

The Cowl



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"Welcome to the Renaissance"

TDF's *Something Rotten!* a Fresh Take on a Broadway Hit



Above: Nolan Donato '22, Daniel Jameson '21, and Ensemble.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GABRIELLE MARKS/PROVIDENCE COLLEGE TDF

Below (L to R): Michael Henshaw '23, Steven Sawan '20, and Teddy Kiritsy '21G.



by Madison Palmieri '22
A&E Staff

THEATRE

Something Rotten! is something special. Providence College's Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film has been granted the privilege and honor of giving the show its northeastern regional collegiate premiere this past weekend.

The production offers something for everyone, from casual theatregoers to diehard fans of Shakespeare, who will be sure to catch every one of the many theatrical references made throughout the show's two acts.

For the past couple of months, the talented cast and dedicated crew have worked tirelessly to bring the Tony Award-winning Broadway hit to life in the Angell BlackFriars Theatre in the Smith Center for the Arts.

Directed by Jimmy Calitri, with music direction by Lila Kane and choreography by Jennifer Hopkins, the show chronicles the misadventures of the Bottom brothers, Nick and Nigel. It follows their attempts to create a successful show in Renaissance-era England, in an attempt to compete with their rival, the beloved William Shakespeare. With a colorful cast of characters and outrageously hilarious musical numbers, the brothers and their friends learn about the importance of friendship, love, and theatre.

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UNDERTHEHOOD

Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

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Women Making Big Strides in Science

Dr. Amanda Lynch and Ava Calle '12 Speak at Women in STEM Event

by Alexandra Huzyk '20
News Staff

CAMPUS

On Wednesday, October 23, Women in STEM hosted their third event, inviting speakers Dr. Amanda Lynch and Ava Calle '12 to talk about the challenges and opportunities that they have faced pursuing careers within the STEM field.

Lynch, a climate scientist currently teaching at Brown University, obtained a Ph.D. in atmospheric science from the University of Melbourne in 1993. She began as an undergraduate pursuing degrees in electrical engineering and physics, but quickly switched to applied mathematics due to her negative experiences in the realm of laboratory science.

"In engineering and chemistry labs, I didn't feel welcome, and I was called on to repeatedly demonstrate my competence," Lynch said. She shared that "having your competence and belonging questioned over and over again, you start to internalize that," and it is important to remember that "you do belong and you are competent."

In her presentation, Lynch described data from a 2015 study in which 100% of 60 women scientists had reported encountering one or more patterns of gender bias in the workplace. These experiences were even more pronounced for women of color, who were often questioned whether or not they were supposed to be in labs after hours.

In terms of computational science, Lynch explained, "Women have really been at the forefront of coding, and in fact made up the majority of computer operators, until the '80s when these numbers plummeted."

During the 1980s, Lynch explained that people started to think that it was necessary to have knowledge of computers or a love of gaming in high school in order to pursue it in college. "This shift in culture really influenced the uptick of women in science; especially in an area like

climate science, which is heavily computational," said Lynch.

Throughout this change in culture, Lynch continued to code and became the first woman "Scientist 1" at a research center while working towards her Ph.D. However, with this achievement she also became the object of scrutiny. Male supervisors would constantly send female secretaries to check up on her, she received minimal support and guidance, and she was not considered for required computational resources to complete her work. Due to these gender biases, Lynch decided to change Ph.D. programs to another university.

As a climate scientist, Lynch said she started to become involved in field science while she was completing her Ph.D. and then more heavily as a post-doc. "I was very choosy about situations I chose to put myself in," said Lynch. "I only took positions in which I was the lead researcher... and only with researchers I knew and trusted." This is due to the issue of sexual harassment and assault in field experiences.

Although Lynch said that she has never personally experienced any form of sexual harassment in this domain of field science, she provided data which reports that harassment affects women more than men in these particular scenarios.

In order to navigate these situations, while pursuing a career in the STEM field, Lynch

Ava Calle, a Program Specialist and Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) in the Intensive Instruction Program at The New England Center for Children, presented after Lynch. Calle graduated from Providence College with a BA in psychology and a pre-health minor, and went on to obtain an MS in applied behavior analysis from Western New England University.

She began her presentation by considering the

"There are very strong females in my field. They are researchers and they are mothers and they are wives, and someone has probably been in your position before you."

familiar question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" She pointed out that this question becomes more weighted when you get older and, especially, as you go on to college. Calle said, "It seems like the question might be insinuating how successful you want to be."

Calle shared that she knew she liked the sciences and people, and would typically answer the question by saying she wanted to go into psychiatric nursing or neuroscience—without actually being convinced of these statements herself.

During her time at PC, Calle conducted research in a cognition lab and completed an internship at the Groden Center. These experiences exposed her to research and design, as well as applied behavioral analysis. Particularly at the Groden Center, Calle was exposed to children with autism, severely challenging behavior, and students who communicated non-verbally.

In her current position at the NECC, for autism education and research, Calle has continued to ask questions as a researcher while also providing direct care as a teacher. She shared that she is still trying to figure out what she wants to be when she grows up, and where her career path will take her. She urged the audience to "think about who you want to be, not just what you want to be when you grow up."

As for Calle's suggestions for PC undergraduates, Calle recommended finding a mentor. "There are very strong females in my field. They are researchers and they are mothers and they are wives, and someone has probably been in your position before you." She also suggested asking for feedback on your performances and always continuing to ask questions.

After both speakers presented, the audience was encouraged to ask questions. One student asked, "For the people in this room who don't necessarily know what they want to do yet, what would you give them for advice?" Lynch suggested test driving careers, particularly in summer internships or working in a lab with a professor.

Calle said, "Utilize the network and the people in your department, but also other faculty at Providence College and get in touch with alumni. Don't assume that if their title is X at that point, that they didn't go through similar situations and jobs."



The New England Center
for Children®

Autism Education and Research

encouraged the audience to network with both female and male allies. Additionally, she said, "Support other women, refer them, cite them, nominate them. You can do your part, in very concrete ways, whenever you have the opportunity." Lastly, Lynch stressed the importance of being stubborn and re-submitting proposals and work, especially in the field of academia.



Lynch lectures about how women inclusion in science has grown significantly throughout her career.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THECOWL

Working for Greater Equality On-Campus

College Responds to Call for Greater Inclusion and Diversity

by Maura Campbell '22
News Staff

CAMPUS

On Monday, October 21, the Providence College student body received an email from Rev. Brian Shanley, O.P., president of the College, informing students, staff, and faculty of an update by the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (IDEI). The email provided general information regarding IDEI's recent work to promote diversity on campus, and specifically addressed some potential issues previously raised about the elementary and special education department.

In light of recent claims that the Department of Elementary and Special Education has not been an inclusive department and major on campus, IDEI has partnered with the department to help to create a more inclusive environment.

In reference to the ESE department, the email also mentioned Jennifer Swanberg, dean of the school of professional studies, high lighting her work "to develop a cultural transformation process with the goal of ensuring that all ESE faculty and staff are equipped with the evidence-based skills, knowledge, and competencies to foster this type of inclusive environment."

In particular, the email included a flyer that was distributed at IDEI's recent meeting, explaining their major initiatives. These initiatives include

the Diversity Strategic Directions Steering Committee, a committee to help engage internal leaders in a conversation about diversity and create a clear plan and direction for diversity, and Advocates for Beloved Community (ABC), a team promoting racial justice and reconciliation on campus and addressing Title VI racial bias incidents.

The flyer also detailed IDEI's five focus areas for 2019-2020. This strategic plan, known as PC200, hopes to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion at PC through these focus areas, "ranging from structural diversity, access, and equity, to student learning and development—and has developed relationships with a diverse team of campus partners to address these areas through educational training, specific programming, departmental counseling, and other initiatives," Shanley said.

These five focus areas are structural diversity, access, and equity, institutional infrastructure, climate and intergroup relations, formal and informal curricula, and student learning and development.

In addition, the flyer included information about events and programming held at the Center at Moore Hall. This programming includes the Urban Dance Series, classes on diverse dance styles and culture held by Providence-based dancers and educators. Other programming includes Conversations for Change, a set of workshops inspired by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther



PC200 deals specifically with inclusion and diversity.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLICDOMAINPICTURES.NET

King Jr., promoting "nonviolence, consensus building, and civic action," and the World Cinema Series, a PC faculty-hosted program centered around "the film traditions and innovation of different countries throughout the world."

This email highlights the work of the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in recent and upcoming months. This work to promote diversity and inclusion is "critical to the future success of Providence College," Shanley said. He further added that "each of us is responsible for communicating and working together to translate this vision into action."

IDEI's dedication to promoting diversity and inclusivity at PC an

important part of the College's mission, and this update is relevant to students seeking resources and outlets on these issues. The goal of their work can be summed up in their mission statement: "Rooted in our Catholic and Dominican identity, the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion advances Providence College's commitment to developing purposeful collaborations across all areas of the College and the greater community to foster an environment where people of all backgrounds, cultures, identities and perspectives can flourish."

The Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion can be reached at diversity@providence.edu or in their office in Harkins 312.

Featured Friar: Nicole Ing '21

Vice President of Asian American Association

by Nicole Silverio '22
News Staff

FEATURED FRIAR

Nicole Ing '21 has been an active part of the Providence College community since her freshman year and has continued her work ever since. Ing is currently vice president of the Asian American Association (AAA) and an orientation leader. She is also involved in Dance Club, the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs (BMSA), and Leadership Fellows.

Ing grew up in Saugus, MA with parents who immigrated to the United States from Cambodia. Growing up with parents from Asia, Ing mentioned how she is proud of her Asian heritage and culture.

When it came time to apply for colleges, she said Providence College was the last on her list, but having had an uncle who went here, her dad encouraged her to apply. She did not like the school at first. In her first semester of freshman year, she spent the majority of her free time in her room and did not reach out to others. When second semester rolled around, she realized she needed to reach out to people in order to make friends.

"In the first semester there weren't a lot of people I shared common interests with," she said, "so when I found people that I had things in common with, I felt better."

After joining the Asian American Association, she felt more comfortable being around those she could relate to culturally. In her second semester of freshman year, she began to regularly involve herself in the club. The executive members pushed her to become an exec member herself. She started out in public relations, trying her best to make a difference.

As VP of the club, she is involved in assisting

the president, designing all posters for the club and planning meetings. Meetings are bi-weekly, planning events around Asian culture to promote and introduce Asian culture beyond Chinese food and sushi.

Ing said, "The Asian American Association is a way to bring people together, bringing pride into being Asian American or even just Asian." Her favorite part of the Asian American Association is "bringing people together, especially at events, and seeing people happy and talking to each other, and knowing that I was a part of making that happen."

Aside from being VP, she also involved herself in the Center for Orientation, Transitions, and Leadership. She loved her orientation leaders going into her freshman year. She made the decision to apply to show people of her background that there are other Asians on campus and that they should not be afraid of reaching out because there are other students like them.

She became an orientation leader in her sophomore year, and this year was her first year being a June orientation leader and an autumn leader. "I liked PC a lot more once I began to get involved, and I wanted to help others get more involved," said Ing.

Ing's story shows how in the beginning, students may feel uncomfortable in a place that seems out of their comfort zone, but getting involved and striving to make a difference in the community helps to feel more comfortable, helping them to fit in despite differences in their background. She shows how organizations and clubs revolving around different cultures and backgrounds are important, helping some to feel comfortable in their own skin while helping others learn about different cultures, as it can be difficult to learn about them otherwise.

Her goal is to spread diversity around the

campus, which helps us to be more open and to continue to spread diversity in our community.

Ing is a marketing major with a minor in public & community service. She is undecided on what she wants to do in her future career; however, she is considering designing or event planning since she loves both of those things. She does not want to sit in an office for several hours a day.

Although Ing does not know where she will end up, her work at PC over the next couple years will prepare her for her bright future.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLE ING '21

Ing '21 has been part of AAA since her freshman year.

"Let Me Be Brave in the Attempt"

PC Special Olympics Set to Host Unified Basketball Tournament

by Peter Mazzella '23
News Staff

CAMPUS

The Providence College Special Olympics group hosts events to transform lives through competitions such as swim meets, basketball tournaments, and even an end of the year dance. Using the excitement of competition, Special Olympics can change lives.

Special Olympics is the largest organization worldwide for people with intellectual disabilities. They host over five million athletes from 193 different countries. The organization also requires many volunteers.

Recently, the PC Special Olympics club held an informational meeting with the intention of getting new volunteers to help at Special Olympics events that will be coming up in the next few months.

On Nov. 23, PC Special Olympics will be hosting their Unified Basketball Tournament, which brings many opportunities for those interested to get involved.

Some roles that students can take on are electronic and written scorekeepers, who are responsible for keeping score and cheering on

players; announcers, who bring enthusiasm and play-by-play commentary of the game;

as well as those distributing awards during the ceremony.

These positions are not the only ones that PC Special Olympics offers; volunteers can help as court monitors, who watch over the courts and players' actions as well as fans in the stands, to

encourage good sportsmanship and having fun.

With a plethora of options and different ways to get involved, everyone can help to make a

difference in someone's life. Special Olympics Coordinator Catherine Flugel '20 spoke about the meeting, saying, "It was a great turnout, there were many people who showed enthusiasm towards helping out during the upcoming events which is exactly what we were looking for!"

Coordinating and planning events for PC Special Olympics is no small feat. Flugel works tirelessly to ensure every aspect is in order, which is why the task of gathering a large group of

of individuals who assist in the coordination and role assignment of volunteers to ease the process.

Sarah Kerrigan '20 is Flugel's "right hand." She is the Awards Coordinator, and the two work to bring the joy and energy that each one of these events delivers for all that are involved.

Kerrigan gave her take on the importance of preparation for each of the events, stating, "Being prepared is the most necessary part of each of our events. If everyone is not on the same page, then it is hard to get things accomplished, which is why we take the time to make sure each of our volunteers knows their task and where to find us during the event."

PC Special Olympics has over 70 active members who range from event coordinators to volunteers. There is no shortage of staff when these events come around.

The number of people involved in these events shows how much students at PC care about volunteering. This strong community atmosphere that the club emphasizes is something that will be carried on for generations to come and will continue to serve and benefit the Special Olympics community.



Special Olympics

PHOTO COURTESY OF REDDIT.COM

encourage good sportsmanship and having fun.

With a plethora of options and different ways to get involved, everyone can help to make a

willing volunteers is essential.

With a successful meeting behind them, the next task is to arrange volunteer roles. Flugel is not alone, however. There is a group

It's Called Fashion, Look It Up BOP Fine Arts Hosts PC Alumni in the Fashion Industry

by Sienna Strickland '22
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

Providence College's Board of Programmers (BOP) is always busy planning fun events for students around campus. Anne Barbera '21, member of the Fine Arts committee, talks about the contributions Fine Arts makes to campus life.

The Arts Committee has had a busy year so far with a myriad of diverse programming, but, until last Thursday, had yet not ventured into the field of fashion. "Style Sophisticated," an event held in '64 Hall on Oct. 24, changed this.

Barbera, one of the main planners behind the event, discussed the event's origin story, stating, "I have always been interested in fashion, and felt that it was an area PC needed to touch upon more. I was deeply fascinated by the fact that we have successful women PC alum who work in the industry. I felt that more people should know about these talented women and the paths they had to take—as well as receive some fashion advice in the process!"

Like previous Fine Arts events, the turnout was impressive. Students, like Barbera, recognized the unique opportunity to hear from these women working in fashion. "The turnout was great, Kelly Schneider and Sarah Viens [the speakers] were very informative, and overall everything went wonderfully. It was an honor to have them."

"The Fine Arts committee is one of the ten committees on the Board of Programmers," Barbera says. "We plan all of the events that have to do with the arts."

Continuing by listing some events the committee has hosted this past year, Barbera states, "We held a trip to the Boston Arts Festival, put together a tie-dye making event on Slavin lawn called 'Clear Skies and Tie Dyes,' and also had a vision board-making event in McPhail's." These events have all been massive successes in terms of turnout, often running out of materials within an hour of their

start time.

Fine Arts has done a lot of work this year, but they are nowhere near done. "We would like to continue to reach audiences on campus that we have never thought to reach before with our events. This year so far, we have been doing a great job on diversifying our projects, but we are by no means complacent. We are hoping to wow the crowd with the events we have on the horizon for the rest of the semester."

Barbera gave a quick preview of some of these future events. The Fine Arts committee has two events planned for the upcoming month of November. On Nov. 5 they will be hosting a trip to Providence Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. to watch the *Aladdin* musical. They will also be hosting a muse painting event called "Drink and Dabble" on Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7:30 p.m.



BRIANNA COLLETTI '21/THECOWL

Schneider and Viens talk about their experience in the fashion industry.

Congress Updates

by Thomas Beaton '22
Student Congress Publicity

CONGRESS

Fr. Brian Shanley, O.P. discussed various topics including the school's position as compared to other competing schools. It was mentioned that the endowment of the school was lower than other schools. In order to grow the endowment, the school asks for donations and raises tuition, however with the raising of tuition more financial aid will be needed.

Fr. Shanley also discussed that the school's goal to grow diversity and inclusivity will continue to be goal of the school through the admissions process.

Student Congress also introduced a new bill regarding the dissolution of certain clubs and organizations on campus due to inactivity. The bill will be voted on at the next meeting.

Student Congress meets every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in Ruane LL05 and is open to everyone.



Bursting the PC Bubble

ISIS Leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi Killed By U.S. Forces

by Matthew Mazzella '20
News Staff

WORLD NEWS

On Sunday, October 27, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of the terrorist organization ISIS, was found dead in northwest Syria after a raid by United States special forces. President Trump made the announcement of his death on Sunday morning and highlighted this as a win for national security. The President expressed enthusiasm about the result by saying, "Last night, the United States brought the world's No. 1 terrorist leader to justice. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi is dead."

al-Baghdadi was said to have killed himself by detonating a suicide vest after the invasion of United States troops in a dead-end tunnel. He had been the leader of the terrorist organization since 2010, and the death of the ISIS leader is a huge step in the everlasting fight to end global terrorism. al-Baghdadi had been a top target for the United States for a long time, and there was even a United States offering of a \$25 million reward for his capture. The Islamic States spokesperson and al-Baghdadi's right-hand man was also killed hours later with the help of Kurdish and United States troops in northern Syria.

This operation has been in the works for weeks now, after the U.S. was informed of al-Baghdadi's whereabouts. The United States ultimately got the go-ahead Saturday morning after receiving "actionable intelligence," according to Vice President Mike Pence. Donald Trump explained how the raid was executed, and said special operations forces flew into the compound in eight helicopters from an undisclosed location to reach the destination in northwestern Syria. After they reached his location, United States forces were met with heavy gunfire at the doors of the compound but were able to force al-Baghdadi down a tunnel with no escape route, where he eventually took his own life. No United States military personnel were injured, although one K-9-unit dog was hurt in the process.

President Trump watched the operation in the White House with his team, and the mission to take out the ISIS leader took about two hours. He was

joined by Vice President Pence, National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper, along with other military officials. This mission was a success according to the President, as he stated, "Last night was a great night for United States and for the world."

Evan Howells '20 shared his thoughts on the news that broke Sunday morning, expressing his optimism in the fight against terrorism. Howells stated, "I was relieved to hear about the al-Baghdadi news because of the implications it has on the war against terrorism. The United States taking out their leader will hopefully

weaken the terrorists that wreak so much havoc in the world we live in. Quite honestly, it makes me feel a little bit safer that we are one step closer to putting an end to something so horrible."

While this is a step in the right direction for the war on terrorism, unfortunately the fight is not over. Through allies in the Middle East and the courage of United States troops, the battle on global terrorism will fight on in hopes of a safer world in the near future. al-Baghdadi's death marks a severe blow to ISIS, and it will help in the battle to end the horrible actions of terrorism around the world.



al-Baghdadi's death has been a serious blow to ISIS efforts in the Middle East.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR.COM

California Wildfires Continue to Run Rampant

by Kyle Burgess '21
News Co-Editor

WORLD NEWS

Thousands of California residents have found themselves on the move as sweeping wildfires continue to engulf both ends of the state. This recent string of wildfires comes after a relatively quiet year in which no major wildfires occurred from May through mid-September, the typical California wildfire-causing dry season.

The tinder box conditions that breed such fires are the result of extremely dry summers that turn trees and leaves into fuel as well as strong winds which spread the fires across entire forests at a rapid pace. This process has been exacerbated by

historically-strong winds throughout California as well as human involvement, with fallen power lines possibly to blame for two of the most recent fires.

Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) admitted that power lines may have started two wildfires over the weekend in the San Francisco Bay Area, causing widespread electrical blackouts to prevent their spread by further fallen power lines in the face of high winds.

PG&E also reported to state regulators that these fires "match blazes that destroyed a tennis club and forced evacuations in Lafayette, about 20 miles east of San Francisco."

Per CNBC, "at least 900,000 power customers...were in the dark at the height of the latest planned blackout, nearly all of them in PG&E's territory

in northern and central California." Less than half of these customers had their services restored by this past Monday, with some 1.5 million people in 29 counties expected to experience their own blackouts in anticipation of strong winds.

At the same time, the Kincade Fire in Northern California continued to spread, covering a new total of 75,000 acres with firemen only able to contain 15 percent of the blaze. One spokesperson for Cal Fire, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, claimed that it would take "weeks, if not months" to battle back the flames.

Some 180,000 people have been ordered to leave their homes in anticipation of Kincade's flames, with the roads around Santa Rosa, CA packed bumper to bumper with cars trying to flee. High winds bringing gusts of more than 102 mph have fanned destruction across Sonoma, as 3,000 people continue to battle the blaze that has already destroyed nearly 400 structures, including the 150-year-old Soda Rock Winery.

The fires' rapid pace and direction is difficult to predict, with some residents getting short or even limited notice of their paths. One BBC correspondent who quickly found himself in the way of The Tick Fire near Santa Clarita noted, that

"My partner was in the house and had just seconds to get out, to pick up the dog, throw the dog in the car—gently—just get out. It happened that quickly and all our neighbors did exactly the same thing."

Meanwhile, another fire threatens to engulf the famous Getty Center just outside of Los Angeles. The Getty Fire has so far covered 618 acres and destroyed eight structures, according to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti.

The blaze, which was only 5 percent contained, also partially destroyed six other structures. An investigation into possible causes of the fire are currently underway. Arson has not been ruled out.

In addition to the Getty Center itself, many high-end homes in the Los Angeles area are at risk to the wide-sweeping flames, prompting further evacuations. Celebrities such as LeBron James were evacuated from their houses along with students of Mount Saint Mary's University near UCLA.

As firefighters continue to slowly keep the blazes under control across the state, the destruction left in the fires' wakes has prompted California Governor Gavin Newsom to declare a state-wide emergency as 43 of California's 58 counties are under "red flag" warnings with ideal conditions for the flames to spread.



Wildfires have been frequent in California recently.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR.COM

The Food You Love The Name You Trust



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Providence College Dept. of Theatre, Dance & Film



SOMETHING ROTTEN!
A VERY NEW MUSICAL

music & lyrics by
Wayne Kirkpatrick & Karey Kirkpatrick

book by
Karey Kirkpatrick & John O'Farrell

conceived by
Karey Kirkpatrick & Wayne Kirkpatrick

October 25-27 & November 1-3
Fridays, Saturdays 7:30pm; Sundays 2:00pm
Angell Blackfriars Theatre
tickets: theatre.providence.edu | 401.865.2218


Directed by Jimmy Calitri
Musical Direction by Lila Kane
Choreography by Jennifer Hopkins

THEATRE DANCE & FILM

SOMETHING ROTTEN! is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials were also supplied by MTI, www.mtishows.com.

If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate in this event, please contact the Central Reservations Coordinator (401-865-2070, M-F 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) well in advance of this event. Artwork by Trevor Elliott

OLAS and BOP Present...



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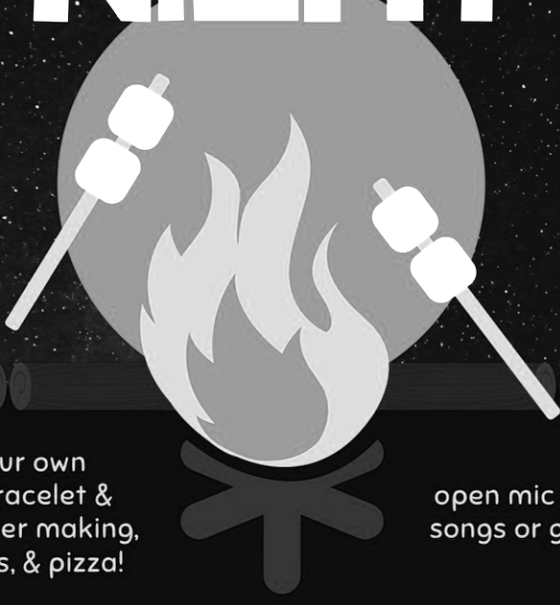
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The Death of Dating: Hook-up Culture is a Relational Crisis

by Olivia Bretzman '22
Opinion Staff

CAMPUS

Dating is dead. Literally. The Instagram account @barstoolpc recently posted a video of a freshman in his own "relationship funeral march." The caption of the video reads, "When your boy gets into a relationship in the first month of college." A large parade of Guzman Hall residents follow this procession down the hall as the victim laughs off the situation.

While humorous, this post suggests a negative outlook on dating at Providence College: the death of dating. The idea of a casual date has faded, and on every college campus, hook-up culture has become an "easy-out" from genuine relationships. A plethora of societal, moral, and personal factors have shifted the dating culture from a dinner to a Tinder meetup.

The first factors that have revolutionized dating are secularization and social media, which ultimately go hand in hand. Apps such as Tinder, Bumble, and Snapchat allow an ease of connection and have one ultimate goal: a hook-up. Allyson Giso '22 comments, "What is making the first move? Our culture has redefined this via social media." Now, instead of asking for a number and then proceeding to ask someone on a date, people use apps to contact someone in the least social way possible with no repercussions.

Hardly any genuine interactions occur. Paul Gondreau, professor of theology, commented on societal norms of technology, stating, "Everybody texts, of course, which too often allows people to turn to text messaging as a crutch that

masks insecurities and awkwardness that come with interpersonal communication." Many turn to their phones as a way to avoid intimate situations, including dating.

He continues, claiming that our generation has "too little interpersonal and emotional connection in a hook-up crazed culture." As a professor on campus, Dr. Gondreau sees these interactions firsthand. Our generation has shifted so drastically from his, which focused on casual dating and legitimate admiration for other human beings.

Secondly, our idea of commitment is completely skewed. Chris Daly '22 comments on this lack of commitment, stating, "Cheating has become normalized to the point where people just don't really care." Our culture creates an art out of cheating by regularly displaying unfaithful interactions in media. Similarly, divorce has become a norm, leading to the fear of separation in every relationship.

Along with the detriment of divorce, anxiety and depression rates have skyrocketed due to hook-up culture. Many worry that dating will cause emotional trauma, leading to trust issues and fragile mental health. Allie Eurell '22 comments on the emotional state of dating, claiming, "Even if you have known a guy for a while, you assume you will not date because that would be too emotional. Someone assumes they will get hurt." Ultimately, this generation is scared. Scared of getting attached, of becoming reliant, of giving up a good job and future for another person.

One of the last issues our campus struggles with is peer judgement. Many do not want to date because of their reputation. There is an idea that no one should date until junior year when one



Dating has a negative stigma attached to it on college campuses, especially for underclassmen.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

can start thinking seriously about their future, alluding to marriage or serious endeavors.

There is a huge stigma in the male population, especially in the freshman and sophomore class about dating. They regard each other as "soft" if they ask someone out. Aidan Schifano '22 comments on this generalization, stating that many say that if you are in a serious relationship, "you're just whipped and you can't hang out with the boys." Supposedly, when dating someone, even casually, their significant other will have no time for anyone or anything else.

In the Accinno Hall bathrooms, #Bringdatingback posters line the stalls and doors. These posters illustrate the idea that dating is "not as awkward as it seems." Various colleges and universities have joined together to support this

effort to normalize dating again.

In fact, Dr. Gondreau challenges his students to bring dating culture back in his theology of marriage class. He offers incentives for them to take someone on a date off-campus without physical contact besides a hug. The results are very telling. He states, "Last semester I took a poll in my theology of marriage class: all of my students thought I should require the students in my marriage class to ask a person on campus out on a date! What does that tell you?" While daunting, many have actually experienced positive outcomes with this task.

Quite frankly, our societal norms and technology have altered the beauty of casual dating into a serious and negative topic; however, only our generation has the power to change this quasi-stigmatized viewpoint. We can do this with a simple date.

The Reusable Straw Revolution

by Joseph Kulesza '22
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

The reusable straw revolution, a product of the fourth wave environmentalism movement, officially reached its terminal velocity when the coffee company Starbucks announced a campaign to eliminate plastic straws on a national scale in July of 2018, according to the *New York Times*. This decision by Starbucks has had a drastic effect on consumers' attitudes towards these single use products.

The subsequent paradigm shift in consumers' relationships with plastic straws has manifested itself in public outcry, websites, and various hashtags which are all part of a new movement that claims to be the sole agent expediting the demise of plastic straws in the name of saving the environment.

This highly publicized movement is seen by many as a crucial step in humanity's attempt to reduce our impact on the natural world. But, when reduced to its intrinsic worth, much of what this movement stands for and claims to be is nothing more than a distraction from a superseding issue that is not nearly as convenient, vogue, or hashtagable to address.

Looking at this movement at face value, the reusable straw revolution appears to cause no harm. In fact, virtually everyone considers it to have a net positive effect on the environment.

Even with plastic straws comprising less than one percent of the waste stream, according to the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, with the efforts of the numerous hashtags, websites, and the awareness generated by the reusable straw movement as a whole, there is potentially one percent less plastic entering the oceans and surrounding environments than before. Who can argue with that?

Although this sounds only beneficial, the real issue with this movement arises when taking into consideration the impact that it has not just on the environment, but on the participant.

When a participant in the reusable straw revolution makes the decision to abstain from using a plastic straw, they believe that they have won points on their moral balance sheet.

This self-conceived high moral balance all too often leads companies and customers to assume that they have done their part already and do not have to do anymore.

The psychological bargaining that happens with all humans in these situations is a phenomenon known as moral licensing, and it is especially prevalent in the context of this environmental fad.

Considering that the impact of using a reusable straw is minimal in light of the issue of pollution as a whole, it

starts to look as if this whole movement does not seem like everything it is made out to be.

Furthermore, this ancillary environmental movement and its publicity might actually be cannibalizing the issue it is purporting to solve, in that it distracts the public from other underlying issues associated with pollution that are more pressing in nature.

If any real progress is to be made in addressing the environmental issue of pollution, the plastic straw revolution needs to be seen as simply a starting point for further action.

So yes, your reusable straw will not end up in the stomach of a sea turtle, but the plastic packaging it came in might.

Trendy movements can be good, but only insofar as they result in additional progress rather than distraction from the issue they are proposing to solve.



Reusable straws should be seen as a starting point for further environmental action.

NICK CRENSHAW '20 / THE COWL

PC Should Institute Mental Health Days

by Joshua Chlebowski '21
Opinion Staff
CAMPUS

Since October is Mental Health Awareness Month, students, faculty, and staff have all been able to participate in a range of activities, such as the semi-colon project, fresh check day, and wilderness retreats, to understand and break the stigma around mental health. As beneficial as these events are, Providence College must work to further develop means of nurturing mental health throughout the academic year.

The opportunity to introduce the value of mental health should start with the excused absence section of the syllabus, distributed on the first days of each new semester. Professors will often permit students to have one or two unexcused absences from classes, usually attributing them to oversleeping or some other situation. Illnesses that impact physical health, such as the flu, are often excused in the syllabus.

With that being said, these skip days and excused absences do not take into account another very pressing health concern on college campuses, particularly here at PC.

A person's physical health certainly fluctuates and is susceptible to germs and cold strains, but mental health is equally as important and just as vulnerable. Legitimizing not going to class to take a day to destress and work on one's mental state will go a long way in destigmatizing and opening up conversations surrounding common factors of college campuses that negatively impact students' mental well-being.

Though some professors may inform students that mental health days will count as excused absences, universalizing this policy across all departments at PC ensures that all students have equal access and provisions when it comes to caring for their mental health.

Mental health, if not properly cared for, can negatively impact the physical body. Poor eating habits, sleep deprivation, and

even withdrawal from friends and social settings on campus can all result from mental and emotional struggles brought on by academic stress.

One might be tempted to claim that students are already able to take a day off for mental health reasons if they want; all that student needs to do is use one of their "skips." This option, however, does not benefit students because in attempting to handle an overwhelming amount of stress or other mental taxation, they are now facing the skepticism of a professor who thinks that the student just wanted a day off.

Taking a day off for mental health reasons differs from simply waking up and deciding that one does not want to go to their classes. Equating the two only fuels the stigma surrounding the mental health of college students.

If a student faces a workload that overwhelms them to a point where they are unable to make any fruitful progress, knowing they can take one day to practice mindfulness without scorn from a professor can allow that student to produce higher-quality work for their courses. Sometimes it is this simple pause that brings about beneficial long-term productivity.

When students are overwhelmed and unable to pursue the activities that bring them joy due to fear of that next assignment or exam, they learn to place shallow productivity over developing methods to become self-

aware and act productively in order to help themselves.

Including these excused absences on syllabi may bring some to claim that they are taking a mental health day when they are, in fact, not. However, do all students claim that they cannot go to class because they are ill or have some physical malady?

Some may take advantage of this system, but the vast majority will recognize the importance and welcome the knowledge that if academics become intensive to the point where work in other courses is suffering, they can take a day off and come back refreshed and prepared to produce the high-caliber work expected of them.

Mental health is a topic that many have heard of, but few fully understand the depth of the subject and its far-reaching effects. Emphasizing the importance of self-care for students, especially as it pertains to remedying the stress from multiple courses, is an excellent way to prepare them for life after graduation.

Listening to your body and knowing how it works in conjunction with your mind allows for self-awareness that many individuals lack. While including a provision for mental health days in college syllabi will not bring about widespread self-revelations, it takes a step in that direction and allows students who do wrestle with it to know they are understood by their professors and are not penalized for situations that are out of their control.



To eliminate the stigma around mental health on campus, PC should allow its students to take mental health days.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY

Letter to the Editor

by Dr. Alexander Moffett
Director: Development of Western Civilization Program

GUEST WRITER

Dear Editors,

As Director of the Development of Western Civilization program, I was delighted to read Alyssa Cohen's thoughtful editorial in the Sept. 12 issue of *The Cowl* on the "Misuses of Western Civilization" panel we hosted last spring. A primary goal of organizing the panel was to generate conversation about issues regarding the DWC program, so it is heartening to hear students talking about them.

I think that Ms. Cohen is essentially correct in her observation that different sections of DWC have different degrees of engagement with issues of diversity, and that, consequently, students' experience of the class can be quite different. I am not quite so certain that "standardization," as she puts it, is the answer to that concern. Professors who teach that class possess a great deal of freedom to select their own texts, and it's precisely that latitude that has allowed professors to bring in texts by authors from underrepresented groups in the first place. Standardization might discourage professors from doing the type of work needed to continually invigorate the curriculum in the future.

Nonetheless, I agree with Ms. Cohen that the disparity in student experience is an important topic. For students who are interested, I'll be delivering a vision statement for the DWC program on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 4:30 p.m. in the Ruane Great Room that will address some of these issues. Hope to see you there!

PC Polls

This Week's Question:
Should campus security officers be armed?

Vote online until Monday, November 4 using the link on our Facebook and Instagram pages, and check next week's issue for the results!



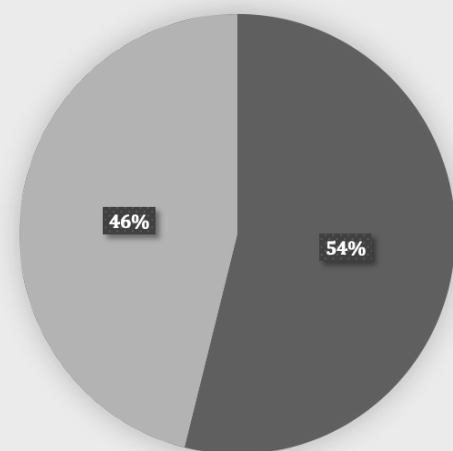
@TheCowl



@The_Cowl

Last week's results are in...

Yes: 54%
No: 46%



Should vaping be illegal?



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The Cowl is a proud
member of the Associated
Collegiate Press.

The Cowl Heads to Washington, D.C.

Making our Mark on "the First Rough Draft of History"



by Katherine Torok '20
Editor-in-Chief

EDITOR'S COLUMN

I fell in love with journalism my senior year of high school thanks to my journalism teacher, Evan Madin. I never wrote for our school's paper, so this was the first time I stepped away

from writing traditional English essays and learned how to write journalistic feature articles. It was also originally only a half-year class, but I convinced my principal to let me take it for the entire year because I loved the material so much.

One of the most memorable parts of the class was our trip to Washington, D.C. to visit the Newseum—a museum dedicated to promoting freedom of expression and the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

Four years later, I am headed back to D.C. for journalistic reasons yet again. This time around, I, along with eight other editors, will be representing *The Cowl* at this year's National College Media Convention and could not be more thrilled—even if that means missing Halloween.

I am excited to sit in on Marty Baron's keynote and various other panels, learn from other editors and media professionals, and gain insights

into how to make improvements to our own publication.

However, I am even more excited just to be back in Washington, D.C. In a world of 'Fake News' and questionable people in power, real journalism matters now more than ever before. Thus, this year's convention location is more relevant than ever.

At the end of high school, I painted Mr. Madin a canvas with Phil Graham's famous line, "Journalism is the first rough draft of history." And every Wednesday night, *The Cowl* office is crafting Providence College's first rough draft of history through students' perspectives.

The ability to take part in creating this rough draft is at the same time a privilege and a responsibility—and we are keeping this in mind as we head to the Convention this weekend.

Check out next week's issue of *The Cowl* to see what the National College Media Convention was all about!

TANGENTS & TIRADES

Take the Challenge, Not the "Easy A"

As spring 2020 registration comes around the corner, students should focus more on what classes interest them rather than if the class is an "easy A."

The website RateMyProfessor.com has been a blessing and a curse for college students when deciding their class schedule. While it is nice for students to look up their professors and see what type of teaching style they have and other reviews, this can also limit a student's full learning experience.

Every student has a different teaching style that fits them best, and a lot of people can disagree about whether or not they enjoy a certain professor. For this reason, RateMyProfessor.com can be a waste of time and opportunity for many students.

For some Providence College seniors, this upcoming spring semester can be the last time taking classes as an undergrad student. Therefore, students should take into consideration their interests or even challenge themselves to take a thought-provoking class instead of one that is boring or does not require attendance.

Being a liberal arts college, PC offers a variety of very different courses ranging from the arts to the sciences and more. Students should explore other fields of study in their electives to broaden their range of knowledge and spark new interests.

With class registration approaching in the coming weeks, PC students should consider other course options besides what is the easiest and focus on what can expand their learning and interests.

—Marie Sweeney '20



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PUBLIC DOMAIN PICTURES

Appreciating Underground Films

This year, the theatres have been inundated with blockbuster hits from *Marvel's Avengers: Endgame* to the upcoming *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker*. Every few months, box office records are being shattered and people flock to the theatres to see the latest installment of their favorite franchises. While this record breaking year is certainly notable, the blockbuster culture has made it much harder for smaller, independent films to get the advertising they need.

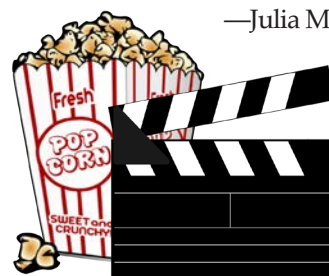
Films with smaller box office numbers tend to be showcased only for the few months leading up to the Academy Awards. Additionally, they have to spend much more money on advertising as a way to increase the possibility of a successful opening weekend. Because they often are not attached to a particular franchise, audiences will question if the movie is worth seeing.

This phenomenon is particularly disheartening, especially considering the fact that these lesser anticipated movies are often the most celebrated films during the upcoming awards season.

For example, last year's Academy Award winner for Best Picture—*Green Book*—had a fairly dismal opening weekend in the box office. Though it had steady success and was obviously a masterful craft, the movie was not granted as much attention as sequels and extensions of already beloved franchises.

While these long-running movie series are a fantastic staple in our society, they often take away from the success of independent movies as a whole.

—Julia McCoy '22



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PUBLIC DOMAIN FILES AND PIXABAY

Clean Your Dirty Laundry (Room)

Doing laundry is a necessary part of living independently on a college campus. Yet, it is also a difficult part of living on a college campus and is often a burden.

The laundry rooms for some buildings at Providence College are co-ed, which poses an awkwardness when people are moving clothes out of a machine. Some of the machines are also broken, which causes students to waste time when a load is not actually washed or dried.

There is an unspoken rule at PC that when clothing is left after a cycle in a machine for too long, people move it onto a table to put their stuff in. But this becomes slightly uncomfortable in the co-ed laundry rooms when boys' and girls' clothing are sitting out in the open.

People also tend to empty others' clean clothing on the floor. This is appalling because those clean clothes are becoming dirty from the floor, and because boys' and girls' clothing are laying out in the open on the ground for everyone to see and step on.

In certain buildings, Suites Hall for example, some of the machines are broken. Two of the dryers in Suites do not work, so students waste 50 minutes of their lives waiting for their clothes that actually are not even dry.

PC needs to work on improving the laundry rooms by encouraging people to take care of their own clothing as well as others' clothing, and by ensuring that all machines function properly.

—Emily Ball '22



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLIPART-LIBRARY.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY

RIGHT: Cole Dougherty '22 performs a song at the Coffeehouse for Mental Health Awareness Month in the Slavin Mural Lounge. The event took place on Thursday, October 24 and raised awareness for those suffering from a mental illness.

BELOW: The Providence College Men's Swimming and Diving Team took on New Jersey Institute of Technology on Friday, October 25 in Taylor Natatorium. The Friars lost 134.5 to 156.5. Top finishers for the Friars were Aidan Hughes '23 in the 100 meter backstroke and Christian Twyman '23 in the 200 meter butterfly.



JAY WILLET '20/ THE COWL



JAY WILLET '20/ THE COWL



LILLIE HUNTER '22/ THE COWL



NORA JOHNSON '20/ THE COWL

ABOVE: Chris Riccobono '01 shares his story of coping with anxiety and discovering his internal resilience while founding his successful company, UNTUCKit. Riccobono was accompanied by Kristine Goodwin, vice president of student affairs, and the Riccobono Academic Resilience (RAR) faculty fellows on Wednesday, October 23 in The Center at Moore Hall, Bouligny Lounge.

ABOVE: Elayna Grillakis '22 runs to steal the soccer ball against a Butler University team member on Thursday, October 24 on Chapey Field at Anderson Stadium. The Friars lost to Butler 0-1.

BELOW: The Afro Caribbean Association, Afro-American Society, and Organization of Latin American Student hosts "The Missing Link." The event inspires a future on PC's campus that successfully integrates clubs without the pressure of one identity label. The vision is for collaboration and celebration of cultures in the clubs.



BRIANNA COLLETTI '21/ THE COWL

ROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

What is your biggest fear?



"Getting stuck in a soft mattress."
Margaret Sparicio '20



"Disappointing my parents."
Mariela Flores '23



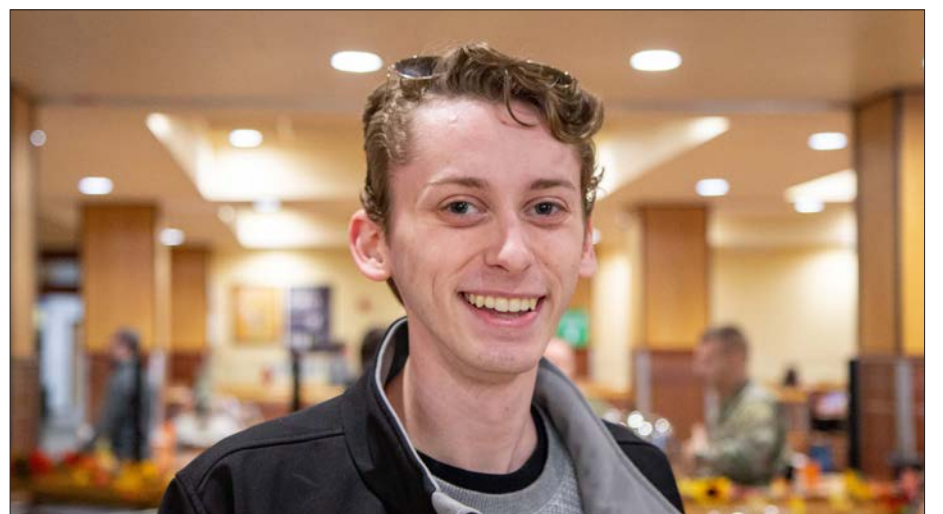
"My boss."
Fausto Balbi



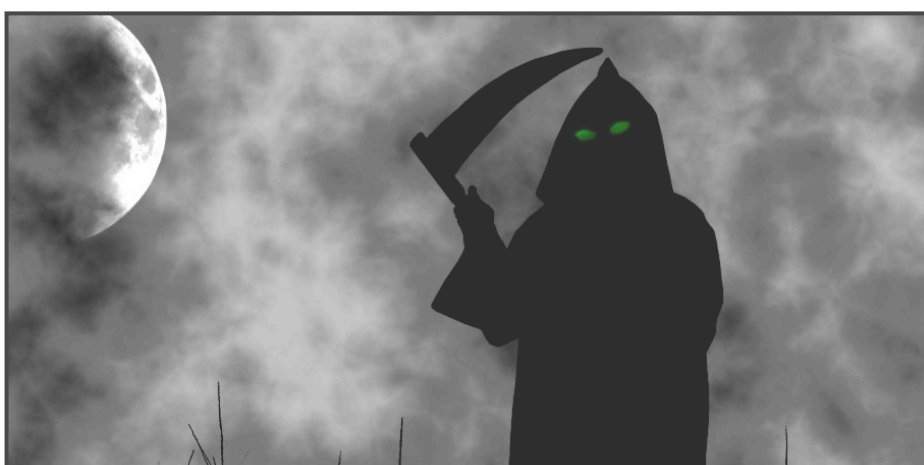
"PC squirrels."
Megan Monte '20



"Clowns."
Wini Kennedy '20



"Snakes."
Nick Bullock '22



"Death."
-The Grim Reaper

PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHY_9 FROM FLICKR

PC Debuts Witty Comedy *Something Rotten!* Broadway Play Gets Its Northeast Collegiate Premiere

TDF

Continued from front page

The characters, from the wittily-named Bottom brothers to the Bard himself, are expertly portrayed. The dynamic duo of Nick, played by Daniel Jameson '21, and Nigel, played by Nolan Donato '22, showcase their vocal powers in songs ranging from the upbeat, undeniably catchy "God, I Hate Shakespeare" to the heartfelt "To Thine Own Self," and bring to life the close bond the brothers share.

The fierce feminist Bea, portrayed by Emily Smith '20, and hopeless romantic Portia, played by Halle Pratt '22, serve as more than mere love interests to Nick and Nigel, respectively. The two bring humor and heart to every scene they are in. Portia's tyrannical Puritan father, Brother Jeremiah, depicted by William Oser '19GS, likewise captivates the audience with an exaggerated, innuendo-filled take on Renaissance religion.

Rounding out the cast are Steven Sawan '20, villainous, flamboyant Shakespeare; the nephew of the great seer Nostradamus, portrayed by Thomas Edwards '20, who shares his gift of foresight; and members of the Bottom brothers' troupe and ensemble.

The score is upbeat, and the opening number "Welcome to the Renaissance" gleefully starts the show off by describing new science and art. The closing song, "Finale: Welcome to America," leaves the audience with hope for the possibility of new beginnings. Numbers such as "A Musical" and "To Thine Own Self" cleverly play with both Shakespeare's works, especially *Hamlet*, and beloved musicals from *Les Miserables* and *Rent* to *The Sound of Music* and *West Side Story*, making it clear that *Something Rotten!* is a love letter to the art of theatre.

The catchy songs are performed with captivating dance numbers, notably the chorus line in "A Musical" and the egg-cracking antics of "Make an Omelette," in costumes brilliantly designed by Anna Grywalski and her talented crew.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GABRIELLE MARKS / PROVIDENCE COLLEGE TDF

Teddy Kiritsy '21GS, Ethan Descoteaux '21, Steven Sawan '20, Michael Henshaw '23 look off into the distance.

Whether audience members are unfamiliar with Shakespeare's works or can recite any given soliloquy upon request, *Something Rotten!*'s humor, heart, and talented cast make it a must-see musical.

Those interested in attending the show can purchase tickets for the remaining performances scheduled for Nov. 1, 2, and 3 on the TDF website or at the Smith Center for the Arts Box Office

Active Minds' Semicolon Project

by Jennifer Villeda '20
A&E Staff

ON-CAMPUS

There are moments when you are walking around campus in a sea of students and listening to their conversations or too loud music, but feel completely alone and isolated. Your vision and mind do not connect at that moment, but rather, you are swept away in a current of racing thoughts that feel as though they are physically hurting you. It is scary because it seems like no one understands what you are feeling in that instance, but we all have gone through those periods where our mind is not our best friend.

This past week, Providence College Active Minds dedicated itself to the Semicolon Project. The concept resonates with co-president of Active Minds Alexa Howell '20; she even has the symbol tattooed on her wrist. When she found a note on her phone from freshman year that had gone untouched since then, it reminded her of her goal to do this "semicolon takeover" since

she became involved with Active Minds her spring semester of freshman year.

Howell explained what this concept is all about, saying, "The whole idea of the semicolon is how it is used in a sentence; you write your sentence, and then you want to add more without stopping it. It is a metaphor for life. You have gone so far in your life and you wanted to end it, but you didn't. You kept pushing through with what you were dealing with in those hard times."

She decided to close the event with an activity called Make Your Own Semicolon, where people could paint semicolons as they listen to music, be immersed in their artwork, and have fun. Emily Tolbert '20, co-president of PC Active Minds, said of the event, "With this, I think it is really special, too, because it has such a strong message of hope and resilience and then people get to take it home with them as well."

Active Minds uses creativity, self-expression, and relaxation through art to provide an outlet for their Friar family. This activity, along with the 80 different posters hung around campus that feature images and



Students design their own semicolons at PC Active Minds' Semicolon Project event.

JAY WILLETT '20 / THE COWL



GRAPHIC BY BRENNIA CAVALLARO '23

quotes emphasizing that "everyone in Friartown is behind you," beautifully captures how these small things can mean the world to people, especially when we do not know what others are going through. We walk by one another every day but rarely imagine what is going on in someone else's life. Tolbert mentioned, "Everyone is going to go through a time where they feel like giving up, where they feel like they are going through a struggle that they feel alone in or that they can't share with others." This activity and club encourages us to be open

and truly embrace the concept of the Friar family. As Howell said, "Just like everyone has physical health, everyone has mental health."

Through the Semicolon Project, PC Active Minds spread the word about mental health, helping to normalize discussions about mental well-being on campus. This project allowed the student organization to further fulfill its mission to decrease the negative stigma around mental illness. As one of the last events in October, Mental Health Awareness Month, the Semicolon Project drove home a memorable message.

JESUS IS KING: Kanye Experiments With Gospel

Rapper Undertakes Massive Genre Transformation

by Julia Vaccarella '20
A&E Staff
MUSIC



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

Kanye West has returned to music once again with the debut of his ninth studio album, entitled *Jesus Is King*. After previously teasing a separate project, entitled *Yandhi*, the record was released after multiple delays dating back to over one year ago. As the name may suggest, *Jesus Is King* evokes images of Christianity; accordingly, the album's style more closely resembles Gospel music than hip-hop or rap. The album contains eleven songs and

features several artists, including renowned jazz saxophonist Kenny G. An accompanying documentary film called *Jesus is King: A Kanye West Experience* is also currently playing in theaters.

Recently, West has been increasingly transparent about his personal views on God and religion. In addition to the album's release, he has also debuted a project called Sunday Service, which is a series of mostly invite-only performances consisting of gospel music. In reference to *Jesus Is King*, West says, "This album has been made to be an expression of the gospel and to share the gospel and the truth of what Jesus has done to me... When I think of the goodness of Jesus and all that he does for me, my soul cries out."

Some of West's previous projects, such as *The Life of Pablo*, contain undisguised religious references. Understandably, the new record takes the theme even further in making God the focal point. Most hip-hop artists do not shy away from explicit material in their content, and West is no different. However, *Jesus Is King* is entirely void of this type of language.

For a number of reasons, reception to *Jesus Is King* thus far has been mixed. For some fans, West's reputation would be unlikely to connote images of spirituality. In a similar fashion, West's vocalized God complex, coupled with the fact that he is commonly referred to as "Yeezus," may be just as unconvincing.

The album has a gospel feel to it. Neil McCormick of the *Telegraph* writes, "Packed with gospel choirs, church organs and soulful ululations condensed into a typically bravura tableaux of obscure samples, warped synths and spooky slabs of vocoder harmonies, *Jesus Is King* sounds as scintillating



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

as anything in West's considerable canon."

West's political leanings also caused some dissent among his fanbase. Furthermore, considering that this is West's ninth album, it would suffice to say that he has made a name for himself. Most of his listeners are primed to expect lyrical profanity and a generally faster pace in his music, which is not at all the case with *Jesus Is King*.

Apple Music states, "The old Kanye and his discerning ear for sample selection is present throughout... It all makes for an album unlike any West has delivered, and one that might set the tone for the future of his music-making." Nonetheless, West's departure from the traditional elements of rap music on this record is precisely why it has garnered so much attention.

Modern Music Promotion: How Songs Go Viral

Exploring the Impact of Social Media on Song Popularity

by Grace Whitman '22
A&E Staff
MUSIC

In today's society, everything we do is driven by social media in some way. Similarly, social media has had an enormous impact on the music industry when it comes to the promotion of songs and the way that artists interact with fans.

Social media has also changed the way music is produced, distributed, and sold through streaming services like Spotify and Apple Music. The personal connection between artists and fans has been a direct source of boosted music sales in recent years. According to BuzzAngle's 2018 Report on Music Consumption, on-demand audio stream consumption increased by 41.8% to 534.6 billion streams in 2018.

Additionally, social media has the power to make a song become an overnight sensation through shares on Instagram stories, retweets, or viral memes. Drake's "In My Feelings" was immensely popular in 2018, as the viral "In My Feelings" dance challenge hit the internet. #inmyfeelingschallenge on Instagram has over 790,000 posts attached to it. The global movement consisted of people getting out of their car to dance to the song. Odell Beckham Jr., Ryan Seacrest, Will Smith, and countless other celebrities with an enormous following posted their version of the "In My Feelings" challenge on their individual accounts.

This trend boosted Drake's song to No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart for 10 weeks. "In My Feelings" broke the streaming record for the most streams in a single week with 116.2

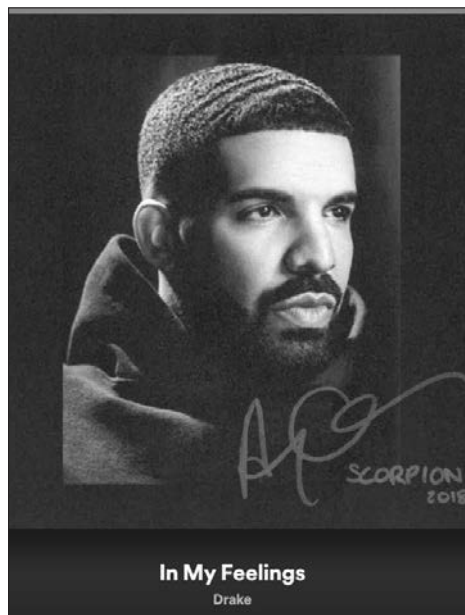


PHOTO COURTESY OF SPOTIFY



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

million streams, and the viral trend over Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram was responsible.

Record labels no longer have to invest the same amount of money into promotions, as artists' interactions with fans over the internet can be even more effective than classic radio promotions.

One of the biggest hits of 2019, Lil



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

Nas X's "Old Town Road," did not blow up over radio airwaves, but on the video sharing app, TikTok. On the app, millions of creators used the song as a soundtrack to their video which made "Old Town Road" a viral hit. In an interview with *Time* magazine, Lil Nas X said, "When TikTok hit it, almost every day since that, the streams have been up. I credit them a lot."

Viral social media trends have boosted songs without the artist spending a dime on promotion as artists and record labels strategically use the power of social media to boost streams and revenue.

Another example of this was Lizzo's song "Truth Hurts." Her song was released September 19, 2017, but took almost two years for it to hit No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart on September 3, 2019. "I just took a DNA test," the opening line of her song, went viral in Netflix's movie *Something Great*, prompting millions of people to stream her song, and boosting her to the top of the charts.

The ability to share songs, albums, and playlists on social media platforms has changed the music industry entirely.



From the Archives: *Red Hearse* Album Reflection

Learning About Love and Collaboration in Music

by Peter Keough '20
A&E Co-Editor

MUSIC

In today's music industry, collaborations are often saddled with large expectations and surrounded by excitement. Whether fans are waiting for the next DJ Khaled-produced album of star-saturated hits or enjoying Ed Sheeran's newest album *No.6 Collaborations Project*, the coming together of artists to create songs cooperatively is undoubtedly a popular phenomenon. Due to the aforementioned expectations, however, the process of making these kinds of projects can become complicated and muddled, all in the pursuit of making the perfect song.

This kind of perfectionist attitude is exactly what *Red Hearse* sought to avoid on their self-titled debut project, *Red Hearse*. Comprised of singer/songwriter/producer/multi-instrumentalist Jack Antonoff of fun. and Bleachers fame, Grammy-winning and Top Dawg Entertainment-affiliated producer Sounwave, and singer-songwriter Sam Dew, *Red Hearse* was formed more out of coincidence than intention.

In an Instagram post from June 26, Antonoff wrote about the simplistic approach the group took to creating music. Speaking on himself, Sounwave, and Dew, he stated, "We'd meet ever[y] once in a while in California at the studio. We don't think much about what we are gonna do, we just make a plan to meet." Continuing on, he claimed, "[S]omething that we

loved came from the three of us in that room...*Red Hearse* is the sound of the 3 of us in a room. I love that about these songs." Antonoff's main point in this post was to describe how, through the simple act of getting these three artists in a room together, they were able to produce something cohesive and noteworthy.

Although Sam Dew, Jack Antonoff, and Sounwave come from disparate musical backgrounds, their expertise in songwriting, instrumentation, and producing respectively come together to create a cohesive sound.

"Half Love," the first track off of *Red Hearse*, sets the tone for the rest of the project. Heavy bass synths, no doubt a product of Sounwave's experience with the likes of Kendrick Lamar, outline the catchy chorus of Dew, "Cause everybody's playin' it loose, but / What if we were real with it? / 'Cause honestly / I'm just too good for that half love / Now that you've been feelin' it too / Ah, admit the truth / Never gonna love another like you."

The group replicates this formula throughout the rest of the album to reinvent the typical R&B sound while pushing the theme of love to the forefront. On "You Make It Easy," Antonoff reflects on the effects of being in love, singing, "Now I'll never want another / You left a mark that just can't come off / Now I'll never want another / Never learn my lesson."

Although the lyrics sound cliché, they actually paint a sophisticated picture of love. Antonoff and company look at love through the past, present, and future. It is a complicated phenomenon which gives life when it is received but also haunts when it is unrequited.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

Like Antonoff and Dew sing in "Everybody Wants You," "Feels like I've been burnin' up on the coldest day, uh, mm / Feels like I'm comin' up on a perfect moment, take a moment / But you don't 'cause you don't want it, uh / 'Cause everybody wants you."

Yet the beauty of this album's story lies in the resilience of the protagonist. In the standout "Born to Bleed," Antonoff and Dew sing, "You can cut me, doesn't matter / All the better / I was born to bleed / You can't do too much damage / I can manage all the same to me / 'Cause I'm a healer / That can bring me back to life."

Overall, *Red Hearse* is a collaborative experiment about an extremely personal experience. Each artist uses their own sound to bring light to the ups and downs of love. In its own way, the album demonstrates the power of coming together to talk through struggle but also the ability of individuals to practice self-care.



GRAPHIC DESIGN PATRICK FULLER '21/THE COWL

"A person should always choose a costume which is in direct contrast to her own personality."

-Lucy Van Pelt

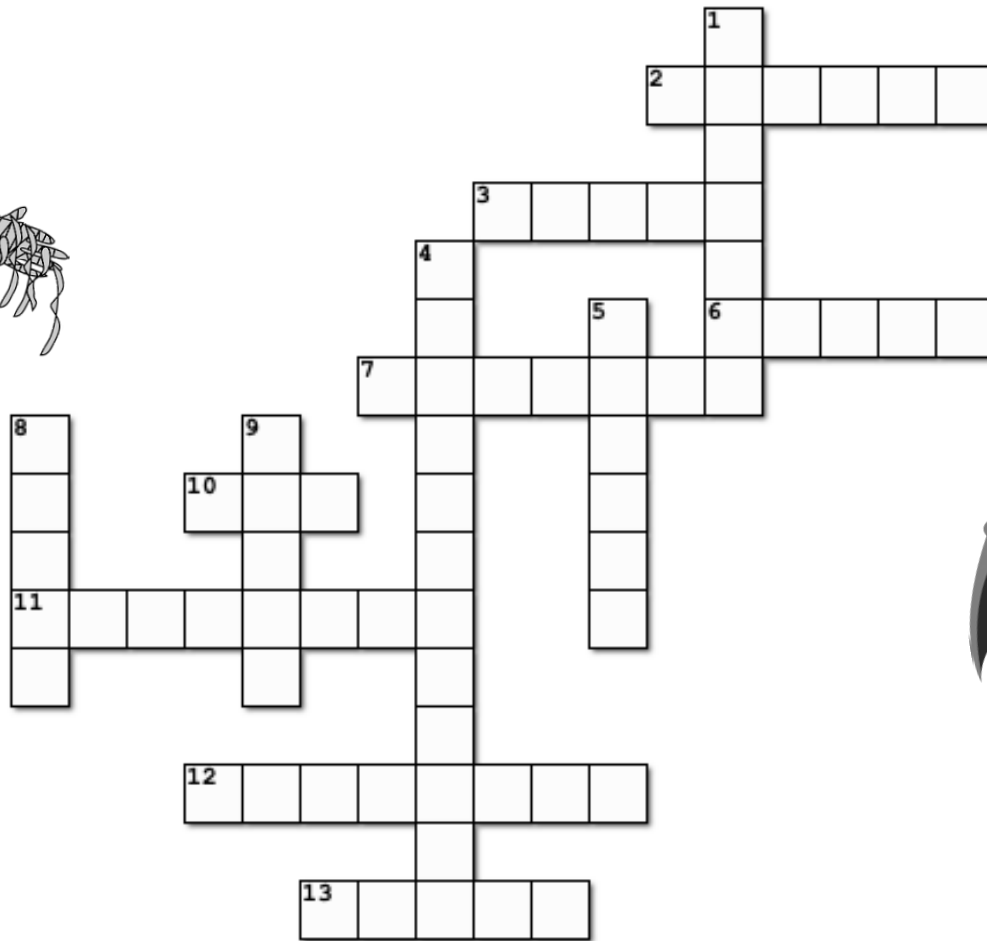
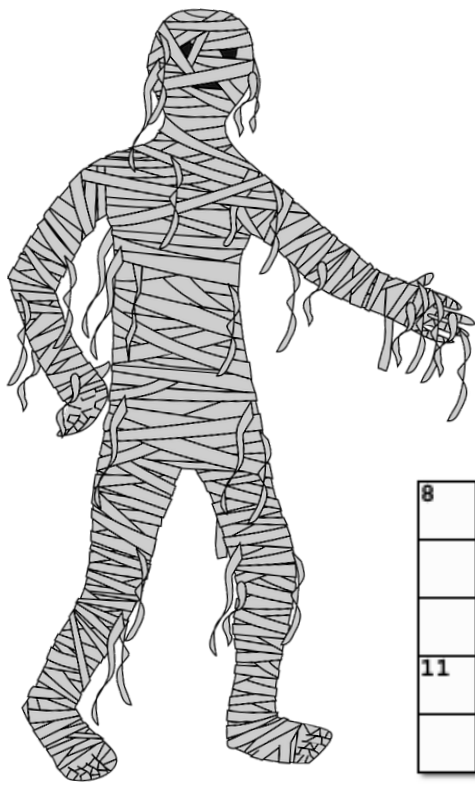
It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown

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Halloween Horrors



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIXABAY

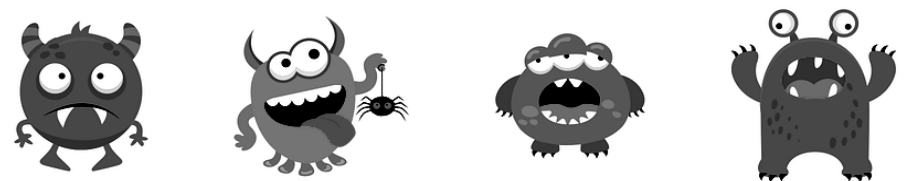
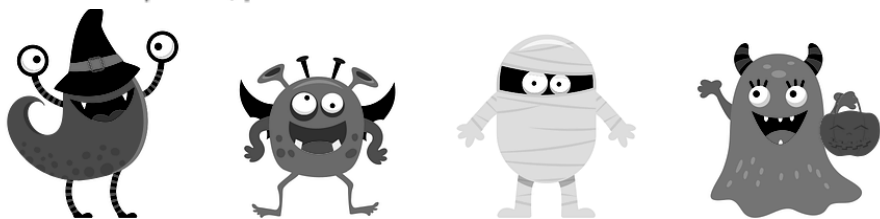
Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

- 2. 'Scooby-Doo on _____ Island'
- 3. BOO!
- 6. Ancient Egypt
- 7. Edward Cullen
- 10. A small creature that flies around at night
- 11. 'Double, double toil and trouble; fire burn and _____ bubble.'
- 12. There are around 206 bones in an adult human body
- 13. Sharp teeth; plural

Down

- 1. You have to wear this when you trick-or-treat!
- 4. 19th century novel written by Mary Shelley
- 5. 'Yer a _____, Harry'
- 8. 'Are you a good _____, or a bad _____?' (same word)
- 9. Sweet treats you get throughout the night



Last Issue's Answers

Across:

- 3) Milky Way
- 6) Almond Joy
- 8) KitKat
- 10) Butterfinger
- 14) 3Musketears
- 15) Dots
- 16) Jolly Rancher
- 17) Candy Corn
- 18) Starbursts

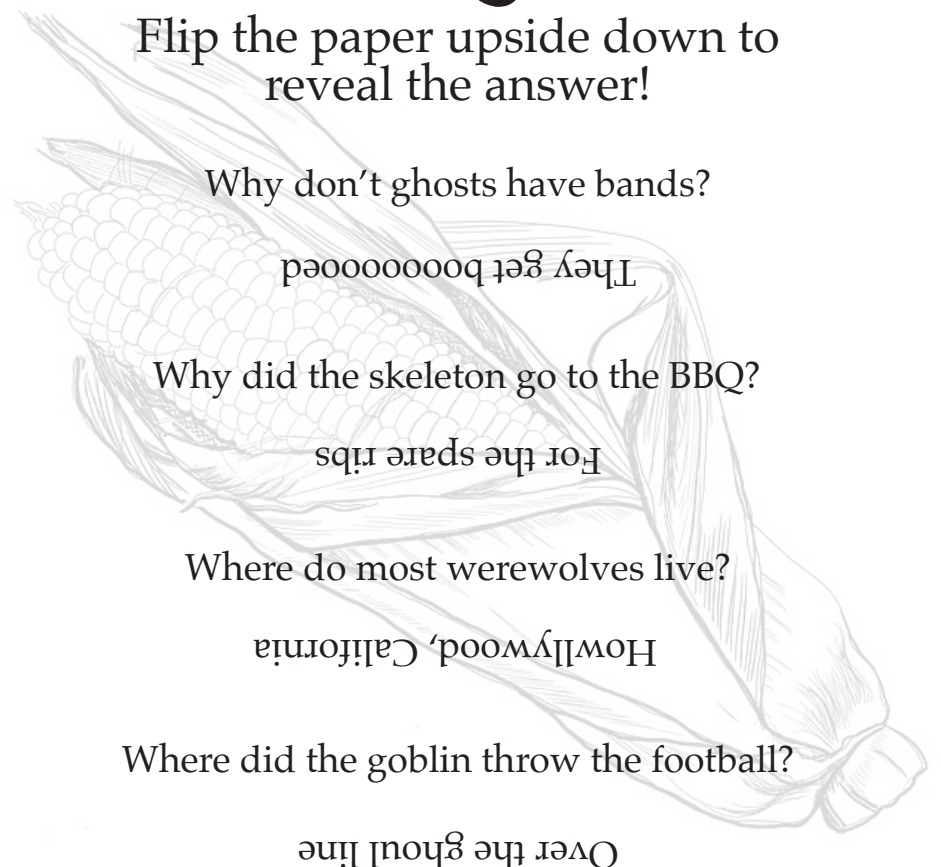
Down:

- 1) Payday
- 2) Skittles
- 4) Tootsie Roll
- 5) Sour Patch Kids
- 7) Nestle Crunch
- 9) Reeses
- 12) Hersheys
- 13) Whoppers
- 19) Twix



The Corny Corner

Flip the paper upside down to reveal the answer!



Why don't ghosts have bands?

They get boooooed

Why did the skeleton go to the BBQ?

For the spare ribs

Where do most werewolves live?

Hollywood, California

Where did the goblin throw the football?

Over the ghoul line



WHAT'S UP THIS WEEK IN FRIARTOWN?

Oct. 31: Boo-ingo! (9 p.m., McPhail's)

Nov. 1: Humanities Forum Hosts Denis McNamara (3 p.m., Ruane 105)

Nov. 1: United Skates of America sponsored Rec Sports (7 p.m., meet behind Concannon Fitness Center)

Nov. 2: Camp Night hosted by BOP (8 p.m., McPhail's)

Nov 6: A Trip To CycleBar presented by BOP (6:45 p.m., meet at Cyclebar)

PRACTICE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS AT

SMOKE-O-LANTERNS

Hosted by photography club

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27
4-5:30
SLAVIN LAWN



Hot Chocolate and
Donuts will be served!

Join us in carving
pumpkins, lighting
them up, and taking
photos!

If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate in this event, please contact the Central Reservations Coordinator (401-865-2070; M-F 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m.) well in advance of this event.

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The Cowl?
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media!



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@TheCowl

Mental Health Checklist:

Have you...

- Gone on a walk to clear your mind?
- Taken a homework break?
- Talked with a friend about what's troubling you?
- Had a full meal today?
- Taken a day off for yourself?
- Gotten enough sleep?
- Taken a social media break?
- Set aside time to do things you actually enjoy or are passionate about?

Great
Music

Free
Food

THE NOLA IMMERSION TRIP PROGRAM
PRESENTS

The NOLA Meal Auction

November 5 at 6:00pm

McPhail's

SIMPLY BID ON A MEAL TO SHARE WITH
YOUR FAVORITE PROFESSOR, FACULTY,
OR STAFF MEMBER!

If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, or other accommodation to participate in this event, please contact Central Reservations Coordinator (401-865-2070; M-F 8:30am-4:30pm) well in advance of this event.

Sports Shorts

by Scott Jarosz '21
Sports Staff

SPORT SHORTS

Men's Hockey Update:

On the weekend of Oct. 18, the Providence College Men's Hockey Team traveled to New York to take on St. Lawrence University on Friday and Clarkson University on Saturday. PC started the weekend off strong with a 6-0 win over SLU. Parker Ford '23 led the way for PC with two goals in the blowout win.

PC carried their momentum into its contest at CU, beating the home team with a score of 4-2. Tyce Thompson '22 powered the Friars with two goals. On Oct. 25, PC traveled to Chestnut Hill to face Boston College and beat the Eagles 6-2. There were six different goal-scorers for PC in the game. PC returned home to play the University of Massachusetts-Lowell the following day and would ultimately lose to the visiting team 3-2 in overtime. Thompson and Patrick Moynihan '23 scored the goals.

Men's Soccer Update:

The Providence College Men's Soccer Team kicked off a three-game week on Oct. 19 at DePaul University. The Friars fell to the Blue Demons 2-0, but would bounce back when they traveled to play Villanova University the following Wednesday. PC beat the home team 2-0 with goals by Danny Griffin '20 and Paulo Lima '22.

Following their win on the road, PC returned home to host Creighton University. The Bluejays scored the first goal of the game early on, but PC answered with goals by Christopher Roman '22 and Davis Smith '21. CU equalized the game late in the second half to force overtime, but Lima scored a golden goal stunner to win the game for the Friars in overtime.

Field Hockey Update:

The Providence College Field Hockey Team recently earned the No. 25 spot in the NFHCA Division 1 Coaches' Poll, and its recent performance proves it is deserving of this ranking. On Oct. 18, PC beat Quinnipiac University in a 3-2 shootout win. PC hosted Merrimack two days later and beat the visitors 5-1. Olivia Ward '21 led the scoring for the team with two goals.

PC then hosted Georgetown University on Oct. 25 and beat the Hoyas 2-0. Goals were scored by Mary O'Reilly '20 and Amanda Collins '22. The Friars looked to carry this momentum into its Oct. 27 Senior Day game against Rider University. PC fought out a 1-0 victory in the game thanks to a goal by O'Reilly. The team now looks forward to its next game on Nov. 1 at No. 17 Liberty University.

Men's Basketball Returns Strong Core *Top Three Scorers Come Back To Make Another Run*

by Liam Tormey '22
Sports Staff

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Last season, the Providence College Men's Basketball Team finished with an overall record of 18-16, tying for eighth in the Big East with a 7-11 record. The Friars missed out on the NCAA Tournament for the first time in five seasons. Instead, the postseason for Head Coach Ed Cooley consisted of playing in the National Invitational Tournament as the fourth seed. The Friars were a first round exit, losing 84-72 to the University of Arkansas.

This season, the Friars are hoping for a lot more. And there is a lot to be excited about.

Isaiah Jackson '19 and Makai Ashton-Langford '21 both left from Coach Cooley's team this offseason. Jackson graduated last spring, and Ashton-Langford transferred to Boston College to continue his career.

On the bright side, the core group of players are returning for the Friars, including their top scorers.

After Alpha Diallo '20 withdrew from the NBA Draft this past summer, he returns for his senior year and is looking to be more productive than last year. Diallo finished last season averaging 16 points, 8.1 rebounds, and 3.1 assists.

Nate Watson '21 will be back after a great season last year (averaging 11.7 points, 5.2 rebounds, and 0.4 assists). He hopes to show why he is one of the best centers in the Big East this season.

A.J. Reeves '22 will be looking to stay healthy after suffering a foot injury which hindered what looked like a huge year for the sophomore. Reeves averaged 9.8 points, 3.0 rebounds, and 0.6 assists last season.

David Duke Jr. '22 is also hoping to have a big year after averaging 7.1 points and 2.1 assists for PC last season. Expect Duke to have a lot of playing time on the court.

Even more exciting for the Friars is they will get back Emmitt Holt '19GS who was granted a sixth year of eligibility by a medical redshirt waiver. In the Friars' first exhibition game this season against Stonehill College, Holt



PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

After starting 34 games as a freshman, Duke is slated to be a key piece once again after a successful performance in the Pan-Am Games.

finished with a double-double with 17 points and 13 rebounds. The team hopes Holt can give them more statlines like this throughout the year.

There were some key additions over the offseason who will likely have a major impact on the way this season goes for Coach Cooley's team. One of the big additions is Luwane Pipkins '20GS, a graduate transfer from University of Massachusetts-Amherst. The 5'11" guard from Chicago, IL averaged 15.7 points, 3.7 assists, and 3.5 rebounds in his career at UMass. He hopes to add another offensive spark to the Friars' game.

Another key addition to the team this offseason was Greg Gantt '23. The 6'8", 205 pound-freshman was the number three recruit in the state of North Carolina according to ESPN. There is a lot of anticipation in what Gantt can bring to the team.

The Friars have been suffering from injuries in the past several weeks leading into the season. Watson has been unable

to play due to a knee injury, although Coach Cooley hopes to see him return in the first couple weeks of November.

Gantt has been dealing with an Achilles tendon injury and will likely miss the opener against Sacred Heart University.

Pipkins has been battling a hamstring injury, but this past Sunday the Friars traveled to Indianapolis to play in a closed scrimmage against Purdue University, and Pipkins played 17 minutes for the Friars, scoring five points.

Providence won 60-53 against the Boilermakers. Diallo led the way with 22 points and 12 rebounds in 36 minutes of action. Fans can expect to see these types of numbers from Diallo most of the season.

The Friars open up regular season play next Tuesday, November 5 against Sacred Heart University at 7 p.m.

Prior to conference play in the Big East, the Friars have several games to note. In late November, Coach Cooley's team will travel out to Anaheim, CA to compete in the Wooden Legacy Tournament, which is a combination of schools from all across the country. The Friars will open up that tournament against Long Beach State University. The annual rivalry game against the University of Rhode Island will take place on Dec. 6 at URI.

Just before the start of the Big East, Providence will be tested against two tough teams: Florida University and the University of Texas at Austin. These games will be great indicators of where the Friars are before starting conference play.

Big East conference play will begin Dec. 31 with the Friars' home game against Georgetown University.

There is a lot of excitement surrounding the team this season. Coach Cooley hopes to get his team back into the NCAA Tournament come March. With many key members returning, anything can happen in Friartown, as long as the team can avoid the injury bug.



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

Diallo has already received multiple accolades; he was named to the watch list for the Julius Erving Award and was unanimously voted to the Preseason All-Big East First Team.

Addison Root '20 Hits Career Milestone

Senior Joins an Elite Group of Players With 1,000 Kills

by Meaghan Cahill '20
Sports Co-Editor

VOLLEYBALL

The Providence College Women's Volleyball Team may have lost their match against Butler University on Oct. 10, winning only one of the four sets played, but for Addison Root '20 there was a lot to celebrate.

Root did not realize at the time, but she registered her 1,000th career kill.

While she did acknowledge that she had a feeling that she was close to achieving the milestone statistic, Root said on the feat, "I knew that I needed 12 in that game so my mindset was 'alright, gotta go get it!'"

Root was keyed into her achievement by an official announcement during a time out. "During the timeout, our coach was kind of getting on us, so I tried not to smile or anything to keep it casual. My teammates were smirking up at me and I was like 'Guys, not now!'"

A transfer student from the University of Memphis, Root began her career as a Friar in a stellar sophomore season, starting in all of PC's 33 matches. At the end of her first season, she led the team in kills (416), aces (36), and was third on the team in digs (258). The MVP of the 2018 Friar Classic, Root was named to the All-Big East Second Team, which at the time made her the first Friar since 2001 to earn a Big East Award in volleyball.

Her first season as a Friar holds not only some of the most



This season, Root has paced the team's offense and has led the Friars in kills during the last five games.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

memorable playing moments in her career (her first weekend of Big East play included an upset against both Georgetown University and Villanova University and personal career highs), but was also pivotal in rediscovering her love for the game.

"The best decision I ever made personally was to transfer here. Being able to get two degrees and also re-find my love for volleyball after transferring was really everything I could have asked for and more," said the Kansas native. The ultimate highlights of her career as a Friar are all of the memories she

has with the team, hanging out in the locker room and on their road trips.

However, despite her immediate success as a Friar and the success that would follow, Root credits her teammates for having the biggest impact on her career and experience at the College.

"After I got [the 1,000th kill], all of my teammates were posting on social media and I was like, 'Guys, this wouldn't be without you because I can't hit the ball without you. This is all you, I just have to swing.' We are really close as a team. This has

probably been the closest team that I have been a part of," admitted Root. "We are more than willing to work hard for each other."

And, despite their overall 5-18 record going into the second half of their season, Root believes it is the team's closeness and hardworking mentality that will allow them to have a winning record for the final stretch of the season.

"Our record hasn't necessarily shown all of the work and talent that we have on the team," Root said before stating that despite the team's losing record, they are winning more sets than ever this season and only suffered a two-point deficit loss to the ninth team in the country. "We come into the gym every single day and don't let the losses get us down. We continue to work incredibly hard and have fun playing together."

Vowing that the team is ready to do whatever it takes to have a winning second half of their season, Root said, "I think we just need to continue to keep the same mentality of working hard and keeping up the fight. We can upset some teams and upset their seasons."

Individually, Root would really like to see the team capture some Big East wins that she feels they deserve after all of the team's hard work thus far. "We're obviously tired of losing but it's not [as if] we are going to give up. I would like to see some of that translate into some wins."

More focused on what the team is doing as a whole in comparison to her own personal goals and achievements, Root said she is "pretty happy" with her 1,000th kill achievement. "It was pretty cool," she concluded.

Women's Soccer Vying for Final Playoff Spot

by Marc DeMartis '21
Sports Staff

WOMEN'S SOCCER

This past Sunday, the Providence College Women's Soccer Team took on the Villanova University Wildcats for the Friars' Senior Day. Although the Friars were defeated 0-1, they dominated the stat sheet in almost every category.

The Friars had a total of 14 shots compared to Villanova's six. Rhode Island native Hannah McNulty '21 led the Friars' attack with five attempted shots, with one shot-on-goal being a header that ended up hitting the right post. A goal that the Friars could have used to tie the game. McNulty also scored an impressive header that was waved off after being ruled offsides in the 60th minute.

The Wildcats began the game strong, scoring early in the 21st minute, but lost their momentum in the second half as the Friars outshot them 10-0.

Even though the seniors were upset after losing a hard-fought game, they were just as happy to play with their teammates for their last home game. Olivia Lucia '20 said, "Although we didn't get the result we wanted tonight, I was so proud of the effort and hard work that the team put forth. It was an emotional day, but I was overjoyed to be surrounded by my team and fellow seniors on our home field for our last



Alessandra Arace '20 races past a Villanova defender. Arace is one of four seniors on the team and has started in all 17 games this season.

BRIANNA COLLETTI '21/THE COWL

home game."

When asked about how she felt about her Senior Day, Lucia said, "I honestly can't put into words how emotional and amazing my senior season has been for me. It doesn't feel real that I might be playing my last

game this week. The little girl inside me doesn't want to let go of the sport that became her escape and passion."

Now the Friars look forward to their last game of the regular season against Seton Hall University on Oct. 31. After that, they have the Big East Tournament

ahead of them. Lucia is looking forward to this year's tournament, saying, "Going into the Big East Tournament, I have a lot of confidence in the team and know that if we work hard we can be very successful." Tournament play starts for the Friars on Nov. 3.

Money Talks: The NBA & China

by Cam Smith '21
Sports Assistant Editor

EDITOR'S CORNER

For months, pro-democracy protesters have filled the streets of Hong Kong, a former British colony that was handed back to the Chinese in 1997. Although taking place on the opposite side of the globe, the effects of the protests are being felt on the American world of basketball.

To understand the unrest, one must understand that since 1997, China and Hong Kong have operated under a "one country, two systems" policy. The policy grants the citizens of Hong Kong far greater access to rights, including the right to free speech and free assembly, than those living on the Communist party-controlled mainland.

The catalyst for the protests was a bill that would make it easy for Beijing officials, including President Xi Jinping, to accuse Hong Kong citizens of fallacious crimes, and then process them through courts controlled by the Communist Party. Although the bill was recently withdrawn by the Hong Kong legislature, the protests have continued as they have evolved into a broader fight against the increasing encroachment of Beijing into everyday life.

It is in this context that on Oct. 4, the general manager of the Houston Rockets, Daryl Morey, tweeted out his support for the protesters, posting an image that read, "fight for freedom, stand with Hong Kong." This simple gesture of support created countless consequences.

Subsequently forced to apologize for his tweet, Morey was denounced by the Chinese consulate in Houston and was even on the hotseat as the Rockets reportedly considered firing him in an effort to appease the Chinese. His own star player, James Harden, took it upon himself to apologize for Morey, saying, "We apologize... we love China. We love playing there."

Fellow NBA star, LeBron James, whose team was in China at the time for a pair of preseason games, also weighed in, saying that, "So many people could have been harmed [by the tweet], not only financially, but physically, emotionally, spiritually... Even though yes, we do have freedom of speech, there can be a lot of negative that comes with it."

Since then, Chinese broadcasters have ignored key games in the opening week of NBA action, including the Rockets opener against the Milwaukee Bucks. Chinese sponsors for the NBA have also been pulled, and those games that did make it to television in China were devoid of audio for fear of mentioning the controversy.

It was only recently that the NBA forged a \$1.5 billion agreement to stream games online with Chinese tech giant Tencent Holdings. Prior to the deal, what the league labels as "NBA China," already held an estimated value of \$4 billion to the league. Unquestionably, China represents an enormous market for basketball itself.

However, this does not excuse the NBA from turning its back on a people fighting for freedom. The squashing of support for Hong Kong by the league, along with other American corporations including Apple and Blizzard Entertainment, is deeply disturbing. Furthermore, it is a complete betrayal of the American values that we hold dear as a country, values that have allowed the NBA and its players to thrive. The expansion of capitalism must not result in the sacrifice of democracy.

Which Winter Sports Team Will Have The Best Season? Providence College Investigates:

Men's Ice Hockey

by Eileen Flynn '20
Sports Staff

PCI

Another winter is approaching and luckily at Providence College that means it is finally basketball and hockey season. Although both the teams have been preparing during preseason, the PC men's ice hockey team is looking like they will have the most successful season.

After just a few short weeks, the PC men's team has a record of 4-2, 2-1 in conference play. The difficulty of their schedule from the start foreshadows a strong season as the Friars have already faced Hockey East rivals University of

Maine, Boston College and University of Massachusetts-Lowell. Their two wins against UMaine and BC were not close games, as the Friars managed to score a combined 13 goals against these two teams, proving that the team does not have trouble finding the back of the net.

A good team has a superstar, but a great team has talent spread through the second and third lines. This year, the Friars have already introduced multiple players that can pass the puck well and score when the team needs it. The underclassmen have proven to be an important asset to the Friars' team as well. Starting with the freshmen, Cam McDonald '23 netted the game winning goal against no. 10/9 Clarkson as well as

scoring again against Boston College the following week. Michael Callahan '22, Jack Dugan '22, Matt Koopman '22, and Tyce Thompson '22 are four sophomores who have tallied multiple points since the season started. Dugan was awarded Hockey East player of the week after leading the conference in points (5) and assists (4).

The upperclassmen bring the experience aspect to this year's squad. Last year, the Friars made it to the Frozen Four in the NCAA tournament. The team fell short to Minnesota Duluth, the No. 1 seed after a long, impressive season. This was the Friars sixth season appearing in the NCAA Tournament and this year should be no exception.

The Northeastern University Huskies came up on top in the Hockey East Tournament in 2019, this year the Friars will want to beat the reigning champions. Boston College was the team that knocked PC out of the Hockey East running last year. The Eagles won the series 2-1. This past week the Friars beat Boston College 6-2, showing a glimpse of a promising season from PC.

There is no doubt the Friars will be tested this season, but their revenge tour might just give them the push they need to make it even further this year. Nate Leaman enters his ninth season as head coach for the Friars, and since it has been several years since his 2015 National Championship title, he is ready for another one.



A mix of youth and veteran leadership will propel the team to another successful season.

LAURA CHADBOURNE '20/THE COWL

Men's Basketball

by Joseph Quirk '23
Sports Staff

PCI

As October draws to a close, we are reminded just how close winter is. Winter is an especially exciting time in Friartown as some of Providence College's best sports open their seasons and begin their quest for NCAA glory. However, of all of the winter sports, men's basketball will have the best season this year.

Arguments can be made for a couple of different teams here as several are

coming off successful seasons. In reality however, all eyes are on two squads, the men's hockey and basketball teams.

Men's ice hockey, lead by Nate Leaman for the ninth season, is five years removed from a national championship and one year removed from a Frozen Four appearance. The squad was ranked No. 7 in the nation before Saturday's loss to University of Massachusetts-Lowell and boasts a young roster with six players currently having their draft rights owned by NHL teams. All this being said, men's ice hockey will not be the most

successful team on campus this winter.

Something is brewing in the Dunkin' Donuts Center and will be the big NCAA tournament run the Friars men's basketball team has been expecting for some time now. The Friars will be led by ninth-year Head Coach Ed Cooley. Cooley returns after several rumors this offseason of him being considered a favorite for the Michigan coaching position, but ultimately withdrawing his name and signing an extension with PC. That was followed up with some big offseason acquisitions including University of Massachusetts-Amherst star graduate transfer Luwane Pipkins '19G, transfers Noah Horchler '20 and Jared Bynum '22, and Greg Gantt '23.

The Friars also expect a jump and improvement from David Duke '22, Kris Monroe '22 and AJ Reeves '22. The Friars are also returning star center Nate Watson '21 and seniors Maliek White '20, Kalif Young '20, and Alpha Diallo '20, who even tested NBA waters this offseason.

This new Friars roster is filled with experience and new talent and has potential to far surpass last year's team. Gantt was a four-star recruit and ranked no. 67 in the nation before joining the Friars. Diallo was considered an NBA prospect but has decided to keep his talent in Rhode Island. Pipkins is a very experienced and talented guard who scores with ease and is expected to start for PC this year. It would be wrong to assume this is not the best team on campus this winter.



After getting hit with the injury-bug late last year, Reeves is poised for a breakout year.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

A Look Around Friartown

Cross Country:

10/25 at Central Connecticut State University
Mini-Meet (Men Only)
Men: 1st

Upcoming:

11/2 at Big East Championship

Women's Field Hockey:

10/25 vs. Georgetown University, win 2-0
10/27 vs. Rider University, win 1-0

Upcoming:

11/01 vs. Liberty University
11/08-10 Big East Tournament

Men's Soccer:

10/26 vs. Creighton University, win 3-2 (OT)

Upcoming:

11/2 at Xavier University
11/6 at St. John's University

Women's Soccer:

10/24 vs. Butler University, loss 0-1
10/27 vs. Villanova University, loss 0-1

Upcoming:

10/31 at Seton Hall University
11/03 Big East Tournament First Round
11/07 Big East Tournament Semifinals

Women's Volleyball:

10/25 vs. Creighton University, loss 0-3
10/26 vs. Creighton University, loss 0-3

Upcoming:

11/01 vs. Seton Hall University
11/03 vs. St. John's University

Swim and Dive:

Upcoming:

11/01 vs. Iona College
11/02 vs. Fairfield University

Young Talent Ready to Take Women's Basketball Team to the Next Level

by Sullivan Burgess '20
Sports Staff

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

In the beginning of October, the Big East unveiled the coach's poll preseason rankings for all Big East women's basketball teams for the upcoming 2019-2020 season. While DePaul University was unanimously voted first, the Providence College Women's Basketball Team came in fifth, tied alongside Villanova University. Both teams are coming off of trips to the 2019 Women's National Invitational Tournament.

Following this news, the team looks to carry on the success from the 2018-2019 season and play to the strengths of each player.

Last season, the Friars posted a 19-16 record, which earned them sixth overall in the Big East standings. The team made it to the second round of the Big East Tournament, where they lost to St. John's University.

The Lady Friars earned themselves a spot in the WNIT, where they made a run to the Sweet Sixteen, losing to Georgetown University. The 19 wins were the most overall wins the team has had since 2009-2010, which, coincidentally, was the last time they had made it into a postseason tournament.

The team had to say goodbye to three seniors who graduated from PC last spring, including Clara Che '19, a 2019 Big East Weekly Honor Roll selection, Maddie Jolin '19, the winner of the Rev. Robert A. Morris O.P. '46 Memorial Award, and Jovana "Yoyo" Nogic '19, a fan favorite and the Providence College Female Athlete of the Year.

Last season marked numerous career highs for Nogic. She was ranked 12th on the most points per game in the Big East at 13.8 points, and averaged 19.3 points in the WNIT.

While the Friars lost three seniors, they also gained some new faces in the locker room: Hevynne Bristow '23 from Brooklyn, NY, Fatima Lee '23 from Queens, NY, and Lauren Sampson '23 from Waltham, MA. All are ready

to answer the call for the team and bring their skills and strengths to make a difference both on and off the court this upcoming season.

Four of the starters are back this season in the lineup for the Friars, including reigning Big East Freshman of the Year, Mary Baskerville '22.

Last season Baskerville finished as one of the leaders for rebounds per game at 7.3, leaders for blocked shots at 1.5, and even field goal percentage at .580 percent. Her breakout season made her the ultimate candidate for a unanimous selection to the Preseason All-Big East Team.

Herself and other Friar favorites like Kaela Webb '22 and Chanell Williams '21 are ready to give it their all and do great for the team.

In his fourth season with the Friars, Head Coach Jim Crowley is ready to lead his ladies into battle and give everything he has for the team to repeat the success they earned last season and once again make it into the postseason rankings.

The biggest threats the Friars face this season are rival teams DePaul University and St. John's University. DePaul retains their title this season as the most successful Big East program for women's basketball, posting a 91-17 record since the 2013-2014 season and has numerous returning starters this year.

The Friars hope to turn things around against the DePaul Blue Demons after losing last season's series to the team 0-3 including a loss in the quarterfinal of the Big East Tournament.

When it comes to St. John's, the Red Storm is expected to make a big jump from 2018-2019, with the return of a group of starters who lead in scoring, steals, and even assists.

However, this season, the Friars are ready to eliminate all who stand in their way by constantly practicing and grinding their way to the top. They are ready to show the world whose time it is and where they stand in the Big East.



Despite losing their top two scorers, the Friars return four players that started more than 10 games for the team.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

PROVIDENCE



PORTFOLIO

HALLOWEEN

Ghost Poems

Phantom

by Connor Zimmerman '20, Elizabeth McGinn '21, Sarah Kirchner '21
Portfolio Editors

I looked around the corner;
Phantom eyes staring back at me.
A haunting chill went down my spine:
Frosty breath, sweaty palms, fight or flight kicking in.
Reaching out to touch the specter,
As my hand went through, my body went cold.
My hand darted back; bumps began to envelop my skin.
Vapors dissipating from where it once stood.
Fear swallows me. Suddenly, I stand alone.

Does Fear Disappear?

by Sean Tobin '20
Portfolio Staff

Does fear disappear
If Stephen King writes it down
And Hitchcock films it?

Or does fear instead
Creep, crawl, and hide deeper down
Where you cannot reach?

The Wind

by Sarah Heavren '21
Portfolio Staff

The wind whips and wails
Shaking the walls
Rattling the trees
Making leaves fall.

It groans and stings
With such distress
Like a poor soul
That's not at rest.

Darkness Surrounds

by Grace O'Connor '22
Portfolio Staff

I opened my eyes to see darkness surrounding me
I slowly stood up as my head throbbed
The room smelled musty and the darkness weighed down on me
The floor creaked below me as I cautiously took a step forward
I stopped quickly to calm my racing heart
I heard steps but could not tell from which direction
I paused, panicked and paranoid
In that moment I couldn't breathe
It all happened in a second
Standing over me, it was the last thing I ever saw
As the true darkness swept over me



ON THE EVE OF SAMHAIN

by Clara Howard '20
Portfolio Staff

FICTION



As the sun set on the eve of the harvest season, the countryside of Valenlea was awash in yellows, oranges, and reds. Nature brushed fingers of brilliant light against the tops of trees and blew winking kisses of gold to the terracotta tiles of roofs. The royal castle, settled high in the hills above the capital and built of glass and sandstone, burned resplendently in the golden sun. Standing tall, the ancient home of the monarchs cast a proud gaze over the spread of life beneath it. And as the sun smoldered red against the horizon line, the indigo of dusk crept ever closer. Behind it all, gathering in the east and sliding smoothly together, clouds covered the moon. The forces at work had no wishes for any witnesses tonight, after all.

Hidden far beneath the earth, in a dirty, moldy prison cell, a bearded man sat. His head rested against a wall of dirt and stone and his eyes were closed. Only the slight rise and fall of his chest gave any indication that he still lived. His hands were curled into fists, cut off by the heavy, black iron manacles locked around his wrists. A second pair wrapped around his ankles, connected to a short chain embedded in the wall. One of the newer guards ventured the observation that it almost seemed as if the man were waiting for something. Distracted by the subsequent teasing, none of the guards saw the prisoner's answering smile.

Above the prison, mere moments after the last dregs of the sun disappeared beneath the horizon, an unholy storm broke over the kingdom of Valenlea. Rain lashed at windows and sides of buildings, shattering glass and tearing at brick walls. Water roared down the streets as small streams transformed into furious, churning rivers. Screaming gales of wind brought trees and precious crops crashing to the ground. People panicked as they sought higher ground,

only to be swept away by the merciless water. Nature swallowed the cries of Valenlea's dying as she threw electrifying bolts of lightning to illuminate the sky and rolled great crashes of thunder to shake the ground. Tomorrow, her calm blue skies would shock the humans who feared her, but tonight, she would let her anger rage at them.

Beneath the ground, the prisoner listened as chaos erupted. Water gushed forth from the sewer tunnels, flooding the dungeon cells



at a deadly pace. The guards withdrew, clambering up to the surface and abandoning their charges to their certain, watery ends. The man opened bloodshot eyes to watch as black water flooded into his cell. A figure rose from the shallows, cloaked in oily black and wielding a steaming, curved blade. The prisoner scrambled up to stand before the figure. And as the scythe tipped slowly forward, the edges sharp enough to split souls, the man's bloody, cracked lips twisted into a smile, revealing rotten, chipped teeth and a black tongue. He spread his fingers wide and held his arms out to the reaper, palms facing up. Death had fulfilled his end of the bargain and had come to claim his reward.

High in the hills of Valenlea, the queen watched the devastation that tore through her lands with blurred vision. Tears

streamed down her face as her heart found a new home in the back of her throat and sobs caught behind her ribs with each flash of lightning that revealed new destruction. The heavy steps of the king echoed into their bedchamber, and she turned her face into his broad chest, the familiar scent of her husband wrapping gently around her breaking heart. He rubbed a spot between her shoulder blades with jerky movements and pressed his lips to the top of her head. She sniffled, wanting to inhale his comforting scent

up and laced his fingers through her hair, wrapping the tendrils around his palm and pulling her head back. As their eyes met, the terror that had been slowly building in her throat erupted from her mouth in a scream. The queen looked at her husband but did not recognize the man who stared back at her with eyes of a monster from the ancient myths. Cloudy grey surrounded onyx irises circling white pupils. His face had gone as pale as the snow covering the peaks of the northern mountains, and his golden hair had turned as black as tar. A cruel smile twisted his mouth as he reached his other hand up to cover her face. With her last breath, the queen released her magic, the ensuing whoosh of air masking the sound of her neck snapping. As the monster and the queen fell, the storm ceased.

The king awoke to golden sunlight flooding his bedchamber. A headache hammered at his skull. He opened his eyes slowly, blinking in confusion. Why was he on the floor? He sat up, a nauseous churning in his stomach as he took in the details of the devastated land outside his windows. A glint of gold in the corner of his eye caught his attention. He turned, and the headache exploded behind his eyes as he beheld his wife, wide-eyed and still, lying on the ground beside him.

His heart pounding and hand shaking, he reached for her. A sob wrenched from his throat when he felt the ice of her skin, the sound aggravating the hammering behind his brow. "No... Mae..." Tears streamed down his face as the sun beat on his back. He closed his eyes, resting his face against her frozen collarbone.

The king struggled to breathe.

The queen was dead.

And he remembered all of it.

again, but froze. A small kernel of her magic pulsed in the abyss of her stomach, and she sniffed again. Something was wrong. Something was very wrong.

"Alec?" she whispered, her voice muffled against the king's chest. The queen tried to ease herself out of his embrace, pushing gently against his torso to widen the distance between them. Instead of letting her go, his arms tightened against her back. He crushed her to him, squeezing her until black spots started poking holes in her vision, and it became hard to breathe. Above them, thunder boomed as lightning lit the room. In its echo, she could hear her son screaming, and her head suddenly cleared.

Her magic bloomed, winding its way through her veins and nerves, lending her strength as she struggled against her husband's embrace. Another cry from her son distracted her, and in that moment, the king reached

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

by Gabriela Baron '20
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

"Do you remember what I told you?" Mom asked nervously.

"Get lost and walk alone?" I said, mocking her.

"Ella!"

"Mom, it's going to be ok. Stop worrying. I'll be with all my friends."

It was my first time trick-or-treating without my parents.

I was in sixth grade, and my mom

and dad were finally letting me be independent! I mean I was 12, so I was practically an adult. I was going out with a big group of boys and girls in my grade (that was the only way they were allowing me to go).

Christina was a witch, David was Harry Potter, Kevin and Adam were superheroes, Emily, Katie, Natalia, and Rebecca were characters from *Winnie the Pooh*, and I was Dorothy from the *Wizard of Oz*.

"And don't let this little stinker get loose either," my mom said, petting my teacup Yorkie, Snickers. Snickers was dressed up as Toto, Dorothy's little pup.

After another ten minutes of reminding me of the rules, my parents set me free. It was 9 p.m. The sky was gloomy, and the moon glared down at us. We made a few stops around the best houses in the neighborhood, and

my pillowcase grew heavy with full-size candy bars.

"So, who wants to go to this place next?" David said, pointing to an old, wooden house in the distance.

Its paint was stripped, and it looked naked without any shutters.

"Definitely not one of the girls," Kevin joked.

"What's that supposed to mean?" I called back.

"It means you girls will chicken out. There's a creepy man who lives there all by himself. Rumor has it he hasn't left the house in years," Kevin replied.

"I also heard that anyone who goes to his house on Halloween never makes it back home," David added.

"Well, I'll prove you all wrong. Haven't you guys watched *Home Alone* before? The scary next-door neighbor who was always shoveling snow ended up being a sweet, misunderstood father. I bet you this guy's not bad and these stories are just mean lies," I argued.

"I don't think that's good enough of a reas—" Katie

started.

"Oh, please. It's not a big deal. I'll be back in five minutes."

After walking with Snickers for what seemed like longer than I had predicted, we finally reached the front steps. I could feel my heart pounding. *You can do this, Ella, you're basically a teenager now*, I told myself. I knocked on the door three times. No answer. I knocked another three times. I thought I heard a sound from within but figured it was all in my head. "C'mon, Snickers, there's no 'creepy man' inside," I said, walking back down the steps. I heard a door creak open.

"Hello?" said a shadowy figure in a low, raspy voice.

I looked back. "Oh, uh, trick or treat!" I said awkwardly. Snickers's tail was between his legs.

"Are you here all alone, Dorothy?" The man peered his head out the door. He had beady eyes. I don't think he ever blinked.

"No, my friends are by!"

close

"Well, all the kids already took the candy that was out on the stoop. But I have an extra candy apple inside." He smiled, showing yellow crooked teeth. He was looking down at my ruby red heels.

"Oh, that's ok!" I laughed nervously.

"No, really, come on," he said, motioning me in.

"I'm fine. Thanks anyways!" I turned back around.

"No, I think you should come inside!" He grabbed one of my braids. I struggled to break free. My friends were too far away to hear me shout. His other hand clutched my forearm, pulling me in. My ruby heels made a screeching noise, scraping against the floor. Snickers growled and lunged forward.

"Ow, what the!" The man screamed, letting go of my hair. His ankle was bleeding from the bite.

"C'mon, Toto, we're going home!" I shouted, yanking on the leash.

Suddenly, spending Halloween with my parents didn't seem so bad after all.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM

ARCTIC SUMMER

by Jay Willett '20
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Picks dug into the transparent ice, deep enough for the burly man to gain a footing with his spiked heel. Void of upper body strength, Daniel heaved hard, chuckling at his own physique and exhaustion. It had been Danielle who convinced him. Think about it, she said, the Inner Arctic Circle: uncharted land that not even the great explorers like Amundsen could find. Daniel had reached the edge of the mid cliff, the horizon a mixed magenta and green.

"Wait up!" Danielle's laugh echoed up the frozen wall. Daniel sighed; his breath misted and fell in front of him. It had been his sister's idea, yet she couldn't keep up. Two days of climbing, sliding, camping, and crouching from the occasional polar bear. Daniel had preferred to watch them gallop on National Geographic, safely in the comfort of his own flat in Nova Scotia.

That was his problem, Danielle always lectured; Daniel was too comfortable. He was unemployed and she had been traveling across Siberia working in the Peace Corps.

"Cliff bar?" she waved it towards Daniel's beard.

"I guess there wouldn't be a time more appropriate than now, eh?"

"I guess not," Danielle grinned. "Sun's going down, wanna call it?"

Daniel smirked, and bit into the granola.

"Why? You tired?"

"As if!" Danielle nudged him. "You're the one panting like a dog; I could hear it all the way back there!"

Daniel nodded. This was his punishment for neglecting the gym for years.

"Better than home though, right? I'm glad we could do this," Danielle said.

Dusk began to blanket the sun. Night was rare and sparse at the beginning of the summer season. There would only be an hour or two of darkness. Danielle pulled out a flare, Daniel reached for it.

"No, not that—here, use this." He handed her a firestarter, coated in sap. He always wondered how she got this far in her career despite being so clueless. Sparks feebly flickered in and out with the heavy northern winds. Danielle frowned and spun the lighter in frustration. She had always been determined, Daniel thought. Without her, he probably never would have left the house.

"UrGh - gzzzzzt" a growl hissed from the ice ceiling on the cliffside. Danielle recoiled, Daniel grabbed his flashlight.

"What was that?!" Danielle whispered. Daniel held his hand up. Cracking sounds boomed on the lake below, audible

even from hundreds of feet up. There was no light now; Daniel's beam was all that was left. He angled it towards the sky.

Ripping sublevels of concrete ice, an arm glimmered through the reflection of the natural mirror. Daniel could see the metal drilling underneath the surface.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM



The Path Home

by Erin Venuti '20
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Amidst a string of warm autumn days in October, there was a cold, dry night the week before Halloween. And it was on this cold, dry night that she noticed the footprints.

She was walking back from the library after a late-night study session for her biology midterm. It was two in the morning and one of the security guards had kicked her out of the library just as it was closing. As a freshman, she might have protested or relocated to Slavin for an all-nighter, but she was a senior now, and she was tired, so she was reluctantly making the trek back to Davis to go to bed.

She might not have noticed the footprints if she hadn't been listening to the "Release Radar" playlist on Spotify, because the first time she looked down at the ground was when she pulled her phone out of her pocket to skip the new Taylor Swift song she'd already heard a hundred times that day.

Now, she saw them—too small to belong to a college student. Too wet to make sense. And because the owner of these feet had been barefoot, she could tell that they were missing the second toe on their right foot, giving the illusion that their left foot was slightly larger.

Perhaps it was a Halloween prank or perhaps they'd always been there or perhaps she was only imagining them, but because they were so distinctive, and it was two in the morning, and she was alone, and they were going in the direction of her apartment, she couldn't help but notice that her heartbeat was beginning to speed up.

She looked up and around. No one. Harry Styles continued to sing through her AirPods and she breathed in the sweet, thick detergent drifting from the cracked window of the McDermott laundry room.

She kept walking, not daring to step on the footprints.

Crunch.
Her heart crashed in her chest and her hands flew to her headphones, yanking them from her ears.

She froze.
Crunch.
She looked down at the footprints again, confirming they actually existed. They did.

Crunch.
She fought the pressure that was threatening to close her airways. What air made it to her lungs seemed to be lacking oxygen.

The noise was getting closer. Slowly, she dared to look to the right of the walkway, where the sound originated, searching the shadowed leaves at the edge of the grass.

A squirrel.
Crisis averted.
And to her relief, the footprints had changed course and were no longer headed in the direction of her apartment but had rather taken a sharp left

turn between McDermott and Aquinas and into the quad. She put the AirPods back in her ears, pressed play, and continued on past St. Dom's, Feinstein, St. Joe's, Guzman, and at the bottom of the stairs took a left on that walkway that used to be Huxley. From here, she could see the window of her bedroom, her roommate's fairy lights fading off and on.

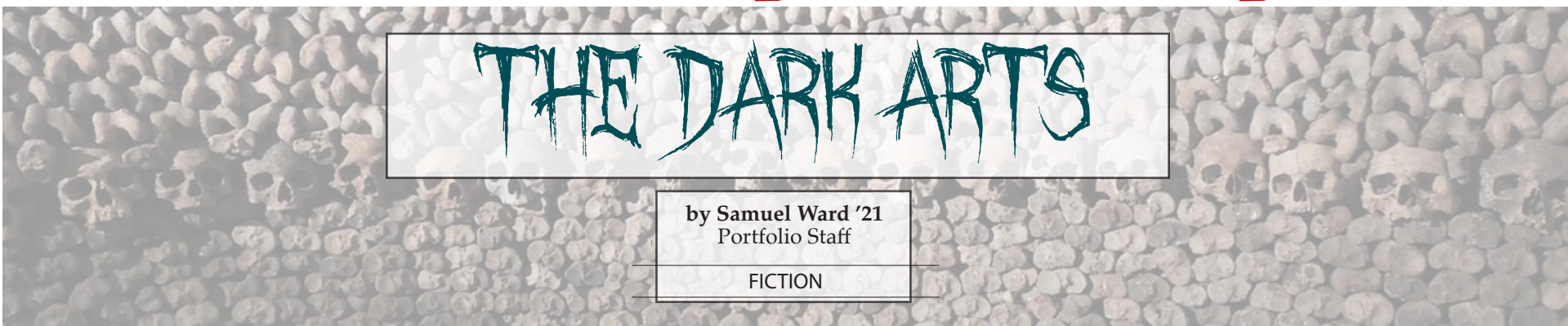
It occurred to her, here, that she'd not seen another person since she left the library, which, even at two in the morning, was unusual at PC.

She noticed, too, that she was about to cross paths with the footprints again. Except this time, they were coming from the opposite direction. They were heading toward her.

And they were getting closer.



GRAPHIC DESIGN BY SARAH KIRCHNER '21



THE DARK ARTS

by Samuel Ward '21
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

The wood burned as the fire cracked and the occultist conjured unsettling images. Clowns and killers brandishing knives. "Dahbay!" The syllables erupting from the bottom of his throat; he threw sand on the fire. "Mugrodan!" His hand fell flat on the ancient tome. "Kasarah!" The fire exploded outward, sending him and the heavy book flying to the ground.

The occultist was nothing without his enchantress. How could he wreak havoc on humanity without her power? He only knew the one necromancy spell and judging from his blistered face and the decomposing body at the altar, he had done it wrong.

He stood up in the catacomb, the dying fire lighting only enough for him to see a fraction of the ornate design on the limestone sarcophagus. The limp body was far from the psychotic clown he had hoped to transform it into.

That's when the walls began to shake and the fire burned a toxic purple.

"Who dares disturb me!" The voice oozed from the altar into the soul of the young necromancer. The ancient script on the catacomb walls lit up and the sarcophagus began to convulse and the feminine voice shrieked violently.

The occultist turned to go for the exit, running instead into a wall. A left turn yielded a similar result as the shrieking continued. Panicked, he fell to his knees and began searching through the sand for a match, a lighter, or a dropdoor: an exit or something that would illuminate such. He could feel the oxygen subside as if the room was shrinking.

The disquieted voice offered no reassurance to the dying man.

"The altar is closed for necromancy on Sundays," she spit before the walls collapsed inward, finalizing his burial in the ancient catacombs.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM

WHO'S THERE?

by Samantha Pellman '20
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

HA

HA

Today was a success! I found everything I needed and was finally heading to the car. I had been at the mall for two hours now just by myself, popping into different stores, leaving with lots of bags. There is no better feeling than going to the mall for a purpose and leaving with that purpose. It's dark now. The sun was out when I arrived but seems to have completely vanished. I begin to walk through the parking garage, forgetting where I parked my car. Was I even on the right level? I could not remember for the life of me. I always hated parking garages, they freaked me out. This one was cold and dark. It was somewhat empty but I remember it being packed; I could barely find a spot earlier. There was not a soul in sight, even though the garage was massive. I began to breathe faster. Should I go back into the mall and collect my thoughts? It certainly isn't a good idea to roam around a creepy parking garage alone. I clicked my keys hoping the lights on my car would go off. It was nowhere to be seen. I must be on the wrong floor. My heart was pounding and I felt goosebumps starting to form. What was that noise? I swore I heard distant footsteps.

The steps got closer and I began to walk faster. Where the heck was my car? I felt my skin turn white. I heard a laughter echoing through the garage.

"Who's there?" I said aloud.

The laughing continued. I began to run frantically, trying to open my phone and call someone. As I ran I dropped my keys. But when I attempted to grab them they were gone. I looked up and saw my car a few hundred feet away, running, keys in the ignition: but no one inside. I dropped my bags and headed back to the mall. My heart was jumping out of my chest. I pushed at the door but it was locked shut. Tears started to form in my eyes.

"Please who's there?" I mumbled, half to myself.

I closed my eyes. I heard the laugh again.

"It's me," they said. But I kept my eyes shut. I didn't want to see who it was.

HA HA HA



What's Up with Everyone Today?

by Daniel Carrero '23
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Ike was upset nobody shoveled the snow from the driveway. He had to park on the street. Walking inside the house he could hear Wonder barking from the backyard. He dropped his suitcase at the door, "Dad's home!" No response. Ike thought the house was unusually silent this evening. Typically after a long trip he's greeted at the door.

He walked into his bedroom and Tina, his wife, sat in front of the TV watching *The Office*, with a plate of burnt steak in her lap. Her brown hair looked like it was dipped in frying oil, and the bags under her eyes were purple potato skins.

Last time she looked like this was after Izzy was born, Ike thought. "Hey, babe. Um, you ok?"

Through a mouthful of food, she replied, "I'm doing great sweetie! I jus-just was feeling really sick the last few days is all."

"Oh ok, well you'll feel better soon," he said, putting his arm around her. "That smells good, honey, what kinda steak is that?"

"Mmm, new recipe I came up with," she said, offering him a piece.

"Oh wow, that is good," he said chewing. "Where are Izzy and Toni at?"

"The kids! Oh, they're probably raiding the fridge or out in the backyard."

"That's weird, I didn't hear them when I walked in."

Tina giggled, "Maybe they're hiding"

In the backyard, Ike watched Wonder in the snow, at the far end of the yard chewing a thick bone. Ike called Wonder over, but Wonder ignored him. He's usually more excited to see me, Ike thought. Everyone's usually excited to see me, what's up with everyone today?

In the kitchen with Tina, Ike asked, "You know when the kids are coming home?"

Preparing some vegetables, she said, "I'm making spaghetti tonight"

Ike narrowed his eyes at Tina, "Ok, but what about the kids?"

"I'm sure they're already here, babe, don't worry."

"Do you not know where they are?"

Tina barked, "Of course I do! I told you where they are! Will you stop pressing me? I'm cooking. Shut up and grab a beer or something. Leave me alone."

Ike flinched, surprised at Tina's outburst. Ike decided Tina must be going through her woman time—men, right, always assuming.

Opening the fridge for a beer, his stomach churned. He stood frozen, horrified by the two pale, mutilated faces staring back at him next to pools of blood

"Oh babe! While you're in the fridge, pass me Izzy and Toni's heads. I was defrosting them so we could have spaghetti and eyeballs tonight."



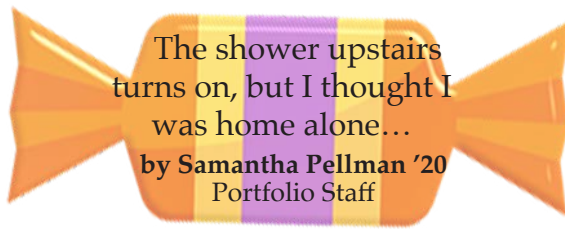
PHOTOS COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM

What Scares You the Most?



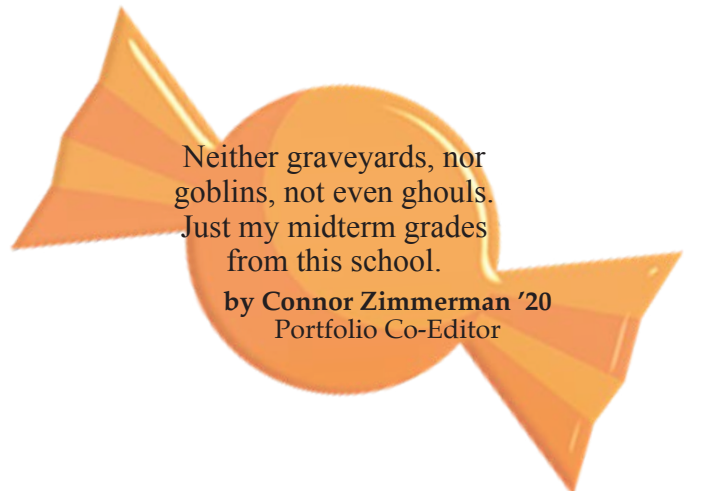
At night, you're home alone. The power goes out. You hear a voice.

by Sarah Kirchner '21
Asst. Portfolio Editor



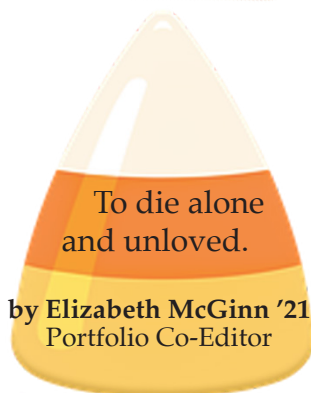
The shower upstairs turns on, but I thought I was home alone...

by Samantha Pellman '20
Portfolio Staff



Neither graveyards, nor goblins, not even ghouls. Just my midterm grades from this school.

by Connor Zimmerman '20
Portfolio Co-Editor



To die alone and unloved.

by Elizabeth McGinn '21
Portfolio Co-Editor



An email comes from the Bursar's Office: tuition due by the first.

by Daniel Carrero '23
Portfolio Staff



Spider—crawls away, out of sight...lurks still in mind.

by Sarah McLaughlin '23
Portfolio Staff

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM



THE HASH-SLINGING FRIAR

by Ghost Hunter '21
Portfolio Staff

SATIRE

In the weeks preceding Halloween, several students have reported witnessing a ghost-like figure wandering late at night. The figure was described by a source as “dressed in the white habit of a friar,” but appeared to be translucent.

Another source stated, “The friar rose from the fog, like he came out of thin air.”

Reports claim that the figure only reveals itself at night, often when it is stormy and foggy. Around campus, the cemetery, the priory, and Howley Hall have all been sites of appearances.

With the upcoming holiday of Halloween, students are on edge. Some have taken to wearing rosaries and crucifixes to ward off the specter. Others have been trying to catch

it on film and have started to call the phenomenon the Hash-Slinging Friar.



After hearing the fear on behalf of the students, the school issued a statement: “We apologize for any inconveniences that have arisen as a result of the Hash-Slinging Friar. We

firmly reject the existence of such a figure.”

However, after a thorough investigation, *The Cowl* is proud to debunk the existence of the Hash-Slinging Friar. After much sleuthing and several sleepless nights lurking the campus in search of the figure, evidence points to a real friar as the so-called Hash-Slinging Friar.

Instead of spotting a ghost, students have been seeing Father George, a friar new to the school.

He is apparently fond of taking walks at night under ominous conditions.

Be sure to say hello to Father George the next time you see a ghost on campus!

Tiffany & Earl

Making PC an emotionally stable place one letter at a time

Dear Tiff and Earl,

The spider hanging over my bed is whispering sweet nothings into my ear. How do I proceed?

Cautiously,
Slightly Interested

Dear Slightly Interested,

It's 2019, so no judgment here. The one thing I would say is make sure she doesn't have kids because that could be a pain. She'd be a cheap date so that's to your benefit. Just round up a few flies, and you're good to go. Pro tip: make sure your roommates don't squish her.

P.S. does she have a gig at Legs and Eggs?

Creepy Crawlily,

Tiff



Dear Slight Shady,

GO FOR IT. Let's be real—these days we need to take what we can get, and cuffing season is upon us. After all, nothings are fine as long as they're sweet! They can't be as bad as the uncouth things your uncle says at Thanksgiving. Plus, the extra legs might come in handy—you never know!

Dangly,

Earl

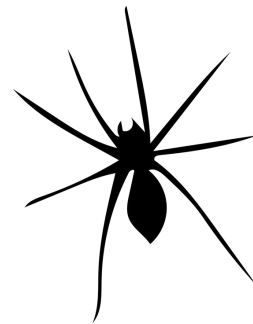
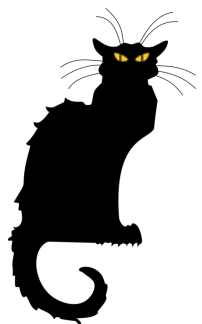


Listomania*

PUMPKIN CARVING IDEAS



- Exam Cheat Sheet
- The Gettysburg Address
- Dante's *Inferno*
- My TikTok username
- A portrait of Father Sicard
- My social security number
- A map to El Chapo's treasure
- Another pumpkin
- A tasteful nude
- The torch
- The bike lane...RIP
- Coach Cooley
- Dot and Fran
- Paul Rudd
- All the productive things I've done (nothing—including carving a pumpkin)
- My dignity (I don't know what that looks like)
- The Portfolio staff in the style of Da Vinci's *Last Supper*



*Listomania and Tiffany & Earl and Friartire are satirical pieces that do not reflect the views of Providence College or The Cowl.



WE'RE NOT
CLOWNING
AROUND