

The Cowl



SINCE 1935

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PC Donation Supports Catholic Education



Administrative and religious leaders pose with students from local Catholic schools after Providence College gifted them \$100,000 to support Catholic education in Rhode Island.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NEWS.PROVIDENCE.EDU

by Patrick Healey '17
News Staff

COMMUNITY

With the hustle and bustle of all the events and activities honoring Providence College's Centennial year, it may be easy for an important and generous announcement to get lost in

the shuffle.

At the end of February, PC officially made it known that it will be donating \$100,000 in support of Catholic education in Rhode Island. This will specifically manifest itself in the form of four donations of \$25,000 a year for the next four years. This donation will be used as scholarships to assist students attending five different urban

elementary and secondary Catholic schools in Providence.

In addition to the financial gift which PC has promised, the College has also arranged for service and volunteer opportunities to be set up between PC and the schools.

DONATION/Page 6

The Politics of Playing

by Kevin Copp '18
Opinion Staff

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

At about 5 p.m. on Selection Sunday, every fan begins to dream of his or her team cutting down the nets.

While the tournament is open to teams from 32 different conferences from across the nation that play Division I basketball, the recent trends exhibited by the selection committee that chooses the teams for the tournament has kept many worthy teams in smaller conferences from entering the field.

The selection committee should focus more on picking the worthiest teams from all of the conferences and not merely rewarding bigger schools for playing in so-called major conferences.

There has been a significant shift in the committee's thinking in the past 10 years. In the 2006 NCAA Tournament, the selection committee chose four teams from the Missouri Valley Conference, a conference made up of less well-known schools but still a largely successful league. That year, two schools from the Valley had highly successful runs to the Sweet Sixteen.

In 2017, however, the committee selected only one team from the Missouri Valley and passed over Illinois State, a deserving team that lost only six games all season. The RPI, an advanced metric that ranks teams based on statistical analysis, pegs Illinois State as the 33rd best team in the country (68 teams make the tournament).

TOURNAMENT/ Page 8

Lights, Camera, London

by Brigid Walshe '19
A&E Staff

THEATRE

When driving around London's West End or theatre district, it is impossible to miss the bright signs advertising theatre productions. Theatre has become a staple of London's culture and charm, connecting both residents and visitors to the city's rich history.

This past week, members of the Providence College Liberal Arts Honors Program had the opportunity to experience London theatre as part of the program's annual Spring Break trip. The trip gave students insight into daily life in London, along with a comprehensive understanding of its theatrical tradition.

WEST END/ Page 14



Daniel Radcliffe and Joshua McGuire rehearse their roles as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, respectively, in the 1966 Hamlet spin-off, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, by Tom Stoppard.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DIGITALSPY.COM



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAMPLEMEMORE.COM

UNDERTHEHOOD

Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

News	2
Opinion	8
Photography	11
A&E	13
Portfolio	16
Sports	22

Opinion

The enduring importance of "A Day Without a Woman."

Page 9



Portfolio

This week's Listomania: Overheard at the Copy Editor's Table.

Page 18



Sports

See how the Women's Basketball Team has improved this season, thanks to new leadership.

Page 22



Students Participate in Spring Break Service



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIANA SMITH '17

Allison LaBelle '20 and Mike Paquin '17 get down to business in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Habitat for Humanity

by Daria Purdy '19
News Staff

SPRING BREAK

On the first day of Spring Break, over 100 Providence College students embarked for destinations across the East Coast to participate in PC's annual Habitat for Humanity service trip.

This year, Habitat sent students to sites in Pittsburgh, Kittanning, Harrisburg, and York, Pennsylvania; Georgetown, Delaware; Spring Lake, New Jersey; Bridgeport, Connecticut; Mechanicsville, Virginia; and Rockport, Maine. Beyond PC, Habitat for Humanity is an international, nonprofit organization that works to build homes for those living in poverty throughout the world. Their mission is to work towards a world in which everyone has a decent place to live.

As Habitat for Humanity Executive Board member Ashleigh Arenas '18 describes, "Habitat homes are a 'hand up' rather than a 'hand out,' since the families have to invest work hours into their home and pay an affordable mortgage."

To date, Habitat has helped over 2.5 million people all over the world gain access to affordable, quality homes.

During this year's trip, Habitat student volunteers built and renovated homes or worked at Habitat ReStore, a nonprofit home improvement store. Taylor Mulhearn '19 participated on the Habitat trip to Georgetown, Delaware. The trip to Georgetown was a pilot trip, meaning it was the first time that PC had sent students to that site location.

Mulhearn described a typical work day on site: "We had two work crews: an outside crew and a framing crew. The outside crew would saw and prepare pieces of plywood, and then the framing crew would put the pieces in place for the frame of the house. In this way, it worked like an assembly line, in that each person did a smaller job to create a larger whole."

Mulhearn said that the work was exhausting but that her group had an excellent work ethic and did not complain. Mulhearn described the living situation as a house that had once belonged to AmeriCorps, a civil society

program that engages adults in public service work. For fun, the group traveled to the boardwalk at Rehoboth Beach and hung out around the house.

Mulhearn says, "Before the trip, I was very nervous, as I had never done Habitat before and did not know anybody in my group. Yet, after the car ride down to Delaware, all my anxiety had disappeared, and I then knew that this was a great group that I was going to have a lot of fun with."

Olivia D'Elia '19 participated on the Habitat for Humanity trip for the second time this Spring Break, traveling to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, with her Habitat group. D'Elia said her trip this year was different from last year, saying, "We did not do as much demolition, but instead added the finishing touches to the house we were working on."

D'Elia described how grateful the Habitat affiliates at the site were to have the PC students there, as they said that they could not have accomplished by themselves half the work that had been accomplished with the PC students.

D'Elia described how she came back from the site tired each day, but said, "I didn't want to nap, despite my tiredness, because I was having such a great time talking and hanging out with my Habitat group in the church where we were staying."

For fun, the group took a trip to nearby Hershey Park. Despite the fact that the rollercoasters were not open, the group shopped for chocolate in the giant Hershey store. One night, the group ate dinner at a local PC student's house. D'Elia describes her group as becoming very close-knit by the end of the trip.

The Habitat for Humanity Spring Break trips are an annual tradition that hundreds of students have taken part in. As D'Elia and Mulhearn described, the trip is an opportunity for students to make new friends and travel to new places. Beyond this, the students are able to give concrete help to people in impoverished communities. As board member Arenas says, "Habitat is a great opportunity for students to break out of the PC bubble and get involved in something meaningful that literally will aid in changing the lives of families across the country."

Global Service Learning Trips

by Gabriella Pisano '18
News Staff

SPRING BREAK

Typically, Spring Break is a time when you take a break from classes and relax. Whether you sit on the beach in the sun or go home to unwind, Spring Break is often seen as a time to leave the schoolwork behind. This is not so true for the students who took part in the two global service-learning trips over Spring Break.

The global service-learning trips correspond with classes that last the entire semester. This semester's trips were to Tijuana, Mexico, and Guatemala.

The course that allowed students to travel to Tijuana is about global border crossing. "In the class, we studied the North American Free Trade Agreement. We discussed why people migrate. We learned about the history of borders and the experiences of people crossing those borders," explained student Dee Auciello '18. "GSL trips are so special because you come back and have the rest of the semester to reflect on what you just did with these people you've built foundations with."

In the morning, students went to the work site where they helped build the foundation of a house. Later in the day they would visit different sites, such as the border that divides Tijuana and San Diego; Las Memorias, a non-profit which provides HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, and LGBT services; and Casa Del Migrantes, an organization that houses people who have recently been deported or who are preparing to cross the border.

Discussing the challenges that she faced, Rachael Johnston '18 stated, "The topic of immigration is very controversial and hard to grasp at some points, but after making personal connections with people who have been directly affected by policies or decisions made by the U.S.

government, it was especially difficult for me to return home carrying the feeling that I haven't done enough."

Prior to traveling to Guatemala, students on this trip were educated about international trade, politics, and coffee culture. The Global Coffee Culture course focuses on exploring the societal, economic, and cultural implications of the coffee trade worldwide.

Explaining how this trip is unique, Karlene Cudak '19 stated, "This trip wasn't a traditional service trip because we didn't do physical service while we were in Guatemala. Our service begins now and will continue after our semester ends because our class is armed with a great amount of knowledge and stories from this trip, which we will continue to use to improve our consumer activities while trying to better those of the people around us as well."

While students who participated in these trips took a break from the classroom, they continued to learn through their service and immersion into the cultures of the places they visited.

"There is no possible way to learn what we learned and experienced in Guatemala in a traditional classroom setting," explained Cudak.

While this is not what most would consider a typical "Spring Break experience," students who participated in these trips seem to agree that they would not have wanted to spend Spring Break any other way.

Johnston, who traveled to Tijuana for the global service-learning trip for the second time, stated, "I would say that it is absolutely a worthwhile Spring Break trip. Not only are students immersing themselves in a different culture and being pushed out of their comfort zones, they are making relationships with other PC students they might not have known otherwise and have the chance to learn about a very important issue first hand from people being affected by it."



PHOTO COURTESY OF GABRIELLA SANCHEZ '18

Students on the Guatemala Global Service Learning Trip smile on their way to a coffee plantation.



CENTER FOR Physician Assistant Studies



The ARC-PA has granted Accreditation-Provisional status to the Physician Assistant Studies Program sponsored by Johnson & Wales University.

Accreditation-Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students. Accreditation-Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class.

OPEN HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017

Registration: 4:45 p.m. / Presentation begins promptly at 5 p.m.

RSVP: 401-598-4558. Space is limited.

Location: 35 Claverick Street, Providence, R.I.

GPS address: 157 Clifford Street, Providence



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Off-Campus Beat: Updates on the Trump Administration

by Sarah Gianni '18
News Staff

PRESIDENTIAL NEWS

President Trump Accuses Barack Obama of "Wire Tapping"

Donald Trump posted a string of tweets in the early morning of March 4, claiming that former President Barack Obama had "wires tapped" in Trump Tower prior to Trump's victory. There is no official evidence to support Trump's claims of any Obama surveillance.

Obama administration spokesman Kevin Lewis dismissed these allegations stating "a cardinal rule of the Obama Administration was that no White House official ever interfered with any independent investigation led by the Department of Justice. As part of that practice, neither President Obama nor any White House official ever ordered surveillance on any U.S. citizen. Any suggestion otherwise is simply false."

U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara Fired by Trump Administration

Preet Bharara, the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, said in a tweet that he was fired after refusing to resign as requested by the Trump administration. This request made by Trump was an effort to remove remaining Obama administration prosecutors at the Justice Department, as 46 U.S. attorneys were asked to resign immediately.

According to CNN, Bharara said he felt blindsided by the request for his resignation, as he had been told in a meeting with Trump back in November that he would be able to keep his position. Sarah Isgur Flores, a Justice Department spokeswoman, stated that this action was taken in order to "ensure a uniform transition."

Meetings between Trump Advisors and Russian Ambassador Disclosed

Jared Kushner, senior aid to President Trump, met with the Russian Ambassador to the United States along with former National Security Advisor Michael Flynn. The meeting between Kushner, Flynn, and Ambassador Sergey Kislyak occurred in December, during a time of concern regarding the relationship between the Trump administration and Russia.

An additional national security advisor J.D. Gordon also disclosed that he had met with Kislyak back in July, along with Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Sessions told *Fox News*, "I don't recall any discussion of the campaign in any significant way," adding, "I don't believe anybody that was in the meeting would have seen or believed I said one thing that was improper or unwise."

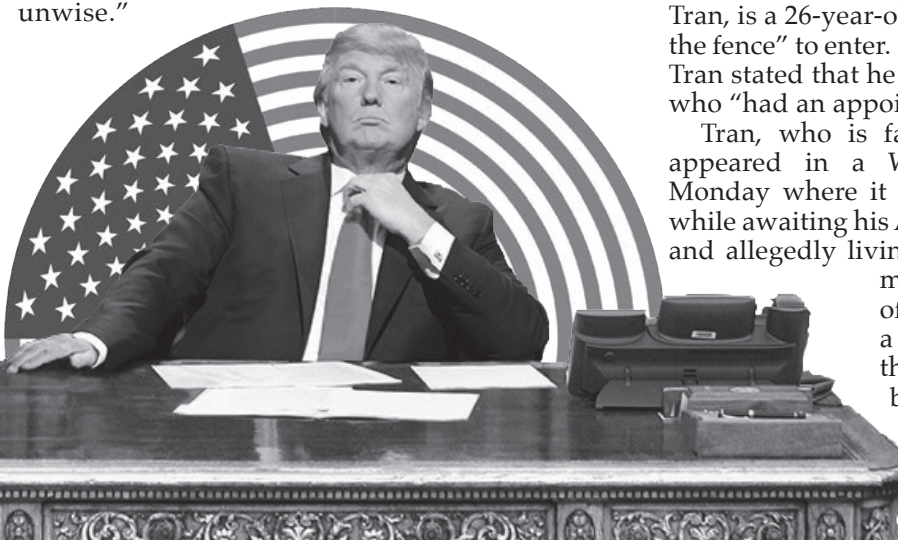


PHOTO COURTESY OF WISEYOUNGMAN.COM
PHOTO COURTESY OF OPENCLIPART.COM

Trump's New Budget Projected to Be "Historic"

President Trump shared his budget proposal today. It was predicted to cover projected cuts to housing, foreign aid, and environmental programs, among others. Homeland security and military spending were also predicted to be prioritized in the budget.

These cuts in the planned proposal are also expected to lead to layoffs among federal workers. As the *Washington Post* reports, "Trump's proposal comes at a time when the federal budget is facing massive structural shifts in society and the economy."

Intruder Breaches White House Grounds

A man carrying a backpack with two cans of mace and a letter for President Trump was arrested on Friday, March 10, breaching White House grounds. The incident occurred just before midnight while the President was inside of the White House.

The intruder, who was identified as Jonathan T. Tran, is a 26-year-old from California. He "jumped the fence" to enter. When approached by an officer, Tran stated that he was a "friend of the President" who "had an appointment."

Tran, who is facing unlawful entry charges, appeared in a Washington federal court on Monday where it was ruled he will remain free while awaiting his April 13 trial. Tran, unemployed and allegedly living in his car, must wear a GPS monitor, stay within 100 miles of his hometown, and undergo a mental health evaluation in the meantime. After security breaches in recent years, the White House plans to expand the perimeter fence from seven to twelve feet in 2018.

Providence College Student Congress



Updates

Due to inclement weather, the 67th Student Congress was unable to meet this week.

Next Tuesday's guest speaker will be Fr. Peter Martyr Yungwirth, O.P. All students are welcome to attend the meeting, which will be held at 5:30 p.m. in Ruane LL05.



Photography Club Spotlight: Humans of PC



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLAIRE RIGAUD '19

When asked what inspires her unique style, bubbly personality, and positivity, research substitute Cherine Whitney replied, "I'm just a happy person! I love life. I love people. I love myself. I am a Hasbro Children's Hospital Volunteer, so when I go to the hospital dressed up, my colorfulness and creativity are acknowledged and appreciated...I'm glad you came up to me today, I happen to be wearing one of my favorite dresses!"

by Meaghan Dodson '17
News Staff

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

If a picture is worth 1,000 words, then Providence College's Photography Club is priceless.

Founded in 2012, the club has used photography as a means of connecting the PC campus through art. Club members share photography skills and techniques as they work to create visual art. The club emphasizes collaboration as all members contribute to and manage various projects.

The club's most popular feature is its Humans of Providence College (HOPC) project. Inspired by Brandon Stanton's Humans of New York, HOPC was created so the PC community could share its stories with one another. Club members take photos of people found

on campus and then caption the portraits with short yet meaningful quotes. The quotes range from humorous to serious and everything in between—the point is simply to share one's experience with others.

"We don't go out looking to take a specific photo or find a particular person. We just find someone who wants to share a story," stated Emily Hurley '17, the club's president. "We want to give everyone the opportunity for their voices to be heard."

The PC community is encouraged to like "Humans of Providence College" on Facebook, or to follow @humansofprovcollege on Instagram, in order to see and share the stories.

The Photography Club and HOPC are always welcoming new members, as no prior experience is necessary. "It's always exciting to see what new artists bring to the club," Hurley stated.

Friar Flashback: The Ruane Center for the Humanities

by Marla Gagne '18
News Co-Editor

FRIAR FLASHBACK

"The beauty and elegance of the building matches the beauty and elegance of what takes place inside of it," said Providence College philosophy professor and former Development of Western Civilization (DWC) Program director, Dr. Vance G. Morgan. The "beauty and elegance" Morgan admiringly referenced was then the newest creation at PC, a hybrid of tradition, classical architecture, and the fast-paced technological world of the present. Today, we know it as the Ruane Center for the Humanities.

The Gothic style 63,000 square-foot building, most famous for its DWC lectures and seminars, was first constructed in 2012 after alumni Michael A. Ruane '71 & '13 Hon. and his wife Elizabeth donated money for the new facility. The building would open only 18 months later, becoming home to the School of Arts & Sciences, the Humanities, the DWC program, the Liberal Arts Honors Program, and the English and history departments.

For PC students today, Ruane is one of many buildings visited in their daily schedules, a hotspot for coffee lovers, and a great spot for studying. However, only four years ago the current seniors were entering Ruane as the first students to use the facility. Gabby Shkreli '17 remembers walking into the archway of Ruane and "being in awe of its castle-like beauty."

"Being able to experience Civ in Ruane made class exciting and enjoyable, especially since we would be the first class to do so," stated Shkreli.

Like many of the buildings and facilities that have been built on campus over the last few years, Ruane was the creation of generous alumni donations and constant construction.

Mr. Ruane graduated PC with an economics degree and became the founding owner, chair, and managing partner of Boston-based TA Realty, one of the nation's top real estate investment advisory firms.

The "building for the ages" was not only funded by a PC alumni but also designed by one. Daniel S. Kantor '92, principal and chief financial officer of S/L/A/M Collaborative, and Gerald J. Sullivan '86, a principal in Sullivan Buckingham Architects, brought the \$21 million project to life by the fall of September 2013.

PC then welcomed Yale University grad, Pulitzer Prize winner, and Presidential Medal of Freedom



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

The Great Room has become a room dedicated to quiet study, even though it was not its original intent.

recipient David McCullough to dedicate the new building. Addressing an intimate crowd of 1,200 PC alumni, staff, and family during St. Dominic Weekend, McCullough was recorded in the Providence Journal saying, "I feel to the depths of my being that this emblematic new building is not only a step in the right direction for Providence College, but for our country. We need to be reminded about who we are and how we got to be who we are."

McCullough would correctly predict how Ruane would become not only a center for the liberal arts, but a mediator between the past and present.

A Peek Inside: A New Era of Education

Ruane was designed in a Gothic style that features natural light and intricate masonry detailing, a tribute to Dominican tradition. Throughout its three levels, students are able to learn and study in new places for discussion.

Throughout the building, there are 181 rooms, including two lecture halls, two 50-60 seat classrooms, and numerous seminar spaces. All classrooms are equipped with up-to-date technology, including big screens and computers in lecture halls and flat screens and computers in seminar rooms.

During the groundbreaking of Ruane in 2012, Fr. Brian Shanley, O.P. '80, said, "I am more excited about The Ruane Center for the Humanities than I have ever been about any new facility on this campus. Students learn differently now than they did 20 years ago... The Ruane Center will provide Providence College with state-of-the-art teaching and learning space that promotes dialogue between and among students and faculty while also encouraging greater student engagement in their scholarship and study."

PC has continually pushed individual learning and open discussion, hoping for this idea to take shape in the new building and DWC program. Dr. Raymond Sickinger, professor and chairperson of the history department, agrees that Ruane has helped students taking DWC. "Ruane has enhanced the DWC experience. The large classrooms are not only better equipped for the best that technology can provide, they also provide a more flexible space to allow for some small group activities," said Sickinger.

As a student, Shkreli felt the seminar rooms allowed her to be more involved in class and be part of the discussion, not just watch it. "Because I could see all of my classmates's faces while discussion took place, Civ seminar felt much more personal and intimate. I loved that, when a teacher asked a question and someone answered, they were able to pose their answer to the whole class, rather than just back to the professor. In this way, Civ—and the professor—became much less intimidating and much more engaging."

While Ruane is the center for learning, it also possesses unique features for students, faculty, and staff. Students can be found all night studying in the Great Room, the space notable for its cozy fireplace, Hogwarts-esque design, and go-to spot for intimate College functions. As midterms are in full swing, the Starbucks spot and connector between Ruane and the Phillips Memorial Library only seems to get busier.

The basement level is a "retreat space" that allows students, faculty, and staff to discuss and debate issues on the couches and six-person tables equipped with two computers, a printer, and a white board. When the weather is nice, students move their conversations outside to the first floor patio overlooking the pathway to Slavin. Students also collaborate in a special spot on the second floor, the watchtower classroom that gives students a 180-degree view of the campus and a chance to sit at the desk of former President Woodrow Wilson.

While the building is often noticed for its design, its style goes beyond just looking good.

Carly Martino '19 believes PC focused on giving the building a classical look because Civ is all about revisiting the classics. The building makes Martino "feel like you can 'transport' into that time period."

Shkreli, a marketing major with an English minor, has also enjoys the new Arthur F. and Patricia School of Business Studies. "Yet, whereas the business center, for me at least, symbolizes growth, innovation, and hope for the future, I think Ruane is so important and special because it serves as a reminder of our past, a representation of our roots as a people," said Shkreli.

Almost four years ago, PC set out to create a new style space for collaborative and community learning with the newest resources while also maintaining its Dominican and Liberal Arts identity. And as the campus continues to expand and other colleges move away from the small liberal arts community, many faculty, staff, and students believe Ruane will keep the campus rooted to its core values.

Dr. Steven Lynch, English professor and director of the Liberal Arts Honors Program, said, "Many colleges and universities are shifting resources away from the humanities—and I think in the long run that will prove a mistake. Here at PC we are fighting an uphill battle because so many students want to major in something immediately marketable. But the Ruane Center will serve as a reminder every day for students and faculty that a seriously educated person must be grounded in the humanities."



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

PC Gives the Gift of Education

Donation

Continued from front page

Students and faculty will have organized days which will be coordinated to meet the needs of each school, allowing them to volunteer their time to help Providence's student population. This will serve to aid the schools and the children, but also to extend PC's connection and strengthen its communication with its neighboring communities.

Kathryn Mazzucca '17 stated, "As a future teacher and promoter of Catholic education, I feel as though the monetary and voluntary donations made by the College are extremely generous and will ultimately promote greater learning amongst the students in these schools."

Jake Guglielmetti '17 agreed, remarking, "I think it's great PC is supporting local Catholic schools. It's a good way to give back in honor of PC's 100th anniversary."

In a press release regarding the donation, Fr. Brian Shanley, O.P. '80, wrote, "In this, our Centennial year, it is only fitting that Providence College recognize and support the efforts of Catholic education in Rhode Island. There is no better preparation for an education at Providence College than the academic rigor and spiritual formation provided at a Catholic elementary and secondary school."

Bishop Thomas J. Tobin reacted graciously to the announcement of the donation, saying, "On behalf of the Diocese of Providence, I am very grateful to Father Shanley and Providence College for this outstanding gift to our Catholic

schools. The financial support is itself very encouraging; it will make a significant difference for many of our students and their families."

Steven Maurano '78, associate vice president of public affairs, explained that, a century ago, Bishop Matthew D. Harkins organized a \$25,000 gift to PC in addition to reaching out for donations in the surrounding parishes. Together, the people and families were able to raise an amount which totaled \$217,000 by 1918. These donations were integral in making PC's 1917 founding a reality, and they prove how fitting this gift to the Catholic community in Providence really is.

Maurano noted, "In announcing our gift to the Catholic School Office, I like to think that, one hundred years after these families gave of themselves to help start the College, PC is now acting to support the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of many of these families."

Overall, while PC has done and is continuing to do so much to celebrate this historic year for the College, it may be comforting for many faculty and students to know that it is also using this year of celebration as motivation to reach out and kindly give to others, embodying the Catholic foundation on which PC has stood so strongly for the past 100 years.

When speaking about the generous donations of Rhode Island parish members a century ago, perhaps Maurano put it best, "It is our way of saying 'thank you' and that, 100 years later, we continue to remember and appreciate their sacrifice and support."



ABOVE: Bishop Thomas J. Tobin (at the podium) accepted the donation on behalf of the Catholic Diocese of Providence. Father Brian Shanley, O.P., Steven Maurano, Sister Maria Francesca Wiley, O.P., and Catherine Galipeau also spoke.

BELOW: Students and principals from Catholic schools in Providence attended the ceremony.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RICATHOLIC.COM

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PHOTO COURTESY OF GABRIELLA SANCHEZ '18

SPRING FORWARD....

CLASS OF 2017

Senior Cap & Gown Day is April 12th

*Check CyberFriar for holds

*Check your Friar e-mail for Student Loan notices regarding your federal loan exit requirements

*Contact the Bursar's Office if you owe a balance

*Be sure you have returned all borrowed library materials

CLASSES OF 2018, 2019, 2020

Registration begins March 27th

✓ Check CyberFriar for financial holds or outstanding aid application requirements

✓ Contact the Bursar's Office if you owe a balance

✓ Remember, your 2017-2018 FAFSA and CSS PROFILE are due April 17th

Remember: -

Outstanding indebtedness to the College will result in a financial hold being placed on a student's account. This prevents a student from registering, making a housing deposit, or receiving a degree, grade reports, transcript, or letter of recommendation. Seniors with outstanding indebtedness or incomplete federal loan exit requirements will be unable to receive a cap & gown and participate in Commencement activities. Don't let this be you! Contact us!

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Harkins Hall Room 400
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Redefining American Values

by Kelsey Dass '18
Opinion Staff

POLITICS

This land is your land; this land is our land?

As President Donald Trump begins his time in office, many new decisions and policies are being made. This includes his decision regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline. The Standing Rock Indian Reservation, which straddles the border between North and South Dakota, established in 1868, is forever changed with the decision by our president to move forward in using Dakota for natural gas pipelines. The question this action raises: what do we value as a country?

Our country's foundation is supposed to stand on the rights to religion, speech, equal justice, and private property. However, in drilling a hole through the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, we take away these rights for Native Americans.

The concept of drilling holes and striking oil might sound like a good idea. When we think of oil, we think of money. Having this type of accessibility to natural gas in our own territories would be a huge financial gain.

However, this pipeline would seriously violate some of these American rights. One of the biggest concerns is how this pipeline could affect drinking water. If the pipeline has any type of leak, even



An empty Dakota Access Pipeline protest site.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW CULLEN/REUTERS

a small one, this could majorly affect the water the tribe has access to. Another issue regards the religious grounds that the reservation exists on. The people of the Sioux tribe feel that this pipeline will disrupt their sacred burial ground.

The truth of the matter is that one does not need to understand that the Sioux tribe feels this ground they live on is sacred. It is not the easiest concept to comprehend for people who did not grow up on

a reservation, understanding its morals and customs. However, if we choose not to value their personal principles, then we choose not to value human rights like equality, religion, private property, and freedom.

Taking an economic look at the situation, it is understandable why accessing the pipeline would be so profitable. The United States would see around \$2 billion in economic benefits. The amount of money could

be extremely positive and put our country into a better place financially.

Nevertheless, the United States is not solely based on money, and such decisions cannot be made through one economic lens. The scope of the field needs to include the consequences such actions may have on people.

When President Donald Trump signed the Keystone pipeline renegotiation, he said it would provide "A lot of jobs, 28,000 jobs, great construction jobs."

What is interesting though, is that he chose not to discuss the close relationship he has with the Energy Transfer Partners (ETP). The ETP, which is a natural gas and propane company, will profit significantly if the Keystone pipeline goes into effect, which Trump would know considering he holds stock in that company.

The president values jobs, which is great, but it means nothing if he cannot value all people. When he was questioned about the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, he chose to not comment, again de-valuing the people who have called the reservation home for generations.

Trump has placed his focus on economics, profit, and growth in industry. These are not negative ideals. However, because he has so purposefully neglected other important aspects of the situation, in the grand scheme of things, he is actually more deeply de-valuing human beings than he is valuing the economy.

March Madness: Branding Over Talent?

Tournament

Continued from front page

Although the committee's defense of excluding Illinois State focused on their playing a schedule filled with weak teams, schools like Illinois State have trouble finding good teams to play because the brand-name schools are afraid of losing a game to an opponent without a big name. Thus, schools like Illinois State are stuck playing mediocre competition for most of their season and then must rely solely on receiving the automatic bid to the tournament by being the champion of the Missouri Valley. When this does not happen, like this year, Illinois State is left on the outside looking in.

The biggest reason why mid-major schools like Illinois State have trouble cracking the field is because of the make-up of the committee itself. Members who are athletic directors from the major conferences have a financial incentive to reward teams from their own conferences. For example, committee chair Mark Hollis of Michigan State University has a bias to ensure as many teams

from the Big Ten Conference enter the tournament because of increased exposure for the league and additional revenue down the line as a result of that exposure.

When the committee is only made up of 10 members, teams like Illinois State that do not have a representative from their conference on the committee lose the same opportunity that other schools have. Teams that have an average standing in their conference but have played enough difficult teams receive bids to the tournament often because the toss-up between two teams will always go to the more financially-viable option.

The nature of selection to the NCAA Tournament has become much more exclusive. Big-name schools that play in conferences with exorbitant TV deals often get bids because of the financial benefits for their conference and are rewarded for avoiding playing good teams from outside of the major conferences.

The selection committee needs to focus on selecting worthy at-large teams from mid-major conferences, or else the days of seeing teams like George Mason, Wichita State, and Butler make runs to the Final Four will soon be over.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Balancing Protest With Privilege

by **Bridget Blain '19**
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

This past Wednesday marked International Women’s Day, a day dedicated to remembering the movement for women’s rights and to celebrate the achievements of women all around the world. It also serves as a reminder that gender equality is still not a reality in any country.

After the enormous turnout that the Women’s March had in January, the “A Day Without a Woman” protest was organized to coincide with International Women’s Day, and to bring attention to the importance of female workers to our current socio-economic system.

“A Day Without a Woman” was created to bring awareness to the role that women play in the workplace. The purpose of the protest was to have as many women as possible take the day off from both paid and unpaid work. This tactic, however, immediately drew harsh and undeserved criticism.

Thousands of people took to social media on Wednesday to accuse the protest of only catering to a small amount of privileged women who had the ability to miss a day of work. Countless articles were published that questioned the validity of a protest that seemed to leave out a major portion of the very women it was organized to fight

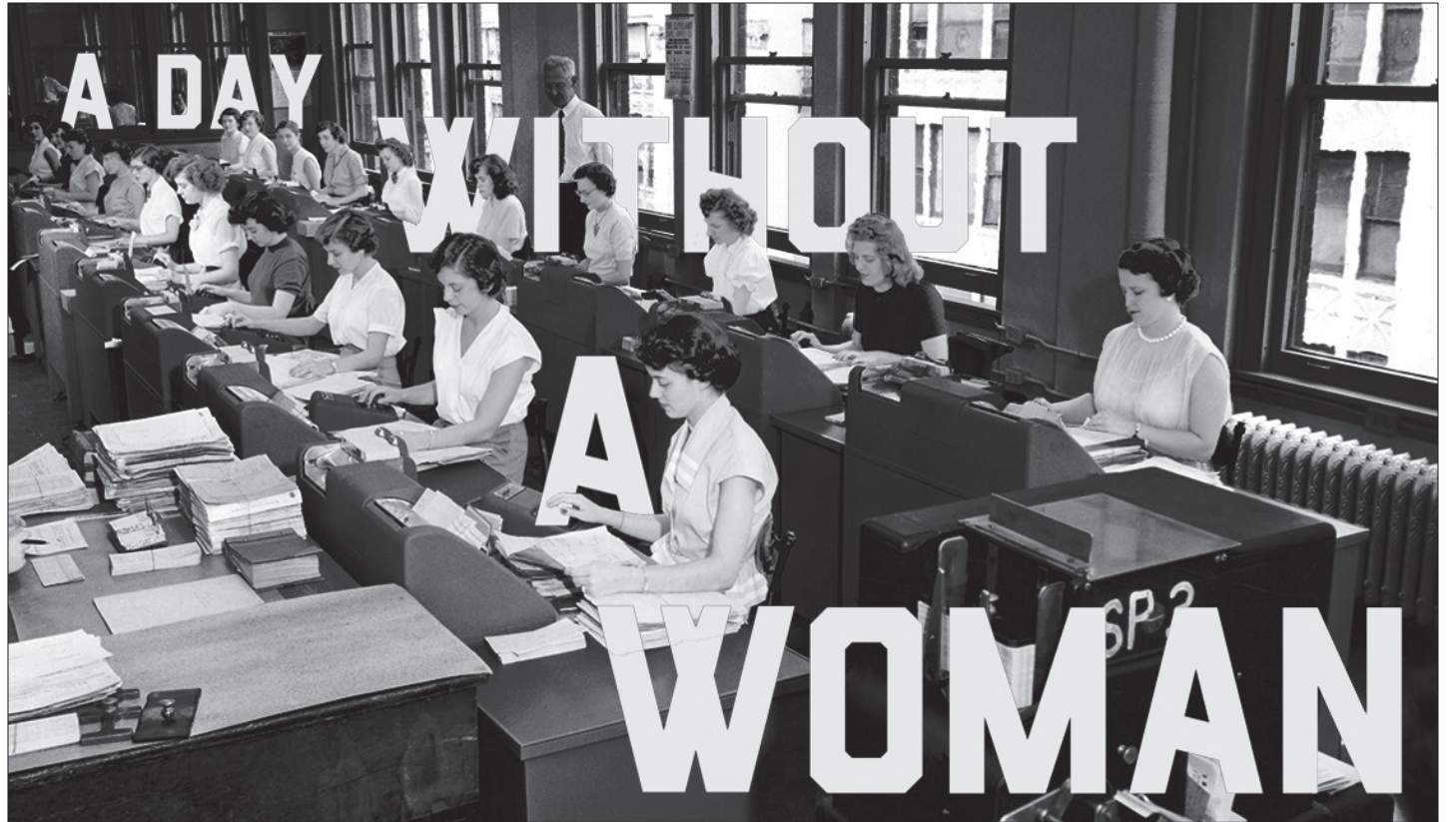


PHOTO COURTESY OF DIANNA MCDUGALL / GETTY IMAGES

for. While this criticism does have valid points—the majority of women who wanted to participate would be taking a major risk in not showing up to their job—critics are also missing the initial point of the protest was in the first place.

The purpose of any protest is to give a voice to a group being affected by injustice. It is unfair to act as if the organizers of “A Day Without a Woman” were thinking of how to

organize a protest in such a way that only privileged, wealthy women could participate.

No, it is not realistic to expect all women to be able to drop everything and take the day off, but there were other ways to participate in the protest. Organizers of “A Day Without Women” encouraged women to do something as simple as wearing the color red that day in solidarity. What is important about a

protest is not the economic or social privilege of some people who are participating.

“A Day Without a Woman” was not a perfect protest by any means, but that should not take away from the value of the movement. Taking action and bringing awareness to real and significant issues that affect almost every woman in the world is progress, no matter the privilege of some participants.

Nobody’s Perfect (You Gotta Work It)

by **Laura Arango '20**
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

Every college student knows the struggle of multiple all-nighters in preparation for midterms week. Too often students put their own mental and physical health aside in striving for a perfection that no one can really achieve. While trying to be the best version of yourself is important, trying to be perfect is an unattainable and unhealthy goal.

A study done by Pennsylvania State University of more than 100,000 students recently

revealed that anxiety is the most common mental illness on college campuses, and the number of these students with anxiety is on the rise. Clearly, the college atmosphere of perfectionism has taken its toll on the student populations.

Yes, it’s human nature to want to succeed and to be the most successful. In fact, Charles Darwin and modern scientific thought says the very survival of our species and all living things is defined by competition and success—natural selection.

However, science could not account for the endless flow of information society is exposed to everyday.

Science does not account for a generation that values Instagram likes over actual conversation. Nor could science

foresee a world that constantly instills the idea that perfection is needed in the minds of adolescence.

The active pursuit of perfection is physically and mentally impossible. Overachievers, perfectionists—call them what you will—may develop a problem with prioritizing. Every task will seem equally important and therefore equally daunting. They will fall into a perpetual cycle of feeling like nothing you ever do is enough. There’s always one more reading to be done, one more equation, one more lab report.

The lines between academic perfection and perfection in your relationships will blur. In the same manner you want to excel in your studies, you’ll want to excel in your relationships. The idea of having the perfect friend group becomes necessary. And while you live your life everyday attempting to be the perfect friend, girlfriend or boyfriend, one truth persists: we live in an imperfect world. There are those who see reliability as a weakness and a means for exploitation. Just as one school task becomes another school task, one favor for a friend becomes another favor and the cycle persists.

This all might seem great and functionable at the time it is occurring until you wake up from a 20 minute power nap one day with the realization that you haven’t actually slept in three days. This moment of realization shows that striving for perfection breeds failure. Failure comes from spreading yourself too thin and it hits hard. The bright side of it all is that humans have the ability to move past hardships and failures to see that hardships become fleeting thoughts of a lesson learned.

Choose to be a high-performer not a perfectionist. The difference is key. For those perfectionists out there like myself, I hope you learn to live a life that is less about pleasing everyone and more about feeling satisfied with yourself. You do not need to succumb to that silent crippling anxiety you feel everyday in the midst of what feels like endless schoolwork. Prioritize, take study breaks, call your mom. Life isn’t about straight A’s or a seemingly-perfect Instagram, rather we all need to learn to enjoy the moments in between and realize it will be okay.

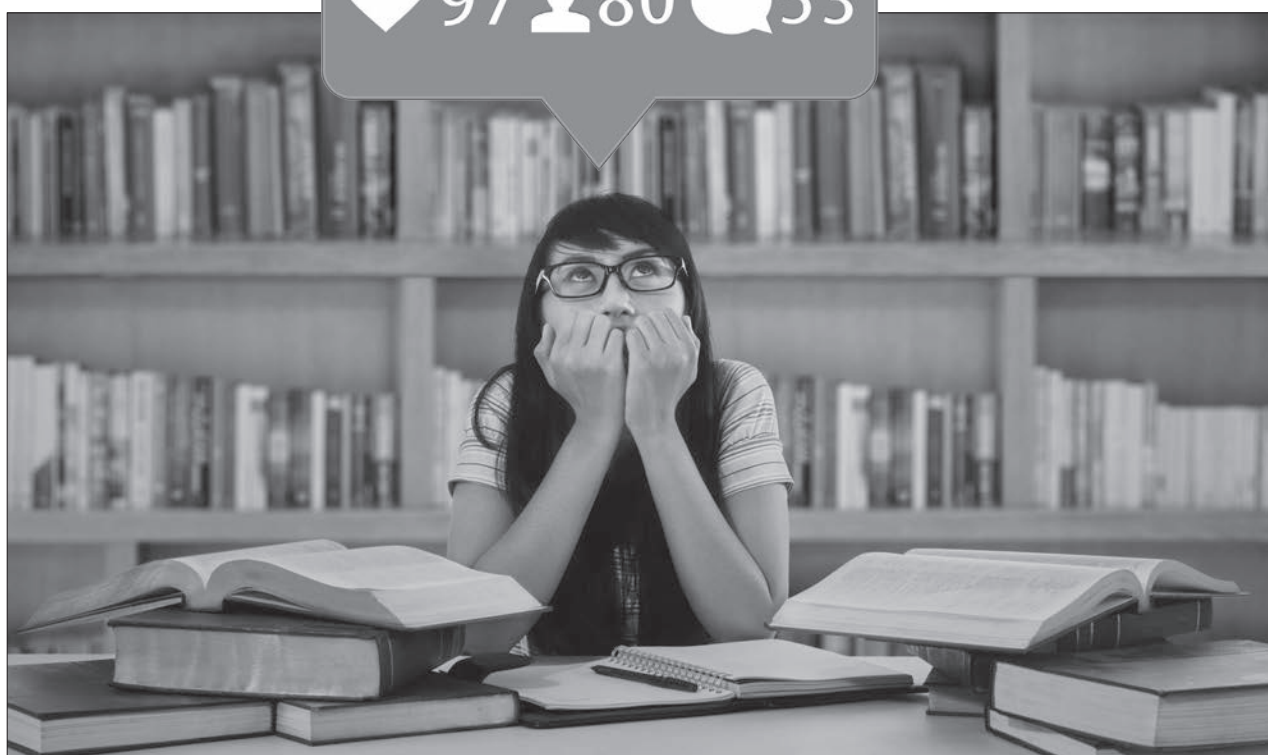


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Reaching into the 21st Century

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

EDITOR'S COLUMN

The redesign of a new *Cowl* website has been a long time coming. About five months ago, we embarked on the mission of making this project a possibility for our staff. Unsure of where to begin, we considered using a third party company to help us with the task. However, after conferring



with our new web design team, Daniel Demmons and Joshua Lopes, we were convinced to keep the project in the hands of our College community.

Demmons and Lopes have worked enthusiastically with us since then in creating what will be our paper's new website, to be released next Thursday, March 23. They've taken our ideas from paper and brought life to them with the site's new layout, giving us a truly professional page for our publication.

While all of our sections will still be available, there are many new functionalities that we look forward to sharing you. Among these is a completely redesigned photo gallery, which runs more as an infinite archive of events and memories that our talented photography staff have captured. This specific function will allow us to expand our photo section from its usual two-page appearance in our weekly print version of *The Cowl*, and allow users to find photos of every kind.

We now have a breaking news header that will update you with

the latest news as we learn about it, which will keep our community even more informed than previously. Additionally, we will also be expanding into the realm of online advertising to generate more ad space and help raise more revenue to help support us on endeavors, such as the new website, in the future.

We are thankful for the extra time Demmons and Lopes have taken out of their schedule to help us along with this, and know that they have enjoyed getting to work on a different type of web design project. However, we'd also like to note that this does not in any way affect our love for weekly printed paper.

As we've always said, the feeling of seeing and holding our final product after long hours of work each Wednesday is invaluable, and could never be diminished by an online presence. We're quite proud of the new site, though, and will be enjoying working on it in tandem with the hard copy of *The Cowl*. Get as ready as we are—only seven more days to go.

TANGENTS & TIRADES

More Than Just A Tournament

This has been quite a year for Providence College. On top of it being the 100th anniversary of the school, major changes have been made to the campus, and for the fourth year in a row, the Providence College Men's Basketball Team is representing the school in the NCAA tournament.

While this may not seem like such a big deal to students who do not particularly care for athletics, this impressive streak puts PC's basketball program on a list with some other notable programs, such as Duke, Wisconsin, Kansas, and North Carolina, other teams that have played in the past four NCAA tournaments.

While the odds are slim for the Friars to win the National Championship this season (500-1), this consistent success by Ed Cooley's team shows that the future is incredibly bright.

This nationwide recognition of PC athletics is also incredibly beneficial for the advancement of the school.

Not only does it increase the size and competitive nature of the College's applicant pool by drawing in potential students, but it also helps strengthen the alumni network all over the country and gives the entire PC community something to celebrate on a yearly basis.

This is a big week not only for the men's basketball team, but the school community as a whole. While the tournament falls in the middle of a busy midterm season, try to make some time to put down the books, kick back in front of the TV, and show some school pride.

- Daniel Barton '18

Do Not Fear For The Yankees

Sitting in the nosebleed seats of a half-empty Yankee Stadium, I was miserable watching the Tampa Bay Rays blow out the Yankees on September 24, 2013. All hope for the season was long gone, and the future looked bleak. Mariano Rivera and Andy Pettitte would soon retire, and Derek Jeter's days in pinstripes were numbered.

To make matters worse, there was no young talent to rejuvenate the aging team. Yet when free agency came, Hal Steinbrenner thought he could patch together this sinking ship by buying expensive veterans. Unfortunately, that plan has failed spectacularly.

This July, you may be bored sitting through a horrendous Yankee loss. You may think it is time to sell the prospects for instant success. Be patient! This young Yankees team may be as bad as the 2013 team, but the future will be brighter if the rebuild continues. Do not pressure ownership to be buyers, the Yankees have ESPN's second ranked farm system and a plethora of money to spend on a historic 2018 free agent class.

In a year's time, rising young players like Gary Sanchez can be supported by the likes of Bryce Harper and Manny Machado, but only if the Yankees are patient. Embrace the rebuild!

- Nicholas Moran '19

Keep Club Phil Quiet

The only thing worse than making the frigidly cold trek to the Phillips Memorial Library is claiming a perfectly quiet and comfortable area only to be disrupted minutes later by the loud chattering of people who seem to forget where they are. Yes, it is the first floor, so no, it isn't the designated quiet area, but that should not give people permission to be yelling over tables to each other.

Whispering is fine. Quietly talking to each other about a project is manageable. Non-stop conversation that appears to be turning into a screaming match would seem to belong on a different floor, or perhaps somewhere outside the library altogether.

However, the worst library sin anyone could ever commit is taking a phone call inside. Taking it outside or even in the remote corners behind the bookcases is sensible, but going on a tangent with your mom in the midst of 20 other students doesn't seem like the most logical thing to do—for their sake and for yours.

It is not by any means the end of the world for a couple of people to be talking just a smidge louder than everyone else. It would just be nice to be able sit on the first floor of the library without having to tune out the excessively loud music, obnoxious phone calls, and screaming matches.

- Hannah Paxton '19



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOOKMAKER-INFO.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY



HANNAH POIRIER '17/THE COWL

ABOVE: Students pose with Cherylann Gengel, the co-founder of Be Like Brit, an orphanage she and her husband founded in memory of their daughter, Britney, who passed away in the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

RIGHT: Alexa Spina '19 stirs a pan of potatoes and onions at Spanish Cooking Night, sponsored by Students Obtaining the Meaning of Spain (SOMOS). At the event, Dr. John Margenot of the Spanish department instructed students on how to prepare tortillas de patatas.

BELOW: Angela Alaimo O'Donnell, an English professor at Fordham University, speaks at the Flannery O'Connor lecture, sponsored by the English department.



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL



ELIZABETH HAYES '19/THE COWL

ROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

Who is your NCAA bracket pick?



"Kentucky."
Coleman Maglio '18



"The University of North Carolina."
Kris Giordano '18



"Kansas and Oregon."
Emma Stardinkas '19 and Meghan O'Connor '18



"Kansas."
Jackson Reis '20



"The University of North Carolina."
Michael Cruz '19



"Arizona."
Colin Williams '20



"The Wildcats."

-Troy Bolton & Chad Danforth

PHOTO COURTESY OF JUSTJARED.COM

Photos by Nicholas Crenshaw '20, Photo Editor

London: A Dramatic Experience

London

Continued from front page

Students in the program went to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre to see a production of *The White Devil* and The Old Vic Theatre to see *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* during the trip, both of which were enlightening.

The White Devil was being shown at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, which is part of Shakespeare's Globe. The play is a revenge tragedy written in 1612, during the Jacobean era, by John Webster. The play follows the Duke of Brachiano and his descent into madness.

One unique aspect of the theatre was that it was lit solely by candlelight, which created an intimate atmosphere between the audience and the actors on stage throughout the show. This was perfect for the setting of the play, as it took place in between reality and nightmares and the dim lighting made it hard to differentiate between the two.

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (known as solely *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*) is an absurdist tragicomedy that expands upon the exploits of these two minor characters in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. The play is being performed at The Old Vic Theatre until late April. The play stars Daniel Radcliffe as Rosencrantz and Joshua McGuire as Guildenstern.

The stage design on the play was simple, but created what

seemed to be an optical illusion, making the set seem bigger than it was and creating this feeling that the play had more to it than the audience could see. The plot followed the two friends of Hamlet during the scenes of Shakespeare's play, and the actors had the

audience laughing and entertained. Daniel Radcliffe stuck around to meet fans after the evening show, where Chris Fitzgerald '20 waited and eventually met him. Fitzgerald says meeting Radcliffe was "the top experience of the trip, for sure," as he and the star bonded over

their similar tastes in literature.

While it is clear Fitzgerald had a particularly special trip, his fellow honors students did as well. All were immersed in the city's dramatic history, allowing them to be transported through time—a place no plane or train could ever take them.



Daniel Radcliffe and Joshua McGuire performing in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TELEGRAPH.CO.UK

Game of Thrones: A Song of Ice and Teasers

by Kerry Torpey '19
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

With a highly anticipated seventh season on the way, the hit HBO series *Game of Thrones* released its first official teaser for the second-to-last season. Despite the show's strong tendency to keep information about upcoming seasons concealed, the public has been gifted with some details about what to expect in the next seven episodes.

Game of Thrones first took the world by storm with the 1996 release of George R.R. Martin's first novel of the series, *A Song of Ice and Fire*. In April 2011, creators David Benioff and D.B. Weiss premiered the HBO adaptation of the hit TV drama. Although the first six seasons have 10 episodes each, this upcoming season will only have seven.

Since 2011, the

series has ruled the television world with its never-ending twists, gory deaths, and highly-produced battle scenes led by an all-star cast that includes Peter Dinklage, Lena Headey, Emilia Clarke, Kit Harington, Sophie Turner, Maisie Williams, and more.

With a premiere date set at July 16, 2017, the seventh season of *Game of Thrones* has a lot to live up to, as season six ended with a bang that left fans wanting more.

In the first official teaser released last week, fans see the different sigils of House Lannister, House Targaryen, House Stark, and many more involved in the fight for the Iron Throne. While the voices of characters that coincide with their particular houses playing as each sigil appears, fans sense a feeling of darkness.

The voice of fan-favorite Jon Snow is heard at the end of the teaser as he says, "There's only one war that matters, the Great War. And it is here." With a flash to the eye of a White Walker, "the Great War" is presumably that between those south of The Wall and the White Walkers that reside north of The Wall.

It was also recently released that singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran will have a small cameo role in the upcoming season. Creator David Benioff said, "For years, we tried to get Ed Sheeran on the show to surprise Maisie and this year we finally did it."

In terms of what cast members have revealed to the public about the upcoming season, the information is, unsurprisingly, vague. Emilia Clarke, who plays the Mother of Dragons, Daenerys Targaryen, took

to Instagram as she wrapped filming for season seven. She captioned a video of herself singing. "I believe this one is gonna be a mind blower."

While at the Malta India Fan Convention, Alfie Allen, who stars as Theon Greyjoy, said, "There will be more dragons... lots more torture!"

Kit Harington, who plays Jon Snow, told *ABC News* that the cast often finds themselves theorizing about how the show is going to end in the eighth season. He said, "That's what's magnificent about it. I can't wait, I'm going to feel so privileged to be one of the few people who is going to get to read the ending before anyone else sees it, a year before. I really am counting down the days till I get those scripts."

Although few concrete details have been provided, the excitement for season seven can be seen around the world and across the Seven Kingdoms.



GoT season 7 poster.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THEREPORTERTIMES.COM

New Jokes and New Fans, 600 Episodes Later

by Joe Clancy '18
A&E Staff

FILM

For nearly 30 years, *The Simpsons* have been the satirical face of the average working class American family. The show first aired in 1989, and just recently celebrated releasing its 600th episode, making *The Simpsons* one of the longest running television shows in history.

After all, the show has received 32 Emmys and has even seen Homer's catchphrase "D'oh" become adopted into the English language. In a 30 year run, it is often hard for a show to maintain relevance and popularity, especially in an era of greater choice of media outlets and changing generational preferences. *The Simpsons* have been the exception to the notion that popularity fades and have proved to be more of a fine wine of shows, as their 28th season and general presence in the American psyche has never been stronger than it currently is now.

The Simpsons centered their show around the wide scope of the American way of life, featuring characters that represent all types of groups in the country. From Ned Flanders' religiousness, to Mr. Burn's arrogant wealth, to Disco Stu's obsession with the mid '70s music fad, there are endless possibilities for the writers to channel a narrative for nearly every demographic.

Before the 28th season had even aired in September 2016, *The Simpsons* were all over the internet and public forum because of an episode they shot in 2000, which showed the middle child of the iconic family, Lisa, being President after a Donald Trump administration.

To follow up their eerie prediction, the first episode following the election featured the family son,

Bart, being stuck in detention having to write on the black board, "Being right sucks" in the opening credits. This scene helped the show gain even more traction and publicity on the internet, especially among younger millennials who are not as familiar with the show as older generations.

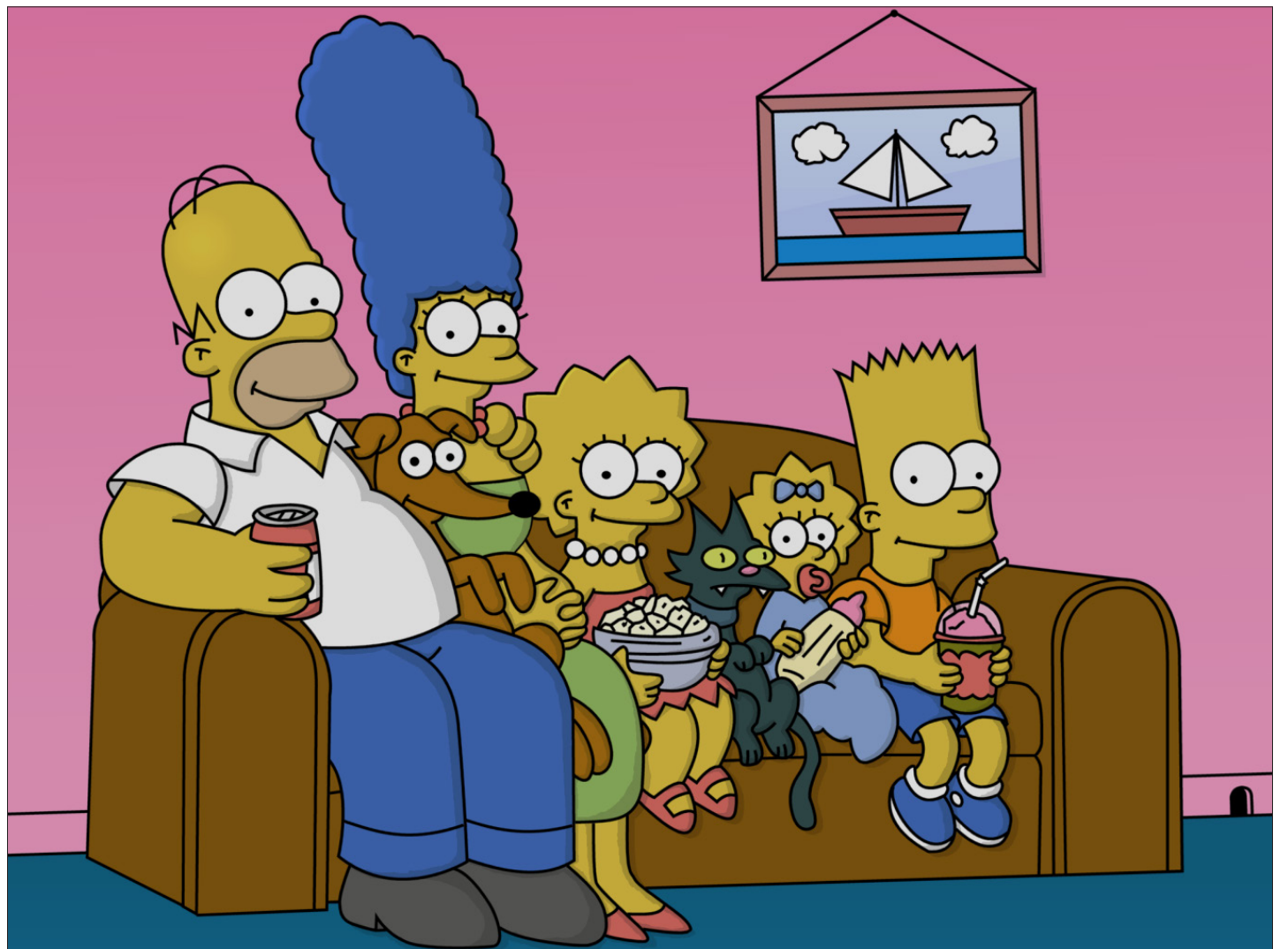
The show has had even more success attracting a younger demographic as they have episodes that focused around satirizing President Trump's controversial Trump University and the blind popularity of the Pokémon

Go App among America's youth. The new season is also showcasing very popular guest voices. For instance, Amy Schumer, Bill Burr, Stephen Curry, and rappers Snoop Dogg and Common have all made appearances in the 28th season, helping the show further gain popularity while relating to the younger generations.

The Simpsons have also hired guest stars this season who will attract their original audiences like movie star Michael Sheen and *Seinfeld* legend Jason Alexander.

Overall, the 28th season has boasted shows that have seen audiences of more than eight million viewers, which is no easy task for a Sunday night show in the wireless period.

When it comes down to it, *The Simpsons* have such eloquent and expanded writing for their show that it is easy for the show to adapt to the changing American culture, especially in these uncertain times. One thing is for sure, *The Simpsons* will remain America's family for a long time to come.



Still from *The Simpsons*' opening credits.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THEBRICKFAN.COM

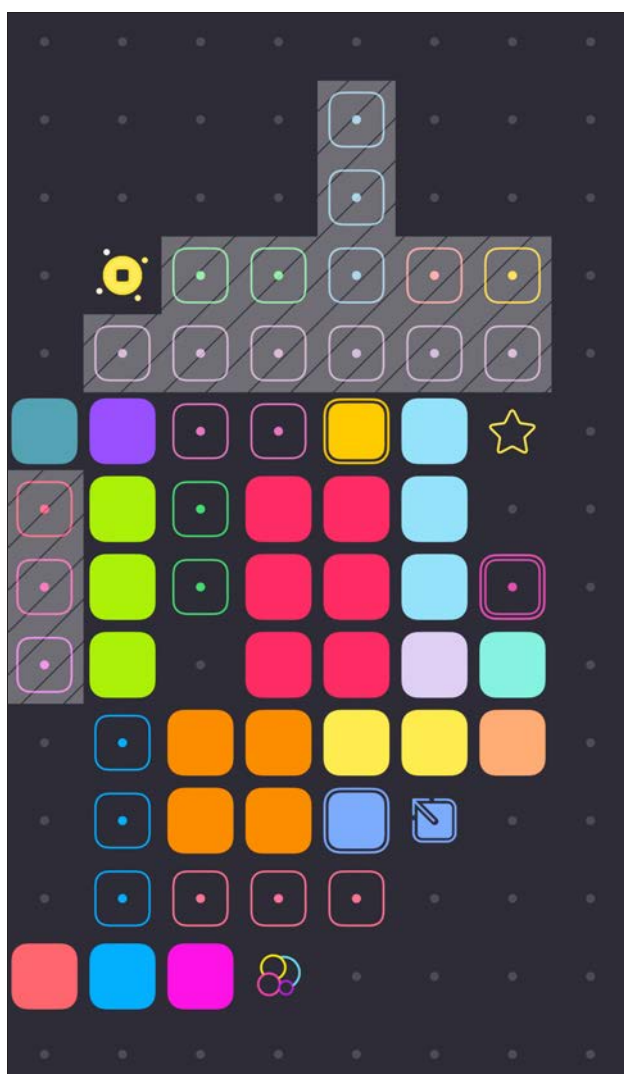


PHOTO COURTESY OF IDOWNLOADBLOG.COM

A screen shot from "Blackbox."

"Blackbox" Leaves Users Puzzled

by Ryan Cox '18
A&E Staff

TECHNOLOGY

You are presented with only a dark screen and a grid of colored boxes. Tapping on one of the boxes, or "lights" as the game calls them, brings up a sparsely-designed screen. The goal is to turn on the lights by performing an action hinted at by the graphics.

There is a catch, however: tapping the screen or the lights does not do anything to guide you toward the solution. Instead, you are forced to use the myriad of iPhone features to solve the puzzle. This deceptively simple puzzle game is "Blackbox," called "devilishly clever" (Six Colors) and "utterly diabolical and utterly brilliant" (CNET) by critics, and boasts a 4.8-star review on the Apple App Store.

Upon first opening the app, the player is presented with a short tutorial and the first puzzle. Instantly, the player is given a challenge to overcome, and despite its simple design, it takes a while to figure out the trick. This tutorial sets the pace for the rest of the game. After this, the player is left to his own devices; there is no help option, no settings page, just the grid of challenges and the player's own creativity.

The puzzles are designed, according to the App Store description, to be "on the cusp of maddening but always solvable." The solutions are always right in front of you, since they

involve the device's various features, but the cryptic, minimalistic clues require some creativity to solve them, making the moment of finally solving one incredibly rewarding.

Trying to abandon the instinct of using the screen to solve the puzzles is difficult at first, and frustrating at times, but makes the game stand out from the rest of the mobile puzzle games on the market. If you get stuck, hints are available for purchase (you are given three for free, at the start of the game).

"Blackbox" has intrinsic replay value. Some puzzles require you to come back periodically to turn on all the lights, while others simply take some time for the player to think about the clues and hints. While this works well for some puzzles, others are downright tedious, requiring the player to open the app at precise times of the day, making some challenges unfortunately time-consuming. The game comes with 46 free puzzles, but there are also additional packs available for purchase for \$1.99 each.

It would have been nice to have alternate methods of unlocking these, considering the app is free, but after playing through the free challenges, it was difficult to resist dropping the money on each additional pack to see what other iPhone features were used.

Overall, "Blackbox" is a unique, challenging, and clever puzzle game that stands out from the rest of its genre by forcing the player to think beyond the screen. As of now, the game is available for iOS devices only.

Always an X-Man

Hugh Jackman Stars in Last Film as Wolverine

by Michael Welch '17
A&E Staff

FILM

For millennials, Hugh Jackman is Wolverine. The actor has cemented himself as the face of the X-Men hero by starring in a number of films as the character. However, Jackman's run as the iconic and grizzled hero is finally complete. Following Jackman's last film as Wolverine, *Logan*, fans will never forget everything he has done for the X-Men franchise and the superhero genre.

The first X-Men film came out in 2000 and is responsible for setting the precedent that the superhero genre can be entertaining and profitable. With the Marvel and DC cinematic universes grossing billions, it can be difficult to believe that people used to doubt the potential of superheroes on the big screen. However, these billions would not have been possible without Hugh Jackman's original and memorable portrayal that launched superhero movies into popularity.

The X-Men franchise itself has made over 10 films and grossed over \$1 billion, and Jackman has been the lead star of almost every film. Some fans wish Fox Studios would delve deeper into the X-Men universe for protagonists and stop focusing on Wolverine for approximately nine films. However, nobody ever truly tires seeing Jackman in sideburns screaming while his veins pulse and

pop out of his body. Fans have come back to support Jackman yelling and slicing up everyone on screen nine times, but *Logan* finally puts an end to Jackman's historic run.

Logan is different from other X-Men entries despite centering, once again, on the titular Wolverine. The film fast-forwards to when

Logan is an old man trying to protect what little he has left and survive. Showing the Wolverine we all grew up watching as an old man proved to be a fitting send-off for the character. Particularly because this entry may be the strongest in the Wolverine series. Rotten Tomatoes rated it over a 90 percent

fresh and fans and critics agree that it serves a gore-filled dose of Wolverine action while maintaining a surprising amount of heart.

Patrick Stewart, who has his own legacy as the popular Professor X, also returns for *Logan* and delivers some needed humor between the gore and action. Dafne Keen also brings some exciting new material to mingle with the old as the younger X-23, a clone of Wolverine, claws and all. The father-daughter relationship between Wolverine and X-23 is where *Logan* successfully delivers its heart.

Logan satisfies even the pickiest X-Men fans, giving fans the Wolverine movie both they and Hugh Jackman deserve. Past entries such as *X-Men Origins: Wolverine* and *The Wolverine* both fell short of this goal, so it's nice to see the writers and studio finally let Jackman run loose in a well-made movie not motivated by selling toys.

In an interview with 20th Century Fox, Jackman spoke on his relationship to his character and the fans, saying, "It's always with me. But I'll miss it at times, I felt like I'm part of that family. This movie in a way is a love letter to the fans. It's who I speak to. If not every day, then every other day of my life, because they never hold back. Never, ever."

Logan is a love-letter to fans who have appreciated Jackman's portrayal since 2000. The superhero genre owes a debt of gratitude to everything *Logan* and Jackman have done for their franchises.



Hugh Jackman poses for a promotional photo.

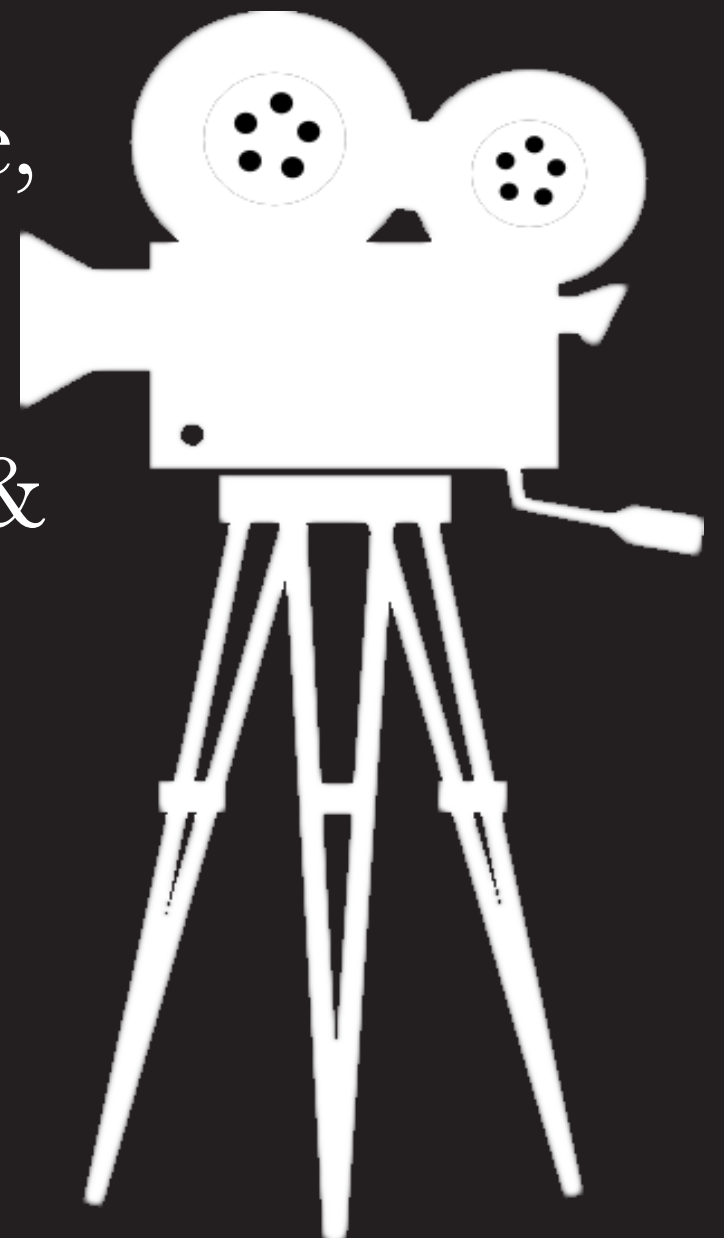
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PORTFOLIO

TURF

by Clara Howard '19
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

I hate snow.

My lip curled with faint disgust as I shook the powder from my boots. They were formed of thick bear hide, and lined on the inside with the thickest fur from vydres that inhabit the shores of the southeastern coasts. Generally, they kept my feet warm, and their wooden soles were sturdy enough that I hadn't needed to replace them in decades. When it came to snow (and especially the multiple feet of snow that accumulated daily in the depths of the Gorl Mountains), however, they became nearly useless. The hellish frozen crystals stuck to everything, soaking every stitch of clothing and boot I wore. Snow was my enemy, and if I could have stricken it from the earth, then I would have half a millennium ago. As it was, I could barely seem to shake it off fully, and had to deal with my toes slowly starting to go numb.

Looking around the small cave I'd found, I let my eyes adjust to the darkness inside. A dead fire circle lay in one corner, and a

pallet of pine needles in another. A thick woolen blanket lay thrown haphazardly over it, as if the person lying there had risen hastily. The rest of the cave was

rather

barren—the only other sign of its inhabitant was a sack resting against the back wall, stuffed with what smelled like dried fruits and extra blankets. The cloth itself was made from dried, woven leaves of cario trees from the tropical coasts of the east, making it, as the humans would say, “waterproof.” I crouched down by the bed, lifting

the blanket to my nose to catch the scent of the human that lived here. I sneezed instead, my head twisting into my elbow to cover it. As I turned back, I felt the cold kiss of metal against the skin of my throat, and I froze.

“Make any sort of movement at all, and I promise you'll wish you hadn't,” threatened a voice from

behind me. It was strong, female, and pulsating with anger.

“Really?” I coughed, as I felt the tip of her knife press harder into my skin. I bit the inside of my cheek in response and wondered if I'd have time to reach for the dagger in my boot.

“Who are you, and why are you here?” Her voice lowered as she added, “if you lie to me, I'll know.”

I slid my eyes around the cave, looking at her flimsy mattress and again at the small sack of provisions. Her bed had no scent and neither did she; or at least, not that I could distinguish. If she were human, why couldn't I smell her? I grimaced as her knife dug just a little further. “Answer me,” she growled.

“I'm no one. Just a quiet shepherd who lost his way in the—” I broke off, hissing in pain as she cut a shallow stripe under my jaw.

“I told you I'd know if you were lying. Do it again and you won't have a tongue to lie with,” she lay the flat of the blade against my collarbone. “Now, I'm going to ask you one more time. Who are you?”

I bit the inside of my cheek, the temptation to blurt out some choice words too great to be resisted. “I told you. I'm nobody.” Bitch.

She laughed and it surprised me. I'd only ever heard such derision in my own head, aimed at myself. “Right. Would you rather I believe you...or the massive dragon sleeping in the copse of trees outside?”

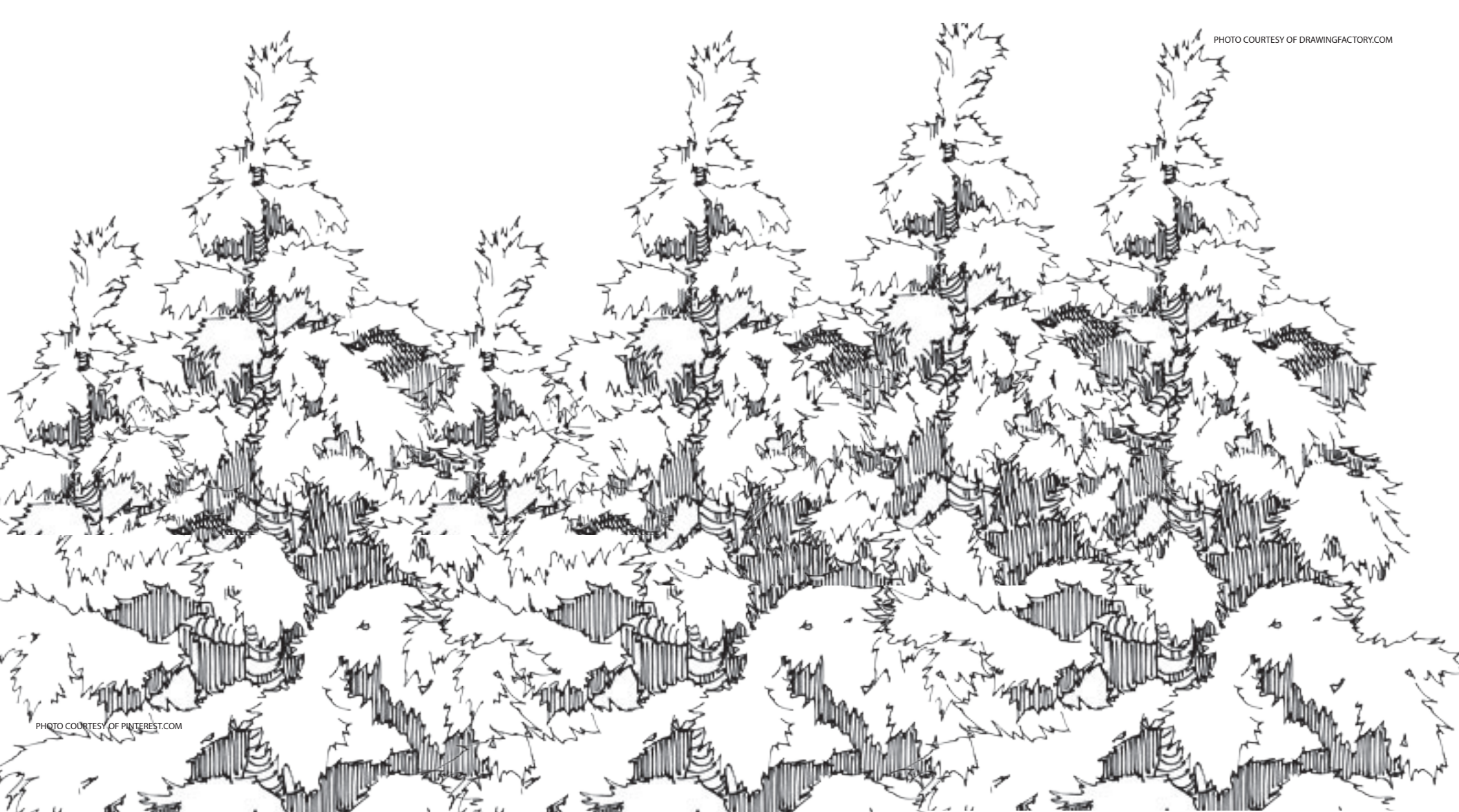
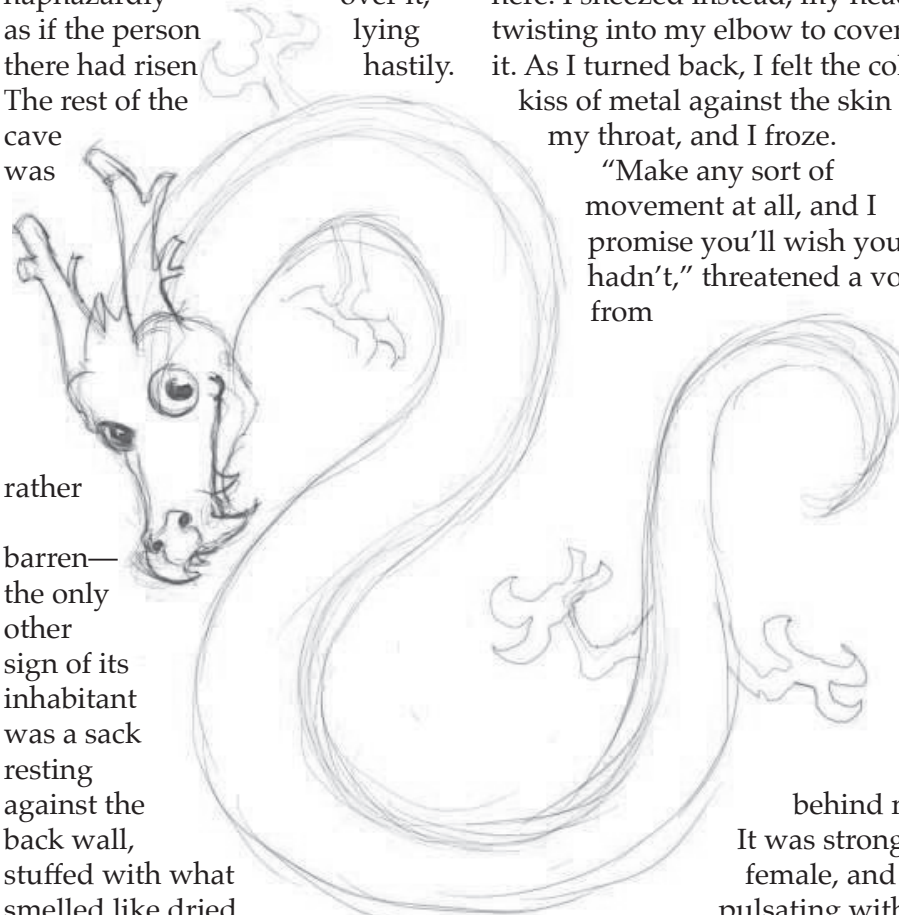


PHOTO COURTESY OF DRAWINGFACTORY.COM

PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

PAIN

by Connor Zimmerman '20
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

A part of me that is overbearing,
A part of me that is disillusioned,
A part of me that is unnatural,
A part of me that is incurable,

This is pain.

Coursing through my veins, spreading through my mind
Will it leave, can time give me some small truth?
It surrounds me and I cannot unwind
'Cause I am trapped forever in my youth.

This is pain; something...

My feelings clash and are stuck in a bind.
I strike, but no one can make me feel soothed.
It makes me wish that I could be more kind,
'Cause my rage is not a thing to be smoothed.

This is pain; something that...

No one has found anything wrong with me.
This is my curse that I must bear because
I have not yet seen a way to be free.
I hope every day to find its true cause.

This is pain; something that will...

I ask the question over and over
What can I do, what should I do to stop
This pain from hurting the ones that I love,
'Cause only they can comprehend the truth.

This is pain; something that will never...

Am I...should I be alone in this life?
I know I'm broken, yet I feel complete.
It may be too much to end my true strife,
Yet it too will hurt to watch its defeat.

This is pain; something that will never leave.

To You

by Kiley McMahon '20
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

In the future,
I know I will find you,
Someday near or far,
Somewhere close or not.

Your smile,
at first daunting;
with second glance however,
sweet and sincere.

Your eyes sparkling,
like the ocean waves,
the size of them matching comparatively to freshly picked
blueberries.

Your hand grip,
so very firm,
and your eyes,
my favorite feature.

Your personality,
as sweet as pie
and your heart,
as large as the horizons.

Your love of life,
admirable,
and your love for people,
unconditional.

Your hugs for me,
as personal as can be,
and your intelligence levels,
incomparable.

I will find you,
someday near or far,
somewhere close or not;
my dream man.

SPEED

by Brittany Loveless '20
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Speed comes as often as the sun rises and falls each day.
Still objects turn into moving shadows that dance across the pavement
until disappearing with the appearance of the moon.
The need to have as much as possible is increased with each breath
and the limits are pushed as each lung fills to its capacity.
Speed is the worst addiction.

For when I go as fast as I can, I just want to go faster.
As kids, we were never harnessed in—never given a constant.
Instead we were chasing after the tracks to make sure we didn't get lost,
until it became a quest to create our own.
Weaving around each other, we would etch our own speed into the trail,
leaving our stories through curves in the snow.

Speed carries you down the run before you pick up the first foot.
It is getting to the bottom before you choose where you're going.
It is letting out that breath before you realize it has been held in.
Knowing the limits always provides the boundaries,
so that I know where the shaded area is,
the potential places I can be without being in trouble.

But then there's skiing.
Then there's the speed that takes off from the runway and sees how fast it
can get to the next one.
Being aware of how fast I can go leaves all the other speeds marked
capable
but unwanted.
The faster I finish one run, the faster I get to start the next.
I'd rather experience it at the speed of light, than never at all,
And that way, by going faster and faster, I know I haven't reached my
limit yet.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

Listomania

Overheard at the Copy Editors' Table

"How do you feel about fresh babies?"

"I used to dig graves."

"Murry Krusmas."

"A BOY editor!"

"When's the pizza coming? I'm famished" *

"Do you even grammar?"

"Fact check yoself before you wreck yoself."

"Werk."

"She's dead now."

"Were you recently in contact with dead bodies?"

*said at 3p.m.

Tiffany & Earl

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

Dear Tiff and Earl,

How do I inform my parents that I
am dropping out of school to become
a traveling street magician?

Sincerely,

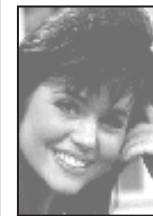
This School Life Ain't For Me

First, you gather your parents,
along with your closest friends and
family, in front of the makeshift stage
that you set up in your backyard.
Wear your fanciest top hat and your
robe that sparkles the brightest.
Today is your day.

You perform every trick with
grace and elegance. The rabbit in the
hat. The flowers up the sleeve. The
never-ending rainbow handkerchief.
You even saw your mother in half.

Now, for your last trick, you
turn to the audience. You look your
parents dead in the eye; they're teary,
whether from joy or disappointment
you cannot tell. It's time. You open
your mouth and say, "Now, I'm
going to make your hard-earned
money and aspirations disappear!"

And you sprint into the woods.



Tiffany

Walk into your family home and
say the following to your parents: "I
am pleased to inform you that I have
found a promising career path,"
then disappear in a cloud of smoke.
They'll get the message. Don't know
the ol' disappear in a cloud of smoke
to prove to your parents you can
hack it as a magician trick? Well,
then you may want to reevaluate
your life choices.

Once you've disappeared, begin
your career in either Thailand or
New Jersey. You want a place that's
pretty heavy on street traffic, but also
pretty light on laws. Best of luck to
you and be wary of the dark arts.



EARL

Strange Things

by Christie Smith '17
Portfolio Staff

PROSE POETRY

It's warm but not dry. Damp and warm. I watch the beating sun begin to set, orange rays split between two brick buildings, deliberate to relinquish its heat.

I act blindsided, but something tells me I knew all along.

Can someone explain why I feel as if I'm living out a dream? Or why I want his arms to protect me? Wrap around me, a reminder that everything is fine simply because he's there.

Probably because it's implausible, not able to exist in any state of time or space. Maybe that's why I'm here, sitting in a relative stupor. His lips on my ear really were imagined, or more just a memory lost in the recesses of space, irretrievable.

Soon I know every detail of him will be gone. As if the enormity of their impossibility will make them actually nonexistent, eroding like sand on a beach.

That's what makes the moment of recall so astonishing. Like I'm touching smoke, the corners of another reality that for one quick second was a part of my own life.

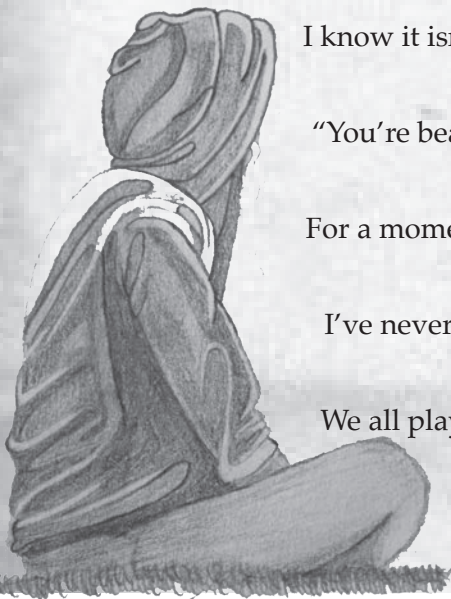
I know it isn't him. It's the idea of him. The idea that anything is possible, we just tell ourselves no, over and over, until we fail to notice we're no longer alive.

"You're beautiful," I wish I could erase those words, then why am I rehearsing them in my mind? Trying to recall details while simultaneously working to avoid them.

For a moment, what an amazing thing it was to be wanted—randomly, unbiasedly, truthfully. Like a glimpse of magic, those moments that make us feel most alive.

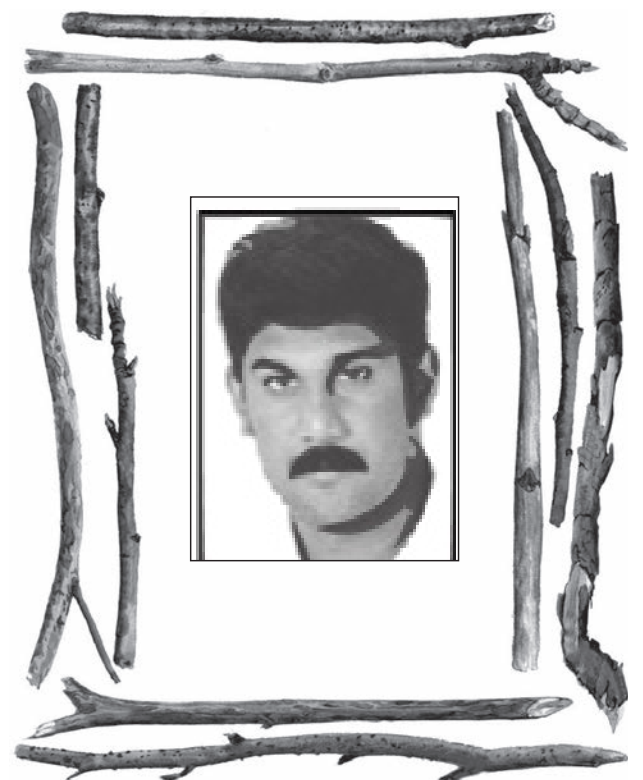
I've never had such little apprehension for such a strange thing. Strange things make our hearts beat furtively, curiously.

We all play with fire, some just better than others. Learn to play well, and you'll be alive forever.



Have a life question?

Send it to
editor@thecowl.com,
and Tiff and
Earl will help
you find true
love, plan your
future, be an
adult, and
more!






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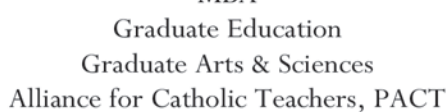
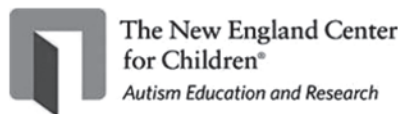
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Athlete of the Week: Cassidy Carels '17

by Lauren Altmeyer '17
Sports Staff

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Cassidy Carels '17 has been an asset to the Providence College Women's Ice Hockey Team ever since she arrived in 2013. Captaining the team this year, the Bruxelles, Manitoba, Canada native led the Friars to 17 wins, the most wins since the 2010-2011 season. Carels also collected a career-high 37 points, making her the leading scorer of the Friars for the second year in a row. With a +14 rating on the season, Carels collected 18 goals and 19 assists, including nine multi-point games. Carels completed her career as a Friar with 48 goals and 55 assists for a combined total of 131 points.

Prior to her arrival in Friartown, Carels led her Midget AAA team to a National Championship in 2012, earned a silver medal with Team Manitoba at the U18 Nationals in 2012, and brought home gold in at the World Championships with the U18 Canadian National Team in 2013.

Carels was recently presented the Hockey East Sportsmanship Award due to her attitude and integrity both on and off the ice. When asked about why she was so deserving of this award, Head Coach Bob Deraney, who won Coach of the Year, said, "First of all, I think Cassidy was deserving of being on one of the All Star teams, not just honorable mention. Cassidy has had a tremendous career, especially this year, and the league recognized the way she goes about playing the game. She was one of the least penalized players in the league and she had success playing that way. She plays the game so hard, in such a sportsmanlike way, and she was rewarded."

Deraney has nothing but fond things to say about Carels, not only as one of his hockey players but also as a person. "Cassidy exemplifies what it means to be a Friar. You cannot find a better, more caring person than her. She was nominated by her peers and selected by the coaches to become a captain," Deraney noted, "Her dedication to the sport of ice hockey and her teammates is evident.



Carels looks for the puck.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA

No one is more steady and dependable than her. She gives 110 percent on her shift and can go out and do it again and again if we needed her to. Cassidy is reliable, clutch, and even keeled—what more could you ask for? She excels in every aspect: on the ice, in the classroom, and in everyday life."

The Friars finished up their season on Feb. 26 after losing a hard fought, best-of-three series against the University of Vermont Wildcats in the Hockey East Quarterfinals. The Friars ended with a 17-17-3 overall record and an 11-10-2 conference

record. None of that would have been possible without the leadership and skill that Carels brought to the team.

"It has been a true privilege to coach Cassidy these past four years. Freshman and sophomore year I was her biggest critic, but junior and senior year I was one of her biggest fans, and that's a testament to her growth over the years. No one player will be able to replace her," said Deraney, "It will take a group of players to replace her on the ice, in the locker room, and in everyday life."

Women's Basketball Improves Under Crowley

by Eileen Flynn '20
Sports Staff

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

With a score of 73-60 left on the scoreboard as the final buzzer echoed in the gym, the Providence College Women's Basketball Team was forced to end their season. The Lady Friars faced the Seton Hall Pirates for the third time this year, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on March 4, for the first round of the Big East Tournament. Splitting the regular season face-off, the Friars were hoping to defeat Seton Hall for the second time. The sense of urgency the Friars fought with until the end is not something that surprised the familiar fans in the crowd.

The season was filled with comebacks for the Lady Friars. Twelve out of the 18 losses ended with a close 10-point margin. In their final matchup, Providence brought the score to 64-58 with two minutes to play. Their relentless effort is one of the reasons for their improvement from the previous seasons. The Friars tallied more than double the amount of wins in the 2016-2017 season than they had in the 2015-2016 season.

Sadly, the Providence basketball team is forced to let Sarah Beal '17 and Aliyah Miller '17 graduate in the spring. Both players had a strong influence on and off the court for

the team. Miller averaged 6.3 points a game in her career and was a four-year player for the Friars. Beal averaged 11.6 points a game and was also a four-year member of the team.

Beal had an exceptional season as her name was added to the list of few Friars to join the 1,000-point club. She was also named Big East Player of the

Week for the first time. Beal finished her last season by accomplishing her career goals, is the perfect example of relentless effort for her teammates.

Beal uses the word "challenging" to describe her last year wearing black and white. She mentions the adjustment she and her teammates had to make with the new coaching

staff. "Some days would be harder than others, but he really demanded that we work hard and play to our strengths. It really helped the team as a whole." Jim Crowley was named the 10th head coach in Providence College women's basketball history in May 2016. A previous coach to St. Bonaventure University, Crowley helped the friars to a 12-18 record in his first year.

The biggest tally in the win column for Beal her senior year was when she helped the team beat Marquette on home ground. "It was a great feeling knowing we had just beat a top team in the conference, and the atmosphere that night was awesome!"

Although it is Beal's turn to receive her diploma, she will never be able to forget Providence College and the basketball program. When asked what advice she would give an incoming freshman recruit, Beal says, "Don't wait until your last years to give it your all. You should work hard and give it your all each year and every day because it will eventually pay off. Never have any regrets!"

With a year under his belt, and a similar team returning, Crowley is predicted to work hard in the off season with his team, and prepare for an even better season next year.



Coach Crowley talks to the team during a huddle.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA



Who's the Friars MVP?



PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD T GAGNON/GETTY IMAGES

by Meaghan Cahill '20
Sports Staff

OP-ED

Foley '19

With Providence College being the home to so many excellent athletes, picking an MVP is quite the challenge. However, with that being said, Erik Foley '19 had a standout season this year as a forward for the Men's Ice Hockey Team.

Coming off his freshman year, where he harbored a total of 19 points (seven goals, 12 assists) and won the Rev. Herman Schneider, O.P. Award, Foley is the Friars' leading goal scorer, with a total of 15 goals this season. In all of Hockey East, Foley is ranked amongst the Top 20 scoring leaders for this season. In terms of assists and

total overall points, Foley falls second in both with 19 assists and a total of 34 points. Foley also had a +/- rating of +17 during the regular season, which is third best on the team. This sophomore also has the most game-winning goals on the team throughout the season, which goes to show just how beneficial he is to Friars Hockey.

Foley, who was the Winnipeg Jets' 78th overall draft pick, also took his skills beyond Friartown this season as a member of the U.S.A.'s World Juniors Team, where he won a gold medal. And while they do not compare to a gold medal, Foley has also received many weekly nods from Hockey East.

Foley has been a key player all season for the Friars, demonstrating his skill on both the collegiate and national level, which is why he should be considered the Friars' MVP.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STREETER LECKA/GETTY IMAGES

by Max Anderson '18
Sports Staff

OP-ED

Cartwright '18

Perhaps the biggest question on Friars fans' minds heading into the 2016-2017 basketball season was how the team was going to replace Kris Dunn '16. After all, how do you replace perhaps the greatest player to ever put on a Friar jersey? The answer to that question lies in point guard Kyron Cartwright '18, who is coming off his best season ever here at PC. In a year where the Friars were supposed to regress greatly due to the losses of Dunn and forward Ben Bentil '18, Cartwright has been everything Friar fans could have asked for, and then some. Not only is Cartwright averaging double-digit points, but his 6.7 assists

per game is the fourth best mark in the nation and shows how Cartwright can not only score himself, but also can put his teammates in position to score as well.

Cartwright is not just limited on the offensive side of the floor either; his lightning quick speed has him averaging over one steal per game, and has contributed to a Friars defense that ranks in the top 50 nationally for points allowed per contest. Cartwright's incredible play when rewarded last week was the Big East named him the most improved player in the conference, as well as placing him on the All-Big East second team with fellow teammate Rodney Bullock '18. The Friars are heading to their fourth consecutive NCAA Tournament, and without Cartwright's contributions, the road would have been much rockier for the team.

Men's Lacrosse Continues to Improve



Kearns lines up a shot to try and tickle the twine.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA

by Jake Scarbo '17
Sports Staff

LACROSSE

While everyone was gallivanting around the Caribbean and beyond last week, the Providence College Men's Lacrosse Team was on campus in the midst of their season. On Saturday, March 4, the Friars took on Sacred Heart University at Chapey Field in their first of two games over the break. In a hard fought tilt, the Friars fell to the Pioneers 10-8. The Friars were paced in

the first half by goals from Brendan Kearns '19 and from defenseman Jarrod Neumann '17. The score was 5-4 Pioneers. The third quarter was the downfall for the Friars in this game where they were outscored 3-0.

The offense was clicking in the fourth quarter with goals from Connor Byrne '18, Tim Hinrichs '20, Sean Leahey '20, and Kearns, but the Sacred Heart lead proved insurmountable. Head Coach Chris Gabrielli was disappointed after the tough loss but was encouraged by his defense. The Pioneers have a high powered offense and

average over 11 goals per game. Gabrielli liked how "in settled situations we stayed on task, caused a lot of turnovers and got the ball on the ground." Sacred Heart exposed the Friars in unsettled and man-down situations; these are two takeaways that the team will work on leading up to its matchup with High Point University.

In the second game over Spring Break, the Friars earned a dominating 17-8 victory on their home field to push their record to 4-2 on the season. All season the defense has led the Friars, but in this game the offense was the story. Nick Hatzipetrakos '19 led the offense with five goals and three assists and Leahey had his best game in his freshman season with a hat trick. Kearns added two goals and an assist and Keenan Assaraf '17 also tickled the twine twice.

This game was far from over at halftime with the Friars nursing a 6-3 lead. The momentum shift came when faceoff man Alex George '19 won the opening faceoff in the second half and scored an unassisted goal. George was on fire in this game winning 20-25 at the faceoff X and picking up 14 groundballs. Gabrielli said the key to his offense's success against a great goaltender was George. "The very first faceoff he goes down and almost scores goal and set the tone from there and he was dominant at the faceoff X. We haven't had dominance there and he gave us extra possessions." After George's first goal of the season, the Friars ripped off five straight goals and put the game out of reach. Despite being overshadowed by some huge offensive performances, the defense was solid like they have been all season.

This game against High Point indicates the young guns on offense are starting to figure out their place on the team. After six games, the freshmen and sophomores have enough experience and confidence to lead this team once the Big East Schedule begins in April. The Friars play next against Hofstra University on March 18 on the road.

The Unsung Heroes of Sports

by **Liza Sisk '18**
Assistant Sports Editor
EDITOR'S CORNER

Imagine attending a Providence College basketball game where every fan is sitting in their seat for the entirety of the game, and the Dunkin' Donuts Center is absolutely silent. This depressing scene could be reality if it was not for the unsung heroes of Providence College athletics: the Cheerleading Team. The cheerleading team works tirelessly to cultivate the ideal atmosphere in which other Friar athletes are able to thrive. The team is responsible for keeping the basketball games entertaining and exciting as well as keeping the fans engaged in the game. Not only do they interact with the fans, they also prove themselves to be incredible athletes through their routines and performances.

The cheerleading team is made up of 20 athletes, four boys and 16 girls, and is led by two captains, Nicki Jones '17 and Alex Jones '17, as well as a coaching staff of three. The team is selected each

year through a tryout process consisting of opportunities for the athletes to show off their stunting abilities, jumps, running tumbles, and spiring. Each candidate is required to execute a standing backflip, and a round-off back handspring or round-off back handspring back tuck. Everyone on the team participates in the tryout each year.

The typical week on the cheer team is comprised of two practices and one game. The team is present at all home men's and women's basketball games. They also have the opportunity to travel with the team to New York City for the Big East Conference Tournament each year.

The team currently does not compete regularly, however, last year they qualified for the National Cheer Association Nationals Competition. Unfortunately, the team was unable to raise the funds to attend, but are looking to qualify and make the trip this spring. Under a new coaching staff, the team is incredibly focused on strengthening their program. They are looking

forward to participating in more competitions, qualifying for nationals, and proving themselves to be worthy contenders.

Chris Mathews '17 is one of five athletes on the team graduating this year. Over the course of his four years as a friar cheerleader he was able to witness the team "transform from something alright, to something great." Mathews said, "[The] new coach has a vision of the team that will carry it farther than we thought it could over the next few years." Mathews stressed the importance of teamwork and communication in a sport like cheerleading.

He explained that "everyone has each other's back...in the stunts and outside of practice. We physically have to work together to make something happen and that really contributes to the strong team aspect of the group." Mathews went on to explain that, in his opinion, the most rewarding part of being on the team is "when you see someone hit a stunt they've been working on all week and everyone goes crazy, the whole team notices."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRIS MATHEWS '17

Cheerleading team members strike a pose during a Friars basketball game.

Men's Hockey: Hopeful for Tournament Bid

by **Ethan Ticehurst '18**
Sports Staff
MEN'S HOCKEY

Fans of Providence hockey have been treated to some very successful seasons in recent years. Upperclassmen will always remember where they were the night the national championship was won two years ago. Last year, the team spent a large part of the year ranked as one of the best hockey programs in the country, which made their quick exits in both the Hockey East and NCAA tournaments all the more surprising. This year, the team got off to a slow start, befuddling fans everywhere. Luckily, they picked it up near the end of the season and earned a spot in the upper echelon of college hockey once more.

This is the position that they entered the Hockey East tournament in last week. A home ice series against UMass was the first on the docket. Thanks to stellar gameplay and a supportive home crowd, the Minutemen were quickly sent on their way back to where they came from. After such a successful series, the Friars seemed to be ready for whoever stood in their path next. Out of the shadows rose the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame, the newest members of the Hockey East. The Irish, who also happen to be leaving the Hockey East after this season, played a solid season and looked to be somewhat of a challenge for the Friars. Those looks were not deceiving, as the Friars were taken down in two games this weekend.

The Friars' hope for the Hockey East championship may have ended in South Bend, Indiana, but fans should have nothing to fear. This team may



Young '19, MacPhee '17, and Walman '18 get in a scrum during the game against Notre Dame.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA

not be at the exact level that they were two years ago, but they have enough raw talent to possibly make a run in the NCAA tournament.

Since they finished the season ranked in the top 20 in the country, they have a chance of making it into the tournament. However, with only 16 teams allowed in, there is a chance that they don't make it at all. For fans that are worried about their team's chances, make sure to watch the rest of the Hockey East tournament play out.

If Notre Dame manages to pull off any more wins, they will most likely take up a spot in the tournament that would otherwise have gone to Providence.

Assuming that the Friars do make it to the tournament, however, let's take a look at some of the teams that they should hope to avoid until the later rounds. The number one team that we would hope to avoid would be the top ranked team in the country, Denver. With only six losses on the season, it would take a monster of a game

from the Friars to win against the team from Colorado. Also high on the avoidance list is our neighbors from the north, Harvard. Following shortly after them are any teams that come out of the Upper Midwest, such as Minnesota University and Minnesota University-Duluth. Overall, though it looks as if the Friars are on the bubble to even get into the tournament and if they do get in, they will need a large amount of luck to win in the tournament.