

The Cowl



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Violence Erupts, Parties Split



The Providence Police Department responded to a shooting at 66 Pembroke Ave. early on the morning of March 19, following a weekend of several unruly off-campus gatherings.

GRAPHIC DESIGN BY KATIE PUZYCKI '17/THE COWL

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

CAMPUS

If there is one (maybe hard to accept) fact about college campuses, it is that copious amounts of alcohol are consumed on a weekly basis. The festivities of St. Patrick's Day are no exception, but this year, off-campus gatherings related to this Irish holiday took a turn for the worse.

Providence College Director of the Office of Safety and Security John Leyden stated, "I've worked several St. Patrick's Days now, and very few have fallen on a Friday. It was busier than a typical year."

Over the course of the afternoon, on Friday, March 17, the Providence Police Department (PPD) broke up several parties at the off-campus homes of PC students. The police arrested a total of seven PC students for underage drinking and/or open container violations.

"The College had suspended people for inappropriate behavior off campus and will continue to do so, but our main goal is education and being responsible community members and citizens and to keep people safe," said Steven Sears, associate vice president of student affairs.

In addition to the PC arrests, a large non-PC party was broken up on Oakland Avenue, and two students from Johnson & Wales University were arrested for possession of open containers/alcohol.

Two other incidents involving PC students occurred the same day. On campus, a thrown bottle struck the vehicle of Catherine Kelleher, director of student health services, and resulted in a broken window. Leyden reports that this was an act of vandalism unrelated to the off-campus scene.

Then, at 12:28 a.m. on Saturday, March 18, a student was struck by a bottle outside a PC student's house. The house was hosting a gathering of around a hundred students, and Leyden reports

that people continued to be rowdy even while the injured student was being treated on-site. He adds that people in the house originally slammed the door and refused entry to the PPD.

The College issued a safety advisory email following this incident, describing the event as a felony assault. Then, early on Sunday morning, the College released another statement, this time coming in the form of a FriarALERT. It read: "Shooting at Pembroke Ave. at 3:18 a.m. One male non-PC student was shot. Suspect is a light skinned male wearing white sweatshirt. If seen call 911."

According to Leyden, the PPD responded to the shooting—which has now been disclosed to have occurred at 66 Pembroke Avenue between Chad Brown Street and Smith Street—and observed what appeared to be between 200 and 300 people fleeing the scene. The apartment the police responded to belongs to PC students.

The victim had three gunshot

wounds—a graze on his head and a shot to his left hip and right arm. The victim was promptly transported to Rhode Island Hospital and is currently in a stable condition.

Several students have expressed dissatisfaction with the way in which PC handled the incident, pointing out that, while the crime occurred at 3:18 a.m., the FriarALERT was not issued until 6:56 a.m.

Leyden reports that the College was not notified about the event until a couple hours after it occurred, and at first it did not realize that PC students were involved. "When we did find out we sent out a FriarALERT and a Safety Advisory as soon as possible," Leyden stated.

Sean Richardson '20 said, "I think there should be better communication between the police and PC. It would be nice to think that the police would notify the College immediately if there is a serious threat in the general vicinity."

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Opinion

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A&E

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PC Explores Off-Campus Security Options

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18
Asst. News Editor

OFF CAMPUS

"More and more police officers is not the solution," said Major Jack Leyden, executive director of the Office of Safety and Security at Providence College. "We need to come up with a unified way to address safety off-campus."

Since the start of this spring semester, the College has discussed and looked into the prospect of hiring additional security from an outside company to work as a "taskforce" on and around Eaton Street on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. The proposed idea would provide additional security off campus, and would provide an additional liaison to the Providence Police Department and to the College.

On Friday, February 24, Stanley Vieira director of citizenship and off-Campus life, held a focus group meeting to receive feedback from students regarding the taskforce. "The additional security would not be put in place to get students in trouble, but would serve as additional security for safety measures," he explained.

Students voiced their concerns and asked questions about how the relationship between students, the task force, and the Office of Safety and Security would work, and it was suggested that students living off campus attend an orientation regarding safety in the fall. Vieira stressed that the point of the security detail would not be to break up off-campus parties, but would be utilized to make off-campus living as safe for students as possible.

"I think it is extremely important, if not completely necessary for the school to ask students for their feedback on this," said Morgan Itz '18, chair of the student life committee on Student Congress. She explained that students who live off-campus or who often frequent off-campus are more aware of "off campus" life, and their



Providence College is currently looking into hiring Allied Universal to provide off-campus security.

NICK CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

feedback would be very beneficial.

The security company being considered for hire is Allied Universal, the largest provider of security services in North America. Boston College currently uses the company for additional security off-campus, and the City of Providence hired Allied Universal last summer for Kennedy Plaza downtown.

Negotiations are still taking place, but the College did hire the group for the Black and White Ball this past semester. According to Major Leyden, whenever there is a major event, extra security is hired to supplement PC's. In the past, for large events such as the spring concert, the College has hired from another service called Strategic Security Group.

Major Leyden explained that the security detail will act as witnesses to assist police, students, and security. "They would be extra eyes and ears, and would contact both us and the police during an incident," he said. Leyden also emphasized their role as communicators and that he hopes students will see them as a beacon of safety.

Itz, as a student living off campus next year, explained that she is in full support of hiring additional security.

"As being one of the few houses down from the Eaton street gate, and someone who can see the security guard from the backyard, I do feel more safe than some of the other students living further down on Pinehurst and Pembroke," she said. "It seems the further you go on these side streets, the nicer it would be to have security watching."

Regardless of the student support, other students at the focus group meeting explained that communication with students about hiring extra security is of the utmost of importance. Students explained that if an off-campus orientation was to take place, the new security team's role off campus needs to be properly explained.

Leyden explained that the introduction of a task force will start as a pilot program, since security wants to be as open minded to new solutions as possible, and they are willing to try different methods to achieve what is best for the off-campus community. "We're looking for lasting solutions to increase the safety of our neighborhoods," said Major Leyden. "The answer is not just more police, but something dynamic that involves the police and the College."

Where Did the Trees On Campus Go?

by Marla Gagne '18
News Co-Editor

ENVIRONMENTAL

Returning from spring break, students walking down Huxley Avenue found themselves blinded by sunlight and staring into an empty space, while Mal Brown students discovered they could see Suites from their windows for the first time. Something seemingly changed over break, but what was it?

A row of trees previously lined the side of Guzman Hall facing Huxley Avenue, but were cut down over break. This was one of a number of tree trimmings or cuts that have taken place over the past school year, the most famous and controversial being the removal of the large red oak tree on the Smith Quad.

So, what is happening to all of the Providence College trees?

John Sweeney, senior vice president of finance and business, said the trees lining the side of Guzman were planted "too close together and were unhealthy." Instead of being the recommended 12 to 15 feet apart, the trees remained six feet away from one another.

Sweeney said leaving the trees alone would have led to issues with root systems, and the trees would not have been able to reach their full potential and beauty, blocking one another from sunlight and full growth. But the trees will not be gone for too long—plans are in place to replenish the same area with new trees over the summer.

As PC continues to construct new buildings and change the campus, some students, faculty, and staff are concerned with how the natural landscape will suffer. When asked what he would say to anyone concerned about green space



The Smith Quad oak is one of several trees that have "gotten the axe" this past year. PC plans to begin replanting next month.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE.EDU
PHOTO COURTESY OF CLIPARTFEST.COM

being eliminated on campus, Sweeney said, "We've [PC] added square footage of green space" and are "very concerned about increasing green space, being smart with parking, and appropriately planting species native to the area."

He first highlighted that the former Davis parking lot has now been transformed to green grass and some plants, while Ruane Center for the Humanities and Chapey Field at Anderson Stadium were built on existing parking lots. The College did lose some grass on the new turf softball field and Glay Parking Lot.

Some students like Victoria Palmer '17 are disappointed by the College's continued removal of trees. "When the Smith tree was determined to be cut down, I was really upset because I would do my homework under that tree and it was a place here I could go and just relax,"

said Palmer.

After seeing the cleared space beside Guzman, she felt very upset that trees that have probably been there for many years were being once again removed.

Sweeney admits that he has received a lot of criticism about the removal of trees, but, like many of his critics, believes in the value of the campus' landscape.

The trees, grass, and plants make PC a "park-like atmosphere in an urban setting," and he sees that "people really value that about the campus; it makes it beautiful and special."

In April 2015, PC hired Bartlett Tree Experts to take an inventory of the College's estimated 2,000 trees. All the trees were inspected, tagged, and positioned in a GPS, allowing the College to know what changes were needed to be made and how best to identify and replace the necessary trees.

Although he regrets having to cut down some trees, Sweeney said that the administration has a responsibility to the PC community to keep them safe and not ignore potential threats, even if they are not definite.

In April, students can expect to see a new red oak tree being planted on the Smith Quad. As mentioned, trees along Guzman will also be replanted in the summer as part of the new Huxley transformation. Features of the new transformation will include replacing Huxley with pedestrian walkways surrounded by plant life, trees, grass, and new benches.

Across from Guzman and Accino Hall will reside the new overlook, a five to eight-foot platform that will give a great view of the city landscape. Former Guzman Hill will also be less of a sharp incline, displaying a new staircase and a handicap path to get from upper to lower campus. Sweeney hopes these new additions to the landscape will satisfy students worried about losing their land. "We don't want to take away green space," said Sweeney.

Hannah Albright '18 said she greatly values trees and green space as "very important for a beautiful campus" and, despite missing the removed trees, understands "that the new campus plan includes a good amount of green place, trees, and outdoor seating."

Palmer admits the change can happen for the good, but must be done in the right way.

"I feel like we're seeing the beginning stages of what they're trying to make a green campus and at this moment it's a little disappointing," said Palmer. "When everything is complete, and if done in an environmentally friendly way without cutting down healthy trees, then I'd be okay with it."

Friar Flashback: Beers and Cheers!

McPhail's Celebrates 15 Years as Providence College's Only On-Campus Bar



Kellen Murphy '18, Sean Sweeney '18, and Hugh Kilcommons '17 enjoy a few drinks at the bar after a long week of classes.

NICK CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

by Daria Purdy '19
News Staff

FRIAR FLASHBACK

McPhail's gives testimony to the long and colorful history of Providence College through the memorabilia hung upon its walls. Pictures of sports greats, influential administrators and Dominicans, and old spring concerts constantly remind students of the heritage that they live out as a part of the PC community.

Yet, what about the history of McPhail's itself? The circular journey of McPhail's, its many re-namings, and its rise in and out of prominence in student life form part of a history that is as colorful as PC's.

Sgt. David Marshall, a member of PC's office of safety and security, has seen it all. He joined the PC security staff in 1974, when he was 17 years old, and has been here ever since. He has a memory of a McPhail's very different from the one that exists today, although it was located within the same building: Slavin Center.

When Sgt. Marshall first started working at PC, the bar on campus was called the Rathskeller. "Rathskeller" is a German word used to refer to a drinking establishment. The bar was located where the fireplace is now located in Slavin, and it consisted of two rooms: one which contained a pool table and another which was the bar area.

Marshall describes the old Rathskeller as "small, too small for concerts or for watching football games," unlike the current day McPhail's.

Yet, despite its small size, Marshall describes the bar as having always been crowded, with a line of students waiting to get in. "More people stayed on campus back

then," Marshall says, "as the drinking age was 18, so everyone went to the Rathskeller to have fun with their friends."

There used to be a game room in Slavin where the bookstore is now, containing games such as pinball and Pacman (popular games in the '70s). As the bookstore expanded, the games were moved into the Rathskeller. As Marshall describes, in the '70s Slavin was the center of student life, with the Rathskeller being the social hub.

Then, in the '80s, the Rathskeller became the Colonel's Corner, and its location was moved to where the mailroom is currently located. Marshall described this as being a completely different venue. "The bar was now located in a basement," he says, "It was always a lot darker and somewhat dirtier than when it had been located in Slavin."

The bar was renamed to honor Col. Andrew DelCorso, who served as a professor of military science and director of the ROTC program in the mid 1960s, and as an associate director of residence for around 20 years.

Marshall says that the move of the bar away from Slavin coincided with a dip in the bar's popularity. "The theory was that a move of the bar to the center of campus would uphold its popularity, but this was not the case," says Marshall.

The bar was later moved to lower campus, to the arts service building, to make space for the mailroom. Marshall says that the bar regained its popularity with this further move, as lower campus has always been a hub of student life.

Then, in 2002, the newly re-named McPhail's was opened in Slavin. The circular journey of McPhail's

was then complete; from its early conception as The Rathskeller, it had moved to the center of campus, then lower campus, and finally back to its original location, re-built and re-named.

Tim Dannenfesler, the manager of McPhail's since 2012, describes how the new McPhail's was meant to be an upgrade beyond just a drinking establishment. "The goal was to get freshmen and sophomores to participate in activities at McPhail's, not just upperclassmen," Dannenfesler says.

When the drinking age was 18, drinking establishments such as the Rathskeller were an option for all students, but with the drinking age being raised to 21, new activities had to be put in place for the underage freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.

Dannenfesler describes some changes that have taken place at McPhail's since he started working there in 2012. "I now hire more from the student body," Dannenfesler says. "This has been a great experience, as I have found PC students to be great workers."

Dannenfesler also proudly recounts the name of the famous athletic figures whose pictures hang on the walls in McPhail's. These figures include PC alum Billy Donovan, head coach of NBA team the Oklahoma City Thunder, and Lenny Wilkens, a PC basketball player who went on to play in the NBA from 1960 to 1975.

Looking to the future, Dannenfesler says, "We hope to update our decorations with memorabilia honoring more current athletes, which we think will pertain more to younger students."

Dannenfesler also said that he believes more renovations in McPhail's are coming, to make it more and more of a student hub, like it was in the days when it was known as the Rathskeller.

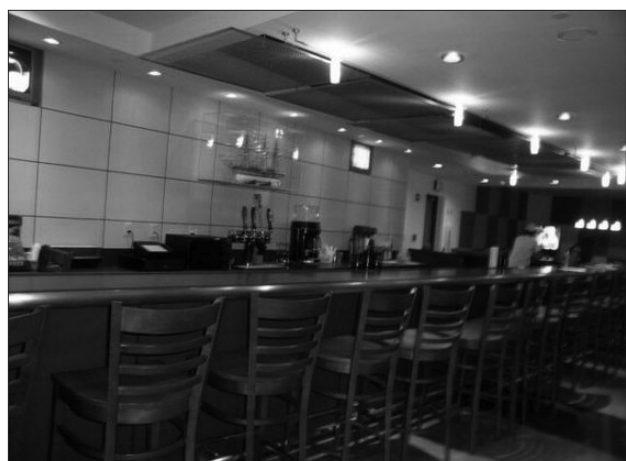
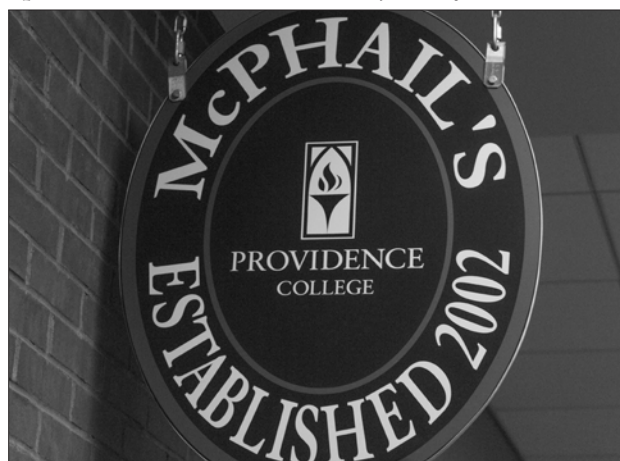


PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

This photo was taken in 2002, the year McPhail's (re)opened in Slavin Center after years of moving around campus.



NICK CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

Although the McPhail's name and logo appears to be timeless, the name of the original on-campus bar was "The Rathskeller."



NICK CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

The walls of McPhail's are lined with pictures of Friar "greats" such as NBA star Lenny Wilkens '60 & '80 Hon.

Off-Campus Beat: Paris' Airport Attack

by Gabriella Pisano '18
News Staff

WORLD NEWS BRIEF

A total of 1,441 terrorist attacks occurred worldwide in 2016. These attacks resulted in 14,356 fatalities. Though it is less than three months into 2017, there have already been 293 attacks with a total of 1,873 fatalities.

One of the most recent attacks is attributed to terrorism occurred on Saturday, March 18, in Paris, France. Paris is no stranger to terrorist attacks, with the November 2015 attack that claimed the lives of 137 people. While the shooting that occurred at the Paris Orly Airport on Saturday only had one fatality—that of the attacker—it brought the topic of terrorism to the forefront of the news.

Ziyed Ben Belgacem, a French native, committed a string of attacks leading up to the incident at the airport. Early on Saturday morning, Belgacem was stopped by a police officer for speeding and driving with his headlights off. He fired birdshots at the officers, injuring one of them, before driving to a bar he frequents. There he fired four shots from a gun he stole from the previous officer who pulled him over. No one was harmed in this incident.

Belgacem then stole a car and drove to the airport, where he attacked a female soldier and attempted to steal her assault rifle before being shot by two other soldiers nearby. While Belgacem shouted, "I am here to die in the name of Allah... There will be deaths," it is not yet confirmed that Belgacem was acting as a "radicalized Muslim" terrorist, as some

reports have claimed.

The soldiers involved in the incident were part of the "opération Sentinelle," a French military operation that was started after France's January 2015 terrorist attack. The operation places troops at points of interest to protect against threats of terrorism.

Belgacem has an extensive criminal history, with multiple prison sentences for armed robbery and drug trafficking. Belgacem's father, who has remained nameless in news sources, claims that his son was not a terrorist, stating, "He never prayed and he drank." Instead, his father blames alcohol and drugs for his son's behavior.

The Paris prosecutors' office stated that, as part of the autopsy, toxicology found traces of cocaine and cannabis in Belgacem's blood. Additionally, he had

0.93 grams of alcohol per liter of blood, which is almost twice the legal limit for driving in France.

Francois Molins, a Paris prosecutor, stated Belgacem had been banned from leaving France. In addition to being obligated to report regularly to police due to robbery charges, Belgacem was flagged as having been radicalized during one of his stays in prison in 2011-2012. After the November 2015 suicide bombing and gun attacks in Paris, his house was among the houses searched.

The attack at Orly caused the airport's two terminals to shut down. Passengers and workers were evacuated, yet hundreds of others had to remain aboard planes that had just landed. Incoming flights from Paris' second busiest airport had to be redirected to other airports nearby.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KSTP.ORG

Providence College Student Congress



Updates

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18
Asst. News Editor

CONGRESS

Security

After the shooting that occurred off-campus on early Sunday morning, Director of the Office of Safety and Security Jack Leyden, Lieutenant John Dunbar, Director of Emergency Management Koren Kanadianian, and Director of Citizenship and Off-Campus Life Stanley Vieira met with the Congress for a panel discussion regarding and improving the emergency response system (FriarAlerts) used for emergency notifications. The panel explained the process of sending out Friar Alerts and the timeline that occurred the night of the shooting.

They encouraged feedback from students, fielded concerns, and took note of suggestions offered by Congress.

Students on Congress asked what kind of resources were being offered to the students who were at the house during the incident. Dean of Students Steven Sears explained that the Providence College students who live in the house were offered on-campus housing and made counseling resources available to them.

Sears encouraged students who were involved or know of students involved in the incident to come forward so that appropriate resources can also be made available to them.

Campus Ministry

Father Peter Martyr, O.P., also attended the meeting, and told the Congress what Campus Ministry has done since his last meeting, and how they went about taking some of the suggestions Congress had.

Fr. Martyr explained that he is very excited about the collaboration Campus Ministry has participated in with other clubs on campus this semester, and spoke about the success of the new Peer Ministry program.

Furthermore, he told Congress that five new Dominicans will be coming to campus next year, and welcomes students to reach out if they wish to get more involved with Campus Ministry.

Old & New Business

As for old business, the bill to approve the Sustainable Development Club as a new club on Congress was passed.

Announcements

Elections for next year's executive board for Student Congress and the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs will begin on Tuesday, March 28 on 9:30 a.m. on Sakai and will last until Wednesday, March 29 at 4:30 p.m. Interested in getting to know who is running? Meet the Candidates Night will occur this Sunday in McPhail's from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Candidates will deliver their platforms and pizza will be served.

Club Spotlight: Her Campus

by Tait Becker '19
News Staff

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Among one of the last Big East schools to launch a chapter, Providence College has recently decided to bring back Her Campus. Originally started in 2014 by Ashley Santiago '17, along with other students, Her Campus is a new online platform for students to share their experiences at PC beyond the campus borders.

This club has given students the opportunity to write for *Forbes Magazine*, the self-described "number one media site for college women." Participants in the club aim to share their PC experiences and profiles of other students, professors, and faculty in an effort to share why PC is special to so many people.

Her Campus gives students the ability to write about a variety of topics, with great emphasis placed

on students writing about what is intriguing and special to them about their time here at the College. Topics range from fashion trends to personal experiences on and off campus.

While the club is still working towards becoming an approved club on campus, they are actively seeking those who are interested in getting involved in this type of writing experience. Members hope that, by writing about the PC environment, lifestyle, and academics, future Friars will be able to get a sense of what it feels like to be a part of the Friar Family.

Looking ahead, Santiago said, "I feel really excited to be a part of Her Campus. Even though we just started, I'm really looking forward to see what this can become and how much fun we can have with it."

Any interested students can find out more information by contacting Santiago via email at AshleySantiago@hercampus.com.

#HGXO

PHOTO COURTESY OF HERCAMPUS.COM

PC Recycling: Improvement Must Come From Students

by Sarah Gianni '18
News Staff

ENVIRONMENTAL

Donald Trump's recently released budget proposal calls for a 31 percent cut to the Environmental Protection Agency, reducing funding from \$8.1 to \$5.7 billion. This potential cut could translate into destructive environmental action such as the halt of community cleanup initiatives or fewer regulations on polluters contaminating the environment.

When looking at our Providence College community, clear efforts have been made on campus to support environmental protection. The Providence College Office of Environmental Health and Safety has served as a resource committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

In order to achieve these goals, the office places a notable emphasis on recycling in an effort to reduce waste and promote a more sustainable, environmentally conscious campus.

"I think there are still quite a few people that do not take recycling seriously enough," said Health and Safety Coordinator Thomas Schenck. "Don't get me wrong, we do recycle quite a lot at PC—over 200 tons last year—but there's always room for improvement."

Despite the College's attempt at recycling, Schenck said it also produces "approximately 1,000 tons of trash."

In both Alumni Hall and Raymond Hall dining facilities, the food service and facilities management company Sodexo has jurisdiction over how recycling is handled. Other eateries on campus; such as the Starbucks

in the Ruane Center or the Dunkin' Donuts in Slavin, operate as their own entities.

While there is a designated recycling bin across from Dunkin' Donuts, employees continue to provide students with hot cups to place their cold drinks in. "People don't realize how damaging those Styrofoam cups are and how it takes hundreds of years for them to decompose, if they ever do at

all," said Schenck.

Despite signs over trash bins in Alumni Hall indicating whether they are for trash or recyclables, non-recyclable garbage is still being thrown away into incorrect bins. Students sometimes may see recyclables thrown into the trash by workers, but this is the result of contamination.

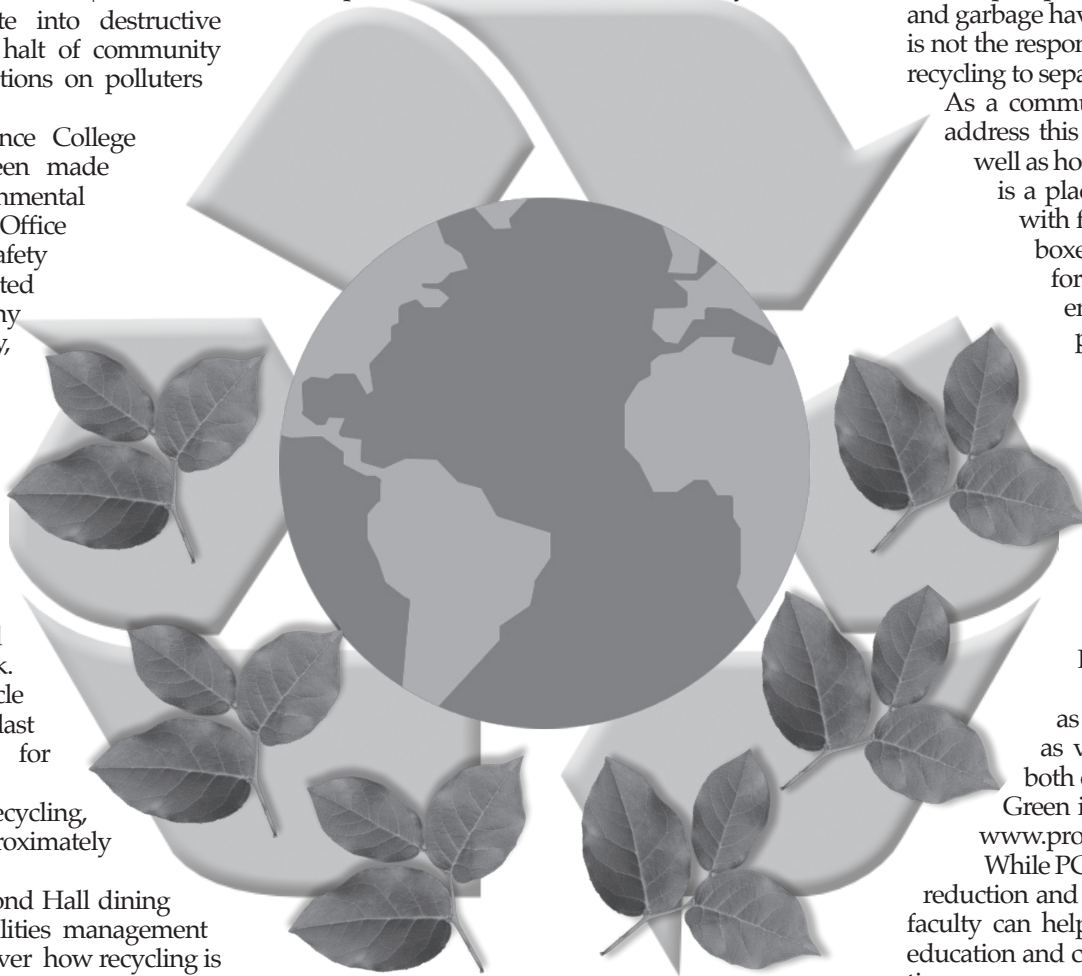
"These facilities will bring out their recyclables if it has been kept separate, but they can't do it if the recyclables and garbage have been mixed together," said Schenck. It is not the responsibility of staff to dig through trash and recycling to separate the two.

As a community, the question arises as to how to address this issue. Education on what to recycle as well as how to recycle in different areas on campus is a place to start. Many times, paper products with food waste such as paper plates or pizza boxes are wrongly thrown into recycling bins, forcing staff to throw the contents of the entire container into the garbage. Plastic products with food waste, however, can still be recycled, as these items are rinsed of any remnants.

"Through educating the student body, for instance in the dorms during floor meetings, we can work to make people more conscious about recycling," said Schenck. Another educational tool for community members is "The Campus Green" newsletter put out by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

This resource expands on topics such as recycling procedures on campus, as well as various environmental events occurring both on campus and in the area. The Campus Green is available to anyone online at <http://www.providence.edu/recycling>.

While PC continues to work toward greater waste reduction and a greener campus overall, students and faculty can help improve our recycling goals through education and conscious decision making—one can at a time.



GRAPHIC DESIGN BY SABRINA GUILBEAULT '18

College Examines Friar Alerts Post Shooting

Shooting:

Continued from front page

Leyden, however, reports that the College was not notified about the event until a couple hours after it occurred, and at first it did not realize that PC students were involved. "When we did find out, we sent out a FriarALERT and a Safety Advisory as soon as possible," Leyden stated.

These alerts are in keeping with what is known as the Clery Act. According to this act, whenever the Office of Safety and Security receives a report of crime, a "Timely Warning assessment will occur." If the crime is determined to pose "a serious or ongoing threat" to the College, Safety and Security will issue a warning via a Crime Alert. The Crime Alert must state (to the College's best knowledge) the type, location, and time of the crime, as well as a physical description of the suspect(s) and any other pertinent information.

The College is required to issue a Crime Alert any time there is an on-campus incident. If the incident is off-campus, however, the decision to issue the Alert falls under the discretion of the College.

At 7:52 a.m., an hour after the FriarALERT was sent out and four and a half hours after the incident occurred, the College released a Safety Advisory email. It read: "A male non-PC student was shot at a large gathering on Pembroke Ave., occupied by PC students. Suspect was seen firing a gun from the back door of the apartment. The suspect fled on foot in an unknown direction."

This advisory raised additional concern as some students felt that, as the home was occupied by PC students, this was a pertinent detail that should have been included in the initial FriarALERT.

In response to this concern, Leyden



NICK CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

Campus Safety and Security discusses Sunday morning's shooting on Pembroke Avenue.

stated, "There's only so many characters you can put in a FriarALERT, so the message must be brief and concise. When we sent the alert we knew we were going to follow it up with a more-detailed Safety Advisory."

Stanley Vieira, director of citizenship and off-campus life, sent an additional email to off-campus students informing them that College representatives would be in the Aquinas Lounge at 8:30 a.m. for students who would like to talk. The email was sent at 7:47 a.m., a few minutes before the Safety Advisory was issued.

Vieira, Leyden, Sears, Fr. Peter Martyr Yungwirth, O.P., and several hall directors and Office of Residence Life staff members were available for students that Sunday morning.

When asked about the scheduling and timing of the meeting, Vieira stated, "The logic behind meeting at that time was for support." Members of the College's administration wanted to be available to students as early as possible, however Fr. Yungwirth confirmed that "zero" students actually attended the event.

This leads to questions about whether or not events such as this should be better organized in the future so that students are more likely to be in attendance.

"I don't know the exact reason that time was picked as opposed to another

time, but I do think that those involved in Student Affairs were trying to respond to student requests to be notified earlier about things like this than has been done in the past," said Fr. Yungwirth.

"It was early, but so often the students have asked to be notified earlier about things like this, and that's why I assume that time was chosen," he continued.

In the days following the incident, Leyden reports that PC and the PPD have remained in communication, and that the investigation is ongoing. Leyden added that PC administration has also talked to residents of the home where the incident took place, stating that they have been offered resources and are "as okay as can be expected under the circumstances."

When asked what can be done to prevent similar incidents, Leyden responded, "We have to try to prevent these types of serious assaults from happening, and in both cases they were connected to large gatherings that became out of control. I don't have all the answers but that would be one part of the solution."

This past Tuesday, meanwhile, Student Congress invited Leyden and Sears, along with Sgt. John Dunbar, one of the Office of Safety and Security's supervisors, and Koren Kanadian, director of emergency management, to attend its weekly meeting.

"We were getting a lot of student concerns about the College's emergency response feedback—in particular, the discrepancy between the time of the incident and the time the FriarALERT was sent out," stated Student Congress Executive President Andrew Konnerth '17.

"I think we're trying to balance where responsibility falls in these types of incidents, especially regarding students communicating to the school and the school communicating to the students," he continued.

Many students were under the impression that the police immediately contacted the College about the incident but, as the PPD was delayed in relaying information, students were left wondering what the protocol would be if something like this ever happened again. Students voiced their opinion that, in a traumatic event such as this one, the College cannot rely on students as its sole means of communication.

Congress members also expressed concern that the FriarALERT did not state if the incident was an active event. Kanadian, however, clarified that if it were an active event, the alert would explicitly say so.

"We talked about ways in which everyone could be preventative instead of reactionary, and what resources could be at the students' disposal if an incident like this ever occurred again," Konnerth concluded.

Looking towards the future and committed to keeping students safe, Leyden remarked, "Over the upcoming weeks we're going to be meeting with the Off-Campus Coalition and the PPD. We want to collaborate and come up with some viable solutions to increase safety in the neighborhood."

The Grounds For Impeachment

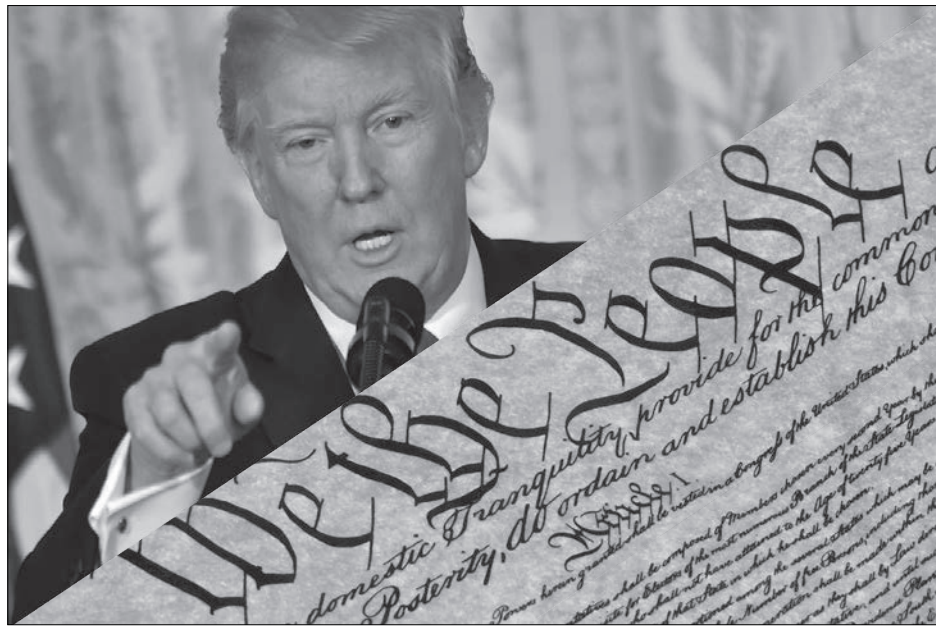
by Carolyn Walsh '17
Opinion Co-Editor

POLITICS

As if it were not obvious enough that the Trump presidency is like a terrifying episode of *The Twilight Zone*, our Commander-in-Chief has somehow managed to up his insane conspiracy game by accusing former president Barack Obama of wiretapping him during the 2016 election campaign.

Trump took to Twitter earlier this month to lament the “terrible” news that Obama spied on Trump Tower before the election—without providing any substantive evidence to support this extreme allegation. In the days following, high ranking individuals, from Obama himself to former FBI director James Clapper to House Intelligence Committee chairman Devin Nunes, R-Calif, came out to say there is absolutely no evidence of any wiretapping of the Trump campaign.

Despite the outrage and objections from both sides of the aisle over Trump’s claims, the President and key members of his team have refused to take back or even apologize for what has been said. Since taking office, Trump has been embroiled in multiple scandals—but this could be the one that finally delivers a fatal blow to his



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NBCNEWS.COM AND SJCSMO.ORG

administration.

With these wiretap claims, Trump has shown a blatant disregard for the standards of conduct associated with the Presidency of the United States, and thus, the grounds for his impeachment have never been more compelling.

The legal standards for impeaching the President of the United States are quite high. Article II, Section IV of the U.S. Constitution states, “the President can be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high

crimes and misdemeanors.”

Although there is some disagreement over what specific actions can constitute impeachment, constitutional scholars generally agree that abuses of the office, including deliberate lying and an overreach of executive power, are reasons for impeachment.

Trump’s unfounded wiretapping claims against former President Obama is a serious distortion of the responsibilities of the office of the Presidency and essentially qualifies as the criminal offence of false and

defamatory speech. Trump’s hollow accusation of Obama committing the impeachable and criminal act of wiretapping the Trump campaign is itself an impeachable and criminal act.

This past week, FBI director James Comey put the final nail in the coffin of there being any semblance of truth to Trump’s claims. Comey stated in a public testimony before Congress that he has “no information” to support the wiretap allegations.

At this point it is abundantly clear that the wiretap story is a flat out lie, and probably one created by Trump to distract from the other real disasters of his administration—the executive order travel ban and the ongoing FBI investigation into the possible collusion between his team and Russia leading up to the election.

Trump has deliberately misused his power as the President to knowingly slander a former one and, it seems, to attempt to delegitimize the political opposition to his administration.

Again, Trump has shown his true colors. He has no respect for the office of the Presidency or the responsibilities and standards of conduct that come with it. He has no respect for American democracy and its value of transparency.

Finally, however, it seems that the man who cries false conspiracy theory could finally be eaten by the wolf of impeachment.

U.S. Needs To Curb North Korean Aggression

by Nicholas Moran '19
Opinion Staff

WORLD POLITICS

What had been a normal day in Hiroshima disappeared in a great white flash, as August 6, 1945 quickly turned into hell on earth. For the past 72 years, the horror of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings has never been forgotten. Yet if the status quo does not change, North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un will have the power to unleash the carnage Japan witnessed over 70 years ago.

Kim Jong-un, a tyrant who, according to a 2016 article by *The Guardian*, sends 120,000 political opponents to “the most wretched” concentration camps, where they suffer “systematic starvation, torture, rape... executions... [and other] unspeakable atrocities” for standing up to the despot. This is a man who executes opponents with devastating anti-aircraft guns, and who does not think twice about using chemical weapons banned by the Geneva Convention in a crowded airport.

This brutal tyrant absolutely cannot have his hands on nuclear weaponry that can reach the Continental United States, and the United States must be incredibly cautious in preventing this nightmare scenario.

Faced with a growing North Korean nuclear program that already has 10 small nuclear weapons, how bad is the threat now for the U.S. and its allies? And how can it worsen?

According to experts at the Rand Corporation, the Koreans are capable of a nuclear strike in a 500-kilometer range, putting major cities like Tokyo and Seoul and American military bases in Okinawa and possibly Guam in jeopardy. While the Continental U.S. is currently safe, experts for *The New York Times* warn that the U.S. will be in range by



PHOTO COURTESY OF CDN.INQUISITR.COM

2026. As North Korea continues its missile tests, the threat only grows.

How can America stop this crisis? Unfortunately, there is no easy answer. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson told reporters on Friday military intervention “is on the table” if North Korea refuses to halt its program, yet a conflict with North Korea would come at heavy cost.

American General Curtis Scaparrotti warned that the conflict “would be more akin to the Korean War and World War II... [than recent wars,] very complex, probably high casualty.” Unfortunately, American war simulations and other experts have painted a similarly grim picture. Faced with certain annihilation, the North Koreans would launch what the *Times* calls “a full scale, last-ditch effort” to shock their enemies. Artillery would rain on South Korean

cities like Seoul, turning it into a lunar landscape.

Other Korean and Japanese cities could face chemical or nuclear strikes, a horrific prospect. Additionally, war simulations show 90,000 American troops would be deployed in a deadly 56-day initial invasion, and if they succeed, they would then have to scour the countryside finding every last North Korean weapon before it falls into the wrong hands.

However, these predictions are still just that—predictions. America has 10 years to use its full diplomatic powers to halt their program before the continental U.S. is in reach, but they must be cautious in avoiding an incredibly costly war. The horrors that thousands witnessed at Hiroshima must never happen again; stopping the North Korean nuclear program will greatly help that cause.

Ray-spect the Recommendations Board

by Hannah Paxton '19
Opinion Staff

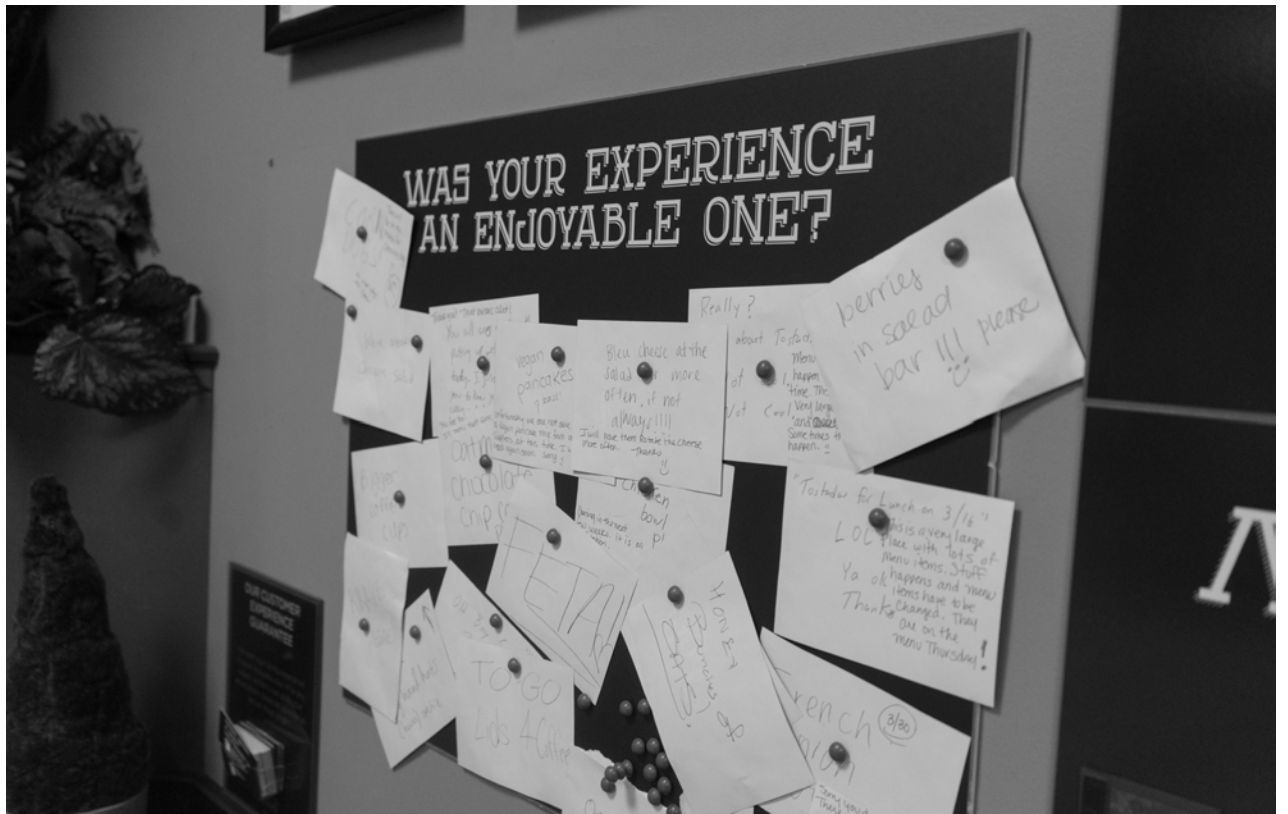
CAMPUS

The recommendation board in the Raymond Dining Hall is a great resource, but like everything else, it can easily be abused. Students have the freedom to write whatever they want on sticky notes, from food requests to dishes they particularly liked, but sadly, the board also gives them the freedom to be rude and unappreciative to a staff that works extremely hard every day of the week.

This week alone numerous harshly-worded complaints were left on the board, some of them even carrying a tone of snark, one of which read "Tostadas, really?" There were objections to mislabeled foods, criticisms about not having enough of something, and protests about the main dish of the night. While these accusations are not wrong in and of themselves, there is a better way to word what you are trying to say.

Being in college can sometimes change the way we react to certain situations once we grow accustomed to the way things operate. After all, the last time we were served three meals on a daily basis without any effort of our own was when we were infants. Once we were older we became used to having to make our own meals from time to time and taking care of the dishes ourselves. But that all changes in college.

When you want to eat, all you have to do is walk to the dining hall where so many options are presented to you that it can often be difficult to make up your mind. The only effort required of us is to pick up a plate and silverware and later put it on a conveyor when we're done. After a while the setting becomes less foreign and more like second nature. Now we hardly think about the food we eat,



NICHOLAS CHRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

we just have it served to us.

Meanwhile, the dining hall staff takes care of everything else. They are the ones who are up in the early hours of the morning to prepare all of our food for the day. They are the ones who pay special attention to the needs of the students, mindful of allergies and maintaining variety from day to day. They are the ones who listen and respond to the requests we stick on that board.

It is easy to forget how fortunate we are that there is an entire group of people that works hard to make sure we are fed, but that does not mean that we

should. While criticism is important and beneficial no matter the situation, it should be directed in a manner that keeps in mind the people to whom it is addressed.

The fact that we even have a board to write recommendations on is a privilege in itself, because it means that they truly care about what we as students want. If there is ever the need for criticism, just keep in mind that it's a person to whom you are writing to and that your notes are actually seen and taken into consideration. A little bit of gratitude goes a long way.

Letter to the Editor: Keep "Yuck Truck" On Campus

We, the Executive Board of the 67th Student Congress, the Student Life Chair, and Student Congress Sodexo Representative, met with Chief Financial Officer John Sweeney and Assistant Vice President for Business Services Warren Gray on Monday, March 20, in regard to the potential banning of Haven Brothers Mobile food truck services, more commonly known by students as "Yuck Truck," on weekend nights from parking on campus.

As representatives of the student body, we are strongly dissatisfied with this potential decision to ban Haven Brothers Mobile food truck, "Yuck Truck," from parking on campus, as they previously have been allowed, due to many consequences that would ensue with this decision. We know how busy and popular Haven Brothers Mobile food truck services are on weekend nights. If the truck is banned from campus and

forced to relocate off-campus, we are concerned for student safety, as it will create traffic problems with cars on Eaton Street and a pedestrian safety concern as students line the sidewalk and street, especially late at night on weekends, when this food service is popular. It is important for students to have continued access to options located on campus for late night food options. There is also a deep tradition of Haven Brothers Mobile food truck being a late night food stop for Providence College students on weekends. Student Congress has expressed our deep opposition to the decision for this vendor to potentially be banned from parking on campus.

If you enjoy having the Haven Brothers Mobile food truck, "Yuck Truck," parked on campus during weekend nights and you do not want to see Haven Brothers being banned from parking on campus, please email stucongr@providence.edu voicing your concerns. We will share these with the appropriate administrators. Please reach out to Student Congress members and express your concern. Lastly, please stop in the Student Congress Office Slavin Center LL27C, to express your dissatisfaction with this potential change in late night food options available on PC's campus. You may also sign a petition in opposition of Haven Brothers food truck, "Yuck Truck," from being banned on campus when you stop in the Student Congress Office.

Thank you for your consideration and feedback as we continue to work in response of student concerns.

-Andrew Konnerth '17, Phionna Cayola-Claude '18, Sean Lawler '17, Patrick Rogers '17, Morgan Itz '18, and John Stablein '19 of the 67th Student Congress

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PC: Let's Clean Up Our Act

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

EDITOR'S COLUMN

When will we learn?

It was only two years ago that a former Editor-in-Chief of *The Cowl*, Mason Sciotti '15, wrote a column condemning aggressive and destructive behavior at off-



campus parties. At the time, he was addressing the serious injury of Providence Police Officer Michael Clary, who was struck in the head by a 1.5L vodka bottle while Providence College students celebrated our hockey team's first National Championship win. Clary's injury required 20 stitches.

And here I am, only two years later, composing a column that addresses the same topic, because apparently we did not learn our lesson the first time. According to Jack Leyden's Safety Advisory, another bottle was thrown "in the direction of the police" over the weekend, this time striking a PC student who also required medical attention.

Yet PC students question the local media's negative portrayal of our social activities as if we do no wrong. Carelessly throwing bottles is wrong. Overcrowding our off-campus houses with several hundred students is wrong, just as slamming the door in a police officer's face

when he or she tries to take control of the situation is wrong. Nevertheless, all of these incidents took place over the weekend, so I can't help but think that the local media's portrayal of PC students as rowdy and disrespectful is right. But it doesn't have to be.

St. Patrick's Day weekend only marked the beginning of a spring season full of celebrations. Once warmer weather settles in, students will inevitably take to the streets in beach or golf attire, but the harm we too often inflict on others is entirely avoidable. It's possible to enjoy a nice day or commemorate a sports victory without blocking intersections, without trashing our neighborhoods, without throwing bottles, and without disrespecting the law enforcement officials who are sent to keep us safe.

All I ask is that we learn from last weekend's mistakes with hope that there won't be another column addressing this topic again.

TANGENTS & TIRADES

College Snow Days are a Blessing

The announcement of a snow day always receives a diverse response across campus. Some Providence College students use snow days as a way to catch up or even get ahead on their work for the week, while others use it as a day off to relax and catch up on some sleep.

Either way, snow days are a blessing and students should be happy to have an unexpected day off.

That being said, students deal with the snow itself in different ways. Some students, typically those who don't come from the Northeast and have not encountered much snow before, seem to stay away from the outdoors and remain perfectly content with being snowed-in in their dorm rooms. Other, more hardy, students dread the idea of being trapped in their dorms for a day and venture outside to experience the storm.

There is some disagreement amongst students over snow in March. Some seem not to mind the bad weather at all, while others, especially those returning from a warm Spring Break, seem utterly outraged.

However, students likely agree that the best thing about snow days in college is both not having to make up the days missed at the end of the semester and having someone else deal with the issue of shoveling the snow.

- Katherine Opiela '20

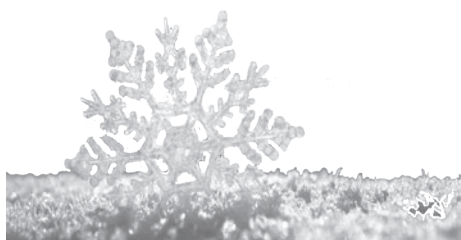


PHOTO COURTESY OF LEWISTONMAINE.GOV

To Nap Or Not To Nap?

From the time we are children we are told how important it is to get a good night's sleep. In kindergarten we were even given a certain amount of time out of the school day to take a nap.

As you get older, however, you have more freedom to decide when to go to bed. By the time you are in college, it is recommended to get around eight hours of sleep every night. As almost every college student can attest, this is virtually impossible.

Between staying up late to finish homework, meeting with study groups, and very necessary Netflix binges, getting a solid eight hours of sleep is just unrealistic. Those who were self-identified night owls in high school are already at a disadvantage. What you considered to be late in high school might now be when you finally start your homework.

Naps become an essential part of the day, but they are also risky. If you take a nap during the day you are risking not being able to fall asleep that night. Or you might take a much longer nap than expected and end up having to stay up all night to prepare for the next day of classes. Even if you have excellent time management skills, it can often be hard to get everything done before you reach the point of not being able to stay awake.

And when you do finally fall asleep, you may fall victim to noisy roommates who do not share the same sleep schedule. Getting the proper amount of sleep is necessary in order to survive, but in college it can be downright impossible.

- Bridget Blain '19



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHNLEWIS.SCENE7.COM

No More Early Morning Classes

Taking an 8:30 a.m. class doesn't seem so bad until you're stuck taking 8:30 a.m. classes Monday through Friday, which is exactly what happened to me. Frankly, I'm not exactly sure why 8:30 a.m. classes exist to begin with. I'm sure I can speak for the majority of college students when I say sleep is something to be treasured and not taken lightly.

While balancing homework, exercise, a social life, and the bare necessities—such as eating and showering—there are simply not enough hours in the day. Therefore, college students have a tendency to go to bed at odd, late hours. An early morning class prevents students from receiving the proper amount of sleep they need on a nightly basis.

According to an article in *The Independent*, a lack of sleep causes a "decline in cognitive ability; our brains just don't work properly without sleep. [It] can have severe effects on our performance, ranging from irritability and low mood, through to an increased risk of heart disease and a higher incidence of road traffic accidents."

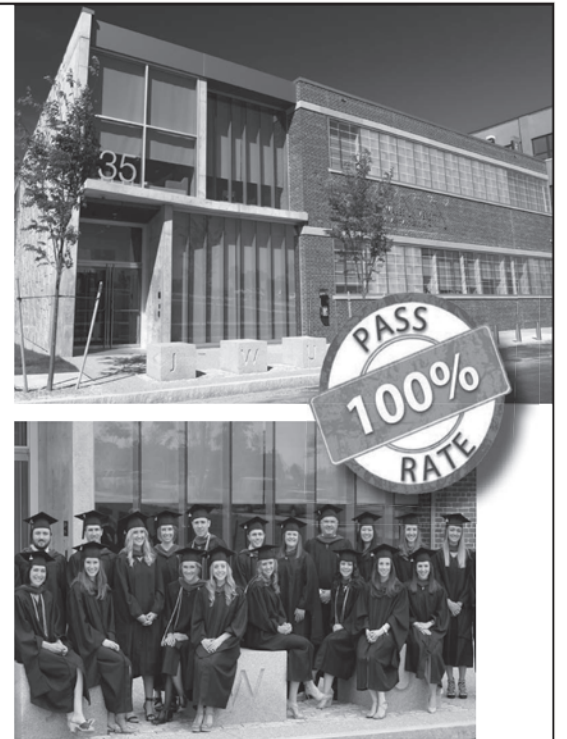
So why would Providence College, a well-respected institution that facilitates higher-learning, offer 8:30 a.m. classes knowing what they know about the dangers of little sleep? I suggest changing 8:30 a.m. classes to 9:30 a.m. classes.

The College can still make use of the early hours of the day and it also won't be as cold later in the morning. In fact, I'm sure students and teachers will be more alert, and it will create an overall better atmosphere for all. I would much rather attend 9:30 a.m. classes Monday through Friday as opposed to 8:30 a.m. classes.

- Laura Arango '20



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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017

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*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

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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

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PHOTOGRAPHY



LAURA CHADBOURNE '20/THE COWL



LAURA CHADBOURNE '20/THE COWL



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

ABOVE LEFT: Julianne Rurka '18 prepares to bat in the second game of the softball double header against URI.

ABOVE RIGHT: Megan McCune '19 pitches in the second game against URI.

LEFT: Kevin Smith '07 answers questions at the history department Career Fair, where successful alumni who majored in history gave career advice to students.

BELOW: The Argus Quartet, the Fellowship Quartet in Residence at the Yale School of Music, performs in the Ryan Concert Hall, sponsored by the Department of Music.



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

ROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

What's the best advice you've ever received?



**"Always be kind; you never know what people are going through."
Caitlin Rodensky '19**



**"Get out of your comfort zone."
Meredith Haluga '17 and Robert Degre '17**



**"Hand Jesus the one stupid piece of bread, and expect him to work miracles."
Erica Beatey '19**



**"Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you're going to get."
Taylor Mulhearn '19**



**"Everything you do, do with purpose."
Oliver Penn '17**



**"The biggest mistake you can ever make is saying no."
Romaine Pommells '19**



"If you ain't first, you're last."

-Ricky Bobby

PHOTO COURTESY OF FANART.TV

Photos by Nicholas Crenshaw '20, Photo Editor

Stars with Guitars Come Together for Charity

by Ryan Cox '18
A&E Staff

MUSIC

Last Thursday night, the Dunkin' Donuts Center offered a unique opportunity to country music fans in Southern New England. Sponsored by Cat Country and Dunkin' Donuts, the venue hosted its second annual "Stars with Guitars" acoustic guitar pull, where all the artists are on stage together, taking turns playing songs and sharing stories about their musical careers.

The show was a benefit concert, and all proceeds went to Hasbro Children's Hospital. This year's show featured rising artists Ryan Follse, and Runaway June, as well as Love and Theft, LoCash, Jon Pardi, and Josh Turner, who all donated their time to perform.

Follse, the former frontman of the band Hot Chelle Rae, was eager to share some of his backstory. Follse's parents were both country songwriters, writing Tim McGraw's "Something Like That," and Faith Hill's "The Way You Love Me." He performed his latest single, "Put a Label on It," and the Hot Chelle Rae hit "Tonight Tonight," among a few others. Follse seemed the most excited to perform at the event, saying, "This is really cool for us because it feels much like a Nashville writers' night. I feel like I'm bringing the Bluebird up to you guys."

Runaway June brought the most traditional country sound to the first half of the show. Their latest single, "Lipstick," capitalizes on their organic country twang, bringing a bit of traditional female harmony to an industry marked heavily by country-pop. Jennifer Wayne, granddaughter of actor John Wayne, spoke briefly about growing up around her grandfather.

Love and Theft featured their newest single, "Candyland," and an unreleased song, "Love Wins," that reminds men to be "better husbands, better fathers," according to the band. The single has just been released online but will be featured on the band's upcoming album.

Pardi brought a big personality to the night. Despite his California roots, he injects a throwback



Josh Turner at "Stars with Guitars" in Providence, Rhode Island.

PHOTO COURTESY OF C+F PHOTOGRAPHY

country sound into his music. He performed his first number one, "Up All Night," which brings back the sound of late '90s and early 2000s country. He was the only artist who brought an electric guitar onstage, a strange choice at first that worked surprisingly well with the acoustic guitar and was a fantastic way to best represent his style.

LoCash's sound was the most contemporary of the six artists. The duo performed a couple of their hits, including "I Know Somebody" (their first number one), and their current single, "Ring on Every Finger." They also performed the Tim McGraw song "Truck Yeah," which they co-wrote in 2012.

Turner's iconic country bass has remained unchanged for almost 20 years, staying strong in the face of the rapidly-diversifying country genre. His cool, mellow stage presence matched his warm,

bass voice. From his presence on stage, it was clear that Turner had the most experience performing, but it would have been nice to see him open up a little more about his career during the night.

To see the artists laughing and talking genuinely with each other and the audience was a refreshing change, and a unique opportunity to see artists in the situation in which most of them got their start. For one night, the concert was about the music, rather than the show.

The Dunk was only open to a third of its capacity, creating an intimate experience for the audience to interact with the artists. "Stars with Guitars" is the most recent iteration of Cat Country's benefit concerts, beginning in 2009 with the "Snowball" series, but this is shaping up to be their most successful version of the charity concert.

St. Dominic Ensemble is by Students, for Students

by Patrick Lovett '17
A&E Co-Editor

MUSIC

Crowds applaud for a variety of reasons: to commend a performance, show agreement, give thanks—after the 10:30 p.m. mass at St. Dominic Chapel, the congregation applauded for all of the above. The clapping is directed towards the St. Dominic Ensemble, Providence College's own praise and worship band, which uses a soulful and contemporary style to bring students in and keep them coming.

Ever since its founding over a decade ago, the St. Dominic Ensemble has offered a more modern music selection for mass goers. Comprised of numerous vocalists, guitarists, a pianist, and percussionist, the band is able to play both old hymns and new songs alike, with a captivating tune and an upbeat tempo.

Calling it a "contemporary worship band" with a "earthy, folksy vibe," the group's current leader, Andrew Goyer '18, believes the Ensemble serves to appeal to its audience. "Students are drawn to this type of music," says Goyer, "...our purpose is to create an environment for them to worship in, plain and simple."

In light of these aims, it is simple to

measure the band's success by looking at the size and support of its audience. According to Fr. Dominic Verner, O.P., the band succeeds in both metrics. "The popularity of the 10:30 p.m. mass speaks for itself," he says, "...it is the most popular mass every Sunday."

In reference to the Ensemble's spiritual value, Verner says the band's style is conducive to prayer. Expanding on that point, he says, "the Ensemble has the down to earth nature of folk, with some powerful lyrics that speak to the more transcendent desire of the heart."

Matthew Sanborn '17, a member of the intended audience, finds the band's style refreshing. In contrast to the more traditional hymns one would commonly find at a mass, Sanborn calls the Ensemble's music "up-to-date and upbeat," which he believes "keeps the congregation focused and excited to be in the chapel."

F u r t h e r m o r e ,

Sanborn says that the band is able to affect the quality and ambience of the ceremony. "The band helps the verticality of mass," he says, "Its one thing to sit through mass, and it is another to actually experience mass."

The Ensemble does not limit itself to only playing masses, however. The group has already opened for the local Providence worship band,

Revive, twice this year. Looking forward, The Ensemble is preparing for another performance, during Campus Ministry's "Encounter with Christ" retreat from March 31 to April 2.

However, for the many, the Ensemble can be found playing in St. Dominic any given Sunday night. Those looking to listen to the band for the first time need only follow the music and applause.



The St. Dominic Ensemble opening at a Revive concert.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW GOYER '18

Divide and Conquer: Ed Sheeran Continues to Rise

by Kerry Torpey '19
A&E Staff

MUSIC

After a four-year hiatus from releasing music, British singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran released his third studio album *÷* on March 3, 2017. The highly anticipated album has already broken records, despite some mixed reviews from music critics.

Born in Halifax, West Yorkshire in England, Ed Sheeran began his recording career in 2004. In 2011, he made his U.S. studio debut with *+*, charting at number five with over \$1 million total in sales. With

an increasing following and continued success after his debut, Sheeran went on to release *X*, which debuted at number one with over \$2 million sales.

Following the monumental success of *X*, Sheeran used his hiatus to really dive into his music and escape the public eye. He announced his hiatus on Instagram and told his fans that "the 3rd album is on its way and is the best thing I have made thus far." Jon Caramanica of *The New York Times* describes Sheeran's return to the music scene as "a batteries-fully-charged assault on the pop charts from a performer skilled in musical osmosis."

According to *Billboard*, after only one week on the charts, *÷* is already the bestselling album of 2017. One week after release, the album had

sold 322,000 copies in the United States alone. As of March 10, *÷* became the third-fastest selling album in the United Kingdom, with a total of 672,000 copies sold. Of those 672,000 copies, 232,000 were sold on the first day of release.

In terms of digital streaming, Sheeran broke Spotify's record for most streams on the first day of release, with a total of 56,727,861 streams.

In terms of critical reaction, there is a bit of a mixed bag. One thing many critics took note of is the Irish and Ghanaian influence Sheeran utilized on multiple tracks, including "Galway Girl," "Nancy Mulligan," and "Bibia Be Ye Ye."

"Galway Girl" debuted at number one on the Irish charts upon release, despite Sheeran's label being initially against the track. He told Alexis Petridis in an interview with *The Guardian* that his label was "really, really against 'Galway Girl,' because apparently folk music isn't cool," but there is "a huge gap in the market" for it.

Maura Johnston of *Rolling Stone* described "Galway Girl" as a nod to Sheeran's Irish heritage as he "offers his own spin on the Irish drinking song to the present-day pop world in a modern-day jig that recalls a synthesis of Justin Timberlake meets the Pogues."

A major critic of the album is Laura Snapes, a contributor for *Pitchfork*. She writes that "Ed Sheeran sells trite innocence by the pound. He uses bland wisdom and unimaginative music to ponder the basic good and bad in people around him, without once looking inward."

Snapes is particularly censorious of the variety of topics and issues Sheeran brings up throughout the album that range from celebrities to politics. She explains Sheeran wants it both ways: "artist and celebrity, nice guy who doesn't want to alienate his fans with political convictions, anti-consumerist while gagging to dominate pop's arms race."

Despite the harsh critiques, many agree that Sheeran's latest album is his best yet. Maura Johnston views *÷* as a "musical history lesson" that "is both well-timed and rip-roaringly fun, another example of [Sheeran's] still-evolving craft."



Ed Sheeran performs at the iHeart Music Awards.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THENEWYORKPOST.COM

The Legacy of Chuck Berry, Rock Pioneer

by Joe Clancy '18
A&E Staff

MUSIC

This Saturday, Chuck Berry, one of the biggest stars in rock and roll history, left the world silent in honor of all he had accomplished and given to the music industry.

Often called the "father of rock and roll," Berry began his career in 1953, and since he loved music so much, only really left the stage on Saturday, March 18.

Berry was born in 1926, and as a young man, was on a path to crime and obscurity. However, this changed in 1953 when Berry started performing with Johnnie's Johnson's trio. Berry's collaboration with the group came at a time when there was widespread stigma surrounding rock and roll among white audiences, because of the association with African American culture.

Despite this, Berry was able to overcome some of the prejudice and surprisingly became very popular among rural white Americans. His breakthrough came in 1955, when he released his number one hit "Maybellene." Berry went on to further success as he released hits like "Johnnie B Goode" and "Rock and Roll Music."

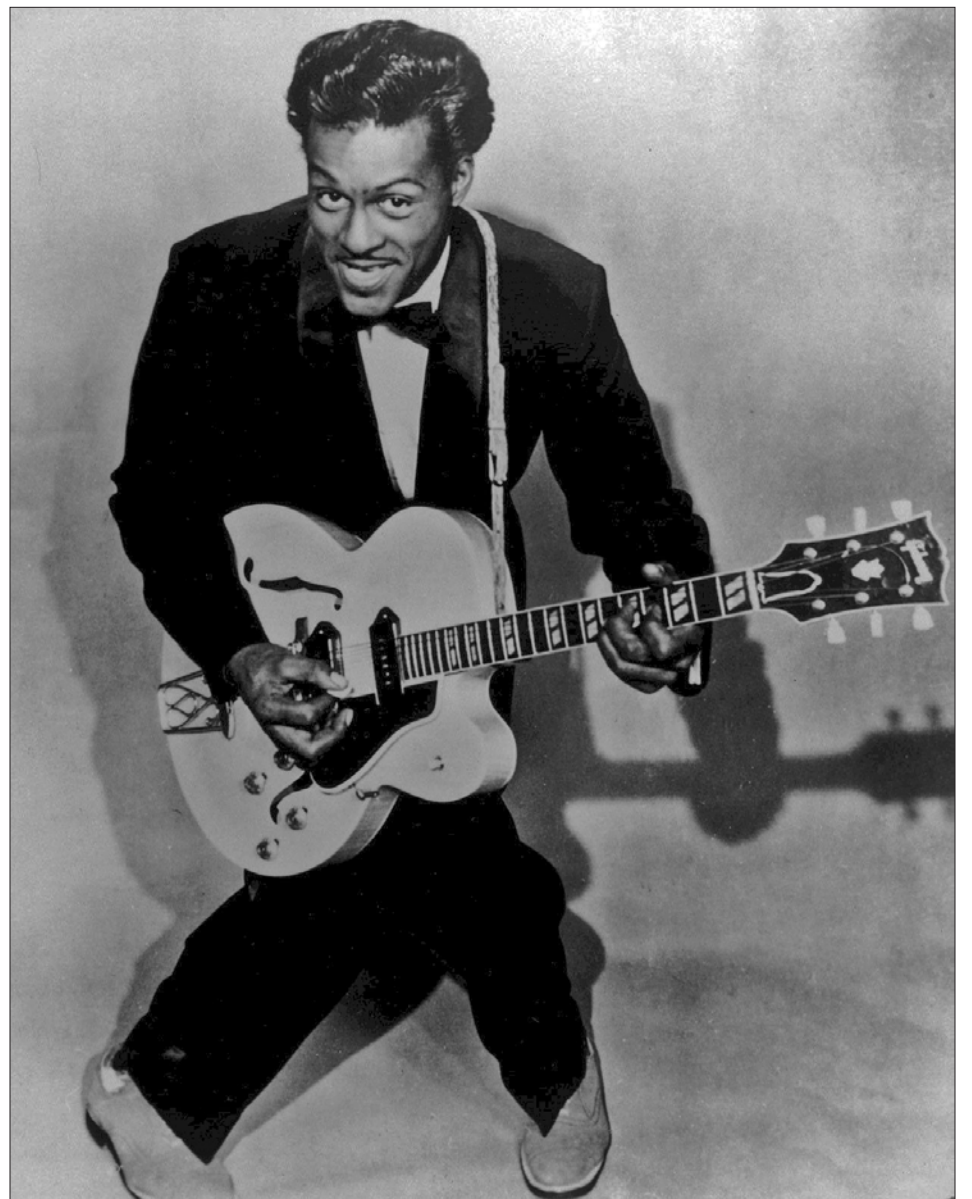
His songs were unique and innovative, in the sense that they focused more on guitar riffs than previous generations recordings. Although the songs were short, they were fast paced and capitative.

Berry also helped focus rock and roll around what it is known for today.

While performing, Berry also helped innovate the classic showmanship associated with rock and roll acts. Berry's style was electric both in guitar and in his movements on stage. Berry was synonymous with "rocking your body" while he danced and played. He even invented a coveted rock move "the duck walk" which saw Berry essentially hopping from one end of the stage to another. Berry would often improvise his music and movements, to give rock that seductive feel for a newly established teenaged audience, who craved it during 1950s conservative America.

Berry was a pioneer, especially as he influenced countless artists that were considered to be some of the greatest musically acts of all time: The Beatles, the Rolling Stones, and even Bob Dylan. John Lennon once said that if rock and roll were to be renamed, it would be "Chuck Berry." Dylan, who is often cited as one of the most gifted lyricist of all time, said that Berry was "the Shakespeare of rock and roll."

Now Elvis may have the title with some as "the King," however, Berry is truly rock's father. Berry brought rock not only to the charts but he opened the genre up to a whole new population. Berry not only introduced America to what rock could become, but he ultimately helped shape its future. There is no doubt, that Berry is truly one of the great innovators of rock and roll.



Chuck Berry poses for a photo.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BESTCLASSICBANDS.COM

Kong is Still the King



King Kong in *Kong: Skull Island*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMBD.COM

by Blaine Payer '18
A&E Staff

FILM

I went to the movie theater this weekend intending to see *Beauty and the Beast*, but in a surprising twist I only saw the beast. Disney's latest smash hit was sold out three days in advance, leaving me with few options besides the newest King Kong movie, *Kong: Skull Island*. Just as with any big-budget, star-studded monster movie, I was expecting mediocrity. This Kong adaptation, however, is not just any monster movie.

Starring Tom Hiddleston, Brie Larson, and Samuel L. Jackson, the new King Kong movie has become a surprising success, making the future of classic film reboots finally start to look a little brighter. The movie's success also marks the halfway point of a five-year-long monster movie reboot, opening the door to a return of Hollywood's most beloved beasts.

Kong: Skull Island, directed by newcomer Jordan Vogt-Roberts, opened to wide praise and an impressive \$61 million weekend. Although that number is only a fraction of its massive \$185 million budget, it will have no trouble closing the gap with room to spare in domestic sales over the

next few weeks. It is also predicted to do well in overseas markets, specifically China, who has a long history of King Kong movies and his many escapades with their own cultural icon, Godzilla.

Kong: Skull Island chronicles the adventures of a military-backed government research agency that sets out to explore an uncharted island called Skull Island. Set in the immediate aftermath of The Vietnam War and utilizing the help of master-tracker James Conrad, the group arrives on Skull Island armed with enough helicopters, napalm, guns, and ammunition to make the Vietcong run for the hills. Unfortunately, that is not nearly enough to threaten Kong or the other creatures that dwell on, as John Goodman's character puts it, "the island where God stopped creating." The team soon find itself fighting for survival against anything that moves, with factions forming amidst the leadership as to who the real enemy is—Kong or man.

Vogt-Roberts transforms his action-packed spectacle into a poignant critique on mankind's ill-treatment of nature, as well as the growing culture of xenophobia that so tragically plagues America today. Audiences heard Jackson heroically proclaim in the trailers that, "It's time again to prove that man is king," while the film challenges the audience to evaluate that claim and

determine whether man is the kind of king that the world needs, or even wants. Rest assured, Kong makes sure to answer that question personally.

Luckily, *Skull Island* is not the last that audiences will see of Kong for long. Cinemablend reported late last year that the film is actually a follow-up to the Gareth Edwards helmed project, *Godzilla*, from back in 2014. Legendary Pictures, the studio behind *Godzilla* and *Kong: Skull Island*, has a four-movie deal revolving around two of the biggest monsters of the 20th century.

Kong: Skull Island is the second of four films, with *Godzilla 2* set for a 2018 release. The series will climax with the highly anticipated *Godzilla vs. King Kong*, which will stomp its way into theaters by June 2020. Basically, both King Kong and Godzilla have gotten their origin stories properly polished and repackaged, which has set them on a slow-but-steady path towards a confrontation of epic proportions.

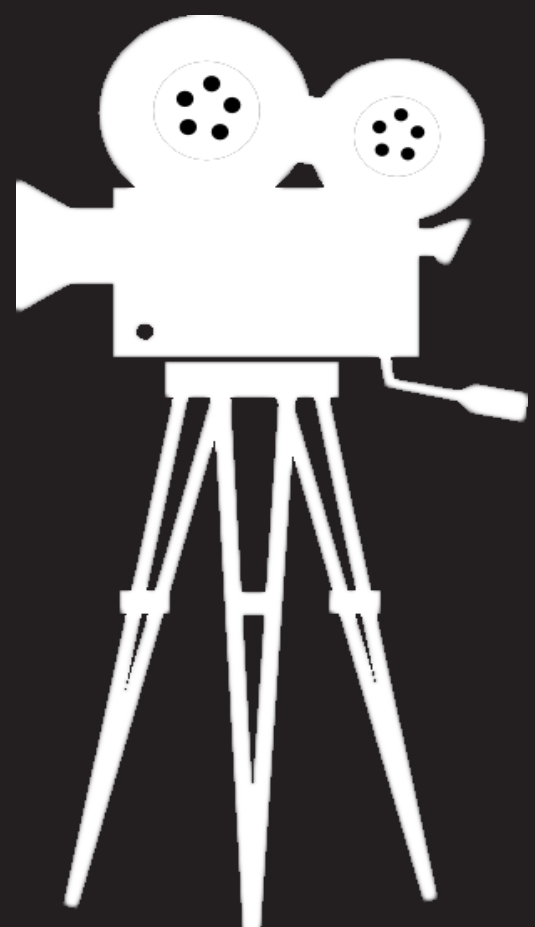
One must always be skeptical when it comes to remakes of classic movies, especially monster movies, which makes the success of *Godzilla* and *Kong: Skull Island* that much more exciting. However, above all, the newest success from Legendary Pictures serves to remind us that not only is Kong still the King, but that he will never be dethroned.

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The Last Man

by David Martineau '18
Portfolio Staff

SHORT STORY

The world Colonel Brandon Kearney dreamt of was perfect, but the world he woke to was broken. The hard metal bunk beneath him—softened only by the thin mattress that rested between it and his body—was but the first symptom of its imperfection. The second was the silence. It was the same silence that he woke to every morning, which followed him throughout each passing day until he went to sleep, but its constancy did little to aid his growing accustomed to it.

The bunks around him were empty. They had been so for months, ever since the 51st Platoon had gone out to face the Enemy, and never returned. The fortress was quiet without them, but Brandon had learned the value of remaining unattached to the platoons that came through. His was a lonely position, unsuited to forming bonds of fellowship. Being the sole defender of one of the last human strongholds on Earth was one of the many jobs nowadays where friends were better avoided than acquired.

After performing his morning ablutions with the monotonous movements customary to a battle-hardened soldier of his status, Brandon made his daily circuit of the fortress, checking every empty chamber twice, with an additional inspection for the numerous automated monitoring systems that served as the

rest of the stronghold's crew. Brandon often marveled at the fact that technology on Earth had progressed vastly enough to make human labor unnecessary, but not human war. For some reason, the might and vigor of the simple human soldier had never been replicated into robotic form. Machines did well enough with surveillance and security, but when it came to making the tough decisions, those split-second choices in the middle of battle, they failed almost ubiquitously. That was why robotic soldiers had been phased out soon after the Enemy came.

Brandon tried to remember how long the war had been going on. He was certain it had not begun before his lifetime, but his memories were filled with nothing else. He remembered the first time he had seen an Enemy spacecraft hovering over a city, hurling out rays of light like sunbeams, reducing silver towers to ashes and dust. No one could say that the humans had cowered in the face of such a foe, but even the technology of 2100 AD—that might be the year, Brandon thought—had failed to stop the onslaught. In time, cities gave way to fortresses, massive bastions that rested above the underground caverns mankind had hollowed out to serve as the refuges for their dwindling population. Only the soldiers remained aboveground, platoons going out to fight, defenders remaining in their strongholds to ensure that the automated defense systems continued to function. Brandon wondered if the city beneath his feet knew what it was like to wake up alone each day, to spend all of one's time watching, waiting for the day when the Enemy would arrive,

heralding doom for yet another subterranean metropolis.

Brandon had realized long ago that the war was lost. It seemed that everyone knew it, even though they never said it aloud. He, however, had resigned himself to the fact that it was only a matter of time before they came. The reports that came in from the various platoons indicated that three other fortresses had fallen in the past month, the bastions and their cities laid waste in mere days by the Enemy's relentless attack. No one in the metropolis below him knew this, of course. It was better that they didn't. A life lived in constant fear—more so than the fear everyone already felt—was not a life worth living. That was why Brandon had volunteered to defend the fortress. Being resigned to his fate, he didn't fear it in the slightest.

His reflections were broken by the blaring of an alarm, the shrill clarion that he had long expected to hear. To his credit, the assessment of his own character held true, and he traveled to the control room with a brisk but fearless jog. The chamber, the highest in the fortress, was as empty as the rest. Its massive view—screens displayed the scene outside the fortress with grim indifference—a vast plain of black, wasted earth, and an Enemy warship gliding mercilessly through the far too beautiful sky.

Even though he knew it to be fruitless, Brandon deployed the defensive systems, enveloping the fortress in its energy shields and priming the anti-aircraft cannons. There was nothing more he could do but what he had been doing, for more years than he could remember: watching and waiting.

As the Enemy ship drew closer, Brandon sank into his chair and sighed. If he had wanted to, he could have leaned back like a child at an old-time cinema, watching the carnage that was about to unfold like a film. But he was a soldier, and a human being, and though he had accepted his fate, he would face it bravely.

When the first beams from the Enemy ship blazed to life against the shields, beginning the slow, inevitable assault that would bring his end, Brandon Kearney suddenly realized why he had never grown accustomed to the silence of the fortress. It was not because it reminded him that he was alone, but because it had threatened to make him forget why he was exposed to it, why he was subjecting himself to it. Now that he had survived without forgetting why—without forgetting that he had chosen to do this, to be the Last Man—he finally understood the silence, and embraced it, surrounding himself in it as he faced his final moments...one man, alone, but unafraid.

THE RAVEN'S EYE



by Connor Zimmerman '20
Portfolio Staff

SHORT STORY

I am Raven and I see all within my sight. My vision is clear, but I am no god. Quite the opposite, I am just as human as anyone, even with my power. I'm not an isolationist, but my world is small. I live with a family that I help, but they help me out more than they know. It's quite a happy family with John and Mary and their children, Rosie and Lance. My relationship with the family is akin to a loving servant, as I live with them and help them where I can. Lately, though, the household hasn't been right. John is stressed all the time and I can't seem to help him. Mary seems depressed and she keeps to herself more than she should. Rosie and Lance are sweet and naïve and they always want to play, but they are worried there is something wrong with their parents. I wish I could alleviate their fears. I wish that I were capable of more.

Rosie comes bursting in through the door, holding the mail. I wave to her and say, "Good afternoon Rosie, how was school?" She screams, "Hey Raven, school was great. We got to make arts and crafts all day since Ms. Blossom was sick." I reply, "Rosie, make sure you take off your shoes, you wouldn't want to create more work for me, would you? Where's your brother Lance?" Rosie falls and I fly over to make sure she is all right. "Rosie, dear God, are you all right? Shall I call for help?" Rosie stands up and rubs her head, "Yeah, I just fell taking my shoes off. Lance was right behind me. He should be..."

The door flies open, but I stop it instantly. Lance nonchalantly walks in with his backpack on one shoulder. I begin to say, "Young man where were you abandoning..." but he chimes in, "Raven, the bus stop is only two houses away." I reply, "You're safe in this house, but the world is dangerous out there." Lance snorts, "Raven, you should look outside the window more

often, because where we live is not what I would call a dangerous place."

Rosie tries to sound something out on the mail and says, "Raven what is this word? It begins with E, but I don't know it." I look at the envelope and say, "Rosie, that is for your parents, not for you, so please go put it on the kitchen table and I'll send it up to your parents. Why don't you two go outside to the backyard because, as I can see, it is lovely."

Rosie begins to run to the back porch, but Lance protests, "Raven, I just want to watch TV. I started this movie and I haven't been able to finish it yet." I reply in the nicest tone possible, "2001: A Space Odyssey is not appropriate for boys your age, now why don't you get some fresh air for once." Lance follows Rosie grudgingly. I travel to the master bedroom and make a noise so Mary knows I am coming.

I open the door, "Mary, are you in here?" I hear a moan and then I make the shades fly up. Mary is passed out on her bed and I see empty bottles and a wine glass on the floor. I avoid the broken glass and send the vacuum to clean it up. I look at Mary and I deem her all right to talk to. "Mary, I need you to help me." She throws her wine glass at me, but it passes through me. "Leave me alone Raven! You know it's my private time, go watch the kids and leave the adults alone."

I respond, "I know what you have told me, but this is urgent, you got the final eviction notice from the bank and Rosie almost found out." Mary sits up and looks at me, "She's a big girl. Soon enough she will have to know that her father is a worthless..." I interrupt her, "Mary, I didn't come here to hear this speech again. I have an idea and wanted to talk to you about it." Mary waves me off and says, "Raven, there is nothing you can do

for me or for this family."

Hurt, I sulk away and send the shades back down. I head back down to the kitchen and start to prepare dinner.

Later, after I feed and get the kids to bed, I hear Mary and John fighting upstairs again, and I rush up to heal the wounds and make sure the kids are asleep. I can hear the argument already in my head as I glide up the stairs. Mary shouting, "John what are we going to do? We don't have any place to go, not when you can't find a job!" John shouting back, "Mary, why is it on me? I was laid off and we are in a recession. I work every day to provide..." Mary shoots back, "Provide what, John? As far as I can tell you seem to be a horrible provider since we have no home." John retorts, "I provide enough for you to sit around all day in this house and forget your sorrows."

I force the door open and both Mary and John look shocked at my intrusion. John says, "Raven, you know you are not allowed in here without permission." I give the simple reply, "You've had your time to talk, now it is mine." Mary replies rhetorically, "John, maybe you should listen to the person who actually works around here." I look at Mary, and when she meets my cold gaze, she becomes silent. I begin to say, "I am in charge to take care of this family, and while I have power that is what I plan to do." I initiate lockdown and the house begins to shut down. The windows and doors are instantly replaced with sheets of lead, the lights dim to a low red, appliances, Wi-Fi, and the telephone are disconnected, and to the outside observer the house begins to disappear.

John and Mary, terrified, grab each other and begin to whimper. John stammers, "What, what are you doing, Raven?" I respond haughtily, "I am doing what I am programmed, I am caring for this family. John, you want to be here for your family, but can't. Mary, you need help that you are not

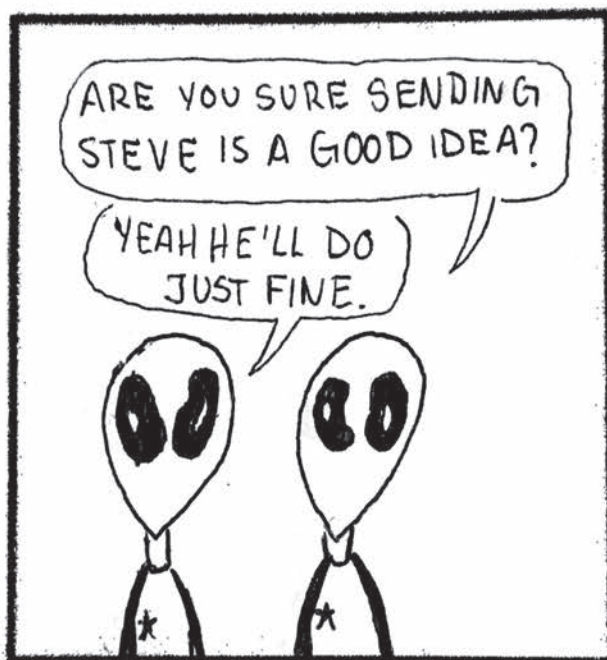
getting. Rosie and Lance won't talk to you two, but they know you two are having trouble and they are having troubles of their own. I can solve everything and protect you in one act. They won't take you from me as long as I am in power."

John begins to get angry. "Raven, this is not what you are programmed to do. You may be able to control this house, but I am the master of my family. I will deem what is necessary, now stop whatever it is you are doing." I fly towards him and emotionlessly say, "You have failed to protect your family, I am only doing what is necessary. You will be safe here and you can stay here for the rest of your days."

Mary begins to cry, but through her tears I can hear her whimper, "Raven, please don't kill us. Please don't kill us." I go to her and I try to lift her head up with my hand, but it passes through. Sadly, I try to calm her, "No one is going to die on my watch. The outside world is not safe, because I cannot protect you out there. Nothing will ever hurt this family, nevermore will I let you be hurt." John says quietly, "You may not be killing us, but you are ending our lives, Raven. There is more to life than just this house. The outside may be dangerous, but it is where life happens." I begin to fade away, but I say, "Lance was watching some movie earlier and I heard a quote that inspired me to act: 'I am putting myself to the fullest possible use, which is all I think that any conscious entity can hope to do.' Goodbye, Mary and John, try not to wake the children."

I am the one who controls this house and this is my story. Everyone may think I am a monster, but I think I would be a monster to do nothing. I am programmed to care for and protect, but I am useless if I fix injuries only after they happen. I may only be a hologram, but I feel what I see happening to the ones I love. I believe John called it empathy once, but whatever you might think I know what I must do. I am Raven and I see all.

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Listomania

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The <i>Cowl</i> Office	Empty Classroom in Feinstein
The Hallway Next to the <i>Cowl</i> Office	Career Service Office
Quiet Zone in the Library	Benches Behind Ray
Aquinas Cupola	The Mailroom
Onstage in Smith*	My Dorm Room
The Bookstore	Ruane Private Study Room

*Great Acoustics



by Marisa Gonzalez '18
Portfolio Staff

SHORT STORY

On a Tuesday, Carter Mills walks down the hall with long strides. She is hard to miss with her cropped, spiky purple hair against the dull walls of Fordham High. I watch as she maneuvers herself masterfully through the sea of students. She glides gracefully until she spots a petite brunette who goes by the name of Flora. She is a nice girl. Friendly to everyone. How she became friends with Carter is a mystery.

They exchange smiles and begin to talk. I wonder what about. It seems to be lighthearted, yet Flora seems to be puzzled. She tilts her head slightly to the left with furrowed eyebrows. Her lip is thin. Carter continues to talk and her hands begin to move. First, they are steady but begin to increase in rhythm. Her hands pick up the pace as Carter continues to talk, Flora looking on. Then, all of sudden, the hands stop in midair and slowly sink back down. Carter seems flustered. Her face is slightly red and she sighs, annoyed at something. Flora laughs, I can hear her delicate laughter from my locker. I have always wanted that laugh. Flora is so perfect and Carter is so Carter. Again, I wonder how the friendship began.

Flora finishes laughing and shakes her head. Her fingers reach into her coat pocket and she pulls

out a folded yellow piece of paper. Carefully, she unfolds it, like a clam opening to reveal a pearl. I lean forward to see. Now I understand. In Flora's hand was a pamphlet for the Senior Dance. Clearly, Carter did not want to go, yet it seems Flora may have persuaded her. With a frustrated sigh of defeat, Carter takes the paper from Flora's hand. I am amazed. Carter would never go to a dance. Once again, I wonder how Flora and Carter became friends. The bell rings and with one final smile, the two depart.

Carter has always fascinated me with her carefree personality. Nothing really rattles her, and although it is clear she hates everyone in this school, except for a select few, she has never lashed out. Instead, she will look at you with a death glare, pretty much asking why you exist, and then proceeds to ridicule you with her snappy remarks. So, she is not the friendliest person. Yet she has somehow managed to snag five friends, and Flora, who is the definition of a goody-two-shoes, is one of them. I want to know her appeal. Why have these five individuals gravitated towards her and how has she let them in?

With thoughts of what I just saw rolling around in my head, I make my way to science class. A large body barrels into me and has the nerve to snarl, "Watch where ya' goin'!" Oh, how I wish Carter was my friend. She would put him in his place. I resist the urge to flip him off and walk into class. Upon entry I hear Mrs. Hertz's scratchy

voice. "Ok class, today will be a lab day. This means lab partners. I am going to assign them." I yawn and take my seat as the teacher drones on. I slump into the chair, my eyes drooping. I had stayed up late last night finishing a paper and science was too boring to really be awake for anyway. As I am about to drift off into dreamland I hear a "pop." Startled, I jump up and open my eyes and see purple hair. Carter.

She stares at me, chewing her gum. Then she blows another bubble, right in my face.

"What?" I exclaim. "Geez, no need to shout," Carter snorts. I really want to punch her but I maintain my cool. "What do you want?" Carter chuckles, "Telling by the drool on the table, I would take a wild guess that you didn't hear the lab partner assignment." I huff, "Good guess. So?" Carter chuckles again. "Wow, is your brain still asleep or is having generally no clue normal for you? I'm your partner, genius." Carter plops onto the seat next to me. Yikes.

I just stare at her. She stares back. Finally she caves, "Look, I don't like this either. But we gotta' do it, 'kay. Now are you going to get the materials?" I am about to ask why I have to do it when she gives me her lovely death glare. I scamper out of my seat and head for the materials table. I look back at Carter, her chair on two legs and her feet on the table. She continues to chew that stupid gum. I sigh. Well, I have always wanted to examine her. What better place to do that than in a science class.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GINFAB.COM

Tiffany & Earl

Making PC an emotionally stable
place one letter at a time

Dear Tiff and Earl,

I'm feeling very overwhelmed, how do you de-stress?

Sincerely,

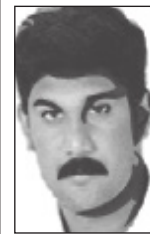
Everything hurts and I'm dying

Stress cannot be relieved;
your only chance is the sweet
release of death. That, or a
full body massage.



Tiffany

Go to Colorado, they have a really great remedy for stress there. Skiing. Skiing is fantastic in Colorado. Massachusetts has skiing too, but real skiing enthusiasts make the pilgrimage to Colorado for the best experience.

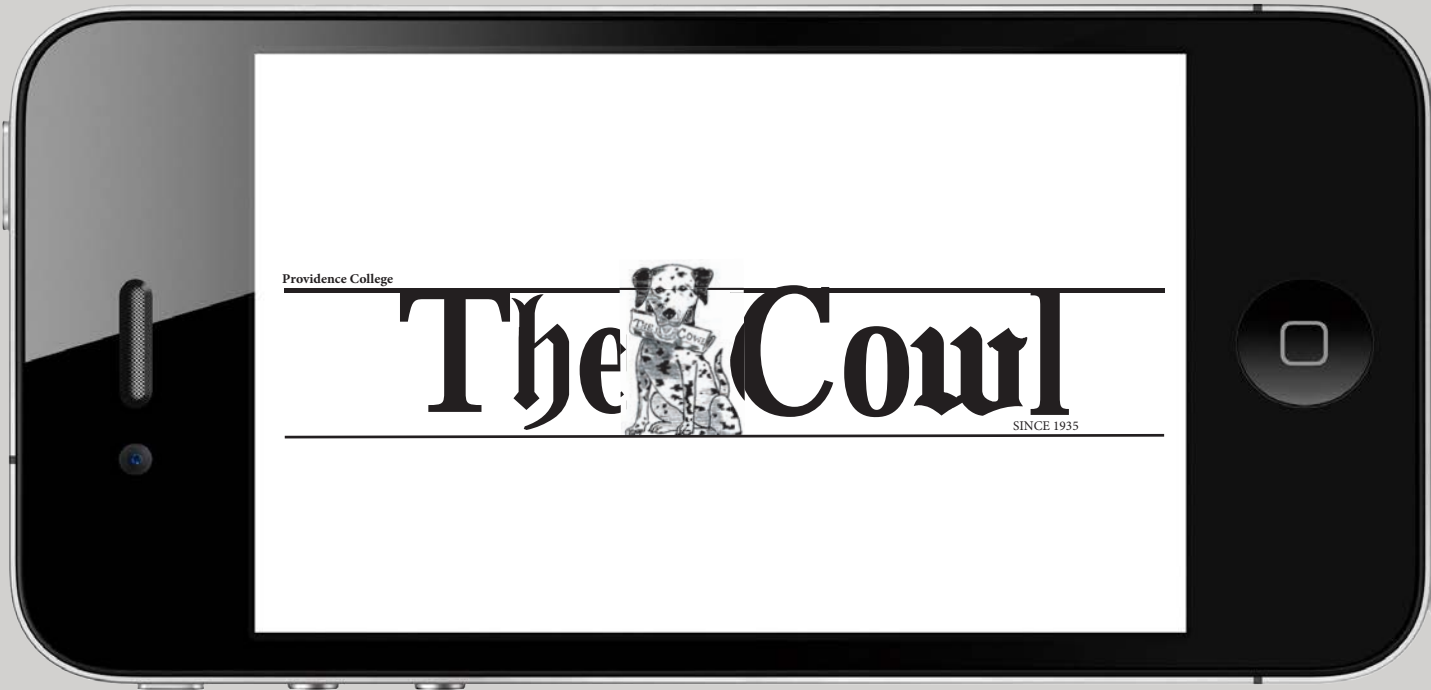


EARL



PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

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New Website Coming Soon: March 23

TheCowl.com

Athletes of the Week: Lundstrom '17 & Mulry '18

by Meaghan Cahill '20
Sports Staff

SOFTBALL

Nicole Lundstrom '17 and Paige Mulry '18, members of the Providence College Softball Team, have been consecutively named to the Big East Weekly Honor Roll. Lundstrom, who is a utility player for the team, and Mulry, who plays infield, were both standouts throughout both the University of Central Florida Tournament and the University of South Florida Tournament the past two weekends, which ultimately resulted in their continued Big East recognition. Both natives of Massachusetts, Lundstrom and Mulry shined in the batter's box in both tournaments.

Lundstrom especially excelled up at bat during the UCF Tournament, which was held from March 3-5. During the tournament, she led the Friars with a .438 batting average. Lundstrom also put up a 1.063 slugging percentage throughout her 16 at-bats and collected five RBIs and three home runs. Of the 16 hits, seven of them were recorded and she scored all seven times.

Lundstrom, who during the 2016 season played primarily as a catcher, has started in every game she has played in since the start of the 2015 season, which is when she transferred to PC from Syracuse University.

During the UCF Tournament, the Friars lost six of their seven games, only outscoring Florida Gulf Coast University with a score of 5-2.

Alongside Lundstrom, Mulry also excelled in her at-bats throughout the

course of the USF Tournament, which took place from March 7-12. During this tournament, Mulry was the one who led the Friars with a .391 batting average with her nine hits. Mulry also achieved seven RBIs.

Her bat really came alive during the game against Stetson University where she hit a solo homerun. In the games against both Monmouth University and Indiana State, Mulry's bat put its power on display as she hit a triple in each game. During the past two seasons, Mulry, an alumna

of Boston Latin School where she earned four varsity letters in softball, has recorded 13 RBIs, 21 runs scored, four doubles, and two homeruns.

During the USF Tournament, the team won two of their five games with a 10-2 win against Monmouth and a 15-11 win against Indiana State.

Following the double header this week against the University of Rhode Island, where the team had a win and a loss, they match up at home against UConn on March 23. After this, the team will travel to

New York for their first Big East match-up against St. John's University. The match-up with St. John's includes three games over the span of two days starting on March 25.

They will have a small reprieve from playing within the Big East conference with their game on March 29 at Fairfield University. However, their break will be short lived as they will start the month of April off with a roadtrip to Washington D.C. to play Big East rival Georgetown University in a three-game stand, starting with a double-header on April 1.



High-fives all around for the softball team.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

Brain Blast! Rugby Team Advances Research

by Sam Scanlon '19
Sports Staff

RUGBY

The Providence College Men's Rugby Team is taking a stance off of the field. One of the most popular and recognizable club sports on campus, this program is no stranger to philanthropic activity. In the past, players from the team have volunteered at events such as the Special Olympics, Turkey Drives, as well as bringing the whole team to paint a local police station. However, this time around is different.

Last month, 30 players on the men's rugby team pledged to donate their brains posthumously for research on the long term effects of playing contact sports and how they can lead to the development of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE). This is the first full team in any sport and largest single group to pledge to donate their brains. CTE is a brain disease most common in athletes that have had repeated head injuries and brain trauma. It has affected many athletes around the world, such as Junior Seau, an NFL Hall of Famer who took his own life due to the disease shortly after his 20-year-long career in the NFL.

The pledge was introduced to the team by PC rugby alumnus Michael Burke '16. Burke currently works for a non-profit organization called The Concussion Legacy Foundation. The Foundation has a main goal of fully understanding CTE, as it conducts its research at the Boston University CTE

Center, where their brains will go after they die. However, this pledge is not legally binding, so if any players no longer wish to have their brains researched, then they will not have to.

A current member of the rugby team, and one of 30 players to make the pledge, is James Lesniak '19. "We just want to help raise awareness. Research in football has been pretty big, but rugby research is really far

lacking, and with the growth of the sport, research needs to be done in order to benefit future players. The PC rugby team is taking matters into their own hands as they lead the charge for much needed rugby brain research.

Lesniak has played rugby throughout high school and is now in his second year playing in college, so he has been exposed to contact sports for quite some time. Still, he falls under the category of never having a "diagnosed" concussion. Players like himself will be extremely beneficial to the research because they can potentially show that they have experienced head injuries, but have just failed to report it or not had it diagnosed, which is a common issue among athletes.

Lesniak even admitted, "Well I've never been diagnosed with one, but I wouldn't be surprised if I have had one before." It will be valuable because of the variety of research tests ranging from brains that have experienced multiple severe concussions and those affects, to brains similar to Lesniak's where perhaps they have still experienced brain trauma, but just did not know it.

The foundation has pledges from many athletes including former NFL linebacker Ted Johnson, former NHL player Shawn McEachern, and NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. All different types of athletes are being researched, and now rugby will have sufficient research thanks to the overwhelming support of players from Providence College pledging to donate their brains.



The Rugby Team after a game this year.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM GILLAN'20

behind because it's not as common, so they don't have as many people to research. We can make a difference by providing the needed research for rugby players because it's just as physical as football," Lesniak noted in a conversation. Rugby research is extremely

Who Will Win March Madness?



by Jake Scarbo '17
Sports Staff

OP-ED

Kentucky

After the first weekend of play in the NCAA Men's basketball tournament, a large majority of brackets have been busted. Despite powerhouse teams like Villanova, Duke, and Louisville losing early in the tournament, the clear favorite all along was the Kentucky Wildcats. The second seeded Wildcats are entering the Sweet Sixteen coming off a gritty victory over Wichita State and are poised to continue this success.

A trio of talented freshmen leads the Wildcats every time they step on the floor. The most notable is Malik Monk, who averaged 20 points per game this season and is one of the best scorers and

shot makers in the tournament. De'Aaron Fox, the stellar freshman point guard, is dynamic on the fast break and dictates the tempo of the Wildcats. When Fox is scoring and creating for his teammates, Kentucky is very difficult to defeat.

The last of the trio, Bam Adebayo, is a physical specimen, coming off two straight double doubles in this tournament. When Kentucky gives him post touches and he is rebounding at a high rate, Kentucky receives a huge boost both offensively and defensively. Freshmen do not win teams National Championships, though.

The Wildcats have two seniors, Dominique Hawkins and Derek Willis, and one sophomore, Isaiah Briscoe, who will be a key in securing another championship for this storied program. The combination of talented freshmen and experienced seniors is a recipe that will deliver a championship to Wildcat nation.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

by Lauren Altmeyer '17
Sports Staff

OP-ED

Gonzaga

The Gonzaga Bulldogs have made the tournament for 19 consecutive seasons, but have only made the Elite Eight twice and have never advanced past that round. This year, however, will be different. The Bulldogs have the potential to go all the way and win their first National Championship.

The Bulldogs were practically undefeated this season, losing only to the Brigham Young University Cougars, giving them a 34-1 record thus far. In the past, Gonzaga has relied heavily on one or two guys to score, but this year the team has five players averaging double digit points.

Players such as Nigel Williams-Goss, an all American point guard; Prezemek Karnowski, one of the best true centers in the nation; and Zach Collins, a potential first round pick in the NBA, give the team a considerable amount of depth. Williams-Goss, a transfer from the University of Washington, leads the team in scoring with 569 points, averaging 16.7 points per game.

After a big win over Northwestern, the team celebrated Head Coach Mark Few's 500th win with the Bulldogs. The 612 games it took to get there are the third fewest of any coach to reach the mark. The win also gave Karnowski his 134th win, which is the most wins for any player in NCAA history.

With a fantastic head coach, numerous star players, and an intense will to win, the Gonzaga Bulldogs have an excellent chance at walking away as champions this year.

NCAA Hockey Tournament Preview



The Friars celebrating a goal this season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA

by Max Anderson '18
Sports Staff

MEN'S HOCKEY

With the entire country swept up in the craziness of the opening weekend of the NCAA basketball tournament, many forgot to tune in to the NCAA Division I hockey tournament selection show. For those that missed the selection show, here's a breakdown of each team that made the tournament and how each region shaped out.

Let's start with the East Region, where our very own Providence College Friars were placed. The Friars, who were seeded fourth by the selection committee, will take on number one seed Harvard. While it's always tough playing the one seed in the opening round, especially

a team that has lost just five games the entire season, the Friars will have the crowd advantage, as the game will be played at the Dunkin' Donuts Center. And do I even need to remind you of what happened the last time the Friars were a four seed in the tournament?

The other game in the East Region will be played between the two seed, the Western Michigan Broncos, and the three seed, Air Force. Neither of these teams have made the tournament since 2012, with the Broncos, who are 0-6 all time in the tournament, looking to finally score a win. They face an uphill challenge, however, against an Air Force team that just secured their sixth Atlantic Hockey title in the past 10 years.

In the West Region, number one seed Minnesota-Duluth will be taking on Ohio State. The Buckeyes,

who will be making their first tournament appearance in eight years and just their seventh tournament appearance ever, will be thinking upset against a Minnesota-Duluth squad that secured their fifth NCAA Tournament appearance since 2010.

Boston University, meanwhile, secured the two seed in the West Region, setting up a date with North Dakota. This could end up being one of the best matchups in the entire tournament, as both of these schools have made 30+ NCAA Tournament appearances, and have practically been stables since the tournament came into existence. Despite having four more losses than BU, it wouldn't shock me one bit if the Hawks ended up pulling off the upset here.

In the Midwest Region, Denver will take on Michigan Tech in the opening round matchup. Despite dropping a National Collegiate Hockey Conference (NCHC) tourney game to North Dakota, it's hard to argue that Denver has not been the most impressive team in Division I this season, posting a 29-7-4 record. As good as Michigan Tech has looked at points during the season, I don't see Denver dropping this game, especially after taking a premature exit in the NCHC Tournament. In the second game, two seeded Union College, will take on three seeded Penn State. Consider Penn State the Northwestern of this year's tournament, as this will be the first ever appearance by the Nittany Lions. Unfortunately, I it probably will not last long, as Union could take out Penn State early.

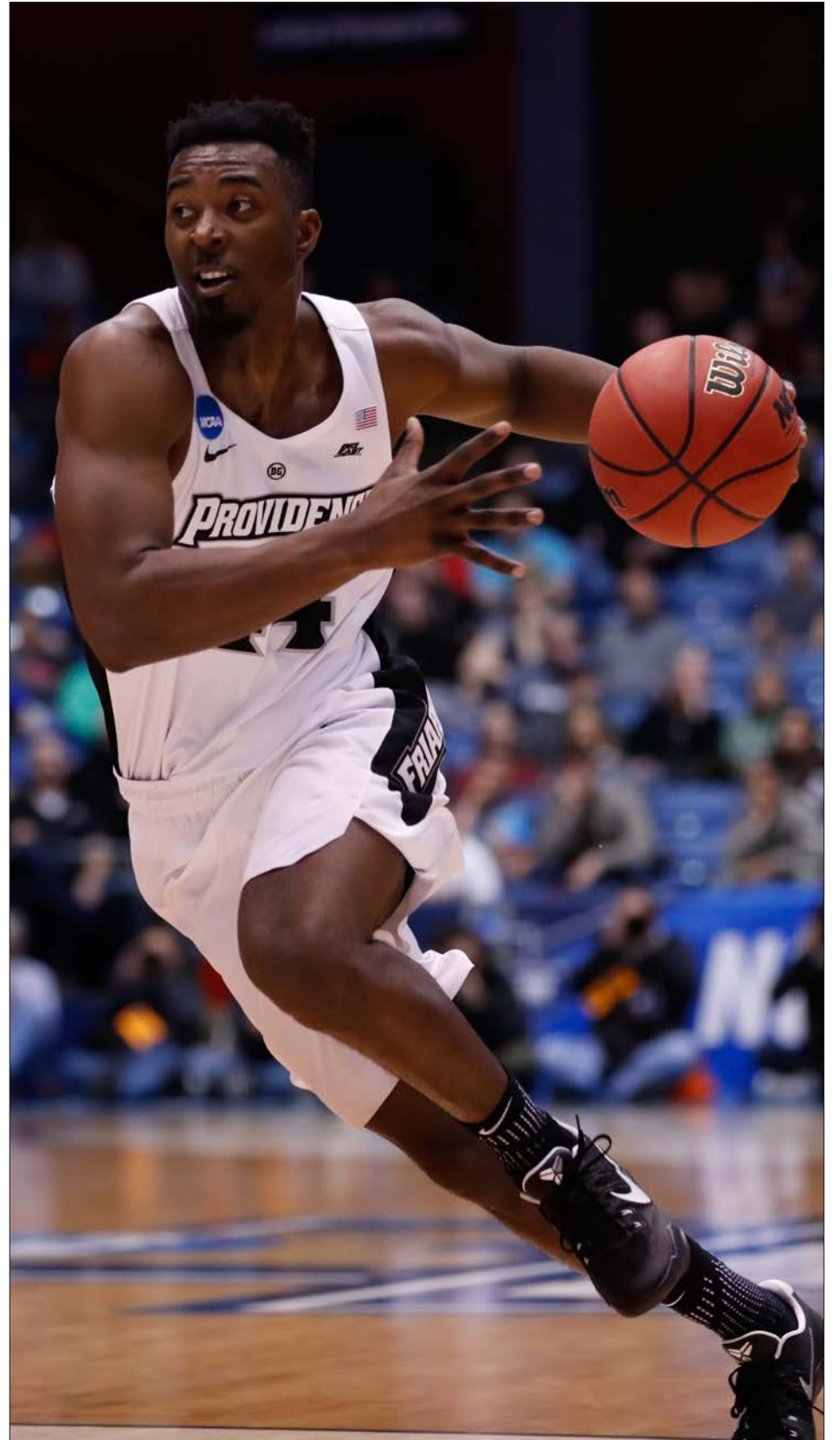
Finally, in the Northeast Region, the one seed Minnesota will take on the four seed, Notre Dame. Another game that could come down to the final minutes, Notre Dame has the possibility to pull this one out. They are a much better team than people think, and they might be a little under-seeded here. For the two vs. three game, UMass Lowell takes on Cornell, in a game that UMass will most likely take handedly.

Overall, the committee did a great job of selecting the teams for this year's tournament, and some of these first round matchups could make this year's tournament a great one to watch.

Men's Basketball Caps Off Season



Photos from the "First Four" game against USC.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF STEVE MILLER/DAYTON

by Jeff Williams '17
Assistant Sports Editor

MEN'S BASKETBALL

After closing out the regular season with an 86-75 win over St. John's, the Friar Men's Basketball Team looked ahead to the post season. For the 35th straight year, the Big East Men's Basketball Tournament was held at the world's most famous arena—Madison Square Garden in New York City. From March 8-11, while PC students enjoyed spring break, thousands of fans descended upon Manhattan to see their favorite teams play for a Big East title on the biggest stage.

The Tournament tipped off with a bang on Wednesday night. The matchup between the eighth seed St. John's Red Storm and the No. 9 seed Georgetown Hoyas became reminiscent of a classic Big East battle. Amidst the chippiness, St. John's pulled out their first tournament win in six years, 74-73. Next, the seventh placed Xavier Musketeers faced a bottom-of-the-barrel DePaul Blue Demons in a must-win game. After facing a one-point halftime deficit, Xavier pulled away in the second half to advance, 75-64.

At 12 p.m. the next day, the top-seeded Villanova Wildcats opened the quarters by smashing the exhausted Red Storm to the tune of 108-67. The four and five matchup pitted the Seton Hall Pirates and the Marquette Golden Eagles. Tied at halftime, the Pirates burst out of the gates with a 17-2 run and held on, 82-76. Fresh off their victory the previous night, the Musketeers took on the second ranked

Butler Bulldogs and rode their momentum to a 62-57 victory. After a 4-8 start to conference play, the Friars raced home with a six game winning streak and were rewarded with the third seed. However, they would meet their match against the sixth-seeded Creighton Blue Jays. After taking a 30-27 lead into half time, the Blue Jays dominated the second half, pulling away for a 70-58 win.

Seton Hall gave Villanova a huge scare in the semifinals. The Pirates jumped out to a 27-20 lead at the half—the worst start by the Wildcats this season. Villanova scratched back into the contest, and conference player of the year Josh Hart converted the game winner to prevail, 55-53. Xavier had a great run, and ran up a 37-31 lead, but Creighton proved to be too good. Marcus Foster knocked down the game winning three-pointer as his Blue Jays prevailed, 75-72. In the final on Saturday, the Villanova Wildcats captured the Big East title in emphatic fashion. They raced out to an early double-digit lead and never looked back. Hart netted 29 points as his team cruised (74-60) to a third Big East championship.

The Friars made their 19th appearance in the NCAA tournament, making it four consecutive seasons for the first time in school history. Ed Cooley's team kicked off its tourney bid on March 15 in Dayton, Ohio, against the Southern California Trojans, a rematch of PC's first round victory last year. As fans will recall, that matchup occurred on St. Patrick's Day, when Rodney Bullock '18 won the game with a buzzer-beating lay-up off of an inbounds from Drew Edwards '19. When asked, Coach Cooley aptly pointed out

that these were two very different teams. "Well, the biggest experience you can take is we won the game. But I think both teams are totally different, totally different...I think their style of play is still the same. Ours is very similar. But totally, totally different personnel."

To make a run in the tournament, Providence needed Bullock, Kyron Cartwright '18, and their teammates to bring their "A" game. In the first half, the team certainly did. After an early 7-0 deficit, the Friars exploded with a 15-0 run, bolstered by 15 points and four three pointers from Jalen Lindsey '18. PC dominated the game's opening, going into halftime with a 44-29 lead. Unfortunately, the Friars could not keep flying high, and it would be a very bad fall. Providence still had a 12-point lead with 12:53 remaining, but the Trojans came roaring back, narrowing it to four in three minutes. The game remained tight for several minutes before USC used a late 11-1 run to put the game away and end the Friars' season, 75-71.

After the game, Coach Cooley was disappointed but hopeful. "Really, really frustrated with how this game ended. I thought we controlled it for most of it. But in tournament play you've got to play a complete game, and we didn't. So we're going to take ourselves home and brush ourselves off and look forward to next season...Those kids are in there hurting. I'm proud of our group this season. I think we had a year no one expected. I thought we did some great things in this game. But in tournament play you can't have the mistakes we've shown and advance and expect to win."