

THE COWL



Vol. LXXXI No. 15 @thecowl • thecowl.com

Providence College

February 2, 2017

United We Stand



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICK CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

Dr. Gizem Zencirci, a faculty member of the political science department, stands in solidarity with fellow immigrants during Providence College's on-campus Solidarity March.

by Daria Purdy '19
News Staff

CAMPUS

Immigration practices in the United States underwent a significant change this previous week. President Donald Trump signed an executive order on Friday, January 27, that specifically affected certain groups of immigrants.

The executive order indefinitely banned Syrian refugees from entering the United States, suspended all refugee admissions for 120 days and blocked citizens of seven countries from entering the United States: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

The order does not pertain to naturalized citizens from the seven named countries, but it does apply to students, visitors, and green-card-holding legal permanent residents.

The order ran into immediate opposition throughout the country. Acting Attorney General Sally Yates ordered the Justice Department not to defend the executive order in court, and was fired for her actions.

Federal judges in New York, Massachusetts, Virginia, and Washington all made rulings that blocked part of Trump's order.

SOLIDARITY/ Page 2

Mascot Madness

by Sabrina Guilbeault '19
News Staff

CAMPUS

With Providence College's Centennial Celebration in full swing, last week Friar Athletics unveiled the newest addition to the Friar Family: a Dalmatian mascot. According to Athletic Director Robert Driscoll, Friar Athletics will use both the Dalmatian and Friar Dom at games and events. "We are really excited about the positive reaction to the new Dalmatian mascot," he said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER.COM/PROVIDENCECOL

MASCOT/ Page 2

Top Actors Visit PC

by Elizabeth Jancsy '18 &
Patrick Lovett '17
A&E Staff

THEATRE

"The fourth wall," the invisible barrier between actor and audience, is often thought of as a convention of acting. However, according to Actor Joe Wilson, "No-one pays attention to the fourth wall anymore."

Wilson proved himself right, as he and his colleague Curt Columbus visited and spoke on their most recent play, *The Mountaintop*, with a Providence College Development of Western Civilization class.

On Tuesday, January 31, Dr. Dana Dillon, Dr. Jennifer Illuzzi, and their DWC colloquium class welcomed Wilson and Columbus from the Trinity Repertory Company to speak and discuss both their play and the larger issues surrounding it.



Actors from *The Mountaintop*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICK CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

Written by Katori Hall, the play portrays Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. the night before his assassination and consists entirely of a conversation between Dr. King and his maid. Despite this simplistic setting, the play focuses on and evokes reactions to substantial issues such as race, identity, and

activism.

With the presence of Wilson, who played Dr. King, and Columbus, the artistic director, the class was able to engage in a lively discussion concerning these topics from a variety of perspectives.

MOUNTAINTOP/ Page 13

UNDER THE HOOD

Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

News	2
Opinion	8
Photography	11
A&E	13
Portfolio	17
Sports	22

A&E

Read the editor's review of PC's *The Laramie Project*.

Page 13



Portfolio

Listomania: Most creative slogans from the Women's March.

Page 19



Sports

Athlete of the Week: women's hockey player Whitney Dove.

Page 22



PC Community Protests Executive Order

Solidarity

Continued from front page

A Brooklyn judge ruled that travelers being held at airports across the country should not be deported back to their own countries. At least 100 diplomats from the State Department signed a dissent memo that expressed opposition.

On a grassroots level, protests erupted in airport terminals throughout the country, including airports in New York, Atlanta, Washington, and Dallas. On Jan. 28, lawyers flocked to O'Hare International Airport to volunteer their services to those being detained in the terminal. Crowds formed and protests were staged in Boston's Copley Square, Manhattan's Battery Park, and outside the White House.

The Providence College community was affected by the executive order and its consequences. Father Brian Shanley, O.P., told students, "This is a time of great

confusion which calls us to respond in the light of our Catholic values." Father Shanley also emphasizes that "as a Catholic and Dominican institution, we are committed to authentic hospitality. We welcome and embrace people of every nation and of every faith."

The feelings of PC students towards the recent events were expressed by the Solidarity Walk, organized by the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs, which took place around campus on Jan. 29. Olivia Lo '18, BMSA Executive Secretary, said the walk, "allowed us to show support to marginalized groups such as the Muslim population, immigrants, women, people of color, and those of the LGBTQ+ community." The walk began in Moore Hall, and as it moved around campus its numbers swelled to around 200 students. The walk traveled through both Alumni Food Court and Raymond Hall,



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THECOWL

According to Alemán, over 200 faculty and staff came together for the solidarity walk.



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THECOWL

Students were encouraged to bring battery operated candles for the walk around campus.

where many students were eating their dinners. Silence spread as the walkers appeared, interspersed with occasional applause or shouted comments. The participants linked arms, and many held signs with slogans such as "the future is diverse," "we are all humans," "stand for one stand for all," and "seeking asylum is a human right."

BMSA President Pedro Alemán '17 said the organization provided "an opportunity to do a Solidarity Walk around campus to show support for our fellow brothers and sisters, family and friends. We walked with candles and signs to show our fellow PC community that there are members in this very campus who

have fallen victim of these policies." Lo elaborates, "The Friar Family should stand up to policies that suppress human rights and support those who may have been hurt or could be hurt. BMSA refuses to be bystanders of these new orders, and hope the Friar Family does as well." Lo also offered her sincere thanks for those students who participated in the walk. For anyone who would like to learn about helping marginalized groups, Lo mentions some upcoming conferences. "UndocYOUiversity" will take place on March 21 and will be free to PC students. The "Drive RI" conference will take place on March 24-25 at the University of Rhode Island.

Friar Athletics Welcomes the Dalmatian

Mascot

Continued from front page

According to Erin James '19, a member of the cheerleading team, the mascots, cheerleaders, and dance squad make up the Spirit Squad, who work together to pump up the crowd. "The mascot really helps get the crowd engaged with us with cheers," she said. The Dalmatian was introduced to the Spirit Squad last Wednesday at a PC men's basketball game against St. Johns.

"We felt that we needed a second mascot that could be more athletic and could give us another representative to interact with the fans," said Driscoll. Unlike Friar Dom, who may have difficulty with athletic flips due to the nature of his costume, fans can expect the Dalmatian to be very athletic in his fan interactions. "We feel that having two mascots gives us the opportunity to interact more with fans and the new Dalmatian is able to perform athletic stunts during games," said Driscoll.

Driscoll, Father Brian Shanley, O.P., and the Centennial Committee were actively involved in bringing the Dalmatian mascot back. According to Driscoll, the Centennial Committee was very supportive during the process and helped with funding to purchase the new mascot.

"The Dalmatian tied in well with the Centennial celebration as there is so much history of the Friar mascot at Providence College," explained Driscoll. A real Dalmatian was actually the College's first mascot with the name "Friar of What-Ho," and first appeared at a Providence football game in 1935. Friar of What-Ho was cared for by members of the Friars Club and the

Dominican brothers, as the Dominicans have often been referred to as the "watchdogs of the Lord."

After the passing of Friar of What-Ho, a new Dalmatian, Friar Boy, was introduced to the College and four generations of Friar Boy lived on the College campus. The death of Friar Boy IV in 1963, eventually led to the Friar mascot students know today as Friar Dom. In 1993, the use of a Dalmatian was reintroduced to PC as Friar Boy V and was introduced by Brother Kevin O'Connell, O.P., the moderator of the Friars Club. A "Keeper of the Dog" position was actually created within the Friars Club, and the student selected would assist Brother Kevin in caring for the Dalmatian.

Many students are excited about the new mascot due to its ties with the College's past. "I love the new mascot," said Will Oser '19, sophomore class vice president. "It brought back the idea of tradition and its very neat to see the combination of the old and new being reflected in our mascot." Being the College's 100th Anniversary, flashbacks are abundant on campus. Oser explained how the sophomore class has been planning on selling t-shirts with a Dalmatian even before the new mascot was unveiled.

"I think students are going to enjoy having the Dalmatian around," said James. "It's different and it adds to the excitement of PC's 100th year." She explained that by bringing the Dalmatian back, it shows that PC prides itself with its traditions.

The Dalmatian is currently unnamed, but Friars Athletics is holding a name the mascot contest via Twitter. Fans are encouraged to Tweet their ideas and suggestions to @PCAthletics with #PC100 to enter.

For advent fans who may worry what this all means for Friar Dom, there is nothing to fear. He is here to stay and so is the new Dalmatian. "I think when students see how well Friar Dom and the Dalmatian complement each other, they will want to keep them both around," said James.

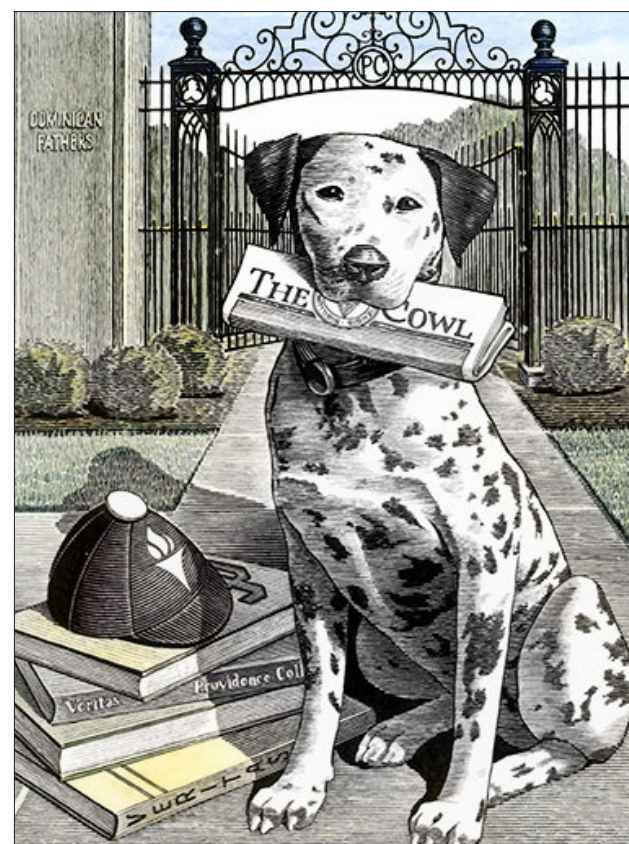
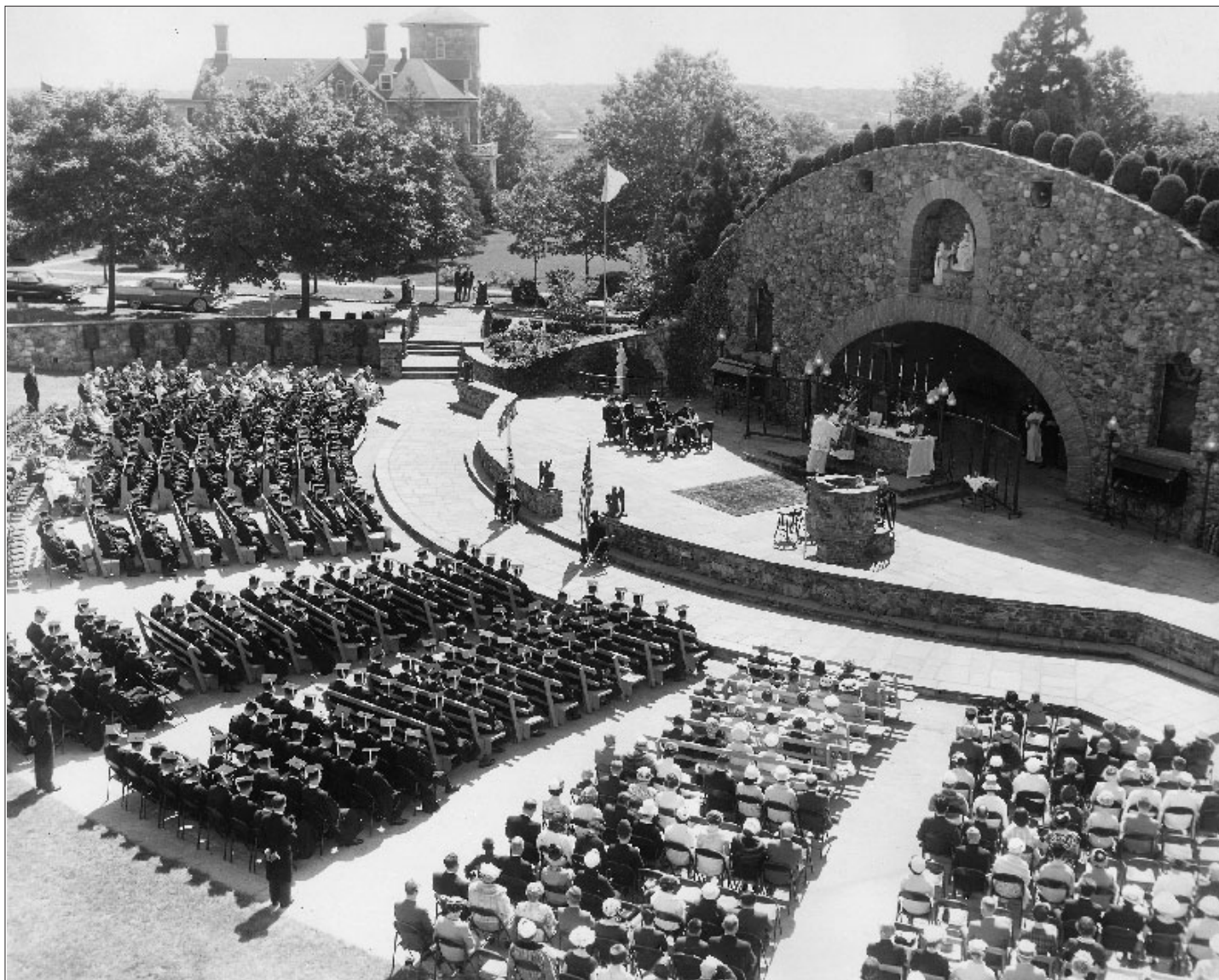


PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE.EDU

The original mascot, a Dalmatian, is returning to Providence.

Friar Flashback: War Memorial Grotto

Memorial Honoring the Dead Brought New Life to Campus



The Class of 1961's baccalaureate mass was just one of the many events held at the War Memorial Grotto.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE.EDU

by Marla Gagne '18
News Co-Editor

FRIAR FLASHBACK

In 1948, Fr. Charles H. McKenna, O.P., a local Rhode Islander and Providence College alumnus, set out to build a memorial that would not only honor the dead, but also be a place of peace and comfort for the living—and he did just that.

St. Dominic Chapel is an integral part of daily life for PC students; where they can go to mass, meet with Friars, and hang out with students. But before the Chapel existed, the center of student life and religion was the grotto.

Adjacent to the chapel is a piece of the current War Memorial Grotto, originally created in 1948 to honor the fallen Providence College men during World War II. Three thousand, three hundred men, both alumni and current students, enlisted in the armed forces between 1941-1945; 69 of those men never returned home.

Fr. McKenna, a PC alumus and Dominican from Pawtucket, decided that these men should never be forgotten. Serving as the chaplain of the student body in 1938, he headed a campaign to build the grotto.

According to the Phillips Memorial Library records, McKenna championed a vision that “encompassed the idea that this would be not just a memorial, but also a place where future generations of PC students could find a place of quiet refuge from their hectic daily lives.” Still the center of daily life at PC, McKenna’s dream holds true 79 years later.

From its inception, the memorial has been a community effort. PC families, alumni, students, and

fellow Rhode Islanders fundraised the majority of the money to build the memorial. One of the biggest fundraising events was a Penny Sale at the Rhode Island Atrium. The 1949 event drew in over 15,000 people, a record crowd, and was a great success, raising \$41,000.

On-campus clubs also donated money from festivals and on-campus events. Students even took the lead when it came to the actual building of the memorial, often volunteering their time to help with construction. The students’ help and donated materials from the community greatly brought down construction costs.

On a windy day in May, less than a year after construction started, religious and government figures joined the ranks of 10,000 people to see the dedication. The College’s President, Father Robert J. Slavin, O.P., presided over the ceremony, while Father Harold C. Boyd, O.P., gave the homily.

His sermon focused on “The parallel of the martyrdom of motherhood of the heroes who gave their life for the preservation of freedom and the ideas of Christianity and the significance of the sublime example of the Mother of Christ.”

The memorial adorned two Italian carved Carrara marble statues at the center, showcasing St. Dominic receiving the rosary from Mary. There was a custom Wurlitzer organ, bronze altar appointments, and black granite Honor Roll panels that hung on both sides of the altar and read the names of the fallen students.

While the grotto would continue to serve as a somber reminder of the young lost, it also brought new life to the College. Students sunbathed on what was known as the “Beach

Grotto,” played baseball or frisbee, or just brought blankets to hang out.

Old photos show crowds of students showing up in their bathing suits to enjoy good weather, live music, and parties.

The spot also held Sunday mass and evening mass, Diocesan Retreats, parents’ night, and the graduating class’ baccalaureate mass, among other services.

By the 1980s, the use of the grotto began to show. The campus saw the memorial’s “slow deterioration,” while also facing the problem that the “campus chapel facilities were clearly inadequate to meet the spiritual needs of a growing student body.”

The Ad Hoc Committee for the War Memorial Grotto under the College’s president Fr. John F. Cunningham, O.P., decided to keep “the key components of the Grotto while constructing a new campus chapel.”

The 117 foot chapel was inspired by Byzantine and Italian structures and can hold 600 people.

Many structures were made in Italy, 45 stained glassed windows adorned the walls, and the relics of saints, such as St. Catherine of Siena, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Dominic, St. Agnes, and Blessed Melchior are entombed in the chapel’s altar.

By 2001, the chapel and new memorial were completed. Adjacent to the chapel lies the new memorial, one third of the original size, and still possesses the same stonework, statuary, and memorial plaques.

The grotto, although not the massive structure it once was, still continues to hold the memory of fallen students and is an everyday part of current PC life.

Go Green!

*Repurposed vs.
Reconstructed
Sustainable
Building Materials*

by Alex Duryera '18
Guest Columnist

ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMN

Various sustainable building materials were incorporated throughout the Arthur F. and Patricia Ryan Center for Business Studies during construction. But do you know the difference between repurposed and reconstructed building materials?

Repurposing means reusing materials for a new project, and is often done using materials that would otherwise be scrapped and sent to a landfill.

Remember how Huxley Avenue cut through campus and was lined with sidewalks on either side? The sidewalks are made of concrete while the curbs are made of granite.

Generally, both would be sent to a landfill, but in the interest of reducing waste, the granite curbs were saved and repurposed. First used as curbs, the granite slabs were cut and reused in the bioswales, or rain gardens, around campus.

Instead of demolishing Dore Hall, sending all the destroyed materials to landfills, and using brand new building materials in the construction of the Ryan Center, Providence College along with the SMMA architecture firm decided to repurpose Dore Hall.

The inside of the building was emptied out, the interior walls were demolished, and the exterior was left intact. Essentially, a new building was created within the existing walls of Dore Hall.

Reconstructing means building or forming products from damaged or destroyed materials.

Wherever you see wood in the business building, know that behind the thin veneer sheet, is reconstructed wood! This means that wood scraps were shredded, steamed, compressed, and glued back together to be reused rather than discarded and thrown in a landfill.

Know that PC is working to be more sustainable and to reduce our waste by incorporating repurposed and reconstructed materials in construction on campus.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MNENERGYCHALLENGE.WORDPRESS.COM

Off-Campus Beat: The Immigration Ban

by Gabriella Pisano '18
News Staff

NATIONAL NEWS



PHOTO COURTESY OF NYPOST.COM

This past week all news sources, from newspapers to social media, have been full of stories about President Donald Trump's immigration ban. On Friday, January 27, President Trump signed an executive order that affected the lives of many refugees and immigrants.

The executive order had many parts to it. In addition to blocking citizens of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen from entering the United States for 90 days, the order also indefinitely bars Syrian refugees from entering the U.S. and suspends all refugee admissions for 120 days.

While many of these policies are temporary, a cap has also been placed on the number of refugees to be accepted into the U.S. in 2017. Instead of the 110,000 limit set by former President Obama, there is now a cap of 50,000.

Due to the executive order, many people were detained at airports throughout America. This sparked protests, and many called the ban un-American. The countries included in the executive order are predominantly Muslim.

President Trump states, "To be clear, this is not a Muslim ban, as the media is falsely reporting. This is not about religion, this is about terror and keeping our country safe."

"There are over 40 different countries worldwide that are majority Muslim that are not affected by this order," he continued. "We will again be issuing visas to all countries once we are sure we have



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOX2NOW.COM

reviewed and implemented the most secure policies over the next 90 days."

Despite President Trump's statement, many activists are arguing that Trump is stigmatizing all Muslims in an attempt to improve policies to prevent terrorism.

Trump stands by his statement claiming that the ban is on those seven countries not because of religion but because of the ties these countries have to terrorism.

With so much change happening only weeks into his presidency, people around the world are wondering what is to come. Looking back at the history of immigration in the United States, other restrictions based on national origin are apparent.

Many are questioning how this affects those who were traveling at the time the order was passed. The order states, "The Secretaries

of State and Homeland Security may, on a case-by-case basis, and when in the national interest, issue visas or other immigration benefits to nationals of countries for which visas and benefits are otherwise blocked."

Rience Priebus, white house chief of staff, spoke of that discretion stating, "green card holders going forward, it doesn't affect them. If you are moving in and out of those seven countries, you will be subject to more questions."

An estimated 109 people were detained at airports or in transit. However, after the American Civil Liberties Union filed a case in response to President Trump's executive order, a federal judge issued a temporary halt to the deportation of visa holders or refugees at U.S. airports.

Providence College Student Congress



Updates

by Tim Sullivan '17
Student Congress
Publicity Chair

CONGRESS

This past Tuesday, Student Congress held their weekly meeting to discuss strategic planning for the College over the next 10 to 20 years. Accompanied by Mark Caprio, associate professor and head of the Strategic Planning Committee, the Congress answered several questions that will help the research team further develop its strategic planning report.

Questions, such as "What should the college be doing down the road that it is not doing today" and "What should be the most important measure or indicator of the success of Providence College? Why?" were asked in a forum-like setting.

The Congress suggested that the College put more focus

on commuter students and student health going forward. Although there have been recent efforts to increase focus on these areas, the Congress believes that resources could be allocated more effectively. Professor Caprio was thoroughly pleased with the participation and answers given, and encouraged members and the rest of the student body alike to reach out if they are interested in helping further. If you are interested, please email Professor Caprio at mcaprio1@providence.edu.

Dean Gaffney shared information regarding changes to the College's anti-harassment policy, and clarified the language in an email sent last week. The Title IX coordinator will now oversee any cases regarding sexual orientation or gender. This consolidation of policy will formalize and make the process more organized for all parties involved. Another topic of discussion was the Office of Residence Life's allowing students of

different grades to live with one other.

In terms of class and committee announcements, the Class of 2018 finalized its Junior Jam date for March 18 and announced upcoming ring sales, while the Class of 2020 announced the date for its freshman formal, which will take place on March 25.

BOP is happy thus far with its Black and White Ball ticket sales making it clear that all proceeds will be going towards the Angel Fund, which benefits PC students who are in need of aid in unexpected and extraordinary financial circumstances.

The Congress discussed the Spring 2017 allocation of funds with the conversation led by Sean Lawler, executive treasurer.

All students on campus are welcomed to attend next week's meeting at 5:30 p.m. in Ruane LL05.

Club Spotlight: Believers of Words

by Sarah Gianni '18
News Staff

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

It was a normal day for Phionna Claude '18, reflecting on her freshman year self sitting at her desk in Meagher 207. She was preoccupied, however, pondering over an idea that she had held on to for some time. "I knew that I wanted to start a spoken word club on campus, but I didn't know when or how I was going to do it," she said.

Claude recalled thinking about why she not only loved writing poetry, but also the purpose behind performing her work through spoken word. "I thought to myself, I perform my work in this way because I believe in my words."

The phrase "believe in my words," would shortly become the spark that ignited her creation of the "Believers of Words" club (BOW), a group that harnesses spoken word, writing, and creativity.

Claude now sits as the president and co-founder of BOW, along with co-founder Ylaiza Perez '16. BOW is also made up of Vice President Kayla Luciano '18, Treasurer Dawyn Henriquez '19, and Secretary Sara Jean-Francois '19.

"BOW allows for a safe place to share, and is an outlet for those who want to take their writing one step further," said Claude.

"I started this club out of my own love for spoken word, because I know how much spoken word can be a breath of fresh air,"

she stated.

While the idea of BOW was formulated in 2014, it formally became a club in the spring of 2016. The club began to grow their reputation on campus through various events, one of their most notable being the "Love your Melanin" slam poetry event in McPhail's.

"We had poets share pieces that discussed the beauty, wonder, and struggle of being African American," said Claude.

In addition, guest writer and performer Kai Davis shared her own words on the topic to close the show. Claude said she hopes "Love your Melanin" will become an annual event, with plans to host one again this spring.

In the fall of 2016, BOW held another event in McPhail's, this time on the topic of love. "It was at the time that I felt everyone on campus knew that BOW had arrived," said Claude. "I created the theme of 'Fall in Love with Love' to showcase love in every perspective," she said.

Participants wrote on a range of topics, from their parents falling in love, to personal relationships, to heartbreak. "I feel like the performances brought people together as a family, through bearing their hearts on stage," said Claude.

BOW welcomes anyone who may be interested in performance, writing, or simply observing. BOW meets every Monday night at 7 p.m. in the Unity Center.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PBS.TWIMG.COM

Students Learn Value of Sustainability

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18
Assistant News Editor

ON CAMPUS

Creating sustainable, collaborative, and innovative aid that fosters empowerment, education, and self-sufficiency is the mission of the Global Sustainable Aid Project (GSAP), and since 2010, Providence College students have been given the opportunity to see this mission play out in action in Ghana.

Led by Dr. Stephen Mecca, the Maymester class in Ghana offers students three academic credits and fulfills the civic engagement proficiency at the college.

"This Maymester course is a unique opportunity to have three professors teaching students to analyze the social value of complex problem solving in the developing world from a systems, ethical, and business approach," said Dr. Terence Goldrick, a professor of theology who will teach the class for the first time. He explained he is excited to have the support of the PCSB for ethics. "The course is an example of our shared conviction that business is a force for the common good in partnership with the liberal arts and sciences," he said.

"I had the opportunity to talk to Dr. Mecca at the Study Abroad Fair in the fall of last year, and I was immediately drawn in by the sustainability focus and with the initiatives that we would work on while we were in Ghana," said Gabriella Dess '18, who participated last year. "I appreciated the fact that Dr. Mecca has had a very thoughtful and involved relationship with the group of Ghanaians and that he knows their lifestyle and knows how we can most effectively work with them to help them achieve their goals."

Claire Kleinschmidt '17, a physics and engineering student, has worked with Dr. Mecca for seven semesters and explained how being involved in an interdisciplinary lab dedicated to finding sustainable solutions for the developing world has shaped her college experience.

"This Maymester gave me the opportunity to intern in Ghana at GSAP and implement the research I've been working on and see how it is being used to empower entire communities," she said.

The program, which also includes pre-departure briefings, advanced readings, and post travel reflections, involves two weeks in Ghana where students will work on projects through GSAP.

This year's program will focus on improving literacy rates in schools and implementing inexpensive and effective interventions to improve water, sanitation, and hygiene.

One project, the GSAP Microflush Toilet, was created by Dr. Mecca, and is an "off-grid, sustainable, environmentally friendly, low cost, odor- and fly-free toilet that reuses one cup of greywater from a previous user's hand wash to isolate waste and flush the toilet."

Microflush toilets are often built near two to three households, so that multiple households can share a toilet, bringing the cost down further.

"I spent a few days in the field working with others on building the Microflush toilet," said Nicole Mills '17. "As a business major, I teamed up with one of the students from Ashesi University in Ghana to work with and learn about the lender model which allows those we train on how to build toilets to develop their own business and a sustainable income."

She mentioned that students should not let their major stop them from applying, because there is a place in the program for everyone.

Dess explained that she and other students went into schools and identified what areas needed improvement, including handwashing and literacy. "We worked to improve their school libraries, and implement a more effective and useful system," she said.

She gave an example of how in one library termites had eaten shelving, and once the shelves were all taken down and replaced, students worked together to organize books into different



PHOTO COURTESY OF GABRIELLA DESS '18

Students were encouraged to foster empowerment, education, and self-sufficiency in Ghana.

categories, and the students in Ghana were encouraged to continue reading and learning while at home.

"Meeting peers from Ghana and working together on these projects is going to be the kind of transforming experience study abroad is meant to be, instead of academic tourism," said Dr. McGoldrick.

Reflecting on her experience, Mills said, "When I came home, everyone asked me if I had fun, and I never wanted to say it was fun, because it wasn't. We were living in rural conditions, in extreme heat, doing hard work, and some of us got sick."

Still, she noted just how beneficial the trip was. "Whether it was talking to one of the students from the University of Ghana and learning about their culture, touring the country, or even putting a toilet together, the trip helped me in some way."

Applications for the program this May are available online. The application is due on Feb. 14, or until positions are filled, and final notices of acceptance will be made in late February.

"Something I am very glad I discovered there was the importance of empowering others to mobilize themselves and that this type of community organizing takes a lot of work," said Dess. "I would have liked to have done more while I was there, but it is a difficult and intensive process to achieve long term results."

She explained that the program is applicable to students who are interested in global health and students wishing to see first-hand how implementing sustainable projects can yield long term and positive results.

"I was incredibly moved by the faith so many Ghanaians held dear and the vibrancy of their culture," said Kleinschmidt. She explained how the program will push students to think beyond their Western worldview and learn to embrace life in a rural, developing village.

Reflecting on her experience, Kleinschmidt stated, "This program has helped me be so much more grateful and intentional about who I am and what I choose to spend my time doing. Go."

PC Receives Generous Gift from Alumnus



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE.EDU

by Tait Becker '19
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

The School of Continuing Education (SCE) at Providence College is growing larger and larger every day. With continuing support from alumni and donors, the program has expanded immensely within the past couple years. Recently a PC alumnus, gifted the SCE with \$50,000.

Colonel Noel J. Doyle '58 accredits much of his success to his time here at PC. A former ROTC member himself, Doyle served his country in the Army for 30 years, including two tours in Vietnam.

In response to this generous gift, the SCE created

the "Support Scholarships for Military Veterans" fund. Named by *GI Jobs* magazine as a "Military Friendly" school and a participant in the Yellow Ribbon Program, this type of assistance to those who serve falls in line with many of the values that the PC community seeks to embody.

While many returning veterans seek to further their education, they are sometimes confronted with a lack of funding, or employment, which would enable them to otherwise enroll in programs like those offered here in the SCE.

This type of scholarship will greatly aid in helping to close the gap between the benefits that the Veteran's Association gives to those seeking to further their education and the cost of enrollment to these classes.

This scholarship will be available to those who have been honorably discharged from the military. This scholarship will also seek to give special emphasis to those who have served in Afghanistan, Iraq, or any other Middle East combat zone.

Dr. Janet L. Castleman, dean of the PC SCE, described the wonderful actions of Colonel Doyle as such, "SCE is overwhelmed by the generosity of Colonel and Mrs. Doyle and their support of our student veterans."

The gift from Doyle and his wife reminds the PC community of the vast network of alumni who have attended this institution and graciously given back to the school through various types of donation.

PC has a long history of working to integrate this community into the school. As the home of the Patriot Battalion of the Army ROTC, PC has worked incredibly hard to foster a sense of thankfulness among its community for the young men and women who choose to serve this country, while attending undergraduate classes.

Through scholarships like this newly established one, the College will be able to embrace not only the undergraduate community but also those who choose to continue their education after they have served. As a Dominican institution, PC has always worked to give back to those who are in need of help. This grant is exciting for many members of this community who are looking forward to giving back to those who have sacrificed so greatly for the sake of safety and security.

The scholarships that are a result of this generous grant will be given out beginning with the enrollment of the 2017 summer classes.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

CASINO NIGHT
February 3rd
Slavin
8:30 PM



SUPER BOWL LI PARTY
February 5th
McPhail's
5pm



BLACK HISTORY MONTH KICKS OFF FEBRUARY 1ST

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?



SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO
COMMENTARY@THECOWL.COM



Apply for *The Cowl!*

www.thecowl.com/join

Researching an "A" paper
When should I start?
EARLY

Stop by the **ResearchHUB** desk @ the library
So we can get you started
call 865-1993 text 484-7004
askalibrarian@list.providence.edu

library+commons
@Providence College

Stay up to date with *The Cowl!*



Follow us on Instagram @The_Cowl

The Food You Love The Name You Trust

Home of The Gangsta W. Aps!

BIG TONY'S Pizzeria

\$21.99 Bada Bing Special
20 Wings, 1 Large Cheese Pizza & 2 Lt. Soda
For a limited time. Must mention offer when ordering. Not valid with any other offer. No coupon required.

\$15.99 Two for Tuesday
2 Large Cheese Pizzas with 2 Cans of Soda
Add Topping \$1.75
For a limited time. Must mention offer when ordering. Not valid with any other offer. No coupon required.

\$6.99 Walk in Wednesdays
All you can eat Pizza Slices (Regular or Gourmet)
For a limited time. Must mention offer when ordering. Not valid with any other offer. No coupon required.

\$14.99 Three Don Deal
3 Full Size Med. Cheese Pizzas
Add \$1.75 Each Topping
For a limited time. Must mention offer when ordering. Not valid with any other offer. No coupon required.

490-0000
Fax: 401-490-0028

5% OFF Student Discount


Voted #1 Pizza

www.bigtonypizzeria.com

Delivery till 4:00 AM

Including:
Providence College & RI College Providence • North Providence • Johnston
525 Eaton Street Providence, RI 02908


The Laramie Project
by Moisés Kaufman & the Members of Tectonic Theater Project




January 27-29 & February 10-12

For tickets and info:
providence.edu/theatre
401.865.2218

Smith Center Box office hours:
Mon. - Fri. 1:30- 5:00

 If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate in this event, please contact the Central Reservations Coordinator (401-865-2070; M-F 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) well in advance of this event.



The Food You Love The Name You Trust

Home of The Gangsta W. Aps!

BIG TONY'S Pizzeria



490-0000
Fax: 401-490-0028

5% OFF Student Discount

Voted #1 Pizza

www.bigtonypizzeria.com

Delivery till 4:00 AM

Including:
Providence College & RI College Providence • North Providence • Johnston
525 Eaton Street Providence, RI 02908

See Your Ad Here!

Email our Managing Editor at
cowlads@providence.edu

Interested in joining *The Cowl*?



Apply to the section of your choice online
at www.thecowl.com/join

Bookstore Blues

by Sarah Kelley '18
Opinion Staff

CAMPUS

As the Friars enter their third week of classes, syllabus week seems like a distant memory. The workload is starting to build up and many students find themselves tackling the semester's assignments, from long readings to problem sets and everything in between.

Yet the most obvious necessity for any student here at Providence College—and arguably one of the most important resources for any major or class—seems to be more difficult to attain than in past semesters on campus: books.

From my own personal experience, I waited over two weeks until I finally received a confirmation email from the bookstore to collect my missing textbooks. I visited the bookstore multiple times within the first two weeks of classes, asking multiple staff members if there was any way to see if the books had been shipped, were being processed, or were in the bookstore. I was answered in the negative to all of the above questions and no one could provide any estimate of when the books would arrive.

And while I continued to receive emails reminding me my books were still on back order, there were no other forms of communication regarding any updates of the textbooks. I first wondered if I simply had bad luck this semester, but after talking to other students, the lack of communication and timeliness of the PC bookstore seems to be more widespread than before.

Many students this semester have been unable to get their textbooks from the PC bookstore in a timely manner. Many books are on backorder, some were not ordered in advance for many classes, and others seem to fall somewhere in between—in the process of being “processed” yet still not available. Some students (myself included) have even discovered that the majority of their order was already available at the store, but still did not receive an email confirmation to get those available books because some part of their order

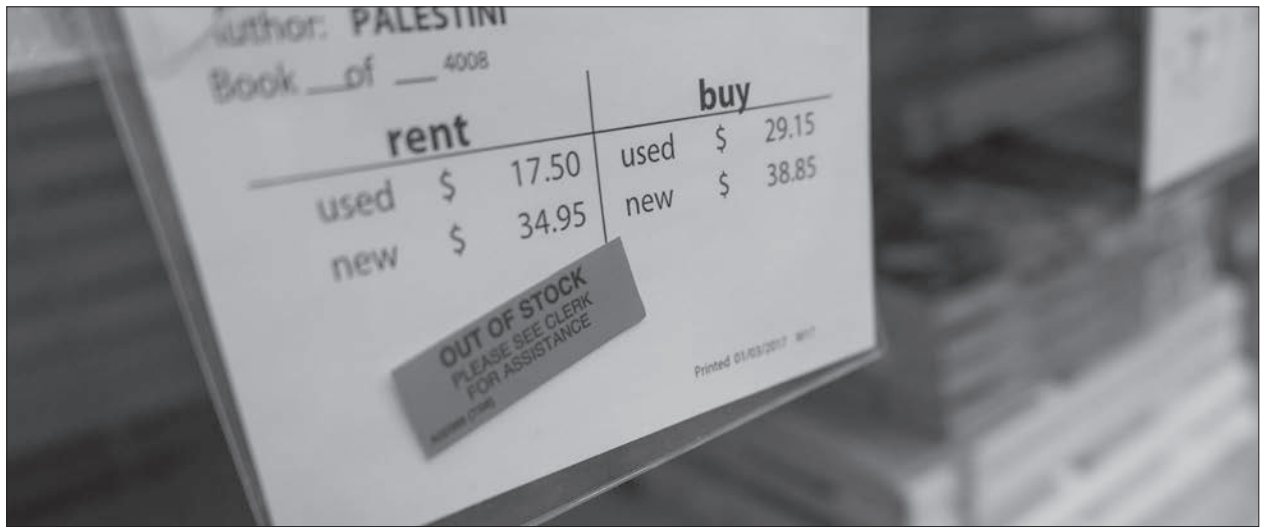


PHOTO COURTESY OF NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

was still on backorder. Countless students have been left in an academic limbo, waiting for a confirmation email from the bookstore, with workloads and reading assignments piling up and no sense of when their books will be arriving.

Brian Cain '18 commented on his experience with the bookstore this semester, stating, “...I ordered my books a few days before coming back to school, so it's expected that the order wasn't ready. But after the first week of classes, I realized I could go in and just collect my books myself and they had all but one of the books I ordered anyway. I don't know how my order wasn't ready if the majority of the books were there.”

Maggie Branham '18 also commented on her troubles with the bookstore this semester, explaining, “I ended up just having to order some of my books from Amazon this semester because the bookstore did not have them ready. In one of my classes my professor is handing out photo copies because neither the bookstore nor the library has the books available.”

After countless trips to the PC bookstore in the last few weeks, it seems as though there are a number of factors beyond the bookstore's control contributing to

the difficulties many students are facing in getting their book this semester. Last week's lines for the bookstore were out the door, and bookstore workers have seemed overwhelmed and understaffed while helping students locate their orders and find books.

While some may say the bookstore needs to step up its game to meet the needs of students, the predicament many faced this semester in getting their books should not be solely attributed to the bookstore itself. Cain also commented, “Honestly I feel bad for them because they are seriously understaffed and at the liberty of the book distributors and mail service...to the claim that they [the bookstore] should just order as many books as there are students in each class, that's not as simple as it sounds because books are so expensive (even for the bookstore) that if they over order and can't sell the books this semester, they become useless next year and a huge loss for the bookstore.”

While perhaps the store cannot be entirely at fault for many students' backordered books this semester, many students are still left without their main texts, wondering when they will come, with little to no information to keep themselves updated.

42.2 Million

by Taylor Godfrey '19
Asst. Opinion Editor

POLITICS

42.2 million.

That is the number of immigrants currently living in the United States, according to the Center for Immigration Studies. Immigrants make up every part of life. They teach, they do research, and they are an integral part of American society.

The United States was founded by immigrants like these. The nation is a melting pot, a country of diversity which has offered new hopes and opportunities for hundreds of years. Immigration is at the very core of the United States. Which is why it is so saddening to see new executive orders coming from the White House that are barring just that.

On Jan. 27, our president signed an executive order barring immigration for 120 days and banning people from Libya, Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Syria, Sudan, and Yemen from entering the United States.

The order has caused a lot of uproar and even more confusion as immigrants from these countries struggle to figure out if they are allowed back into the country and allowed home.

Wherever they may have come from originally, for many people the United States is now their home, and they deserve to live here just as much as natural born citizens do. It is not just casual visitors that are being blocked. Students and green card holding permanent residents were barred from entering the country after the order took effect. The fact that the original order does not take into account a person's

individual status in terms of holding a Visa or a green card disregards the system we have for immigration in favor of hasty decisions fueled by fear.

The actual enforcement of this order has been shrouded in confusion. It is unclear how often or how strictly it is being enforced or what its fate will be after the orders from several federal judges condemning it. But that is not even the heart of the issue.

The huge, glaring problem is that this order was even written. Just as he said in his campaign promises, President Donald Trump has targeted predominantly Muslim countries.

He has created a preference for Christian refugees in particular. But the United States has no state religion. The state is supposed to be

separated from the church, and a Muslim life is worth just as much as Christian one—regardless of any orders that may come from the president.

Many of the people being denied access to the United States will be refugees. They will be fathers and mothers with nothing. They will be malnourished children who are scared and confused and above all need help. And if we refuse to help them we are just as bad as the people they are fleeing from.

This order came from a place of hate and fear. With acts of violence all over the world being sensationalized in the news, it is no wonder that people are scared. But we cannot allow fear to give into hatred.

One of the most important tenets in the Bible is to “love thy neighbor.” This order does the exact opposite of that. It brews hatred and prejudice and gives in to bigotry and intolerance. This country barred Jewish refugees in the 1940s and effectively sent them to their deaths. We must learn from our mistakes, and we must never make that mistake again.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMNY.COM

Hope Among The Hate

Power Remains In The Hands Of The People

by Kevin Copp '18
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

In the past week or so, it has been very easy for many Americans to become distraught at the state of our country. The new president of the United States, Donald Trump, has promised to change America in ways that will bring harm to many people, Americans and foreigners alike. He believes that building walls and discriminating against people by their religion and nationality will make America a better place. Understandably so, it is easy to become upset at these sentiments. These are his beliefs, and the idea that lies at the core of the Constitution is that anyone can believe what they choose to believe.

So even though the man who desires harm for many of the people he governs, is the ruler the nation, it is essential that any American citizen who might be despairing remembers to not lose hope about what good can be accomplished in the next four years.

Americans should have hope now because of the renewed sense of activism that has recently swept over the country. The Women's March that took place in the days following Trump's inauguration demonstrated how strongly people will act to protect their beliefs. There is a unifying factor



A PROTESTOR UNITES WITH THOUSANDS TO PROTEST THE PRESIDENT'S POLICIES PHOTO COURTESY OF 5-MEDIA-CACHE-AKO.PINIMG.COM

in the willpower and the rallying together. Those who share the notion that women's rights are now endangered can now see just how many people across the country and throughout the world stand with them. The call to equalize women's pay and create better maternity leave options, amongst other reforms, carries a larger weight because of the election of a man

who cares so little about those reforms and so carelessly belittles women.

Americans should have hope now because the impetus to define what it means to be an American lays squarely in the road that every citizen must travel on. Trump's presidency is not a signal to the rest of the world that the United States is a land filled with bigotry and that every man and

woman wishes to be left alone inside its borders. Every American citizen who does not buy into the sheer xenophobia of preventing followers of a certain faith from entering the country must take ownership of their nationality and live out their own beliefs. Whether this entails peaceful protesting or simply accepting others who are different from you, either way is better than standing by as injustice slanders America's name.

Americans should have hope now because power remains in the hands of the people. Ironically, Trump focused on restoring power to the American people during his inauguration speech. It is these same people he mentioned that can create change that transcends presidential policies.

Even this past Sunday's second reading at mass spoke to the authority that people in seemingly unimportant positions have. Everyday Americans, those without political weight or even money, can have an impact just as "God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong" (1 Corinthians 1:26-31). America remains a democracy, and the fools of the land still have enough sway to shame the president and move forward despite backwards-looking policies.

Americans should have hope now because even after a Trump presidency, America can still be a better place.

The Importance Of Stories

And One Man's Quest To Discover Them



STEVE HARTMAN ON THE SET OF HIS SEGMENT ON THE ROAD. PHOTO COURTESY OF CASSIDYANDFISHMAN.COM

by Allison LaBelle '20
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

Everybody has a story. It is important to remember that.

There are seven billion people in the world, and on average a person will meet around 10,000 people in his or her lifetime. That is a whole lot of stories.

We encounter so many people on a day-to-day basis whom we know little to nothing about. People on the street. People in our classes. People

at the dining hall. We brush past people having no idea what goes on in their lives.

It is almost crazy to think that everyone we pass has their own complex life story with all sorts of intricacies and dynamics. People want their stories to be heard. So why don't we take the time to get to know people on a deeper level?

Sometimes we wrongly assume we know people's stories before we even meet them. We fall victim to stereotypes and biases. The thing to remember: we all use stereotypes. Human beings are biologically set up to do so. So when stereotypical thoughts start creeping into your head, don't beat yourself up about it. This way of

thinking is embedded within us.

However, stereotypes can be overcome when time is taken to actually get to know an individual. Stop yourself from making assumptions, and let people into your life. Give it a shot, and say hello.

CBS News correspondent Steve Hartman did just this. Hartman came up with a method to hear people's stories, and share them with the rest of the world.

Every two weeks, he would throw a dart at a map of America, go to the area the dart hit, look through the local phone book, and pick a name at random. It was his mission to learn the story of each person that was randomly selected.

As years past, Hartman decided to take his mission to the world. He wanted to know the people of the world as neighbors, as friends. Stories bond people together.

The people Hartman talked to and interviewed were typical people with ordinary lives. These are the stories that should be shared. Why is it that the only stories we hear about in magazines are those of celebrities?

And why is it that the only stories shared on the news are usually dismal and sad? I want to hear about the good times mixed with the bad. I want to hear about the happy moments in people's lives.

One of the men that Hartman interviewed, Erik Colton, lives on a ranch with his wife and two kids. Colton shared with us the story of his wedding proposal. How did he get down on a knee? Well, he didn't. He proposed over the phone.

Life is all about these unforgettable moments. These moments should be shared for laughter and smiles. People want to share. We just need to be willing to take the time to listen.

Listening to other people's stories can help to educate us. Everyone's story is unique. People of different backgrounds and ethnicities have different stories. The more we know about others, the more educated we will be.

**Providence College's
Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935**

Publisher: **Kristine Goodwin**
Co-Publisher: **Dr. Steven A. Sears**
Advisor: **Richard F. Kless**
Graduate Assistant: **Joseph Flynn '15**
Editor-in-Chief: **Katherine Puzycki '17**

Associate Editor-in-Chief: **Jacquelyn Kelley '17**

Managing Editor: **Abby Shelley '17**
Asst. Managing Editor: **Tom Tobin '19**

News Co-Editor: **Meaghan Dodson '17**
News Co-Editor: **Marla Gagne '18**
Asst. News Editor: **Sabrina Guilbeault '18**

Opinion Co-Editor: **Carolyn Walsh '17**
Opinion Co-Editor: **Brianna Abbott '17**
Asst. Opinion Editor: **Taylor Godfrey '19**

Arts & Entertainment Co-Editor: **Paige Calabrese '18**
Arts & Entertainment Co-Editor: **Patrick Lovett '17**

Portfolio Co-Editor: **Joseph Aiello '17**
Portfolio Co-Editor: **Abby Johnston '17**

Sports Co-Editor: **Gretta Schultz '17**
Sports Co-Editor: **Sam Hardwick '17**
Sports Asst. Editor: **Kevin Skirvin '18**
Sports Asst. Editor: **Liza Sisk '18**

Photography Co-Editor: **Kristina Ho '18**
Photography Co-Editor: **Nicholas Crenshaw '20**
Asst. Photography Editor: **Kimberly Lezama '18**

Head Copy Editor: **Casey Clark '17**
Asst. Head Copy Editor: **Anna Munroe '17**

Copy Editors: **Katie Coyne '18, Courtney Day '19, Jennifer Dorn '18, Sara Grassie '18, Lauren Ioli '17, Annie Loftus '18, Annie Shelley '19, Rachel Sullivan '18, Jessica Wilson '17, Megan Stuart '19, Chris Fitzgerald '20, Andrea Swallow '17, Casey Sullivan '17, Katherine FitzMorris '19**

Letter/Guest Submission Policy

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.

Advertising

Contact *The Cowl* with advertising requests and questions at cowlads@providence.edu or, if necessary, via telephone at 401-865-2214. Visit www.thecowl.com/advertise for rates, publication dates, and other information about advertising with *The Cowl*.

Subscriptions

Subscription rate for a weekly issue by mail is \$100 per year. Send payment to *The Cowl*, 1 Cunningham Square, Providence, R.I. 02918; make checks payable to *The Cowl*. Student subscription is included in tuition fee; issues are available around campus on Thursday nights.

Lessons From Auschwitz 72 Years Later

by **Katherine Puzycki '17**
Editor-in-Chief

EDITOR'S COLUMN

It seems as if centuries have passed since the release of prisoners from the concentration camp at Auschwitz in 1945. There lies a span of events that makes this seem so: the Cold War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Great March on



Washington and Dr. Martin Luther King Junior's "I Have a Dream" speech, the assassination of JFK and putting the first man on the moon, the Berlin Wall, Watergate, 9/11, the first African American President of the United States, and countless other momentous occurrences.

Realistically, however, this all happened within just 72 short years. Friday, January 27, marked the 12th annual International Holocaust Remembrance Day, inspiring me to consider that we are not really that far off from the generations that underwent the insufferable tragedies that occurred during the Second World War.

Friday also marked a day of suffering for many abroad, as President Donald Trump signed executive orders restricting immigration. The ban now affects the citizens of Syria, Yemen, Sudan, Somalia, Libya, Iraq, and Iran who plan to travel to the United States for at least three months, will reject refugees from these countries for four months, and has placed an indefinite halt to all Syrian refugees.

I am not here to preach my politics to anybody. I will say, though, that we cannot preach about "Never Forget" if we accept intolerant behavior aimed toward those who are different than us.

Right now, our country has reached a place of deep divide and deep fear, especially in regard to the well-being and safety of the American people. However, we must keep in mind what happened only 72 years ago.

The events of the Holocaust need not be our only example though, for that would be a borderline exploitation of those people. Today, we must be the counterexample to the sentiment that allowed the Holocaust to occur.

We need to open our minds and hearts, and when we think of the loved ones we are so desperate to protect, we must also think of the parents desperate to protect their children, their neighbors, their brothers and sisters, and their own lives. If we have really learned anything since Auschwitz, now is the time to prove it.

TANGENTS & TIRADES

Father Shanley Speaks Up

Solidarity has frequently been an issue on the Providence College campus. Protests have met backlash from administration or have been ignored altogether and created a tangible divide on campus; however, the protest on Monday, January 30, against the Muslim ban refreshingly united administration, faculty, and students on campus.

Furthermore, the most unifying factor regarding this march was the email from Father Shanley, O.P., in the hours before, encouraging acceptance of immigrants and inviting students to join the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs Solidarity Walk, citing our college's Catholic values, and saying "we stand in solidarity with all the immigrant and international members of our community, documented or not."

Students, faculty, and administrators participated in the walk with enthusiasm, and it is the first time that one of the protests has not only been mentioned in an email beforehand but also shown outright administrative support.

In opposition to the Muslim ban, Father Shanley focused on our Catholic values, which was the perfect response to President Trump's executive order.

Although ISIS still poses a real and dangerous threat to the world and we must remain vigilant, we must focus our vigilance on our loving faith rather than the most vulnerable. As Catholics, Christians, and decent human beings, we must protect those who need protection and love those who need love, and that is exactly what the College united to do.

- Brianna Abbott '17

The Myth of Multitasking

Here's a common scenario most of us have found ourselves in: it's nearing 10 p.m. on a Tuesday night and you have five assignments due tomorrow, three of which you haven't even read the instructions for yet.

You decide it's time to finally get your life together and hit the books with the bright idea that you will be able to get all five assignments done at once. Come morning though, that idea doesn't seem so bright anymore.

Multitasking is an almost unavoidable reality for college students but, despite its allure, you cannot get all your work done in one magical swoop. It might actually be unhealthy for our brains and bad for our productivity levels.

Multiple psychology studies have found that our brains are wired to focus on only one task at a time and when we attempt to take on multiple things our brains can actually become overwhelmed and our cognitive processing can slow down.

Yes, that's right, too much multitasking could actually make us dumber—and the world really cannot afford any more stupidity at the moment. Moreover, when our to-do list is nearly a page long it is often unlikely that we will be able to cross off the most important things.

This is because multitasking increases our stress levels, which in turn makes us tired and unable to fully focus on the important things we need to get done.

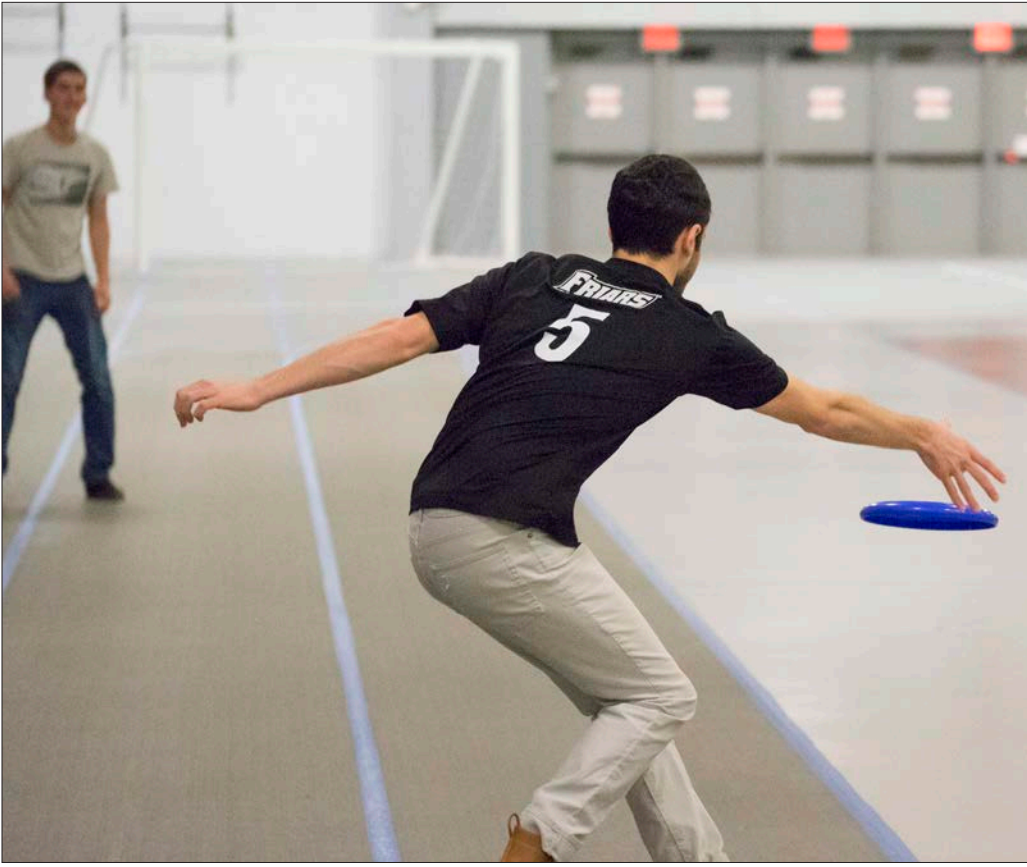
So for the sake of our brains, our GPAs, and the world—let's take things one at a time.

-Carolyn Walsh '17



The Cowl is a proud member of the Associated Collegiate Press.

PHOTOGRAPHY



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

ABOVE: Students toss a frisbee in Peterson Recreation Center to attract interest for their club team.

ABOVE RIGHT: A student member of the Association of Latino Professionals for America looks on as a student signs up to join the organization.

RIGHT AND BELOW: Students are instructed in a Scottish dance at the Burns Night celebration, sponsored by the English department. The event, held to honor poet and lyricist Robert Burns's birthday, also featured his songs, poetry, tasty Scottish shortbread, and cheeses.



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

ROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

What are you hoping for this semester?



"More snowy days."
Kelly Atkinson '18



"To choose my major."
Erica Meyer '19



"Good grades."
Olivia Nelson '20, Olivia Pawlyk '20,
and Bridget Reilly '20



"No drama and having a good time with friends."
Molly Conway '19, Sarah Roberts '19,
and Erin Cossette '19



"To pass, to graduate, and to get through Civ."
Taylor Huntly '17, Emma Lee '19,
Crista San Antonio '20, and Makayla Brady '20



"Nelly at the spring concert."
Gabby Shkreli '17, Kat Maloney '17,
Marge Kajer '17, and Brenda Moreno '17



"To stop losing my room key."

-Zoey 101

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.INCOLORS.CLUB

Photos Taken by Kimberly Lezama '18, Assistant Photo Editor

The Laramie Project at Blackfriars Theatre

by Patrick Lovett '17
A&E Co-Editor

THEATRE

"...I give you life in the memory of one who no longer lives. May you have a long life and may you thank Matthew every day for it." These words, given from a mourning father to his son's killer, represent just one of the powerfully chilling moments from Providence College's production of *The Laramie Project* this past weekend.

Based entirely on real events, the play depicts the city of Laramie, Wyoming following the horrific murder of Matthew Shepard in 1998. It consists of over 200 seamless interviews, all conducted by members of the Tectonic Theater Project.

Through the interviews, the audience is exposed to a broad and polarizing spectrum of reactions in the Laramie community. The interviews weave together in such a way to make both Laramie and the pain of Shepard's murder feel familiar.

Throughout the play, the details of the tragedy slowly unravel: Shepard's homosexuality, the murderers' discrimination, and the gruesome beating Shepard was subjected to. By the end, the audience is meant to be left astounded, yet invigorated—speechless, but willing to act.

Unique to PC's production, the Angell Blackfriars Theatre provides a perfectly intimate environment for captivating the audience. In that setting it is easier to appreciate the range and talent of the cast, especially as they use 11 members to fill 80 roles.

In essence, the College's production of *The Laramie Project* is both a spectacle and experience. It effectively captivates and involves the audience, so as to make them participants in Shepard's legacy.

For those who missed this weekend's shows, there are still more opportunities to see it. The Department of Theatre, Dance, & Film will be performing it again on the weekend of Feb. 10-12.

'The Spearhead of Activism'

Mountaintop

Continued from front page:

According to both the performers and the class, *The Mountaintop* put Dr. King in a unique light. A major point of agreement and emphasis among the group was that Dr. King was humanized in the play, making him seem more like a real man and less like a symbol. "He was just a man who had the courage to do a series of extraordinary things," said Joe Wilson.

Seeing Dr. King as "just a man" proved to be a powerful image for many in the class, and they voiced their common impression that with enough courage and determination every person could make a significant impact. Although some students conceded they were not sure what impact they would make, Wilson and Columbus claimed they utilized the theater as a medium for activism.

As evidence of this, Wilson referred to a momentous

scene in the play in which Dr. King watches a montage of the accomplishments in and obstructions to racial equality up until the current cover of the New York Times. He said that it was special and a gift that he was able to "respond to a moment at a specific time." Both Wilson and Columbus also spoke on their role as performers in such a contentious time, calling the arts "the spear of activism."

Columbus made it clear that his theater attempts to confront the major current issues, saying, "We are trying to create a provocative space." Wilson reiterated this message and said that he never wanted to see an audience leaning back and enjoying pure entertainment. Rather, he said, "We want you to lean forward."

For those who still want an opportunity to "lean forward," there are still opportunities to see Trinity Repertory Company's production of *The Mountaintop*. The play will continue to be performed at The Dowling Theatre in Downtown Providence until Feb. 12.



Students listening to Joe Wilson (left), Curt Colubus (middle), and Dr. Dillon (right).

PHOTO COURTESY OF KIMBERLY LEZAMA '18/THE COWL

Silk Road Offers a Path To Understanding

by Meaghan Dodson '17
News Co-Editor

MUSIC

Over 2,000 years ago, a network of trade routes known as the Silk Road allowed for the flow of goods and materials throughout Europe, Africa, India, and Asia. The Silk Road, however, was not just used to exchange goods—it was also used to exchange ideas and traditions between people of different cultures.

Today, this idea of cultural exchange and learning is embodied in the Silk Road Ensemble, a musical group founded by the cellist Yo-Yo Ma. The goal of the group is to "explore how the arts can advance global understanding," featuring musicians from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Providence College welcomed The Silk Road Ensemble on Friday, January 27. The ensemble offered a workshop for students earlier in the day, and at night they performed for the PC community at a concert held in the Smith Center for the Arts.

The Ensemble was introduced by Ed Sweeney '77, a musician/recording artist and a member of the organization. Sweeney was PC's first music major—in fact, he even helped write PC's program and hire its professors.

After graduating from PC, Sweeney



The Silk Road Ensemble performs in Singapore.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SILKROADPROJECT.ORG

tried to start his musical career but was met with little success. He became a salesman, and it was in this profession that he really learned how to be a musician. He was hired by the Silk Road Ensemble because he knew the financial and business aspects of the music industry, and he loves playing and working with his fellow musicians.

Sweeney encouraged the audience members to look at each new opportunity as a gift. "Allow yourself to explore all your passions and allow them to change," he stated.

Sweeney then invited the members of the Silk Road Ensemble to share their own musical journeys, with each musician's story being as unique as the instruments he or she plays.

Shaw Pong Liu, the Ensemble's violinist, has been playing for over 30 years. Having spent time studying and living in Beijing, she picked up the Chinese equivalent of the violin—the erhu—which is made from the skin of pythons.

The group's percussionist, Shane Shanahan, began his musical journey playing the drums in local garage

bands. He was trained in classical styles of percussion but, wanting to experiment with different sounds, he decided to collect and learn percussion instruments from around the world.

Sandeep Das is a Grammy-nominated tabla player. He learned his art in India, where he lived with and studied under a guru for 12 years. The guru taught him how to draw rhythms from nature, and although he was never formally taught how to read music, Das can play thousands of compositions from memory.

Finally, Yang Wei is the Ensemble's pipa player. He revealed that, although the instrument's silk strings and bamboo frets are testaments to over 2,000 years of Chinese history, the pipa was originally from the Middle East and brought over to China via trade routes.

Together, these musicians create distinctive and original music that speaks to the different cultures from which they draw their inspiration.

Reflecting on both the workshop and the concert, TJ Harper, chairperson of the music department, stated, "We were fortunate that the Silk Road Ensemble could come share their stories. The Development of Western Civilization program teaches students a more Western perspective, so this experience with the East contributes to students' musical growth and adds cultural and artistic depth to the College."

Adam Hanna: Gifted and on the Rise

by Ryan Cox '18
A&E Staff

MUSIC

Call him what you will—"the next big thing," "Providence College's newest campus celebrity," or "rising star"—they all describe the growing career of Adam Hanna '18, a Lakeville, Massachusetts, native whose music has gained an incredible amount of support on campus in just the last year. Coming off of his sold-out performance at Firehouse 13 last week, I had a chance to sit down with Hanna to talk about his views on his newfound campus fame. His passion and drive for performance was immediately clear.

This was Hanna's second performance at Firehouse 13. "The first time, there were maybe about 100 kids there," he said. "I didn't know what would happen, and the owners took a chance on me." This time around, filling the hall beyond capacity, things were markedly different. "It was incredible. Kids are used to going to Whiskey Republic and instead they came to this hole-in-the-wall place. I think having a lot of different opening acts helped to draw a bigger crowd too."

Hanna got his start playing guitar in fourth grade, and immediately fell in love with it. "As soon as I picked that thing up I never put it down," he recalls. "It's like a kind of yoga. You get to relax and forget about things for awhile. If you feel something you write it down." Throughout his career he constantly looked to his father, a former performing musician and songwriter, for guidance. "My dad taught me my first chords, and I still write songs with him," Hanna said. "It's the best father-son relationship you can have."

Since then, Hanna has released a number of EPs with original songs, and a cover of Bruce Springsteen's "Thunder Road," which Providence College shared to its Facebook page, his first taste of campus fame.

Hanna admits that the "Friar Family" is what keeps him coming back to Providence College, despite the urge to drop out and pursue music full time. "They support you in everything, whether it is sports, academics, or music," Hanna said. "I thank them for coming to my shows, and then they thank me for playing. Sophomore and junior year, there were times I almost considered not coming back, but little things like that make me come back."

Hanna says his biggest musical influence is Springsteen, although he cites Freddie Mercury as well. Springsteen's influence is evident in Hanna's original lyrics and music, but both musicians influence his performance. "They left everything they had on the stage. There aren't too many artists that do that anymore. People who try and create the whole experience, that's what I'm trying to do. If it doesn't look like I took a shower on stage, I didn't do it right."

Looking down the road, Hanna plans to release another new song in the near future, but for now he is focusing on honing his performing skills. Currently, he mainly performs covers of songs ranging from Bon Jovi's "Livin' on a Prayer" to Bruno Mars' "Uptown Funk," but Hanna is looking beyond that. "I want to get the point where people come sing along to my originals," he said.

For Hanna, the success he's

begun to gain is pushing him forward, and he's letting that momentum carry him. "You can't rest," he said. "The last two days have been a mental break, but now it's on to the next one. There can't be a rearview mirror."



Adam Hanna poses for a photo.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ADAM HANNA

Looking Forward with Oliver Penn

by Elizabeth Jancsy '18
A&E Staff

MUSIC



Oliver Penn during a performance.

PHOTO COURTESY OF OLIVER PENN

If you are Oliver Penn '17, your weekend might look a little different than the average college student's. Instead of just relaxing with friends, your weekend plans would also include picking up your guitar, standing in front of an audience, and playing your heart out. As Penn set up for another night of rocking, the senior marketing major and full time musician had plenty to say about his passion for music and future in the business.

"My mom stuck me in piano lessons like everybody else, and I just loved it," said Penn, "and kept with it. I just wanted to play guitar and drums so bad and she was like you gotta start with piano!" Playing since what feels like forever for him, Penn fell in love with the many sounds of music, recalling his lessons in piano, as well as eventually learning both the drums and guitar.

Learning to play new instruments and being able to create new sounds, Penn started playing around with new styles, thus creating the label of his own music. "I used to put my music in a certain genre, I used to really want to do blues rock and alternative blues, but recently I have decided not to put a name on it. I've been collaborating a lot, but it will always be changing."

Penn remembers the start of his performance career, writing songs that he deemed "not good" in fourth and fifth grade. It wasn't until sophomore year of high school that things became more serious for him. "I played in school dances in high school, and some were originals but they wanted covers. I always tried to push my stuff.

I wanted people to hear my songs!"

Penn notes that his recent move to do more collaborations has had an impact on his sound as well. "Certain artists rub off on you, so I think my sound evolves when I collaborate, but it's also myself as well. I live in Houston so I've gotten to work with some cool artists and I want to keep going with that."

Aside from performing live and working on collaborations with other artists, Penn is also no stranger to the intimacy of a studio. Releasing a few singles in the past, with the goal of releasing a full-length album soon, Penn prepares to pass his work around.

Deeming Chance the Rapper as one of his musical role models, Penn strives for independency in his music. "He basically has proven to young artists that you can release your own music for free and still make it," says Penn, "For me, my goal is to keep releasing it the way I want to release it. SoundCloud, Spotify. It's about learning from mistakes and tweaking it. Learning if I want to have it wider spread or anticipate it and promo it for a longer time. It's all about learning."

Penn's goal for the rest of the year is to release a few more singles before he finally compiles them all for his album. When asked if it will be hard to choose what makes the final album after completing so many singles, he said, "I'm working on just recording all of them, and then the day I actually have to pick I will just be like 'Okay these!' and just put them out there. There are songs that I always knew would be on the album, but the rest will just happen that way."

Penn seems confident in the road ahead, knowing that he will always have a hand in the approach to his music. From the business side to actual composition, Penn will always stay true to himself.

Emma Watson Gives Belle a Makeover

by Blaine Payer '18
A&E Staff

FILM

Emma Watson is one of the most well-recognized champions of feminism and gender equality in the world. Since it was announced early last year that she would be playing Belle in the upcoming live-action remake of the Disney classic *Beauty and the Beast*, Watson has been no stranger to the headlines. Initially, her millions of adoring fans shouted praise and approval for the casting decision, but recently all of the attention has been directed towards the feminist changes she has made to both the script as well as the character of Belle. Most of the reactions to the changes have been positive, but others remain skeptical about her "agenda pushing."

Watson's post-*Harry Potter* career has taken many surprise twists and turns, seeing her star in notable films such as Sofia Coppola's *Bling Ring* (2012) and Darren Aronofsky's Bible epic *Noah* (2013), among other smaller projects on the side like *Colonia* (2015) and *Regression* (2015).

In 2014, Watson became the youngest Women Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations, which saw the beginning of her campaign "He-for-She," a feminist organization that calls for worldwide gender equality. She was also pictured marching in Washington D.C. to support the nation-wide Women's March that took place last week.

In a recent *Entertainment Weekly* piece, Watson described the process of

sitting down with director Bill Condon and altering the script to make Belle a more complex and independent woman. "My Belle is very practical," Watson brightly declared, "if you're going to ride your horse and tend your garden and fix machinery, then you need to be in proper boots." Watson explains that in the retelling of the story, Belle is the inventor, not her father, and she has traded in her corset and ballet shoes for trousers and work boots. Even Belle's iconic gold dress is less Victorian and more practical for an active, modern princess.

In the original film, Belle is considered strange because she refuses to marry Gaston and enjoys reading books, which can be translated as having self-respect and being educated. Watson was quick to come to Belle's defense, herself being a Brown-educated History and English double major. The new film will see a much more independent Belle, but not to the point of her being unrecognizable.

Watson recently revealed that she was originally offered the role of Cinderella in the 2015 live-action remake, but turned down the role because she felt as though she did not resonate with the character. She wanted to play a character that would be a feminist role model for young girls, but Cinderella is the classic tale of a handmaiden who is given a better life by a prince who loves her for no other reason than the fact that she looks good in a dress. In a *Huffington Post* interview, Watson commented on the character of Belle, saying, "In a strange way, she challenges the status quo of the place she lives in, and I found that really inspiring."

Of course, there are those that not



Emma Watson and Kevin Kline in *The Beauty and the Beast*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMBD.COM

only question the adequacy of Watson's acting and whether or not she is up for the challenge, but also those who accuse her of being a "fake feminist." *Vogue* ran an article claiming that giving Belle a new pair of shoes does not make her a feminist hero, since she is still a damsel in distress at the end of the day.

What they fail to recognize is that fact that any serious changes would transform the entire film, making it wholly unrecognizable. Watson and Condon wanted to make Belle a more independent character without making dramatic changes to the source material.

Watson has proven herself to be a talented actress and above-average singer, and all trailers for the film have been more-than promising. Although her attempt to make Belle into a more feminist character can be attacked for simply being Watson trying to force her agenda down the audience's throat, so far it seems as though all she has done is given young girls a more positive role model to look up to. Maybe next Halloween, instead of seeing Cinderella in her baby blue gown, we will see a few more Belles running around in workboots and trousers.

The Legacy of Butch Trucks



Butch Trucks poses for a photo, circa 2011.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FORBES.COM

by Kerry Torpey '19
A&E Staff

MUSIC

On Jan. 24, Butch Trucks, the drummer and co-founder of The Allman Brothers Band, died following a self-inflicted gunshot at the age of 69. Trucks leaves behind a long legacy as a member of one of the most successful rock bands in history.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida on May 11, 1947, Claude Hudson "Butch" Trucks began his career as a drummer in the eighth grade. When he entered high school at Englewood High School,

Trucks made first chair in the band as a freshman.

Truck's parents were devout Baptists and refused to buy him his own drum set until his junior year of high school in which they made him promise to not play at any establishment that supplied alcohol.

Prior to graduating high school, Trucks was a member of two bands, The Vikings and The Echoes, and played in both the Jacksonville Symphonette and the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra. Following graduation, he attended Florida State University for one year where he said he "majored in staying out of Vietnam."

While at a gig in Daytona Beach with his new band, Bitter Ind., Trucks met Duane and Gregg Allman, who at the time called themselves The

Allman Joys. In just a few short years after their meeting, Trucks, Duane, and Gregg would be three of the founding members of The Allman Brothers Band.

Duane and Gregg Allman alongside Jai "Jaimoe" Johanson, Dickey Betts, Berry Oakley, and Trucks founded The Allman Brothers Band in Jacksonville in 1969. Duane and Betts served as guitarists, Gregg as a vocalist, Oakley the bassist, and Johanson as a drummer alongside Trucks. Duane and Oakley tragically died in motorcycle accidents in 1971 and 1972, respectively.

Their first self-titled album was released in 1969 with a small amount of success despite the presence one of their most popular songs, "Whipping Post," on the album. A mass amount of achievement, however, would come with their 1971 album, *At Fillmore East*, which went platinum.

The Allman Brothers Band would go on to release several successful albums, such as *Eat a Peach* (1972) and *Brothers and Sisters* (1973), which included hits "Ramblin' Man" and "Jessica." Between 1969 and 2014, the band split up multiple times, but Trucks, unlike other members, returned for every reunion.

Following their final appearance in 2014 at the Beacon Theater in New York City, Trucks continued making music with his band Butch Trucks & The Freight Train Band.

In 2016, Trucks did an exclusive interview with *Rolling Stone* about his time in The Allman Brother's Band. Trucks said, "We were in another universe. We were out spreading the gospel of this music we had discovered. We never thought that we would be more than an opening act."

Upon his death, Gregg Allman issued a statement about his late friend and former bandmate. "I'm heartbroken," said Allman, "I've lost another brother and it hurts beyond words."

Guitarist for the band following the first reunion in 1989 was Warren Haynes, who said "[Butch] put 110 percent of his self into every song he played. He was the Lou Gehrig of rock drummers."

Trucks is survived by his wife, children, and grandchildren, as well as his eternal legacy as the drummer for one of the biggest bands in history.

New Year, New Album, Same Mayer

Album artwork from Mayer's *The Search for Everything*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ACESHOWBIZ.COM

by Brigid Walshe '19
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

John Mayer is back in a big way. On Jan. 20, Mayer released four of his new songs from his current album, *The Search for Everything*, and fans are already craving more.

Mayer is planning on releasing his latest album in waves, meaning that every month, he will release four more songs until the album is released in full because he feels like there are "too many songs to ever get out the door at once."

The four songs released off this EP, *The Search for Everything-Wave One*, are "Moving On and Getting Over," "Changing," "Love on the Weekend," and "You're Gonna Live Forever in Me," which have all had a positive reception.

Mayer has said that these songs "represent literally hundreds of hours living inside of these little worlds." The songs have everything you would expect from John Mayer: poetic lyrics and peaceful, bluesy melodies. Through them, Mayer meditates on getting older, yet his music sounds just as good as it did at the beginning of his career over 10 years ago.

Mayer released the first single, "Love On The Weekend," from the EP back in November, where he also hinted at a

possible full album and tour. This has been Mayer's first single since he covered Beyoncé's song "XO" back in 2014 and *The Search for Everything* will be his first full album since *Paradise Valley* back in 2013.

Despite the hiatus, Mayer has been busy producing new music and touring as the lead guitarist with Dead and Company, which features Grateful Dead members Bob Weir, Mickey Hart, and Bill Kreutzmann. The group is supposed to tour this summer as well, now equipped with more material in Mayer's newest songs.

Mayer has said that this album has "more songs than can fit on your standard sized album," meaning it may be a couple of months until the full album is released. Much to his fans' liking, Mayer has also said that 2017 "is the year of more music coming than I've ever put out in one year."

On Twitter, Mayer announced that these new songs were performed and recorded by many of the same people who worked on his hit 2006 album *Continuum*, which included popular tracks such as "Waiting On The World To Change" and "Gravity."

Mayer is set to tour *The Search for Everything* this spring across the U.S. and Canada, giving fans even more to look forward to. It looks as if 2017 will be a big year for the artist, and there are plenty of reasons to tune in.

Shia LaBeouf the Artist, Enigma

by Michael Welch '17
A&E Staff

FILM

From Disney Channel star, to movie actor, to his current vocation as a controversial artist, Shia LaBeouf's journey in the entertainment industry has been all but conventional. Recently, LaBeouf has taken on the persona of friendly but strange drifter, both entertaining and surprising all who still observe him. In his latest installation, LaBeouf has started a four-year long protest of President Donald Trump, all livestreamed to his fans.

The new president is familiar with protests over his election victory, but LaBeouf's protest stands out as unique. A four-year long protest seems impossible considering how often a passionate movement can fizzle out over time. However, with LaBeouf leading the charge, there is no telling how long the demonstration may last.

Unsurprisingly, the livestreamed protest has not been short on controversy. LaBeouf has dealt with white supremacists and general opposition, the most toxic but well-handled of these interactions occurred when a passerby said "fourteen" into the camera that was livestreaming the protest. The word "14" is a secret message to other white supremacists, referencing the phrase, "we must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children," as the phrase contains "14" words.

LaBeouf obviously acted against the white supremacist by getting directly in the uninvited guest's face shouting "he will not divide us!" The two shouted at each other for a few minutes before the white supremacist finally left and the protest could continue peacefully.

LaBeouf had another altercation which led to his being arrested. Supposedly, a young man approached LaBeouf for a picture but said, "Hitler did nothing wrong," when he got close.

LaBeouf's mother is Jewish and he considers himself Jewish as well, so LaBeouf immediately took offense and took action. The two began shoving each other until eventually things escalated to the point where LaBeouf was taken in by police. He was out of jail and back at the protest by the next morning, however.

The four-year anti-Trump protest is being called



Shia LaBeouf during his protest.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CBSANFRANCISCO.COM

another one of LaBeouf's "art installations" which are known for being unique and unusual. His former fame helps elevate these installations and he has an impressive history of weirdness to boast.

The musical "Shia LaBeouf" reached over forty-four million views on YouTube and features a plot where someone is being chased through the wilderness by a murderous LaBeouf. In early 2014, LaBeouf starred in an art installation where he

played a motionless statue that could not react no matter what awful things strangers said or did to him. LaBeouf was almost sexually assaulted during the installation and had to stop his performance, but there would be plenty of art in his name to come.

LaBeouf's latest undertaking is but the latest stage in the his dramatic evolution, leaving many wondering not only what the protest will amount to, but about the artist behind it as well.

CABIN IN THE WOODS

by Brittany Loveless '20
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

I want to go to the place down the winding dirt road,
tracing the lake in all of its depth.
I want to follow the path in the woods—that leads wherever we want it to.
Let's go way down to the creaky dock,
where wetting our toes releases a squeal in the air.
I want to go where the day turns to night as smoothly as today turns to tomorrow,
where we are endlessly stuck in time that bends for us,
to spend every moment of a minute until the last grain of sand slips through.

I want to be where the only thing you can see at night is the moon
reflecting in the lake—blanketing the sleeping waters below.
Let me go where laughter hangs in the open air and the fire illuminates our faces as we tell the stories
of how we became us.

Those stories of flying off tubes and playing tag in the street,
holding hands before jumping into the lake and
creating jumps for our sleds to run off—to run off and never slow down.
I want to go to the place where time and temperature are the same,
a nice guideline but brushed aside when we choose to forget.

I want to stay the age that the lake lets us be,
Small enough to not hit the ground after letting go of the rope swing,
but big enough to pioneer our own wild canoe adventures down the winding river.
Young enough to run wild and swim at midnight,
but old enough to accept every moment that is captured,
knowing they are slipping through our fingers and out of reach,
like the waterfall spilling underneath Red Bridge.

I want to go where our wet footprints are molded into the carpet
and our towels stained with sap smell like pinecones.
I want to go to the place where the space between the trees is like the stars in the sky; endless and
dark but enough to let the light shamelessly shine through.

Somehow every year the lake seems smaller,
and what once were endless laps gripping the tube,
are now over before the waves of nostalgia even begin.

The days end before the sun sets,
and we have to leave before I am ready to say goodbye.
But when the moon comes out we don't lose faith in it,
as the car pulls out and the moonlight illuminates the long road home,
because it will always pull me back in with the tides.

I want to go to the place that hides in the Green Mountains,
because even when I leave it,
coming back is more welcoming than the time before...and you can't say goodbye to something like
that.

Dear Nana,

by Matt Farrell '17
Portfolio Staff

I really don't know how to begin this, I've been stuck at it for a while. I guess I want to say hi, and that I haven't been to church much recently...Sorry about that. Your husband says that makes me a sinner, but I take what he says with a grain of salt now. It hurts to say, but now I know who had the decency in your marriage. You saw the awkward phases I had, but unfortunately not who I am now. I have become an ally to those who need it, and we definitely would've had this conversation by now.

It's been a wild year, with all this hate in the world and I wish I could get your take on it, because you were so kind and respectful to so many people. If you couldn't guess, I'm the black sheep of the family when it comes to so many topics of debate. I recently learned how to deal with that, since so many times I end up defending a side alone against the entire family. But you know what? I'm ok with that, because there are friends of mine I talk to who suffer from hate that we cannot process. How can I be wrong if people are suffering? You would be on my side, right?

Is it bad that I feel more alone at home than I do at school? I love our family, but every time I go home my stomach churns. If you were here it would be easier, and there wouldn't be tears falling to the pillow. It started after you were gone, and when I opened up about my deepest secret and they responded with, "How could you not think of us?" I did think of them, that's why I decided to continue living life.

My friends think I can be teacher of the year and make a difference, but our family members are willing to open up their Pandora's Box of criticism. Let you and everyone else know that I teach so no student of mine feels as alone as I did. I'm never going to change my decision. I am not teaching to make money; I am teaching to make a difference in the community I end up in. You were excited for me when I first told you I decided to become a teacher, and it makes me smile thinking how proud you would be if you saw me now. If you heard my students see me as a role model you would cry because I'm doing good. When I was 18 I told everyone, "I don't know what I want to do yet, but I do know I want to change the world." The world could be Earth, the community, or the life of a struggling student.

As I write this I have your obituary card out, worn down and torn, but your smiling face still shines as bright as you were with me. I've cried knowing you have missed so much and I had so many things I wanted to tell you, but I can tell you already know. Sometimes I just need to talk to someone, or in this case write. I guess all I have left to say is, I love you.

Your firstborn (aka favorite) grandson,
Matt

PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

Death By Shakespeare

by Marisa Gonzalez '18
Portfolio Staff

SHORT STORY

That's it! My big mouth has actually done it! It has killed me! And what has brought upon my demise, you ask? Well, something terrible. Something obscene. Something so big it may blow your mind! Are you ready? Truly ready? Do you have your big boy pants on? Hey, don't say I didn't warn ya. Well here it goes... performing on stage!

Yes, I know. Unbelievable. I hope you all bring flowers to my funeral. So, I'm dead. Did you get that part? Yup, I am on stage, wide-eyed, and dead. How did I manage to get on stage? Do you really want to know? Truly? Too bad, because I'm going to tell you anyway.

Like I said in the beginning, (I hope you were paying attention) my big mouth was my executioner. Two weeks before my demise, my Shakespeare class was discussing sonnets. Woo! Sappy love poems! Aren't they the best? Well, they are until they kill ya! Anyway,

I'm getting ahead of myself. So, as my teacher drones on about the wonders of a Shakespearean sonnet, the teacher next door comes in and announces to the class that the school will be hosting a Shakespeare festival. He tells us in a sweet voice that all the English and history classes must have at least one student participate. Once this left the teacher's mouth, every student, including myself, suddenly became interested in their laps.

My Shakespeare teacher saw this and sighed. He then cleared his throat. Don't you hate that? Why must someone clear their throat before saying something important or something that will potentially spark a riot? Is there something in their throat that is preventing them from spewing the words? Anyway, he cleared his throat, argh, and said, "Ok, whoever participates gets extra credit." Silence. Then he said, "Ok. Whoever participates gets three days off from class." This sparked my

interest. I hated that class! Before I could fully think about it, I jumped up and volunteered. My teacher grinned, and my heart sank. Ah poop!

After two weeks of practicing the silly sonnet I had to recite, I felt ok. I performed in front of the mirror a bunch of times. I liked how I spoke and I figured that since people are supposed to be their own worst critic I was all set. Boy was I wrong. When I saw the sea of people, I almost died right there. But my real death came when it was my turn to go onstage. My legs shook, my heart was racing and my palms were sweaty— ick. I cleared my throat, darn it, and took a shaky breath. My name was called, I walked passed the current to the stage, breathed again, peed a little, and spoke. I croaked, "When to the sessions of sweet silent thought I summon up..." Then I froze. The sea of people vanished and all I saw was dark. I stood there, mouth open and frozen. "It's ok," I thought to myself,

"Maybe they will think I'm pretending to be a statue and think I'm brilliant." I expected clapping or some other sort of indication that what I was doing was ok, but I got silence. Then I died, and now, here we are. You are listening to a ghost. Cool huh? Yup, a Shakespearean sonnet killed me. Not really something you want on your grave stone.

So I guess that's my story... wait! What is that heavenly noise I hear? Angels? No, more like, applause! Oh sweet, sweet applause. Oh my, I can see clearly now. The sea of people is back in view. I can breathe. I can shut my mouth and blink, oh my, I'm alive. Weee! They love me, they really love me! Heh, so I guess I'm not really dead. I hope you didn't spend *too* much money on those flowers. So, I'm going to bask in my glory for a little. You all can go now. Have a nice day.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM



After Death

by Connor Zimmerman '20
Portfolio Staff

SHORT STORY

It is a dark and stormy night, with rain falling from the heavens in biblical proportions.

Thunder crackles and lightning flares across the night sky, as the visitor looks up. She hangs her head dejectedly after looking at the tombstone. She says, "I wish it could have ended differently." She begins to walk away as the muddy ground, flooded with water, grabs at her feet. She comes out the exit and takes one woeful gaze behind her and goes to her car. She gets in and tries the ignition several times before it turns on, and she hears through the radio advisory warnings about the road flooding on her route home. She sighs and turns on her windshield wipers and begins to drive away.

The sky cries out as thunder and lightning clash. One lightning bolt goes astray and it strikes with a fury through the ground, electrifying a soaked coffin buried before a tomb. The water seeps in around the damaged coffin and a groan comes from within.

A man slowly rises to consciousness and opens his eyes to see only darkness. He feels the urge to stretch out, but cannot seem to move. An impending sense of dread is all he can feel as he forces his arms upwards to feel the loose coffin top, whose hinges the lightning and water had loosened. He slowly pushes the lid open and climbs up from beneath the ground, rather easily due to the flooding water and shifting earth. His fingers tear through the ground as he begins to feel rain on his face, and he redoubles his efforts to pull himself out of the ground. He stands up shakily, as his legs still feel numb from eternal sleep. He looks around with confusion to see that there is nobody around him. He looks at the sky to see nothing except for the pelting rain. He looks in front of him and sees a tomb marked:

Tom Jones
January 22, 1967- January 15,
2017

Loving husband and father

He says, "Where the hell am I?"

I don't remember anything, and all I can see is this gravestone. Anyone here?" No one answers him because all around him are only the dead. He looks around and says quietly, "Am I Tom Jones? Am I dead?"

Tom looks down and sees he is dressed in a once nice, but now drenched and muddy suit. He reaches into his pocket, hoping to find some clue to help him, but feels only air and waterlogged lint. He looks around him and begins walking toward the exit of the graveyard. He comes to the exit and sees nothing but a road in front of him. He looked upward to see the graveyard is called the Sleeping Angels. As the sky screams again, Tom looks both ways before turning east and walking down the road.

Tom walks all night and sees the sun begin to rise as the rain, thunder, and lightning cease to exist. His feet begin to throb in his stiff and muddy dress shoes and he finally hears a car coming his way. He begins to wave it down and the car slows down and stops near him. The driver sticks his head out the window and says, "You're soaked to the bitter bone, aren't you, fellow? What, you been sleeping with the dead?"

Tom nods and replies, "Yeah, something like that. It's been a long and crazy night. Where you headed?" The driver looks suspiciously and says, "Just into town for the day." Tom, clueless, responds, "Where is town?" The driver shakes his head, "Man, you aren't from around these parts, are you? The town's 10 miles down the road, its name is Barrenton." Tom replies, "That's fine by me, can I grab a ride?"

The driver, after a long gaze, says, "Sure, just hop in the car." Tom hops into the car next to the driver and stares silently out the window. He sees a sign that says "Welcome to Barrenton, where you are never in need." Tom asks the driver, "What's the town like?" The driver replies, "It's mostly just some convenience stores and banks and some retail shops. There's a lot of families that live on the outskirts because it's got a heck of a school system." Tom nods his head in silence. The driver pulls up into

the town and parks on the street. Tom gets out and begins to walk away. The driver yells, "Hey man, you gonna pay me or something?" But Tom keeps on walking down the street.

Tom eventually comes to a library and he walks in. He goes through the metal detectors, with the guard sizing him up, and continues to walk towards the computers. He sits down at a desk and turns on the computer. While it begins to power up, Tom looks at the blank screen and sees the haunting and unrecognizable image of a gaunt and withered face looking back at him. Tom goes onto the internet and searches for Tom Jones, born January 22, 1967 and died on January 15, 2017. The top websites that come up are social media sites with his name. He goes and clicks on Facebook to come to a page that shows a woman and himself kissing each other with fireworks behind them. His cover photo is of two small children playing tag in the backyard. Tom smiles and writes the address he sees on the website on his hand and leaves.

Tom begins to walk to the outskirts of the city and sees beautiful houses down the street. He looks at his hand and sees the address is 2270 Everett Road. Tom begins to walk down the street and he turns left when he sees a street sign marked Everett Road. He walks for a long time, and as he walks further, the houses become smaller and their facades less impressive. As he starts to become tired and demoralized, he finally sees the last mailbox with the number 2270 on it. He turns to his left and sees a one-story house in need of repair. One of the front windows is broken, the lawn hasn't been mowed in a week, and the garage has a massive dent in it. Tom says, "Well this is home...I guess."

Tom walks past the long grass up to the front door and rings the doorbell. He hears a dog barking and a stressed woman shouting "One minute!" Tom waits impatiently, hoping to finally get some answers and perhaps a purpose. The door opens creakily, and he sees the woman in his profile picture, his wife. She drops the dog that she has in her hands and it runs past Tom disappearing into the overgrown lawn. She falls to her knees and grasps for words,

but cannot seem to say anything. Tom blurts out, "What happened to me?" She replies, "How are you here? It's not even possible. You died."

Tom looks down and at himself and then looks back. He goes to touch her on the shoulder, and she begins to cry. Tom says, "I guess I'm alive now. It's a miracle." She sobs, "Get ... away... from... me... this ... is ... horrible." Tom asks, "Why? I'm home now. It may take awhile honey, but eventually I will get my life back." She stands up and woefully says, "You are not supposed to be here, and you can't stay. I won't let you destroy this family's future." She turns her head and wipes her eyes. Tom gazes at her, confused. "What the hell are you talking about?" She shakes her head and stares at him with bloodshot eyes, as she begins to laugh, "What type of cruel irony is this? The man who kills himself comes back to life and wants to begin again. Well, I'm..."

Tom takes a step back and says, "Honey, how did I die?" She says, "Look around—this house is falling apart and we barely could afford this shithole as it stands. You couldn't hold a job that paid well enough and so we came up with the plan. You would take up a big life insurance policy and wait the required time and then bite the bullet." Tom looks around and says, "No, I would never do that. You are my wife, how could you let me go through with that?" She comes closer to him and holds his hand and contemptuously says, "You were miserable and we both wanted the best for the children. It was necessary, but now you are jeopardizing everything. You need to leave and never come back." She looks around and says once again with her back turned towards him, "Bye Tom, take care of yourself." She closes the door and Tom, feeling dizzy, falls backwards off the cracked porch onto the overgrown lawn. He stares shocked at the sky and the dog begins to lick the once recognizable face of his owner. He begins to cry for a while and then eventually gets off his back and looks around. He stares with bright red eyes at the house, his house, for a long time before he says, "She was right about one thing... Tom Jones is dead."

Listomania

Best Signs From The Women's March



Science Is Real

So Bad Even Introverts Are Here

I'm Not Usually A Sign Guy But Geez

I've Seen Better Cabinets At Ikea

At Least The Lannister's Paid Their Debts

Trump Skis In Jeans

Trump Likes Nickelback

I <3 Trains

I'd Prefer Darth Vader

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun-damental Rights

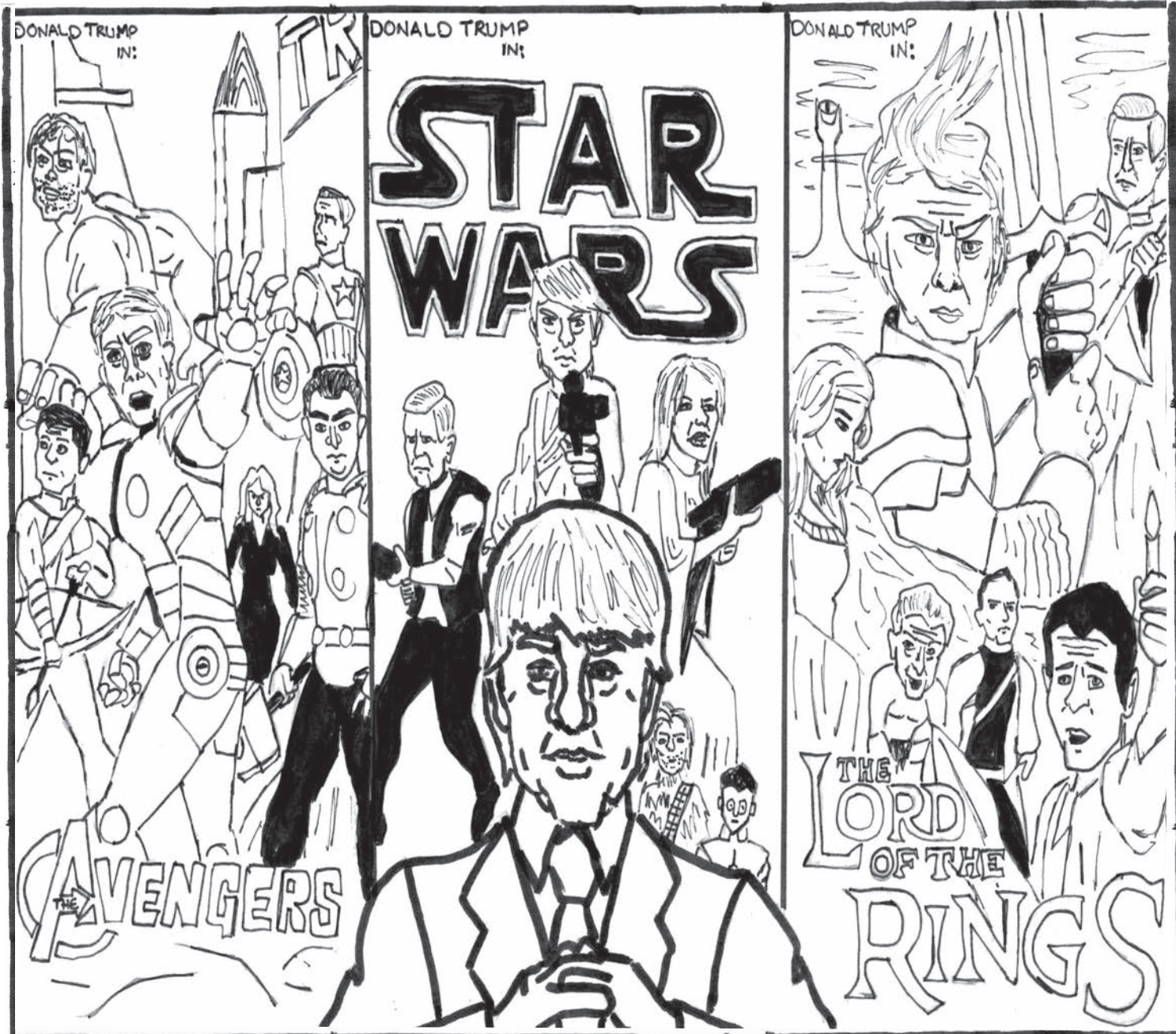
Just, UGH

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE VARIOUS WOMEN'S MARCHES

DONALD TRUMP'S "ALTERNATIVE FACTS":

by David Martineau '18
Portfolio Staff

COMIC



Tiffany & Earl

Making PC an emotionally stable
place one letter at a time

Dear Tiff and Earl,

What do I do if the bookstore still doesn't have my books?

Sincerely,

Sparknotes doesn't, either.

The bookstore still doesn't have your books in? What, did you order them yesterday? No? You ordered them before school started? And they're still on backorder? Did you talk to someone about it? What do you mean, they said to check your email? Didn't you already get an email saying they were in? You got three emails about it? You just left?

How could you even think about making another trip to the bookstore? Do you remember how they treated you last time? Didn't you know the results were going to be exactly the same even though it's been a week? On what highway are all of these trucks mysteriously backed up?

Did you tell your professor? Your professor doesn't have their books, either?

What are you going to do??



Tiffany

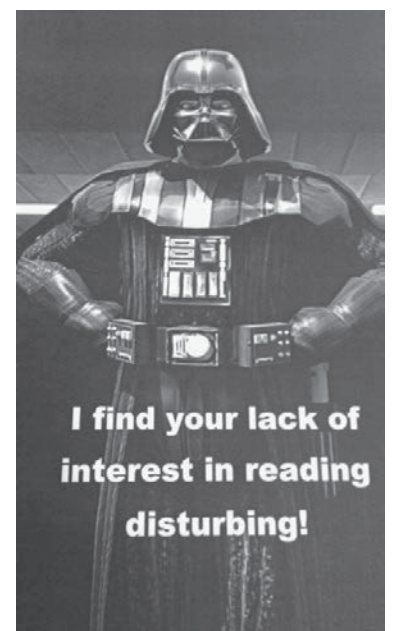
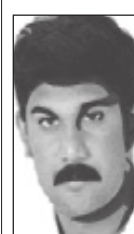


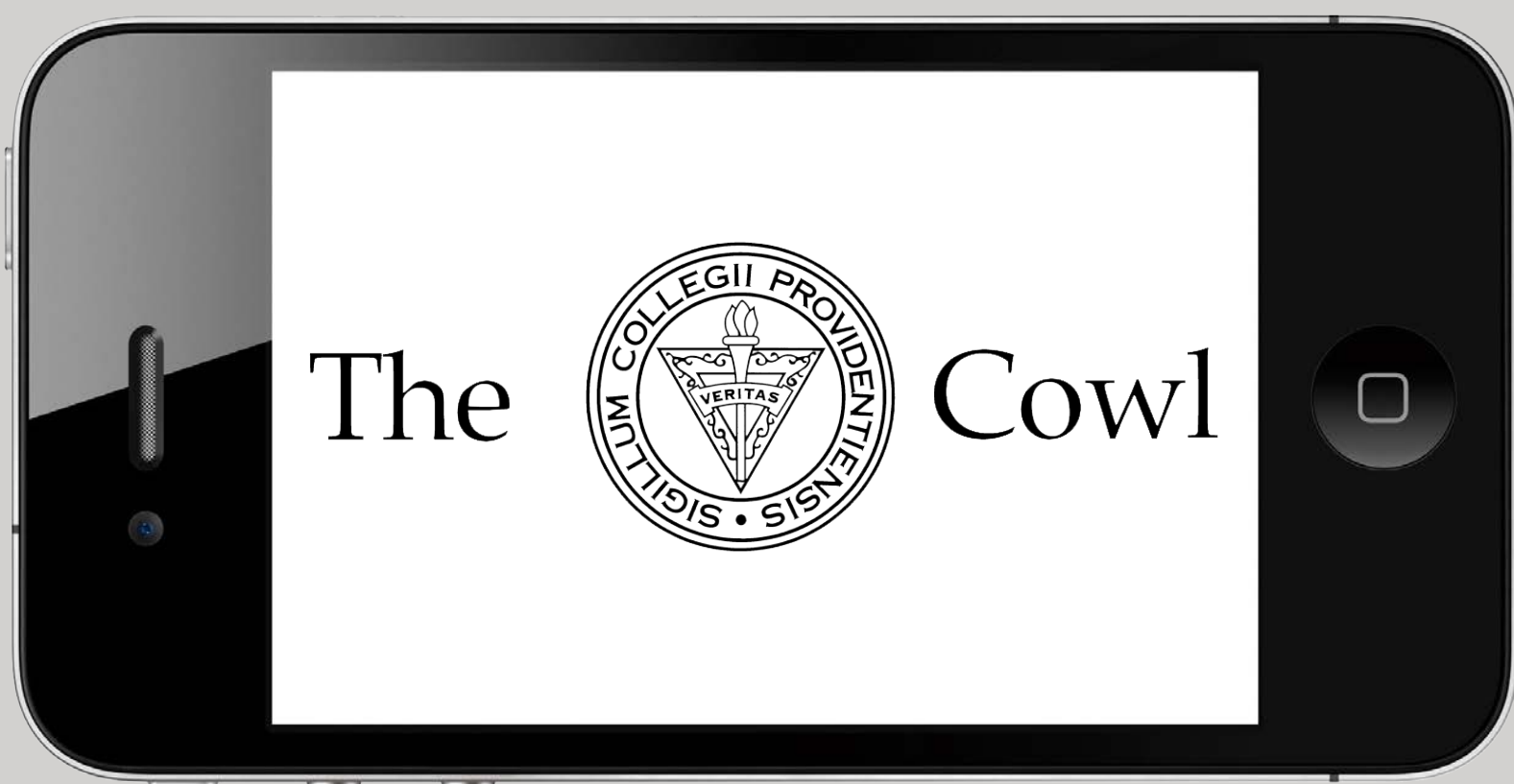
PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

Send them this meme five to six times a day until they have your books. I don't mean text it to them either. Print this out and hand deliver it to them. Five to six times a day. There, problem solved.



EARL

Can't Get Enough *Cowl*? Follow us on social media!



@TheCowl



@TheCowl



@The_Cowl

Athlete of the Week: Whitney Dove

by Meaghan Cahill '20
Sports Staff
COLUMN

"Definitely cool and a great accomplishment," is what Whitney Dove '20 stated with a laugh when asked to describe what it felt like to be named Hockey East Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Week.

Dove is currently playing defense for the Providence College Women's Hockey team. Hailing from Port Moody, British Columbia, Dove has been playing hockey since she was six years old. However, when she started playing, she played with the boys rather than the girls for two years. When asked what it was like playing with the boys, Dove said that the experience was "a good way to start [playing] because it was a higher level." Growing up, she played on Team British Columbia, the Pacific Steelers, and Pursuit of Excellence. Dove served

as captain of the Pacific Steelers for her 2015-2016 season.

A fan of NHL player PK Subban (Nashville Predators), Dove claimed she chose to come to Providence College to continue her hockey career because she liked the smaller campus and the hockey team's coaching staff. "It seemed like a good fit," Dove explained, when questioned why she ultimately decided on PC. When asked about the adjustment of being a Division 1 athlete, Dove confessed, "[It] was definitely a step up, took a while to get used to." Her stats state otherwise.

As of Jan. 23, Dove was the defensive scoring leader in Hockey East with five goals and 16 assists, a total of 21 points overall. Twice in the season, both prior to being named Rookie of the Week—her first weekly recognition—



PHOTO COURTESY OF WHITNEY DOVE, TRAININGROOM.UPMC.COM

Dove has been named a Top Performer. Dove was recognized as Rookie of the Week due to her outstanding play

in a weekend match-up against Boston University on Jan. 21-22. In both games she notched multiple points,

most notably her three assists on Jan. 21 that aided the Friars in coming back from a 4-1 deficit to tie the Terriers 5-5 in overtime. The next day, she went on to get two more assists in what was a 5-2 loss for PC. Further acknowledging the honor of being named Rookie of the Week, Dove described her emotions as happy, saying, "I've been working really hard."

With the season drawing to a close, Dove commented on the season so far as being a "pretty strong season. I think we are in the pack with everyone else and we are starting to step it up a bit."

This defenseman, who if given the chance thinks "playing goalie would feel like it would be so cool," claimed that in the final six games

that the team should "keep playing how we're playing, take one game at a time."

The schedule ahead is not one to be taken lightly for the women's hockey team. The final six games are all against teams within their conference, two of which are ranked higher in the Hockey East standings (Boston College and Northeastern University). The puck drops in Boston on Feb. 3 against the number two team, Northeastern, and two days later PC will take the ice against the University of Connecticut, also a 2 p.m. start at Schneider Arena. The final weeks of the season consist of a series of home and away games against the University of Vermont, Merrimack College, and Boston College. The regular season for the Friars ends with a back-to-back series against Hockey East rival Boston College, with their final home game happening on Feb. 18.

Softball Looks to Improve this Spring



An aerial shot of the softball field.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FRIARS.COM

by Eileen Flynn '20
Sports Staff
SOFTBALL

As the weather starts to get warmer, the Providence College Softball Team is ready to take the field again.

The Friars finished their 2016 season 21-28 (6-14 Big East). With six new freshmen and 14 veterans on the team, the Friars are looking to improve their record in the 2017 season. Emma Lee '19 was named to the All-ECAC Second Team for the 2016 season. Lee had a program record .423 batting average, the best in the Big East, her freshman year. Starting in right field, Lee will be a key player for the Friars again this season.

To begin the spring season, the Friars are participating in three different tournaments. Feb. 17 marks the opening

day for the girls as they play George Washington University in the D9 Orange Blossom tournament. The Friars will play four other teams over the course of the weekend.

A short two weeks later, the Friars will compete in the UCF Tournament in Orlando, Florida. The Friars will face teams like University of Central Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University, and Stetson University. The final games until the team is back on home territory will be played in Clearwater, Florida in the USF Tournament. On another busy weekend in March, the Friars will play five different teams: Monmouth University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Indiana State University, Fort Wayne, and Western Michigan University. Hopefully the players will find time to appreciate Florida's warm sun for the rest of us still in Friartown.

March 18 is the day fans can finally come out to Glay field to support the Providence Softball team as they face the Holy Cross Crusaders. Some tough teams that the girls will have to work hard to prepare to play are Butler and St. John's University. Butler defeated St. Johns in the Big East Championship game in May 2016. Providence College will meet St. John's in Queens, New York for a weekend in March and Butler will travel to Providence in April, playing each other a total of three times in two days.

Kerri Jacklets '01 leads the Friars as head coach for her 10th season. Over the years, Jacklets has coached five teams to Big East Tournament appearances. With the help from assistant coaches Kathy McLaughlin and Kelsi Luttrell, they will push this young and aspiring softball team to a great season.



Is There a True American Team?



PHOTO COURTESY OF DRODD.COM

by Liza Sisk '19
Assistant Sports Editor

OP-ED

Yes

In America, not much runs as deep as loyalty to one's favorite professional sports team—particularly one's favorite football team. Although many fans would argue that their team could be considered "America's Team," there is one specific team that best represents the values of the National Football League and the passion that NFL fans harbor for their favorite pastime: The Green Bay Packers. The Packers are one of few teams in the country that remain relatively scandal free, with players who strive to remain an upstanding example of sportsmanship on and off the

field. Beyond that, the Green Bay Packers are the only professional sports team in the country that are publicly owned. Instead of having one owner, the Packers are literally owned by their fans. This creates a culture free of player lockout threats between owners and team members, motivated by arguments about profits and salaries. Instead, this system contributes to maintaining a genuinely passionate relationship between players and fans, as well as strong love for the game rather than the associated price tag. This system has created a dynamic between the team and the community unlike any other. This dynamic transcends beyond the financial logistics of being a non-profit sports team, and contributes greatly to the strength of the Packers' fandom. The Packers, therefore, can be considered America's team.

by Jake Scarbo '17
Sports Staff

OP-ED

No

The National Football League is by far the most watched professional sports league in America. Many call teams like the Dallas Cowboys, Green Bay Packers, and New England Patriots as "America's Team," but there is no team that is universally loved by the millions of football fans around the country. There are reasons for each of these three teams to be hated by a certain subset of football fans. Jerry Jones, the Cowboys owner and general manager, has turned the Cowboys into a circus. Jones takes all the attention away from his players by signing convicted felons and using the media to send negative messages to his players if they are

not performing to his standards. The Green Bay Packers are the NFL's only publicly owned team but also are not likable enough to be America's team. The Packers are quarterbacked by Aaron Rodgers, and is a very unlikeable player outside of the state of Wisconsin. Also, being based in the Midwest hurts them because they miss out on all of the big media markets on both coasts of the U.S. Lastly, the Patriots could never qualify as America's team either. They are actually nationally hated outside of New England for their roles in many alleged cheating scandals. America's team must be widely loved for its play on the field, and the Patriots are clearly not. Tom Brady is a perfect quarterback to lead America's team, he will have to settle for his four rings instead. All teams, no matter how loved they are around the country or how well their fans travel, have issues that make America's team a utopian ideal.

Friars Track Gives Best at BU Invitational



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RADSPORTS.COM

by Ethan Ticehurst '18
Sports Staff

TRACK AND FIELD

"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift." – Steve Prefontaine

The Providence College Track and Field Teams can rest easy knowing that they did not sacrifice their gifts this past weekend at the Terrier Invitational in Boston.

For two days, the Friars gave their best in Beantown, as both the men's and women's teams excelled and impressed. Their season may have just started, but the Friars have just provided a justification for any

optimism that fans might have for the rest of the spring.

On a day that saw many impressive performances, there were a few members of the women's team that slightly stood out above the rest. Millie Paladino '18 finished second in the mile, with a personal best time of 4:37.53. After Paladino '18 was done with her solid performance in the mile, three of her teammates continued to set the bar even higher. Brianna Ilarda '18, Abbey Wheeler '20, and Katie Lembo '18 all finished in the top five of the 3,000 meters, with Ilarda finishing first in a time of 9:20.62.

On the men's side of the event, Providence also had a spectacular day, with Nick Carleo '19 leading the way with a second place finish in the mile. Hugh Armstrong

'17, Trevor Crawley '17, Jake Feinstein '17, and James Campbell '17 also had strong showings in their events. But, the real stars of the day for the Friar men were the graduate students that participated, some of them running unaffiliated. Julian Oakley finished first in the 3,000 meters, with fellow Providence alumni Jordan Mann and Brian Doyle following closely behind.

This meet was the beginning of what looks to be a great season for the Friars. With the NCAA indoor championships in March and the outdoor championships in June, make sure to pay attention to see some of your fellow Friars blowing away the competition later this year.

Friars Bounce Back Despite Red Storm Loss



Kyron Cartwright '18 and Malik White '20 celebrate the win over Marquette.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FRIARS.COM

by Jeff Williams '17
Sports Staff

BASKETBALL

Providence College has consistently made waves during the centennial year. In addition to the new Arthur F. and Patricia Ryan Center for Business Studies, the school has embarked on a year-long tribute to its past. As the students returned to campus for second semester, the men's basketball team announced a Throwback Night for Wednesday, January 25, when they were to host the St. John's Red Storm at the Dunkin' Donuts Center. Providence College Athletics released a promo on Jan. 18 that showed Rodney Bullock '18RS, Kyron Cartwright '18, Emmitt Holt '18, and Jalen Lindsey '18 rocking fresh white and yellow jerseys, last worn by the program in the early 1980s, and also featuring the interlocking "PC" logo used in the 1990s.

The next day Friar Athletics released another promo titled, "Why is Friar Dom Sad?" which hinted at the return of the Dalmatian mascot, "Friar Boy," that had previously been discontinued with the death of Friar

Boy V in 2001. During a timeout, midway through the first half, Friar Dom went onto the court brandishing a missing poster for the Dalmatian. Suddenly, a roar from the crowd was heard as a new mascot in a Dalmatian costume came racing and cartwheeling onto the court, wearing one of the throwback jerseys numbered 33.

PC Athletics has yet to name the new mascot. Fans can make suggestions on the new name by tweeting @PCAthletics. There are plenty of catchy options, but if the school wants to honor its past, surely "Friar Boy" is the best option of the bunch.

Meanwhile, the Friars struggled to keep up with the Red Storm early on. Bullock had 10 points and six rebounds in the first half, but the team struggled with missed opportunities, with way too many turnovers, and missed free throws. St. John's took advantages of the Friar blunders to take a 46-39 lead into halftime. PC then took off early in the second half, going on a 20-7 run to take a 59-53 lead with 14 minutes remaining. However, the Red Storm just wouldn't go away, thanks to scoring outbursts by Marcus LoVett and Shamorie Ponds (26 and 22 points, respectively). The visitors were soon able to tie the game at 61-61, and both defenses lapsed as each offense traded baskets in the

last 10 minutes. The Friars had a chance to win with 14 seconds left. Down 87-86, Cartwright drove to the hoop but was blocked, and Providence went down to St. John's, 91-86. Bullock led the Friars with 20 points, and Alpha Diallo '20 had a career night with 18 points and eight rebounds.

After the Throwback Night disappointment, the Friar men bounced back by beating an old enemy. PC had never won at Marquette, and was 6-16 all-time against the Golden Eagles. The Bradley Center in Milwaukee was truly a house of horrors for the Friars—until Saturday. The Friars controlled the first half, racing out to a 40-32 lead, but the hosts came out of the gate with a 14-5 run to take it back. Thanks to Cartwright's 18-second half points, the Friars seemed to have put the game away, but nearly suffered a last-minute collapse.

Andrew Rowsey scored 23 points for Marquette, and completed a ridiculous four-point play to cut a six point lead to two with 36 seconds left. Missed free throws by Bullock and Diallo made the end nerve-wracking, but the Friars made two defensive stands in the final seconds to pull out a 79-78 victory. Providence lost to Villanova at the Dunk on Wednesday, 66-57.

Men's Hockey: The Road to Chicago

by Lauren Altmeyer '17
Sports Writer

MEN'S HOCKEY



Wilkin '20 celebrates a goal.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS EMERSON

There is no better time for the Providence College Men's Hockey team to be heating up than right now. Currently on a five game winning streak, the Friars hold a 14-8-4 record and are situated at 15th place in the national polls. With only eight games left in the regular season, all of which are Hockey East matchups, the Friars have their work cut out for them.

Providence will face the University of Maine this weekend, followed by a series with the University of Connecticut. The remaining two series will be played against the University of Notre Dame and UMass Amherst. The UConn Huskies are currently tied for seventh place in Hockey East standings, while the Notre Dame Fighting Irish sit at fourth place in Hockey East and 17th place in the national polls. Although each game from here on out is important, it is crucial for the Friars to do well against the Fighting Irish and the Huskies to move up in the Hockey East standings. Skating away with four points from each of those series would help PC immensely.

Sixteen teams are entered into the NCAA tournament. Of those 16 teams, the six conference champions will receive automatic qualification while the remaining best 10 teams are selected by the PairWise Rankings. PairWise is a statistical tool designed to approximate the process by which the NCAA selection committee decides which teams get at-large bids to the

tournament.

The Friars could automatically be entered into the tournament by winning the Hockey East championship, something that has not happened since 1996. Hockey East is known as one of the toughest conferences in college hockey and there are currently six Hockey East teams in the top 20. Right now, PairWise holds the Friars at number 11 with a total of 49 out of 59 PairWise Ranking points.

If the Friars continue to play the way they have these last five games, then a trip to the NCAA tournament seems very likely. It would be the fourth consecutive year that Providence has made an appearance. Although it seems unlikely that the Friars will reach the Frozen Four this year due to having such a young team, anything is possible. In 2015, the Friars were one of the last teams to enter the tournament and went on to become national champions.

Once the underclassmen have a few seasons under their belts, the Friars will be a formidable team. Forwards Scott Conway '19 and Josh Wilkins '20 lead the team in goals with nine each, while defenseman Jacob Bryson '20 has registered three goals and 11 assists for a total of 14 points on the season so far. Other players to watch develop in the next few years include Winnipeg Jets prospect Erik Foley '19, who recently won gold at the World Juniors, and Minnesota Wild prospect Brandon Duhaime '19.

Despite the Friars having only a handful of guys remaining from the national championship winning team, one thing is certain—never count out the Friars.