

And every time I think of you,  
I want to cry.  
My heart hurts when I think of you.  
Hurts in a way that it never did with anyone else.  
Hurts almost more than it did when he broke up with me.  
And maybe that's because I'll never know  
What you and I might have been,  
And I already knew what he and I could've been.

I wish we could've had a fighting chance.  
I wish it didn't feel  
Like there's so much left unfinished between us.  
I wish I had the guts to admit all this out loud—  
Not just to you,  
But to him, too.  
And to myself.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM



# Listomania

## How to Have a Successful School Year

Sit in the back of class and roll your eyes

Only show up for exams (lectures are pointless)

12 hour naps

Binge watch *Friday Night Lights*

Only buy one notebook

Stay active on Twitter all day long, class can wait

Be passive aggressive with your roommates

Go out every night

Remember, everything you need to know is on Wikipedia

All you need to eat to stay healthy are french fries from Raymond Hall

Invite the school's president to all of your parties

# Tiffany & Earl

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

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

Where do babies come from?

Sincerely,  
A Confused Citizen

Dear Confused Citizen,

You should already know the answer to that question. You were a baby once. Think about it, where did you come from?

The obvious answer to that rhetorical question is that you came from the hospital. The baby section of the hospital, specifically. The babies are packaged in blue or pink blankets for travel convenience and handed out to their families after being matched to a specific pair of parents based on looks and eventual personality traits. Only sometimes do the nurses who work in the shop mix up the orders and give a child that doesn't really match. That child can either be kept by the family or returned for a voucher for one free baby.

All babies also come with instruction manuals for when the families take them home from the hospital. There is a lifetime warranty on the baby, so every time the baby is broken or sick, the baby is returned to the hospital for repair. That's why hospitals are misrepresented as where people go when they're sick instead of a more accurate description of a baby shop.

Why babies come from the hospital specifically and where they were delivered from to get there is currently unknown.



Tiffany

Dear Uneducated Human,

When a mommy and a daddy love each other very much and they decide it is time to bring a new life into this world, they set aside a special night for mommy and daddy fight club. They make an arena in their home and invite a friend over to officiate their fight. The winner of the fight gets to determine the sex of the baby, what the baby will be named, and any other baby attributes that may be contested.

Once the terms of the fight have been decided the friend will blow his whistle signifying that the fight can begin. The friend serves as an official and also a witness to the fight. He or she will determine who is the victor and pass on the results to the Mommy and Daddy Fight Club Association, or the MDFCA. The MDFCA then reviews the results and the victor's requests for a child, so that they can put in the victor's order right away. Orders generally take nine months to be processed and fulfilled, although sometimes they can come a little earlier or even a little later.

So there you have it, citizen. That is where babies come from. If you have any further questions or maybe you and your significant other are looking to schedule a fight, please contact the MDFCA at their toll free number 1-800-BABY-FIGHTS.



EARL

# Living Abroad

by Channah Sharpe '17  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

All the streets are filled with souvenir carts  
vendors yelling, and selling their trinkets  
next to restored monuments, and pauperized apartments.  
The city hums from rushing subway trains  
and the ubiquitous blaring of car horns.  
Only the street artists prevailed in  
drawing the pedestrian's attention.

By the cathedral, the 16th century prized possession  
there is a man pacing the steps,  
in a stained coffee cup he begs for alms.  
He counts eleven coins in his palm, which triggers  
the image of his eleven compatriots across the strand...

Backpacks and business coats brush aside the forsaken,  
from dusk til the moonlit morning. A prisoner to  
admission or depart for another foreign nation,  
For no other place is known  
but the terrorizing war consuming his home.





# SPORTS

## USA Dominates Rio

by Lauren Altmeyer '17  
Senior Sports Writer

OLYMPICS

The 2016 Olympic Games in Rio saw record breaking success for Team USA. With 121 medals, including 46 gold, 37 silver, and 38 bronze, Team USA led all other nations for the sixth consecutive Games and topped the medal chart in every category for the seventh time in Olympic history, and the first since 1948. The team's 121 medals are the most ever for a U.S. team in a non-boycotted Games, besting the previous high of 110 medals in Beijing during 2010. Overall, 213 different athletes contributed to the medal count, including 32 multiple medalists, 13 of which brought home multiple gold medals. On top of that, 84 percent of the medalists were collegiate athletes, coming from schools such as Stanford, Harvard, Ohio State, and UCLA.

The USA Swim Team brought home 33 medals, with help from star swimmers Katie Ledecky, Nathan Adrian, Conor Dwyer, Simone Manuel, Ryan Lochte, and the most decorated Olympian of all time, Michael Phelps. In his fifth, and most likely last, Olympic appearance, Phelps won five gold medals and one silver to give him a total of 23 golds and 28 medals overall. Also making a splash in the pool was teenage sensation Katie Ledecky, who broke two world records and came home with four golds and one silver.

The Americans also impressed in track and field, winning 32 medals, 13 of which were gold, and sweeping the podium in the women's 100-meter hurdles thanks to Brianna Rollins, Nia Ali, and Kristi Castlin. Taking their place in history were Allyson Felix, who took home three medals to become the all time winningest woman in Olympic track and field with six golds and nine medals overall, and Ashton Eaton, who tied

an Olympic record to become the first U.S. decathlete to repeat as Olympic champion since 1952.

The Women's Gymnastics Team put up great numbers, winning nine medals. Considered to be the best gymnast of her generation, the individual all-around champion, Simone Biles, became the first American gymnast to win four gold medal at a single Games. Biles and her teammates, Aly Raisman, Gabby Douglas, Laurie Hernandez, and Madison Kocian, were the favorites to win team gold, and did just that with some incredible floor and balance beam routines.

USA Men's Basketball won its third consecutive gold while the women's team won its sixth straight title. Women's Water Polo was also able to defend their Olympic title, becoming the first to do so since the sport debuted in 2000. Some other notable achievements from Rio include Team USA winning its 1,000th gold medal in summer competition,

Simone Manuel becoming the first African American woman to win gold in swimming, and fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad becoming the first U.S. athlete to compete in a hijab. On top of that, runner Abbey D'Agostino received the Rio 2016 Fair Play Award, given to athletes who show selflessness and sportsmanship.

When speaking to TeamUSA.org, Alan Ashley, USOC chief of sport performance and Team USA chef de mission, said, "This has been an incredible Games for Team USA by any measure, and I'm so proud and amazed by the spectacular performances of our athletes, the quality our coaching and the way our organization came together to support them. There have been so many first-time performances by so many athletes in different sports and our hats go off to the Rio 2016 Organizing Committee for creating an environment in which our athletes could thrive and reach their potential."



The final five show off their medals.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ETONLINE.COM

## Men's Soccer Has Slow Start to the Season

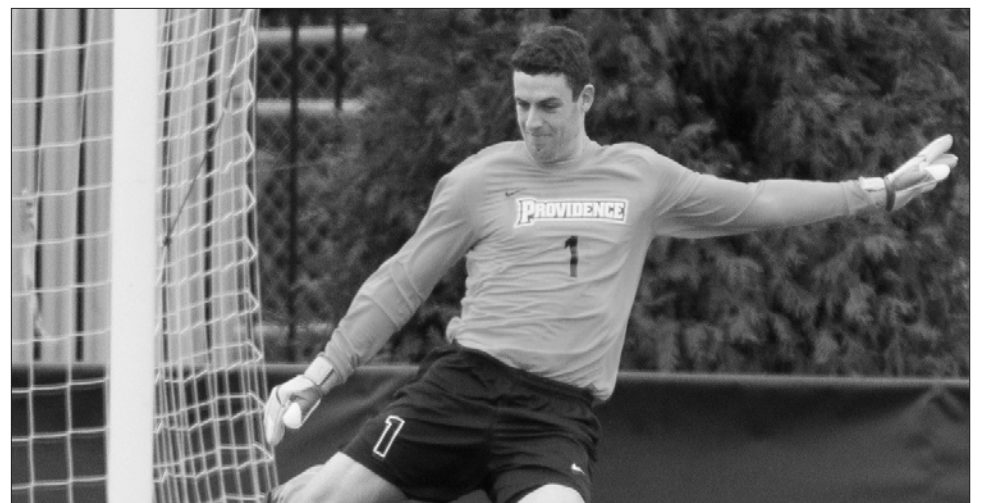
by Kevin Skrivin '18  
Assistant Editor

MEN'S SOCCER

The Providence College Men's Soccer team has gotten off to a rough start, beginning the season at 0-2. On Aug. 28 the Friars fell to number three Clemson with a final score of 2-1. The Friars kept the contest very much alive with constant offensive pressure, especially late towards the 90 minute mark. Corner kicks came at no shortage for PC, however converting on opportunities did. Set pieces are going to be huge for the Friars in

the future if they want to continue to bring the pressure when down on the scoreboard.

A bright spot for the Friars came with the consistent production from Julian Gressel '17RS, who netted his second goal in two games. Gressel is a senior from Neustadt an der Aisch, Germany, and is beginning to show serious team leadership with his performance on the field. The Friars need to look to their seniors and begin building stronger team chemistry in order to turn this season around. With plenty of games left to be played, PC should see great improvement in the coming weeks.



Ben Seguljic '18 during the Clemson Game

PHOTO COURTESY OF FRIARS.COM



# Remembering the Greats

by Sam Hardwick '17  
Sports Editor

IN THE SPORTS WORLD

Two thousand and sixteen has been a hard year for those in sports. Some of the greatest athletes and coaches of our generation, and of all time, have passed away this year, including the great Muhammad Ali. Muhammad Ali had been known as "The Greatest" long before he passed away on June 3, and his career speaks for itself. He won some

of the biggest fights the world has ever seen, including the Rumble in the Jungle with George Foreman in 1974. For how good Ali was in the ring, what set him apart from so many other boxing champions, was his demeanor and values that he vehemently upheld throughout his life. He is survived by his fourth wife Lonnie, two sons, and seven daughters.

On June 28, women's sports lost one of the greatest coaches to ever live. Pat Summitt was the Tennessee Volunteers women's basketball

head coach for an astonishing 38 years, winning 1,098 games during her time there. She has won the most games in NCAA basketball history. Like Ali, Summitt's impact off the court is what pushes her from great to all-time great. Just two years after Title IX came into effect, Summitt took the Lady Vols head coach position and became a face for women's sports everywhere, showing everyone that women's sports not only worked but thrived.

The NFL was also no stranger to loss this year, losing another great coach,

James David "Buddy" Ryan. Ryan was an NFL coach for 26 seasons, specializing in making defenses that could pound opposing teams down like nothing that has been seen. He is most known for creating the 46 defensive scheme that helped the 1985-1986 Bears win Super Bowl XX. Buddy Ryan is survived by his two sons, Rex and Rob Ryan, who also are NFL coaches, carrying on his legacy as defensive specialists.



Ali on the cover of Time Magazine after his death

PHOTO COURTESY OF TIME.COM



Pat Summitt Inbute Photo

PHOTO COURTESY OF NBA.COM



Buddy Ryan after winning Super Bowl XX

PHOTO COURTESY OF BOSTONGLOBE.COM

## Women's Field Hockey Kicks Off Season

by Gretta Schultz '17  
Sports Editor

FIELD HOCKEY

The Women's Field Hockey team opened their season with a 1-0-1 record against the University of Maine and Sacred Heart University. The Friars first took on the University of Maine in 1978 where they defeated the Black Bears 4-1. The last time Providence College defeated University of Maine was in 2014. PC's all time series record against the University

of Maine is 20-13-1. As for the Sacred Heart Pioneers, they met the Friars for the first time as recently as 2001. In this short lived competition, the Friars have a winning all time record of 3-0 against Sacred Heart.

The Friars had a rocky start to their season opener, losing to University of Maine 7-1. They entered the season just shy of the Pen Monto/NFHCA Division I National Coaches' Poll Top-20 list. The University of Maine had already secured a 3-0 lead in the first 6:33 minutes of the game. The University of Maine

continued to push forward with their lead until the Friars secured their lone goal at 19:05, making the score 4-1. The Friars seemed more determined after their score, but the Black Bears were able to secure one more goal in the first half, and another two goals at the beginning of the second half, ending with a score of 7-1.

The Friars were able to rebound the next night against Sacred Heart with a 6-1 victory. Five different players contributed to this victory by scoring the six goals. Adrienne Houle '17 led the Friars with two goals. The Friars built up a 2-0 lead in the

first half. In the second half the Friars hit a streak scoring four more goals by the end of the game.

After playing their season opener against Maine and Sacred Heart in Maine, the Friars return home to Lennon Family Field to take on Vermont on Friday, September 2 at 6 p.m. and Bryant on Sunday, September 4 at 1 p.m. The Friars first took on Vermont in 1987 and in their all time record the Friars lead 13-2. The Friars have only faced Bryant once before in 1976, where they defeated Bryant 1-0.



Adrienne Houle '17 in practice.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER.COM



## NATIONALS



Bryce Harper

PHOTO COURTESY OF WASHINGTONPOST.COM

As the baseball season comes to a close, the Chicago Cubs have been the toast of the town this summer, becoming the first team to reach 80 wins in late August. Even though Vegas may consider the Cubbies to be the odds on favorites to win the World Series in the fall, I think they will fail to even win the pennant, thanks to the Washington Nationals. With 75 wins, the Nats are not far behind and would certainly be the toughest test for the North Side in October.

After a pedestrian career with the New York Mets, Daniel Murphy has emerged as an MVP candidate in his first season in the nation's capital. His numbers give him a distant shot at the triple crown, with 25 home runs, 98 runs batted in, and a sterling .343 batting average. Catcher Wilson Ramos has blossomed into a steady force, batting .314 with 20 homers and 69 RBIs. The Nationals have a potent offense that can challenge Chicago's stellar pitching staff.

Sluggers Kris Bryant and Anthony Rizzo have wowed at the plate for the Cubbies, but Washington's pitching staff will be up to the task. Stephen Strasburg has suffered yet another setback in his tragically injury-prone career, but if he can make it back he will be a menacing force on the mound with a 15-4 record and 179 strikeouts (11 per nine innings). Max Scherzer and Tanner Roark will be able to pick up the slack with ERAs under 3.00 and 450 strikeouts between them.

Meanwhile, the Nationals have one of the best away records in all of baseball, which is essential to playoff success. Unfortunately for Cubs fans, the refrain will again be, "Wait 'til next year," as the Nationals pull off the upset and advance to the World Series.

-Jeff Williams '17



PHOTO COURTESY OF POOD.DVRLIST.COM

# WHICH TEAMS ARE HEADED TO THE WORLD SERIES?

## RANGERS



TM

PHOTO COURTESY OF SMHINME.COM

The Texas Rangers are the team to beat in the American League. With veterans Adrian Beltre and Ian Desmond leading the team along with young fiery players Rougned Odor and Elvis Andrus, it is hard to see a team being able to compete with them offensively. With the midseason additions of Jonathan Lucroy and the heavy bat of Carlos Beltran, they added enough to their lineup for me to say they are the favorite in the American League.

As we all know, it is not just offense that gets you through the postseason. There have been plenty of teams with the strongest offenses but still fail to get it done because they lack the pitching. The Rangers are not like that. They have strong arms in Cole Hamels and Yu Darvish who both have postseason experience. With Hamels currently leading the league in earned run average and five players on their team with more than 20 home runs it is safe to say they have a lot of talent and could easily make it to the postseason.

Beltran was arguably the best player on the Yankees before he was traded, which was arguably the best trade of the midseason. Not only did they add Beltran and Lucroy, they also recently picked up Carlos Gomez. Gomez is not the shining star he has been in the past, but he still holds the ability to hit and score. If he is able to regain some of the talent he had in his earlier years in Milwaukee, it will put the Rangers very far ahead of anyone in the American League.

-Chris McCormack '18



Rougned Odor

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA.COM



