Freedom of Speech Event Draws Large Crowd

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Student Affairs Hosts Sexual Assault Awareness Month
PC Engages and Informs Students Through Events

by Kendall Cairo '20
News Staff

ON CAMPUS
April is Sexual Assault Awareness month and Providence College continues to participate in the international movement to bring awareness, education, and prevention to college campuses. However, for both PC administrators and student leaders, addressing the topic of sexual violence is a conversation that they believe deserves recognition and engagement beyond the month of April. “It would be naive to think that our work would be done in a month,” said Kristine Goodwin, vice president of student affairs. “This is not a one month endeavor, but rather a 12 month endeavor.”

In order to continue a transparent and educated discussion regarding sexual violence, both Goodwin and Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Jim Campbell, have diligently worked to develop programs that address the issues on the PC campus. Offering students resources and education about sexual violence not only brings awareness, but enhances solidarity and support for victims.

Programs like Haven—an online pre-orientation program that is required for freshmen to take before they attend school in September—are paired with two related sexual assault prevention programs during orientation week, like the Bystander Step Up Program. These programs aim to educate students early on in their college careers, in hopes of preventing sexual violence throughout their time at PC. They also equip them with skills that will help themselves or others when confronted with the issue.

As Providence College there is a large investment in bringing awareness of sexual violence. When students have a trust and confidence in their system, they feel safe and more comfortable reporting their incidents of assault—their work is vital,” said Campbell. To establish a safe space for students to report their experiences of sexual assault, PC has partnered with the local police department as well as external Title IX investigators, who help administer updated resources and tools that PC can implement into their own human resources. To gather student experiences and opinions, campus climate surveys are sent to students, which ask questions about student’s experiences with sexual violence and harassment issues, along with a plethora of issue like gender and race issues.

From this survey, the administration is given student responses and can help them tackle the issue of sexual violence in a more productive manner. Goodwin said, “When students fill out these surveys, we are able to triangulate all this data and grasp an idea of what it means to be a safer community that grants survivors and victims with the resources they need.”

For Women Will, a PC organization that focuses on educating the community on issues of gender and sexuality, the month of April offers an opportunity to heighten awareness of the issue and the preventative measures that need to taken in the future. One of the main events on campus was Take Back the Night, an event hosted on April 10 that created a safe space for students to share their experiences in a place of solidarity.

Ingrid Brugnoli-Ensín ’18 is the president of Women Will and believes that having this month of April and wide events works towards expanding peoples’ understanding of sexual violence. “There is a whole sexual assault spectrum, there are different experiences and different traumas endured, but every trauma is significant,” said Brugnoli-Ensín. Take Back the Night and other events ensure that there are platforms on campus for individuals to feel safe in voicing their experiences, while simultaneously educating others in the community on sexual violence and its effects.

By expanding people’s interpretations of sexual violence, people can learn what is okay and not okay, what classifies a safe relationship, and when to notice when yourself or a friend is in an unsafe situation. With the countless resources that PC provides students, an underlying issue is still present, Brugnoli-Ensín explained, “There is a stigma regarding sex and sex education programs at a Catholic school, we can not really talk about the issue at hand without talking about sex, which gets messy and complicated.” As a Catholic institution, the topic of sex is complex. Brugnoli-Ensín went on to explain that difficulty arises in the inability to approach subjects like the practice of safe and consensual sex, because pre-marital sex is general goes against Catholic beliefs.

When safe and healthy sex is not discussed or taught, but turned into a taboo subject, students can be misinformed about responsible and safe sex practices, which may result in a hesitation to report or come forward with their experiences of sexual violence.

Despite these broader issues, we can all do our part as individuals to ensure the safety of ourselves and others on campus. Being an active bystander in social situations can be as simple as walking someone back to campus on a Friday night. There may be no grand solution to this problem, but a month dedicated to sexual violence awareness may indicate how much more work and prevention needs to be done and the small acts we can take to move towards some progress.

As this month represents many things, Goodwin reinforces the idea that it marks a moment for us all to reflect on our role as community members, saying “This month is an opportunity for someone to be a better ally, to be a support system, we all need to ask ourselves, ‘Am I doing everything I can, for myself or someone that needs me?’

Addressing Student Concerns on Raymond Cafeteria
Sodexo:

Continued from front page
In regards to the insect found in a student’s french fry, Gerhardt said, “Any time there is food found with a foreign matter in it, we will send that piece of food back to the vendor or manufacturer because it is crucial to find out how it got there.” For example, the fry was sent back to McCain Potatoes to be inspected because if an insect was embedded in the fry, it could have not happened here.”

Gray also mentioned that after the ravioli photo was circulated, the Rhode Island Department of Health was notified and an inspection of Raymond Dining Hall was issued, and a clean bill of health was issued. “We have decided after both instances that the pest control services come every day to ensure the problem is fixed,” he said.

While the problem seems to be taken care of, students at Providence College are still upset, and hope to never see this issue recur again. The university’s dining facilities. Gabrielle Montoya ’20 said, “I think what happened was gross. Students eat at Ray every day, and sanitation needs to be taken more seriously when so many kids are being fed each day. If this keeps happening, someone could get really sick.”

Marie Sweeney ’20 said, “My friends and I have been avoiding Ray once we learned about the bug problem. It’s just pretty unappetizing. Students shouldn’t have to fear that something is in their food, and they also shouldn’t feel the need to spend their money off campus or use their Friar Bucks on other food because their meal plan provides them with insect infested foods.”

The Dining Services team at the College have implemented new changes in protocol, but the sightings of roaches by students has not ended as hoped. A video of a cockroach running on a table in Ray has circulated around the internet, and is only raising more questions from students and parents as if the problem is really fixed. Since the last video of the cockroach, there has been no further sightings of any cockroaches.

Student liaison to Sodexo, Daniel Keating ’20 and John Stablien ’19, have met multiple times with Gerhardt to address student concerns. Keating reported to the Student Congress on Tuesday that the Board of Health did inspect Raymond Cafeteria last week, and declared that there is no infestation, and therefore the hypothesis that the cockroaches came from outside the cafeteria is likely.
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Featured Friar: Jennifer Dorn ’18
Fulbright Scholarship Awarded to One PC Senior

by Ernie Andreoli ’18
News Staff

FEATUED FRIAR

Ten students from Providence College applied to receive a Fulbright Scholarship this year. A candidate qualifies if he or she is an undergraduate senior or has graduated within five years at the time of application, and Jennifer Dorn ’18 was the only PC senior to receive this prestigious award in 2018. While Dorn stood outside of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts this past weekend, she discussed how thrilled she is to be a Fulbright recipient. “It is going to be fun and gives me opportunities to be creative,” exclaimed Dorn.

As a theater arts and English double major from Dallas, Texas, Dorn has a passion for the performing arts and has participated in theater for 14 years. This past weekend, she attended the Institute for Theater Journalism and Advocacy, a workshop sponsored by the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. After qualifying for this workshop, Dorn had the opportunity to refine her skills in journalism, specifically for theater criticism.

In addition to improving her analytical and writing skills, Dorn was fortunate enough to meet well-known theater professionals and critics, such as Sarah Kaufman, a dance critic for the Washington Post and the recipient of the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Criticism. According to Dr. Darra Mulderry, an associate professor of history at Providence College and the director of national and international fellowships for PC’s Center for Engaged Learning, the most difficult part of the application process is preparing a personal statement and a statement of purpose—each only one page long. “Jen was the first prospective applicant to approach me for this year’s scholarship,” noted Mulderry. “I wanted to do something different after graduating, and Jennifer Dorn ’18 was the only PC senior to receive the scholarship on March 23. Dorn explained that she will be assisting with English instruction for about 20 hours per week for 10 months in a track secondary school in Zlătăru, a town in the Olomouc region of the eastern portion of the country. “This opportunity will give me time to read, write, and do what I love,” exclaimed Dorn.

In addition to teaching English, Dorn also has the opportunity to refine her skills in journalism, specifically for theater criticism.

PC Republicans Host Discussion on Free Speech

Free Speech: Continued from front page

The first question posed was, “Regardless of the provocative nature of Catholic tradition in a progressive era, should the expression of religious ideals be protected by freedom of speech?” Fr. Bonaventure spoke extensively on this subject, stating, “Speech is about the true revelation of yourself. If your freedom is not for truth, then it is not really freedom of speech.” Dorn noted the most difficult part of the application process is preparing a personal statement and a statement of purpose—each only one page long. “Jen was the first prospective applicant to approach me for this year’s scholarship,” noted Mulderry. “I wanted to do something different after graduating,” stated Dorn. She explained that she was looking for opportunities to teach and/or travel following her undergraduate years.

Dorn explained that after speaking with Dr. Mulderry, she went to an informational session on campus during the spring of her junior year. Beginning in the summer, she went onto the Fulbright’s scholarship site and searched through prospective countries. While working in the admissions office as a summer assistant, Dorn began writing drafts of her statements.

“The process included a great deal of writing, revising, editing, and also making sure that each word would culturally translate,” noted Dorn. She was initially interested in diving deeper into an English Teaching Assistant (ETA) role in Latvia or Greece. However, the Czech Republic became a perfect fit because of her interest in the country’s cultural history. “I have always wanted to travel to the country because of the rich artistic and sociopolitical forces at play,” stated Dorn. She also revealed that the first president of the Czech Republic, Václav Havel, was a humanitariam deeply involved in the performing arts. She submitted her application last October and received the scholarship on March 23.

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The second question posed was, “Are some people’s feelings of offense more important than others? If so, how is that category defined?” Strobil spoke the most on this subject, stating, “I wouldn’t create a hierarchy of who deserves a right to speech because that implies we are going to sensor those who are willing to speak. I think that is a dangerous path. I would rather approach this as fighting speech with more speech.”

“When asked by a student if even conservative students should be given a safe space to speak on campus, Cammarano stated, ‘At an institution of higher education, a member of the communist party must have a safe space, a member of the Fascist Party, a member of the Democratic Party, a member of the Republican Party, a member of the Socialist Party, a member of the Libertarian Party, must all have the opportunity and freedom to do so.”

The third question posed was, “Is the idea of protecting a person from hearing viewpoints that they find offensive compatible with the project of education?” To answer this, Cammarano stated emphatically, “Hell no!” Fr. Bonaventure also stated, “Simply quoting authority won’t do. You can’t just say ‘someone said this’ and assume it must be true. You have to tell me why. You have to deal with objections in order to learn.”

Overall, the event was well-received by the students who attended it, and the decorum was respectful and restrained. “While Providence College Democrats do not agree with the politics of Strobil, the main speaker from this event, many of the things said last night actually resonate with the condition of liberal or Democrat voices at Providence College,” said PC Democrats in a statement about the event.

“No is secret that PC is a generally conservative campus, and liberal organizations such as PC Dems have found it very difficult to promote events or bring speakers on campus,” the statement continued.

The club went on to say, “Protecting Freedom of Speech is not limited to and should not be limited to preserving conservative voices but to keeping an open platform for all voices. We hope that moving forward, Providence College can move towards removing unnecessary barriers to political activism for all ideologies.”

Undoubtedly, every club, student, and professor can resonate with the message of free speech for every individual. For more information about Strobil, you can visit his website at www.GrantStrobil.com.
One Year Later: Juniors Still Wish to Live Off Campus
Administration Explains Their Decision Behind the Policy

by Brian Garvey ’20

ON CAMPUS

One of the most polarizing issues on campus in the past few years has been the off-campus housing situation. There have been plenty of debates concerning who gets to live off campus and when, with strong feelings on both sides of the argument. This situation has also spilled over to the on-campus housing situations. The presence of more upperclassmen living on campus, as well as a steady rise in enrollment over the past four years, has contributed to an unhappy living situation for some students.

However, there are many misconceptions about the reasons behind restricting who can live off campus. There are three motivations for the change to the off-campus housing policy: the first being to increase revenue, the second being to make the campus the center of social life, and the third being to stick to the idea of being a purely residential campus.

In terms of revenue, Kristine Goodwin, vice president of student affairs at Providence College, stated, “We are a tuition-dependent institution, and the kind of revenue loss we were experiencing was significant. This was a primary reason for looking into the policy.”

The administration believes that the school should follow through with the idea of being a “residential campus,” in that students should be residing on campus and taking advantage of everything the campus has to offer.

“Our studies have shown that there has been an increase in participation and utilization in regards to involvement,” said Steven Sears, associate vice president and dean of students. “Some of that success varies on the individual too, in that if you don’t take advantage of what’s offered to you, you may never experience the positive impact of things we are providing.”

Another issue students have debated and discussed is the quality of residence halls. As stated above, the student population at PC has been on the rise, and as a result students have questioned why there simply isn’t enough rooms to go around. Jana Valentine, director of residence life, said, “I feel that after two years of penance in residence halls I should be able to make the choice to move off campus. Sometimes I feel as if there simply isn’t enough rooms to go around.”

Jana Valentine, director of residence life, said, “If there is a perception that there is not enough space for everyone, we can accommodate everyone on campus.” Dean Sears also stated, “We are really looking to review our residence halls and the quality of our facilities.” The board of trustees will also be voting on a residential master plan this coming June.

Off-campus housing is mainly controlled by the 02908 Club, with very few different options. This is due to the quality of 02908 homes, as well as the location and recognizability of where most students have a 02908 shirt somewhere in their wardrobe. Bob McCann, a head partner of the 02908 Club, stated, “Some of the most attractive parts of 02908 reside in the fact that you have access to the house throughout the summer and over breaks. I also feel that being off campus is part of the student experience, as I feel that the experience of being in your own nice house is unmatched.” Some students, however, feel that more off-campus options would be more desirable.

“I really like the quality of the house, but it’s tough signing a lease in the first few weeks of sophomore year,” said Ryan Gallahue ’20. “Without the flexibility of being able to make decisions closer to senior year, it is tougher to choose off-campus housing over the simplicity of an apartment on campus senior year.”

Other students also expressed complaints over the early lease, and Goodwin stated, “We are fundamentally opposed to students needing to decide their freshman and sophomore years where and who they would be living with years later.”

Ultimately, the administration wants students to know that if students want their questions answered, if they want to suggest changes, the door is always open. “The student voice at PC is so important. When Jana [Valentine] says come to office to talk, she really means that.” Stanley Vieira, director of citizenship and off-campus life, said. “I’ve yet to see a Residence Life office that works so collaboratively with students. That’s just what PC does.”

Students are more than welcome to visit the residence life office, as well as talk to their respective hall directors about questions or ideas they have.

BOP and SHEPARD Host “Tell Your Story”
PC’s Proud Week Ends on a Reflective Note

by Catherine Brewer ’20

ON CAMPUS

“We need to educate this campus before we do anything else,” expressed Magnoly Maria ’19 of the mission behind PC’s Proud, a celebratory and educational week of events promoting LGBTQ+ support at Providence College. On Thursday, April 12, students gathered in McNulty’s at 5:30 p.m. for Tell Your Story, the culmination of the collaborative planning effort of the Board of Programmers (BOP) and SHEPARD. The campus hub was decorated with everything rainbow, from balloons to confetti, and students and faculty gathered with anticipation.

Tell Your Story offered a safe space for those who identify as LGBTQ+ and their allies to share their personal narratives about challenges they have faced as members of the community. To ensure that all voices were represented, BOP and SHEPARD had options: those interested in sharing their story could hop on stage and share it with the crowd, or they could submit it online for someone else to tell, whether that be done with a name attached to it or anonymously.

Maria, a member of BOP and the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs (BMSA), explained that preparations for the event began long before the bulletin board debate of last month. At the beginning of the year, the BOP Diversity Committee decided that they wanted to plan an event surrounding the LGBTQ+ community because they felt that it was lacking support and inclusion on campus. “Their stories have been out there, but they’ve been pushed aside for a really long time,” Maria explained. Beginning with their hope to make campus feel more like home for students of marginalized communities, PC’s Proud developed over time with immense passion. “I feel that this event definitely is a good way to sum up the march,” expressed SHEPARD’s treasurer Sarah Kane ’19 in light of last month’s LGBTQ+ solidarity march. Kane explained that while the story submissions had been trickling in slowly, a flood of them were sent in on Wednesday night, gathering like the committee’s shoulders. Prior to the event, Kane was most excited for the LGBTQ+ community and its allies to be brought together by storytelling in a healthy and supported way.

Keysha Rodriguez ’19, an ally at the event, explained that she felt fostering an inclusive community on campus was a prevalent and pressing issue. “These events allow the campus to see that people are here and deserve respect,” stated Rodriguez as she cut a rainbow-colored ribbon that would soon be folded to create pride pins. In her opinion, exclusion has resulted from a lack of conversation and education, and events like Tell Your Story help to “get the ball rolling.”

According to Kane, the next event that SHEPARD is helping to plan is CarnivALL. This celebration of all identities is set to take place on May 4 from 4 to 8 p.m., and the community can look forward to inflatables, food trucks, and much more.
The Cowl in the past. Yaeger believes that by having a decision to have it throughout the day, the Relay for Life at PC. There were PC's A Cappella Club, the Dance Team, and Motherland Dance Group. There are entertainment clubs, including Society, Fischer and Yaeger have been in conjunction with the American Cancer Society that helps to not only promote cancer awareness, but the American Cancer Society, by signing up at http://www.relayforlife.org/PC. This nationwide event is held on Saturday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Smith Lawn. Students can still register for the event for $20, which will go towards the donation to the American Cancer Society. Galeota. “Relay for Life means so much to me, because the community gets to come together as a team to support all people who are fighting this horrible disease,” Galeota’s mother, Sue, is just one of the many people affected by cancer, and PC’s Relay for Life will help benefit not only her life, but the lives of many.

PC’s Relay for Life will be taking place on Monday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Smith Lawn. Students can still register for the event for $20, which will go towards the donation to the American Cancer Society. By signing up at http://www.relayforlife.org/PC/.

Social Work Class Aims to Start Student Advisory Board

PC Students Working With the Personal Counseling Center

by Hannah Langley ’21

ON CAMPUS

College can present many stressful situations in the life of students, and Dr. Susan Grossman’s community and political practice social work class is working to address this problem. The class, which consists of seven Providence College juniors, explained, “There is a lot of disconnect between the student body and the Personal Counseling Center about the resources and programs offered.”

To bridge this gap, the students have implemented a Providence College Student Advisory Board, which will work in conjunction with the Personal Counseling Center, PC’s Care Team, and the chaplains in Campus Ministry. According to the class’s proposal, this group will “support the Counseling Center in providing resources and services that satisfactorily meet the varied... needs of all students.” According to Kelli Jenney ’19, one of the students working on this project, the advisory board will “include students from every school of study to represent all races, genders, and class grade, as well as student clubs, organizations, and athletes.” By representing students from different areas in the community, the advisory board will “enhance the Personal Counseling Center’s services... through its advocacy, feedback, and democratic representation of the student body,” as stated in the class’s proposal.

This initiative began last semester when classmates Brian B ’19, Clara Che ’19, Thomas Heavren ’19, Kelli Jenney ’19, Kelsey Doyle ’19, Katherine Nardodillo ’19, and Mackenzie Lawler ’19 worked with Generation Citizen, a national organization wherein democracy coaches come to local schools and work with students on addressing prevalent issues and helping them solve them.

“One thing we found to be a community issue at PC is the concern about student mental health and the lack of knowledge of resources that are available,” said one of the social work students. To determine whether or not this was an issue the majority of PC students at cared about, the students implemented a survey to gather their data. Nearly 250 PC students participated in the survey, and the students got an overwhelmingly positive result. “We found that 89.7 percent of people who took the survey wanted a student-run organization to support mental health,” stated one of the students. From there, the students created the advisory board based on other data collected from the survey, which included student knowledge of basic provisions and safety regarding mental health.

As the proposal states, the goal of this advisory board is not only to facilitate the communication between the Personal Counseling Center and the student body, but also to plan events to promote mental health awareness as well. To promote this, the class has created three different committees that students can apply for when joining the advisory board. These three committees—Outreach, Events, and Awareness—will work together to solve the issue between the student body and the Personal Counseling Center through scheduling events and programs, addressing the concerns of the school community, and furthering student education on mental health.

Another interesting aspect of the advisory board is its specificity in addressing issues with student-athlete counseling. “If a student-athlete wants to go to the counseling center, they can only go to a psychologist who will provide them with counseling about performance-related problems,” said Che. “The sports psychologist is only available for a limited time frame,” explained Heavren, “so each athlete gets probably a fifteen-minute time slot.” This is an area of controversy, as student-athletes’ schedules and lifestyles can become extremely hectic and stressful. The class wants to encourage student-athletes to join the advisory board so that issues like this can be addressed and, hopefully, resolved with work and better communication between the Personal Counseling Center and the student body. Dr. Grossman commended her students for the dedication they have put into creating this program. This was all class-driven work, and all the work was done as an incredible unit. They decided their issue and worked on everything themselves. This was a genuine grassroots community-led project,” said Grossman.

While Grossman praised the students for their work, everyone in the class talked about how they could not have accomplished what they have done without her help and support. “Dr. Grossman doesn’t give herself enough credit,” said one student. “She was really a driving force and a great support.” The students also talked about how they are extremely proud of what they’ve achieved and proud of the fact that they are going to leave a lasting impact at PC with this advisory board, saying “This is our way of making our mark.”

“The Personal Counseling Center is in support of having a committee form to help us with improving communication with the campus,” said Dr. Rosemary Mugan, director of the Personal Counseling Center; “and are excited about the student interest...about the reduction of stigmatization around mental health issues.”

The Personal Counseling Center Student Advisory Board will be a concrete institution by the end of this semester, and students can expect to see an application available soon.

Preview: Providence College Hosts Relay for Life

Colleges Against Cancer Plans for a Day of Relay

by Hannah Langley ’21

ON CAMPUS

In one way or another, cancer has affected almost everyone today. In response to this, Providence College’s Against Cancer is holding its annual Relay for Life event, a fun-filled day of activities aimed at raising money for cancer research.

Relay for Life is an event sponsored by the American Cancer Society that helps to not only promote cancer awareness, but raises money towards cancer research in the form of “save lives, celebrate life, and lead the fight for a world without cancer,” as stated on the Relay for Life website.

This nationwide event is held at various schools and in various communities through the effort of people and students, like Rachel Fischer ’19 and Megan Yaeger ’19, who care deeply about finding a cure to this terrible disease. With the help of the PC administration, in conjunction with the American Cancer Society, Fischer and Yaeger have been able to continue the tradition of holding the Relay for Life at PC.

Throughout the day, activities such as games and fun races will be taking place, as well as performances from entertainment clubs, including PC’s A Cappella Club, the Dance Team, and Motherland Dance Group. There will also be open evenings dedicated to yoga and Zumba. One difference in this year’s relay, Yaeger mentioned, was the decision to have it throughout the day, rather than overnight, as has been done in the past. Yaeger believes that by having the event during the day, it will “bring a new, refreshed energy to the event and hopefully bring in more participants.” She says they are “excited about the change and hopes the PC community is as well.”

To promote awareness and participation in the event, tables were set up in Slavin Student Center and Raymond Dining Hall throughout the week, where students could learn more about how to register and donate. Any previously registered student who raised $100 or more was invited to a special event on Wednesday night where they received a Relay for Life T-shirt to wear to the event.

Many students have already registered and even created teams for the event in an effort to raise money towards cancer research. For many students, such as Kelly Galeota ’21, fundraising and taking part in the event has a special meaning. “My mom was diagnosed with breast cancer when I was five-years-old and diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer throughout her body a year and a half ago,” explained Galeota. “Relay for Life means so much to me, because the community gets to come together as a team to support all people who are fighting this horrible disease.” Galeota’s mother, Sue, is just one of the many people affected by cancer, and PC’s Relay for Life will help benefit not only her life, but the lives of many.

PC’s Relay for Life will be taking place on Monday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Smith Lawn. Students can still register for the event for $20, which will go towards the donation to the American Cancer Society. By signing up at http://www.relayforlife.org/PC/.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RACHEL FISCHER ’19
On Tuesday, April 10, the Board of Programmers (BOP) hosted an event in McPhail’s to raise autism awareness across campus.

The event involved cupcake decorating. BOP members lighted up blue from a reference to the Light It Up Blue initiative, as well as providing students with materials to create their own bracelets, which included small puzzle piece charms to represent the complexity of the spectrum.

Decorated entirely in blue, the event served as a form of raising awareness and educating the student body as to what it means to have autism. April serves as Autism Awareness Month, and April 2 is dedicated to annually observe world Autism Awareness Day.

Ekeocha, an African social and political activist, gave a talk to the Providence College community titled “Neocolonialism in Africa: Repeating the Past but Worse.”

Ekeocha began the lecture by providing brief history on the context of neocolonialism. Neocolonialism is defined as the tendency of donors in their funding strategies within Africa.

This period of colonization, which lasted between 70 and 75 years, “was really about geographical domination.” In the 1960s, African countries were granted their independence from their European colonists. Ekeocha explained that since then, Africa has developed their respective European colonists. Ekeocha shared. She also explained that most of the funding that is given to these population programmes pays for expensive billboards and contraceptives which have debilitating side effects.

After, Ekeocha showed the audience graphs depicting the percentages of aid from the U.S. and the UK which are allocated to SRHR; 31.4 percent, respectively. In comparison to the funds given to population programmes in all other areas of the world, Africa receives much more in this particular sector. “This is exactly what I would define as phenotypic racism,” said Ekeocha.

Donors also determine what is worth funding, without necessarily considering the real problems at hand or the input of citizens. Ekeocha said, “Donors are completely blind and deaf to everything that we hold dear,” including rich African culture. When countries do not comply, leaders are shamed and punished.

To elaborate on this power imbalance, Ekeocha revealed that a startling amount of funds are given to what are called population programmes. “This includes all aspects of sexual reproductive health and rights [SRHR] like contraceptives, condoms, comprehensive sexuality education, and abortion,” Ekeocha shared. She also explained that most of the funding is given to these population programmes pays for expensive billboards and contraceptives which have debilitating side effects.

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Women Empowered Puts on Naturalista Expo

by Sarah Gianniti ’18
News Staff

Embracing your unique, natural beauty was the theme of the 2018 Providence Providence Naturalista Expo. The event was held on Wednesday, April 18, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Moore Hall 125, and sponsored by Women Will. A variety of PC organizations cosponsored the event, including Brotherhood, Beta Lambda Psi, Alpha Psi Lambda, Black Studies, Women’s Studies, and ISO. The expo showcased different vendors and information regarding the health center and counseling, along with various products, and mingles and enjoy food and desserts. “This is the third annual Naturalista Expo and so far we have consistently had a great turnout,” said Mackenzie Williams ’17.

In Memoriam: Barbara Bush

by Gabriella Pisano ’18
News Editor

World News Brief:
What’s Happening in Syria?

by Junekyll Vergas ’20 and Caroline Rivera ’19
sample body butter.

For the past seven years, Syria has been in the midst of a civil war. Will the current president, Donald Trump, take control of the government, other countries are getting involved in the conflict.

On Saturday, April 7, a chemical weapons attack in Douma, Syria, reportedly killed at least 70 people. After a joint inquiry by the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the attack was attributed to the Syrian government. Both the Syrian government and Russia denied reports of the attack, claiming that all reports are fabricated.

In response to the Douma attack, the United States, the United Kingdom, and France fired 160 missiles to destroy chemical weapons facilities in Syria on Saturday, April 14. This marked the biggest military attack by western powers on Syria since the Islamic State and al-Assad’s government. According to Pentagon officials, at least one building was levelled and Syria’s chemical weapons program was set back for years.

The missiles targeted three areas that were believed to be centers of chemical weapons manufacturing. The three areas include a scientific research center near Damascus, a chemical weapons storage facility west of Homs and a storage facility west of Homs and a weapons manufacturing. The three areas include a scientific research center near Damascus, a chemical weapons storage facility west of Homs and a weapons manufacturing. The three areas include a scientific research center near Damascus, a chemical weapons storage facility west of Homs and a weapons manufacturing. The three areas include a scientific research center near Damascus, a chemical weapons storage facility west of Homs and a weapons manufacturing.
Opinion

A Nightmare Abroad: Survivors Speak

by Paige Calabrese ’18
Associate Editor-in-Chief

STUDY ABROAD

On the evening of Wednesday, April 11, my friend sent me a link to an interview on NBC Today that featured three young women who had all studied abroad in Spain. They all took trips with the popular tour company, Discover Excursions, used by hundreds of study abroad students, those who are primarily studying in Spain. I also studied in Spain and went on multiple trips with Discover Excursions, so I was shocked when I opened the link.

In the interview with Megyn Kelly, the three women described how a tour guide and the owner of Discover Excursions, Manuel Blanco Vela, known to many students as Manu, assaulted or attempted to assault them. As I watched the interview I was assaulted or attempted to assault myself, one of my friends, or a woman I knew, according to her interview, claims she was raped in 2013 on a trip to Morocco with Discover Excursions during her semester abroad. She was 19 years old.

Gabrielle Vega, one of their survivors, had been studying in Spain and went on multiple trips with Discover Excursions, and the idea of being in danger of a serial predator never occurred to any of us. When traveling with a tour group or agency, one expects to be able to trust the guides and all other employees charged with leading and guiding people through a foreign country.

Vega had posted on Facebook about her experience with Vela and the subsequent trauma she developed as a result of her assault; Vega’s goal was to seek out other survivors who suffered at the hands of Vela so that he could be held accountable for his misconduct. After the interview, other survivors began reaching out to Vega to share their stories. As of April 14, more than 50 women have been assaulted, harassed, or harmed by Vela have notified Vega, according to her Facebook profile.

While I was abroad, my friends and I took multiple trips with Discover Excursions and the idea of being in danger of a serial predator never occurred to any of us. When traveling with the tour group or agency, one expects to be able to trust the guides and all other employees charged with leading and guiding people through a foreign country.

Clearly, PC needs to make a change. The students who attend school here—and pay anywhere between $2,070 for the lowest meal plan and $6,030 for the unlimited plan, required for all freshmen— deserve better.

Without a doubt, the PC students who have to pay for and eat the food here should come first. However, the concerns about the food at PC are creating a rather serious issue in terms of the College’s overall image, outside of its students. Various outlets offering reviews of the College, which are frequented by prospective students, have less than stellar reviews of the food.

Niche, a popular website that ranks colleges and offers an overall grade of each school, gave PC an A grade. For the most part, PC received an average of a B+ to an A on specific rankings, like quality of the professors, dorms, campus, and student life. However, Niche gives PC a C- when it comes to food—the lowest grade on PC’s report card, and the only one in the C range.

Rate My Professor, a website popular among college students, gives PC a three out of five rating when it comes to food, once again earning the lowest spot out of any category. Even Princeton Review, a frequently accessed resource for students applying to college, pointed out that besides diversity, dining is the one area that students really want to see improvement.

If PC is not willing to strive to fix these problems with the food for the benefit of the students who attend the College, at the very least, they should make a change in order to improve the image of the school and appeal to prospective students who care about the quality of the food they will be eating.

Overall, a small change can go a long way. In general, both Raymond Dining Hall and the Alumni Food Court are well-kept and clean, and the entire staff is fantastic. If PC can simply manage to improve the quality of its food, PC Dining Services on the whole would be getting much better reviews. Even better, students could trust that the food they eat is safe to consume, and feel that they can depend on PC for a healthy meal.

Food Quality Is Bugging Students

by Andrea Triatti ’21
Opinion Staff

CAMPUS

At colleges everywhere, there is a commonly held understanding that dining hall food is simply never going to be that good, and cannot compare to a home cooked meal. Especially at Providence College, most students have come to terms with the fact that food quality is one of the College’s biggest weaknesses. As students make their way over to Raymond Dining Hall, they are not expecting a five star meal, and most are okay with that. But at the very least, all students should be able to expect a bug-free meal every time they eat in the dining hall.

In recent weeks, news of the bug problem has spread across campus via various social media accounts. A few photos of food with bugs have circulated around: one of a french fry with a bug encrusted in it, and another of a dead bug lying on a plate of fried ravioli. Shortly after these photos were posted, a video of a similar looking bug crawling along the side of a Ray counter top was shared.

The bug issue has sparked a conversation about some of the more general problems with the food at PC. Several other photos reveal different concerns: raw meat in hamburgers, moldy sandwich bread, and a weird looking green glob of some unidentifiable substance in a glass of water. And few PC students have forgotten about the photo of the infamous dead mouse behind the juice machine posted last year.

The photos, albeit funny on account of their relatability, are still quite concerning. The fact that so many students find the photos funny on account of their relatability is a big problem.

Obviously not every student has found a bug in their food, but nearly every student has had at least one really bad experience eating at PC. It is entirely understandable that there will be mistakes when it comes to food, especially when serving such a large number of people, but one bug is one too many, especially when it comes to the safety and health of students.

Clearley, PC needs to make a change. The students who attend school here—and pay anywhere between $2,070 for the lowest meal plan and $6,030 for the unlimited plan, required for all freshmen— deserve better.

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The liberal arts core curriculum at Providence College serves as the foundation for students’ education. Between the rigorous Development of Western Civilization program and an abundance of core requirements— which cover topics such as intensive writing, fine arts, diversity, and oral communication—the liberal arts are rightfully stressed throughout academies on campus.

While a large handful of students on campus have chosen to major in various types of business or STEM-related subjects, it is crucial for students to still receive some sort of liberal arts education in order to better prepare themselves for life after college and the future in general.

Dr. Stephen Lynch, English professor and the director of the Liberal Arts Honors College, explained, “Science and technology have done wonders for us, and I would not want to live in a world without them. But science and technology provide tools—and tools don’t tell us how to use tools. We now have the capacity to manipulate the genes of virtually all plants and animals (including humans), but science and technology in themselves cannot determine whether that is good or bad or how much power should be used or controlled. For that, we need a broad range of knowledge in the humanities and the sciences. With the advances in sciences, we need to know both the humanities and social sciences more than ever.”

Even though many news websites, such as U.S. News & World Report, put out recent lists that dub various types of engineering and business as the “Top College Majors” or “College Majors of engineering and business as the “Top” out recent lists that dub various types of business or STEM- on campus have chosen to major in various types of business or STEM-major in something outside of the humanities, however, the academic core can feel overwhelming and impossible to accomplish.

The core curriculum at PC requires two courses in theology and philosophy in addition to four semesters of DWC. Along with these, the civic engagement, diversity, intensive writing I/II, oral communication proficiency, fine arts and natural science requirements makes it nearly impossible for a science-based major to graduate on time without taking extra summer or winter courses.

With the amount of money that students have to pay to attend PC in general, it is ridiculous that the core curriculum at PC could put students in a position where they may have to pay thousands more dollars to graduate on time, or on the other hand, thousands more dollars to stay an extra semester. In addition, the intensity of the core curriculum can make it very difficult for students to balance all of their classes per semester. Oftentimes, it feels as if once as I catch up on one pile of work, there’s another four waiting for me to tackle.

The nature of the core curriculum and its attempt to build well-rounded students is important, however, it needs some remodeling. Instead of taking two semesters of theology or philosophy, one class suffices and the College could make certain classes count for numerous professorships at once.

At the very least, the amount of money it costs to take summer or winter classes could be reduced. Alternatively, there should be more realistic information given to potential PC majors in terms of exactly what their schedule will resemble for various semesters.

Social Media Giants Must Prioritize Privacy
by Gabrielle Bianco ‘21

When Facebook was founded in 2004, no one could predict the impact it would have on life in the 21st century. Despite its ability to help people connect and share ideas around the world, its disadvantages have become glaringly apparent in recent years.

The most dangerous problem to arise has been the recent security breach with Cambridge Analytica. This recent controversy has caused people to consider Facebook’s role in protecting its users’ privacy and the role of propaganda in the media. In March 2018, the Federal Trade Commission launched an investigation into how Cambridge Analytica, a right-wing voter profiling firm, accessed Facebook users’ information in order to inform their operations. The company harvested its information through an app called “This is Your Digital Life” and was able to obtain personal information from over 87 million Facebook users.

The data collected by Cambridge Analytica is thought to have been used in efforts to support the presidential campaign of Donald Trump and Brexit. Many were angry at Mark Zuckerberg, the founder and CEO of Facebook, for allowing the security breach to occur.

On April 10, Zuckerberg was questioned in front of the Senate, and on April 11, he was questioned in front of the House Energy and Commerce Commission. In his prepared remarks, Zuckerberg took responsibility for not protecting his users’ privacy.

Zuckerberg said that Facebook will be taking measures to ensure that their users’ privacy is more protected in the future, including actions such as investigating third party apps and increasing transparency.

While Zuckerberg’s intentions moving forward seem to have users’ best interests in mind, they cannot erase the damage that has been done. People using Facebook place their trust in the company.

Now that this trust has been broken, it will be very difficult for Facebook to defend its credibility as a brand that prioritizes the safety of its users. When a tool as simple as an app can be used to access personal information, there is no way of knowing who will take advantage of this opportunity and potentially use the information collected for insidious means.

In addition to raising concerns about the right to privacy, the Cambridge Analytica scandal arouses concerns regarding political freedom. At the Senate hearing, Zuckerberg acknowledged the fact that Facebook did not take appropriate action to curb Russian interference during the election on their site.

Since individuals’ personal information was harvested to benefit a political machine, there is concern that Facebook and other social media sites will be further used as tools to influence users and spread propaganda. These concerns threaten not only individual liberties, but the integrity of democracy in the United States.

While social media has the power to facilitate amazing connections, there is ample opportunity for its capabilities to be used in improper ways. If social media is going to continue to exist in society, giants of the industry such as Zuckerberg and Facebook must take the necessary steps to ensure that their products are not doing more harm than good.
April 19, 2018

Social Media is Skewing Our Relationships

by Kelsey Dass '18
Opinion Staff

Just about every other person you meet on a college campus is currently in a relationship, has been in one before, dated, or casually hooked up with another person they have come to really like. Modern technology and ideologies surrounding dating have diminished the value and significance of relationships to an all-time low. Social media has altered our standards for trusting and evaluating our relationships. We are all aware of the gaping double standard. It is perceived as more socially acceptable for straight men to have sex with however many women they like while women have no such privilege.

The appearance of slut-shaming on college campuses carries deeper, site-specific implications. Institutions of higher education continue to be masculine spaces, even as women increasingly outnumber men on college campuses nationwide. Universities in the United States have been reserved for men since the 1600s. Thus, academia and collegiate activities carry a determinedly masculine association. Only recently were women—women with white skin and resources, that is—given the chance to upstage themselves through higher education. Of course, the intersection of race and class complicate this history. When a woman enters a space traditionally reserved for masculine activities, a certain standard of professionalism and respectable behavior is placed upon her. She must, through her behavior and stellar achievement, prove that she deserves to be there.

The issue of slut-shaming on the Providence College campus stems from the expectation for women on college campuses everywhere to go above and beyond what is expected of men. slut-shaming is the manifestation of this power imbalance between men and women in a place that was never reserved for the latter.

Unfortunately, the campus climate survey lacks questions challenging students to reflect on slut-shaming. In a unique instance, the survey asks students to mark the degree to which they agree with the statement, “If a woman hooks up with a lot of men, eventually she is going to get into trouble.” In a recent survey, the tale of two star-crossed lovers separated by their feuding families, Romeo and Juliet, the tale of two star-crossed lovers separated by their feuding families. A more modern example of a love story that people idealize is Nicholas Sparks’ The Notebook. Almost every person who has seen the movie has fallen in love with the love between Noah and Allie. The letters he wrote for her each day and the individual journeys they experienced despite their broken hearts, is what drew so many people into its relationship.

So why is it that for our generation, this version of love and relationships is so unattainable? The climate of harsh and unnecessary criticism. For this reason, future campus climate surveys should challenge students on their participation in slut-shaming. They should also ask students the reasons behind what they believe a woman’s right to engage in sexual activity. Individuals that hold a religious, cultural, or personal belief in maintaining a level of sexual purity should be respected for that. There is nothing oppressive in the Church’s teaching for a believer who holds these values true.

However, there is something very oppressive about expecting others to hold the same values as you and shaming them if they do not. For women who do not believe that they must uphold a sense of sexual purity, their body is theirs to dictate. One preventative measure that must be taken against slut-shaming is to identify it as a serious issue through the campus climate survey, and to establish a new campus norm surrounding empathy and acceptance for future Frieris.
On Tuesday nights, you will usually find me in my literary non-fiction class in a dark room of lower level Raime. For two and a half hours we talk about how to craft the perfect non-fiction story, and we even workshop our own pieces. But this Tuesday, we transported to Aquinas Lounge to hear published author Stefan Merrill Block talk about his newest novel, Oliver Loving, and his own writing experience. Block is a personable author who, even after 10 years of being published, sends out an email each month to talk about his writing as he did on his first book tour. He is artistic and thoughtful, and gives such a realistic view of writing as a roller coaster process filled with many mistakes and grand moments.

Oliver Loving is a story he has been working on for over six years, as he struggled to find the right way to tell this story of a small town family, and how the school shooting event he threw away a fully finished manuscript and started over again.

For a room full of many English majors and aspiring writers and publishers, Block did something very difficult—he made us believe that we could do it too. He showed us his flaws and his strengths and said this could be us. He was 25 when he signed his first book deal, just a year older than me, and has been writing ever since.

Right now, many students are suffering through the April blues of what to do after the semester. April is the time for seniors to look into jobs and decide on graduate schools, and for freshmen to contemplate internships and summer plans. The world can seem hostile and confusing, and our dream job or career can quickly slip away in the face of fierce competition. But Block showed that it is possible to make a living doing things. For him, becoming an author took a dose of luck and a push from his then-girlfriend to get a literary agent. Then worked hard and strong passion for writing.

Reading articles for this week’s edition, I was impressed by how many Providence College students are already carrying the torch of their majors and shining potential for great things.

The News section showcases students making change, including a social work class making a student advisory board to personal counseling to promote mental health awareness, Jennifer Dorn ’18 winning the prestigious Fulbright award to teach English in the Czech Republic, and students preparing to host the annual Relay for Life this Saturday to raise money for cancer research.

This list could go on and on, but these few examples show that PC students are doing great things to profoundly represent our community and make a difference throughout the world. And as we enter into the world of the unknown and internships, let’s keep that hope and confidence that we too can be an author, or any of our dream jobs.

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The Cowl is a proud member of the Associated Collegiate Press.
LEFT: Runners sprint during the Ocean State Invitational track meet on Saturday, April 14. Read more about the meet on page 27 of this issue.

BELOW: Jessica DeCurtis ’09 speaks about women in the workplace and her experiences working at PricewaterhouseCoopers at an event sponsored by Women in Business. PwC is the single largest employer of Providence College graduates, with over 160 alumni across the corporation.

BELOW LEFT: Nikki Silva ’19 prepares to pass the frisbee at a club Ultimate tournament on Saturday, April 14.

BOTTOM LEFT: Caprial Harris ’19 and A.J. Roskam ’18 perform in a skit with Six Gents. The Providence College comedy club’s last performance of the semester will be on May 1.

BELOW: Klisman Sousa ’18 dribbles down the field as the Providence College Men’s Soccer Team played Bryant University in a scrimmage on Saturday, April 14.
What is the best campus hiding spot for an epic game of hide-and-seek?

“Behind Peterson.”
Maria Santos ’20

“McPhail’s on a Sunday.”
Max Seferian ’18

“Off campus and the men’s lacrosse locker room.”
Kayla Luciano ’18 and Michael Meeks ’18

“Back stairwell near The Cowl and the elevator in the Concannon Fitness Center.”
Kathleen Lovett ’20 and Melissa Bambery ’20

“Ceramics building.”
Cameron Villaruel ’21

“A secret room in Harkins.”
Marvin Taveras ’19

“In my secret dog house.”
-Huxley the Dalmation.
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Big East Welcomes eSports Club to its Conference

by Ryan Cox '18
A&E Staff

Who said the Big East has to be strictly physical sports? This weekend the Providence eSports Club, a team of students competing in video game tournaments, sent teams in Rocket League and League of Legends to Big East playoffs. This is the first semester that the club has been in existence, and teams have only played together for a few weeks. Providence eSports also has Hearthstone and Overwatch teams that play in third-party tournaments through Tespa, a collegiate esports organization.

The club's co-presidents are Zachary Gandara '19 and Matthew McGuane '20, and the club is made up of about 70 members, a mix of casual and competitive players. "The club accepts people who play all games, on any platform," said Gandara. "You don't have to be a competitive player to join. We want it to be a fun environment for everyone, not just for competitive players."

Gandara and McGuane admitted that putting teams together took some time, but was worth the time and effort. "The school came to us and basically said, 'you know the students, you know who would be interested.' So, we scouted to get the teams together and coordinated captains just by knowing everyone," said Gandara. "PC got into it because of pressure from the Office of Student Activities and Cultural Programming has expressed their desire to give the club space in the Slavin Center. Administrators hope that the central location will allow the student body to rally behind the newly-formed team.

Within the Big East, the eSports division plans to establish a regular season and a tournament system similar to the Big East athletics playoffs. The NCAA has yet to recognize eSports as an official sport, but pressure from the Big East and the growing popularity of eSports is pushing the NCAA toward recognizing eSports soon.

Providence eSports is now open to all interested members, both those who want to play competitively or those who wish to play casually.

John Krasinski Leaves Movie-Goers Speechless

by Blaine Payer '18
A&E Staff

MUCH

Do you hear that? That is the sound of A Quiet Place tip-toeing into the horror movie history books. John Krasinski’s nearly silent directorial debut crushed the box office and charmed the critics last weekend, raking in $50 million and quickly becoming the No. 1 movie in America.

With its innovative style and strong media campaign, A Quiet Place is likely to go down as a staple of the genre whose appeal stretches farther than unconventional gimmicks and Jim from The Office.

The first notable and untraditional aspect of this film was certainly its advertisement campaign, which surfaced several months ago. Rather than go the usual route and show its trailer on television and in movie theaters, Krasinski and his producers decided to turn to social media to garner excitement for the film.

Erik Childress of Rotten Tomatoes calls A Quiet Place "a word-of-mouth monster," citing the social media campaign as an enormous factor in its success. The explosive trailer was used by Warner Bros. when campaigning for It, last year’s underdog success story that has become one of the highest-grossing horror movies of all time. Krasinski’s film is already the fifth film of 2018 to gross $100 million domestically and shows only a 34 percent drop in its second weekend, one of the lowest for a horror film in recent years. It also beat out both Steven Spielberg’s passion-project Ready Player One for total domestic pull and was only narrowly outsold this second weekend, one of the lowest for a horror film in recent years.

The largely computer-generated monsters had some would-be fans coming into the film, but his masterful and patient directing made it so that the film never dragged or exhausted the gimmick.

The silence also had a profound effect on the audience, which, for the first time in years of seeing films at the Providence Place Mall, was completely silent the whole time. You could hear a pin drop in a packed theater, the sound of which likely would have caused much of the audience to jump and shriek.

The final element that impressed me, besides Krasinski and Blunt’s stellar performances, was the quality of the sound-hunting monsters. With a budget of only $17 million, it is clear that money was carefully allocated and spent where it matters. The largely computer-generated creatures were never cheaply done. Their presence was felt even when they were not on screen, and their image would remain with viewers long after the credits.

Hopefully this does not turn out to be Dwight’s most elaborate prank yet, since as of now A Quiet Place has the potential to be Paramount Pictures’ highest grosser in five years, as well as one of the best films of the year.
PC Alum Preserves History with U Street Contested

by Sara Conway ’21
A&E Staff

As a historian and documentary filmmaker, Michael T. Barry, Jr. ’16 [whose] voice to people and topics that are “often forgotten or marginalized,” according to Artistic History Review. Barry earned a Master’s degree in American Documentaries at Providence College in 2016, and is currently working towards a PhD in History from American University. In 2014, his film Sincerity: From X to El Shabazz was released, winning a Carter G. Woodson Award the same year. Two years later, The Universal Soldier: Vietnam. Barry’s second documentary, received the award for Best Feature by the United Nations.

The “hookup culture” on college campuses today is the social norm, but no one seems to talk about it. At Boston College, Professor Kerry Cronin teaches a course on dating culture and the psychology of relationships. The way she teaches the course, her students attentively take notes and get excited to take on the project, it is obvious that many young people are lost when it comes to developing authentic relationships in this generation. The documentary is especially appealing to the PC community, as college students are susceptible to the hookup culture that is so similar to that of Cronin’s workplace, Boston College. The way people seek and find love in this day and age has changed radically. The “hookup culture” has started trends of just hanging out, texting, engaging on social media, and having one night stand.

The Dating Project Aims to Redefine “Hookup Culture”

by Catherine Goldberg ’20
A&E Staff

The “hookup culture” on college campuses today is the social norm, but no one seems to talk about it. At Boston College, Professor Kerry Cronin teaches a course on dating culture and the psychology of relationships. The way she teaches the course, her students attentively take notes and get excited to take on the project, it is obvious that many young people are lost when it comes to developing authentic relationships in this generation. The documentary is especially appealing to the PC community, as college students are susceptible to the hookup culture that is so similar to that of Cronin’s workplace, Boston College. The way people seek and find love in this day and age has changed radically. The “hookup culture” has started trends of just hanging out, texting, engaging on social media, and having one night stand.
New York’s Favorite Summer Concert Returns

by Julia Vaccarella '21
A&E Staff

With Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival kicking off this year’s spring, music festivals, the beginning of music festival season is upon us. Governors Ball, first launched in 2011, is returning yet again. This year it will be held June 1-3 at the same location as last year, Randall’s Island Park in New York City. The three-day event will feature a variety of artists and spotlight different musical genres. Founders Entertainment is the company that handles the production for Governors Ball, which in past years has attracted well over 100,000 spectators. Single-day tickets are currently being sold online, as is entry for all three days of the festival. In addition to great music, there will be food trucks and exposure for many known New York restaurants. There is also a lineup of food vendors just as anticipated as the musical lineup.

Two of the headliners for 2018 include Eminem and Travis Scott. Although both artists are known for creating rap music, they will be performing on different days of the festival. Eminem, a classic name within the genre, will have plenty of songs to perform from his 2017 album, Revival, and his long list of past records. Travis Scott, who rose to popularity with his song “Goseebumps,” also has plenty of set list options to choose from—his new album was released this past Dec. Other well-known rappers like 2 Chainz, Lil Uzi Vert, and Post Malone are all on the musical lineup, performing on different days. Rapper Lil Yachty, a newcomer, is slated to make an appearance on June 3. All of the acts chosen by Founders are rap artists. In fact, opening the show on the festival’s first day is Jack White, whose musical style leans towards rock and alternative music.

White is also part of the duo The White Stripes, which produced, “Seven Nation Army.” Electronic/EDM artists will also be in attendance, such as Diplo, who recently released a solo album. He has partnered with Mark Ronson, who appeared on Bruno Mars’ “Uptown Funk,” on a duo team that they have called Silk City. Diplo and Ronson are currently set to perform on Saturday, June 2. Additionally, another EDM duo will be performing on this day: Galantis. It seems as though this year’s Governors Ball will feature a wide array of artists from big name singers to up-and-coming performers; it is this versatility that attracts so many people year after year. Forbes speculates that it will “include some of the city’s biggest comeback shows ever along with breakout acts you can’t miss.”

What Makes Black Panther

One reason the film has been so vastly successful is because it offered black audiences a cinematic experience they have been sorely missing: a black superhero. White audiences have enjoyed nothing short of a plethora of superheroes to choose from: Iron Man, Batman, Superman, Captain America, Spider-Man and Thor alone have made a combined 35 appearances in major superhero movies since 2002. In this way, black audiences who sought inspiration and entertainment from a superhero who looked like them have been left underwhelmed for many years.

The need for representation obviously transcends the superhero genre. The history of film as a whole has been dominantly populated by white voices. The most iconic characters of all time—James Bond, Indiana Jones, Luke Skywalker—are all white. If you Google-search “best actors of all time,” the automatic top 50 listed results display only four people of color. Searching results for “best directors of all time” displays only two people of color in its top 50. Some of the greatest movies—The Godfather, Canneblance, It’s A Wonderful Life, Fight Club, and The Lord of the Rings—feature no black characters and require African-American audiences to view their stories through the eyes of white characters. And yet Black Panther has still made more money than all of them in just eight weeks. Now more than ever, black audiences are finding themselves represented in mainstream films. Two years ago, Moonlight (2016) won the Academy Award for Best Picture. Last year, Get Out (2017) made $176 million and won Best Original Screenplay. This year, director Jordan Peele’s socially conscious horror film Get Out has predicted that Black Panther will become the first ever superhero movie to be nominated for Best Picture. Ultimately, Black Panther’s box office records serve as a testament to the strength of diverse voices and the increasing need for more representation in Hollywood films of all genres and budgets. Black Panther will of course be remembered as an entertaining movie. But, more importantly, Black Panther’s cultural relevance, as both the first mainstream black superhero movie and a major blockbuster will resonate universally with audiences of different backgrounds as a source of hope, affirmation, and inspiration.
Boston Venues Give Music Fans Variety

by Patrick Fuller ’21
A&E Staff

Temperatures remain close to freezing but the date screams spring. With the first weekend of Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival behind us, we search for similar experiences closer to home. While the weather makes outdoor music-watching uncomfortable, if not impossible, the city of Boston hosts a wide variety of legendary indoor venues to fill the gap.

Royale Night Club on Tremont Street holds a capacity between the intimate Paradise Rock Club and the larger House of Blues. According to boston.com, the New York-based live music company, The Bowery Presents, signed a deal with Royale in 2010 to put on 100 shows a year at the venue. Royale co-owner Dave Ralph told a local Boston music blog that he planned on supporting many up-and-coming acts over the next couple of years. For instance, over the course of the proceeding months, Royale plans to host Unknown Mortal Orchestra, Marian Hill, Shakey Graves, and Bishop Briggs, among others.

On Saturday, April 14, Rainbow Kitten Surprise took the stage at Royale backed by bluegrass band Caamp. Mailing from Boone, North Carolina, the five-piece band recently released the album How To: Friend, Love, Freefall which sets “dizzying rush of words… to a thrillingly unpredictable sound that transcends all genre convention, endlessly changing form to accommodate their constant shifts in mood and spirit.”

The album, produced by Grammy Award-winner Jay Joyce (Cage the Elephant, the Head and the Heart) and recorded at Neon Cross Studio, is the band’s debut release for Elektra Records. The band mostly focuses on vocals. Lead singer Sam Melo uniquely blends the mellowness of vintage folk with the flavor of his hip-hop including, Schoolboy Q and Frank Ocean. These two sounds clashed under an array of colored lights as bassist Charlie Holt covered harmonies with longhair. All five members shook their harmonies with longhairstheir way through the fire-and-brimstone “Fever Pitch,” while the two guitarists joined forces with Melo for first-album classics like “American Shoes,” “Seven,” “Cold Love,” “First Class,” and “Cocaine Jesus.”

Quickly, the audience realized that this performance was more than just another check off the list of tour stops. Although it was only the band’s third time playing in Boston, it was also the band’s third time selling out in Boston. Everyone’s financial support was paid back in full with passion and energy. This all-out effort was no more evident than in the final song of the night, a hardcore rendition of “Run,” the band’s first song from their self-titled first album. By the end of the concert the crowd was left in a state of shock, by the bass, the red strobe lights, and the vocals.

Hopefully, with the turn of the seasons and the ensuing turn of the weather, we all can come to experience that post-concert depression. You certainly do not need to go to Indio, California, to experience the newest music and live concert season to the fullest.

5 Things To Do this Weekend in Providence:

1. Visit the RISD Museum.
2. Attend the Relay for Life here on campus!
3. Get some work done at the Providence Athenaeum.
4. Go see a movie at Cable Car Cinema or Showcase Cinemas at the Providence Place Mall.
5. Enjoy a lovely evening at the Peterson Recreation Center.
Sponsored by the PC Title IX Office and the Division of Student Affairs
In honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month

PC Stands with Survivors of Sex Trafficking

Join us **Tuesday, April 24th at 6pm in the Moore Hall Lounge** to learn more about Sex Trafficking in the US and Abroad.

Donate a journal, art supplies, stuffed animals, a monetary donation, or make a card and you will be **entered to win one of our amazing prizes**. Starbucks, Swag, La Salle’s...AND MORE! All card making supplies will be available at the event.

All proceeds will be donated to Day One and the International Justice Mission. These organizations advocate for change, aid survivors through the justice process, and connect them with resources to become emotionally, psychologically, and physically well again. All cards will be sent to survivors of sex trafficking in New England.

If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate, please contact the Central Reservations Coordinator at 401-865-2070, M-F, 8:30-4:30.
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Written by Jen Silverman
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“It’s really cold out today!” I said, my hands trembling as I stuffed them in the pockets of my thin coat. Beside me, Johnny walked with his head lowered in a sullen silence. He had been unusually quiet since we left school, but I didn’t bother to ask why, because I already knew.

“We’re not going to get caught, you know,” I said after a few moments. When he didn’t answer, I added, “Besides, what were we supposed to do? The next tram wasn’t for an hour. Do you want Mom and Dad to worry?” Johnny shot me a glower, the same look he’d given me whenever I jokingly reached for a classroom window during school hours, even though we both knew that they couldn’t open. For identical twins, we certainly weren’t much alike—Johnny had always been more serious than me, and much more concerned with The Regulations. I knew from the moment we snuck out of the tram depot that he was poring over The Rulebook in his head, trying to determine exactly what punishment we’d be facing if we were caught.

I sympathized with his concerns, if only slightly, and sure, I could understand the Sovereignty’s decree, at least from an objective standpoint. Our tutors had always been careful to instruct us in what they called “Correct Compliance,” which is basically just another way of saying, “Follow The Rulebook,” which had been set up soon after the Sovereignty rose to power in the wake of the Great Extinction. Because the human race had become so small, it was necessary to ensure that all healthy offspring reached maturity without complications, so that they could restore human society to its former strength.

Our tutors knew better than most of us what the consequences of being noncompliant were, so they did their damned best to make sure that they weren’t liable for any “errors” we made. I never really paid attention to their lectures on following The Rulebook. All I bothered listening to were their two main points: “Never instigate or respond to physical violence,” and “Never go outside.”

I liked to joke around with Johnny, and so whenever I got the chance, I pretended to be on the brink of breaking The Regulations. Moving to jump out of a window, escape through an air vent, or mime a punch in his or another’s direction was in the boardroom which separated us from the students and professors who walked in heavy black gear made from some baggy material. Their faces were covered by masks with breathing tubes coming out of them, attached to small tanks on their backs. They looked like something from a book I’d read. I wondered if the thought of being punished for a mistake as silly as the one I had made us both commit now terrified me. Was all of this really true?

I reached out and placed a reassuring hand on my brother’s shoulder. “Don’t worry,” I said. “We’ll be fine. We just need to get home quick…”

A low humming sound cut off Johnny’s name, as he did whenever he was angry with me. “What are you doing?” I snapped. “You could’ve just waited for the next tram, couldn’t you? You had to do it your way!”

Now I began to get angry, the heat flushing to my cheeks a clear sign. “You didn’t have to come with me, lamebrain,” I snapped. “You could’ve stayed in the depot.”

“Yes, and leave you to get caught all by yourself…or to make fun of me whenever I got home.” Johnny’s face lost a bit of its anger, which was replaced by shame and regret. “I’m sorry,” I said, lifting my hands in a calming gesture. “I wasn’t about to wake up in my bed, safe and sound.”

“Sorry,” I repeated. “I’m sorry.”

“Okay, okay.”

The snow struck Johnny on the shoulder, and threw us into the vehicle, where we sat huddled together, our breath condensing on the cold glass. “It’s okay, it’s okay,” I stammered, trying to calm myself as much as I was trying to calm him. “We can get it all off.” I hurried over to help him, and soon enough, we had erased every last trace of the snow on his jacket, except for a dark smudge where the fabric had soaked up some of the moisture. “It’ll be fine, I thought. “We’ll dry off by the time we get home.”

Not a moment after we removed the snow from his jacket, Johnny’s hands lunged forward and shoved me away. “You idiot!” he shouted. “You can’t just leave well enough alone, can you?”

I raised my eyebrows in surprise—after all, Johnny had just violated the second of the two major tenets of The Rulebook. Then again, we were already guilty of one violation, and no one was around to see the other. “I’m sorry,” I said,房源的内游戏厅，以及它们在被监控下由面具和呼吸管组合成的“身体”。“它在那块石头下面。”我低头看一眼，发现了一块小石子，它在空中漂流，最终停在了一只小鸟的喙上。小鸟轻轻啄了啄它，然后抖了抖身体，轻快地从我们面前飞走了。我们被这道美丽的风景吸引住了，忘记了时间。
I.

Noah Donahue looked at an icon.
The church he had entered was kept quite dim. It lit up and down by alcoves of warm candlelight illuminating the side chapels of icons and statuettes, so that the nave—with its vast greenish-grey vaulted ceiling—held only a bare and fragile light. The effect was haunting. As one looked up at that high ceiling, its pale shadowiness, carrying flickers of light like waves on an ocean, seemed almost delicate, like paper—or unreal, even.

But somehow it seemed more real than the icon. When Noah looked in front of him at the Virgin Mary after staring for a long time at the ceiling, he felt a familiar tension. He strove in vain to find something in its face: compassion, drive, knowledge, determination, courage, tension. He strove in vain to find something in its face:

Noah's heart folded in on itself that night as he answered for just a moment, and left.

Nyle Osmond woke up to terrible light.

He coughed and tried to swallow but his mouth was sandpaper. No use.

He had been dreaming that he was at a party in the daytime, outdoors with beer and smiles and a big barbecue buffet. But someone whose face didn't quite exist had been following him at every moment. He always felt this faceless figure watching him but whenever he turned he was nowhere to be seen. When he finally turned and caught him, he saw his face and discovered that he had woken up into the terrible, terrible light of the 10 a.m. sunshine.

He coughed again and found that he was naked in a hotel room and that he was not naked alone. A washcloth, tan female back with a river of straight brunette hair lay next to him, face and breasts down on the mattress. He ran a hand through his own curly, dirty-blond hair (he spent probably too much money on realistic blonde highlights). He sat up.

God, look at her breathing.

He watched her shapely and tender back go up and down, up and down. He began to breathe more calmly himself. His nightmare disappeared. He would not recall it again.

Could a human face feel like less alive than a dark stone ceiling?

Noah's heart folded in on itself that night as he answered that, yes, yes it could.

He rose from his prie-dieu with a sigh and started toward the exit. Before he left, he looked once more at the ceiling, and, as the distant light of the candle flames danced in waves upon it, he smiled to see that it was alive. He cried for just a moment, and left.

When you use those coasters now, does it bring you back to that month? All those deep talks in the middle of the night, and all those crazy last minute decisions and adventures we decided to take? Because when I use my coasters, from then until now, that's all that I can think of.

All our friends that you also ghosted have been telling me the same thing, from then until now. "Forget him," they all say. "Forget he exists, forget that he was ever part of that trip. Separate and drop him from all the memories of that trip." Each time they say that, I just sigh and shake my head slowly. They're never going to understand who you are to me. They're never going to get that in fact, you were the trip I took, that you were the adventure that I went on, and that you are the memories of it all. So when I bring out the cork circles for my friends when they come over, and they sigh, I just look to the small picture frame, hiding on the end of the bookshelf. It's the first photograph I took on that trip, and the best. Your back was to me, and you were looking at the sun. Although your figure was a distinct outline against the sun, it was bright enough to be a part of the sunlight. I take in the memory of the time I took that picture, and look at the wooden frame surrounding it. "Respect the wood," I say.
I want to go back to that one crazy moment:

It was a dark night in a party where I felt particularly estranged. It started like any other late night, with the same people who talked to me in friendly but shallow exchanges. That was until we exchanged glances. I felt paralyzed as I questioned what should be my next move, to stay or advance? You gave a wave and flashed a smile that outshined all the stars in the sky. A thousand thoughts flew across my mind, but only one mattered—the one that told me to not let this conversation end with a good-bye. When I finally came near you, my voice failed me. But you were there for me and helped to keep the moment alive. We listened, laughed, and learned more about each other than I normally would share. For you, it was a burden that I was willing to bear.

I want to go back to the moment that brought us closer together:

I could see that you were having the time of your life. The truth was that this was one of the few nights that I was without strife. We made our move to leave and started to head back. I was desperate for anything that would make this moment stay on track. You said you were hungry and wanted to grab some food, and I almost died of thanks. The cold air sent shivers down our spines and brought us closer together. Never will I be angry at winter again. I wish I could have stayed in that moment, with you and me talking for what seemed like forever. However, I just could not keep it in anymore and told you how I truly felt, something I thought would never happen ever. Your next words impressed themselves upon me like a tattoo: “Why, then, have you never asked me out?”

I want to go back to the moment when you made it real:

The words you said made me feel angry and ashamed. I was not angry at you, no, it was myself that I blamed. You asked the question because you doubted what I said, but the actual truth is far from your thoughts. I had never built up the courage, even when I was intoxicated, because I thought I was never worthy of you to take the next step. Whenever I look in the mirror, I can only see my flaws, but our conversation made me realize that you saw something new. Whatever it was I do not know, but you gave me the confidence to be true. I promise from now on to never let you think you are not worthy. You should know how I feel every time you are in my sight. I hope this is not the end, but at least we will always have that night.
Dear Tiff and Earl,

What's your opinion on breakfast for dinner?

Sincerely,

Green Eggs and Ham

---

Dear Green Eggs and Ham,

I am a huge fan of brunch all day, any day, at any time of day, so long as that includes bottomless mimosas. I guess then that puts me in the category of being an avid supporter of brinner as well, which is the term most often used for breakfast for dinner. Pancakes with strawberries and whipped cream? Yes. Eggs Benedict and a side of home fries? Absolutely. Avocado toast and a strawberry banana smoothie? Most definitely. We are in the golden age of brunch, and I most certainly believe that this phenomenon should be extended into dinner.

Keep brunching,

Dear Ham Sammy,

My opinion on breakfast for dinner is the same as my opinion on Russia and Putin. I can't get enough. Breakfast for dinner is as dangerously entertaining as Russia's threats on the United States. You don't necessarily know what will happen to your body within the next two hours after eating Ray breakfast or when you see Putin in a tuxedo. Both are mysteriously sexy. His balding head glistens just like the eggs in Raymond Dining Hall in a delicious way that gets me a little too excited, if you know what I mean. The threats from Russia hang over our heads just like the intense desire for syrup on Ray waffles. Who knows, you may even find a bug in your waffles like we may find Putin bugging our government buildings.

Hungry for Putin,

---

As I flip the pages of the torn up scrapbook, my mind boggles as I envision him and I,

I remembered the moment like it was just yesterday.

I looked into his eyes lovingly and cautiously.

modest, humble, and conservative attire of gowns and suits,

The silk and leather which flowed from our shoulders to our toes, in a perfectly attuned manner.

dancing flawlessly to the beat of the music,

Our bodies meshed instantly to the generational tune of the Beatles, as the heavy metal music alarms our minds and meticulously floods our hearing,

as its tune rang in and out of our gill-shaped eardrums.

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Shohei Ohtani Starts Off Hot
Rookie Shows Promise Hitting and Pitching

by Thomas Zinarella ’21
Sports Staff

BASEBALL
For most baseball fans, this past off-season’s freeagency period was a lackluster performance by all 30 teams. There was almost a consensus around the league that each general manager wanted to wait until next off season to snatch bigger prize free agents such as Manny Machado and Bryce Harper.

One player who filled the news void this off season was none other than 23-year-old Japanese phenom Shohei Ohtani. Ohtani, who has been nicknamed the “Babe Ruth of Japan,” came over unexpectedly and left every MLB team chasing after his future star. Ohtani voided the opportunity to wait for the big payday in two years and settled with the Los Angeles Angels for the league minimum of $545,000 per year over the next three years.

So the nickname and the hype? Ohtani brings skills that have never been seen before in the major leagues. He is a two-way player who excels as both a hitter and a pitcher. Scouts have compared his hitting abilities to those of Ken Griffey Jr. while his pitching has resembled Stephen Strasburg.

After a string of less than stellar performances on both the mound and at the plate during spring training, Ohtani has finally lived up to the hype. In 38 plate appearances so far, Ohtani has 11 base hits, maintaining a .367 average and a slugging percentage of .767. He even hit a home run off of the reigning CY Young Winner, Corey Kluber, in his second game of the season.

Ohtani’s success has shaken the whole baseball industry as more front offices begin to look into the two-way player possibility. Brendan McKay, who was the dominant on the rubber, holding hitters to a mere .193 batting average and a slugging percentage of .163. In his first home debut as pitcher against the Oakland A’s, he carried a perfect game into the 7th inning before it was broken up by Marcus Semien. Ohtani’s success has shaken the whole baseball industry as more front offices begin to look into the two-way player possibility. Brendan McKay, who was the Tampa Bay Rays’ first round draft pick from this past June’s draft, is a two-way player and is thriving in the majors.

Many believed that after McKay was drafted, he would exclusively be at first base. Currently playing for the Bowling Green Hot Rods in the Midwest League (Single-A), McKay is off to a red-hot start batting .438 with six RBI in 16 plate-appearances. On the hill, McKay has compiled a 3.60 ERA in five innings pitched while striking out eight. The Rays’ front office believes it can work and why not? McKay did the same through his career at University of Louisville.

Another two-way player is the Reds’ No. 2 overall pick this past June, 18-year-old Hunter Greene. Greene, who has been praised for both his glove work at shortstop and his 100-mph fastball on the mound, was allowed by the Reds’ to test the waters at both the plate and on the mound in his first minor league season this past summer.

Although it has been decided that Greene’s future will be on the mound, the Reds’ decision to let him pitch shows that Major League clubs are starting to think about using these players’ various talents and experimenting with the two-way player possibility.

He may only be 23-years-old, but the future of the two-way player in the MLB resides on the shoulders of Shohei Ohtani.

#Humboldt Strong
Flowers are placed on the Broncos home ice to remember the teammates who died.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

The Humboldt Broncos, a Canadian junior hockey team in the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League (SJHL), were slated to faceoff against the Nipawin Hawks in game five of their seven-game final playoff series. The Broncos trailed 3-1 in the series and were in jeopardy of being eliminated from the playoffs in their next game.

The Broncos were set for a crucial game in Nipawin in the early afternoon of April 6, and only about a two hour bus ride stood in the way of the Broncos taking the lead. Long bus rides are just a part of the business for junior hockey teams. They are a chance for players to relax with their friends and teammates, watch movies together, and joke with each other before big games like the one looming over the Broncos.

Some time into the ride, the bus carrying 29 members of the Humboldt Broncos hockey team, traveling north on Highway 35 in Saskatchewan, Canada, collided with a tractor-trailer at an intersection with Highway 335. The crash left the team bus in ruins as it slid on its side down the highway, roof torn off, projecting the bodies of the players and staff from inside onto the highway.

Sixteen lives were taken, including 10 players, two coaches, the radio announcer, the team statistician, the bus driver, and the athletic trainer. The remaining 13 people on the bus escaped with injuries ranging from critical to minor, with some being deemed miracles for surviving the devastation.

The hockey community as a whole was shattered that day. Eventually, the whole country of Canada, as well as the United States, felt the impact of this terrible tragedy as President Donald Trump tweeted his sympathies to the families and friends, and New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft sent his condolences with a large array of flowers. Countless heartbreakng tributes were given across the National Hockey League, including the Chicago Blackhawks and Winnipeg Jets playing their April 7 game with the name “Broncos” on the back of their jerseys instead of their own last names. Many NHL teams stood united at center ice before their April 7 games to pay tribute to the Broncos during a moment of silence.

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby, one of the top players of this generation and undoubtedly the favorite player of numerous Humboldt Broncos, had a special Penguins jersey made which read “HUMBOLDT 18” on the back and had the entire Penguins roster sign it and sent it to the Broncos. The Stanley Cup, which is awarded to the NHL Champion, recently made its way to Saskatchewan to visit the injured Broncos in the hospital.

Along with an extremely successful GoFundMe campaign and countless tributes from NHL teams and players, people across the world mourned alongside Humboldt and honored them by putting their hockey sticks outside of their doors and wearing hockey jerseys on April 12.

After this horrible tragedy, the entire Providence College community prays with Humboldt and stands beside them as they mourn the loss of so many members of their beloved hockey team. We are all Broncos.
Professional Hockey

The first round of the National Hockey League playoffs is underway, and as opponents have begun to compete in eight different best-of-seven series, it is starting to become clear as to which teams are poised for a long post-season run.

Favorites heading into the first round of action ranged from the Winnipeg Jets and Nashville Predators in the Western Conference, to the Boston Bruins and Tampa Bay Lightning in the East. Each of these teams has lived up to expectations early on in the first round, as all four teams are leading their respective match-ups through three games.

However, one of these teams stands out among the rest.

No other team has managed to put forth a more dominant performance than that of the Boston Bruins. The Bruins won Games 1 and 2 of their series against the Toronto Maple Leafs by scores of 5-1 and 7-3 respectively.

In Game 2, 21-year-old Boston goaltender Tuukka Rask made huge saves to keep the Bruins on the right path. The young netminder has been a key element in the team’s success thus far this postseason, as he has allowed only 10 goals in four games. Rask’s steady scoring pace, and at the same time maintaining reliable goaltending at the other end of the ice, has helped the Bruins manage to score in big numbers, while the Maple Leafs have struggled as well.

After winning Games 1 and 2 of their series, Winnipeg traveled to Minnesota only to drop Game 3 by a score of 6-2. The Jets had only allowed three goals to the Wild in their first two games.

Nashville defeated the Colorado Avalanche 5-2 and 5-4 at home before traveling to the Mile High City to lose 5-3 to an Avalanche team that only managed to qualify for the playoffs in their final game of the regular season.

Last year was a tragic year in Las Vegas, after the Mandalay Bay shooting caused the death of over 50 people. However, the Predators have begun their season on a weak note throughout the history of professional sports, across every sport. For maybe the first time ever, the world is experiencing an expansion team that has a chance to win a championship and it is exciting. This season is exactly what professional sports fans and the NHL dreamed to win a championship and it is exciting. This season is exactly what professional sports fans and the NHL dreamed.

However, the Predators have seemed to be weaker so far in the playoffs, having lost a game to the Avalanche while the Golden Knights have completed the sweep against the Kings in the first round. The momentum is on the side of the Golden Knights and the skill level of these teams is close to even.

There is a side to sports that is often overlooked, and a strong emotional aspect to sports that is sometimes forgotten. Some of the best seasons in recent sports history have happened after an influential and, unfortunately, usually tragic event.

The Red Sox won the World Series in 2013 after the Boston Marathon bombing, the Yankees went to the World Series after 9/11, and the Houston Astros were champions after the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey.

Last year was a tragic year in Las Vegas, after the Mandalay Bay shooting causing the death of over 50 people. But, as it has commonly done in the past, tragedy tends to bring people together more than divide them, and the Golden Knights have been spurred on by the togetherness that the tragedy created.

Awful things have happened, but the Golden Knights have done their best to go out and represent the people of their city in the best that they can and by winning the Cup, they can bring something worth celebrating to Vegas.

In their first season in the league, the Golden Knights will complete what is already one of the most shocking and historic seasons in the history of sports by kissing the Stanley Cup and become this year’s Stanley Cup Champions.

Expansion teams have historically begun their season on a weak note throughout the history of professional sports, across every sport. For maybe the first time ever, the world is experiencing an expansion team that has a chance to win a championship and it is exciting. This season is exactly what professional sports fans and the NHL dreamed about when the team was first announced.

A strong regular season, which finished with a number one seed in the playoffs, is not too hot of a take to pick the Golden Knights to win the Cup. Their only real competition in the Western Conference is the Nashville Predators, who went to the finals last year and finished with the most points in the West.

Boston Bruins

Vegas Golden Knights

by Jeremy Perrigo ‘18

Sports Staff

Monday night. While the Bruins took a step back in year three meeting with the Leafs, it is important to notice that the other Stanley Cup favorites that rival Boston have struggled as well.

After winning Games 1 and 2 of their series, Winnipeg traveled to Minnesota only to drop Game 3 by a score of 6-2. The Jets had only allowed three goals to the Wild in their first two games.

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Tennis:

Continued from front page

Epstein stated how Marvin’s energy and bright personality will be missed next year, “She always knows how to make a serious situation fun.” Epstein expressed how proud she was of Marvin, Epstein, and the rest of the Friars to stick with tennis for all four years of college, unlike a few players that started out with her.

“Katie and I play next to each other and are there to cheer each other on throughout our matches.” This bond does not just exist on the court; Epstein explains how Marvin plays an important role in her pre-game ritual as well. “Me and Katie go get LaSalle before every home game and then join our team in the training room waiting for the draw to come out later this week and to find out who they will play. “I am excited to go and to see all the Big East teams in one place” Epstein states.

The tournament is set up differently this year. There is no cancellation draw and, therefore, is single elimination.

When asked what her team is doing to prepare for this tournament, Epstein explains that three players have recently been fighting the flu however, they are working hard and playing as much tennis as they can.

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by Jack Belanger '21
Sports Co-Editor

Ray Treacy Track Sees First Meet of the Season

Providence College held its only home track and field meet of the year as the Ray Treacy Track hosted the first day of the Ocean State Invitational. Fourteen teams came to Providence for the invitational. The first day included events such as the 800-meter, the mile, the 3,000-meter steeplechase, and the 5,000-meters. Brown University hosted day two of the invitational where most of the events were held, including all of the field events.

The Friars had plenty of notable performances on both the men’s and women’s teams. Some of the Friars’ best performances occurred the first day on campus. In the women’s 5,000-meters, PC had two members finish in the top 10, as Marcus Karamanoulis ’19 placed third and David Rosato ’21 finished fifth.

In the 3,000-meter steeplechase, Ocean State Athletic Club’s and former Friar Andrew Mann ’16, who was an All-American in the event in 2016, came in first and set a facility record with 8:49.54. The women’s 3,000 meter steeplechase, Columbia University’s 2017 All-American Nell Crosby took first place in an event that only featured four runners.

PC had the most success on the first day in the women’s mile run. A trio of Friars consisting of Millie Paladino ’19, Catarina Rocha ’18G, and Abbey Wheeler ’20 were able to place in the top ten. Paladino took first place while Rocha, who won the Big East cross-country title in the fall, finished fourth and Wheeler finished eighth. Paladino and Rocha both broke the current facility record of 4:50.74, and Paladino set the new record with 4:40.07. On the men’s side Nick Carlo 19 missed first place by less than two seconds to take second place, and Mike O’Leary 19 finished fifth.

On the second day at Brown, Jared Rossi ’20 finished fourth in the men’s 400-meter run, finishing at 50.86, which was six-tenths of a second slower than first place finisher David Cusack of the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. Sprinter Daniel Rooney ’21 ran a close race in the 400-meter hurdles against Brown’s Betcram Rogers but ultimately finished second in the event, coming in .28 seconds behind.

While PC did not have many athletes compete in field events, Chris Shanahan ’21 finished fifth in the javelin throw out of 11 competitors. The PC track and field teams will head to Worcester this Saturday for the Holy Cross Invitational and then will have a dual meet vs. Brown on College Hill. Next week, the team will head to Philadelphia for three days before going back to Brown for the Brown Invitational.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KIM LEZAMA ’18

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BOSTON GLOBE/GETTY IMAGES

U.S. Female Runners Shock the World

American Women Sweep Places 1-7 at the Boston Marathon

by Meaghan Cahill ’20
Sports Co-Editor

While the race may have seemed more like a swim meet than a running event, Desiree Linden shocked thousands—and herself—when she became the first American female runner in 33 years to win the historic Boston Marathon.

“It was a miserable day… I was freezing and my muscles were tight, and I was like ‘This is not my day.’ So I did kind of toy around with the idea of stepping off, but I was like ‘No, I’m not going to do it.’ It was absolutely freezing out there,” Linden confessed after her win.

That notion of wanting to back out of the race propelled Linden’s unusual actions of following fan-favorite Shalane Flanagan off-course for a bathroom break. At that point, Linden confessed she was “happy to run through the wind for [Flanagan] and just kind of be a block [to the wind].”

It was during that break that Linden was re-inspired by Flanagan to go out and win the race. She commented, “There was just so much pride on the American side this year. We wanted it so bad. Thirty-three years since an American winner, and I felt like there was some team camaraderie out there.”

Near the end of the race, Linden pulled ahead of Flanagan and after 2 hours, 39 minutes, and 54 seconds of running, the two-time Olympian crossed the finish line on Boylston Street.

On her historic finish, Linden commented, “It’s the moment you dream of during the tough days when you don’t wanna go out and run, when you’re a little kid and you’re getting into the sport, and you turn on [the TV] and you see a Boston Marathon, you dream about breaking that tape. It was the culmination of years of hard work, and years of dreaming, and years of never giving up.”

Linden was not the only American runner who surprised viewers on Patriot’s Day. After years of being beaten out by female runners from Kenya and Ethiopia, Americans placed first through seventh in the race as followed: Linden (1st), Sarah Sellers (2nd), Krista DuChene (3rd), Rachel Hyland (4th), Jessica Chichester (5th), Nicole Dimercurio (6th), and Flanagan (7th).

However, it was not the fact that the Americans swept the top spots that was the most surprising, but rather the fact that aside from Linden and Flanagan, these runners were mostly unknown. No one predicted them to win. While both Linden and Flanagan are Olympians and well-known for their running success, Sellers and DuChene are more commonly known as being a nurse anesthetist and a mother of three, respectively.

Sellers, much like Linden, surprised herself with her second place finish, stating after the race, “Some of the women I was passing, it was just complete disbelief. I look up to them extremely and in no way do I consider myself on their level at all.” She was in so much disbelief over her placing that she had to question officials to make sure they were positive they were looking at the right division. And while this year’s marathon has Sellers determined to “run another marathon…in better weather,” Flanagan has announced that she “thinks this is [her] last Boston Marathon,” admitting that “This course is really hard. The conditions are really hard. And I’m not averse to hard things, but I think I’m good with Boston. I think this was it.”

Regardless of the unfortunate weather conditions, the runners of the Boston Marathon never ceased in their fight to the finish. And the women running this year were able to make it more memorable due to their achievements rather than the horrendous rain and wind.
Dance Team Ends Year With Success

by Sullivan Burgess ’20
Sports Staff

From April 5 to 7, the Providence College Dance Team made their way down to Daytona Beach, Florida to compete in their second appearance at the 2018 NDA National Championship.

Last year, the Friars made their debut at the 2017 NDA National Championship and outperformed expectations by placing seventh in the country in the jazz category. It was safe to say that the bar was set for this year, and the only way to succeed was to work twice as hard and completely outperform once again.

This was exactly the mindset that coach Claire Creighton had going into Nationals. Creighton, in her third year coaching the team, looked to find a way to exceed the already high expectations for her team. Competing once again in the jazz category and for the first time in the hip-hop portion of the competition, the Friars had to put together two intense, two-minute dances for each event.

After performing for the student body at the Nationals Send-Off in Alumni Hall, the team was ready for whatever Daytona had to offer them. For captain Katie Printer ’18 and co-captain Daniela Roberto ’18, this Nationals was bittersweet. They were both proud of the process they used to get themselves to Nationals, yet sad knowing this would be their last season as dancers for the school.

Knowing this was the last time they would be dancing motivated not only them, but motivated both the captains and their teammates. Despite having the job of pushing the team to their highest potential, the captains made sure to take time to appreciate what they were a part of.

This year’s motto for Nationals was “The work is worth it,” and that is definitely what the Friars used to conquer all that had stood in their way of achieving their goal of advancing. For the jazz portion of the event, the Friars missed their advancement by just 18 points of qualification. They seemed, however, to find their rhythm in hip-hop.

In the final round of Hip-Hop, the Friars gave it all they had and did not look back. Their performance earned them fifth in the country behind Webster State University, Stephen F. Austin University, Boston University, and Sacred Heart University.

Coach Creighton was more than proud of how the team performed, especially in a new category, at their second time at this competition. Creighton stated, “This not only exceeds our expectations from all the long and dedicated practices each dancer went through, it also makes a name for ourselves to show future dancers that Providence is dedicated to making the most out of the dance team in order to make it the best.”

This team is shaping up to be one of the most elite collegiate dance teams, for in their second time National Championship, they moved on to the finals.