

The Cowl



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A Buzzworthy Cause

by Patrick Healey '17
News Staff

CAMPUS

Sometimes school projects are a little extra special, and that seems to be the case for the project that Morgan Alch '17 and Briana Di Prizio '17 are leading. The duo is focusing on bringing awareness to an important charity of their choice and, in turn, making positive and lasting changes in the lives of others.

This is all part of their global studies capstone project, which calls for them to partner up with a charity of their choice and then aid in promoting the idea further. The two students have chosen the Rhode Island non-profit, Honey for Haiti, which was founded and is currently being run by two PC students.

Nick Hunsaker '17 and Molly Andrus '19 started "Honey for Haiti" in 2015, in order to "design and implement sustainable development projects and non profit organizations in Haiti."

The charity assists in projects like agriculture, raising livestock, conversions to renewable energy, and, finally, bee keeping, which is where the name comes from.

Hunsaker passionately explained, "These projects create a sustainable source of income for the orphanage as well as teach the children vocational skills that can be applied upon their eventual re integration into Haitian society."

The money raised by the charity goes directly to La Maison l'Arc en Ciel Orphanage in Haiti, which houses children who are suffering from HIV/AIDS. The money goes directly to sustainable projects such as beehives and chicken coops.

The organization has been making and selling tie-dye t-shirts for a few years now, and have raised over \$4,000 just from the sales of the shirts.

At the moment, the organization as a whole has raised \$45,000 of its \$100,000 goal.

Hunsaker has seen the Orphanage three times and realized that a lot of positive things can be done from here which is why he started the charity, noting that much of the inspiration for the it came from a DWC colloquium on theology and accounting.

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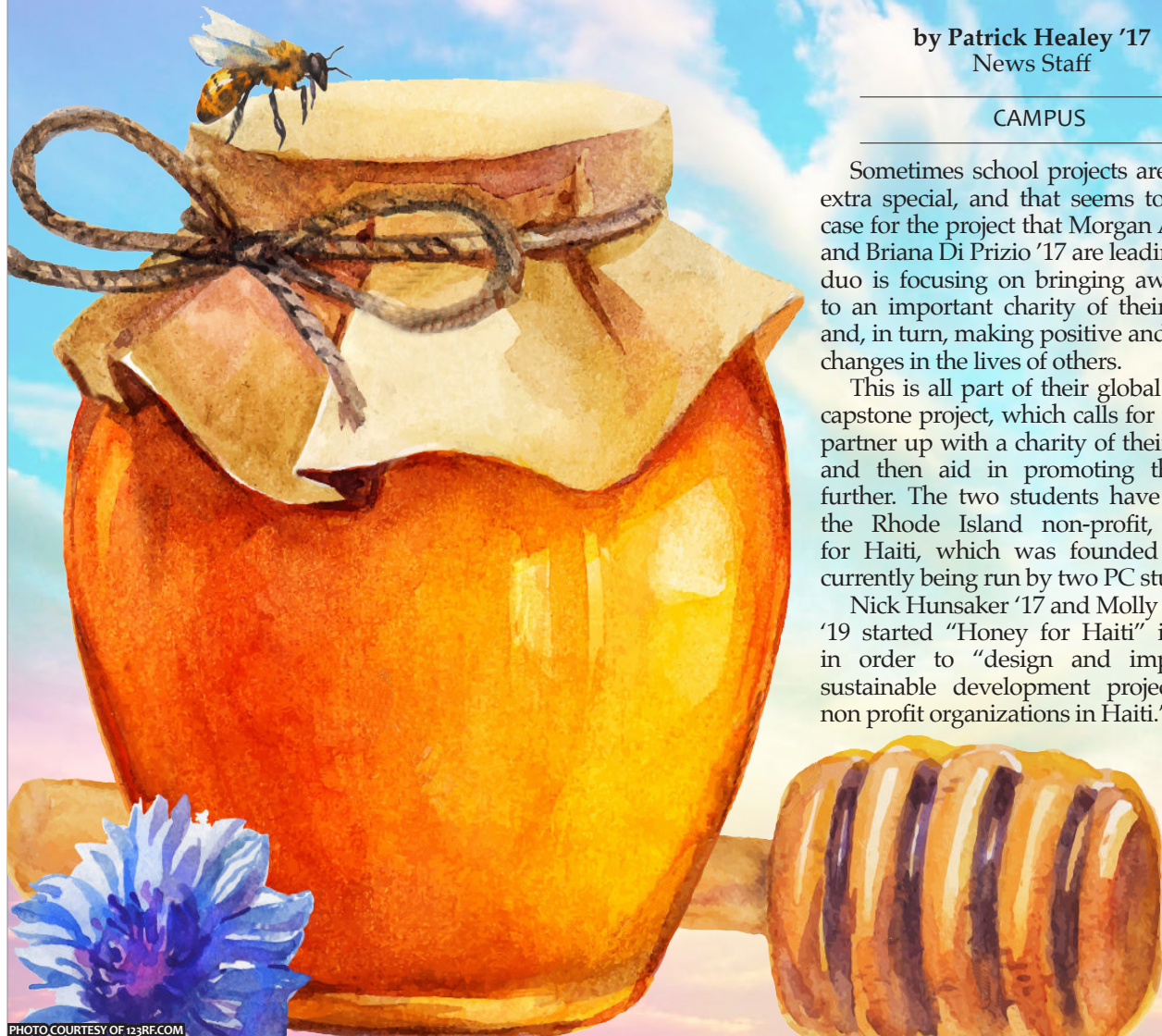


PHOTO COURTESY OF 123RF.COM

PC Students Make Grimm Tales Magical

by Brigid Walshe '19
A&E Staff

THEATRE

Crowds filed into the Angell Blackfriars Theatre this past weekend to see the final performances of *Into the Woods*, and many were left with a smile. The musical is the second musical that Providence College's Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film has done on their new musical theatre track. The cast and crew did a fantastic job with recreating a well-known classic and making it unique in their production.

Friends, students,

and theatre fanatics alike all showed their appreciation for the actors' talent and hardwork. Veronica Murphy '17 had nothing but positive things to say about the show. "I'm happy to see that everyone got a chance to shine in this production," she said, "I thought they did a nice job with such difficult content and put on a great show."

The expert performance can partially be explained by the actors' talent, but also through their predisposition to the material. Courteney Olenzak '17 said, "This show is one I've known

since I was a little girl and it's an honor to finally be a part of it in this way." Olenzak says that the music was challenging, and intentionally so, but that everyone "worked incredibly hard and I'm proud with the result."

Into the Woods is based on Grimm fairy tales and follows the stories of characters everyone has grown up with—Cinderella, Jack, Little Red Riding Hood, and Rapunzel to name a few. Each of the main characters has a wish—The Baker and his wife wish to have a baby, Cinderella wishes to go to the King's festival, and Jack wishes that his



William Oser '19, Elizabeth Jancy '18, Michael Izzo '18 starring in *Into the Woods*

PHOTO COURTESY OF DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE, DANCE, AND FILM

cow would make milk. get their happily ever the consequences of
By the end of the after. The second act, their actions, and they
first act, all of their however, introduces must come together to
wishes come true and a situation that forces protect their kingdom.
it appears that they all the characters to face

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UNDERTHEHOOD

Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

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News

Providence College celebrates its Jewish history.

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Opinion

With two articles on the topic, feminism is spotlighted this week.

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Sports

Learn about the Pitocco twins—the dynamic duo of PC's tennis team.

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PC Sodexo Responds to Scrutiny

by Marla Gagne '18
News Co-Editor

CAMPUS FOODIES

Recently, students around the country have been clicking on and reading a newly resurfaced food blog that gave Sodexo, the food server company that serves over 850 colleges and universities, including PC, an F rating.

The article entitled "Is Sodexo's Food Bad For You?" was published by the food blog "Is it Bad For You," whose aim is to expose unhealthy practices by companies and leave readers with the best information to make healthy decisions.

Originally written in March 2016, the article has resurfaced at colleges such as the University of New Haven, Le Moyne College, Marquette University, University of Pittsburg, and more, denouncing the food Sodexo produces. The article, written by DeAnne Oldham, claims, "Sodexo is not healthy. They are a mass produced food service company with great marketing. The food may sound healthy, but it is heavily processed and high in carbohydrates, fat, and chemicals."

The article claims that Sodexo reuses food back to back days, gives students unhealthy meal choices, is highly processed and frozen, and even points to an issue in 2013 where horse DNA was found in some of the frozen beef products in the United Kingdom. Oldham further stresses that the food is high in fats, sodium, and unknown chemicals and may cause stomach discomfort, hypertension, obesity, and heart disease.

The article was approved by Dr. Becky Maes, who the blog identifies as "an author, motivational speaker, nutritionist, and Board of Certified Medical Doctor" and currently as medical director at ForeverGreen International.

Sodexo officially responded to the article in an article "What's behind



Sodexo supplies food for 850 colleges and universities around the country. NICK CRENSHAW '20 / THE COWL

the headlines? Separating health and nutrition facts from fiction." The article emphasizes that the website fails to "offer scientific evidence to support their claims" and reinstates their mission to "help guide students towards the healthiest options...and help students with food allergies find allergen-safe dining options." They also claim to have reduced an estimated five tons of salt and 14 tons of sugar from their food since the introduction of the Mindful Program in 2013.

Stu Gerhardt, the general manager of Sodexo services on campus, refuted the information from the rating article. First, he solidified that although Sodexo is a global company, his staff of 160 employees and him work for PC first and care about making good food. "It all comes down to the individual school," said Gerhardt.

At the same time, Gerhardt also recognizes that there are sometimes problems at Ray Dining Hall or Alumni Hall. He remembers a few years back some pieces of chicken not being properly cooked or even recently a student receiving a moldy piece of bread at Alumni. But Gerhardt says the

company works to improve upon any mistakes and uses these incidents as "teachable moments" with the staff and works to immediately correct mistakes.

The biggest difference for him is the people, stating that his job is to "manage the food and manage the people." He, along with his staff, takes "pride in transparency" and looks for student feedback on what they like and do not like. While some students use the comment board in Ray or email him comments, he often finds, that after reaching out to students, he does not get a response back.

In response to claims from the article, Gerhardt assured students that Sodexo uses "reputable vendors and dealers and does reach out to local markets when possible." Although they do use leftovers, they only utilize products they want to work with that may have not been fully eaten the day served. All food is properly cooled down in machines downstairs before being frozen and labeled.

Produce items are delivered six days a week and are fresh, although, because of the size of the College, they must be pre-cut before being sent.

Some of the items that the kitchen must produce in large amounts come in frozen, through an IQF process (individually quick frozen) where something like fresh chicken is delivered frozen and then at the account, it is thawed (following HACCP safety guidelines) and partially cooked in the oven, and then finished on the grill at the grill station at time of service.

Some PC students have been wary of the sanitation of the dining facilities, especially after a recent picture of a dead mouse behind a drinking machine surfaced around campus. Caitlin Rodensky '19 said she does not have full confidence in the cleanliness of the facility after seeing rats and finding lady bugs in her food on multiple occasions.

Gerhardt says there are sometimes mouse sightings that often come from the dorms upstairs and follow the food or even come out when there has been a lot of construction that disturb their nests. But there is an integrated pest control program that takes care of any problems and Gerhardt says they are "actively addressing" the issue, and are prepared in the event of any future sightings. The facilities are also inspected by a third party agency to check their health and safety standards.

One thing Amanda Lock '18 and Rodensky agree on is that although there can be good food options, the choices often get repetitive. Rodensky says she would "like to see more options...sometimes each section serves the same food on the same days every few weeks." Gerhardt says they have recently been expanding their food availabilities, expanding the salad bar to include different options on each side, changing the pizza to full slices, and coming up with different food themes for the stations.

Gerhardt encourages students to reach out with suggestions or new ideas. He says the "cooks take a pride in what they do" and are "not afraid to try something new."

Haiti: Donating to a Bee-utiful Charity



Continued from front page



PC students fell in love with the children from their very first Honey for Haiti trip to the orphanage.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICK HUNSAKER '17

When asked why they chose Honey for Haiti for their capstone project, Alch '17 said, "I have gone to previous fundraisers that Nick has held, and seeing his passion for the charity really inspired me and I wanted to help."

Di Prizio '17 agreed with Alch's statement, adding, "I honestly think Nick's work is remarkable and wanted to gain more funding and in turn help the children in the orphanage."

The event that Alch and Di Prizio have organized will take place on April 30 in '64 Hall from 4:30-6:00 p.m. and will feature a Skype call with the founders of the orphanage. The call will give donors a better understanding of the children's situations and allow students and faculty to see exactly where their money is going and how it will help.

In addition, Dr. Phillip Chan, a Brown University professor specializing in infectious diseases, will be speaking about HIV/AIDS

and the current research being done for improved treatment, as well as the stigma that surrounds the disease.

The fundraiser will be catered by Milestone Kitchen and feature live music by Jesus Maldonado '17. There will also be a raffle at the event, with prizes ranging from restaurant gift cards to a pair of Red Sox tickets.

Entrance will be \$5 with a suggested additional donation of \$3 but, of course, any and all donations are appreciated.

Alch and Di Prizio hope to see a lot of students on Sunday, and they encouraged those who would like to get further involved in Honey for Haiti to visit honeyforhaiti.org, follow Honey for Haiti on social media, and email honeyforhaiti@gmail.com.

Anticipating a successful event, Alch stated, "We hope to make an impact on our fellow classmates and allow Honey for Haiti to have a presence on the campus long after our fundraiser."

Friar Flashback: PC Golf Party

Famous or Infamous? Looking Back at the College's Most Controversial Tradition

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18
Assistant News Editor

FRIAR FLASHBACK

Smirking pink whales, pastel dresses with prints of flowers and nautical scenes, pearls, and monogrammed everything have become essential elements of the attire one wears to the infamous and evolving Golf Party. Organized by students off-campus, the event has become a bi-annual tradition, once in the fall and once in the spring, centering around themes of warm weather, drinking, and preppy dressing.

Beginning in the early to mid-1990s, Golf Party has changed throughout its existence on Eaton Street, and even within the past four years, golfing Friars have experienced a different kind of party than the Ghosts of Golf Parties Past. From starting the party as early as 6:30 a.m. in the spring of 2015, to continuing the festivities in the rain this year, Golf Party is very different from what it once was.

"It was nothing like it is today," said Todd Incantalupo '98, former assistant director of the Office of Student Activities. "It got the name, Golf Party, because there were nine houses set up, each with a keg, 18 would have been a bit much."

Many of today's Friars know the legend of what golf used to be. "Tee-off" would begin at one house, and the group that gathered there would drink the keg until it was gone, and would then move onto the next house. "I think part of the idea came from the fact that when you get a large group of people together to

drink, the cops usually break it up and take your beer," said Incantalupo. "So to combat this, the group would hang out at a house, drink the keg until it was gone, or the cops broke it up, and then would move onto the next location."

Two years ago, the College created its own event, Friar Fest, to give students another option for springtime fun. The event involves music and food trucks and was implemented to keep students on campus instead of roaming the streets surrounding campus and potentially disturbing the residents who live there.

An increase in law enforcement, especially seen in the past few years, is likely the result of the change students have seen in the party.

"Usually just the organizers knew where the kegs were so it was sort of a surprise to see where you were headed," said Incantalupo. He explained the whole process of the event was much more "underground" and seemed more manageable.

Incantalupo explained that, from an outsider's perspective, it seems the theme of the event has remained "golf," but the attire has become a much more integral part of the event. "The 'golf' concept has gone from the set-up of the party—nine houses with kegs—to wear country club attire and walk the streets," he said. "It had nothing to do with dressing up in my brightest polo or her in her Lily dress."

David Cabral, professor of the History of Costume and Design through the Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film since 1984, gave his input on the phenomena of the "golf attire." He explained that when Golf Party first

became relevant, what people wore was not as large as a component, and was less about what women were wearing, than the men. "Around about 2000, women in my costume class used to come in and ask about the brands they should wear," he said.

"The women all seemed to feel like they needed to wear Lilly Pulitzer," he said. He spoke about how his class discussed the "Jackie Kennedy" look and how the Golf Party itself is reflective of what PC students were actually wearing. "It was all visors and Ralph Lauren for the men, but it seems Vineyard Vines is the newest trend."

"It's also much more colorful today, and definitely has lots of bright and springtime colors," he said. Cabral explained that the clothing people wear for Golf Party is a heightened version of what a "typical PC student" looks like. "If you got every student across the state of Rhode Island to stand in a row, you'd be able to point out who is from PC, who's from Johnson and Wales, and who is from Rhode Island College," Cabral said.

It makes sense then that the fashion choices at Golf Party are changing and evolving along with the event. Traditions in general have evolved at PC, as there were many events in the past that might have been just as popular as Golf Party, but are now long forgotten.

Karen Dumais '87, who works in the Student Activities Office, explained that Golf Party was far from existing when she went to PC, but the big event students got excited for was Done With Civ. "The College would actually bus us all over to an open field and we'd celebrate the end

of the year with picnic-like activities," she said. "It was fun, and people looked forward to it."

Interestingly, "Done With Civ" was school-sponsored, and was very different than the "Done With Civ" on the Aquinas quad that students organized.

Incantalupo explained that after he graduated in the mid 2000s, "Ridiculousfest" was a popular party that took place on the last day of school. Even more popular was BOP's Stag Dance, which brought all four grades together, like the Black and White Ball, but it took place every year. "It sort of kicked off the school year."

Another popular event that does not take place anymore was the Blind Date Dance. "A male dorm would be paired up with a female dorm and your roomies would set you up on a blind date," Incantalupo said.

"It's 'traditions' like these that make PC what it is," said Incantalupo. "It's a fun place to be and to go to school." He explained the importance of working with the school instead of against it, as PC has the best interest of the students at heart. "Everyone wants a good time, but you have to be reasonable and mindful of the bigger picture."



GRAPHIC DESIGN BY GABRIELLA PISANO '18/THE COWL

Air Conditioning in Aquinas?

by Gabriella Pisano '18
News Staff

CONSTRUCTION

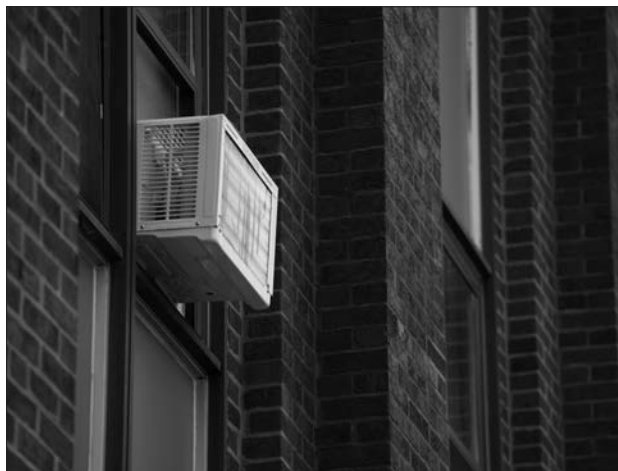
With the Campus Transformation of Providence College in full swing, changes around campus have been occurring left and right. With the addition and renovations of academic buildings and the incorporation of Huxley Avenue, it seems as though few pieces of the campus have remained unchanged. However, there have been few major changes to any dorm buildings in recent years—but this may not be the case soon.

There are currently plans in the works to renovate Providence College Campus' second oldest building: Aquinas Hall. The proposal, originally made in January 2016, aims to revamp Aquinas with a projected price tag of \$30 million.

When Aquinas Hall was first built, it was not only a dorm building, but it included a dining hall, recreation room, study lounge, and chapel. At one point in time, DWC classes were held in Aquinas, proving that the hall was multifunctional. Warren Gray, assistant vice president for business, said, "The building is in the center of the campus. It's a beautiful building, and historically housing is the right use for it." Gray added, "the age of the building means that renovations will require the building to be gutted."

Potential changes to the building include, new window systems, patching and repair of building shell, addition of an air conditioning system, bathroom replacements, and other internal fixes. With changes being made, it is likely that the number of dorm rooms in the building will decrease.

As of right now, there are four tentative plans for building renovations. While the number of beds being



NICK CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

lost is different for the four potential changes, Gray stated, "The goal is to improve the building while minimizing loss of beds."

While the number of dorm rooms will decrease, there are no plans to alter the sizing of the current rooms. However, the few suite-like doubles with an adjoining bathroom will potentially be reconfigured.

One of the changes that students living in Aquinas will appreciate is the addition of air conditioning. The temperature of dorm rooms in Aquinas has been an issue in the past for some students. Aquinas resident Camille Greaney '19, said, "In the summer it's really hot, and sometimes in the winter, when it's a nice day out, it is too hot in the room because the heater does not adjust well."

There is currently no AC in the building, but there is air handling and heat. Those systems are buried in the walls, and will require work to be done on them. In addition to air conditioning, a telecommunication

space is going to be added for improved Wifi within the building.

A large portion of the renovation will be bathroom updates. Commenting on the current bathrooms in Aquinas, resident Sam Redmond '19 said, "The showers are always flooding in the bathroom and sometimes the lights don't work." These bathrooms will not only be redone, but handicap accessible bathrooms will also be added. Currently, the building is designed with two wings on either side, a boy's side and a girl's side. New guest bathrooms will allow visiting guests of the opposite sex to have easier access to bathrooms.

While the number of beds in the building will decrease, there is little concern about having too few beds available. "Aquinas can accommodate a maximum of 344 students. Occupancy changes throughout the year, but this year we opened with six open beds in Aquinas," said Director of Residence Life Jana Valentine. "I would expect that Aquinas would remain a residence hall for sophomores, but that could change during the planning phase."

Unlike renovations to other buildings on campus, dorm buildings must be approached with greater planning due to the fact that students must reside in the buildings during the academic year. There are currently options to complete the project in a one, two, or three-year span, all of which reserve summer for larger projects where the building must be empty. PC took advantage of this time last summer, replacing the Aquinas roof.

The timeline for these upgrades is still unknown, but students can expect more information in the near future as plans become more concrete. Even though the changes to be made are not yet set in stone, those working on the project aim to update certain aspects of the building to improve the living situation of students in Aquinas Hall.

Off-Campus Beat: The Arkansas Executions

by Meaghan Dodson '17
News Co-Editor

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEF

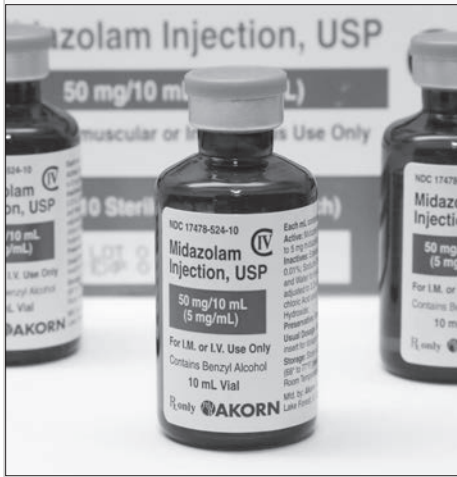


PHOTO COURTESY OF USNEWS.COM

The "Death Cocktail." What's in it?

The lethal injection formula is a combination of three drugs. Midazolam sedates the inmate, vecuronium bromide paralyzes and stops his breathing, and potassium chloride stops his heart.

Midazolam is the most controversial ingredient as it has not been approved by the FDA as a stand-alone anesthetic.

The cocktail is administered via multiple IVs. In many states, only one of the IVs will give the inmate the drugs while the other three are "dummy" cocktails so the prison staff do not know who precisely administers the drugs.

Best used by: April 30, 2017. Or so it probably says on the back of Arkansas' supply of lethal injection drugs.

Arkansas became the first state in 17 years to perform back-to-back executions this past Monday night. The drugs are set to expire by the end of the month and, thus, the state is attempting to execute eight death row inmates over the span of 11 days.

Execution #1

In 1996, Jack Harold Jones was convicted of raping and murdering one of his co-workers as her daughter looked on. He then beat and strangled the daughter with a coffee pot cord, leaving her for dead.

"The victim's family has waited patiently for justice during this time. The jury sentenced Jack Jones to death, and his sentence was upheld by judges and reviewed thoroughly in courts of appeals at each level," stated Governor Asa Hutchinson.

According to witnesses, in his final statement Jones specifically addressed and apologized to the daughter.

Jones was administered the lethal injection at 7:06 p.m. and was declared dead by 7:20 p.m. The process was held up for 45 minutes, however, as staff members were unable to place a line in Jones' neck.

Execution #2

Less than three hours after Jones was pronounced dead, Marcel Wayne Williams received his sentence. He was administered the drugs at 10:16 p.m. and was declared dead at 10:33 p.m.

Williams was convicted of robbing, kidnapping, raping, and murdering a woman in 1994. The victim's mother expressed relief at news that Williams' sentence was finally being carried out, stating, "It'll give me peace that he's gone and can't ever get out and do this again, because he will."

Williams' lawyer attempted to stay the execution as Williams' medical issues could possibly result in his feeling severe pain. KARK 4 News Reporter Jesi Turnure, however, who attended the execution, stated that she did not witness anything akin to cruel and unusual punishment. "Once it did happen, once it started, it was not horrible to watch, to be fair. It didn't look like he was struggling that much...but on the inside you don't know how they are feeling."



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOGGRAPH.COM

What Comes Next?

Debates about the death penalty rage on as 31 states currently have the death penalty on their books.

April 24 was a "shameful day," according to Amnesty International, as the state of Arkansas treated human lives "as though they have a sell-by date."

At the same time, however, the daughter of Jones' victim breathed a sigh of relief after the events, stating, "I'm glad that chapter is closed."

Four of Arkansas' eight proposed executions have occurred, with the most recent one taking place on Thursday, April 27. The remaining four prisoners are going through the final appeals process and, as such, their cases are currently on hold.

With only a few days remaining in April, Arkansas is hard-pressed to meet its sell-by date.

Providence College Student Congress Updates



All are welcome to attend the last meeting of the semester on Tuesday, May 2, at 5:30 p.m. in Ruane LL05. Five pieces of new business will be voted on. Three of the pieces will result in new clubs on campus. The proposed clubs are: People for Animal Welfare Club, Financial Markets and Venture Capitalist Club, and a PC Step Team. The fourth piece of legislation would require the Education Department to provide all individuals in student teaching

education classes with a permission slip for the Feinstein Copy Center to give them access to its services all semester. The last piece of legislation recommends that the Office of Student Affairs update the Sexual Misconduct or Relationship Violence Policy and Grievance Procedures. The legislation recommends that students found responsible for sexual assault receive a minimum sanction of one semester suspension from the College.

Club Spotlight: Golf Club



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE DECHIRICO '17

Mike Flanagan '20, Ian Axford '20, Joe DeChirico '17, Matt Carlson '20, Coach John Conley, and Peter Dicenso '17 won the New England Intercollegiate Golf Association tournament this past fall.

by Meaghan Dodson '17
News Co-Editor

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Springtime means that many Providence College students take on the "front nine" at PC's semi-annual Golf Party. While this endeavor requires a certain degree of determination and skill, *The Cowl* wishes to acknowledge another group of golfers: PC's very own Golf Club.

Golf Club is comprised of 12-16 men and women who practice several times a week at Wannamoisett Country Club, Agawam Hunt Club, Triggs Memorial Golf Course, and other local golf ranges.

The club faces other colleges in regional tournaments and, when it wins a certain amount of points, it is invited to compete in the national championships. In recent years, students have competed in tournaments in Massachusetts,

Connecticut, Mississippi, Florida, and North and South Carolina.

Golf used to be a Division 1 sport here at PC but became a club with the introduction of Title IX regulations. As a result, many students who played in high school are still able to play the sport they love without additional pressures.

Joe DiCherico '17, the club's president, stated, "I just love golf. Golf Club allowed me to play the sport at a high level without having to make commitments at a D1 level. The team atmosphere is great, it's amazing."

David Szewczul '17, the club's vice president, agreed that the long hours of practice and travel, and the friendships that formed as a result, have played a pivotal role in his PC experience.

"Golf Club has allowed me to meet a lot of new kids I would not have had the opportunity to meet otherwise. It really expanded my friend group."

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A Catholic Home for Jewish Students



Pictured above is the 1944 ROTC class, who fought in World War II.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SCALAR.USC.EDU

by Daria Purdy '19
News Staff

HISTORY

While the Catholic and Dominican identity of Providence College has always been essential to its mission, research being conducted by Dr. Jennifer Illuzzi and Dr. Arthur Urbano reveals that Judaism has also played a part in shaping the identity of the College.

After years of research, Illuzzi and Urbano have put together their exhibit, Sons of Providence, to display their findings about Judaism's impact on both PC and the city of Providence.

The Sons of Providence exhibit looks at the Jewish history of PC from 1917-1965 and is based on a study of alumni interviews, archived records, and archived newspaper articles. The journey to the completion of this project has been a long one, and it started nine years ago when Urbano, a professor in PC's theology department, attended a Vatican conference with a rabbi from Cranston, Rhode Island.

Urbano relates how he was inspired by conversations at the conference to begin a lecture series entitled "Theological Exchange between Catholics and Jews."

In the process of creating his lecture series, Urbano kept running into Jewish alumni of PC who told him the College once had a large Jewish population. Urbano was surprised by this phenomenon and decided that he had to look into it himself. As Urbano embarked on his research journey, he requested the help of Illuzzi, a professor in the history department. Since then, the research has been a joint endeavor between the two.

Urbano made one discovery at the start of his research that particularly stood out to him. While reading an archived *Providence Journal* article, he discovered that an interreligious conference was held in 1932 at PC.

"I was floored by this," stated Urbano, "first, because of how early it is, and second, it occurred at a time when anti-Semitism was high in Europe and in America. Furthermore, it came in the time before Vatican II, when Catholics typically did not engage in these sorts of things with Protestants and Jews. It was extraordinary for its time."

In addition, Urbano and Illuzzi confirmed the story that Urbano had heard from many Jewish alumni: there was once a significant Jewish minority at Providence College. Urbano relates the highest number he found to have been 16 percent of the student population in 1931. To put this in perspective, Urbano says that the current percentage of PC students who identify as Jewish is less than .5 percent.

Illuzzi and Urbano found various reasons for the high population of Jewish students at PC in the 1930s. One explanation they found involves the quota systems in place at other universities, and especially Ivy League universities, at the time.

Illuzzi pointed out that education is highly valued in the Jewish tradition, and thus highly motivated Jewish students were gaining admission to Ivy League universities in significant numbers.

She also remarked that "Ivy League schools saw themselves as perpetuators of the American bluebloods," who were white and Protestant. Ivy League schools were alarmed by the rise in Jewish admissions because, as Illuzzi stated, they thought this would "degrade their institutions." Thus, they put in place quota systems to limit the number of Jewish students admitted to their institutions.

While these quota systems were in place at Ivy League schools, PC had no such quota system. "PC

says explicitly in its charter that it will accept students regardless of religious affiliation," Illuzzi stated.

Urbano also emphasizes this aspect of PC's mission, stating, "PC was welcoming Jewish students at a time when other universities were not."

Illuzzi and Urbano were also struck by the high levels of on-campus involvement they found from the 1930s at PC of Jewish students. They were on sports teams, involved in theater, and one was even editor-in-chief of *The Cowl*.

This phenomenon might not seem surprising or strange, but Urbano emphasizes that it must be looked at in historical context as Ivy Leagues were "creating a culture at their schools that made it very hard for Jewish students to integrate."

At these schools, Jewish students were barred from different sports team and clubs. PC, however, was not only admitting Jewish students when other schools were not, but it was also allowing these students to become active members of the community.

The Sons of Providence exhibit includes archived *Cowl* and *Providence Journal* articles found by Urbano and Illuzzi, as well as other memorabilia of the Jewish experience at PC. Posters, meanwhile, explain and display Urbano and Illuzzi's research.

The duo is also planning to make a documentary based on the alumni interviews they recorded. The exhibit also has an online component, which can be accessed at <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/sons-of-providence/index>. The exhibit is on display in the Admissions Welcome Center in Harkins Hall.

Urbano believes that this research has enduring importance for the current PC community as it strives to answer the question of what it means to be a Catholic and Dominican college. In the 1930s, being a Catholic school meant giving safe haven to those who otherwise could not find it.

Urbano relates that, in the 1930s, "the Ku Klux Klan burned a cross on the corner of Eaton Street and River Avenue." Anti-Semitism was alive in Providence, yet PC students "were aware of this, and speaking out against it. The alumni I interviewed have the same Friar spirit as alumni today."

These alumni faced discrimination in the 1930s, but at PC they found a place where they had more freedom and more integration and, despite the fact that many of the alumni Illuzzi and Urbano interviewed were well into their '80s and '90s, their gratitude towards PC was still very apparent. "[I was] touched by this," Urbano stated.

Ultimately, for these Jewish alumni, PC was not just a school, but an institution that treated them as equals at a time when many institutions did not.

PC Takes D.C.: Model OAS Brings Students Together

by Sarah Gianni '18
News Staff

POLITICAL SCIENCE

It is a course dedicated to developing public speaking, critical thinking, and enhancing writing skills. And no, it is not Development of Western Civilization.

Model Organization of American States (MOAS) is a course offered by the political science department at Providence College. Each year a group of 10 students is selected to participate in the course, preparing resolutions that will be debated each April at a summit in Washington, D.C.

This experience is designed to reflect debates that would occur in the real OAS, an organization of 35 independent states of the Americas. The OAS was established for member states to achieve peace and justice, promote solidarity, strengthen collaboration, and defend their sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence.

The MOAS summit brings together students from all over the world to engage in debate and collaboration regarding proposed resolutions that each delegation presents.

"The point of our class is to prepare students to participate in MOAS," said faculty advisor Thea Riofrancos. "Through different sub-goals and class projects, each student learns different



Students take a photo outside our nation's capital building.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLE HERENDEEN '17

skills to prepare them for experience they may have never had before." Projects assigned vary from research on the various countries within the OAS to peer critiques of speeches.

This year, PC represented the country of Ecuador, traveling to D.C. on Sunday, April 9 to begin the five-day long conference. "Generally we were in session from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., except for Tuesday morning, which we spent

at the Ecuadorian Embassy," said Kate Mechem '17.

While the majority of the summit was spent discussing proposed draft resolutions, participants enjoyed a formal dance at the OAS headquarters, as well as time to explore D.C. in the evenings.

Overall, collaborating with students from around the world proved to be a highlight of the summit.

"I was able to meet people from

Canada, the U.S., Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Argentina," said Pedro Aleman '17.

Haley Rayment '18 agreed, saying that she thoroughly enjoyed meeting delegations from different countries. "Hearing participants discuss their home countries was an eye opening experience," she said. "It's one thing to read about current events, for example in Venezuela, in the news, but a completely other experience to hear about these events from the perspective of students living in the country."

Riofrancos said that she was impressed by her group of students. "This year we had some really great expertise in the room, regarding international relations or students who were interested in foreign service," she stated.

While there is no background knowledge of debate required to participate, slots are designated for students who are either majoring or minoring in political science.

"While you don't have to be a political science major, I believe it is important to have a bit of poli-sci background, at least a minor, since the class does draw from some of that knowledge," said Riofrancos.

Reflecting on the overall experience, Aleman said, "It is great learning and appreciating other cultures while doing what we love to do, which is being a diplomat."

A Marathon Against Misogyny



KATHRINE SWITZER BEING HARASSED BY RACE OFFICIALS DURING THE 1967 BOSTON MARATHON.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

by Sarah Kelley '18
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

On a rainy day in April 1967, 20-year-old Kathrine Switzer became the first woman to ever officially run the Boston Marathon. Having registered under the gender neutral name K.V.—the same name she used to sign all of her college assignments—Switzer knew that this was a race women were not allowed to run.

But Switzer ran it anyway. Even after being attacked by the race director, John Semple, two miles into the course, she persevered. Despite his attempts to stop her, Switzer crossed the finish line in four hours and 20 minutes. But on that day, wearing the now widely-recognized bib number 261, Switzer achieved much more than a respectable marathon time.

With every step she took from Hopkinton to Boston, Switzer proved to everyone that a woman could go the distance in the male-dominated tradition. She broke the commonly held stereotypes of her time regarding female athletic abilities. And with every stride, she empowered women throughout the world to achieve their potential in all areas of life, from running and beyond.

Fifty years later, 70-year-old Switzer again competed in this year's Boston Marathon, celebrating the anniversary of that symbolic and powerful race. And even though half a century has passed since that fateful run, and many major achievements in the women's rights movement have been accomplished since then, Switzer's message of equality and women's rights still is just as pressing and important as it was in 1967, especially in light of our current national political environment.

Despite the major advancements, the Women's Rights Movement has achieved since the time of

Switzer's race—from the running world to our own national political arena and beyond—Switzer's return to the Boston Marathon reminds us that we must continue running for women's rights and equality, despite any obstacles we might face.

Countless photos of Switzer's violent interaction with Semple from 1967 have resurfaced on various media outlets in light of her most recent run. Because of this, I could not help but be reminded of the current political obstacles women in the U.S. and around the world are now facing more than ever, in relation to the recent executive actions taken by Donald Trump in the first months of his presidency.

While women may no longer be hit on course for running a marathon today, the political hits they have taken from Trump's presidential actions seem just as severe. From his "global gag rule" policy barring federal funding or foreign aid to any international relief agencies that perform abortion or provide information regarding abortions, to his most recent attack on women's rights in signing recent legislation nullifying a rule which originally prohibited state and local governments from holding back federal funds for family planning services—Trump has made clear his attack on equality.

The list of misogynistic comments, sexist remarks, and appalling behaviors the president has demonstrated throughout his lifetime seem to only further parallel the same misogyny which Semple exhibited in his attempts to stop Switzer from running 50 years ago.

Yet despite what may feel like a hopeless political and social situation to some, Switzer's return to the Boston Marathon should leave us feeling more motivated and inspired than before.

Switzer's running is a strong and symbolic reminder of the current need to keep running towards women's rights. Her races reflect not only how far women have come, but also how far we have to go. Switzer is a positive reminder across the country, throughout the world today, and especially in light of the changes our country is currently facing, that the run for equality continues.

Freedom in Feminism: The *Fair* Choice

by Kelsey Dass '18
Opinion Staff

POLITICS

It is not about what you do; it is about what you want to do.

Since the feminist movement of 1960s and '70s, society's ideas regarding feminism have changed ever so frequently. Every person will define feminism as something different. Many say it is equality among genders, others say growth in career, and some, including actress Emma Watson, believe it is about choice.

We have seen continuous growth in feminism since the '60s. However, I believe that we are approaching some obstacles that have begun to slow our momentum—first among those obstacles being the media.

The feminist era of the '60s and '70s was a time of liberation and advancement for women's equal rights and thought. The women of this era were not solely fighting for their personal rights. They were fighting for their daughters' and their granddaughters' rights, so we, modern-day females, could grow up in a world where we had the same possibilities as our brothers.

The women of this movement made choices that they felt reflected their independence. One of the most

famous choices was the "Bra Burning," where women would congregate and light their bras on fire, or simply walk around wearing no bra at all. This action truly opened up the focus on the need for change. They desired to break the stereotype that kept their societal roles in a confined box.

This box looked a lot like marrying young, caring for children, and supporting their husbands. I am not suggesting that caring for and supporting a family is not an admirable life, because it most certainly is.

It is not about what you are doing exactly; it is about having the freedom as a female to make those choices on your own.

The media has grown dramatically over the past forty years, and while propaganda and biased opinions existed during the feminist movement era, it is completely different now. The biggest crime now is that people within the media have utilized their freedom in order to take certain ideals out of context.

Watson, a well-respected feminist, was recently featured on the cover of *Vanity Fair*. Media critics expressed their disappointment in her choice to pose for a revealing picture and stated that she "betrayed her feminist ideals" by doing so.

When people in media make these statements, they undo a little piece

of the hard work done by the female activists of the '60s and '70s. They draw a tight box around us, and tell us and the rest of the world that we were wrong for stepping outside of it.

What she did certainly has nothing to do with feminism. As Watson noted, "Feminism is about giving women choice." She was not forced to do that cover, she wanted to.

The problem with the media is they take one image with of what feminism looks like, and they publicize that image. They provide that single image enough positive reinforcement to make it "the law" in the minds of the people.

Therefore, when a respected feminist brings a different image to the table, they are criticized. Rather than make adjustments to revolutionize their thinking, they make irrational comments in order to distort the image, because it does not fit in their box.

While Watson's cover on *Vanity Fair* was revealing, this also does not suggest that feminism is ostentatious. Feminism can be conservative, it can be boisterous, it can be

quiet, it can be covered in clothes, and it can be completely naked.

Our feminist mothers and grandmothers wanted us to know that we have the choice to be whatever we want to be.

We have the choice—to be a feminist and to be ourselves.

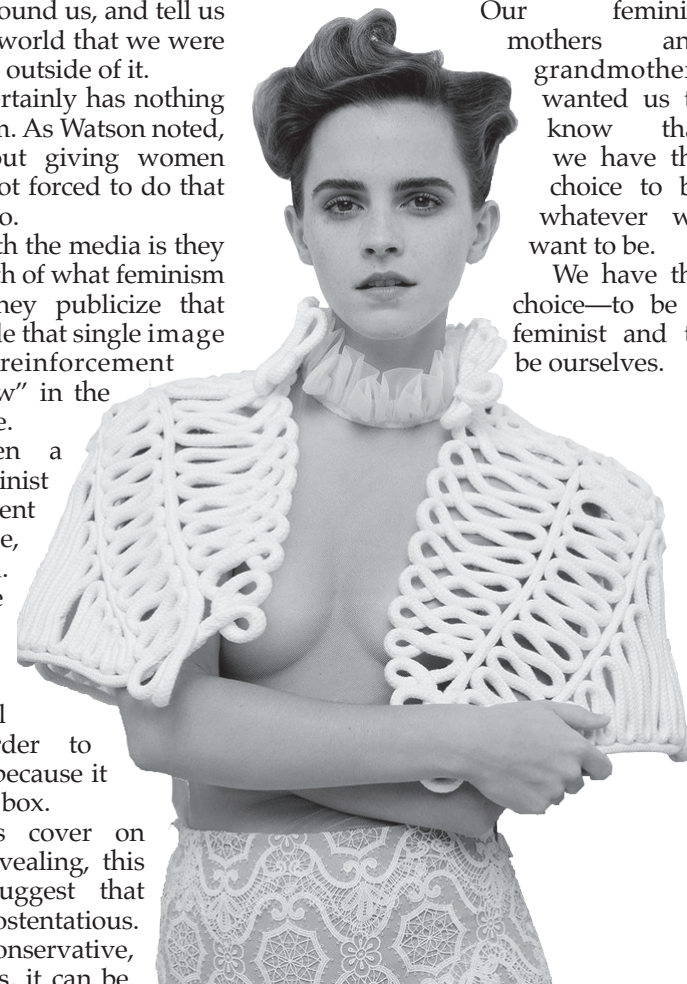


PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM WALKER/VANITY FAIR

A Trump Victory

by Laura Arango '20
Opinion Staff

FORGEIN AFFAIRS

Donald Trump—many people are already sick of his name only 100 days into his presidency, and many more people do not have positive things to say about him. I am usually one of those people, so one can imagine how shocked those around me were when I told them I actually agreed with one of his most recent moves: the missile strike against Syria.

There does not seem to be enough public knowledge regarding what this missile strike against Syria actually means. Donald Trump ordered a strike against an airfield in Syria. According to the Pentagon, the missiles “destroyed aircraft, hardened hangars, ammunition supply bunkers, air defense systems and radar at the Shayrat Airfield.”

The missiles did not destroy human lives. The United States’ reasoning behind said missile strikes was to make it clear that the United States stands against Syria’s decision to chemically attack innocent civilians using a deadly nerve agent.

Our president’s stand against the exploitation of human rights and our choice to not consult with Russian officials in our decision to attack is something every American citizen should support.

In the past, our president has urged the United States to shift its primary focus from deposing Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad to eliminating the threat of

ISIS. Now, his position has changed. It seems that our President has had a change of heart about many of his previous promises.

There have been no signs that the Syrians have moved to retaliate and there is no expectation that they will. Former president Barack Obama had a similar issue with Assad and his use of chemical weapons. However, Obama chose to handle it by forcing Assad to hand over his stockpiles of chemical weapons. However, this agreement did not prove to be effective.

President Trump took a much stronger course of action and it worked in his favor. For that, America and the world should commend him.

But it is still concerning to consider exactly how aggressive our President is willing to be.

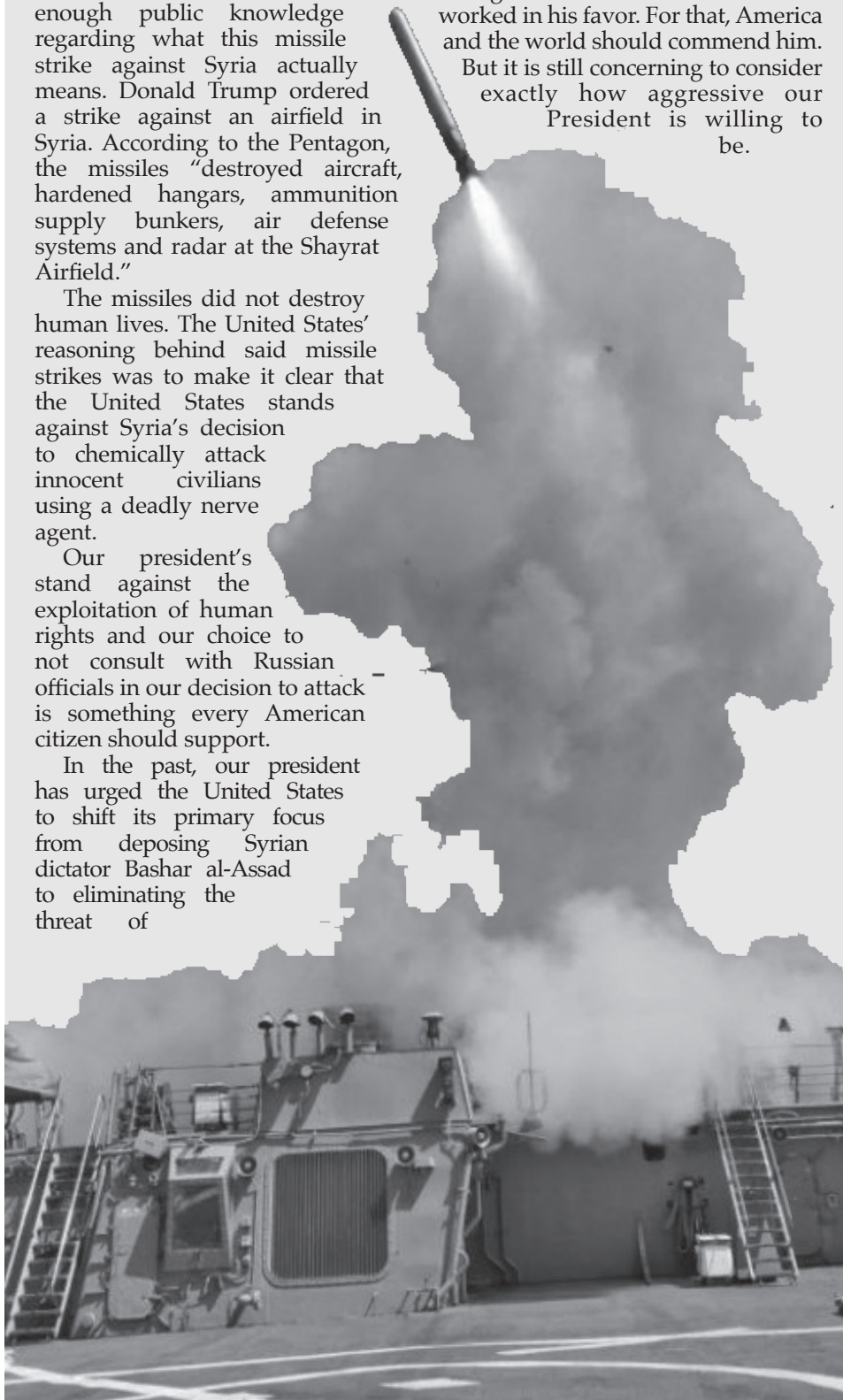


PHOTO COURTESY OF RYAN EVANS/WARONTHEROCKS.COM

Letter To The Editor Seniors: Advice For The Graduates

Dear Class of 2017 Friars,

In the words of Adele, “Hello from the other side.” It is hard to believe that only two years ago I was sitting in your shoes. I can recall feeling a sea of mixed emotions that I imagine you must be going through right now—scared, nervous, excited, impatient, and needing answers.

However, I am here to reassure you that this “real world” and whole “adulthood” concept really is not so bad. Yes, you will not have as many friends living in close proximity to you, and it may be a little more difficult to order Big Tony’s at 1 a.m., but you will grow to appreciate your four years spent at Providence College even more. While I recognize that I am still no “expert” on navigating the real world and am only a couple of years older, I have provided some tidbits of advice to help you relax and become excited for the journey ahead!

1. You can still lead an exciting social life in the post-grad world. I remember thinking that after graduating from PC, I would be home twiddling my thumbs on a Saturday night. From my experience at least, the opposite has happened! If you are fortunate like me to work in the same city as your PC friends and also have your friends from high school still in the area, then your social circles will only expand.

Also, you will continue to meet new people through your co-workers, volunteering in your community, and even familiar faces from fitness classes at your gym. Additionally, if you meet up with friends from PC after work, and they bring their friends from high school and their co-worker friends, and then you invite your high school friends

who invite their college friends, before you realize, you will have so many new people to meet!

2. Living at home with your parents is not the worst thing. In all honesty, it is one of the best things! Cannot complain about not having to write a check out each month for rent or your mom’s home-cooked meals!

3. Sometimes the best laid plans go awry. I speak from personal experience when my “Plan A” for post-graduation fell through which left me scrambling to figure out a new “Plan B.” But then I realized that this “Plan B” was always meant to be the path I was supposed to take. Do not fret if your “dream” job falls through, it just means that there is something even better out there waiting for you.

4. Your closest PC friendships will only grow stronger. I remember hearing this piece of advice from an alum, and I agree with how true it is! Since you will have to make more of an effort to see some of your friends, your relationships will grow even more meaningful, and when you do see each other, you will pick up from where you left off! Also, you will be thankful for all your group texts—it will be just like you are catching up in Ray!

5. PC is not going anywhere. Friartown will always be there for you to visit...and then you go back scratching your head wondering how campus could change so much in the two short years you have graduated. Also, Alumni Weekend in February will be here before you know it!

6. Enjoy every last minute of your final semester. Do “fun and spontaneous” things with your roommates.

Go explore a new spot overlooking the city or revisit one of your favorite restaurants on Thayer St. Most importantly, make sure to capture these moments on your camera so then you can hang these pictures up in your first cubicle!

7. You will never stop learning. Even if you opt not to go to grad school right after, you will always be learning on your new job. Also, reading for leisure becomes a thing again too!

8. The “Friar Family” is with you wherever you go. I cannot tell you how many informational interviews I have been on where I find out during mid-conversation that the individual I am networking with also graduated from PC.

9. Never be afraid to speak up. Remember sometimes feeling intimidated to participate in Civ seminar because you felt that you had nothing that “enlightening” to contribute? But then once you raised your hand and spoke, you realized that it was not so bad? I believe that you should still possess that same mindset whether you are sitting in a graduate class or your workplace. Never think that just because you are the youngest person sitting at a staff meeting that you have nothing positive to contribute. You are a PC Friar (after all, you survived four semesters of Civ!)

10. It is okay if you do not have things figured out right now, because two years later and you still probably will not either. Navigating life is part of the adventure; where would the excitement be if we had everything figured out from the start?

- Elizabeth Nako '15

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Go to thecowl.com/opinion for all of our past content!

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A Thank You To *The Cowl*

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

EDITOR'S COLUMN



With our penultimate *Cowl* underway, it is time for us to start our long list of goodbyes. Fortunately, we will have more time to prepare these for our Swan Songs in next week's Commencement issue, but for now, we'd like to begin by saying "Thank You" to our readers for supporting our work each week.

The experience of being Editors-in-Chief has been rewarding to say the least. There is something very special in coming together each week to participate in this tradition, and to lead *The Cowl*, as so many have before us, has been an incredible honor.

Of course, we would not have come this far without our staff standing with us each week; they have made our work as editors all the more enjoyable. From our standup comedians at the copy editors' table to our late night horoscope readings in *The Cowl* office, the people behind

the publication have inspired us all year.

Two weeks ago we had the other honor of announcing our new Editors-in-Chief to the rest of our staff: Marla Gagne '18 and Paige Calabrese '18. This moment was as exciting for us as it was for them. We both know that *The Cowl* will be in good hands next year, and that they will continue to be dedicated leaders for our publication.

There will never be enough words to describe quite exactly what this experience has meant for us, so we leave you on this note: our goodbye to our work on *The Cowl* is not an end—as hard as it might be for us to go—because as cliché as it might sound, it is another beginning as our next Editors-in-Chief build upon *The Cowl's* legacy.

Giving up the gavel,
Katie & Jackie

TANGENTS & TIRADES

Take Advantage of Spring Shows

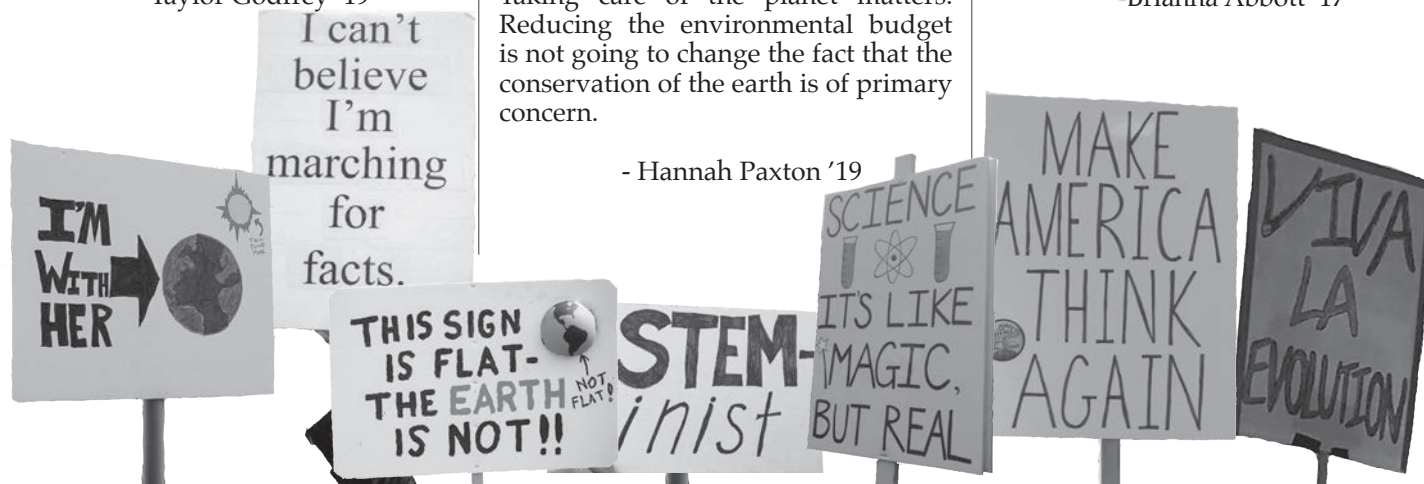
A musical, a band concert, a dance club performance, an A cappella show—these are just a few of the artistic performances that have happened or will happen during these last few weeks of the semester. They are events that are sometimes simply passed over by students as just another blurb on that colorful card on the tables at Ray, but they are really a unique opportunity that college students should not miss out on.

We are in a rare position at Providence College, as are those in colleges around the country, in having many different kinds of entertainment just steps away and often at a reasonable price, if not completely free. And though we all have busy schedules, we should try our best to attend as many of these events as we can while we are here.

Professional singers, dancers, and performers all started somewhere, many of them on stages just like the ones in Smith. The student performers on campus will be these people someday too, and it will cost a lot more to see them once they leave.

I attended a performance of *Into the Woods* a few weeks ago and a student ticket was only \$5. Where else but a college campus can you enjoy such quality entertainment for the price of a cup of coffee?

-Taylor Godfrey '19



Marching For Facts

\$2.6 billion. That's \$2.6 billion less dedicated to clean air, water quality, reducing emissions, and climate studies after President Trump cuts the budget of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Billions of dollars taken away from the commitment not only to environmental care, but public health and safety as well. To ignore environmental concerns is to ignore the plain facts, and that's why people marched for science last Saturday.

With the creation of the EPA, President Nixon once said that protecting the environment was "a cause beyond party and beyond factions," and for good reason. So much of politics today is one viewpoint versus another, but all signs of science (otherwise known as facts) point to a climate that is under threat.

The fact that Trump plans to take money out of the budget suggests that scientific research has all been for nothing, that it holds no significance in our society. But this couldn't be further from the truth. Scientific investigation has helped immensely in terms of dealing with the issue of climate change, to the point where 97 percent of experts agree that humans are responsible.

For those who might say that the March for Science won't change any minds, that is not necessarily the point. Science matters. The facts matter. Taking care of the planet matters. Reducing the environmental budget is not going to change the fact that the conservation of the earth is of primary concern.

- Hannah Paxton '19

No Progress, Just Nuisance

Walking to my VW Beetle is usually a quick, pleasant trip, especially after I snag a coveted spot in the Glay Parking Lot. However, now when I walk to my car, I'm greeted by an ugly, inconvenient fence blocking off Huxley for a construction project with non-existent progress.

The fence, which stretches from the Cunningham lawn to the Glay Lot entrance, annoys anyone who walks down Eaton Street or parks his or her car. It turns my two minute walk into ten because it takes away one of the entrances to the lot and forces students to walk around. It's a massive, literal roadblock in the middle of campus, ruining the spring aesthetic just in time for graduation.

Sure, the fence exists so that Huxley can become a walkway rather than a street, and construction is a messy affair. I would be willing to sacrifice beauty and convenience for a few months in the name of progress if actual progress were being made. However, the only thing that has changed in the fenced-in area during the last few weeks is the transformation of the Cunningham lawn into a mud pit.

If you're going to start construction, please start construction. If you're not going to start construction, please give me my walkway back. I'm just trying to get to the grocery store.

-Brianna Abbott '17

PHOTOGRAPHY



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL



KIMBERLY LEZAMA '18/THE COWL



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

ABOVE LEFT: Katie Comber '18 shares her story as a “book” at the Human Library, sponsored by Students for Social Action. The event encouraged students to learn more about people with interesting backgrounds, pushing beyond the “covers.”

ABOVE: Courtney Salinsky '20 and Lexi Rabbitt '20 de-stress at the BOP Barnyard Bash event, where students could pet animals ranging from bunnies and kittens to goats and puppies.

LEFT: Auxiliary Bishop of Providence Robert C. Evans smiles after the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults mass.

BELOW: Students toss colored powder into the air at Holi, sponsored by the International Student Organization.



LAURA CHADBOURNE '20/THE COWL

ROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

Page 10
April 27, 2017

What is on your PC bucket list?



"Meet Coach Cooley."
Kit Randles '20



"Graduate."
Scott Conway '18



"Study abroad in France."
Maria Johnsen '20



"Successfully register for the classes I want."
Kate Brady '20



**"Be a part of the National Championship
Hockey Team."**
Emily Landry '19



"Be featured in *The Cowl*."
Emily Ascherl '20



"Become the only PC mascot."

-Huxley

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW / THE COWL

Photos by Nicholas Crenshaw '20, Photo Editor

Into the Woods: Off the Screen and Onto the Stage

Blackfriars:

Continued from front page

Into the Woods first premiered over 25 years ago, when composer Stephen Sondheim and writer James Lapine debuted their musical on Broadway in 1987. Since then, the musical has been produced throughout the world, with productions from the West

End of London to high schools across the country.

Many people may also associate *Into the Woods* with the 2014 Disney blockbuster, which featured stars such as Meryl Streep, Johnny Depp, and Emily Blunt. The cast and crew had to face the question of how to reimagine a show that has been produced for 25 years and present it in a unique way, and they did a great job in creating a production unique to Providence College, and led the

audience into woods they have never seen before.

It is no easy task to put on a production of a musical, especially one as complex as this one. Disney spent \$50 million to produce the film, so it was hard to imagine where to start. One of the more unique aspects of this production was the set design. Since the musical is based on the stories found in books, the stage was filled with them, including four main books, which contained the stories of the main characters of

the show. These books opened up to serve as a backdrop for each of the characters, and it made it seem like they came to life out of their stories. The crew also incorporated shadow puppetry into the famous scene of Little Red Riding Hood, when she confronts the Wolf at her Grandmother's house, as the scene was acted out using the puppets' shadows illuminated on a screen. The visuals of the play were fantastic, as well as the performances.

One of the great elements of this musical is how the stories of all of these different characters intertwine so well, and the cast and the directors of the show did a great job making the show flow smoothly. The performances were fantastic, along with the costumes, set, and music. As the audience left the woods at the end of the play, they may just have been wishing to return to them one day.



A scene from Providence College's production of *Into the Woods*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE DANCE & FILM

PC's *The Voice* Shows Students Can Hit a Chord

by Kerry Torpey '20
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

McPhail's may not have the biggest stage and Fr. Dominic is no Carson Daly, but Providence College's edition of *The Voice* was still able to hit all the right notes.

On April 22, the Providence College Board of Programmers hosted their first annual singing competition inspired by the hit NBC competition series, *The Voice*. The lucky student winner of the night received the opportunity to perform at Clam Jam on April 28.

A total of 16 contestants took the stage at McPhail's in hopes of becoming the first ever winner. The master of ceremonies, or MC, for the night was Fr. Dominic Verner O.P.

"Celebrity" judges included Michael Gilmore '17, Father Philip Neri Reese, O.P., and GA Joe Flynn '15. When asked how he felt to be the first ever MC for PC's *The Voice*, Fr. Dom said he was "very excited." He felt his job as the MC "is to make [the competitors] look good." He jokingly said, "[It is a] small student body... how much talent could there really be" before explaining how impressed he is with the very

gifted and skilled students of PC.

Practically every seat in McPhail's was filled with eager contestants and excited viewers. BOP member Michael Splann took the stage to explain how the night would work. Just like the television show, the judges had their backs to the stage during all the performances. Once a contestant finished his or her song, they would turn around, see who was singing, and then give some feedback.

Not only does the winner leave

with a set at Clam Jam, but the top three all received StubHub gift cards so they can purchase tickets to live entertainment events of their choice.

The night kicked off with a performance of Sara Bareilles' "Gravity." Following the performance, Father Dom got the crowd laughing saying that "there was some real weight to that one."

As the night continued, the audience heard covers of songs by artists such as Chris Young, Shawn Mendes, Rihanna, Billy Joel, Adele, Carrie

Underwood, Taylor Swift and more.

Contestants Ryan Cox '18 and Fiona Pearlman '20 showed off not only their singing skills, but their guitar skills with acoustic performances of "You" by Chris Young and "California King Bed" by Rihanna.

The judges gave some impressive feedback and remarks to many of the contestants. Kelli Jenney '19 gave a performance of "Our Song" by Taylor Swift. As the crowd joined along with clapping and foot tapping, Father Philip Neri told Kelli "That's a crowd pleaser and you pleased the crowd."

The final performer of the night was Meghan O'Connor '18, who gave a fun-filled performance of "Bust a Move" by Young MC. The audience really got into O'Connor's performance and even busted a few moves of their own.

And with that, it was time for the judges to deliberate and select their winners. After finalizing their decision, Father Dom announced that the third place winner was Taralynn Vecchio '17 and the second place winner was Mary Tracey '18.

In the end, the judges selected two winners for the first place prize. Pearlman and Erin McCarthy '19 took home the gold for their performances of Rihanna's "California King Bed" and Beyoncé's "Sandcastles," respectively.

Promotional photo for *The Voice*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE BOARD OF PROGRAMMERS

Summer Concerts Promise a Treat for Every Taste

by Ryan Cox '18
A&E Staff

MUSIC

For music junkies, summertime is synonymous with concert season; it seems like artists of all genres come out in full force between May and August to treat their fans and share their music. Southern New England boasts many concert venues, and so the area becomes a hotbed for concerts. Here is a look at some of the biggest names coming to the region this summer. If you aren't from New England, don't worry—four of the five featured artists are making stops across the country.

The Chainsmokers (TD Garden, June 2; Dunkin' Donuts Center, June 7):

The headliner of the 2016 PC Spring Concert is currently on a world tour. "Closer," which became a smash hit this past summer, rocketed The Chainsmokers to stardom. They had difficulty on the charts until "Closer" became a worldwide number one. The duo also recently released their first full-length album, titled *Memories...Do Not Open*, which features the singles "Paris" and "Something Just Like This."

Ed Sheeran (Mohegan Sun Arena, July 14-15):

Fresh off the release of *Divide* (stylized as ÷), and the hit lead-off single, "Shape of You," Sheeran is currently on a world tour of the same name, making stops in Europe and South America before heading to the United States in June. The 26-year-old star is also playing two shows in Boston at TD Garden in September. While his diverse set of influences has made him an incredibly popular artist, Sheeran is considering taking some time off from performing, so catch him while you can.

Queen + Adam Lambert (Mohegan Sun Arena, July 23; TD Garden, July 25):

Adam Lambert is known for his theatrical performance style, and considers Freddie Mercury one of his influences. He makes a good fit for Queen, although standing in for the late rock

vocalist is not an easy task. Although the active members of the original Queen are now in their sixties, the band still rocks, and Lambert provides some fresh energy to keep things going strong.

Coldplay (Gillette Stadium, Aug. 4):

Now in their 21st year as a touring band, Coldplay will return to Foxboro after spending most of the summer in Europe. The North American leg of the *Head Full of Dreams Tour* begins in New Jersey on Aug. 1, following the recent release of their five-track EP titled *Kaleidoscope*, which features "Something Just Like

This," a collaboration with The Chainsmokers.

Kenny Chesney (Gillette Stadium, Aug. 25-26):

When the country icon announced that he was taking the summer off from touring, he made an exception for the city he loves. It is clear when Chesney performs at Gillette Stadium how much he appreciates the fans in Foxboro; it was here that he named his fans "No Shoes Nation." He will perform alongside Thomas Rhett, who is quickly becoming a star in his own right, and Old Dominion, a quickly rising act, so the bill represents a wide range of country music tastes.



Kenny Chesney performing at Gillette Stadium in 2012.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JILL TRENELL/EB MEDIA

Lana is New, Not Necessarily Improved

by Blaine Payer '18
A&E Staff

MUSIC

Lana Del Rey used to be queen of somber, melodic music, but the 31 year-old pop-rock star seems to have turned a page in her career.

On April 11, the singer-songwriter released the cover for her fourth album, *Lust for Life*, which displays with a full-mouth smile, marking a huge departure from her previous, more serious album covers.

Critics and fans alike are not used to this new side of Del Rey. While some find it optimistic and

refreshing, others are worried that such a dramatic shift will betray who she is as an artist. With two bright new singles, a cheery new album cover, and a late May album release date set, it seems like Lana Del Rey is looking to make 2017 the happiest year of her life.

Del Rey released "Love," her first single since her very successful third album, *Honeymoon*, on Feb. 11. It received overwhelming praise from critics, with *Pitchfork* placing it at number one on their Best New Track list for the week. Thematically, it is one of her most positive songs (not written about California), celebrating the experience of love that everyone should have at least once in their lives.

Seeing as how she has written two albums and an EP about the same ex-boyfriend who spent years hurting her, it is surprising that she is now choosing to see the positive sides of love. Saying that things don't matter because "it's enough to be young and in love," is a stark contrast from her earlier songs like "Ultraviolence," in which her crooning voice announces to the listener that "He hit me and it felt like true love."

Her new positive outlook spills over onto the album cover, which shows her jovially leaning against a 1950s pickup truck, dressed from head to toe in flower child garb, just in time for Coachella. The first time listeners saw Del Rey, she was somberly staring down the camera on the cover of

her freshman album *Born to Die*.

Even the titles suggest a wholehearted shift away from the sadness and pain that made everyone fall in love with her back in 2011. Her new bright smile and peaceful attire seem to say that she has moved on from her dark past and is ready to embrace a bright future.

In an interview with *The Dapifer*, Del Rey opened up about how the politics of the past year completely changed the original direction of the album, which she wanted to have a '50s-'60s vibe. "As the climate kept on getting more heated politically, I found lyrically everything was just directed towards that."

She follows by stating her desire to speak to her younger audience, who need happiness and optimism now more than ever. Her newest single, "Lust for Life," which she recorded with The Weeknd, showcases the very carefree joy that she desires, with a chorus revolving around going to the top of the Hollywood sign and taking all of your clothes off.

So far, this new, happier Del Rey is being met with nothing but warmth and praise. However, for someone who has made an entire career out of being sad and vengeful, this thematic change spells uncertainty for the future. Will anything of hers ever match the solemn desperation of *Born to Die*? Is Del Rey finally ready to leave the past behind, and if so, where will she go from here?



The album cover for *Lust for Life*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF INSTAGRAM.COM

Girlboss Brings Ambition to Netflix

by Elizabeth Jancsy '18
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

It is the year 2006 in sunny San Francisco, and a 23 year-old girl by the name of Sophia has found herself in a rut. She has no job, no respect from her father, and if she doesn't think of a way to earn money fast, she will have to move home. With little time and no money, Sophia turns to

eBay, where she finds not only money for rent, but also her true calling.

This is the true story of Sophia Amoruso and the plot to Netflix's new series *Girlboss*. Amoruso is the founder of Nasty Gal, a popular retail website that, according to *The New York Times*, has gained over 550,000 customers in 60 countries since its start in 2006. The website offers hot new clothes and current brands, but also stays true to its original work in one of a kind vintage finds. Along with Amoruso's

success in her company, she has written a book entitled *#Girlboss* and started a foundation of the same name, granting scholarships to young women pursuing creative endeavors.

Although both the title of Amoruso's book and the debut series share the same name, they are lacking in similarities. Unlike Amoruso's book, that acts more as a "How To" guidebook in the world of entrepreneurship, the Netflix series provides a much more

entertaining and comedic narration of Amoruso's rise to retail fame. Starring Britt Robertson (*The Longest Ride*) as Sophia, viewers follow along as a youthful, spunky, and determined young woman builds her own empire from the ground up.

At times, the characters and plot lines can be a little cheesy, clearly reflecting the scriptwriters' attempts to be funny and relatable, but they do warn viewers at the start of every 30 minute episode, "this is a loose telling of actual true events...very loose." One episode is based around Sophia having to personally deliver a vintage wedding dress to a bride moments before she has to walk down the aisle, simply so Sophia can avoid a bad review on her *eBay* account. It is moments like these that one can't help but appreciate the truer story line behind the comedic tale, and see the reflection of someone who worked very hard to make a dream come true.

Even if one isn't into fashion, the show holds something for everyone. There is love between Sophia and a potential boyfriend Shane, friendship between Sophia and Annie, and comical moments between Sophia and her neighbor Lionel, played by the famous RuPaul Charles.

One can also expect killer music, reflecting not only the early 2000s, but also Amoruso's love for music (as the name Nasty Gal was inspired by the 1975 album by Betsy Davis), and also beautiful snapshots of the city of San Francisco, where they filmed the series.

Although the series may not teach you how to run your own business and become the most powerful person in the business world, it does show you the trials and tribulations of a relatable young adult just trying to figure it all out.



Promotional photo for the new Netflix series *Girlboss*

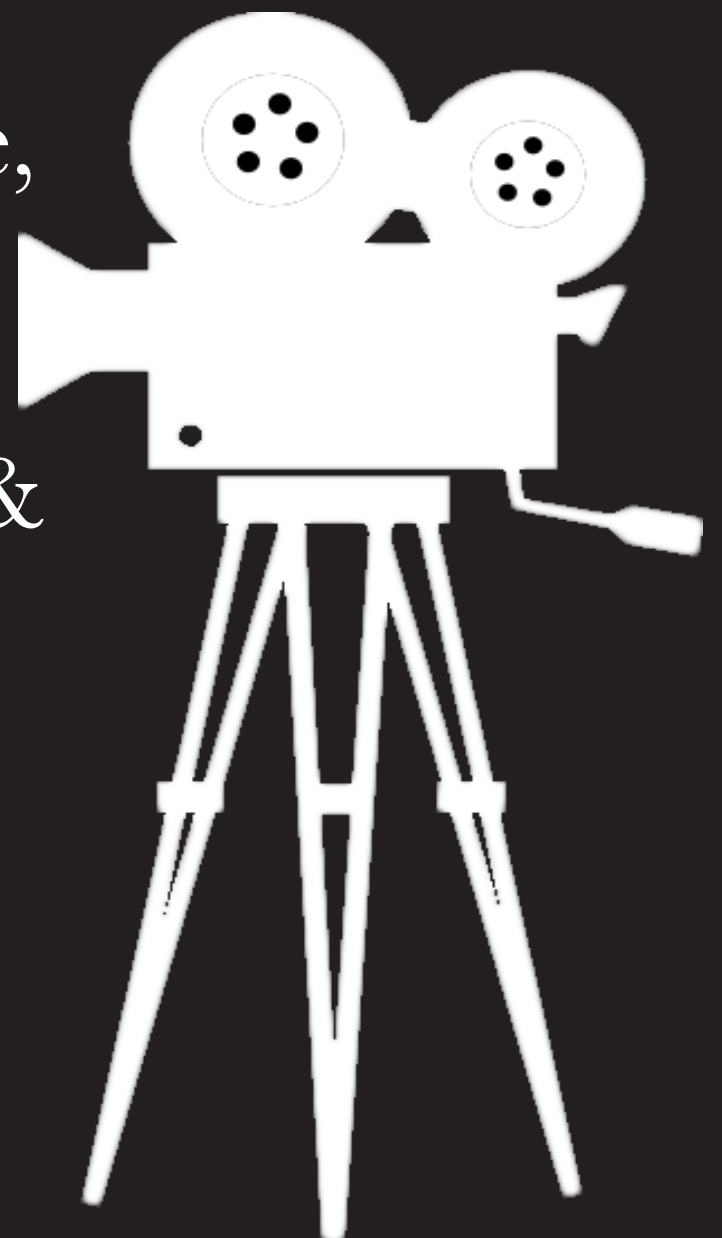
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Foolishness



by Julia Zygiel '19
Portfolio Staff

SHORT STORY

The sharp wind of early spring buffets Rich and Nina as they settled onto a bench outside of the library to study. Even though it is the first day of spring, it certainly doesn't feel like it, and Nina watched Rich with envy as he slipped into that laser focus of his with an ease that she knew she would never achieve. Nina herself was unfocused, too cold to think of homework, but unwilling to leave her friend to retreat inside.

He was studying for an important philosophy exam, but he had studied for it all day yesterday, and in her honest opinion, he could use a break. Besides, she was in the mood to chat rather than be productive, and he had insisted upon dragging her into the cold to study, so the least he could do was entertain her.

She clears her throat at him, following it with an "uh" to indicate that she needs his attention. "Can I," she pauses to feign anxiety, then bravely forges on, "Can I ask you about something?"

"Anything," is his response, though his tone is reluctant. He seems to think that it is his duty to be there for her (and everyone else), whether he likes it or not. At first she thought it was sweet, but as the months of their friendship went on she came to realize that he takes it more as an opportunity to display his intelligence than to comfort the person in need. She recognizes that what she's doing will only encourage this habit, but at the same time she can't help herself. Maybe this time will be different.

She leans back into the cool metal rungs of the bench they have chosen, aware of his eyes on her face. Suddenly, real anxiety has taken hold of her and she focuses on watching the few clouds in the sky. She worries

that her thoughts will be too heavy for a study session, too private for the outdoors.

"Do you ever feel, like, empty because you don't have a significant other?" The anxiety swells as she speaks and then subsides, replaced by embarrassment at having said something so revealing. She looks to him. His face is contorted with concern. Wonderful. "I can't say I do."

"I dunno...I watch all those television shows, I see couples everywhere, it makes me lonely. I know that's like THE most teenage thing ever and that people are dying, but that doesn't mean I should feel empty.

Like"—she wants to communicate the conviction



that her feelings matter in some way, but she can't quite find the words—"I'm real, you know?"

He doesn't respond immediately so she tries to laugh it off, saying, "I don't know what I'm saying."

He remains silent, thinking through his response, and she wants to take it back, to simply say "Nevermind," but before she can back out he speaks, unveiling a masterpiece of his usual pretension that fills her with frustration.

"Well, your worries are pretty

normal for a teenager. Your life shouldn't be completed by someone else." He pauses either for effect or to consider his next words—she had given up trying to tell. "You're whole. Do you get what I mean? There—There is no emptiness, because your self occupies all of the space within you. You are all you need in this life and the next. Sometimes it's all you will have."

"Jesus, Richard." She knew he would spout something like this and still she had asked him about it. Why had she bothered at all? "I know you fancy yourself an intellectual and all, but could you maybe try being a real person for once?"

He

nature of the self or whatever."

She searches for something to do to distract from the angry tears in her eyes. Remembering the slim white box in her pocket she drags it out, her other hand patting herself down for her lighter. A silent pleasure washes over her when he makes a face of disgust.

He opens his mouth to speak again but she cuts him off, pulling out a cigarette, deciding to mock him now, "Besides, humans are social, right? We love each other, hate each other, hurt each other." She places the cigarette between her lips and sparks her lighter, the smoke rising between them like a confessional curtain. She offers the box to him even though she knows he hates them. "We have to have connections with other people. So, yes, there can be emptiness and, no, I am not all that I need."

He scoffs as he declines the box of cigarettes, communicating all of his mocking and taking offense in that single exhale.

She wonders if this counts as a talent or a particularly awful flaw, "Well if you have all the answers then why did you ask me in the first place?"

She returns his tone, sarcasm and condescension rolled into one, "I thought maybe, for once, you wouldn't get all big brother about it." She switches the cigarette to her right hand so that the smoke will float closer to him and he shifts in his seat, but does not move away. Such dedication. "It's my own fault, though, I should have known better."

"I'm sorry I'm so disappointing."

She waits for more, for some explosion, but it doesn't come. Instead he goes back to his book and guilt burns her insides, regret at having been so cruel weighing on her now. She takes another drag of her cigarette before extinguishing it with the heel of her sneaker.

"I'm sorry, too."

sounds too practiced to be real, "An intellectual, that's a laugh. But sure, let me be a 'real' person. Hello, my name is Real Person McGee, how may I help you today?"

She rolls her eyes, regret weighing down her limbs, "God, don't act like you don't know what I mean. I just need you to tell me that I'm too good for all the boys and that one day I'll find my perfect prince charming and that it'll all be fine, okay? I don't need this bull about the

laughs that slow, rolling laugh, that

Baby Boy

by Matt Farrell '17
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

"I grew up on the Southside."

We first meet a young baby boy, bright-eyed,
Beautiful black skin seeing the world for the first time.
His parents looked at each other and knew of the daunting climb
But didn't expect to take upon the role of Atlas,
And as this boy begins to speak,
His daddy was gone, leaving the family up the creek.
See, his father got in a little trouble with Johnny Law,
Deported from the country leaving Baby Boy with his mom,
But Baby Boy barely knew him, so there was no time for sobs.

"You ever see your mom cry providing for you?"

Ten years later Baby Boy, a young man,
Sees Mama shedding tears so he grabs for her hand.
Later that day he walks up to D-Day,
Who reps the color red from around way,
Asking for any favors needed;
D-Day declined but Baby Boy heeded.
See money was tight but anguish is loose.
D-Day gave Baby Boy the option of a path to choose.

"There were some days I had to bring a gun to school."
Baby Boy now a "man" at the tender age of fourteen,
Crime record follows him like a shadow he has never seen.
D-Day has died and he's paying Mama's bills.
In school Baby Boy has no desire to learn
Because an education never helped anyone.
Pens and pencils were replaced by pieces and pistols,
And those bright eyes glazed over with hatred of all folk.

"It's hard to escape, you know?"

After school Baby Boy heads over to Southside,
And visits with some friends as they begin a wild ride,
When he returns home Mama sees no more love,
As being a man has made her Baby Boy numb.
Violence has taken over his bloodstream,
And that's when I give him homework.
"It's quite simple," I begin,
"Go home, hug your mother, and tell her you love her."
The next morning I walk in and Baby Boy has a grin,
"I did it," the only homework he ever completed.

The story is all true of a "thug" or a "criminal,"
But to me Baby Boy is on his way to a true man.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM, ALAMY.COM

A FALL FROM GRACE



PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

by Joey Aiello '17
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

His brow furrowed as he stared displeasingly at the screen. "It's not good enough," he muttered. Neurotically, he subjected his work to round after round of editing. Friends were contacted for advice and to pledge their support. After what felt like an eternity, he pushed that fateful button and shared his work with a world that was indifferent until proven otherwise.

The rain felt cold on his forehead. The ceiling of his cardboard cathedral had been compromised. A darkened pool had formed near its

center, intermittently dispelling cold drops from the outside world. One particularly harsh drop, large in volume and frigid in temperature, hit his forehead with a large plop. Damp and shivering, he rustled out of his half-asleep state. With a deep, existential sigh he opened the double doors of his bedroom into the foyer, which was decorated in a dirty New York City alley aesthetic, very modern. The rain fell heavy on the alley. Due to its slight slant, a rushing river had formed on the left side of the alley. Crumpled newspaper pages, candy wrappers, and other discarded treasures made up the convoy of vessels that dotted the rain river's current. From the asphalt flooring

to the decorative broken bottles and tire rims, the alley's accoutrements glistened in the cold November rain.

He made his way over to the kitchen, a large barrel with a rusty mid-century finish. He peered into the barrel, dismayed by the wetness of its once extremely flammable contents. Cold, hungry, and exhausted, his mind wandered to the memories of pleasant days before he squandered his talents. "A photo of a chicken finger basket with the caption 'late night snack' at one in the morning, Dave? What the hell were you thinking!?" he shouted at himself. "Seventeen likes, seventeen damn likes!" City dwellers passing by the sad, wet alley began to notice the spectacle

from the adjacent sidewalk. A small crowd gathered to watch the show.

"After midnight? Everyone knows that's throwaway time for riskier Instagram posts! And not even a pun in the caption!" he screamed to the small crowd on his front steps looking on with intrigue and horror.

"200 likes," he screamed, "I used to get 200 or more likes per photo!" The crowd grew tired of the increasingly saddening spectacle and began to disperse. He fell to the cold wet ground and murmured "200 likes" while feebly reaching his hand towards the final onlooker. "I used to get 200 likes," he said choking back tears. "Sure you did, pal," the man said while tossing a few loose coins in his direction.

Without a Muse



by Christie Smith '17
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Strands of hair whipped around my face as the wind picked up.
I could feel the rain as it soaked through my jacket.
You were walking towards me, about to say what I could only surmise,
But then the distance between us closed, and there was only silence, as we shared no words.
You threw me a twisted smile, which could have meant so much or truly nothing at all.
You were an unfortunate place to find perfection.
I let you fill the dampness of life, and you proved to be better than anything I could have created.
Our love was like the tide, we pulled together, only to retreat again into ourselves.
One of us was about to speak, always, but refrained, always.
"Next time" became a mantra, our unspoken motto.
But as I stood there, alone, I couldn't find a "next time."
It seemed optimism had finally betrayed us.
My heart was sprawled in thousands of pieces, openly displayed on the brick path as you walked past.
I combed through the recesses of my mind as the fragments we once shared came flooding back,
But this time they were barely real, nothing more than an apathetic heap of memories.
I strove in vain to hold your eyes with mine, but you looked to me, only momentarily, as if I were your sun.
I'm not sure what to say when I'm devoid of passion,
And without a muse I simply don't know how to create.
I fought to find meaning in the faces, a throbbing sea of color,
But most of the time it turned up empty, merely an empty pool of tireless connection.
I closed my eyes and was able to see all of what we were, void of any nostalgic twinge.
I'm not sure what to feel because it wasn't him and now I don't think it's you.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

Tiffany & Earl

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

Dear Tiff and Earl,

My boyfriend is cheating on me with my best friend— what do I do? On the one hand I love my boyfriend and I love my best friend, but on the other hand I want to murder them both. I am very conflicted.

Sincerely,

The so-called "girlfriend"

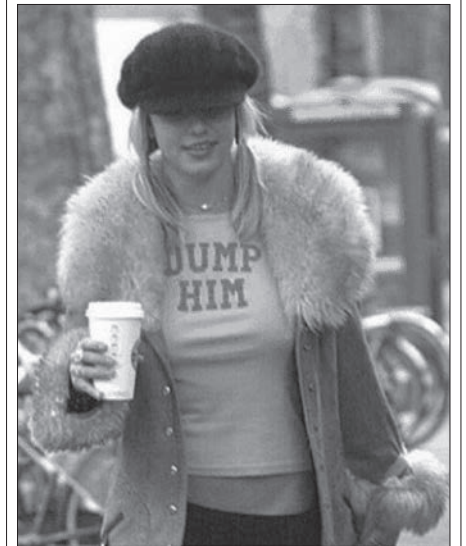


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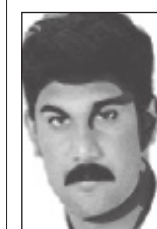


Tiffany

Go with your instinct... and by that I mean murder them.* They both wronged you and you cannot let that go unpunished. You may be asking yourself, "But Earl, doesn't a double murder seem a little harsh?" Yes, it is harsh, but if the glove fits, wear it.

Sadly, the U.S. justice system won't see it that way. You'll have to change your name, maybe disguise yourself as a man for a few years, and you'll definitely have to move to Thailand, likely for the rest of your life. Murder is very illegal.

*Disclaimer: Earl is not pro-murder, in all circumstances



EARL

Listomania

Things Found on the Floor After the Spring Concert

- Various Liquids
- A Single Tube Sock
- Glitter
- Sticky Boobs
- A Term Paper
- Friar Robes
- A Concertgoer
- Rae Sremmurd's Friend
- A Glass Eye
- A Pair of High-Waisted Shorts
- A Stray Dog
- Alumni Pizza Crust

Men's Lacrosse Growing Despite Losses

by Jake Searbo '17
Sports Staff

MEN'S LACROSSE

It has been a wild week for the Providence College Men's Lacrosse team with a total of three games that started with a victory over Marquette on April 15. That victory propelled the Friars into the national rankings, where they were 20th overall according to *Inside Lacrosse*.

It is incredible that a small school with around 4,000 students is nationally ranked in lacrosse. Head Coach Chris Gabrielli has done an exceptional job recruiting and developing young talent. The Friars were riding this national attention into two key matchups against Brown and the University of Denver.

In front of a rowdy crowd, the Friars dropped a double overtime heartbreaker against cross-town rival Brown. The tension at Chapey Field was palpable as both team's jockeyed back and forth all game long. This loss ended a five-game winning streak and brought the team's record to 9-4 overall. Austin Goltz '17 and Brendan Kearns '19 opened up

the scoring in the first quarter. The Friars then ripped off five straight goals to take a 7-3 lead over the Bears just before halftime. Brown responded with a man-up goal just before halftime and a second goal during the non-releasable penalty just after the start of the second half, to

bring the score to a 7-5 Friars advantage.

During a hectic third quarter of play, goals were scored by Ian Grey '18, Joseph McHale '19, and Goltz. Goltz scored his first career hat trick with this quarter tally. He ended with four goals in this game and was a threat every time he touched

the ball. This goal put the Friars up 11-9 early in the final quarter. Brown then went on a three-goal run throughout the fourth quarter to take a 12-11 lead with 1:56 left in the game. It was the Bears' first lead since the first quarter. Sean Leahy '20 scored the biggest goal of his

freshman season to tie up this incredible game with less than one minute to go. The four minutes of first overtime were scoreless. Brown attackman Jack Kniffin buried the game-winner on a beautiful assist from All-American Dylan Molloy. Big East defensive Player of the

beat a great conference team in late April.

There was no rest for the weary, as the Friars had to travel to Denver to play the No. 3 University of Denver Pioneers. In an incredibly tough matchup against a talented team, the Friars fell to Denver 12-2. The Friars' record is now 9-5 on the

season and 3-1 in Big East play. The Pioneers were only up one-to-nothing after the first quarter on a goal from Austin French. Denver scored five unanswered goals in the second quarter to secure a commanding six-to-nothing halftime lead.

Conner Byrne '18 and Ryan Nawrocki '20 scored the two Friar goals. While this game was not the result the team was looking for after the Brown loss, the Friars actually experienced the talent and speed of a top five team. The Friars will have to tighten up their defense in preparation for the Big East tournament and a possible rematch with Denver.

The Friars have one game left in the regular season against Villanova next Saturday, where the team will honor its seniors.

After this game, the team will prepare for the Big East tournament, which will be played at Providence College. The lacrosse team has had a great season so far but will need to improve on its all-around game to have success in postseason play.



The lacrosse team in a huddle this year.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

Softball Continues to Show Promise

by Ethan Ticehurst '18
Sports Staff

SOFTBALL

Under sunny skies this past Sunday the Providence College Softball team split a doubleheader with the Seton Hall Pirates. This doubleheader was the culmination of a three-game weekend series, which started on Saturday with an 8-7 Friars win. It was a good weekend for the team, as they managed to win two games in front of a rather large home crowd.

With the season coming to a close within the next month, the Friars stand at a record of 17-23, with a record of 5-10 in the Big East. This season is proof of a continued improvement in the softball program here. In 2014, Friars softball won six games. The next year, they improved to win 16 games while last year they managed to win over 20 games. This season, they seem on pace to have one of their best seasons in a while with nine games left.

When attending one of their home games, it is easy to see the teamwork that drives this team to success. Each person out on the field has a role and they perform it well. It seems that any one batter can change the outcome of the game when they step up to the plate. There is a sense of optimism that surrounds Glay Field these days.

This optimism has been shown to not be misguided throughout the year. The Friars have a few quality wins under their belt, the most impressive of them being against Butler a few weeks ago, with the Friars invoking the mercy rule in a 14-6, five inning game.

The focus of this team seems to be on their collective performance, but some individual performances have spurred this team to new heights. Perhaps the most noteworthy of these is the performance of Emma Lee '19. She has been named to the Big East Honor Roll

multiple times this year and has an impressive .360 batting average. She also spends her time on defense in right field, where she has a perfect fielding percentage. While Lee is the star of the outfield, the infield has a star in Vanessa Portillo '19. Portillo has also been named to the Big East Honor Roll multiple times and has caught fire recently, hitting enough home runs to raise her slugging percentage to a staggering .532.

Overall, fans of Providence sports should start to look at the softball team as a team on the rise. It can

be hard in Friartown for any sports team other than basketball or hockey to gain any notoriety, but some teams are starting to gain stronger reputations on campus. Softball is one of those sports that looks close to gaining a strong reputation. They have continued to improve throughout the years and look to be only a few years away from some sort of continued success. Fans would do well to take a trip down to Glay Field sometime in the next two weeks to catch a glimpse of the next great Friars sports team.



Vanessa Portillo '19 takes a swing.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

Who will win the NBA Championship?



PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST



PHOTO COURTESY OF NBA LOGOS

by Max Anderson '18
Sports Staff

OP-ED

Warriors

There is no doubt in my mind that a Western Conference team will win the NBA Championship this season. The only question is which team it will be: The newly formed super team Golden State Warriors, or the always reliable San Antonio Spurs?

After watching the regular season, as well as the first four games of the playoffs, I have to ride with the Warriors. While I believe a Spurs-Warriors Western Conference Finals is inevitable, I just don't think the Spurs have the firepower to overcome a lethal Warriors team. Yes, the Spurs could stick Kawhi Leonard on a healthy Kevin

Durant, but even then Gregg Popovich and company would have to find a way to cover the dynamic duo of Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson. There is also the fact that NBA Defensive Player of the Year frontrunner Draymond Green is guaranteed to defend Leonard throughout the series. At the end of the day, the Warriors just have too many weapons, which will bring them back to the Finals for the third straight year.

This likely means a third straight NBA Finals showdown with the Cleveland Cavaliers, a team that the Warriors have defeated but also fallen to in the Finals. While it's difficult to bet against LeBron James, the addition of Durant gives the Warriors an extra boost they didn't have in last year's finals. When the dust settles, the Warriors will bring the Larry O'Brien trophy back to San Francisco, besting the Cavs in six games.

By Meaghan Cahill '20
Sports Staff

OP-ED

Cavaliers

Being from New England, particularly the Boston area, I would love to pick the Celtics to be the winners of the Eastern Conference NBA Finals. However, realistically, they do not stand a chance with the Cavaliers on their side of the bracket. This is why almost every projected playoff bracket predicts the Cavs to win the finals.

Usually, teams are not supposed to place their success on a single player, however, in the Cavs' situation, it is almost kind of hard not to. LeBron James has been at the center of the Cavs' success since he rejoined the team back in 2014 after a four year hiatus with the

Miami Heat. His consistency as an MVP candidate can be seen through his stats: averages 28 ppg, 9 rbp, and 7 apg just during his playoff runs, which consists of six straight NBA finals appearances. James is also responsible for more than half of the Cavs' points every game.

However, the success of the Cavs in making it to the finals will not just fall on LeBron's shoulders. They have plenty of veteran experience in the playoffs on the team to assist them in this year's playoff run. Another major key for the Cavs apart is their roster loaded with shooters in all five positions. With this, they will be able to spread out and have the ability to get points from all areas of the court, whether they come from layups, three-pointers, or jump shots.

With all this said, the Cavs definitely have the odds in their favor to win the NBA Finals.

Athlete of the Week: Jarrod Neumann '17

by Sam Scanlon '19
Sports Staff

LACROSSE

The Providence College Men's Lacrosse team certainly does not lack offensive firepower. However, the core of this squad can be found in its defensive unit. Led by Jarrod Neumann '17, the Friars' defense has been an outstanding complement to their fast paced offense.

Neumann has emerged as one of the best defensive players in the Big East Conference and in the region. The 6'4" defender has been in charge of shutting down the opposing team's top scoring threats, including some of the best attackmen in the country. He has been rather successful in his efforts, as he has been awarded All-Big East First Team honors for two straight years, including a unanimous decision in 2016 after leading the Friars to the Big East Championship for the first time in program history. Also, Neumann received an All-New England Second Team spot after the 2016 campaign.

Throughout his career, Neumann has played an essential role for this team as the face of the solid defensive unit that has proven to be vital to help win games this season. Currently, the Friars are ranked eighth in Division I lacrosse for scoring defense, carrying only a 7.86 goals-per-game average. Neumann's help securing each team's top offensive threats has been an essential asset to keeping teams off the scoreboard.

Recently, Neumann was recognized and received the honor of being named the Big East Defensive Player of the Week after capturing an impressive 9-7 win at home against a talented Marquette University team. The win helped the Friars clinch a Big East tournament spot for the second straight year. Holding the reigning Big East Champions to seven goals was a remarkable feat. Neumann played the lead role, as he has the entire season, in allowing his team to win games by being a big presence in key scoring areas, making it difficult for opponents to generate scoring opportunities.

Not only does he help the team win by playing his position well, he exerts his leadership ability across the entire team, inspiring his teammates to focus on winning. A captain since his sophomore season, Neumann has been able to gain the respect of the entire team. He is the type of player who is always locked in on his task, and as the leader of the team, every other player does the same, focusing on their role to help the team reach its maximum potential. While leading this team, the Friars have improved tremendously.

Defense wins championships. Neumann's outstanding play in the defensive end limiting goals allowed has put the Friars in an excellent position this season. They are winning games because their opponents are struggling to find the back of the net against them. Defense only proves to be more and more important at this point in the season, so Neumann will definitely give the Friars an opportunity to make a splash in the postseason.



Neumann doing what he does on defense.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

Sister, Sister: An Interview with Tennis Sisters

by Lauren Altmeyer '17
Sports Staff

TENNIS

For sisters Amanda Pitocco '17 and Natalie Pitocco '20, tennis is a family affair. Starting at the ages of seven and five, respectively, they got their love of the sport from their mom.

"Our mom got us into tennis. She used to play in high school and we actually learned from her high school coach. He's 89 years old and still coaching," said Amanda.

"Our mom also got our dad into it, so we would play doubles a lot with them when we were younger. It used to be more evenly matched but now when Amanda and I play them it's not so fair," added Natalie with a laugh.

Even their grandparents, who are long time Friars Basketball season ticket holders, join in on the fun. "Our grandparents have a court near their house so sometimes they'll watch the matches we have with our parents," said Amanda, "They live really close so they've been coming to basketball games at Providence College for over 30 years. We used to come all the time which is how we knew about the Friars."

"We're big basketball fans. We also really like volleyball and soccer,

because we have a lot of friends on those teams," added Natalie.

Although the tennis team has had its struggles in the second half of the season, head coach Jakob Klaeson has done a good job of keeping morale up. Natalie noted, "He tells us to work hard and have a positive mindset about everything. He's a really great coach."



Amanda (left) and Natalie (right) playing this year.

Amanda agreed, adding, "We get along really well as a team. One of the biggest things our coach always tells us to do is cheer everybody on, no matter what. It really builds on the whole team aspect and helps everything fall into place."

With the Big East tournament taking place on April 27, the team is ready to take on Villanova once again. They

will play six singles matches and three doubles matches against the Wildcats.

"We're very excited. Villanova is one of our rivals and we lost to them a couple of weeks ago so this will be a good chance to get revenge," said Amanda, "It should be a good match."

With the season coming to a close and graduation nearing, the Pitocco sisters reflected on their season. "We've had a friendly rivalry being on the same team this year," said Amanda, "I used to win all the time but now she gives me a run for my money."

Natalie, who still has three years ahead of her at PC, said, "I will really miss having Amanda around. It's so nice to have someone to go to after a tough match, someone that I'm so close to. I've been practicing and playing with her all my life so now that she's graduating things will be a little different."

When asked what she will miss the most about her time at PC, Amanda said, "I will definitely miss being part of the tennis team the most. My teammates have come to be some of my closest friends on campus and I always look forward to seeing them every day. When you've got a tough schedule, it's awesome to just go to practice and forget about everything else. My teammates make everything so much fun."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE PITOCO SISTERS

Providence to Host 2021 March Madness



The Dunk last year for March Madness.

PHOTO COURTESY MATT SNYDER/FANSIDED.COM

by Jeff Williams '17
Sports Staff

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Providence College Men's Basketball Team comes off yet another successful season for head coach Ed Cooley and his Friars. After losing Kris Dunn '16 and Ben Bentil '18 to the National Basketball Association, the Friar men entered the season with very low expectations, being picked to finish ninth in the Big East. However, the team exceeded expectations, making a great late season run to finish 20-13 (10-8 Big East). Kyron Cartwright '18 and Rodney Bullock '18 were named to the Second Team All-Big East while Cartwright earned the conference's Most Improved Player—the third Friar to win the award in Cooley's six years in Friartown. While the team suffered a devastating opening round loss to the University of Southern California Trojans, the 2016-2017 campaign marked the fourth year in a row that PC made the NCAA tournament.

The Friars will have the opportunity to build on last year's performance, returning their entire starting lineup and bringing in a stellar recruiting class ranked 13th by *Scout.com*, 14th by *Rivals.com*, 15th by *247Sports.com*, and 29th by *ESPN.com*.

Dajour Dickens, who hails from Hampton, Virginia and plays for Bethel High, committed last February. The seven-footer chose PC over the likes of Virginia and Creighton. Nate Watson from Arlington, Virginia (Bishop O'Connell) was the next domino to fall on Sept. 10. The 6'9" center is a consensus four-star prospect and chose the Friars over Maryland and Miami. Cooley's major haul will be Makai Ashton-Langford, the consensus Top 100 prospect who decommitted from the Connecticut Huskies in March and chose to sign with Providence on April 10 after visiting during Accepted Students Weekend. The Worcester, Massachusetts (Brewster Academy) point guard and his new classmates will be invaluable pieces for the next four years.

On April 18, it was announced that Providence College and the Dunkin' Donuts Center would be hosting first and second round games at the NCAA men's basketball tournament once again, this time on March 18 and 20, 2021. This will be the 12th time that Providence has been a destination for postseason play, after previously being the site for games in 1975, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1985, 1989, 1996, 2010, and 2016. PC Athletics Director Bob Driscoll told Kevin McNamara of the *Providence Journal*, "We have established a rich tradition of hosting highly successful NCAA events in the City of Providence, and we look forward to serving

as host once again. The NCAA men's basketball tournament is one of the most prestigious and exciting events in all of sports. Hosting this event opens the door to showcase our great city, top-notch staff, and venue."

The Dunk most recently hosted the tournament last year in what proved to be a great weekend of basketball. All six games on Thursday, March 17 and Saturday, March 19 were quickly sold out. The Thursday games included two major upsets—the Yale Bulldogs over the Baylor Bears, and the Wichita State Shockers over the Arizona Wildcats. In the second round games on Saturday, two Sweet Sixteen berths were at stake. The Miami Hurricanes, coached by Jim Larrañaga '71, held off the Shockers, 65-57, while Mike Krzyzewski's Duke Blue Devils ended Yale's hopes of a fairytale run, 71-64. The success of last year's tournament in Providence made it a no brainer for the city and the NCAA to set another date for basketball in the Dunk for March Madness.

With the return of a starting lineup headed by Cartwright, Bullock, Jalen Lindsey '18, and Emmitt Holt '18, the addition of a studed recruiting class, and the ongoing construction of the Ruane Friar Development Center, PC Men's Basketball should have a sterling outlook going into the 2017-2018 school year.