Galantis a "Runaway" Success

by Abigail Czerniecki '19
A&E Co-Editor

As Providence College students come down from their Spring Concert hype, students are now reflecting and comparing Galantis' performance to that of previous Spring Concert performers.

Over the course of the last five years, the Board of Programmers (BOP) has welcomed performers such as Krewella, Panic! at the Disco, The Chainsmokers, Rae Sremmurd, and most recently Galantis as Spring Concert headliners. Aside from Panic! at the Disco and Rae Sremmurd, Krewella, The Chainsmokers, and Galantis all have something in common—their genre of music.

These three groups all fall under the genre of electronic dance music, more commonly known as EDM. Magnetic Magazine describes EDM as a style that is focused on being danceable and energetic, with the distinguishing feature being the artist’s musical “drop.”

Over the past 20 years, EDM artists and duos have become some of the most popular musicians in the world, producing several 2018 top hits such as "The Middle" by Zedd, the current number one song on Billboard's Top 50 Electronic Songs, “Friends” by Marshmello and Anne-Marie, and "Without You" by Avicii. Not only are all of these artists dominating the EDM charts, EDM is dominating charts for U.S. top hits and global top hits.

Galantis performs at the spring concert on April 20.

As audiences veer away from pop and hip-hop music, the genre of EDM has even changed the way the music is performed by incorporating high quality audio and visuals. Artists like Galantis, The Chainsmokers, and Krewella have been successful in the EDM genre because they are accessible to the masses, maintaining strong followers whereas some hip-hop or pop do not.

PC’s Best Buddies Wins Rhode Island Award

by Sabrina Guibbeault '18
News Co-Editor

At the annual Best Buddies Ball on Friday, April 13, the Providence College chapter of Best Buddies won the award for the Best Collegiate Program of the Year.

According to its website, Best Buddies is the world’s largest organization dedicated to “ending the social, physical, and economic isolation of the 200 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).” The program is meant to empower the special abilities of people with IDD by helping them form meaningful friendships with their peers and feel valued by society.

Best Buddies of Rhode Island named the PC chapter of Best Buddies College Chapter of the Year for outstanding commitment, leadership, and unwavering dedication to the Best Buddies mission.

"Receiving the Best Buddies College Chapter of the Year Award meant so much to us this year," said Monica Gorton '19, a member of the executive board and the 2018-2019 vice president of the Best Buddies. She explained that her executive board would not have had such a successful year without the help of all the members of the club. "Our peer buddies are awesome and so dedicated to their friendship with their buddies and receiving this award reflects it."

Caitlin Whitaker '18, president of Best Buddies at PC, said that it is a friendship organization. “It’s a very special program because in a lot of ways the mission is that a club like Best Buddies someday should not even have to exist,” she said. “The whole idea is that someday we would not need a club to form a lasting and beautiful friendship with someone with a disability.”

UNDER the HOOD

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RCIA, or the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, has given Providence College students the opportunity to learn and grow in the Christian faith for many years. This year, PC saw its largest participation in the RCIA program yet, with a total of 34 students receiving the Sacraments of Initiation.

The RCIA class was directed by Father Dominic Verner, O.P., who had help from Sister Anne Frances Klein, O.P., assistant director of the RCIA program, and Kelli Jenney ’19, the RCIA student coordinator. The class, consisting of eight seniors, six juniors, six sophomores, and 14 freshmen, met once a week to “study the Catholic faith, ask questions, and learn about what it means to be a child of Christ,” explained Fr. Dominic.

While all 34 students received the sacrament of Confirmation, several received multiple sacraments at the same time. The RCIA service allows students of the faith to receive each of the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion—at one time, as well as receive full communion with the Catholic Church if switching from another Christian denomination. Of the 34 students receiving Confirmation, five also received Baptism and First Holy Communion, two were received into the Catholic Church and received First Holy Communion, and six received only First Holy Communion.

The RCIA Mass, which took place on Sunday, April 22, proceeded as a typical Mass, but the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation were administered following the homily. The Liturgy of the Eucharist followed the reception of these sacraments, and those students receiving First Holy Communion for the first time participated in receiving the Eucharist.

In preparation for the RCIA mass, the students went on several retreats throughout the year, where they assisted organizations with the large turnout of students.

Assistant Dean of Students Tiffany Gaffney and Campus Minister Sister Anne Frances Klein, O.P., both sat down to discuss what resources and options are available to a PC student who is pregnant and discloses it to the school, she will not only would a pregnant student not be asked to leave, but that they also would not lose any scholarship privileges. On-campus housing is not revoked when a student discloses she is pregnant, either. Both Sr. Anne Frances and Gaffney stated that they would work with the students to try to find alternative living options for when the baby is born, as the dorms on campus are not equipped with the resources needed to raise a newborn child.

After meeting with Sr. Anne Frances and Gaffney, they made it clear that not only is such a situation handled positively by PC’s administration, but that as a community both faculty and students are called to embrace a student going through this difficult time with love. Also, they emphasized that it is important to make students aware of all the resources they have, including the ones on campus such as the Student Health Center and the Personal Counseling Center.

The quote from Pope Francis that is on the main page for pregnant and parenting students summarizes how the Catholic community is called to respond to instances of pregnancy on campus: “We are speaking of is an attitude of love, one which approaches life with serene attentiveness, which is capable of being fully present to someone without thinking of what comes next” (Laudato Si, 226). The new resource page can be found at https://dean-of-students.providence.edu/pregnant-parenting/
Student-Faculty Group Hosts Teach-In on Inclusion
Community Gathers to Make Change on Campus and Beyond

by Catherine Brewer ’20
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

Standing before members of the greater Providence community who huddled in Moore Hall on Monday evening, Chantelle Wilson’s words displayed their power by provoking a wave of silence: “It’s time that we consider what ‘inclusive’ means in the Center for Inclusion and Excellence.” Wilson, program coordinator of public & community service studies, served as one of the primary facilitators of the “Is PC Inclusive?” teach-in held on April 23, 2018, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The event featured a variety of speakers, who each focused on inclusivity and self-care, as well as anonymous participants to leave suggestion notecards on each table for support services are lacking.

“Manning explained further that allyship is one of the ways that communities can grow. She suggested that allyship can be shown through participation in the National Day of Silence this Friday and through creating a heightened awareness of gender pronouns. As someone who goes by them/theirs, Doering appreciated providing one’s own pronoun in email signatures and in conversation to help to normalize the concept that everyone has pronoun that they prefer to go by, even if they are not immediately apparent, given their appearance.

Another feature of the teach-in was the inclusion of students from Youth in Action Rhode Island, who shared their experiences as youth members of the Providence school system. Ashley Gomez, a senior at Lincoln School, shared the lack of representation made her and many others feel a sense of self-hatred, especially when she had to study slavery in overwhelmingly white classrooms. Odetunde asserted that being the only person of color in these settings makes her feel the need to be quiet, since anything that she says could be perceived as representing a larger demographic.

“I thought it was an honest approach and that people are hesitant to talk about, especially on the campus,” said Gabrielle Armstrong, an attendee of the teach-in. "It was necessary for all students and faculty to hear, regardless of their major, because it made me be more aware of my experience in the school systems and the impact it had on me.”
Alzheimer’s. the Health Care Club to hold their own Walk to End reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of and enhance care and support for all affected; and to research. awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support, and cure for the disease. The Alzheimer’s Association Walk is the largest nonprofit organization dedicated to finding a mental functions. Unfortunately, there is no cure. Alzheimer’s disease is a very common disease among the elderly, with approximately 5.5 million people living with the disease in the U.S. Memory loss by it. Alzheimer’s disease and their support to those afflicted demonstrating the participant’s commitment to fighting. AlzheimersBall is held annually, and is a time when the regional chapters come together and celebrate the year. All college and high school chapters are welcome, and participants dress up and are in for a night of fun, dancing, and awards.

“It was nice to have the affirmation that we’ve been doing great work, but even without the award I am so proud of what we accomplished this year,” said Whitaker. She explained that she is most proud of the service event that was held in the fall semester, where the chapter made 50 care packages for a homeless shelter. “It was cool because we really don’t see ourselves as a service organization, but a friendship organization, so the fact that we got to do community service with our buddies was very special,” she said. Other events the club held this year included a women’s basketball game watch, a movie night, and a holiday party. As for the individual friendship meet-ups, Whitaker said they can be just about anything. “I take my buddy to the movies because we love doing that together, but other friendships have gone to sporting events, gone to farmer’s markets, and one group this year went to a wine and paint night.”

Gorton expressed that one of her favorite memories was last year when she was swamped with work and her buddy wanted to FaceTime. Gorton decided to take the call, and after talking about what had been going on in their lives, the friends ended up spontaneously singing Disney songs while Gorton was sitting in a hallway of the business school. “I remember ending the call feeling so much better about everything that I had to and really appreciating my buddy for making me smile,” she said. “I love our events and seeing everyone together,” said Whitaker. “It’s great to see all the buddies and interact with each other, especially since a lot of them make great connections with each other as well.” According to Whitaker, the program changed her whole college career and she is so glad to be a part of it. She hopes as many people as possible can join next year.

The Alzheimer’s Association is the largest nonprofit organization dedicated to finding a cure for the disease. The Alzheimer’s Association Walk to End Alzheimer’s is the world’s largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support, and research. Their official mission is “to eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health.” The Alzheimer’s Association spreads its message throughout the world; it is what inspired the Health Care Club to hold their own Walk to End Alzheimer’s. Arianna Arroyo ’20, current treasurer and future president of the Health Care Club, is one of the chief organizers of the event. Working directly with the Alzheimer’s Association through a representative from the organization who is also a PC alumnus, the club was able to bring together many like-minded people to pull off this uplifting event. “We really wanted to raise money for a good cause. This is an issue that is very important to me personally, and I feel that we can really make a difference,” said Arroyo. The event is not just limited to PC students; PC Pals and local church groups will also be involved in bringing the event to life. Arroyo said, “This is a chance to spread awareness about the disease. It’s not just about the donations, it’s about bringing the community together and engaging everyone from local children to elderly advocacy groups in the area.”

Students who want to get more deeply involved are welcome to talk to any of the Health Care Club members at the event and new members are always welcome. “We’re really excited for this event,” said Arroyo. “Students can enjoy a beautiful spring Saturday outside, supporting a good cause with the entire Providence community.”

Undoubtedly, the Fifth Annual Walk to End Alzheimer’s will be a rousing success; an engaging and energetic event is expected. While donations are not required to attend the event, they are very much appreciated.
On Tuesday, April 24, the Interim Director of Public Safety, Koren Kanadanian, came to speak to Student Congress. He spoke about the ongoing search for a new head of the Department of Public Safety who will lead the transition into becoming a certified law enforcement agency. This would professionalize the security on campus into a police force if they gain accreditation and meet 84 standards. The school conducted a national search with over 200 applicants applying, and one candidate was chosen. After the selection, the choice fell through and a new process has begun to find a replacement. The plan is to hire a person over the summer and allow them to evaluate how best to move forward in the process.

Kanadanian explained that part of this will include more training for officers and supervisors, and possible updates to patrol cars and computer systems utilized by Public Safety. There was a question regarding the arming of officers on campus and how many officers will carry weapons if they gain accreditation. Kanadanian said that there are still conversations regarding how many officers will be armed if any, but that the officers will be sworn in and able to make arrests. They hope to hire recent academy graduates or retired officers who are licensed to carry weapons if they choose to arm officers. The armed officers would deal with emergencies, enforcement, and calls for issues such as suspicious people on campus. Sworn officers mean Providence College would be able to bring issues on campus to court without the involvement of outside police.

This led to a question of officers having the authority to charge people, including students, if something used to lead to a student being reprimanded, would now lead to arrests. He spoke about how they would have the authority to arrest all students, but that write-ups and the officer’s discretion should not change as security technically already has the ability to involve police but often do not. Kanadanian sees the department as saving students from themselves more often than not, and this would hopefully make campus safer from outside threats.

There was also a question regarding the posting of an officer to the Eaton Gate at night, and while he agreed this would be a good idea to address in the future, as interim director he cannot make that change. This led to a question about the falling through of the person who was offered the job and if it is an issue that an interim director cannot make policy changes. Mr. Kanadanian said he has the authority to deal with issues as they arise.

There was also a question about current policies regarding Public Safety officers off campus because students have seen them out, especially on weekends. He said that they are there to help students, not run into police issues, and to corroborate student accounts of events in case of issues with the Providence Police Department.

After the failure to have a quorum at the past week’s meeting, last week’s legislation was voted upon at this general meeting of Congress.

The first piece of legislation regarding the reallocation of Dunkin’ Donuts’ revenue to fund the efforts of the philanthropy class offered on campus. The funds will be used to help improve the local community. The legislation was put to a vote and passed.

The second piece regarded the creation of a health and first aid course on campus. The presenters of the piece decided to table the piece without it being voted upon, but promised to continue to work on it in the future as they feel it is very important. They also spoke to the support they have from certain clubs, organizations, programs, and teachers on campus.

The next piece regarding allowing graduate student access to the health and personal counseling centers. As stated last week, the passing of this legislation would lead to more discussion within the school administration regarding this. It was put to a vote and passed.

The final piece of legislation regarded an internal change within the legislative affairs committee. It stated, “If you have endorsed a candidate you may not participate in legislative affairs committee activities or subcommittee on elections activities as defined in chapter one of the standing legislation.” This vote was passed as well.
What is the Role of Bulletin Boards?

by Alyssa Cohen '21 Opinion Staff

Due to the controversial nature of the bulletin board posted on the second floor of Saint Joseph Hall in March, Resident Assistants (RAs) have recently been instructed to remove all content from their boards until further notice.

Since the underlying message on the board in Saint Joseph Hall proved ostracizing to Providence College’s LGBTQ+ community in stating, “Marriage: The Way God Intended It... One Man, One Woman,” the bulletin board received immediate backlash from the student body.

In response to outrages from students and allies of the LGBTQ+ community, President Tom Wilder stated that he is currently in the process of determining whether policies regulating residence hall bulletin board content will be implemented in the future.

Now the question remains: must we enforce restrictions on RAs’ posts? If so, what sort of content will these policies restrict?

One way we can begin to answer these questions is by first evaluating what sort of material RAs should present in their bulletin boards of their residence hall. According to the College’s resident assistant job description, RAs are expected “to create an atmosphere that promotes self-love, empowerment, and inspiration to all residents who live in the hall.”

The bulletin board on the fourth floor of Raymond Hall serves as a case study of what RAs should produce bulletin boards that are relevant to any student.

Resident Assistants typically make bulletin boards that are friendly and educational. They promote methods of living an eco-friendly lifestyle. They frequently admire this bulletin board and its advice and tips.

 Residents of Raymond Hall are anomalies such as the board on the fourth floor of Saint Joseph Hall, which present information that may be perceived as offensive or degrading to certain communities.

A residence hall bulletin board may not be the most appropriate venue for political statements, or any controversial material, especially content that targets a particular community. Since PC enrollment comprises students of different sexualities, cultures, and backgrounds, all individuals always maintain the right to be respected, especially in their dormitories.

The residence hall serves as a home away from home for many students. Any content that seems unethical to depict content that may be interpreted as degrading to a particular group within their own home. To that end, if a resident is made to feel uncomfortable in their own dormitory, they may find difficulty feeling accepted on campus.

“If a student doesn’t feel welcome in their living environment on campus, how can they be expected to achieve their academic potential in a more intimidating atmosphere, such as a classroom?” said political science major Savannah Plaisted ’21.

Thus, our prerogative as a Friar Family must be to prevent any further information that may be interpreted as offensive to any community from being posted on residence hall bulletin boards.

Rather than harboring ill-will regarding the previously controversial bulletin board content, we should use this energy to spread sentiments of love and empowerment across campus and ensure that all members of our PC community feel welcome and accepted.

Ultimately, the question of whether or not there should policies restricting bulletin board content is up to us as the student body. Must we have an explicit rule implemented against degradation or can we simply learn to respect each other for the sake of human dignity?

Extra Credit Does Not Mean Extra Learning

by Joshua Chlebowski ’21 Opinion Staff

Final grades. Two words that either inspire a flurry of cramming or signal a reward for hours of hard work. With the semester drawing to a close, many students find themselves rushing to attend one of a variety of lectures deemed to have “extra-credit value” by their professors. Events, such as the recent “Freedom of Speech On a Catholic Campus,” fill quickly with students feverishly taking notes to write the standard one-page reflection for extra credit.

Rather than focusing on the presentation itself, as opposed to seeking out small soundbites for their reflections and focusing on the message of the presentation, students will have no real need to continue paying attention to the speaker, unless they are genuinely interested in the topic.

This brings us to the structure of these presentations and their two-part division. The first part, the main portion, is the actual speech. The second part is a question and answer session, during which students try to sneak out early. When this portion is announced, silence tends to settle as everyone looks to see who actually paid enough attention to form a question with depth.

It would seem that a better way of evaluating whether a student actually paid attention during such a lecture would be to capitalize on the question and answer session. This allows students to spend time focusing on the presentation itself, as opposed to seeking out small soundbites for their reflections and decreases the stress associated with having to rapidly accumulate as many facts from the lecture as possible to prove that one was paying attention.

Focusing extra credit assignments on participation during these lectures as opposed to the regurgitation of facts teaches an important skill. This skill is the ability to think critically about a claim being made and to connect it with other lessons a student has learned.

By participating in such a presentation, students will use more brain power to engage the speaker’s claim in a dialogue.

In turn, this will make the presentation all the more memorable and applicable down the line. Reflection pieces that merely allow the student to recite facts that can easily be forgotten, but by participating in the lecture through a question and answer session, students will be more likely to connect the message of the presentation with them into later courses or post-college life.

It can be argued that there is not enough time for all the students in attendance to ask questions of the speaker, which is true. If all students were to ask questions, the presenter would be overwhelmed, and evaluating these questions would pose a potential issue to professors.

As before, the reflection pieces contain the key. The nature of these reflections must not be that if students present, they are going to provide any sort of lasting value beyond that of a couple points added to a grade. Instead of simply focusing on what an individual learned, these pieces must attempt to continue the discussions started in the question and answer sessions. Whether it be simply making a connection between a presentation and a subject raised in class or debating the speakers’ claim, these papers must take on more active tones instead of reciting someone else’s presentation.

If any lasting value is to be derived from these presentations, a shift must be made in these evaluations from mindless summarization to active debate.
We Need More Awareness of Sex Trafficking

by Kevin Copp ’18
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

Human trafficking, despite the average American’s stereotypical assumptions of faraway lands and impoverished regions, is a problem in America. President Trump would not have signed a measure limiting online sex trafficking only two weeks ago otherwise. More Americans need to be aware of the insidious danger of human trafficking and the parasitic nature with which it impacts children and teenagers at home and abroad.

Providence College has hosted a number of proceedings spreading knowledge about sexual assault throughout April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. These events, which are geared toward education on how to prevent sexual assault in all its forms, are an important first step towards creating increased cognizance in the minds of regular people.

On Tuesday, April 24, Eileen Campbell, the national director of advocacy and mobilization at the International Justice Mission (IJM) and Maria Dias, a human trafficking survivor, addressed Day One, a sexual assault and trauma center, both spoke about the persistent practice of human trafficking.

"There is a less recognized form of sexual assault, human trafficking impacts millions of people and has debilitating repercussions. Campbell spoke about trafficking on a global level and noted that it takes place throughout the world because it is big and easy business. According to IJM’s website, human trafficking generates about $150 billion a year worldwide, two-thirds of which comes from commercial sexual exploitation. Once a young person has been drawn in by a pimp and coerced into prostitution, they often find that there is no way out because of how much they rely on the pimp for basic necessities and food.

The most grotesque factor of human trafficking is that many children are forced to become sex workers. IJM’s website notes that there are two million children being exploited in the global commercial sex trade. Two million is twice the population of Rhode Island and a daunting total for children being forced to have sex, contract diseases, and submit themselves to someone else’s greedily lust for profit. One of the most chilling facts of the sex trade is a tragedy; two million is a mind-boggling affront to humanity.

H uma n trafficking of young people is more prevalent in America than one might imagine. Day One estimates that there are between 100,000 and 200,000 underage girls being sold, sold as prostitutes in the United States. While these numbers and figures might seem staggering, it is likely because underage prostitution is not the way you picture it. A good number of cases, Dias remarked, involves general members pimping their younger female relatives either to support a drug habit or for some other frightening reason. The average age of girls found in trafficking cases at Day One is only 15 years old, indicating that girls get caught at a young age and find it nearly impossible to get out. Dias warned that even seemingly mundane routines like finding a place to sleep at night can become situations in which women are coerced into sex.

Dias also explained why it is difficult to prevent prostitution of young girls in Rhode Island. Because the perpetrators know all the foster homes in such a small state, they are able to easily “recruit” future sex slaves under the guise of adoption. Dias also relayed a memorable anecdote about one pimp using a U-Haul up and down route I-95 for his business. A mobile location and a generic description make such a scheme nearly impossible for the authorities to track down.

Although the situation around human trafficking appears bleak, Campbell provided one major reason for hope. IJM was able to cut down the number of minors available for prostitution in Cebu, the second largest city in the Philippines, by 79 percent in only 4 years of activism. This statistic should serve as a catalyst for all those who feel somewhat complacent or complacent because change surely can be made in America as it was in Cebu. It might take as much as a phone call to a congressman or as little effort as simple awareness.

Either way, the universal problem of human trafficking deserves more of your attention because the girl down the street deserves more for her life.

Eileen Campbell speaks to students about the prevalence of sexual assault. Photo by Kevin Copp ’18

Ending Victim Blaming
No One Should Have To Explain WhyTheyStayed

by Hannah Paxton ’19
Asst. Opinion Editor

CAMPU S

"Imagine falling in love and being happy, and then something goes terribly wrong," said Beverly Gooden to a room full of Providence College students in Moore Hall. Understanding the trauma of domestic violence is nearly impossible except if you yourself are a victim of abuse. It is easy to see two people who seem so devoted to one another and to never have any idea of what the real story is.

Last Wednesday, Gooden, who started the #WhyIStayed movement on Twitter, spoke to an audience about her own experience with an abusive partner and how she managed to escape. Perhaps one of the most important takeaways from her talk was the emphasis on victim blaming.

Whenever we witness or hear about abusive relationships, the question is always "Why don't they just run away?" or "Why didn't she leave the relationship?" In many cases, even being walked away from the person who hurt them? when it should have been "why didn't their partner hurt them?"

The position of blame in abusive relationships defines the manner in which abuse is discussed. If we standardize the treatment of abuse to their victim, then victims will also start to standardize this treatment. If they are punished for something as straightforward as not doing the dishes, then they might truly believe they are worthy of abuse. If an abuser tells the victim that he or she is doing something wrong, he or she will believe it without question.

When we see an abusive relationship, it is easy for people who are removed from the situation to point fingers and to try to provide a solution. But abuse is not transparent.

"I believed him every time he said he was going to change," Gooden said about her ex-husband. To someone who has never been in that kind of relationship, this statement might seem unbelievable. But we have to remember that victims of abuse are usually in love with the perpetrator, and often times feel very dependent on them.

If we want to put a stop to sexual assault, we must recognize that it is a violation of women’s right to an unencumbered sense of self and respect towards their abuser, or maybe even for attempting to escape the situation.

Try to leave an abusive relationship is much more difficult than it appears on the surface. Not only could it be physically impossible, but it might also be emotionally draining for the victim. If they are in love with the offender, they may feel a strong attachment to them and do not ever want to disappoint them. In some cases the abuse could even escalate if they try to escape.

If you know someone who is or has been in an abusive relationship, remember that the fact that they are staying is never their fault. Our efforts should instead be directed towards actually helping them.

I hope you are well during this Easter season. I am now writing to you in the open forum after having kept silent for quite a bit of time after the letters dated March 17 and April 5 that have both gone unanswered. I understand that you have been busy and sincere yet my request for a meeting did not receive acknowledgment of any kind.

My writing to you in this way follows a pattern of how I have handled this matter at each step of the way. I have always taken a respectful approach; opting for private, internal methods first. As a student and soon-to-be alumnus, I do not get some sort of cheap thrill or any sort of satisfaction from writing a negative image of Providence College in the public eye. But your letters do not respond appropriately, the public deserves to know. This especially pertains to parents, prospective parents, and alumni.

I continue to hold the position that a person could have been avoided if you and your administration acted promptly and appropriately.

The sad reality is that causes like mine do not get your attention because there is a lack of money and the kind of guy that is going to occupy your office. I'm not going to sit around with signs or incite demonstrations on campus. I'm also not going to shame you into signing a list of demands.

Yet, you seem to respond better to these tactics and I believe you’re encouraged immature behavior that has only further divided our campus in the process.

I am holding out for something better. I want real dialogue instead of shouting cheap rhetoric. I want you to be free of virtue-signaling and the attempt to score political points. I want you to engage in a way that a difference of ideas is not seen as an attack on one’s person but a commitment to seeking truth.

I have been unable to find this among my peers and, so far, from you.

"Dialogue" is a convenient word thrown around by many but few are interested in what it actually entails. Our campus does not know how to dialogue. Instead of superficially dropping the word "dialogue" every time a crisis arises, let’s model for the community how we can talk about difficult issues.

I still remain willing to do this and I hope you will take the opportunity to show our campus that you mean what you say when you say you are committed to dialogue. This is far more valuable than any teach-in or training the College may offer. Perhaps these initiatives will not work, but unless our leaders are willing to do what they are paid to do, then their efforts will remain fruitless.

At a college of less than 5,000 students, I believe the first time we meet will not be at graduation.

Respectfully,
Michael Smalanskas ’18
The importance of a liberal arts education has always been to learn how to read, especially at a school like Providence College. From Aristotle to modern and postmodernist authors, the humanities have always given students in all departments a unique set of skills that may not be found in any other major. These skills are something that may be lost if a proposed communications major is added to the curriculum at PC.

The study of communications is not complete without the study of literature and history. Literature may seem archaic in the fast-moving modern world of breaking news and 140-character tweets, but it is an important way that humans have communicated for years and continues to be an important method of communication today. Without the background of English literature, writing would lack the depth and resonance that comes with studying the history of literary communication.

Not mentioning the practical problems that would arise from implementing a communications major. “I think it would devastate us,” said chair of the English department Dr. Bruce Graver, citing a concern that students might gravitate towards a communications major, “thinking it would prepare them to break into the media and technological communication fields regularly,” for which Graver said the English department is trying to push. Simply adding more classes focused on digital media and technological communication does not negate the importance of Shakespeare or Byron. Adding a major that will likely pull students away from this literary background is not doing them any favors.

“English majors go into communications fields regularly,” Graver said, rebutting the prevalent idea that English majors have limited career options. The solution is not to create a new major that might hurt departments such as English or history, but instead to foster more growth within the departments themselves to help them move forward into the digital age, while retaining a firm liberal arts background that will ground students’ writing in history and culture.

For countless students thinking about attending Providence College, there is a major allure to the liberal arts education that the College promotes. Students are required to take a diverse range of classes and must engage in an interdisciplinary approach to learning which is truly unique to PC.

But for some students, something seems to be missing: a communications major. This is especially true for those interested in applying their reading, writing, analytic, and critical thinking skills outside the realm of traditional English courses.

While on the whole, Providence College’s English department promotes students’ analytic, communicative, and research abilities through their degree programs in creative writing, secondary education, and English literature—the course offerings do not promote the application of these skills outside of the limited list of course offerings.

The lack of academic freedom this situation creates rings especially true for those students looking to develop their skills in specific areas of communications studies, such as strategic communications, advocacy and social activism, digital communications, health communications, and countless other concentrations this dynamic field encompasses.

This reality does not deny the major value that an English degree provides for so many students interested in a wide range of career fields at PC. But in order to continue promoting the kind of liberal arts education that is foundational to the College’s mission, faculty and administration must recognize the need to expand academic options for students interested in applying many of the skills an English degree encompasses outside of the English classroom.

In light of the recent actions taken by PC professors Heather McPherson of the art department, and Wendy Oliver of the theater department to co-chair a committee working to propose a communications major, the College must seriously consider the major opportunity this field of study presents.

As Oliver commented, “We believe that the need for critical thinking and challenging the prevalence of disinformation so prevalent in the media today can be specifically addressed within a communication major…”

A communications major would strengthen PC’s interdisciplinary approach to learning, as Oliver explained, it would be embedded within, “the existing liberal arts curriculum.” It would also allow for an expansion of academic freedom, providing a new pathway for students interested in both the oral, written, and visual arts.

The College should not ignore the overwhelming benefits this kind of academic program could provide to both the students and the school as a whole.

**First Ladies Change America**

by Gabrielle Bianco ‘21

**FIRST LADIES**

The nation found itself in a state of mourning on Tuesday, April 17. Former First Lady Barbara Bush passed away after battling Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and congestive heart failure. As wife of former President George H.W. Bush and the mother of former President George W. Bush, she was remembered by both politicians and the public alike for being a bold, down to earth, and elegant first lady. She was an advocate for public service and was particularly devoted to the causes of children and those living with AIDS epidemic. The outpouring of condolences from people around the world speaks not only to Bush’s character and role in American society, but also to the set of former first ladies on America.

While there has unfortunately never been a female president, the office of first lady has served as a platform for strong women to elicit change. Over the years, presidents have left behind the office of first lady has changed drastically, with many women taking on a more political and socially active role. Barbara Bush served as a perfect example of this evolution. Her commitment to charitable causes proved to be so central to her legacy that she was often called, “The First Lady of Literacy.” Not only did she advocate for the cause as it related to civilian organizations, but she also played an integral role in the passage of the National Literacy Act of 1991.

She was a champion for many of those who were at risk in America. During the height of the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s, Bush advocated for those struggling with the disease and tried to expel prejudices and stigmas that were associated with its presumed spread through human interaction. At her funeral, she was lauded by the musician Bono for her work and for influencing her son, the 43rd president, to continue the fight against AIDS in Africa.

While the role of president is typically wrapped up in political controversy, first ladies are often able to connect with the American public and nations around the world in a way that is less politically charged but still just as important for enacting social change. A former secret service agent who worked with the Bush administration recently said in an article in CNN that Barbara Bush’s code name “tranquility” was a perfect choice given her calm demeanor and ability to connect with people.

Three former first ladies and current first lady Melania Trump attended Barbara Bush’s funeral service. Their presence, as well as their actions while they were in office, can be seen as a testament to a continuation of first ladies serving their country just as Bush did. Most recently, Michelle Obama left a legacy of incredible service and inspiration. Her advocacy focused on nutrition as well as women’s rights and empowerment, spearheading causes such as Let Girls Learn. During her time in office, Obama also proved to be an accessible first lady, being very active in the media and being a guest on a number of talk shows such as The Ellen DeGeneres Show and Late Night with Jimmy Fallon.

What was once a role limited to the domestic sphere, the title of first lady has evolved to mean so much more than simply wife to the president. Barbara Bush serves as a perfect example of this. Her impact on the American public not only through her advocacy for AIDS and literacy, but also through her graceful disposition and the example she set for other first ladies, has left a mark on the United States that can never be erased.
Spring is the ultimate time of transition—days that once required three layers of jackets and snow boots turn into days of laying out in the sun and blasting music on the quad. And as the warm weather comes, so does the chaos of wrapping up a college year and, more importantly, a journey with The Cowl.

Looking back to September, we are amazed by the growth we have experienced as a club and as a newspaper. We worked hard to improve our journalism, working with writers one-on-one, attending writing workshops, and making a stronger effort to tackle investigative issues and diverse events.

We worked hard to grow The Cowl brand, creating a new social media team, hiring new writers, and promoting our print issue around campus. And we worked hard to become a close-knit club, making the office our second home, being your shoulder to cry on, and a crowd to celebrate with.

We wanted to leave The Cowl better off than we started and now, confident that we have done our part, we cannot wait to pass on the torch to our new Editor-in-Chief, Taylor Godfrey ’19, and Associate Editor-in-Chief, Abby Czerniecki ’19. We have watched you grow as writers and editors and are fully confident that you will take good care of The Cowl next year and do amazing things.

Congratulations to the new editors taking over sections—the job can be difficult and at times daunting, but so much fun and rewarding. Welcome to all the new writers that are just beginning their journeys with the club, and congratulations to our veteran writers and graduating seniors—you have allowed us to serve the community and carry on our tradition.

Thank you to Vice President Goodwin, Dean Sears, and Sue McCauley for supporting The Cowl year after year and to Richy Kless for always having our backs and being our number one supporter.

There’s no easy way to say goodbye, but it helps knowing The Cowl is in good hands. We look forward to flipping through future publications and seeing everything the rising 2018-2019 staff accomplishes.

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**Passing on the Torch**

**Light Up the Great Room**

The only downfall to this PC custom is that it happens so frequently that it is almost expected. The result is awkwardly jog towards a door that someone probably actually follows it—even when it means you have to turn into days of laying out in the sun and blasting music on the quad. And as the warm weather comes, so does the chaos of wrapping up a college year and, more importantly, a journey with The Cowl.

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Last Week’s Answers

Across
2. Apple
5. Indiana
8. Everest
9. Rocket

Down
1. Java
3. Lourdes
4. Cricket
6. Denim
7. Bronx
10. Kyd

Summer Activities
Complete the crossword below

Across
1. Arguably the most popular location during the summer.
2. A game played outdoors that is very popular at parties and barbecues.
4. Spending time in the sun to achieve a darker skin tone.
7. A great activity for nighttime parties; used to roast marshmallows.
8. How you cool off when it gets hot.

Down
1. Operating watercraft; usually with friends or family for a day on a lake or to go fishing.
3. Popular party/gathering during the summer months; also a category of food.
5. When you have to get a job so you have money.
6. Enjoying the nice weather outside by walking or climbing through nature.
8. A rare commodity during the school year that everyone seems to lack all the time.
ABOVE LEFT: McGrath Bissaillon ’20 competes against students from Brown University in distance running at the Providence vs. Brown dual meet on Sunday, April 22.

ABOVE: Students throw colorful powder at each other on Slavin Lawn at the Holi celebration, sponsored by the International Students Organization.

LEFT: Ryan Nawrocki ’20 fights to put the Friars in the lead at the men’s lacrosse game on Saturday, April 21. The Friars played the University of Denver, losing the game 13-6.

BELOW LEFT: Eva Gourdeau ’19 skillfully kicks the ball down the field during Saturday’s exhibition soccer game.

BELOW: Students gathered on Smith Lawn on Saturday, April 21 to fundraise for Relay for Life. The event was sponsored by Colleges Against Cancer, and included lawn games, performances, and group activities to raise money for cancer research.
Who’s a good boy?

“Me.”
Buster Pawsy

“Me.”
Arabella

“Me.”
Charlie

“Me.”
Huma

“Me.”
Tessa

“Me.”
Chief

“Not me.”
-A cat.
Some may consider theater to be one of the most amazing artistic outlets in the world. Once the house lights go down, the audience is whisked away and spends the next couple of hours in different worlds and different times, all without ever leaving their seats.

This past weekend, actors at Providence College transported audiences in the Angel Blackfriars Theater to the British moorlands of the 19th Century in Jen Silverman’s *The Moors.*

The slightly avant-garde dark comedy was full of surprises, from murder to multiple personalities and even a depressed talking dog. It was *Into the Woods* meets David Lynch and Samuel Beckett in all of the best ways, brought to life by a new modern coat of paint and a cast of PC’s finest that left the audience speechless.

The show follows the bizarre lives of two sisters, Agatha (Mireya Lopez ’19) and Huldey (Brayton Price ’18) who have just hired Emile (Gabriella Sanchez ’18) to be the governess of a young child. As soon as Emile arrives, however, she starts to think that she has bitten off more than she can chew and perhaps is not cut out for the mysterious world of the moors.

There was also a talking mastiff (Thomas Edwards ’20) who falls dangerously in love with an injured moorhen (Deirdre Lanci ’20), but that story never intersects with the main plot. No synopsis can do this beautifully complex plot the justice it deserves.

Director Mary Farrell did not play it safe and wanted the audience to know that as soon as they walked in. The packed theater had two flanks of seats roped off and was full of furniture covered by white cloths, an unusual sight that immediately begged a slew of questions.

Farrell, who has certainly left a lasting impression on PC’s theater department. Bravo to the cast and crew, who time and again uphold the exceptional reputation that the Department of Theater, Dance, and Film has worked hard to achieve.

The tale of sexual politics, love, and murder certainly checked all the boxes, especially due to its sophisticated and mature themes. It pushed envelopes that many are wary to even address, and did so with poise and grace.

There are many aspects of the play to highlight, from the perfectly-timed dark comedy as Marjory to the spontaneous outbursts of song and meta-philosophical soliloquies of the mastiff (who can communicate only with other animals). Perhaps the finest moment of the play came in its denouement, during which the lovably dim-witted Huldey snaps in response to Agatha’s harsh judgments of the writing in her diary, which she cherishes more than anything in the world.

The resulting drawn-out act of sororicide was accompanied by a chilling music cue and a masterfully executed change in lighting, during which the stage was slowly enveloped in a deep, blood red. The following moments saw Huldey burst into song, with Price’s killer vocals being projected through a microphone that had descended from the ceiling. It was a splash of ice-cold water in the already shocked and confused faces of the audience, but brilliant nonetheless.

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The Moors was an impressive coup de grace for Farrell, who has certainly left a lasting impression on PC’s theater department. Bravo to the cast and crew, who time and again uphold the exceptional reputation that the Department of Theater, Dance, and Film has worked hard to achieve.

...
PC Celebrates “Black Women in Film”

by William Burleigh ’19
A&E Staff

Behind the Scenes: Tribeca Film Festival 2018

by Patrick Fuller ’21
A&E Staff

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
April 26, 2018
It was April 30, 2012, six years before Galantis’ spring concert performance when EDM DJ, Avicii also performed at Providence College. Both Swedish performers and both DJs, it was a remarkable coincidence that both artists came to Providence for the same April occasion. However, 2018 resulted in a tragedy for Avicii.

Avicii, otherwise known as Tim Bergling, passed away this past Friday at 28 years old, leaving behind a legacy of chart-topping music. Avicii made a name for himself in the world of EDM music, having collaborated with artists such as Coldplay, Madonna, and Green Day. Avicii began making music mixes in his bedroom at only eight years old. From an imaginative young teen all the way through his adult years, many who heard Avicii’s mixes felt he truly had a gift. He officially launched his music career in 2009 as a producer, and went on to achieve international fame. His success skyrocketed, landing him spots on Billboard’s Hot 100 and Billboard’s Dance/Electronic Chart. He was nominated in 2012 for a Grammy for his hit songs “Sunshine” and “Levels.”

For the large majority of PC students who are familiar with Avicii’s music, or are big fans themselves, his passing calls for a time to listen and reminisce on some of his greatest hits.

“Levels,” was Avicii’s biggest hit record, catapulting him into the limelight. The dance track was released in 2011. “Levels” made it onto the Top 10 charts in over 15 countries. Featuring Etta James vocals and samples of her hit song “Something’s Got a Hold on Me,” the song mashed up with the oldies hit, bringing Avicii to center stage and labeling him a worldwide DJ.

“Wake Me Up” became an anthem for high school and college students everywhere with its release in June 2013. The song peaked at No. 4 on the Billboard Hot 100 and went viral via the radio for the majority of that year, and is still widely played today.

“Hey Brother,” was one of Avicii’s most Americanized songs. Featuring vocals from bluegrass artist, Dan Tyminski, the dance track was saturated with the country genre. The popular music video features clips from the Vietnam War, and has amassed over one million likes on the site.

“Without You,” another one of Avicii’s top hits, was released in August 2017. The song features vocals from another Swedish artist, Sandro Cavazza. The slow beginning and beats that pick up at the chorus ring true to other Avicii hits; this hit reached the top of the charts. “Without You” was Avicii’s seventh Swedish No. 1 single.

Avicii had numerous other hits which surely many PC students will play after of his passing, such as, “The Nights,” “Lonely Together,” “I Could Be the One,” “Waiting for Love,” and more. Instead of mourning the amazing Swedish DJ’s loss, the music industry seeks to carry his legacy by continuing to listen to his beat-dropping mixes.
The world around me begins to fade. The colors of my room come together and form a collage. At first I am nervous, but a little excited. This mixture of colors has never happened before. I try to widen my eyes to get a better view, but they begin to slowly close. My heart races, my breathing quickens, and I am no longer excited. As quickly as my world became color, it turned black.

I feel like I am drifting in the middle of nowhere. My eyes still do not open and my heart continues to race. What is happening? How did I end up here? Why me? What did I do? I am alone with my thoughts. My heart feels like it is about to burst. I want my mom, I want my cat. I want my blanket. I want to wake up. This dream is not fun. Where am I? Someone help! Please! Where am I? My heart continues to race. Why am I alone?


My feet are cold. My hands are frozen. I am scared and shaking. My eyes no longer feel heavy. Can I open them? Should I open them?

I feel another slap of wind. Slowly, I open my eyes and look at an open sea. Yes, we have. This mixture of colors has never happened again. A man’s voice. I look up and see the figure bending down offering his hand. His face comes into view, and I see a middle-aged man with a nice smile. I smile back and my cheeks warm up. Oh no, I think I am blushing!

“Miss? Are you alright?” he asks again. This time I take his hand and he pulls me up.

“Yes, I’mmmm okayyy.” My teeth chatter and my cheeks increase in size.

“Miss, what are you doing up here? You are supposed to be in bed. Is everything all right? Oh. You must be freezing. A young lady should not be up here all by herself in such little clothing.” And there go the cheeks again.

This man is stupid. I need to see the captain. She fell and may have hit her head. Thank you for your concern.

“Ma’am, what are you doing up here? You need to be checked out.” The other man looks at me like I am crazy. From future. Listen, please!

“Ma’am, you’re cold and tired. You can’t think. Now please. Go to bed and let me do my work.”

Why is this happening? I begin to hyperventilate and the first man sees this. He sighs and places his hand on my shoulder. “Come with me.”

We walk down the crow’s nest and into the captain’s quarters. The door opens and I rush in and shout, “Captain. Iceberg. Sink. Death. I’m not crazy. From future. Listen, please.”

The captain laughs a jolly, grandpa-like laugh and I look up at him. He’s smiling. I sigh. “My. You have quite a lot to say. Now, repeat yourself slowly.”

I take a deep breath and tell him the whole story. He rubs his beard. “Hmmm. Interesting. Now. I truly don’t believe she will sink, but I have grown attached to this ship and will be careful with her. Thank you for your concern.”

Sigh. Then, I catch something out of my eye. It’s white and big! Iceberg! I grab the captain’s sleeve and point him towards the iceberg.

“Iceberg ahead. Iceberg ahead!” The man from the bird’s nest calls. I close my eyes and feel the ship take a quick turn. I’m hyperventilating again. A hand touches my shoulder.

“It is. We have made it.”

I open my eyes and look at an open sea. Yes, we have.
April 26, 2018

TALES FROM THE
RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

by Marisa DelFarno ’18
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

There was once a man who looked like your average man—blue jeans and a grey sweatshirt—but he was hidden behind the mouth of a sailor, or a wannabe rebellious 13-year-old, despite little children being seated right near him. He was on the phone, and whoever he was on the other line with was really pushing his buttons because he was sprinkling out every swear word in the book. Every word. For at least 5 minutes straight. I guess no other words sufficed.

He sat across from me, his feet stretched out in the narrow, dusty aisle. He wore old sandals that were completely demolished. I was shocked he was able to walk in them considering their condition. However, seated within his sandals were probably the dirtiest feet I have ever seen. Long, grime ridden toenails, parading themselves openingly in the middle of the aisle. They extended approximately an inch and a half to two inches past his nail beds, fitting more to the definition of claws than nails. Much to my bewilderment, his nails were so long that they were curving, digging slightly into his skin.

I did not have lunch that day. The guy with the claws was not the only person lacking any attention to hygiene. I found myself sitting behind a young, high school-aged kid with a canary yellow sweatshirt—but he was hidden behind the mouth of a sailor, or a wannabe rebellious 13-year-old, despite little children being seated right near him. He was on the phone, and whoever he was on the other line with was really pushing his buttons because he was sprinkling out every swear word in the book. Every word. For at least 5 minutes straight. I guess no other words sufficed.

He trudged onto the bus, holding his black blazer together with both hands. He swiftly paid and plopped himself on one of the couch seats across from me. Upon sitting down, he let it all out, his bare chest and gut. He had no shirt under his blazer. Just a layer of curled chest hair. Apparently, he was exempted from the “no shirt, no shoes, no service” policy, or the driver just did not notice or care. The lady sitting next to me, nodding his head in agreement. I still do not know if he was laughing, but instead nodding his head in agreement. I still do not know if he was

I noticed my own reflection cast by the bus window. My hair, probably due to the wind, was an absolute mess. It was in knots, all frizzy and crazy like a witch’s hair. I was a bit taken aback and almost horrified, but that was not the only thing I noticed. My face also had weather induced rosacea, red as a ripe tomato. And, there was more. My battered shoes were untied, waiting for my inevitable fall. My socks were also mismatched. Well, that is what you get when you forget to do laundry. And, my shirt had a stain on it, a residue of today’s lunch, on the one day

Oceans

by Jay Willett ’20
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

“Careful, always watch your step when you walk here honey,” she hummed. Grinning, I nodded my head and reached up, earnestly grabbed the railing. Orange tired sun, relentless reflections, my soul, Waves that roar, my mind, Winds that rage and sway, my time, Vessel that cradles me, God hopes you don’t sink, Oceans beneath, how deep would you take me? If waves took vessel, If wind wearerd vessel, If vessel cracked, dropped me below, I held onto the railing tighter and gazed upon the crimson fire sky. The sun hung low but burned fluorescent flames above all. Burning, charring, existing, for all years to come.
A Strange Request at a Piano Bar
by Dawyn Henriquez ‘19
Portfolio Staff
FICTION

The carnival rhythms bounced across the ivory keys in disjointed synchrony. “Entry of the Gladiators” was a strange request at Sal’s, where classical bullshit was typically demanded. As soon as Sal started the almost juvenile theme music of circuses, the musings of the pseudo-intellectuals at the bar sprained over another one, tripping into silence. A mask fell over each of them—faux-esthetic stretching their features in disgust as they all tried to discern what in the hell was going on. The controversy was as delicious as the scent of sassafras that Sal loved to hang in the air. Awkward glances at the glowing Bösendorfer emitting the hymns of carnies everywhere was really what did it for me. This piano was older than the audience’s collective age. It was expected that its cords would only ever play Bach or Beethoven before it would give way to oxidation. Instead, Sal’s fingers twirled to clownery and the pedestrianly perceived artistry of an era. After all, it’s only known so well by the pseudo-intellectuals at the bar sprained over one another, tripping into silence. A voice comes over the speaker: “Bastard.”

Dead static.

“Do we have someone checking her?” “Nah. No fun when you’re the last girl on. Huh? No. You can, though. I’m not stopping you.” “You got any smokes?” 2:30 a.m.—A couple cigarettes apiece, ashed out the windows. On to talk about baseball and their girls at home. Fat one is a skinny one. Coffed one has a ditzy. Ditzi won’t put out, though, and he’s not happy about it. Fat one’s girl wasn’t either, but that’s okay: he doesn’t mind; he likes spending time with her; she’s smart. “She’s real classy, and, like, vintage style. She’s got these cute glasses, you know, and a red polka-dot bandana she wraps over her head. It’s cute. Real 1950s-style, with the way those glasses poke out of the bandana. Real cute.” “So you don’t want to see about any girls after this, huh? Nah? No. You can, though. I’m not stopping you.” “Nah. No fun when you’re the only one.” “I guess not. Anyway, it looks like we’ll be out here all night. No way this chick’s coming. Something’s got her spooked.” “Yep. Just gonna sit here ‘til dawn, it looks like. Then that asshole over the radio will wire in and tell us to go home. Fuck us, man.” He chuckles. He sighs. “How many smokes you got in that pack?” 2:40 a.m.—A voice over the radio: “We see her. We’re shutting off the light now. Expect her in about 10 minutes.”

With and that the traffic light suddenly goes black.

2:45 a.m.—Two car headlights appear on the horizon, speeding down the road toward the SLUV. Everything else is black, black, and quiet. There are only the speeding car headlights. “There she is.” (The coffed one, his voice eager.) The fat one turns the key in the ignition and the engine starts. It is the quietest part of the night. The men listen to their voices echo in the cab. “Shit, shit, shit, shit...” “Her car also is right in front of the SLUV. That’s it.” The coffed man jumps from the SLUV. He aims and pulls the trigger. The shots burst into the night. The woman’s wheels screech loudly and her engine roars. “Shit shit shit...” “The SLUV rolls and skreeches and speeds forward to ram her. The timing is all off now. It only makes contact with the side of the trunk. The car swerves, but the element of surprise is lost. She keeps her foot on the gas. She is not all in her control, however, and she cannot keep from swerving off the road. The coffed one keeps his aim on her. She barrels towards him. He pulls the trigger. Shots burst into the night and the bullets pierce her windshield, but the car barrels on. He plays chicken and jumps away at the last moment, but his foot is caught under the tire. “Ughhhhh!” The car slowly rolls to a halt. The fat one has run over. No movement. He goes over to the still car and looks inside. He turns to the coffed one and gives the thumbs up. Back in the SLUV, he picks up the mic: “All good. She’s taken care of.” The traffic lights woke up, and the land is quiet again.

Sleeping Traffic Lights
by Jonathan Coppe ‘18
Portfolio Staff
FICTION

1:35 a.m.—Two brutes sitting in an SLUV. Intersection along Route 50. Traffic light is the only outside illumination; no moonlight, their headlights are off. Inside the car the overhead cab light is off. SLUV parked on the side of the road, in the dirt and grass. A voice comes over the speaker: “Who’s we?”

No response.

2:00 a.m.—The other man in the SLUV, who is toned and muscular and wears a pinstripe buttondown, has taken out his phone and put on music. They are now pushing an hour and a half in the vehicle. Still no signs of the target. The nearest cellphone tower offers no internet; they are confined to the one inside the vehicle. Still no sign of the target. “Are you sure she’s coming? Maybe she knows we’re out here. Might’ve gotten spooked, you know.”

The coiffed man clutches his assault rifle and turned into a cliché as common as the trope of a piano bar in literature. It was expected that its cords would only ever play Bach or Beethoven before it would give way to oxidation. Instead, Sal’s fingers twirled to clownery and the pedestrianly perceived artistry of an era. After all, it’s only known so well...
Dear Tiff and Earl,

I don’t have any grad schools or job prospects lined up. What do I do?

Sincerely,
Failing At Life

Listomania

Things We Do Instead of Studying for Finals

- Look at the Torch
- Adopt a Goldfish
- Make a Fort Out of Our Books
- Clear Out Our Netflix Watchlists
- Contemplate Mortality
- Remember How Easy We Had It As Freshmen
- Clean Our Rooms
- Watch Dog Videos
- Dump Bugs in Ray Food
- Go Outside...For Fun
- Watch Bella Thorne Movies
- Read The Cowl
- Obsess About Our Nonexistent Futures
- GO TO BED!

Traffic

by Jessica Polanco ’20
Portfolio Staff

PROSE POETRY

T: Today and yesterday, it took me 66 hours to travel home. The commute is regularly a couple seconds but lately there’s been traffic in the way.

R: Really? Why would you cut me off knowing we’re all bumper to bumper. No room to move and you decide to interrupt my peace.

A: Amazingly, you come out of nowhere without me asking for you. I hit my brakes and I’m confronted with a heavy force that pulls me forward. You have my full attention.

F: Full attention. Can you end? I’m tired of this drag, it takes over my energy and it puts an end to my journey that makes me want to nag. It’s like pausing the wind just because the rain needs time to pass.

F: FULL ATTENTION. Everything is still. You’ve got my full attention. Can you end? All my energy is attracted to this situation. My car is claustrophobic. It can’t move. It can’t move. Please move. I can’t move.

I: I can’t move forward. I’m stuck in this point of view because of you. You paused my time, my time is guided towards you. What do you need, what are your intentions? Can you please let me move?

C: Claustrophobically, I meditate in peace. The time is the present. The traffic is my time, I move with your presence.

Tiffany & Earl

Making PC an emotionally stable place one letter at a time

Dear Tiff and Earl,

I don’t have any grad schools or job prospects lined up. What do I do?

Sincerely,
Failing At Life

Dear Failing At Life,

Lol. And you think I do?

I decided that all I want in life is a Range Rover, the ability to send my kids to a very expensive prep school, and the time to spend my day getting my nails done, going to hot yoga, and then getting marghs with the girls before my husband takes me out to dinner.

Does that not sound absolutely fabulous? We’ll see. The whole idea of the job search is honestly daunting and exhausting and I am freaking out. Even though I really love the sound of the life I described above, I also want to change the world, feel valued, and live a life I am so proud of.

But alas, I have time. Well, not a lot of time, but some time.

Hope that helps?

Dear Impending Failure,

Are you afraid of GMOs? Does the farm-to-table movement inspire you? Is artisanal butter what your rustic loaves are missing? Does the prospect of crisp well water just cranks away tickle your fancy?

Do you yearn for a simpler way of life?

If you answered yes or no to any of these questions, you should consider finding your calling in an amazing community of believers.

Expand on the Catholic baseline established by your theology core by going fundamentalist. The Amish don’t want you, but you may need them. Especially since, somehow, no employers or schools got back to you.

Break a leg.
SPRING DANCE CONCERT 2018

PC Dance Company
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Email Tom Tobin at cowlads@providence.edu
The Boston Bruins failed to eliminate the Toronto Maple Leafs for the second-straight game Monday night, as the team from the hub of Canada's hockey world forced Game 7 with a 3-1 win at Air Canada Centre.

The third of the best-of-seven series headed back to TD Garden Wednesday night, drawing eerie similarities to a first-round meeting between these two Original Six rivals Wednesday night, drawing eerie parallels to a first-round meeting between these two Original Six rivals.

In that game, two goals from Cody Franson, followed by goals from his teammates Phil Kessel and Nazem Kadri, propelled the Leafs to a 4-1 lead with less than 15 minutes remaining in the third period.

As the saying goes, the rest is history.

Goalie from Nathan Horton, Milan Lucic, and Patrice Bergeron brought the game back to even with 51 seconds remaining.

Bergeron would go on to score an emotional game-winning goal 6:05 into overtime to propel the Bruins into the second round. From there the team would defeat the New York Rangers in five games and sweep the Pittsburgh Penguins in four, before falling to the Chicago Blackhawks on home ice in Game 6 of the Stanley Cup Final.

Now, many hockey-educated fans are quick to point out that this Toronto Maple Leafs team is not the team of 2013. Sure, they were the underdog team coming into this series, as they were back then, but their current roster looks dramatically different.

Then goaltender James Reimer has since moved on to Florida, and Frederik Andersen has won the starting role for Mike Babcock's Maple Leafs. Kessel, after the organization spent years trying to build a team around him as their star player, has moved on to Pittsburgh, where he has won two Stanley Cups in a supporting-cast role to Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin.

Drafting Auston Matthews first overall in 2016 has been the biggest improvement for the Maple Leafs over the last two years. In his freshman and sophomore seasons Matthews lived up to the hype, recording 69 and 63 point seasons, respectively.

The Scottsdale, Arizona native and Toronto phenom remained mostly silent throughout the series, recording only one goal (albeit a beautiful one) and an assist leading up to Game 7, where he would be held off the board yet again.

That was perhaps the most troubling fact for Bruins fans, heading into the final game of the series. While it felt like Toronto had narrowly escaped destruction with at least two of their three victories in the series, they managed to do so largely without the help of their star player.

William Nylander, largely considered to be Matthews' right hand man, as he literally played right wing on a first line centered by No. 34 for most of the season, went through a similar drought of postseason success. He recorded only one goal and one assist over the first six games of the series, which bounced him down to Toronto's fourth line for games five and six.

He would add two assists to his resume in Game 7.

To put it even more into perspective as to how important these three are, in the Bruins' first three wins of the series, they combined for 23 points. In the team's three losses, they had zero.

Enter, Game 7. The Bruins and Maple Leafs combined for five goals in the first period alone, as veteran Patrick Marleau opened the scoring with his third goal of the season just 2:05 into the game.

Bruins rookie Jake DeBrusk would tie the game before Marleau would put his team back ahead with his second of the night with a wrist shot from the right circle.

Two goals from Danton Heinen and Bergeron would give Boston a 3-2 lead heading into the second frame.

Despite outshooting the Maple Leafs 13-6 in the second period, the Bruins would allow the only two goals of the period, one to Travis Dermott, and another, a heart-breaking short-handed goal to Kasperi Kapanen.

Heading into the third, Boston's season was on the ropes.

Only 1:10 into the period, Torey Krug fired a shot from the center of the blue line off the faceoff that rocketed past Andersen and into the net, tying the game 4-4. Just 4:15 later, DeBrusk would power the net with a strong cut to the inside, sliding another puck past the Toronto netminder to give Boston the go-ahead goal.

From there, the rest is history.

Pastnak would add another from the slot off a smart feed from Bergeron, and Matthews would add a empty-net goal from center ice.

Boston would cruise to a 7-4 Game 7 victory, with seven points from its first line and six from its second line of DeBrusk, David Krejci, and Rick Nash.

And, for at least a night, the Bruins have reason to celebrate. After all, this is the Stanley Cup Playoffs, and the Tampa Bay Lightning were the team to out score as they open the second round against Boston Saturday at Amalie Arena.

Stay tuned, and if the regular season matchups were any indication, hockey fans should be in for another electric series between the B's and Bolts.
Manchester City Crowned Champions of England

by Joe Myko ’19
Sports Staff

On April 15, Manchester City officially won the 2017-2018 English Premier League title, coming after Manchester United’s 1-0 home loss to bottom-placed West Bromwich Albion that confirmed the title race was over mathematically. Ultimately, it was Jay Rodriguez’s goals that would give City the push they needed, helping them part ways with their 2-0 advantage and scoring eight, assisted 15 and created 23 goals with seven assists, English winger Raheem Sterling comes in second with 23 goals and nine assists, while Brazilian striker Gabriel Jesus is second with 23 goals and nine assists. The 2017-2018 Professional Footballers’ Association Team of the Year awards was somewhat of a rout for City, with five players being named in the side: Aguero, Nicolas Otamendi, Kevin De Bruyne, David Silva, and Kyle Walker. German winger Leroy Sane also went home with the PFA Young Player of the Year award, after impressively bagging 13 goals and providing 14 assists within this season. Liverpool’s Egyptian winger Mohamed Salah was recently awarded the highly prestigious PFA Player of the Year award for 2017-18, after impressively scoring 31 goals in 33 games in his first season back in the league, which appeared to leave somewhat of a sour taste in Guardiola’s mouth. Manchester City’s Belgian midfielder Kevin De Bruyne was a close second for the award, having scored eight, assisted 15 and created more chances (104) than any other this season – albeit from a slightly deeper position. Guardiola told BBC: “When you are analysing nine months or 10 months then there was no player better than him […] I am sorry, maybe with numbers, there are numbers guys better than him, but no player in this season with the team who wins [the title] five games before the end, and he was the best.” Despite City’s resounding success in the league this season, it is likely that a manager as used to success as Guardiola, having spearheaded both Barcelona and Bayern Munich to many trophies in previous years, may be somewhat disappointed with how his side fared in cup competitions this year. City was knocked out of the Champions League quarterfinals by Liverpool and were also beaten by League One (third division) side Wigan Athletic in the Carabao Cup (also referred to as the League Cup) after beating Arsenal in the FA Cup. However, they were successful in the Carabao Cup (also referred to as the League Cup) after beating Arsenal in the final.

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No Stars? No Problem for Celtics
Jaylen Brown Breaks Out to Give Boston Series Lead

by Jack Belanger ’21
Sports Co-Editor

It has not been an easy season for the Boston Celtics this year in terms of injuries, but the team nevertheless has found ways to win. Once starting forward Gordon Hayward went down with a season-ending injury on opening night, all-stars Kyrie Irving and Al Horford were able to lead a young team to the second-best record in the Eastern Conference. The team took another big hit when it was announced that Irving would undergo a season-ending knee surgery on March 11.

Without Irving, Head Coach Brad Stevens was able to get the most out of young players, as Jaylen Brown and Marcus Smart stepped up and led the team to a 9-6 record to end the season and set up a first round match-up against the Milwaukee Bucks led by Giannis Antetokounmpo. Without the Celtics’ top two players, plenty of experts picked the Bucks to win as they saw Antetokounmpo as the best player on either team.

Five games into the series, Antetokounmpo has played exceptionally well, averaging 25.4 points per game. Luckily, Boston has been able to match his performance with Brown breaking out and leading the Celtics in scoring, averaging 21.8 points per game. Brown’s stellar play has given the Celtics the push they needed and helped them take a 3-2 game lead over the Bucks after five in the best-of-seven series.

While the team still has an all-star in Horford on the court, it is the improved play of Brown, Tatum, and point guard Terry Rozier that has been the difference for the team in the series. In Game 1 the trio combined for 62 points, including 23 from Rozier who hit a three-pointer with half a second left. That shot would have won the game for Boston had Milwaukee’s Eric Bledsoe not hit a buzzer-beater shot to force overtime, where Boston would win 113-107.

In Game 2, Brown was in complete control as he scored 30 points, leading Boston in scoring. He made 12 shots from the field, including five three-pointers. Overall, the team had six players score over 10 points as the Celtics dominated the Bucks 120-104, taking a 2-0 series lead before games 3 and 4 took place in Milwaukee.

Game 3 was a disaster for the Celtics. Boston was slow from the start and the Bucks took advantage, leading 27-12 after one quarter. Boston would only shoot 40 percent from the field and 26 percent from three-point range in the game and ultimately lost 116-92.

While Boston took a tough 104-102 loss in Game 4, allowing Milwaukee to tie the series to two games apiece, the ending of the game gave Celtics fans comfort that the team would not have another poor performance. Ultimately, it was Jaylen Brown who confirmed the title race was over with a three-pointer at the buzzer that would have won the game for Boston had it not gone in.

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Currenty sitting on 90 points with four games remaining, City has yet to lose the rest of the season. Their last two games against Chelsea and Manchester United will surely put the title to bed. City will be the next opponent for the winner of this series. The 76ers beat the Miami Heat in five games to advance to the Eastern Conference Semifinals.
Who will be the First Pick in the NFL Draft?

Sam Darnold

by Sam Scanlon '19
Sports Staff

In this upcoming NFL Draft, the first pick selected by the Cleveland Browns will be University of Southern California Quarterback Sam Darnold as the first overall pick.

In a draft class filled with amazing talent at all positions, some standouts are in the quarterback, class of this draft. Despite all their talents, the one who stands out among the rest is Allen. The 6'5", 223-pound junior is being compared to Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz, and has the skills and character to potentially be one of the NFL’s most elite quarterbacks.

At the NFL combine, Allen ran a 4.75 second 40-yard dash, and showed a vertical jump of 33.5 inches. One of his most notable abilities is his arm strength. At his pro-day, it was clear his strength was off the charts. Despite some reports his footwork and focus, allowing QB coach Jordan Palmer to improve his anticipation when throwing the ball is still a bit rusty. As training camp and preseason progress, however, he will soon find what he needs to do in-game during the NFL season.

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by Meaghan Cahill ’20
Sports Co-Editor

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL

Gil Santos, inductee of the Massachusetts Broadcasters Hall of Fame, radio play-by-play announcer for the New England Patriots, and member of the Patriots Hall of Fame passed away last weekend on April 19. It was his 80th birthday and 57th wedding anniversary.

Known as the “Voice of the Patriots,” Santos began his renowned career in 1966 as a color commentator for WBZ. He became the official play-by-play announcer in 1971 when the Patriots moved to Foxborough, Massachusetts. He called 744 games in 36 seasons before he announced his retirement in 2009.

In a 2009 interview, Santos recalled that it was Mel Allen announcing the Rose Bowl Game in 1950 that ignited his passion for sports broadcasting. “He said, ‘It’s 80 degrees and sunny here in Pasadena’ and I was thinking ‘It’s 80 degrees and sunny here, and this guy’s there to broadcast the game. What a great way to make a living.’”

Santos gave 63 years of his life to the broadcasting business, announcing most notably for the Patriots, but also for teams such as the Boston Celtics, the Providence College Men’s Basketball Team, and the Boston College football team. He also announced at events such as the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Santos described his broadcasting career as “simple. I tell the people where this ball is, who has it, and then what they’re doing with it. Then I let my partner talk.”

His son, Mark Santos, recalled his father’s career as being anything but simple, reflecting on the countless hours of preparation and lack of sleep his father endured. Mark gave a nod to his father, saying, “For a guy who spoke nothing but Portuguese until he was five, he came a long way. [My father] never felt more comfortable than sitting in a press box. That was his calling. He loved calling games.”

Following Santos’ death, of which the cause remains unknown, Patriots owner Robert Kraft released the statement, “For generations of Patriots fans, Gil Santos was and forever will be known as the ‘Voice of the Patriots’. Gil was a legendary broadcaster, who for 36 years passionately described the play-by-play detail of every Patriots game during his career, including many of the most memorable moments in franchise history.”

Gino Cappelletti, the former star Patriots kicker and receiver, partnered with Santos in the booth until his own retirement in 2012; it was a partnership that lead to Santos referring to Cappelletti as “mon ami” (my friend in French) at the beginning of every one of his broadcasts.

Following the announcement of Santos’ death, Cappelletti interviewed with The Boston Globe on his former partner. In the interview, Cappelletti recalled Santos’ enthusiasm with the memory from the 2004 Super Bowl XXXVIII game at the Reliant Stadium, “I’ve got to watch Gil. He gets excited and tends to lean over. If he does that here, he’d better be wearing a parachute.”

In the same interview, Cappelletti stated that Santos was “truly a pro in every sense of the word, always prepared. Gil demands quality and excellence in everything he does in the radio broadcast business.”

Former coworkers of Santos took to remembering him following his death, reminiscing on memories they have of him and the type of man and worker that he was. Gary LaPierre, Santos’ colleague from WBZ, commented, “There are none better at painting pictures on radio. He’s got a set of pipes and credibility. You never hear anyone bad-mouthing him. He is a straight shooter.”

Santos’ gave his last broadcast on January 28, 2013 at Gillette Stadium, where the Patriots lost the AFC title game to the Baltimore Ravens. Santos had to spend months determinedly completing rehab to make the game after suffering pulmonary disease the year before, days after the Patriots loss in Super Bowl XLVI. Against all odds, Santos made the game after suffering pneumonia and an obstructed lung.

Benjamin Cappelletti, the former Patriots quarterback and receiver, remembered his father as being a “voice of the people” and was always left with movement in his right arm and was unable to feed himself. In the final years of his life, Santos reflected, “Hey, I’m pretty lucky. I got to do what I wanted to do. Now all I’d like is to be remembered as someone who was good at what he did and was a good guy, too...It’s never been a job with the Patriots. It’s been an honor.”

Many people across New England will certainly remember Santos the way he wanted to be remembered and for so much more.