

PC Students Continue to Make a Difference!

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1995

The Cowl

Special Issue

Providence College - Providence, Rhode Island

November, 1995

From the Editor

We are so honored to help put together the *Second Annual Community Service Issue* of the Providence College student newspaper, *The Cowl*. Last year's editor, Kristen Gariepy, 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* staff members who put in the time 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 inter-

disciplinary academic major and minor; to make community service part of the lesson plan in courses throughout the College's curriculum; to stimulate study and reflection on public service and community; and to promote stronger ties be-

tween 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 various community service projects, usually

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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 Camaron, 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 Olohan, 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 racer. 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 lives, and parked his bike in front of the chapel for a moment, as he took the time to feed his faithful squirrels. He happened to notice three young kids playing in the grass, but never gave it a second thought as he went in search of his favorite squirrel - Regina. He found her behind St. Dominic House, and returned to Guzman a 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 Olohan 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 \$430.00 for the new bicycle. All of the students were so generous that there was no need to venture to the other Halls or to the off-campus apartments. With their earnings, as well as

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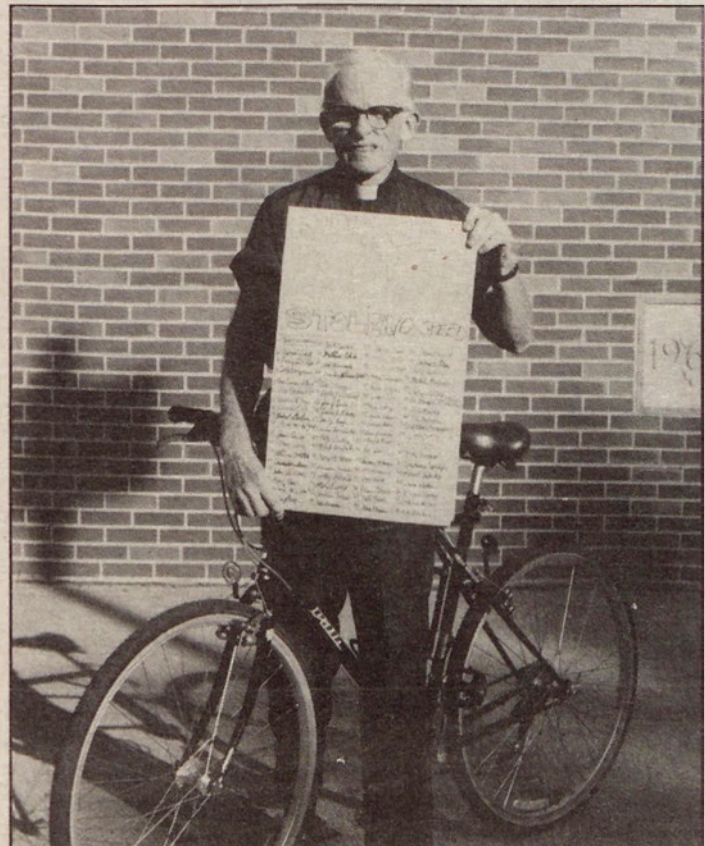


photo by Carey Capone '96

Fr. Fergus zips around campus on his new GT-Hybrid

2000: A City Year Odyssey

by Michael Sablone '98
A&E Writer

While most college students, if given the choice, would rather sleep late and gripe about work, 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 that 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 not because you have to, but because you want to.

Unfortunately, in this day and age, nothing is free. Since City Year is a not 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 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 date was Saturday October 21, 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 Station 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 calisthenics 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 skies 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 on more because of it," commented Leah McLean '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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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 some 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.

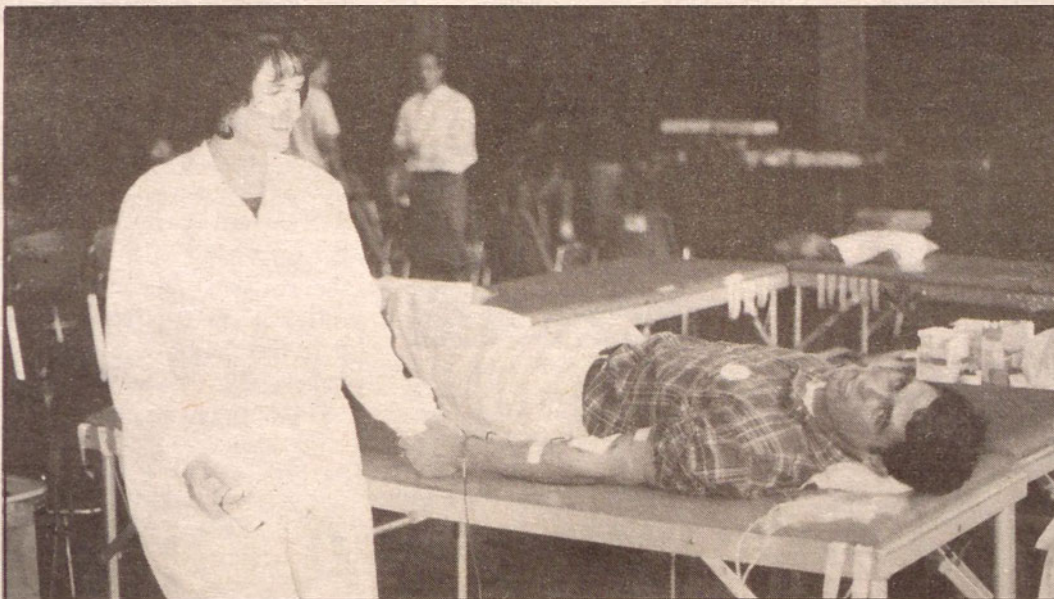


photo courtesy of The Cowl archives

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

Sober Evenings at Stuart's

Alcohol-free social nights in Stuart's, the on-campus entertainment facility, encourage students to find alternative, fun activities 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 Residence Life, SOAR, and S.T.E.P.I.

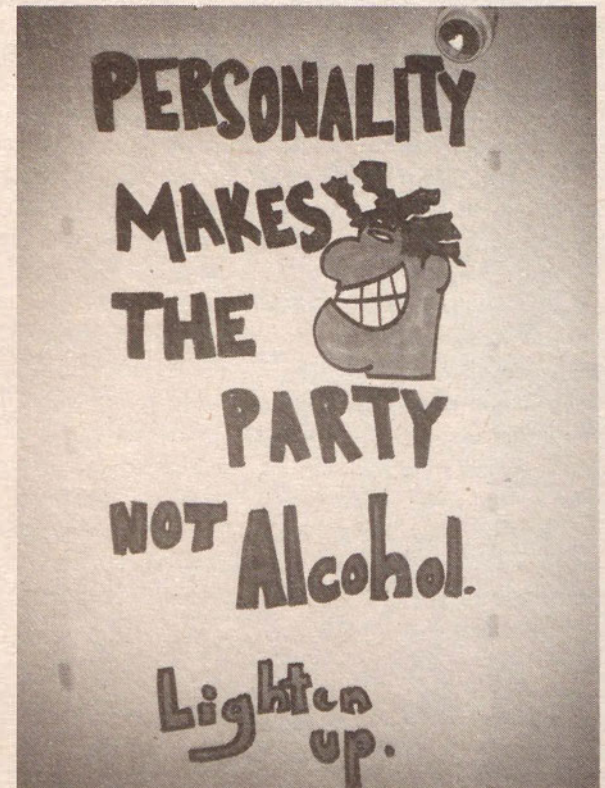


photo courtesy of Residence Life

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 best provide.

In any case, great work. Thanks.

Solidarity,

Forrest Gander, Professor of English

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?

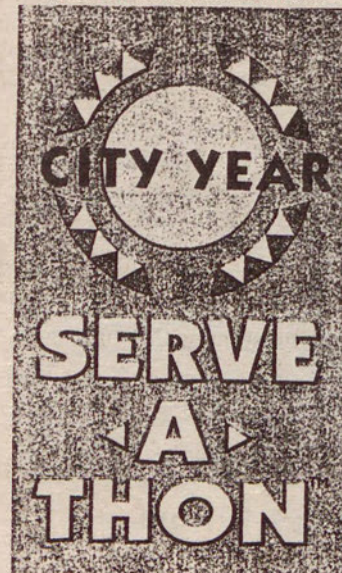
City Year

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"As we were cutting down some high brush, a man came out of his home 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, coordinator 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.

The Cowl

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Urban Action Speaks Louder Than Words

by Mike Sullivan '97
Editorials Writer

Every year for the past five years Urban Action has given Providence College freshmen 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.

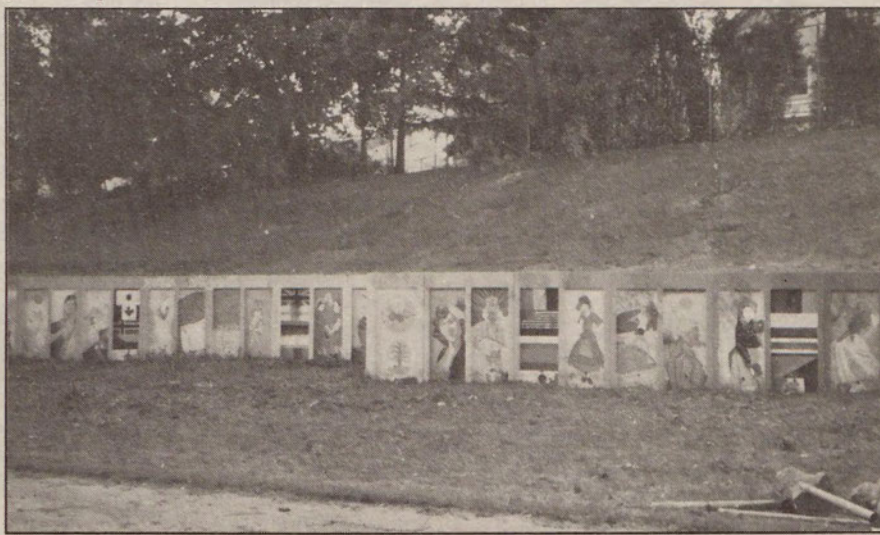
The groups are given work assignments, usually in the form of manual labor, throughout the city. Last year a couple of groups worked with another program, Habitat for Humanity, in clearing a lot on which a house had burned down several years ago. They also dug the foundation ditches for a new house. 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. Park near 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 Yeomans, who is a senior leader along with Pat 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."



Participants got two views of Camden Avenue Park: before and after

photos courtesy of Mike Sullivan '97

Janovitz's 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

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

singer of the band Rhino. Rhino is currently riding the wave of success, as they recently opened for Cold Water Flat and The Bogmen. Is it easy to find time for the band? Says Scott, "If it was just school, my intern-

form. So I see it best to keep a good balance of everything."

Scott certainly has his act together inside the classroom as well. He has just completed forming his own major. Scott is a Communications major

"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."

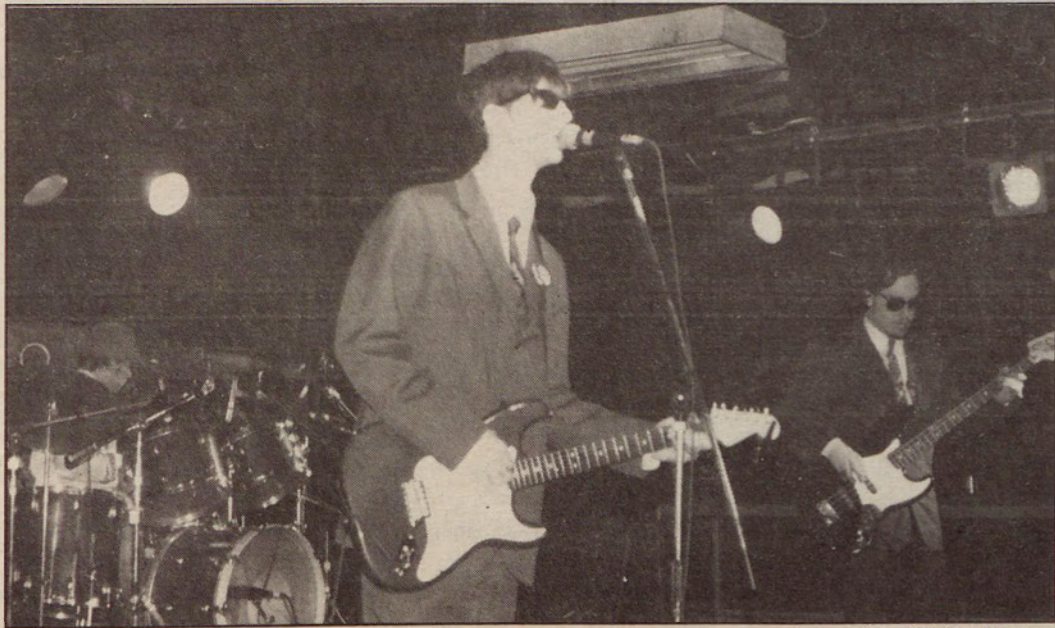


photo courtesy of The Cowl archives

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,

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

and the Vice President for Rorschach Theater. This year Scott continues to work for WDOM as a DJ.

As if all this were not enough, Scott is also the lead

ship, and my job, I think things would be easy since those are all steady things. However, the band is such an unstable thing that life tends to get real hectic. It gets hard to coordinate between the other band members as to when we want to practice and performing shows with very little notice."

Scott continues, "I try not to make one thing a priority over another. If I have a major exam on one day, and we have to skip a practice, then I'll do it but the result will be that we won't be as sharp the next time we per-

with a minor in Business Studies. Says Scott, "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 amount of experience 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 30th at the Prime Time Cafe.

Marta Makuc: Making a Difference

by Pieter J. Ketelaar '97
Sports Writer

If you are looking for a bright spot in the Providence College community that embodies practically all of the beliefs imparted to the college by the Dominican Friars, look no further than Marta Makuc.

Marta, a member of the Class of '97, is the epitome of an individual that makes a difference in the community around her. She is involved in numerous campus activities, namely Campus Ministry, the Pastoral Service Organization, the Pep Band, the Wind Ensemble, S.A.A.D., and intramural sports (soccer and frisbee), all the while managing to hold down a sparkling 3.392 grade point average.

"I guess maybe I do too much," Marta said facetiously, "but I wouldn't know what to do without these things in my life."

Marta's work-study job is an important one. As Sacristan for the chapels on campus she prepares for masses on the weekends and takes care of the chapel.

"Marta is very important to what we do here," remarked Father Barranger, "I don't know how she does it. She is totally dedicated and I tend to think that sometimes she does too much. I think her most important work is as Sacristan. It involves lots of constant, steady, behind-the-scenes work that is not glamorous to say the least. It's not something that is recognized either. It would not be an easy job to find someone to re-

place her. She is very dependable. If you want something to happen, you ask Marta."

In addition to her work as Sacristan, Marta does many other things within Campus Ministry. She is involved with the PC For Life group, she helps with the Special Olympics, the Haitian Project, and Habitat For Humanity. She is the Chair of the Lectors and is responsible for getting people to read the scripture and announcements at mass on the weekends. She works with a Scripture group, discussing the readings for each week, and the Faith and Life group. She also functions as the Treasurer for the Pastoral Service Organization on campus.

She plays the trombone in the Pep Band at various sporting events for Providence College and even found time to work as a team leader on the Faith Encounter retreat the weekend of November 17 - 19. In addition to that she also was responsible for organizing the trip to see the Pope during his visit to the United States. She got the tickets through the Diocese of Providence and booked the buses to New York.

"It was an awesome experience," claims Marta, "It was a little cold and wet when we got there but it was well worth it."

Marta points to her strong family upbringing as being key to her role in the community.

"My family is very important to me. I guess that's where I learned to be responsible."

Marta is the second youngest of seven children (five brothers and one sister) and she is very proud of her fifteen month

old niece Gabriella, or "Gabi", whom everyone who knows Marta has heard about.

Marta believes, "God won't give you anything you can't handle. I put my faith and trust in God. I get my strength from God to do everything with love, his love."

Fr. Barranger commented,

idea to have a trip to go see the Pope. Without Marta, that trip would have never happened. She is, in every sense of the word, part of the fabric of Campus Ministry. She's so involved with what we do here that I, and most people here, consider her almost part of the staff. She is a pretty selfless person and I

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

"I met her the first week I was here two years ago and I see her in here every day, 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 environment. We know we can depend on Marta in every sense of the word."

"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. What she does 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."

In an age where nice guys finish last, money grubbing politicians corrupt society, and the almighty dollar is king, it's comforting to know that there are people like Marta in the world who give of themselves freely in so many different and tangible ways. She is truly a shining light for the Providence College community.

Feinstein Public Service Major

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in the neighborhoods surrounding the college. However, most students find that the service becomes something they love to do, rather than just a requirement. Sarah Antonello '98 is helping children at the Chad Ad Sun Community Center publish a newsletter for neighborhoods serviced by the center. "I'm given an opportunity to take initiative and do things on my own that can really make a difference," Antonello says. She is enrolled in the Community Service in American Culture class. "If it wasn't part of my class, I would do it anyway."

Rebecca Dunphey '97 agrees. A Public Service major, she volunteers at FACTS, the Family AIDS Center for Treatment and Support. There, she cares for infants affected by AIDS. "When a child leaves, it's sad to see them go because you know you may never see them again." But it is definitely worth it. "The children are so willing to be loved. Although they probably never remember us, you know that they're getting love from you," she adds.

Many people ask what a Public Service major will do after they graduate. Meg Stoltzfus, Community Service Coordinator, says that the skills and hands-on experience gained from the program can help in many professions; PC graduates of the Class of '95 with Public Service experience are currently working for non-profit organizations, getting involved in government and politics, and attending law and medical schools. Also, students are given the opportunity to design

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

Bill Ewell '97, a double major 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 the summer of 1994. He believes that sometime in the future all students will take a Public Service class since it coincides so well with the mission statement of the college.

Most PC Public Service students work with children, especially those living in neighborhoods near the College. Sam Tombarelli '96, a Public Service minor, is a tutor at Camden Avenue Elementary School, where he works first-hand with the students, helping them with schoolwork. Ewell does much the same with the Esek Hopkins Afterschool Program. There, special programs for the students such as computer classes, student council, art, and athletics as well as tutoring services are staffed by PC students.

Marybeth Murphy '98 volunteers at the Smith Hill Daycare Center, where there are preschool and kindergarten programs for children between the ages of three and five. "I feel like I'm doing something that really matters," she says of her work there.

Stoltzfus says that most community service is done with children because it is easier to have a huge impact with kids in a relatively short time. "Most

programs with adults need to be more long-term," she acknowledges. Two students who work with adults are John Carchedi '98 and Nicki Prindeville '98. They volunteer at Travelers' Aid, which helps homeless people. "It's not a soup kitchen, not a shelter, but it provides everything else," says Carchedi, who is taking an ethics class. He has been working mainly with distributing clothing to those in need. "It really opens your eyes," he says. "They are all hardworking people who have fallen on hard times and Travelers' Aid is trying to help them get back on their feet."

Experiences such as these are at the core of the Feinstein Institute's mission. The classroom 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 apply what they have learned in class to their individual service projects. Rick Battistoni says that the community service adds "an enhanced experience that they just wouldn't get in the classroom." Not only that, but the students seem to come away from their service with a different feeling about themselves. "I feel like I'm really making a difference," says Antonello. This feeling seems to resonate throughout the entire program. As Alan Shawn Feinstein himself said, the program is devoted to making "public and community service a noble undertaking - to show our youth that there's nothing finer than dedicating their lives to helping others."

Fr. Fergus

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

bike!" He also comments that he is overwhelmed by the generosity of the students. He feels that although so many negative things are often heard about PC, this is one example of how a

... 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 floored and could not stop grinning.

Seven months later, as Father zips around campus on his new GT-Hybrid, he hears comments such as, "What a snazzy

positive thing can result from everyone pulling together. He is very involved with the PC community and is always making an effort to meet the students and be their friend. He makes himself accessible and approachable to everyone, and his bike helps serve his purpose to be more involved.

"The Peace of Christ"

by Amy Rodrigues '97
Editorials Writer

Nowadays, you cannot pick up a newspaper, a magazine, or watch the evening news without witnessing the presence and drastic effect that violence has in our lives. However, around the world and here at PC there are many people striving 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 other campus 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 Burre, the chairperson of Pax Christi, explains that "Pax Christi's focus is to recognize 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 fo-

cuses on are racism, sexism, war, rights of the oppressed, nuclear disarmament, 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 Slavin 211.

CROSS COUNTRY SWEEPS BIG EAST

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was very relaxed. I could have run much faster."

After Carroll (24:30) and Healy (24:56) crossed, co-captain Andy Wedlake earned 10th (25:16), again claiming that Providence has the best front three of any school in the US. Super freshman Ben Noad snared 14th (25:30), and senior Jose Libano placed 22nd (25:48) to round out the scoring.

right there.

"Krissy just responded magnificently to the challenge. She got stuck in there with Moira and Susan and just refused to let go. She got a very high placing out of it."

The spark plug for the men's team was freshmen Noad. In his first major collegiate race, and under tough conditions, Noad was unimpressed, but impressive.

"Ben ran an amazing race,"



photo by Michael Sablone '98

Marie McMahon '97 lead the Big East Women

Then drove of Friars followed, with Carl Mauro (27th, 25:56), Michael Donnelly (31st, 26:02), Steve Myers (36th, 26:08), 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.

For the women, picture of consistency Maria McCambridge ran to a quality fourth place (17:38). Murnane, fully recovered from a mid season bout with the flu, placed eighth (17:51). Krissy Haacke (11th, 18:07) and co-captain Moira Harrington (13th, 18:10).

The unsung hero of the meet was Haacke, who stepped up in the absence of co-captain Meghan McCarthy, a pre-race scratch.

"Krissy responded very well to the fact that Meghan wouldn't be running," praised Treacy. "Meghan pulled out the morning of the race because she had a sore I.T. band and we didn't want to take the chance on the course because it was very mucky and slippery. We didn't want to take the chance that she would end her season

lauded Healy. "He really pulled it out when we needed it most."

This was an important race for Ray Treacy and his teams. This has been the meet the kids have been aiming for since summer, and the work, the miles, aches, pains, Advils, and time constraints paid off. One other thing, the National Championships are less than three weeks away, and these squads have set themselves up well.

"To us the Big East is second in importance to the NCAA's," said Treacy. "We consider it more important than the ECAC's and the IC4A's. We wanted to win the conference title. The school hasn't won one yet, they are the first two this year. Especially with thirteen teams in the conference now, it was the first cross country championship with the expanded conference. It's nice to win."

"And it sets us up nicely for the rest of the season," continued the Friar mentor. "We've only got three weeks to go till NCAA's now and we're on top of our game. All we got to do now is try and keep them healthy and don't do anything stupid."

PSO - Pretty Special Organization

by Pam Marchant '96
Features Writer

For years, the Pastoral Service Organization (formerly Pastoral Council) has provided service opportunities at PC for any student interested in helping their community. As this year's PSO president, I am proud to be a part of a group that touches the community through their kindness and generosity.

The PSO is an extension of the Chaplain's Office/Campus Ministry Office. Along with the Campus Ministry Committees, a group of students 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 Providence Schools (VIPS) tutor elementary and high school age students, while volunteers for Habitat for Humanity build houses in an effort to break the cycle of poverty. The PSO Social Justice committee has volunteers performing many acts of service including "adopting"

a grandparent, assisting at two local soup kitchens, and playing with the children at McAuley Village.

PSO volunteers also work towards AIDS awareness at FACTS (Family AIDS Center for Treatment and 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.

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 PC proud. Without its volunteers, the PSO would cease to exist. The PSO is also fortunate to

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

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 food drives, and Skip-A-Meal's, as well as our annual Senior Citizen's Dinner.

PSO volunteers become tutors to and friends with adults with mental retardation through our Adult Literacy program, and to Spanish-speaking UNICCO

have chairpeople of each committee who are dedicated to their own projects and to the PSO as a whole. They give of themselves unselfishly and make an extra effort to see that all runs smoothly.

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

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 1993 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 "Angelie'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

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 every-

sonally. 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 4565 N. Green Bay Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53209.



photo courtesy of Matt Potter

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

life at any other summer camp. The only difference is that certain children have to take medication(s) at specific times during the day.

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 per-

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Students Make Helping a Habit

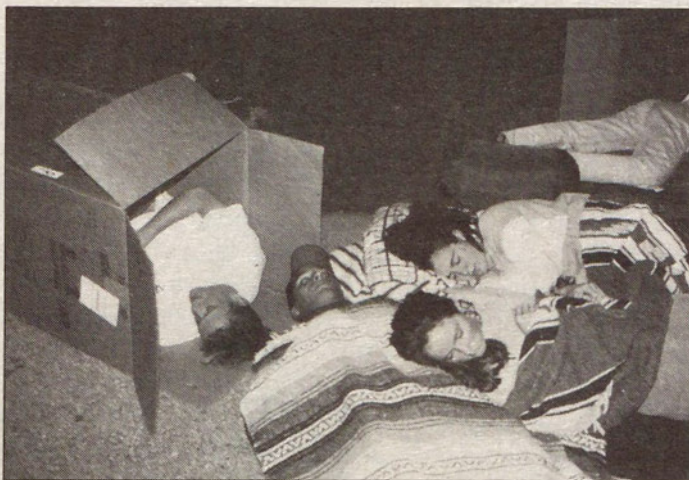
by Michelle Boozang '97
News Writer

Both of these articles have previously appeared in The Cowl, but we felt the merited a reprinting! Enjoy!

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 Hanz and Franz from Saturday Night Live all cooperated with Jesus, who became the human foundation, upon which the others joined in molding 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



by Heather Deware

Students simulated substandard housing conditions

frisbee, and enjoyed the chance to talk through the night. Yet they did not forget the 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 to 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 any 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 comforts 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 the Shack City night was important in drawing more students in to help the outreach program.

The organization does much more to raise money, including fundraising for the alternative spring break trips to different areas on the east coast that are in need of the aid which Habitat for Humanity provides. Last year, the club worked hard to raise money to send 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 effort. 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."

Alternative Spring Break

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, 81 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 nails and power tools, to the food and labor; PC students are fundraising some expenses of the trip through donations from 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 PSO 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 Begansky '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."

More Student Shows in 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. Catharine of Siena Hall. Shows, such as Satre's No Exit performed last Spring, have been limited in terms of lighting, stage and audience space, acoustics, and overall technology. 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, 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 pilot 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 to construction to costume, 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 Friars Cell are able to approach him with any concerns they may have or have or 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 1&2..... 8 pm
December 3 2 pm

For ticket information call 865-2218

The Value of Service

by Beth Danesco '96
Editorials Writer

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 Amanda, 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. These cases present Labao with 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 FACTS, an organization helping babies with AIDS. Her involvement in FACTS allowed Labao 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 in the summer of 1995. The trip, sponsored by Rostra De Christo, sent

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.'" Labao has taken that

"... 'work hard, do your best, and if you have time, don't waste it, take advantage of every opportunity'..."

fifteen PC volunteers to Ecuador for ten days to build schools, visiting hospitals, work at soup kitchens, and most importantly, 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

advice, and from all those opportunities, she sees that she has received much more than she's given.

"I get so much out of it. I learn so much, and I mean life knowledge. If I didn't do these things, I would have lost so much. And," laughs Labao, "I think I'd be a pretty boring person."

As it is, Labao is anything but boring. "She's very caring,"

says Amanda, the fifth grader who Jody has been spending time with for the past two years as part of the Big Sister/Little Sister program. Amanda knows first hand. She and Jody get together every week and do things like hang out, talk and have fun. Again, Jody feels like she's getting more than she's giving.

"It's not like I'm 'giving up' my time, she gives to me, too. She's wonderful. I think of her as my own sister. She's one of my friends. Amanda cracks me up!"

Jody Labao will graduate from PC in May, to pursue social work and to focus on "having a positive impact" on the lives of the kids and teenagers with whom she would like to work. She will graduate knowing she is far more than the sum of all the activities listed on her resume. She will go out into the world knowing she's a composite of the knowledge, experiences, and lessons of all the people she's reached out to and learned from in these past four years. Perhaps the most important thing Jody Labao has learned at PC is the true value of service.

Students Serve In Ecuador

by Colleen Pappas '99
News Writer

"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

"We learned so much from the people, just to see how happy they were, even though they had nothing."

trip, which was organized with the help of the Campus Ministry and the Rosto de Christo mission, lasted from June 28 - July 7.

"The St. James Society," explained Rogue, "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, carwashes, 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 Cammardo '97 agreed, "The people were just so friendly and warm and welcoming." In Duran the students volunteered at a daycare center, taught young schoolchildren, worked at soup kitchens and visited a leprosy hospital. on the trip to the leprosy hospital sophomore Patricia Monroe remarked, "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 Mon-



photo courtesy of Sr. Annette Desmarais

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

roe 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 Cammardo recalled, "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 they need so much help, but I wouldn't say they need much help- maybe financially they did, but spiritually they were the greatest."

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

lar events were face painting and pin the stem on the pumpkin. Other party goers spent their time making their own Halloween decorations. The kids were encouraged to bring their projects home to decorate for Halloween. Most of the kids created scary patches of pump-

kin. Other party goers spent their time making their own Halloween decorations. The kids were encouraged to bring their projects home to decorate for Halloween. Most of the kids created scary patches of pump-

Things like the Halloween party are a great chance to spend time with kids and have fun too," she stated in between painting ghosts and pumpkins on the children's faces.

Meanwhile, on the other side of Sidelines, many of the kids found some difficulty in pinning the stem on the pumpkin, but nonetheless, they all tried their hardest and succeeded in having a great time.

Once all the events of the day were finished, it was time for the kids to be subject to the scary ghost stories of PC students.

Finally, the moment came that all the children had been waiting for. It was "trick or treat" time. The kids must have all been really good, because none of them received tricks and all got treats. They were treated to juice and cookies and got little bags of candy to take home with them.

Casey was happy to see that the party turned out to be such a success. The party, which has taken place the past two years, will now be an annual event sponsored by the Pastoral Service Organization.

kins.

Jen Fusaro '96 was one of the Providence College students

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

whose job was to paint faces. She said that she enjoys spending some of her time with the



photo courtesy of The Cowl archives

Jen Fusaro '96 helped with the face painting at last year's party

Events and Social Justice Committees of Pastoral Service. The party was held after school in Sidelines in Slavin Center.

Martha Casey '96 of the Special Events Committee greeted the children as they raced into Sidelines. The area was decorated with black white orange streamers, balloons, and witches, ghosts, ghouls, and goblins lingered suspiciously on the walls.

The students from the two committees made sure that the kids had plenty to keep them occupied. The two most popu-

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

by Robin L. Erickson '97
News Writer

The Friars Club provides many services to students, administration, 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 Commencement Week, Parents Weekend, and Alumni events are just some of the activities members participate in. The Friars Club was founded in 1928 to act as ambassadors of PC and promote any and all PC events and programs. The members of the Club are a big part of PC life and do a lot more than just give tours. They are also very active in service within the PC community, at places such as the Amos House - a local soup kitchen, and Ronald McDonald House - a house for the families of sick children. Every week, a group of Friars volunteer to spend a couple of hours at each of these sites, doing whatever needs to be done. Since service is the main focus of the Friars Club, it is taken very seriously and the

members are extremely dedicated to this cause.

"The Friar's Club is a unique organization because it brings together good friends who are dedicated to the mission of the school and community service," said Lauren Varian '96, Friar's Club President.

Hockey games, Lady Friars' Basketball games, and Blackfriars Theater productions are other events that Friars Club members volunteer their time for. Keep in mind that they are not paid a penny for their many services to the school. The Club is doing this out of their loyalty and dedication to PC. Every member is elected to the Club because it is felt they will contribute much to the Club and the PC community. They make the many sacrifices of themselves for the Club, such as giving a last-minute tour for a busload of prospective students, or not seeing their parents on Parents Weekend because it is their responsibility to work at it.

The Club consists of sixty-six members and new students are elected in February to replace the graduating Friars. The moderator of the Club is Brother Kevin O'Connell's with his Dalmatian "Friar" (who just turned three!) as the mascot. President Lauren Varian '96 is assisted at the weekly meetings by Vice President John Russnok '96, Treasurer Sean Gagnon '96, Sergeant-at-Arms Shameem Awan '96, and Secretary Kavita Avula '96.

The Evolution of an Artist

by Asher Schofield '96
Features Writer

It's a big world. The longer you live in it, the more you realize that it's also loaded up with millions of people who all approach their lives differently. A small percentage of them are artists.

Pete Mitchell is a second semester junior at this school. He's a Caucasian man of medium height and medium build with a long pony-tail and sideburns. He's an art major and initially he wasn't too driven to attend Providence College, however, the fact that his mom works here, making his tuition free, understandably convinced him that PC was the choice for him. He was born in Providence, and from there he moved through many other places around the country. His father was in the Airforce, and his family followed with him from base to base, until they wound up buying a house and settling back in Rhode Island, this time

Scituate, where Pete went to High School and currently resides. His parents became the first in either of their families to leave the area, go out on their own, and then the first to come

disaster struck. He got booted out of school. Even though tuition was free, Pete still had to pay for his room and board, which he fell behind in. He couldn't enroll for classes again

"For me, art is the process of growing and remembering everything that you experience, but moving on from each event."

home and actually own their own house and not continue to rent lousy apartments in the Providence area.

It was half of the way through his junior year, while cultivating his artistic talents, striving to get good grades, and working at Burger King, when

until his debt was paid off.

In a really spontaneous move, Pete moved down to Florida with his buddy, Neil. Completely penniless, he paid for his journey with his credit card. He stayed there for about six months, going through seven jobs, doing his artwork

like a madman and selling a few pieces as well. On his return home, it was either "go back to working at Burger King or go back to school at PC" His distaste for the fast food industry led him to choose the latter.

Asher: Have the experiences that you've had in your life influenced the way that you look at your art?

Pete: Well, people would always tell me that art was one thing. Like painting. Or drawing. Or film. Its always seemed to me that growing is a process of forgetting things. I think that at the age of five or six, a person is at their creative peak. And as you get older, those creative desires get clouded over by conformity, by the urge to get money. Like parents telling their kid to be a lawyer. It's the atrophy of creativity. For me, art is the process of growing and remembering everything that you experience, but moving on from each event.

Asher: So, in order to be an artist, you can't forget your childhood?

Pete: Yeah. In fact, I think that if you could take the best qualities of being an adult and the best qualities of being a child and integrated them, then you would have the perfect artist. The commitment of an adult combined with the wonder, excitement, and open-eyed curiosity of a kid.

Pete thinks of himself not as "a static thing just moving through life," but a process or a development. As we talked, Pete pointed out the works of Picasso and Pollock. Picasso did wonderful, realistic figure drawings before he advanced to his more commonly known abstract stuff. Pollock used to do beautiful landscapes before he got into his splattering paint style. "For art to be successful, the artist must go through stages with it. Right now, RISD teaches students abstract art before teaching them how to draw realistically. In this way, they are not abstracting reality, they are abstracting nothing. Life is the same as art. You have to

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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 repairing 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 160 tires, painted a local school gym, and planted flowers throughout the neighborhood. Many of these volunteers were Providence College students, who donated their time to repair 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, 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 Healy '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 homeowner 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



photo courtesy of The Cowl archives

Last year Louise Mauro and a group of dedicated students brought the program to PC

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 Christmas in April Committee 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

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evolve throughout it in different stages or else you will never achieve what you want." Pete feels that with every period in your life, you have grown since the last and will grow before reaching the next. I wondered how he thought that his approach to art had changed since his first stint at PC.

Asher: How has your approach to art changed since your first stint at PC?

Pete: When I was first studying here, I was doing my art in preparation for a career. Other than that I was only doing it because it was personally gratifying. Now I look at the art that I do as just being an inevitable part of me. The only career for me now is being a Pete. Now I want to put messages out to people and teach.

Pete sees language as a flawed form of communication. Words can be misconstrued and misunderstood. Racism, sexism, and other forms of biases

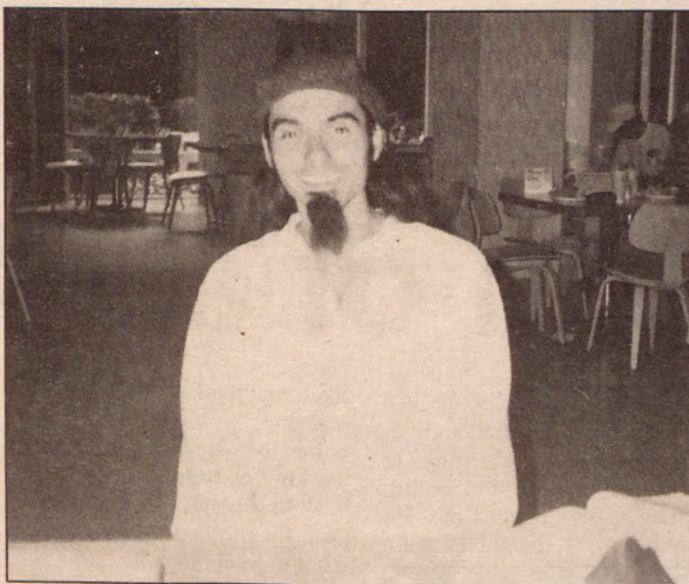


photo by Kaitie Honerkamp

The Artist Himself

are often a product of misunderstandings.

"As an artist, I feel lucky to be able to help communicate to people," Pete Mitchell says. Through his work, he would like to create an awareness for those who see it. A "self-intro-

spection." Pete wants to make a change in the way things work and will do so with the subtly powerful voice of art. For as he sees it, life is like art and art is like life, and by using their connection, he can improve one so as to change the other.



by pete mitchell

Acceptance for All

by Kristen Matineau '98
Editorials Writer

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

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 Harkins 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 schol-

arship 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 minorities and is about two years old.

Dean Comissioning 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 where the Providence College Chapter of Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) comes into play.

The Providence College Chapter for Exceptional Children is comprised of a fine 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."

CEC 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. Another activity was a workshop with PC Pals in which CEC presented simulation activities that included being hearing impaired, visually impaired, and handicapped. Both volunteers and students of PC Pals participated in this 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 and attended conven-

tions 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 cerebral palsy. 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 holiday party at Hasbro Hospital, a fundraiser for Camp Heartland, bringing students from the Trudeau Center bowling, and a wheelchair basketball game against the Roadrunners (a wheelchair basketball team) are all bright hopes being planned by CEC.

CEC, although a 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!

CEC tries to reach out to PC students and the surrounding elementary schools to open their eyes to the exceptionalities they encounter everyday

PC Sweeps Big East Championships

by John Carchedi '98
Sports Writer

In the middle of the Bronx, amid the mud 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's 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 faster.

The Lady Friars' 37 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 white tallied 50 points, and had 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 ranked 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."



photo by Michael Sablone '98

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

One reason the Lady Friars had been unable to down Villanova was the seeming invincibility of Wildcat Jennifer Rynes, 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 handful, 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

pions, 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 in control. Obviously the New England race helped him and brought him along a lot. Now things definitely look good for the IC4A's and the NCAA's."

The first portion of Van Cortlandt Park is flat grass, spanning the perimeter of a field. Then it gets dangerous, narrow, rocky, muddy, hilly and not a good time. Carroll wanted to win this race on the field, and he executed perfectly. "I was a different athlete this week (opposed to the New England's)," admitted Carroll. "The rust was gone. I did two weeks of workouts with Ray. I

Speaking of national cham-

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When It Comes to PC's Image, Perception is Everything

by Mary M. Sahffrey '97
News Editor

"(PC students') thirst for knowledge is simply no match for just plain thirst.... (and) there are only two purely academic 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 alcoholics that really could care less about our academic futures. Other remarks made in this column claim we are detrimental to the community and that the closer a home is to the PC campus 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 amphitheatre 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 handful of students in the neighborhood get out of hand all three channels as well as the newspaper decide it should be the main story?

Mr. Edward J. Caron, Vice President of Institutional Relations feels that negative news always receives more prominent coverage than positive news, but at the same time there is much positive coverage coming 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 organizations 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 image 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 basketball. We are the Civic Center's main tenant, and if it wasn't for us they would have to close down. Students volunteer 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 begun to touch the Feinstein Center and all the work they do.

Caron states this really is not news, at least not the news people in journalism are interested in. The school however, is going to try this year to force the issue and develop a community profile that will highlight the collective work that is done on campus, whether it be by faculty or students, and they are going to distribute it to every opinion leader in the state. Other colleges have attempted this, and Caron hopes it will be a success.

The school holds an editorial conference with the top level

editors at *The Providence-Journal Bulletin* every year to discuss what the students are doing and their impact on the community. 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 controversial 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. "I would like to see student leaders, 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 newsletter that highlights the contributions 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 hometown newspapers regarding accomplishments of the students here on campus and in the area.

Perhaps the most notorious problem concerning PC students is our relations with the surrounding neighborhood, especially the Elmhurst Community Association. Steven P. DeNuccio is the President of the Elmhurst Association. He feels the school is not doing enough to address the problem of drinking and lawlessness in the community. He believes the school should have more of a commitment to the neighborhood. In a letter to the *Providence Visitor* Oct. 19, 1995 DeNuccio wrote that "Students feel they have right to drink and party and the college will ignore it and defend it." In a counter letter, Fr. J. Stuart McPhail, Vice President of Student Services, stated that since PC is in the midst of a residential neighborhood, even well intentioned considerate students may irritate some neighbors

because of noise and late night activities. He went on to say that it is not the schools commitment to pretend it can eliminate the problems in the neighborhood, rather to do everything it can to reduce them.

Several years ago the school in conjunction with the Off-

***Students
volunteer their
time at the local
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and day
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help out those
who are less
fortunate.***

Campus Residential Organization (OCRO) published a newsletter to inform the neighbors of what was going on. *Peaceful Coexistence* was published as often as three times a semester, but recently the length and frequency of this newsletter has diminished. "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 difficulty recruiting members and that the first two meetings sponsored by the club have been sparsely attended.

The club, however, is doing other things to improve relations in the off-campus community. This weekend they are sponsoring a neighborhood cleanup with students helping to improve the neighborhoods where they live. Other activities include decorating the Oakland Ave. Senior Center during both the Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

Vigerstol went on to say that she along with Caroline Ryan, Director of Off-Campus Housing, are putting together a letter and addressing it to all the residents in the Elmhurst Community who have complained about PC, and letting them know the school is aware of the problems, and is trying to correct 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 capabilities. Vigerstol commented this is something in which OCRO would be interested.

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 student 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 appreciate 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 within the community. We know the truth about our school and about our fellow classmates. Yes there are students 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.

Finally, there was a letter to the editor in the Oct. 20 issue of *The Providence Journal Bulletin*, 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 perhaps more importantly their character. I wonder if Mr. Kerr ever thinks about that?

"As a lifetime resident of the Providence College area for 37 years, an incident inspired me to write the Providence Journal. With all the political hoopla regarding PC students and the neighborhood, I felt 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 polite security officer notified me that a student found my wallet and money and returned 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 honest."

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