PC Students Continue to Make a Difference!

From the Editor

We are honored to help put together the Second Annual Community Service Issue of the Providence College student newspaper, The Cowl. Last year's editor, Kristina Garupp, and Fr. McPhail agreed that many times the paper prints articles and letters about campus issues and concerns while the positive things that are done by members of our community are forgotten. PC students, faculty, and staff are constantly involved in activities that work toward the betterment of the surrounding neighborhood as well as the community of faith. These pages capture only some of their tremendous accomplishments. It would take volumes to fully capture all that they do. We would like to extend a congratulations to all who did make the issue, and to those who did not know that we do acknowledge all the hard work that you do. Thank you to all of The Cowl's staff members who put the time in to put this issue together when probably all you could think about is Thanksgiving turkey! Hopefully, this issue will become a tradition that is continued by future Cowl staffs.

Sincerely,
Theresa Edo '96
Editor-In-Chief

Kristina Jensen '96
Asst. to the Editor-In-Chief

Feinstein Combines Service and Education

Erin R. King ’98
Features Writer

The Feinstein Institute for Public Service at Providence College was established in 1993 to "strengthen human communities by integrating public and community service into the liberal arts curriculum." PC won a competition between several colleges to receive a $5 million grant from Alan Shawn Feinstein to start the program. The Institute offers both a major and minor in Public and Community Service Studies.

The Institute was created to do four things: to offer an interdisciplinary academic major and minor; to make community service part of the lesson plan in courses throughout the College’s curriculum; to stimulate and reflect on public service and community; and to promote stronger ties between Providence College and the diverse communities of which the College is a part.

Rick Battistoni, director of the Institute, says the program allows students to "reflect deeply on themselves and the world, solve problems, find common ground, and learn about who they are in relation to others."

Students studying Public Service take classes in a number of disciplines, as well as those offered by the Institute itself. Students are also required to devote time to their community service projects, usually continued on page 4

A Man and His Bike

by Bridget Hughes '96
Features Editor

Often found feeding the squirrels or talking with various students throughout campus is a man whose patience is never-ending and whose dedication is overabundant. No wonder students were so anxious to help our very own Father Fergus replace his stolen bike. A member of the Pep band, moderator of the men’s Rugby club, as well as off-campus pastoral minister, Father Fergus has made himself well known to many of the students at Providence College — and he does that with the help of his trusty bicycle.

It all started in the summer of 1989 when Fr. Fergus first arrived at PC. His neighbor, Father John Cumaaron, wanted to give him a bike. Fr. Fergus hadn’t mounted a bike since he was a kid and was a little surprised by the offer. But, he accepted the gift and found it was a little easier to get around campus, as well as to the off-campus area. In December of 1994, John Oloton, a 1995 graduate of PC, decided it was time for Fr. Fergus to have a better bike to suit his needs. John, who at the time was in the process of buying a new bike for himself, gave Father his old 21 speed racing bike. Fr. Fergus was delighted, and students continued to see him riding around campus proudly on his new mode of transportation.

On April 26, 1995, Fr. returned to Guzman Hall where he had his bike. He rode the bike in front of the chapel for a moment, as he took the time to feed his faithful squirrels. He happened to meet some young kids playing in the grass, but never gave it a second thought as he went in search of his favorite squirrel - Fergus. He found her behind St. Dominic's House, and returned to Guzman minute later, only to see that his bike had been stolen. Stolen - by the three kids in one minute flat.

Father Fergus found a graded spelling paper and a candy wrapper left behind by the three children. He took his evidence to Juvenile Detectives, but nothing ever came out of the search, as the name on the paper could not be deciphered.

Rob Shine, also a 1995 graduate, and John Oloton decided that they wanted to replace the bike for Fr. Fergus. They began a collection in Bedford Apartment and continued to all of the on-campus apartments, as well as Guzman and Dore Halls. They collected $430.50 for the new bicycle.

All of the students were generous that there was no need to venture to the other Halls or to the off-campus apartments. With their earnings, as well as continued on page 4

by Michael Sahlone ’98
A&E Writer

While most college students, if given the choice, would rather sleep late and work off in the off-campus area, there are some students who believe it or not, want to get up early and work just for the sake of helping others. They are the people who make up City Year 2000, an organization intent on cleaning up America, one city at a time.

City Year accomplishes this with the help of over 600 people between the ages of 17-23. They donate 10 months of their year for community service, the only payment being a $4250 scholarship and the warm, fuzzy inner feeling of doing something you have to do, but because you want to.

Unfortunately, in this day and age, nothing is free. Since City Year is not a for profit organization, their money has to come from somewhere. They are primarily funded under President Clinton’s Americorps, but due to budget restraints they need money more than ever.

Enter the City Year Serve-a-Thon. It’s a sort of like a bowl-a-thon, but instead of bowling for money, you engage in acts of community service. Providence is one of six locations where City Year has set up shop, the others being Boston, Chicago, San Jose, Columbus, San Antonio and Columbia, South Carolina; each location had a Serve-a-Thon. The scheduled activities include rain or shine. About 80 PC students rose early to challenge the day, and they were greeted with overcast skies and a forecast for rain.

The participants were due in River Park at 8:30, where they turned in their pledge sheets. There were giveaways to people who had raised enough money, such as a t-shirt to all participants who raised over $75. At 9:00 a.m. they started collection efforts in order to prepare for their day. After their preparation, they were ready to tackle the day.

All participants were shuttled off to their sites. PC’s site was Olneyville. As soon as they arrived, the sky opened up and it began to pour. The weather did not deter the participants from their goal.

“When it started to rain, it was like nothing had changed, everyone kept on working. Some people were even fueled more on because of it,” commented Leah McLearn ’98.

All PC teams had the same tasks; they cleaned up a vacant lot, painted a community center, or cleared the surrounding streets. The spirit of teamwork and good will was contagious, as other community members chipped in with the work.

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PC Students Continue to Make a Difference!
The Cowl Special Issue

Campus Cut-Outs

Providing service to the community does not only have to entail performing grand works of mercy, but can include simple acts that basically help people. At Providence College we have a number of people in the community who can list numerous activities, clubs, or committees that formally set out to provide programs, classes, or services to attend to others' needs. Many members of our community do not set out to do "community service" perse, but actually provide comfort somehow to their fellow human beings. They may not even realize it, but through simple acts like giving blood, doing a favor for a roommate, returning a call to a student, listening to a friend in need, holding a door open, saying "God bless you," they are doing something special for another. These people, too, provide "community service", and should be acknowledged.

What's Your Type?
The PC family is always willing to give all it can to help out, even if it means a pint of blood. Blood Drives are held periodically throughout the year and are sponsored by several groups ranging from the PC Rugby Team to the Apartment Complex. The blood bank itself, such as Rhode Island Blood Center, might also run the drive. It offers everyone from students and faculty, to teachers and administrators a chance to give actual, physical help to those in need.

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Established in 1935

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Sober Evenings at Stuart's

Alcohol-free social nights in Stuart's, the on-campus entertain-ment facility, encourage students to find alternative, fun activi-ties on the weekends. They stress the fact that there are ways to enjoy oneself without getting completely obliterated. Events are usually sponsored by a variety of campus groups, such as Resi-dence Life, SOAR, and S.E.E.P.

PERSONALITY MAKES THE PARTY NOT ALCOHOLIC. Lighten up.

This poster decorated Stuart's wall on a night of non-alcoholic "mock-tails."

The Cowl does not have formal service activities, but does hope to provide the PC community with a reliable media service. Here are a couple of responses that keep us going during the late nights in the office.

Dear Keith,
Congratulations on the "Best Ever" Midnight Madness issue! I've been here for 11 years, and this is by far the most informative and comprehensive issue I've seen.

Thanks for the great coverage. I look forward to an exciting season with The Cowl and Lady Friar Basketball. Let me know if I can help.

Sincerely,
Bob Foley, Head Coach, Women's Basketball

Dear Vera and Chris,
"The Power of the Written Word" was music to mine ears. So refreshing to see and well-written, mature critique of PC policy and/or curriculum. Seems to me that's the kind of beneficial challenge a student newspaper can provide.

In any case, great work. Thanks.

Solidarity.
Forest Gander, Professor of English

City Year

Did you know that PC is one of the only colleges in the country with both a major and a minor in Public and Community Service Studies?

Chris Troy '97 lost a hand at one of last year's Blood Drives in '64 hall

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"As we were cutting down some high bush, a man came out of his house and offered his machete to help clear the brush. Then another man drove by in a pickup truck and offered the use of his truck to transport the brush, as well as a chain saw that helped clear the brush even quicker. It's that sort of spirit that shows you that there are good people out there. Good people that offered help, without asking for anything in return, both men walked away without even stating their names — they had no need to be acknowledged for their good deeds," said Matt Smith '98.

After the mud had formed a new layer of skin on their clothes, the members gathered for a celebration of their work, complete with food, music and dancing. Bill Ewell '97, coor-dinator of the College Team, said: "I was happy to see people doing a lot for the community. I'm interested in opportunities for the future to get more people involved."

Overall, almost 1000 people served the whole seven hours in Rhode Island. All of the money raised was for City Year. They are now one big step closer to their fundraising goal of $50,000. It's never too late to help those in need, and next year's Serve-A-Thon isn't that far away.
Urban Action Speaks Louder Than Words

by Mike Sullivan '97
Editorial Writer

Every year for the past five years Urban Action has given Providence College freshman the opportunity to perform service for the greater Providence Community. Those freshman students who are accepted to participate in the program arrive at PC five days before the rest of the students. They are broken up into several groups, led by two group leaders who had served in the program freshman year.

The groups are given work assignments, usually in the form of manual labor, throughout the city. Last year a couple of groups worked with another program, Habitat for Humanity, in clearing a lot on which a house had burned down several years ago. They also dug the foundation ditches for a new house. Other groups performed tasks such as cleaning parks of litter and glass and decorating them by painting murals.

This year all of the groups worked together on cleaning Camden Ave. Near Park the Smith Hill Center. They cleared an entire side of a hill that was overgrown with bushes and littered with debris so that an amphitheater could be built on the spot. This year one hundred twenty freshmen, the most of any year so far, participated in the program. Urban Action has elicited such a great response from incoming freshmen that this year they are attempting to make it a year round program. One Sunday each month will be designated as a day of service in which all Providence College students are welcome to participate. In October their service project was to participate in the City Year Serve-a-thon. This past month they painted the basement of the Smith Hill Center and turned over the soil for the Generation One garden at the Camden Ave. Park.

There is probably no better way for freshmen to start off their PC career than by doing Urban Action. Not only does it give freshmen a chance to make new friends, it also gives them an opportunity to do something positive for the people of the community. As Katie Yomans, who is a senior leader along with Peter McNiff, put it, "Deciding to do Urban Action your freshman year is not only your first decision as a PC student but also the best."

Janovitz'j Juggling Act

by David Canal '98
News Writer

Balancing academics with a social life at college is something many students have trouble with. Throw into the equation an ongoing internship, a DJ position at WDOM, vice presidency of Rorschach Theater Group, a steady job at Newbury Comics, and the lead singing position of a high-profile band, and the answer becomes Scott Janovitz.

But things always seem to work out. It's just a question of determining how to utilize my free time effectively."

For the past two years, Scott has held an internship as a College Marketing Representative for Elektra Entertainment. Scott's main responsibility is to promote bands on Elektra's label that are considered primarily college music. Calling 28 stations on a weekly basis, distributing music and concert tickets to those radio stations, and convincing them to play bands on the Elektra label are some of the many jobs Scott's internship entails. Scott explains how he finds time for it all, "I spend the time that I normally would spend relaxing or watching TV making phone calls to different stations. I don't have a lot of free time, but the networking is great for me and I'm always making new connections for the band."

Besides his internship, Scott is employed at Newbury Comics in Warwick where he works three to four nights each week. Also, last year Scott was the Program Director of WDOM.

Scott "riding the wave of success", on stage with Rhino

Scott admits that being so involved in activities can be frustrating at times, but it all has to do with maintaining a balance. "Sometimes it seems like I've bitten off more than I can chew, but... it's just a question of determining how to utilize my free time effectively."

"Sometimes it seems like I've bitten off more than I can chew, but... it's just a question of determining how to utilize my free time effectively."

Scott, "Acting as a jock" on stage with Rhino

Scott says, "As of now, I don't have much of an idea as to what I want to do as far as a career is concerned. I would like to do something in the music field, whether it be playing in a band or working for a music company remains to be seen."

Whatever Scott decides to do, given the array of opportunities and exposure he is gaining now, it is safe to say he will succeed. For anyone interested in seeing Scott in action, Rhino will be performing on November 9th at the Prime Time Cafe.
Marta Makuc: Making a Difference

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two large pieces of paper with all the signatures from the stu-
dents who had given money, they showed up at Father’s door and told him that they were go-

F. Fr.ergus

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... although so many negative things are often heard about PC, this is one example of how a positive thing can result from everyone pulling together.

ing to the store to buy him a new bike. John Olohan commented that, “the look on Father’s face was unbelievable.” He said that he was absolutely shocked and could not stop grinning.

Seven months later, as Fa-
ther zips around campus on his new GTHybrid, he hears com-
ments such as, “What a snazzy
bike!” He also comments that he is overwhelmed by the gen-
erosity of the students. He feels that although so many negative things are often heard about PC, this is one example of how a positive thing can result from everyone pulling together.

have their own major from four "tracks" of study: Not-For-Profit Management, Humanities, So-
cial Science/Policy Analysis, and Environmental Problems.

Bill Ewell ’97, a double ma-
jor in both Public Service and Political Science, plans to put both areas of study to work in the political realm. “I’d like to serve the public,” he says. Ewell was part of the Feinstein Institute’s pilot program during

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"I guess maybe I do too much, but I wouldn’t know what to do without these things in my life.”

"You would be hard-pressed to find a better person, a better friend, at Providence College than Marta Makuc,” said Jeff Black ’97. "She has a very strong work ethic and the total amount of hours she puts into the community is unparalleled.

When the door did not open for this campus few people could do. The way in which she balances all of her activities and her schoolwork is truly a feat. She is one of the nicest people you could know on campus.

"Where there nice guys finish last, money grubbing politicians corrupt society, and the almighty dollar is king, it’s commendable to think that there are people like Marta in the world who give of themselves freely in so many different and community service activities, a shining light for the Providence College community.

"I met her the first week I was here two years ago and I see her in here everyday, and I know if I don’t that something is wrong or I’ve screwed up. It was her think that’s something she’s learned from a good family en-
vironment,” he says. "We know we can depend on Marta in every sense of the word.”

programs with adults need to be more long-term,” she acknowl-
edges.

Two students who work with adults are John Carcichi ’98 and Nicki Prindiville ’98. They volunteer at Travelers’ Aid, which helps homeless people.

"It’s not a sexy kitchen, not a shelter, but it provides ever-
ything else,” says Carcichi, who is taking an ethics class. He has been working at what he considers not only to keep them off the street but to get them back on their feet.

Experiences such as these are at the core of the Feinstein Institute’s mission. The class-
room provides much of the background information for community studies as well as a forum for discussion, but the real learning seems to take place when PC students go out and see what they have learned in class to their individual service projects. Rick Battistoni says that the most important thing is the enhanced experience that they just wouldn’t get in the class-
room.

Not only that, but the students seem to come away from their service with a differ-
ent feeling about themselves. "I feel like I’m really making a difference," said one student.

This feeling seems to resonate throughout the entire program: As Alan Shawn Feinstein him-
self said, the program is devoted to making "public and community service a noble undertak-
ing - to show our youth that there’s nothing finer than dedicating their lives to helping oth-
ers.”
"The Peace of Christ"

by Amy Rodrigues '97
Editors & Writer

Nowadays, you cannot pick up a newspaper, a magazine, or watch the evening news without witnessing the presence and frantic effect that violence has in our lives. However, around the world and here at PC there are many people working to bring peace and nonviolence into our lives. One of the new ways that PC students have begun to foster peace in the world around us is by beginning a chapter of Pax Christi, a national and international nonviolence organization, translated "The Peace of Christ.

Pax Christi is a worldwide organization that is dedicated to promoting nonviolence in the world and focusing on the faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church. At PC, like at other campuses Pax Christi groups, the focus is to work to promote nonviolence in the world and in the communities around us.

Started in 1945, Pax Christi has striven to achieve peace through its threefold structure: prayer, study and action. Each Pax Christi meeting is organized by these three focuses.

Sarah Barre, the chairperson of Pax Christi, explains that "Pax Christi works to focus on recognizing violence in our lives through prayer and reflection." Sarah also said, "through prayer and the teachings of the Catholic Church, Pax Christi groups attempt to further understand the Catholic faith, and through this live by and reflect on the message of God." Also, by studying the issues, both national and international, that affect us in our everyday lives, Pax Christi calls its members to become aware of the events, the situations, and the condition of the world today. Once they have done this, Pax Christi urges its members to initiate action within the community in an effort to create peace and social justice in the world today.

There are many issues that entail the peace movement that Pax Christi at PC centers itself around. Some specific issues that the PC campus group focuses on are racism, sexism, war, rights of the oppressed, nuclear deterrence, and other issues relating to peace and nonviolence in our lives. Pax Christi campus groups have been steadily raising awareness of environmental issues also.

At PC this semester, the Pax Christi group has and will participate in events that focus on their mission and further the nonviolence movement. Pax Christi members participated in the memorial remembrance for Yitzhak Rabin on November 6. More than fifty students and faculty members took part in the silent candlelight vigil remembering the Israeli Prime Minister assassinated on November 4. Also, on November 18 the Pax Christi Chapter attended the nonviolence conference at PC where Martin Luther King III spoke. In early December plans are underway for a remembrance of the martyrs of El Salvador. If any PC student is interested in getting involved with the PC Pax Christi chapter the next meeting is on Monday, December 4 in Stavin 212.

PSO - Pretty Special Organization

by Pam Marchant '96
Features Writer

For years, the Pastoral Service Organization (formerly Parish Community) has provided service opportunities at PC for any student interested in helping their community. As this year comes to an end, the PSO is proud to be a part of a group that touches the community through their kindness and generosity.

The PSO is made up of students from the Chaplain's Office/Campus Ministry Office. Along with the Campus Ministry Committees, a group of students is committed to enhancing the spiritual life of the college community. We have hundreds of volunteers who give their time in many different ways to those in need of a helping hand. Our mission is "to put into practice the Gospel call to love our neighbor through a commitment to service."

The PSO is organized into ten committees, and each has its own way to serve the community at large. Volunteers in the Providence Schools (VPS) tutor elementary and high school age students, while volunteers for Habitat for Humanity build houses in an effort to break a cycle of poverty. The PSO Social Justice committee has volunteers performing many acts of service including "adoptive" guardianship, assisting at local soup kitchens, and playing with the children at McAuley Village.

PSO volunteers also work towards AIDS awareness at FACTS (Family AIDS Support), Sunrise House, and through the Camp Heartland Project. A new PSO committee, the Haitian Project, is busy raising supplies for a special school in Haiti that is in desperate need of help.

While the CCD committee offers their services locally throughout the Diocese of Providence. Our Special Events Committee is responsible for our popular Christmas Giving Tree, thanksgiving giveaways, and Skip-A-Meal, as well as our annual Senior Citizen's Dinner.

PSO volunteers become tutors and friends with adults with mental retardation through our Adult Literacy program, and to Spanish-speaking UNICO workers through our English as a Second Language program. Volunteers involved in our Special Olympics Committee become timekeepers and referees at the annual Basketball Tournament and other events held on the PC campus.

The strength of PSO lies in its many members. It is they, who, day after day, make PSO proud. Without its volunteers, the PSO would cease to exist. The PSO is also fortunate to have a grandparent, assisting at two local soup kitchens, and playing with the children at McAuley Village.

For the women, picture of consistency, Maria McLaughlin ranks as a quality fourth place (17:38). Murnane, fully recovered from a mid-season bout with the flu, placed fourth (17:51). Krissy Haacke (11th, 18:07) and co-captain Moira Harrington (13th, 18:10). ThePSO is also fortunate to have a grandparent, assisting at two local soup kitchens, and playing with the children at McAuley Village.

The PSO is a group of extraordinary students. Because of them, great things happen on a daily basis. We are privileged, not only to be a part of this tremendous organization, but to be the one to applaud its contributions to the community.

"I feel privileged to be a part of this tremendous organization..."

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CROSS COUNTRY SWEEPS BIG EAST

by Michael Salerno '94
Features Writer

Marie McMahon '97 lead the Big East Women

Then drowns of Friars followed, with Carl Mauro (27th, 25:56), Michael Donnelly (31st, 26:02), Steve Myers (36th, 26:06), Paul McNamara (40th, 26:14), and Nick Kent (42nd, 26:17). The kicker is that even if Kent had been PC's fifth man, the black and white still would have won.

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Have a Heart

by Tom Belason '98
Features Writer

Camp Heartland is the nation's largest summer camping program for children impacted by HIV/AIDS. During our one week camp sessions we welcome any child who is living with the virus, has a loved one with the disease, or has lost a family member to AIDS. Our first camp took place in August of 1993 with 75 children from 20 states. In 1994, we expanded and welcomed 250 kids from 30 states, and in 1995 we grew to welcome 500 children from around the country. We are proud of this growth, but it clearly parallels the significant increase of HIV among women and children. To further meet the need of the growing number of children with AIDS and "AIDS orphans" our goal by 1996 is to develop a permanent year round camping facility that will be a "safe haven" for families with AIDS.

Providence College has had several students give their time to Camp Heartland over the past few years. Students For Camp Heartland was started in 1995 by Mike James '97. James was recruited by Camp Heartland founder and president Neil Willenson to work over the summer as a counselor. After his experience at Camp Heartland, James returned to PC and started Students For Camp Heartland, with the hope of raising funds for the camp as well as educating students about AIDS and HIV. Through publicity initiated by James, students at Providence College became interested in working directly with the children at Camp Heartland.

Lulu Alonso '95, Erin McDonald '97, and Matt Potter '98 were all counselors at the camp this past summer. Matt Potter recently spoke about how he became involved with Camp Heartland. "I had worked as a volunteer in the Emergency Department of Hasbro Children's Hospital, here in Providence, and really enjoyed the contact with the kids. Then, one night in July, I saw a movie called 'Angelica's Secret,' which had a segment in it on Camp Heartland. I remembered hearing about it at PC, but actually seeing it in action was amazing. From that point, I went on to the application and was hired for sessions 3 and 4 during the month of August." Potter stressed that life at Camp Heartland is just like the contact with the kids.

Activities at Camp Heartland are the same as in almost every camp in the country. Archery, sailing, arts and crafts, and swimming are all activities that Camp Heartland kids enjoy, just like all campers worldwide.

Camp Heartland also has its serious and touching moments. Matt Potter recalls an experience he had on his first night at the camp, "Every night, before bed, we'd have a discussion time called 'devotions' where a topic is picked and everyone has the chance to respond without interruption or the fear of being made fun of. During the first night of my first session, the topic was, 'tell us three things about yourself.' One of my boys went and said his three things, the last being that he had HIV. That was a heavy moment for me personally. Being the new person, I didn't know how to respond, and all of a sudden the boy sitting next to him looks at him and says, 'I have HIV too,' and then they looked at each other and exchanged high-fives. That, to me, is what Camp Heartland is all about. It's not about secrets, it's not about death, it's all about living and living without fear of what others think.'

Students For Camp Heartland would like to see other PC students get involved. It costs approximately $1200 to send a child to the camp for one week. All expenses are paid for, from travel to food. Camp Heartland needs to raise these funds and raise them quickly. It is very easy to get involved. Students can donate a dollar or two, buy Camp Heartland tee-shirts for ten dollars, participate in fundraisers, or even become a counselor. Matt Potter states, "They (students) just have to want to do it. We plan on holding a jump-rope-a-thon, movie showings, and the like to raise money and educate the student body."

If you have questions about Camp Heartland, they can be contacted at (414) 354-5554 or 1-800-724-HOPE. The address is 4465 N. Green Bay Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53209.

Lulu Alonso '95, Matt Potter '98, and Erin McDonald '97

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Thanks, from The Cowl staff
by Michelle Boozang '97
News Writer

Both of these articles have previously appeared in The Cowl, but we felt the merit a reprinting.

Thursday, October 12 Habitat for Humanity sponsored the all night Shack City event on Slavin Lawn. From 6 p.m. Thursday night to 6 a.m. Friday morning, students gathered in an effort to understand the situation of people who are homeless or are subject to live in substandard housing. The night included a candlelight vigil led by Fr. Barranger and Pastor Dave Madiera from the Barrington Baptist Church, and a skit to explain Habitat's mission and philosophy.

As one member explained, Jesus and His good works of charity are the foundation upon which Habitat for Humanity is built. To symbolize this, members for Habitat acted out constructing a house, where people of different walks of life came together to lend a hand. A carpenter, an old woman, and Haniz and Franz from Saturday Night Live all cooperated and a house, who became the human foundation, upon which the others joined in making themselves into a "house." A poster which captured the idea of the moment read, "Once again, God's people can use a good carpenter."

The members toasted marshmallows, played music and frisbee, and enjoyed the chance to talk through the night. Yet they did not forget any more serious purpose of the evening, as Anne Leegan '96, core member of Habitat for Humanity explained, "to allow students to participate in raising awareness of the problems of substandard housing by putting faith into action." She further explained, how the Shack City sleep out gives students a piece of reality. Leegan stressed how students realize how fortunate they are not have to experience this every night of the year. "It helps students appreciate more exactly what they have," adds Leegan.

As one student who took part in the night shared, "It is hard for anyone of us to imagine living in such poor conditions, and even though we experienced only for one night, I couldn't wait to get back to the comfort of my bedroom. For those whom this is a reality, there isn't a more comfortable haven to look forward to for the next night."

Members of habitat for Humanity emphasized continually the idea of taking the initiative to face the problem of substandard housing. The club volunteers every Saturday by helping to build housing in Providence and in Shack City night was important in drawing more students to help the outreach program.

The organization does much more to raise money, including fundraising for the alternative spring break trips to different areas across the nation. The Shack City Sleep Out event was a way to raise money for 54 students on the ten day house-building mission, and its members are enthusiastic about an even larger turnout this year.

Habitat for Humanity is excited about PC students joining their weekly house building volunteer mission, and invites all students to join their efforts. Every Thursday, interested students can sign up in Slavin Center to volunteer for the following Saturday.

As one student shared, "building houses is part of the Christian compassion that Jesus preached, which is putting faith into action...that's what Habitat is all about."

by Heather Dornier

The Habitat for Humanity Alternative Spring Break is in the planning, and enthusiasm is running high for the upcoming trip.

The organization underwent the interview process the week of November 2nd. This year, 91 students will be chosen to volunteer around the country, traveling to California, Michigan, Maryland, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

PC students will join other school chapters of Habitat and local volunteers in the week long house-building project, and will also get the chance to work alongside Habitat for Humanity home recipients: some may be helping to build their potential house, or lend a hand in the construction of another's house in their community.

The projects vary from site to site. Some volunteers may help in constructing the framework, others may paint or install cabinets. Whatever the task, everyone comes away from the excursion with a little more knowledge and experience in building a home. All materials are donated from the local businesses, such as Hospital Trust and CVS. Last year, members of PC Habitat worked hard to raise close to $16,000 to fund the trip.

Recently, the PC organization became an official Habitat for Humanity campus chapter. This enables the PC members to be more active with the city of Providence Habitat chapter, helping with their fundraising as well as continuing to work weekly on house-building projects in the city.

Members of the PC chapter have gained much through their outreach in the community, like all FSO clubs, Habitat for Humanity is a good representative of the Christian ethics of charity and compassion which the college upholds in and out of the classroom.

As Kim Beganksy '96, chairperson of PC Habitat for Humanity expressed, "I am really excited about the alternative spring break this year. The number of students interested in volunteering has grown, which shows the concern many have on campus in raising the standard of living for the less fortunate in our country. This is an excellent opportunity for PC students to reach out to the greater community."

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More Student Shows at the Friar's Cell

by Renet M.A. Ladocsi '96
A&E Editor

For all of us who have felt the desire to see more student run-productions, F. Michael Scafati and fellow members of the theatre department have answered the call with The Friar's Cell. For the last few years, student-run productions have been shown in St. Catherine of Sienna Hall. Shows, such as Sate's No Exit performed last Spring, have been limited in terms of lighting, stage and audience space, acoustics, and overall funding. For such performances has come from the Board of Programmers, not the Theatre Department. There has been an overall need for an organization that both students, as well as Blackfriars, agree with and support. Students, therefore, came together to create what was originally referred to as Blackfriars 2.0, and what is now called The Friar's Cell.

The Friar's Cell differs from the outdated underground student theatre organization Rorschach, because it will perform anything, without limiting itself to original works. It is a highly organized program which includes more of PC's drama oriented persons.

Members, which include Theatre majors and minors, as well as anyone else interested, seek a more intimate setting for their performances. They are looking for complete student autonomy over the entire production of a stage performance. From choice of play to set design, lighting and auditions, students control it all. This professional approach to student organized productions leads to greater student creativity and more opportunities for them to explore other areas of interest.

They also seek college recognition in that they be seen as the student equivalent to the Blackfriars Theatre. At the end of two years, the organization will be evaluated by both students and faculty for permanent acceptance. In the meantime, The Friar's Cell has equal access to the Blackfriars Theatre stage and its workshops.

However, The Friar's Cell does not stand entirely alone. Under the open supervision of Fr. Powell, producing members of The Friar's Cell are able to approach him with any concerns they may have or have advice they may need. Fr. Powell will act as moderator/mentor for the coming production of The Odd Couple. Next semester, it will be moderated by David Cabral.

The Friar's Cell will present its debut performance of Neil Simon's The Odd Couple on November 30th in the Blackfriars Theatre.

Throughout history men have bonded together to accomplish greatness...

Meet Felix and Oscar, they haven't read much history.

The Friar's Cell presents

The Odd Couple

November 30, December 18... 8 pm
December 3 .......................... 2 pm

For ticket information call 865-2218
The Value of Service

by Beth Danesco '96

PC senior Jody Labao's life is filled with people. There are the clients she helps as an intern at The Department of Children, Youth and Families. There's Anacinda, her fifth grade "Little Sister". There are the kids she tutors once a week at the McCauley Village family center. More often than not, there are all of these people in the fullness of one day.

Labao took up social work her sophomore year at PC. She knew she wanted a job in service, a job that helped her empower people in need. Social work, she says, seemed the perfect channel for these ambitions. Now as a senior, Labao works twenty hours a week at Rhode Island's DCYF. There she has a variety of duties which include guiding perspective adoptive couples through the entire adoption process and working each week with four of her own clients, all of whom have a variety of problems. The job presented daily challenges and exposure to things she believes will make her a better social worker when she graduates.

"I've seen mental illness, sexual abuse, teen pregnancy. I'm always learning. It's a lot of work, but it's a lot of experience. I help these people try and reach their goals."

Besides learning on the job, there is personal and professional satisfaction for Labao on a daily basis. "Couples will call me a social worker, see me as a social worker and treat me like I'm a social worker. Even the smallest things everyday - something reassures me."

While this internship, part of the PC social work major curriculum, is challenging and time consuming, Labao's inclination toward service goes above and beyond the requirements of her major.

As a junior, Labao was a pilot student for PC's Feinstein Public Service Program. As a pilot student, Labao says she had the opportunity to learn more about herself and learn about service through the excellent classes the program provided. She also had exposure to volunteer opportunities, exposure, Labao says, which developed into lasting commitments.

"Feinstein opened me up to a lot of different organizations," says Labao, mentioning specifically PACTS, an organization helping babies with AIDS. Her involvement in PACTS allowed Labao to set her own sights on service outside the U.S. A friend of hers had spent ten days in Ecuador, and suggested that Jody make a similar trip to the summer of 1995. The trip, sponsored by Rosita De Cristo, sent Labao to Ecuador.

"... work hard, do your best, and if you have time, don't waste it, take advantage of every opportunity!" Labao has taken to heart.

Labao and fifteen PC volunteers to Ecuador for ten days to build schools, visit hospitals, work at soup kitchens, and most importantly, to get to know the people there. It was an important experience for Labao.

"I think about those people every single day. It was such an eye-opener, they have nothing, nothing, but they were perfectly happy. It was one of the most extraordinary experiences I've ever had."

Labao is not one to miss out on experiences. The Bristol, RI native attributes this "get involved" attitude to her parents. "They always let me be who I was, but they raised me with a set of values that said 'work hard, do your best, and if you have time, don't waste it, take advantage of every opportunity.'"

The people Labao met in Ecuador lived in shacks such as these

"The people PC students met in Ecuador lived in shacks such as these..."

Students Serve In Equador

by Colleen Pappas '99

"It was an experience that I will never forget." With these words Catherine Rogue '96 summed up her experience as one of the 14 Providence College students who embarked on a 10-day long trip to Duran, Ecuador this past summer. The trip, which was organized with the help of the Campus Ministry and the Rostro de Dios mission, lasted from June 28 - July 7.

"The St. James Society," explained Rogue, "runs Rogue, a runs a year round program so that high school and college students can go and experience living with the poor. The cost of the trip, approximately 14,000 dollars, was raised mainly by student fund-raisers including plant and candy sales, car washes, a shack city and a clam bake. Much of the money was also provided by donations from students, businesses, and the hometown parishes of the students directly involved.

While in Ecuador, the students, who were accompanied by Sister Annette Desmarais, the assistant director of the Campus Ministry were given the opportunity to spend time with the people of Duran who in Rogue's words were "amazing." It was, "Rogue remembered, "just such a loving atmosphere."

Julie Camarillo '97 agreed, "The people were just so friendly and warm and welcoming." In Duran the students volunteered at a daycare center, taught young school children, worked at soup kitchens and visited a leper hospital in the hop to the leper hospital and Sophomore Patricia Monroe re- marked, "The people were so open and happy to see us. They just hugged and kissed us and everything."

For many who went, the most remarkable part of the experience was the way in which the people of Duran welcomed these "strangers" into their lives and their community. As Monroe recalls, "I didn't know how they were going to react to us," but, she remembers, "when we first drove into the village it was really late at night... but all the kids ran up and hugged us and everything."

Monroe's sentiments were echoed by Rogue, who claimed, "we learned so much from the people, just to see how happy they were, even though they had nothing."

The students were also struck by the conditions in which the people of Duran were forced to live. "It was a real eye-opener," stated Monroe. I knew there was poverty but I didn't think that it was so widespread. The people were just so in need of everything.

The group stayed in a small retreat house in the village, but it was, as Camarillo recalled, "a absolute luxury compared to what the townspeople were living in as the villagers had no running water or bathrooms; they were basically living in shacks."

"The program, which has taken place in previous years and relies on student interest, gives those who take part the opportunity to experience a culture that may be different from their own, but nonetheless shows that people everywhere share some common traits. As Rogue concluded, "It was great to see families that were so loving in a community that was so poor. You first think you need so much help, but I wouldn't say they need much help - maybe financially they did, but spiritually they were the greatest."

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A Smith Hill Halloween

Pastoral Service Committees Organize Party for Local Youngsters

by Tammy Ledoux '99 News Writer

Youngsters from the Smith Hill Center were invited to a Halloween party in October organized by Providence College students from the Special Education, Social Services, and Pastoral Life Committee. The event was held on the college's Providence campus.

"...a great chance to spend time with kids and have fun, too."

The party was open to all students in the Smith Hill Center, and it was a fun-filled evening of games, crafts, and goodie bags. The students had a great time and were very excited to be there. The event was a great opportunity for the students to socialize and have a good time.

The members of the committee were very pleased with the outcome of the event and are looking forward to hosting more events in the future.

Friar's Club: It's Just Black and White

by Robin L. Erickson '97 News Writer

This semester, the Friar's Club is featuring a series of events that are sure to appeal to both students and staff. From movies to games to lectures, there is something for everyone.

The Friar's Club provides many services to students, administrators, and prospective students of Providence College. As official hosts of the college, they are visible at virtually every event on campus, as well as those off-campus that are related to PC. The first impression is said to be the most important, and it is the same when viewing a college for the first time. The first person a prospective student sees is a Friars Club member, and they have the job of making a positive first impression on the student.

Giving tours, working on committees, and organizing events all are just some of the activities members participate in. The last month has been filled with new events, such as the Annual PC Community Day, which is held in conjunction with the PC community at large.

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Christmas in April.

Holidays come early this year

by Erin Piorek '96
News Writer

Christmas in April began in 1973, when a group of volunteers in Midland, Texas decided to devote one day in April to repainting the homes of low-income, elderly, or disabled neighbors in their community. The project spread quickly across the country. Today Christmas in April is a nationwide effort, with over 140 chapters.

In 1994, the Providence chapter of Christmas in April was initiated by the Providence College President's Council, a group of distinguished alumni. On April 30, 1994, 300 Christmas in April-Providence volunteers renovated 2 homes in the Elmhurst area, cleaned 9 city lots, swept 6 city streets, collected 140 trees, painted a local school gym, and planted flowers throughout the neighborhood. Many of these volunteers were Providence College students, who donated their time to help revitalize community homes.

Last year, Louise Mauro, Head of Community Relations at PC, and a dedicated group of PC students brought Christmas in April to Providence College by initiating an independent Campus Chapter. In cooperation with Brown, Johnson and Wales, and Roger Williams, we are the first and only collegiate chapter to date. The Providence College Christmas in April Committee consists of 5 students: Co-chairs Meg Wrona '96 and Bridget McMeel '96, Jeremy Heagy '97, Lisa Durica '97, and Shameem Awan '96. These students are responsible for recruiting student volunteers and assisting in the coordination of the program. The Committee chooses which local homes are eligible for renovation and coordinates a training day prior to the day of service to prepare students for what they will be doing.

Any low-income, disabled, or elderly Providence home owner is eligible. Homeowners are referred to Christmas in April by social service agencies, churches, community organizations, and private individuals. The homes are then evaluated individually and a determination is made as to whether a home is eligible for volunteer renovation. Repairs may include painting, landscaping, yard clean-up, electrical and plumbing renovations, and installation of new locks and smoke detectors. It must be possible to complete all of the repairs in one day.

Meg Wrona, co-chair of the Providence College Campus Chapter of Christmas in April, hopes that this year the Committee will be able to "get students more involved in the program so that they can have a larger role in the day of service." To ensure this, the Committee is currently planning a day of training that will most likely take place in early April. Wrona also hopes that "the Committee itself will be more involved this year so that the members will have more of an impact on how it is run and more of a role in the steps that lead to the actual day of Christmas in April."

Those students who are interested in sitting on the Committee in April at Providence College will have an opportunity to do so before the Christmas break, when the current Committee will be selecting one or two more students to assist them.

The Committee will be recruiting students to be a part of Christmas in April this year in early Spring. The benefits of Christmas in April are felt by homeowners, by neighbors, by sponsors, and by volunteers. It is a selfless way to help our hard-working neighbors who cannot adequately maintain their homes. Those students who assisted in bringing this program to PC and who continue to be a part of it should be commended for their generous service to the community.

Pete Mitchell
Acceptance for All

by Kristen Matteine '98
Editorial Writer

The Balfour Center for Multicultural Affairs is always a "very busy and hectic place" according to Dean Willeise Commissiong.

The Center has many diverse focuses within its mission, including scholarships, but the main message is that the Balfour Center is a place for everyone. It is not exclusively for students who are Black, Hispanic, or Asian.

The Center has grown over the past few years. Its on-campus office is in Hawthins Hall, Room 308. There are many scholarship opportunities for highly qualified applicants. The scholarships are highly competitive. Students must meet the standards of both the college and their scholarship. The Martin Luther King scholarship was established in 1968 and was originally intended for a local African American youth. Now the scholarship is more diverse, with recipients coming from all over the world.

The South East Asian scholarship is roughly nine years old and was established for students of Southeast Asian descent.

The Balfour Scholarship itself is for Portuguese and Hispanic students and is about two years old. Currently, there are six Balfour Scholars.

Finally, the Textron scholarship is for women and minority groups and is about two years old. Dean Commissiong hopes that the Center is a place where people can "comfortably get to know others." She would like everyone to see it as a place where people will not be "rejected or insulted." She hopes that ALL students will feel welcome to come in and see what the Center is all about. The Balfour Center would like to be known as a "friendly, warm place on campus where EVERYONE can feel accepted."

In past years the Balfour Center has invited inner-city school children to visit PC's campus to see firsthand what college life is all about. Balfour Center Scholars have also encouraged area high school students to pursue higher education. 
Exceptional Achievements

by Melissa Hayden '96
Clubs Correspondent

In the new age of education, exceptionality is a vague word. Many people are unaware of what the term "exceptional children" really means. This is why the Providence College Chapter of Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) comes into play.

The Providence College Chapter for Exceptional Children is comprised of a large group of dedicated education majors. It is a large group of students comprising a number of different committees. This is the first year the Providence College CEC has had an official committee. CEC is part of the Rhode Island CEC Association as well as the National CEC Association. According to the CEC booklet, the purpose of the council is to "advance the education of individuals with exceptionalities and to promote related educational, scientific, and charitable purposes." Judy Barry, President of CEC, adds her own personal ideas by saying, "CEC is dedicated towards teaching the general public about person's with exceptionalities (those who are disabled and intellectually advanced) and providing for activities for exceptional children." It is very involved in community service both on and off campus. The beginning of the year began with a walk-a-thon. The proceeds from this (fund-raiser allowed CEC to put on a successful Halloween party for Camden Ave Elementary School kids). Another activity was a workshop with PC Pals which CEC presented simultaneous activities that include being hearing impaired, visually impaired, and handicapped. Both volunteers and students of PC participated in the integrated activity. The largest event so far was the Exceptional Children's Week (November 13 - 17, 1995). CEC tried to reach out to PC students and the surrounding elementary schools to open their eyes to the exceptionalities they encounter every day. A puppet show was performed at the Camden Ave. School and movies such as Rain Man, were shown on campus. Members of CEC have worked at attended conventions held around the area. Such as the Teacher Aid Convention and Technology Assistance Convention. Members were able to broaden their own horizons on ways to integrate exceptionalities into the classroom, teach others about exceptionalities, and what the new technology is to help those with exceptionalities. The CEC publications committee is planning a newsletter for the PC Campus. It will include details about exceptionalities that one may encounter and how to understand and develop an awareness about the different exceptionalities there are.

Kids on the Block is another committee in the CEC. Kids on the Block is a puppet show that CEC performs to show students (both young and old) how it feels to be disabled. The puppets disabilities range from visual impairment to cerebralalsy. The puppets speak to the students on what their disability is, how they are treated, and how they feel about living with a disability. Students are encouraged to freely ask questions directly to the puppets after the show. Kids on the Block is a very true to life performance.

CEC has many future events planned. Events such as a hollar party at Hasbro Hospital, a fundraiser for Camp Heartland, bringing students from the Tradeau Center bowling, and a wheelchair basketball game against Big Elementary's (a wheelchair basketball team) are all bright hopes being planned by CEC.

The goal of the fairly new campus organization, has done a number of activities to increase awareness on and off campus about exceptionalities. CEC exemplifies a community service organization. We all need to be made aware of our surroundings and who is in them. Keep your eyes open for future CEC events!

by John Carcetti '98
Sports Writer

In the middle of the Bronx, amid the trud and stones of Van Cortlandt Park last Saturday, the Providence College Cross Country teams found a record book, and wrote their names in it.

At last Saturday's Big East championships, Coach Ray Treacy's Friars made history, becoming the first contingent to win both the men's and women's team titles, as well as both individual titles with Mark Carroll and Marie McMahon's first place finishes.

"It was everything we expected and more," explained an exuberant Treacy. "We hoped that we would win both," but I would have been happy even with one. For both to win, and to win the two individual titles as well, to do something that has never been done before in Big East History, was great. To win all four on the one day, it just capped off a fabulous day.

In every coach's career there are rare days when everything goes right. The runners, on both squads, not only did their job but did it to Providence College College.

The Lady Friars' 27 points embarrassed the field, including defending national champion and arch-rival Villanova (51 pts.). On the men's side, the race was billed as a grudge match between Providence and Georgetown. The black and gold pulled out to a 50-point lead when all cooled down, eaten lunch, called home, napped, posed for pictures, enjoyed a Broadway musical, stood in line for Letterman tickets, and grown full beards before the second-place Hoyas crossed the line (74 pts.).

It can be argued that the 21st century men's squad was looking for respect, as Georgetown has held top ten rankings all season.

"This was the first time we put the whole team on the line," and it just confirmed what we already knew," explained junior David Healy, who continued his All-American season by placing third. "Our ranking was disgraceful. Georgetown was #7, Notre Dame was #13, and we were 21. But if you looked at our placings, how fast our guys have run, you could see we should have been higher. We are not an amazing team, but we are a very good team and we proved it Saturday."

Villanova has been outlasting the Lady Friars for the past five years, culminating at last year's Big East championships where the Wildcats edged their way into first. "We figured it would be a close race," said junior Susan Murnane. "We knew we had to run well to win. We did."

Mark Carroll '95 again established himself as one of the best competitors in the nation.

One reason the Lady Friars had been unable to down Villanova was the seeming invincibility of Villanova's Jennifer Ryne. The individual NCAA champion a year ago and the only harrier that kept former Friar great Amy Rudolph from the national championship, McMahon made up for that.

The pair went out with the lead handoff, then separated from the pack and went head-to-head at the mile mark. McMahon won the race at the two mile mark, smoking through the last mile and finishing in 17:04.

"It was the first time I've ever beaten her, so it was nice to prove that she's beatable," noted McMahon. When I came back in September, I just wanted to be in good shape before the NCAA's;" continued the Ennistymon, Ireland native. "I never expected to beat the vincibility of Villanova's Jennifer Ryne."

"(Marie) beat the defending national champion Jennifer Ryne and beat her pretty convincingly," lauded Treacy. "So, certainly if all goes well for the rest of the season for her, we have to feel she has a shot in terms of the individual title at the NCAA's. Obviously Ryne is still going to be a factor. Amy (Rodolfo) beat her last year at Big East and she still came back and won NCAA's, so you have to keep that in mind."

Speaking of national championships, Mark Carroll is back and rust free. The Cork, Ireland native had the meet won as soon as the gun sounded, setting a feverish pace and breaking the spirits of the competition.

"Mark completely dominated, he had the race won at the mile mark," remarked Treacy. "He went out very fast, and the competition, pretty much, didn't want to take the gamble of going with him. They didn't want to throw away a chance at second place. So he was gone 100 meters clear at the mile mark. He just cruised the rest of the way."

"He looked a lot better then he did at New England's;" Treacy alluding to Carroll's previous meet. "He looked much more comfortable, for the New England race helped him and brought him along a lot. Now things definitely look good for the NCAA's and the CAA's and the NCAA's."

The first portion of Van Cortlandt Park is flat grass, good for the preliminary rounds. Then it gets dangerous, narrow, rocky, muddy and not a good time. Carroll wanted to save energy for the semi-finals. "The rest was fun. I did two weeks of workouts with Ray. I continued on page 5
by Mary M. Safhrey '97

"PC students'" thirst for knowledge is simply no more for just plain thirst... (and) thirst for other news ac-
demic institutions in this town, Brown and Risd*"

—Bob Kerr
Providence Journal Bulletin September 22, 1995

This is just another example of how the media in and around Providence seems to perceive us as a bunch of bumbling al-
ocoholics that really could care less about our academic futures. Other remarks made in this col-
umn claim we are detrimental to the community and that the closer a home is to the PC cam-
pus the more it goes down in value.

Why does the media have such a poor image of us? why when students cut their summer-
short and return to campus (a.k.a. Urban Action) to build an amphitheater in nearby Camden Field only one news channel feels the need to cover it, albeit only 50 seconds at the end of the newscast? Yet when a hand-
ful of students in the neighbor-
hood get out of harm all three channels as well as the newspa-
paper decide it should be the main story?

Mr. Edward J. Caron, Vice
President of Institutional Rela-
tions feels that negative news always receives more promi-
cent coverage than positive news, but at the same time there is much positive coverage com-
ing out about PC students.

"There was a front page story in the Sunday Journal and the focus was on PC students. There are positive things about PC that go on and we report those things that are brought to our attention. (However), we have to depend on student sources from the various or-
ganizations so we can be aware and promote it. Never have we been made aware of something positive and not reported it, Caron stated.

So what specifically is the school doing to improve our im-
age and get the positive word

out? We do so much for the community. Jobs that otherwise would not be available are in the Civic Center due to Friar bas-
tball. We are the Civic Center's main tenant, and if it was for us they would have to close down. Students volun-
teer their time at the local schools, hospitals, and day care centers to help those out who are less fortunate. Christmas in April, Habitat for Humanity and Camp Heartland are just a few of the service projects we take part in, and I have not even be-

en to touch the Fenston Cen-
ter and all the work they do.

Caron states this really is not news, at least not the news people in journalism are inter-
ested in. The school however, is trying to get this year to force the issue and develop a commu-

We know the truth about our school and about our fellow classmates. Yes, there are stu-
dents who are disruptive and destructive, but they are not the majority. Maybe we as a community could try to influence these rare students to try to monitor their behavior not only for their own sakes, but for ours as well.

The school holds an editorial conference with the top level

editors at The Providence Jour-

nal Bulletin every year to dis-
cuss what the students are do-
ing and their impact on the com-
munity. The school also writes Op-Ed pieces to reiterate all the good things that PC does for the community. Caron believes the reason this is not covered as much is because it is not con-

trroversial news.

Something that was done three years ago, and Caron hopes will happen again, was a focus group held with student leaders and top level officials from all the local media. "If we could help face student lead-
ers, ideally 10 or 12 students, discuss all the good that comes out of PC, either this semester or next, and not have it filtered through the administration. If you were to talk to alumni and alumnae that participated three years ago they will tell you it was a positive event."

The school also sends The Spectrum Digest, a huge news-
letter that highlights the contri-

butions of PC students and alumni to the community, not only here in Providence, but in their respective hometowns as well as to all influential leaders and organizations within the state. In addition, the school sends press releases to home-
town newspapers regarding ac-
complishments of the students here on campus and in the area.

Perhaps the most notorious problem concerning PC stu-
dents is our relations with the surrounding neighborhoods, es-

pecially the Elmhurst Commu-
unity Association. Steven P.
DeNuccio is the President of the Elmhurst Association. He feels the school is not doing enough to address the problem of drink-

ing and lawlessness in the com-

munity. He believes the school should have more of a commit-
ment to the neighborhood. In a letter to the Providence Provider Oct. 19, 1995 DeNuccio wrote that "Students feel they have only the right to drink and party and the college will ignore it and defend it." In a computer letter, Fr. J. Stuart McPhail, Vice President of Student Services, stated that since PC is in the midst of a resi-
dential neighborhood, even well intended consideration of students may irritate some neighbors

of noise and late night activi-
ties. He went on to say that it is not the schools com-

mitment to pretend it can elimi-
nate the problems in the neigh-
brhood, rather to do everything it can to reduce them.

Several years ago the school in conjunction with the Off-


Campus Residential Organiza-

tion (OCRO) published a news-
letter to inform the neighbors of what was going on. Peaceful Coexistence was published as ofter as three times a semester, but recently the length and fre-

quency of this newsletter has dimin-
ished. "We tried publishing one or two last year but they did not go over that well," commented Monica Vigerstol '96, President of OCRO. She went on to say that this year the club is having difficulties recruiting members and that the first two meetings sponsored by the club have been sparsely attended.

She also says, however, is doing other things to improve rela-
tions in the off-campus com-

munity. This weekend they are sponsoring a neighborhood clean-up with students helping to improve the neighborhoods where they live. Other activi-
ties include decorating the Oak-

land Ave. Senior Center during both the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

Vigerstol went on to say that she along with Caroline Ryan, Director of Off-Campus Hous-
ing, are putting together a letter and addressing it to all the resi-
dents in the Elmhurst Com-

munity who have complained about PC, and letting them know the school is aware of the problems, and is trying to cor-

rect them.

Caron stated that his office would be more than willing to help in the production of a

newsletter, similar to the one published in past years with their high-tech publications cap-

abilities. Vigerstol com-

mented this is something in which OCRO would be inter-

ested.

Do students feel the school is doing a good job in trying to help our image? Some students who I talked with said yes, but feel that some people outside the community still have a negative image of us. One stu-
dent who volunteers at Chad Brown said she feels as if they sometimes look at her as a rich, snobby college student who only drinks, and they don't ap-

preciate the work she is doing.

The bottom line is to make students aware of what the school is doing and what we can do to help bolster our image again in the community. We know the truth about our school and about our fellow class-

mates. Yes there are students who are disruptive and destruc-
tive, but they are not the major-

ity. Maybe we as a community could try to influence these rare students to try to monitor their behavior not only for their own sakes, but for ours as well.

Finally, there was a letter to the editor in the Oct. 20 issue of The Providence Journal Bul-

letin, written by Mr. Domenic J. Antonelli, reprinted below, that sums up not only the value of most of PC students in the neighborhood, but also, and per-
haps more importantly their character. I wonder if Mr. Kerr ever thinks about that:

"At a lifetime resident of the Providence College area for 17 years, an incident inspired me to write the Providence Journal. With all the political hoopla re-
suing PC students living in the neighborhood, I feel I should put my two cents in.

Recently, I lost my wallet with a substantial amount of cash in it. I backtracked the area and assumed that I would never find it. Later on that evening, a police security officer notified me that a student found my wallet and money and re-

turned it anonymously to the office. This student exemplifies the quality of the PC student body. I just pray that the people who gripe, moan and groan about the students are as hun-

ter.

You're doing a great job, keep up the good work!"