

# The Cowl



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## Providence College Welcomes Dr. Mae Jemison Former NASA Astronaut to Give Commencement Address

by Kerry Torpey '20  
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COMMENCEMENT

On September 12, 1992, NASA astronaut Dr. Mae C. Jemison boarded the space shuttle *Endeavour*, beginning an eight-day journey during which she and six other crew members would make 127 orbits around the earth. Upon returning to earth and landing at the Kennedy Space Center, Jemison officially became the first woman of color to travel to space. Now, almost 28 years later, Jemison will visit the Providence College community as the speaker at our 102nd Commencement Ceremony.

Born in Decatur, AL to parents Charlie and Dorothy, Jemison developed a love for science, in particular astronomy, from a young age. While growing up and attending school in Chicago, Jemison says her parents, “were the best scientists [she] knew, because they were always asking questions.”

Jemison would spend hours watching and researching NASA’s *Apollo* missions, seeking to understand their goals, findings, and accomplishments, but she felt frustrated not seeing any female astronauts. Although Sally Ride was the first American woman to travel to space in 1983, Jemison would be the first woman of color. Having grown up watching Nichelle Nichols play Lieutenant Uhura on *Star Trek*, Jemison saw the potential of representation for women of color in space.

Upon graduating from high school at 16, Jemison attended Stanford University, double majoring in chemical engineering and African and African-American studies. After graduating in 1977, she became a student at Cornell University Medical College, where she obtained her M.D. in 1981. While in medical school, Jemison studied and conducted research in Cuba and worked at a Cambodian refugee camp in Thailand.

After moving to Los Angeles to be a general practitioner for the Los Angeles County Medical Center, Jemison began working with the Peace Corps. Between 1983-85, she served as the Area Peace

Corps Medical Officer in Sierra Leone and Liberia. At the age of 27, she was responsible for managing healthcare for Peace Corps volunteers as well as the U.S. Embassy’s medical care.

It was not until 1985, when Jemison was back in the U.S., that she decided to apply to become an astronaut. She says that when she first applied to the Johnson Space Center, she was not considering the fact that she may be the first African-American woman in space. “I wanted to go into space,” she explains. “I couldn’t have cared if there had been

In preparing to depart for space, Jemison felt it was important to bring things that “represented people who sometimes are not included.” Some examples include: a poster of Judith Jamison performing the dance “Cry,” a Bundu statue to represent a women’s society in West Africa, and a flag for Alpha Kappa Alpha, “the oldest African-American women’s sorority in the United States.”

When she departed as a crew member on *Endeavour*’s STS-47 Spacelab J mission, which was a collaborative

After completing the *Endeavour* mission, Jemison left NASA in March 1993, but her career had only just begun. In that same year, she founded The Jemison Group Inc., a technology consulting firm that encourages students to be passionate about science while merging sociocultural affairs with space engineering and technology.

Then, as a devoted fan of the original *Star Trek* series, Jemison fulfilled every fan’s dream in 1993 when she guest-starred as Lieutenant Palmer in an episode of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, becoming the first real-life astronaut to appear in the series.

In 1994, she started an international science camp for students aged 12 to 16 called “The Earth We Share” as well as a non-profit called the Dorothy Jemison Foundation for Excellence, which she named after her mother.

Jemison has received several honorary doctorate awards and accolades, such as the Ebony Black Achievement Award and a Montgomery Fellowship from Dartmouth College, where she conducted a teaching fellowship. She is also an inductee at the National Women’s Hall of Fame, International Space Hall of Fame, and the National Medical Association Hall of Fame.

She has written multiple books, including her 2001 memoir *Find Where the Wind Goes: Moments from My Life* as well as several *True Book* series about different components of space expedition. In 2012, she led the 100 Year Starship program and received funding to enhance research in our ability to travel outside our solar system to another star within the next 100 years.

In 2017, LEGO released a figurine of Jemison as part of the LEGO Women of NASA Kit, which the company hoped would inspire more women in STEM, an initiative Jemison greatly supports. She also fluently speaks English, Russian, Japanese, and Swahili.

In addition to Jemison, six other honorary degree recipients will be recognized at Commencement, including: Val Ackerman, J. Peter Benzie ’70, Sr. Jane M. Gerety, RSM, Dr. Hugh F. Lena III, the late Dr. Francis P. McKay, and Erich Miller.

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE AND NASA

Dr. Jemison was the first woman of color and the 16th American woman to go into orbit.

one thousand people in space before me or whether there had been none. I wanted to go.”

Despite the devastating explosion of the space shuttle *Challenger* in 1986, Jemison continued to pursue her dream. Then, on June 4, 1987, Jemison became the first African-American woman admitted to NASA’s astronaut training program. She was one of only 15 chosen out of 2,000 applications.

mission between the U.S. and Japan, Jemison served as a science mission specialist. During her eight days in orbit, she conducted experiments on other crew members, testing levels of weightlessness, bone cells, and motion sickness.

“For me,” Jemison says, “the experience was one that made me feel very connected to the universe. I felt my being was as much a part of this universe as any star, as any comet.”



Above from left to right: Dr. Francis P. “Pat” MacKay, Val Ackerman, Erich Miller, Sr. Jane M. Gerety, RSM, J. Peter Benzie, and Dr. Hugh Lena, III will receive honorary degrees at Providence College’s Commencement ceremony on May 17.

### UNDER THE HOOD

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#### News

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## Welcome to the 21st Century *Technology's Place in PC Classrooms*

by Eileen Cooney '23  
Assistant News Editor

ON CAMPUS

Although it is not a universal policy that computers and other devices are not allowed to be used during Development of Western Civilization classes, most of the professors who teach the course implement policies that bar technology from being used for learning purposes.

The prohibition of technology in the classroom can be difficult for students who prefer to type notes on a tablet or a computer rather than handwrite them, or to ensure that the important points of a fast-paced lecture are written down.

Additionally, many students find it helpful to transfer their notes to a digital PDF study guide that is easy to review before exams. A typed outline of one's notes can be more concise and clear to study from rather than a messy, unorganized, handwritten notebook.

Despite the obvious benefits of being able to use a laptop or tablet to take notes, these devices have nonetheless been barred from use in most DWC classes due to their distracting nature.

Dr. Stephen Lynch, professor of English and head of the Liberal Arts Honors program, says that he does not allow technology to be utilized in his classes because "if a student receives an email or some other notification it is just too tempting for them to go off task and check it."

Additionally, he cited various studies that demonstrate that students retain information better when they handwrite



Technology in the classroom continues to be a divisive issue at PC.

JAY WILLETT '20/THE COWL

their notes because they are forced to be more selective in what they take down. Since they cannot write down their notes nearly as fast as they can type, a student is forced to spend more time processing the information when they write it down as opposed to when they type it.

While there have been many studies that show that information is often retained better when one physically handwrites it, there is not a general consensus. For example, some students, particularly those with poor penmanship, find it too difficult to study from their notes that have been scribbled down in futile efforts to keep up with fast-paced lectures.

Katherine Cleary '23 says that she would prefer to type her notes because she feels it would allow her to "be more organized" and have all her "notes in one place, not scattered across many different notebooks." Additionally, it is

worth acknowledging that we live in an increasingly digitized world where more and more schools are switching over to paperless curriculums. Many students come to college from high schools that mandate they use technology in the classroom.

Tara Cooney '21 says, "I came from a high school that was entirely paperless. All of my notebooks, textbooks, and powerpoints were on an iPad provided to me by my high school. Coming from this innovative way of learning to only being able to take notes the old-fashioned way was very difficult."

Despite the increasingly digitized nature of our society, it does not seem as though the policies in DWC classes are subject to change anytime soon. Just as DWC is a long-time tradition at Providence, taking notes the old-fashioned way seems like it is going to be the norm for the foreseeable future.

## PC Celebrates Black History Month

by Will Devaney '23  
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

Every February, the country commemorates the struggles and achievements of African Americans in their pursuit of equality and justice in the United States. Most students know at least some aspects of black history, but few know of the historical impact that African Americans have had right here in Rhode Island.

The Black History Exhibition in The Center at Moore Hall gave the Providence College community an opportunity to explore the rich African American heritage right in our own backyard.

The exhibit chronicled black history in Rhode Island from African culture before the slave trade to 20th century political struggles to gain equality. Some of the artifacts included tribal masks and figures from West African countries, 19th century African American literature, and a large collection of historical photographs of African American families in Rhode Island.

Displays from the Rhode Island State Archives were also featured that explained the African American influence in various periods of American history. In the years after the American Revolution, Rhode Island controlled roughly 60 percent to 90 percent of all the slave trade in the U.S.

The artifacts in the exhibit focused on black history in Rhode Island, specifically. There were political pamphlets that called for reform from the Gilded Age, a barrel from an 18th century rum distillery in Newport, and even images of the 1652 Rhode Island decree that abolished slavery, a law that would become largely unenforced in later centuries.

The exhibit serves to educate PC students and faculty during a month where we look back at the rich history and culture of the African American community. The location of the exhibit was chosen so that "it would be convenient for everyone, especially students coming right out of class," said Nick Sailor '17, the director of Education and Training for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He added, "The exhibit offers the opportunity to learn more about black history, particularly as it relates to

our own local history."

With racial inequality and injustice still prevalent in contemporary society, the celebration of Black History Month has never been more important. As much as the exhibit is about the past, it is ultimately tied to the present. "All of these pieces provide specific details for the conversations happening today about black history," said Sailor.

The Black History Exhibition is an effective and unique way to showcase an important side of local history that is often overlooked. To wrap up Black History Month, the Board of Programmers (BOP) will be hosting an event titled "Black Expo: We Are One" to celebrate African American achievements, Pan-Africanism, and the unity of the African Diaspora. It will be held in Moore 125 Lounge on Thursday, February 27.



The exhibit focused heavily on black history in RI.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

## Commencement

Continued from front page

Val Ackerman is the fifth commissioner of the Big East Conference. Prior, she was an attorney and executive at the NBA, the founding president of the WNBA, and is the former president of USA Basketball. She is a graduate from the University of Virginia where she was a three-time captain and Academic All-American on the women's basketball team, and received her law degree from UCLA.

J. Peter Benzie '70 is executive president and global account leader with Broadridge Financial Solutions Inc. Prior to joining Broadridge in 2005, Benzie worked at Prudential Securities, Shearson Lehman Brothers, Chase Investment Services, and Fidelity Investments. He also served on the College's Board of Trustees from 2009-2018 and served on the executive committee of PC's campaign, *Our Moment: The Next Century Campaign for Providence College*.

Sr. Jane M. Gerety, RSM, served as the president of Salve Regina University in Newport, RI for ten years. Before her presidency, she was an executive board officer and senior vice president for sponsorship with Saint Joseph's Health System. Prior to that, Sr. Gerety taught at universities and high schools across the country. She graduated from Mount Saint Agnes College, earned her master's degree from Middlebury College, and her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Hugh F. Lena, III joined PC in 1974 and has held many roles such as professor and chair of the sociology department, associate director of the Feinstein Institute for Public Service, and president of the Faculty Senate. He was instrumental in the College's decision to form the School of Business, and the School of Arts & Sciences and Professional Studies. He also created the Office of Sponsored Projects and Research Compliance, which brought over \$13M worth of grants to the College. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame and earned his master's degree and doctorate from the University of Connecticut.

The late Dr. Francis P. MacKay, who passed away on September 9, 2019, was part of the PC community for over 50 years. He served as chair of the chemistry department, vice president for academic administration, and president of the Faculty Senate. He was a champion of diversity and helped create the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Program and the Francis P. and Jacqueline K. MacKay Scholarship. He was a graduate from the University of Notre Dame, earned his master's degree from the College of the Holy Cross, and his doctorate from Pennsylvania State University.

Erich Miller is president of My Brother's Keeper, a local nonprofit which delivers food and furniture to families in need. The ministry boasts 4,000 volunteers, including PC students, who make 9,000 deliveries annually. Miller is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame.

Together, the seven honorary recipients embody the pillars of Fr. Shanley's presidency: athletics, financial services, religion, service, women in STEM, and the future of PC.

This year's commencement ceremony for the graduating Class of 2020 will take place at the Dunkin' Donuts Center in downtown Providence on May 17.



# Making Notes on Mental Health

## Friars Partake in Inside Out Week Talks

by Nicole Silverio '22  
News Staff

CAMPUS

In honor of National Eating Disorder Awareness Week, the Concannon Fitness Center and Active Minds put together Inside Out Week to raise awareness and support for those who struggle with eating disorders.

To kick off the week, there was a Feel Good Yoga session in the morning in the Group Fitness Center, booths in Lower Slavin, and a kick-off event with guest Dayna Altman. Altman's event offered pamphlets regarding information on eating disorders, as well as yogurt and fruit for the participants.

In '64 Hall, Altman, a former student at Providence College and author of the mental health cookbook *Bake It Till You Make It: Breaking Bread, Building Resilience*, spoke to an audience while baking one of her recipes. After struggling with her own mental health, Altman began project called Body Positivity. Regarding her project, she said, "I used a YouTube channel to spread our stories. Our story was used to help others and I feel that sense of responsibility and hope."

While at the college, she struggled with her mental health immensely, to the point that she had contemplated suicide. She spent a period of time in a mental facility, which she claimed did



LAURA CHADBOURNE '20/THECOWL

**Inside Out Week features multiple events that promote the fight against eating disorders.**

not benefit her.

Afterwards, she returned to PC with the same suicidal thoughts. She said, "I used school and grades to validate my worth, but when I saw that I failed a test I went into the bathroom to end my life. I'm so grateful that I called my mom and went on medical leave."

While on medical leave, she began seeing a therapist named Deana who she regarded as being "the person who had changed my life more than anyone else." When her medical leave ended, she transferred to Northeastern University in Boston, MA.

At Northeastern, Altman attended a

10-day school trip to Israel where she was sexually assaulted, deteriorating the healthy mental state she had worked hard to build. After returning to campus, she began a movement called Fashion in Action. Altman, fellow peers, and professors collected 800 articles of clothing which they donated to rape crisis shelters. This organization continues at Northeastern today, leaving behind her legacy.

Today, Altman works at a non-profit called Girls Inc. helping young girls to cope with their mental health. Currently, she is working on a children's mental health book inspired

by her work at Girls Inc. She read the audience passages of her published book, containing recipes and stories of 45 people telling their mental health stories. The most notable story was her grandmother's, who described her experience of grief after losing her husband.

After being married for 50 years and working at the same company as her husband, she had spent practically every moment by his side, so losing him took a major toll on her mental state. Her story mentioned that everyone handles grief in different ways; some remarry, some remember the good times, some grieve for the rest of their lives. The message of her story was that there is no shame in the way a person handles their feelings, as every person handles it differently. Altman's cookbook consisted of stories of people from different backgrounds and experiences, nevertheless spreading a moving message to those who may be suffering.

Throughout the week, Peterson will be hosting self-acceptance and mental health workshops to inspire students to accept themselves and help loved ones who may struggle with an eating disorder. Altman served as an example of the possibility of overcoming these struggles with the right awareness and support. Altman and the Inside Out events happening on campus this week strive to spread that same message.

# Featured Friar: Nicholas Calcagno '21

## Bringing PC Business Students Together

by Julia Acquavita '22  
News Staff

FEATURED FRIAR

Nick Calcagno has certainly made his mark at Providence College throughout his past three years here. Whether his involvement included organizing student orientation events, serving as a critical member of the Admissions Ambassadors, or helping to found and create the first ever business fraternity at PC, Calcagno has done it all.

Calcagno grew up in Westfield, NJ, which is about four hours from Friartown. Now the real question is, how did PC make it onto his radar and why did he choose this school?

According to Calcagno, "I found PC through my mom who graduated in '89. She never pressed me to come here, but I knew it was the place for me as soon as I stepped on campus." He was inspired by the warm community and the intense spirit for the school that was present everywhere he looked. Also, to add to the PC family tree, Calcagno's sister decided she, too, loved the school and joined him.

One of Calcagno's greatest accomplishments at PC is having established the business fraternity, Delta Sigma Pi. When asked what inspired him to pursue this fraternity, Calcagno responded by saying, "I cannot take all the credit for starting Delta Sigma Pi. My friend Trevor Somers '21 actually came to me with the idea in the beginning of sophomore year to start a co-ed academic business fraternity open to all business majors."

Somers and Calcagno realized that many business clubs were based on one's major, but not many clubs were open to all business majors. Calcagno explained, "While Trevor was abroad in Spain fall semester, I served as the acting president of Delta Sigma Pi to get it off the ground and solidify it so that we would be able to become a chapter by the end of the year."

Now that Somers is back on campus, Calcagno serves as second-in-command as the senior vice

president of the fraternity. Somers' and Calcagno's hardwork has paid off. With the help of a solid executive committee, Calcagno reported that over 70 kids committed to the fraternity, all of whom will be initiated this spring.

The creation of Delta Sigma Pi has helped to shape Calcagno's PC career. The fraternity has allowed Calcagno to plan events for their members that are "intended to give them a cutting edge in the business world."

The organization also participates in community service events that aim to help PC and the Providence community. Calcagno claims, "This allows me to give back to the community around me as well as the members themselves. In addition, this fraternity is open to anyone who is a business major, allowing us to give as many kids a chance to join a great organization."

Because of the unique events and activities this fraternity offers, the members of the fraternity will each remember this as a special part of their PC experience.

In addition to serving as an Admissions Ambassador executive board member and as an orientation leader, Calcagno recently joined the Friars Club. When asked why he is a member of all of these clubs and organizations, Calcagno responded by saying, "All of these organizations are fantastic, which is why I couldn't help but work to join all of them."

Calcagno finds that each of these clubs has one thing in common: giving back to the school and assisting in bringing in the next generation of Friars. In some way or another, each club Calcagno is involved in aims to make the College a well-rounded, engaging school experience for current and potential students, making him a very valuable member of the Friar Family.

Regarding Calcagno's future plans after leaving Friartown, he intends to move back to New Jersey or to the New York City area. As a finance major, Calcagno intends to work in a career in real estate and eventually start his own portfolio.

However, Calcagno made a point to say, "A very long term goal of mine is to return to the city of Providence and build a large scale affordable housing project to benefit the community."

With goals like this and the work ethic he has, Calcagno is capable of doing great things in his future years, and he has already made an impact within the Friartown community.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICK CALCAGNO '21

Calcagno and Somers have expanded their club in the past year.



# Sign Up and Smell the Coffee!

## A Look at Club Recruitment Processes

by Sienna Strickland '22  
News Staff

CAMPUS

Last week the Board of Programmers (BOP) held their spring semester coffeehouse to give incoming applicants a taste of what the club is like.

Kevin Schwalm '21, BOP's next president, sat down to share some information about the annual tradition practiced by many of the big clubs on campus. "The coffeehouse and open meeting are held before the application and interview process begins. This allows students interested in the club to learn more about what the club does for the campus. This year, the coffeehouse was held on Tuesday, February 18 and an open meeting was held during our regularly scheduled meetings on Wednesday, February 19," Schwalm shares.

Student Congress also holds annual coffeehouse events during application season. Kelsey Christianson '20 recommends that any students interested in improving campus life check out the informational session.

"Students that are interested in joining should come, as well as those interested in hearing more about the concrete things that Student Congress does on campus to make everyone's experience better," Christianson says.

Schwalm also encourages incoming applicants to attend the BOP coffeehouse to learn more about the club and to mingle, both with the board members and amongst themselves. He describes the average coffeehouse scene for the applicant, saying, "At the coffeehouse, the whole board is in attendance and we all talk and answer questions to anyone interested in learning more

about the organization. We also have a brief slideshow that talks about the roles of each person on the board."

He continued, saying, "Each committee chair has a slide and they discuss what their committee does as well as highlight some of the events they have done since the beginning of the school year. We also have applications available for anyone who is interested, and we discuss the timeline of the application process."

In other words, despite the title, much more than mere coffee-sipping happens at coffeehouse events. They are informative and interactive. The other event held by BOP during application season, usually following shortly after the coffeehouse, is the open meeting.

These give a real-life look at what life as a member is like, offering the student a chance to dive right into the experience as a voyeur, and at times, participate in the meeting.

"At the open meetings, we allow anyone interested to see what a typical Board of Programmers meeting is like. The Board goes through a typical meeting as if it were a normal Wednesday. At this year's meeting, one of the events we discussed was the Black and White Ball and it was great to hear what the people who attended the open meeting thought about the event. We also listened to their feedback on all the other events talked about at the meeting. After, members of the board were available to talk with any applicants who had questions about the application or about the process," Schwalm says.

These events are typically very popular, as many are often vying to get at least a look into the popular on-campus organization.

"We had approximately 170 people

attend the coffeehouse and 65 attend the open meeting. Typically, most people who attend the coffeehouse apply and most people who attend the open meeting also apply," he says.

What happens, however, if one cannot attend? Will they be severely missing out or penalized during the application process?

Students who forget about, do not have the time to attend, or decide to apply after these events can collectively release a pent-up breath. Although these events provide students with great networking and informational opportunities, the rumors whispered about them being necessary or significant enough to merit acceptance into the club are not true.

Christianson addresses this common concern, conceding that although it looks good, there is no preferential treatment given to attendees.

"The attendance at the coffeehouse does not have much of an impact on the student's chance of getting on the club. It does show, however, that the student does have a piqued interest in the club and is actively looking into it. The student, however, still must interview or run an election like everyone else," she says.

Schwalm contributes, describing how much weight these events really hold to the BOP exec board.

"We look at every applicant equally. We understand that it can be difficult for students with busy schedules to attend one or both of the events. The coffeehouse and open meeting are not officially part of the application process, but function more as a way for students to learn about what we do as a club and to see if they are interested in applying," he says.

In other words, while important

and recommended, it is certainly not a requirement to sip coffee or sit in on the exec board.

This does not mean those interested in applying should not try to obtain the information shared at these events. For the students who are unable to make it, there are alternative options.

Christianson talks about some of these methods for students looking to join Student Congress.

"If students cannot attend the coffeehouse, we have our general meetings every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in Ruane LL05. Here, the student can listen to an active meeting and see what actually goes on. Also, our elected class members and committees put on events throughout the year that students can attend to see the event planning side that Congress takes on. We also have a Food Committee, run under our Student Life Committee, that meets with the head chef of Ray monthly, and any students can join to have their voice heard about the dining on campus," she says.

In regards to BOP, Schwalm assures that the office door is always open for students with any questions.

"If students are unable to attend the coffeehouse, or have questions regarding the application process or application itself, we welcome them to come in the office and have a discussion with someone on the board who can give them more information. There is always someone in the office during the day, and they would love to chat with anyone about the club," he says.

Both the BOP and Student Congress offices are located in lower Slavin. BOP applications are due Friday, February 27, and the Student Congress application season begins again this fall.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABY.COM

# T.F. Green Airport Gets Green Light

## Planned Renovations Enter Final Stages

by Brian Garvey '20  
News Staff

LOCAL

T.F. Green Airport has taken the final step towards major renovations and changes, finalizing a master plan for extensive updates and expansion of their main terminal. The Rhode Island Airport Corporation (RIAC) has developed this plan over the past 18 months, taking ideas from multiple open houses and forums aimed at figuring out where people really wanted to see improvements.

Last October, the RIAC introduced some of the new potential stores and restaurants, including Wahlburgers, Hope & Main, and Federal Hill Brick Oven Pizza. John Goodman, the director of public relations for RIAC, emphasized Rhode Island pride and heart when describing the updates, saying, "We want to make sure the airport is something every Rhode Islander is proud of and it puts our best step forward."

T.F. Green Airport has seen steady growth and expansion in the last decade, with these expansions coming nearly three years after the airport completed extensive runway expansion. These expansions have made T.F. Green a full international airport with the needed runway capacity to operate efficiently. Goodman also stated, "In the last three years we have seen 12 percent growth."

According to official airport records, T.F. Green has seen a consistent rise in travelers since 2015. T.F. Green has also been consistently recognized as



T.F. Green Airport has continued to expand over the last decade.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA.ORG

one of the best airports in the country, with USA Today ranking it as the second best small airport in the country, and Travel + Leisure consistently ranking it within the top 10 airports in the country.

Joe McDonald '20 said, "I would gladly fly in and out of T.F. Green airport over Boston Logan. It is so much easier to get in and out of T.F. Green, and I love the surrounding Warwick area. Flying into Boston is just such a hassle and way more bogged down with traffic."

T.F. Green is a local favorite for many Providence College students, as the quick 20-minute drive is much more efficient than either an hour-train ride from South Station or the even longer drive from Boston down I-95.

Tom McMahon '20 is a Warwick native and takes great pride in "his" airport. "I went to one of

the open house meetings for the potential updates, and it seemed like they were really putting a lot of thought and care into what local people had to say," said McMahon. "The airport is many people's gateway into the great state of Rhode Island, and it is very important that it is a strong representation."

T.F. Green also recently announced that it is getting a \$4.7 million grant to modernize the terminal, acquire land, and study effective noise reduction strategies. Announced by Senator Jack Reed and titled the Airport Improvement Program, this grant for the RIAC will be going towards all of the proposed changes and updates to the airport. Goodman stated that the construction of new restaurants and shops, as well as improvements to the terminal's public facilities, will begin this summer.



# Bursting the PC Bubble

## Peace Talks Begin Between Taliban and U.S.

by Maura Campbell '22  
News Staff

### WORLD NEWS

On Saturday, February 15, the United States and the Afghan Taliban agreed on a weeklong, partial treaty in the hopes of beginning a movement towards peace. Although the deal is not a complete ceasefire, it was intended to decrease violence in the region for at least the seven days that it was officially in place.

If the violence is significantly decreased due to this treaty, U.S. and Taliban officials and negotiators plan to meet on Feb. 29 to start negotiations for the signing of a pact to end the 18-year-long war in Afghanistan.

Started in response to the September 11, 2001 attacks, the U.S. war in Afghanistan was intended to depose the Taliban government in Afghanistan, which had shielded al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden while he planned the attacks. At nearly two decades long, it is the longest war in U.S. history.

In December 2019, The Washington Post began an investigation that revealed U.S. officials had been misleading the American public on the progress of the war. Confidential



The United States military has been in Afghanistan since 2002.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA.ORG

documents were released in which several senior U.S. officials expressed their frustrations with the war effort, conflicting with their public statements that positive progress was being made in Afghanistan.

Several months after the release of these documents describing the war as a “dysfunction” with 2,400 American lives lost, the U.S. Defense Department announced official plans to begin the process of negotiating for peace.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said

that this pact would be a deal to “end the war in Afghanistan, reduce United States and Allied Forces presence, and ensure that no terrorist group ever uses Afghan soil to threaten the United States or our allies.”

One impediment to these peace talks is the Taliban’s demand that the U.S. remove all of its troops from Afghanistan, while the U.S. plans to keep about 9,000 troops in the region for counterterrorism operations. This conflict has been a barrier to peace

talks for many years.

In addition, Afghanistan has its own domestic conflicts that may complicate peace negotiations. Ashraf Ghani was recently announced to have won a second term as president of Afghanistan—a contested election, since opponent Abdullah Abdullah has also declared victory in the presidential race. These complications will almost certainly slow down or otherwise complicate the long process of peace negotiations with the United States.

Regardless of these complications, the progress on peace has been widely recognized as a positive development. As the longest military conflict in U.S. history, the Afghanistan War has been a hot topic in politics for the past decade, with many Americans calling for an end to the war and peace in the region.

Overall, experts seem to view this potential for negotiation positively; North Atlantic Treaty Organization Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said, “This could pave the way for negotiations among Afghans, sustainable peace, and ensuring the country is never again a safe haven for terrorists.” This message should give some hope to the American people.

## Election of 2020

### Political Updates Regarding this Year's Upcoming Election

#### Bloomberg Faces Major Opposition From Fellow Candidates

by Addison Wakelin '22  
News Staff

### POLITICS

On Wednesday, February 19, at the Paris Theater in Las Vegas, NV, six Democratic candidates lined up to debate in the ninth installment of the 2020 Democratic Party presidential debates.

This debate has been the most-watched Democratic presidential primary debate in its history, with a record 19.7 million viewers tuning in, as the 2020 presidential election draws closer.

With future state primaries and caucuses coming up, each debate has been significantly more confrontational as each of the Democratic candidates hopes to receive the party nomination. Sanders has already proved a promising early lead as the potential presidential nominee for the Democratic Party. He has shown a strong polling performance in the Iowa caucus, won the New Hampshire primary, and is projected to win the Nevada caucuses.

As Super Tuesday is less than two weeks away, the next few debate cycles are even more important as candidates try to make last-minute impressions to appeal to voters.

The qualified candidates, who had to meet the polling thresholds at both state and national levels to be eligible for this debate, included: U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, former Mayor of South Bend Pete Buttigieg, U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, former Vice President Joseph Biden, U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, and former Mayor of New York City and billionaire Michael Bloomberg.

All took to the stage to debate the usual highly contested, yet important, topics pertaining to the Democratic Party. Such topics included health care, general individual electability, economic inequality, and climate change.

However, most of the candidates' focus was on the

presence of Michael Bloomberg, who made his first major debate appearance that night. The former New York City mayor has had a somewhat contentious political legacy, particularly in the controversial policies he had passed during his mayoralty. Several of the other candidates extensively criticized his policy history; one of Bloomberg’s most notorious actions was his support for and implementation of Stop, Question, and Frisk (SQF) that many of his critics have condemned as racist and shameful, as it purportedly targeted specific minorities in high-crime areas in New York City.

The debate opened up with *NBC News* anchor and moderator of that evening’s debate, Lester Holt, immediately posing a question to Sanders about Bloomberg’s hopes to beat Trump in November. Sanders stated, “Mr. Bloomberg had policies in New York City of stop and frisk which went after African-American and Latino people in an outrageous way.” Sanders has long criticized the conglomeration of wealth that much of the one percent, including Bloomberg himself, hold in the United States.

The most noteworthy critic of Bloomberg on Wednesday, however, was Warren. Shortly after Sanders criticized Bloomberg’s past, Warren, a former bankruptcy lawyer with a history of criticizing billionaires and their oppositions to a wealth tax, condemned Bloomberg’s past. Particularly she criticized his own wealth and how he has been able to avoid contentions for so long because of it.

In response to Bloomberg’s comments on his hopes to defeat President Trump in November, Warren went in for a direct attack on Bloomberg’s refusal to release NDAs along with his inability to release his tax returns, a major blow to Bloomberg’s opening night to impress the U.S. as a hopeful presidential nominee.

Warren stated, “So I’d like to talk about who we’re running against, a billionaire who calls

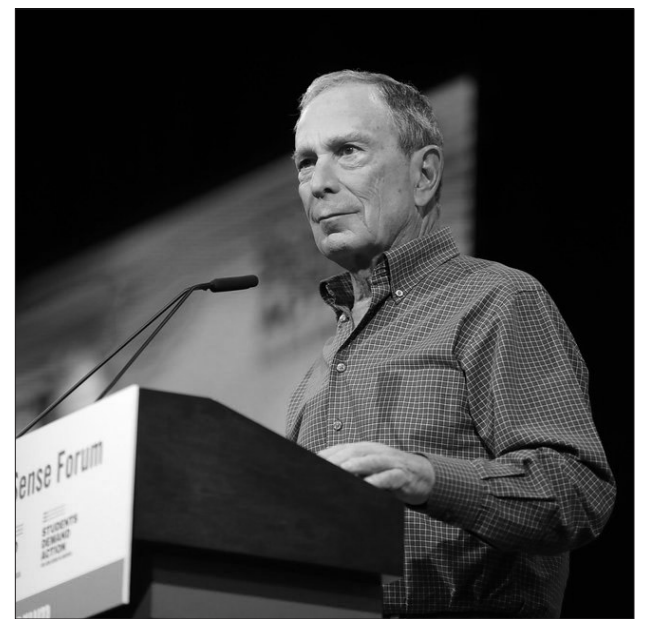


PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR.COM

Bloomberg took on all comers in the most recent debates.

women ‘fat broads’ and ‘horse-faced lesbians.’ And, no, I’m not talking about Donald Trump. I’m talking about Mayor Bloomberg. Democrats are not going to win if we have a nominee who has a history of hiding his tax returns, of harassing women, and of supporting racist policies like redlining and stop and frisk.”

The ninth installment of the Democratic debates did much more than simply reflect the current political state of the Democratic Party. The debates also represent the importance of what separates the Democratic Party from its opposition, and the partisan views represented by the two.

As the 2020 presidential election draws closer, the candidates continue competing to win Democratic primaries and caucuses in the hopes of obtaining a spot as the party nominee in order to try and defeat Trump in November.



## Surveillance Capitalism: A New Invasion of Privacy *How Companies Profit off of Your Digital Footprint*

by Katie Belbusti '22  
Opinion Staff

POLITICS

Surveillance capitalism is a term that has been increasingly used within the past decade. While it sounds like a complicated term, its definition is the collection of data through monitoring people's behaviors on social media for the benefit of corporations to then tailor their advertisements to make more money.

Most of us are aware of the fact that our phones listen to us and keep tabs on what we are doing at any given time, but surveillance capitalism goes further: it exploits patterns on social media to create marketing strategies and advertisements to target consumers for economic profit.

As data surveillance programs continue to evolve in this manner, it is imperative that technology users are aware of their data footprint and their right to online privacy.

Dr. Matthew Guardino, a political science professor at Providence College, provided more insight on the role of surveillance capitalism in our lives. His general area of research is about media in politics, with a focus on how media corporations can shape the news. The topic of surveillance capitalism is one of great interest to Dr. Guardino, especially when connected with how it is increasingly affecting younger generations.

Regarding what is most important for millennials to know about surveillance capitalism, Dr. Guardino

said, "It is very important to understand the outset, virtually anything any of us do online is recorded. It is recorded primarily, although not entirely, for corporations to make money. The vast majority of this kind of surveillance occurs without public knowledge and without us even having a sense that it is going on. It is important to understand that pretty much the entire internet runs on a financial basis: surveilling and then collecting people's data." When put into these simple terms, it is clear to see why this issue is becoming increasingly more concerning.

To convey the full extent of how companies such as Facebook use surveillance to monitor us, distinguished author Shoshana Zuboff recently wrote an article for the New York Times. Cited are a group of Facebook executives who claimed, "Facebook can work out when young people feel 'stressed,' 'defeated,' 'overwhelmed,' 'anxious,' 'nervous,' 'stupid,' 'silly,' 'useless' and a 'failure.'"

Zuboff explains that this information "allows Facebook to pinpoint the time frame during which a young person needs a 'confidence boost' and is most vulnerable to a specific configuration of subliminal cues and triggers. The data is then used to match each emotional phase with appropriate ad messaging for the maximum probability of guaranteed sales."

Technology has advanced to the point that companies can now learn our moods based on the things we look at on social media. To address the situation of this technology infringing more on our personal

privacies, Dr. Guardino recommends a key piece of advice for technology-users: "The first thing, no matter what, is to become as informed as possible about the situation.

That includes taking some time to read up from credible sources on how this works and what actually happens to the data collected." It is extremely important to be correctly informed about the situation, as it is something that affects all of us, with or without our prior knowledge of it.

In an attempt to produce change, Dr. Guardino states, "In the short-term, if what you find out worries you or concerns you, there are practical things that people can do to lessen their data footprint. On a

longer-term basis to the extent that people are worried about the ethics and moral or social implications—of which there are many—the only way that I would argue long-term change is by getting politically involved, organizing and mobilizing to push for changes in public policy that will regulate how data is collected and what happens to it once collected."

While the knowledge of this information seems daunting and overwhelming, it is essential to remember that we have a say in this matter. If we make an effort to learn more and collectively take a stand against corporations exploiting our privacy by taking political action, we can begin to get back to a more privacy-respecting world.



Companies can now collect data from your digital footprint to determine your interests and even your mood in order to target your social media with certain advertisements.

NORA JOHNSON '20/THE COWL

## PC Polls

**This Week's Question:**  
**Do you know who you want to vote for in the 2020 Presidential Election?**

*Vote online until Monday, March 3 using the link on our Facebook and Instagram pages, and check next week's issue for the results!*



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**Have something to say? Send a letter to the Editor!**



# Providence College Needs a Communications Program

## *Students Interested in Journalism and Communications are Missing Out*

by Margaret Scales '23

Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

In such a politically trying time, with both the left and right critiquing 'fake news,' it feels like there is no better time to support communications and journalism programs in higher education. Although some may argue that journalism is a 'dying industry,' is that something that we as Americans should settle for? Providence College should implement a communications program for several reasons, but more than anything, because it is what the people want.

The motto of The Washington Post, one of the most renowned American media companies, states, "Democracy Dies in Darkness." At its core, this statement poses a cry for help. Freedom of the press is one of our constitutional rights, so as institutions like PC fail to incorporate the media industry in their programs of study, they are in turn doing a disservice to our democracy. As Americans, we are incredibly privileged to have this freedom, so rather than accepting its death, upholding the journalism industry is something we should urgently pursue.

The claims that 'journalism is dying' and that 'there is no money in communications,' are self-fulfilling prophecies. By failing to offer communications and journalism programs, colleges and universities like PC are leading contributors to that cause.

When contacted about the lack of these programs at PC, Dr. Bruce Graver, the chair of

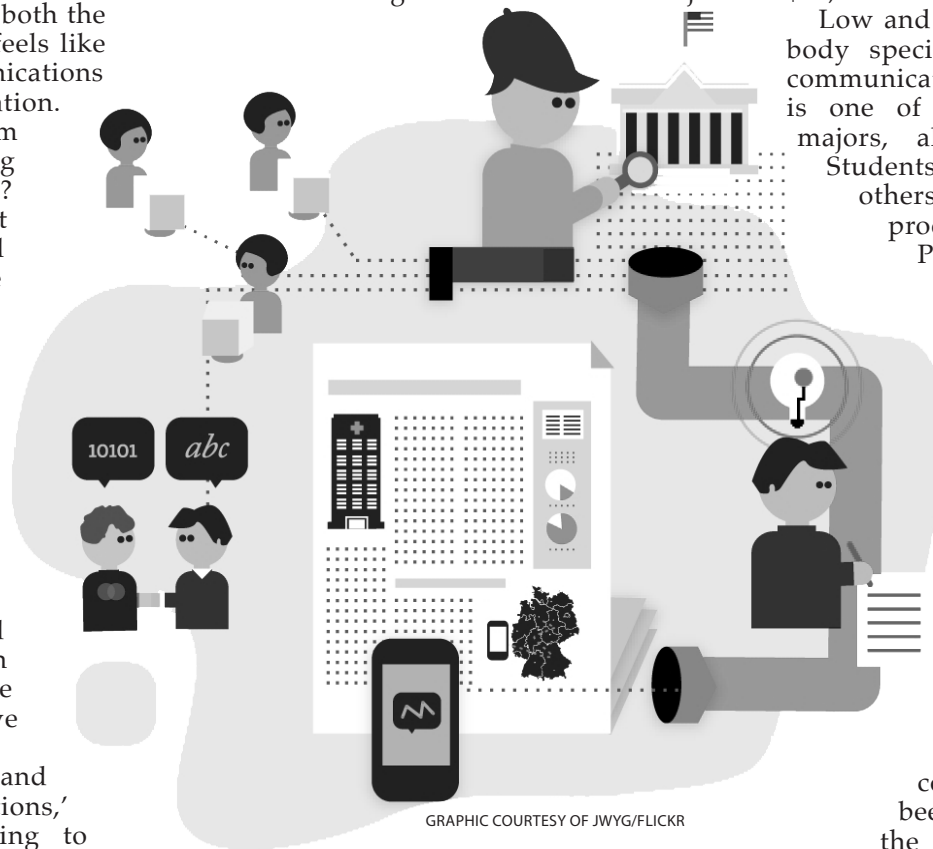
the English department, emphasized that there has never been a communications or journalism program at PC. Additionally, he encouraged further research on employment and income risks for those considering a communications major.

majors, for example? What should matter is not only the importance of upholding the industry, as previously stated, but also attending to the interests of the students who pay on average over \$50,000 each year to study at the College.

Low and behold, the interests of PC's student body specifically reflect a devout interest in communications. At PC, a major in communications is one of the most popular student-created majors, along with environmental science. Students like Corrie Traverse '20 among others have already taken on the "rigorous process"—according to Peter Palumbo, PC's director of academic advising—of creating their own degrees in media/communications and are currently working towards earning them at the College right now.

As previously stated, students like Traverse are not alone in their interests in communications—students' similarly strong desire for a program like this has in fact brought to the surface discussion of introducing a minor in communications at the College in the future. According to Palumbo, "the rumor is true. There is a communication minor in the works."

Palumbo also stated, "The communications conversation has been going on for a while." This begs the question of why? Not only will implementing this minor appeal to the desires of students, but it can subsequently bring in a lot more revenue to the College, further begging the necessity for PC to bring about this addition to the programs offered.



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF JWYG/FLICKR

On the topic of salaries—is money really all that matters? If so, what about the equally as historically low-paid education majors or dance

## Writer vs. Writer

### *Is It Okay to Take Out Another Person's Laundry?*

by Julia McCoy '22

Opinion Staff

NO

For college students, finding time within our busy schedules to do laundry is hard enough. What makes it even harder is when you return to retrieve your laundry only to find it sitting on top of the machine.

Some people take it upon themselves to remove other people's laundry from the machine. But is this the right thing to do? Do those people have a right to touch another person's clothes?

Imagine how it would feel to walk into the laundry room and see your still-wet clothes sitting outside of the dryer. This is certainly not in line with the Friar Friendliness that was taught at orientation.

With that being said, there is a point when the wait becomes too long. If the laundry has been in there for an extensive amount of time, either overnight (if you prefer to do your laundry early in the morning) or for a period that exceeds 20 to 30 minutes, there is more reason to be agitated and consider taking the laundry out.

However, there are other factors that make touching someone else's clothes less than favorable. For instance, you are either touching someone's clothes or the sheets that they sleep on. Yes, they are clean, but, again, think about being on the receiving end of that—knowing that someone had touched your clothes

and left them out in the open.

The laundry room is a public place. Some buildings offer protection like card access, but this still does not prevent the many inhabitants of that building from having access to your clothes. As such, if someone's clothes were taken out of the washing machine or dryer, they are more susceptible to theft.

Most importantly, this school emphasizes respect for others through our saying "Friar Friendliness." It certainly is not very friendly to take your peer's laundry out of the dryer simply because you are in a rush to use the machine.



Students on campus frequently debate whether or not it is okay to remove laundry that has been left in a washer or dryer in order to use the machine it was left in.

TESSA MCANDREWS '23/THE COWL

by Emily Ball '22

Opinion Staff

YES

When it comes to doing laundry, busy college students need to make time in between classes, homework, club meetings, and the gym. Because of a college student's busy lifestyle, it is completely justifiable to take out somebody's laundry if it has been done in the machine for a while.

"I think that it is an unspoken agreement that we are all just busy and have to work with each other on our schedules," Lauren Petrillo '22.

Students oftentimes forget that their laundry is even in the machines, so it is acceptable to take out laundry that is done in a machine that has been sitting there for a while. Laundry comes second to classwork and other priorities, so people have to be quick to get this trivial task completed.

"As a biochemistry major, I am always on a strict schedule, so I have to cram in my laundry when I have free time," Lauryn Anthony '22 said. "I take out people's clothes from the laundry machines when I am in a rush because I don't have the time to wait."

Some may argue that it is disgusting to touch other people's clothes; however, they must keep in mind that these clothes are clean as they are in the washing machine. Also, students are very respectful when it comes to taking clothes out of the laundry. People always place the clean clothes either on top of the machine or in the laundry bin that is left near the machine.

"I always leave my basket outside the dryer I am using and every single time somebody takes my clothes out of the dryer, they put it into my basket," said Julia Wilson '22.

Laundry is a monotonous task that every college student has to deal with, so it must be completed in a timely manner. With the busyness of college, it is completely justifiable and makes total sense to take clean clothes out of a washer or a dryer—as long as they are done drying—if they have been sitting in there for a while.



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## "Taking On" the Season of Lent, No Matter Your Religion *Using Lent as a Means of Self-Care and Progress*



by Kerry Torpey '20  
Editor-in-Chief

EDITOR'S COLUMN

This week marked the official start of the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday. As many students walked

from class-to-class after receiving their ashes, I overheard several conversations discussing what people should "give up" for Lent.

The concept behind giving something up for Lent, also known as a Lenten sacrifice, traces back to the early days of Christianity. Theologically, the idea is meant to deprive individuals of certain pleasures in order to reorient themselves on a path back towards their faith and God. Common sacrifices I have heard among college students include sweets, soda, swearing, and social media.

Although I find the challenge of giving up coffee for 40 days to definitely be a personal sacrifice, something I feel that gets lost during Lent is the idea that you have to limit yourself to giving up something—it can be just as impactful to "take on" a new positive habit or lifestyle as it is to make a sacrifice.

For example, as college students, we sometimes get so caught up in

the hustle and bustle of our day-to-day lives that we forget to stop and take a moment for ourselves to relax. Especially with the stress of midterm season upon us, placing greater value on your mental health with moments of reset and repose will positively impact your well-being.

Take advantage of things like Active Mind's "Inside Out Week," which encourages students to "cultivate self-care practices from the inside out." Clubs like Active Minds provide resources like these year-round on campus, making sure students continue to talk about mental health to end stigmas and promote wellness.

Even though Lent is a religious observance, the benefits of "giving up" or "taking on" habits can be life-changing and fulfilling. You do not have to be Christian or a religious person to take the leap and start taking on a healthier lifestyle, and I encourage anyone in the PC community to consider doing so.

## TANGENTS & TIRADES

*Mandatory out-of-Class Events*

*Mid-Semester Course Evaluations*

*No More PC Cash*

It is not unusual to find courses that incorporate immersive learning experiences corresponding to course material here at Providence College.

However, requiring students to attend these events outside of their regular course hours oversteps boundaries and creates unnecessary burdens for students, especially if the dates of these events are not announced until the first day of class.

The interim periods between semesters are times where families make plans and solidify dates when students may return home or be attending a family function, which means it is the professor's responsibility to notify students of any external obligations as soon as they are determined.

The second issue with these requirements comes from the fact that students already dedicate at least two and a half hours per class each week, and piling additional hours of mandatory-attendance events detracts from a student's quality of work for other courses.

Whether it is a film screening or attendance at a museum tour, professors should be taking into account how long these obligations are and reducing course sessions as appropriately to demonstrate a basic recognition that their course is not the only one students are taking.

There is nothing wrong with having students in a film class take time to go and attend a screening, or having students studying a certain style of painting to visit a museum. But visits and requirements can quickly accumulate, and if they are to be used effectively, they must accompany some form of a reduction in course meeting times for that week.

—Joshua Chlebowski '21

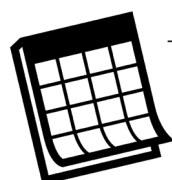


PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Students at Providence College are well-acquainted with the concept of exams at midterms, but perhaps PC should consider another kind of evaluation at the mid-point of the semester: teacher evaluations.

At the end of each semester, students are required to fill out an evaluation for each class they take, which requires them to provide feedback about teaching style, class content, use of technology in the classroom, and other individualized aspects of each course.

Last semester, PC made a change to the way course evaluations are collected, switching over from a Scantron-style form on paper to an online version. As the College continues to improve its collection of student feedback, it should consider encouraging professors to gather student perspectives at the middle of the semester, not just the end.

Student feedback is a critical component of making improvements to curricula and courses, and it is a positive thing that PC takes the collection of this information so seriously.

However, collecting feedback only at the end of each semester means that changes and improvements can only be made the next time that professor teaches that specific class. In some cases, that might not be for another six months or another year.

Furthermore, while it is helpful that feedback at the end of the semester might make the course a more enjoyable experience for future students, it does nothing to help the students who are actually in the class currently.

By asking for student feedback in the middle of the semester, either verbally or written out, professors can open a line of communication with their students, and in some cases, make much-needed changes to make the second half of the semester more effective and enjoyable for students and professors alike.

—Andrea Traietti '21

Do you remember the days when you could purchase tickets for Providence College sponsored events without going through the hassle of adding PC Cash to your account? I sure do.

The College in recent years has switched to a system of only allowing students to pay for tickets using PC Cash, for reasons unbeknownst to the students.

The school provides kiosks in some locations for adding PC Cash, although these only take cash—which in and of itself is becoming an outdated concept. The school also offers the option of using a credit card online to add sums of money, but such a transaction includes a one dollar fine.

What is this dollar going towards? Is it really necessary considering the school allows students to use cash in other locations and does not charge them for doing so? Do students not give enough money to this institution as it is?

Not only is the act of having to put PC Cash on one's account before purchasing a ticket inconvenient, but it is also altogether unnecessary given that students used to simply be able to go up to the ticket window and purchase whatever they pleased.

In sum, PC should return to the method of purchasing tickets only through the ticket window, with no caveats.

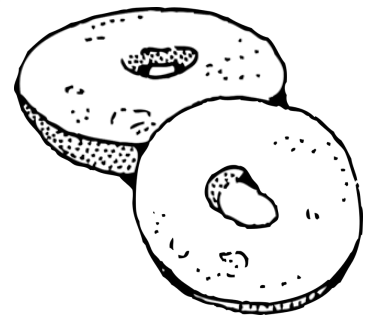
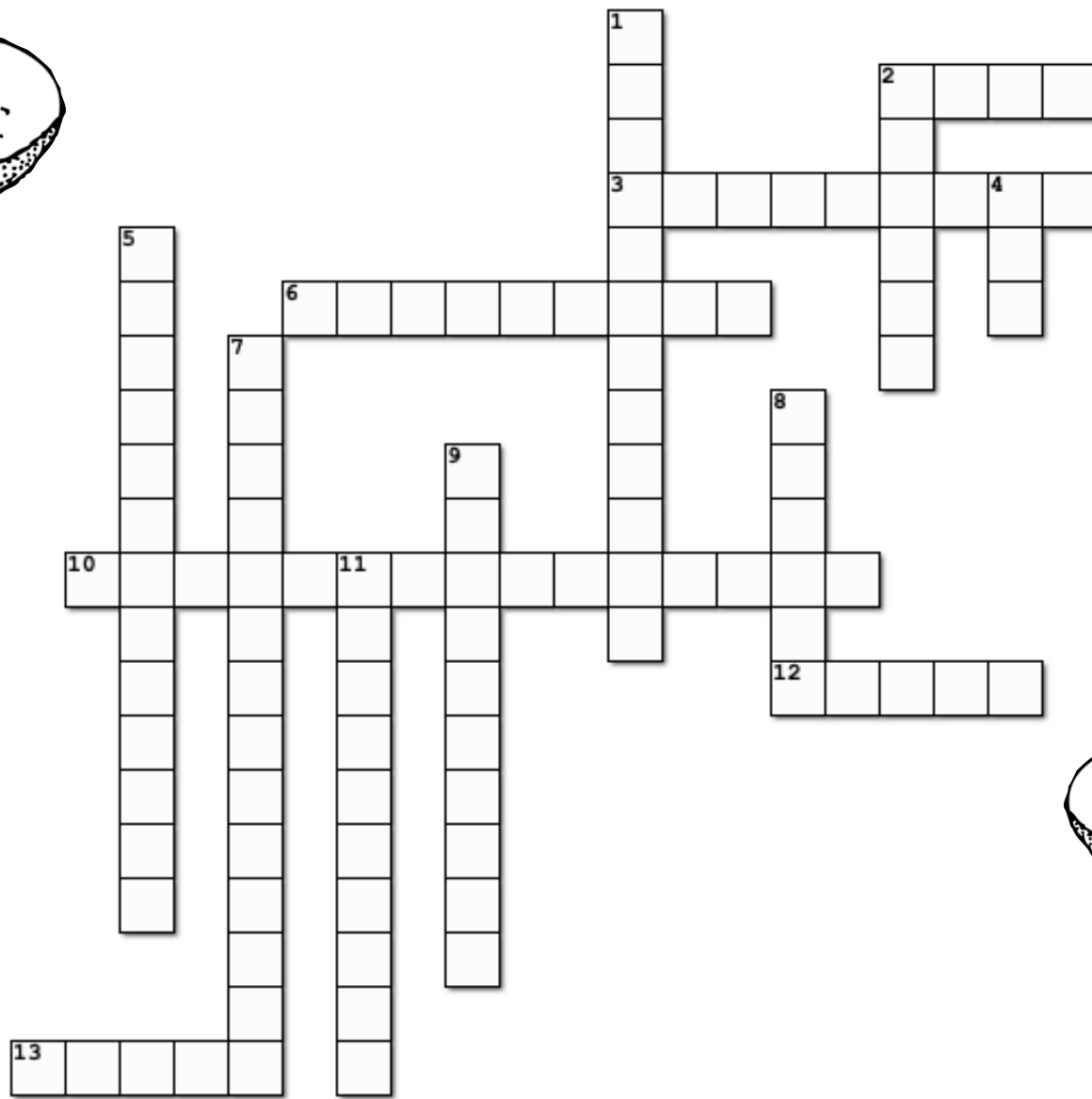
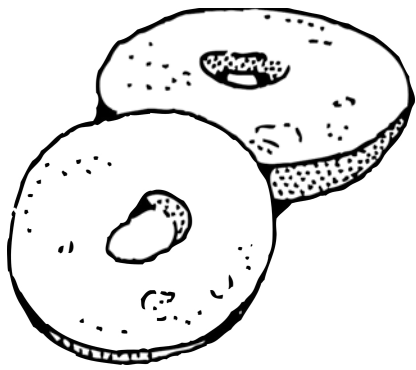
—Savannah Plaisted '21



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC DOMAIN FILES



# Types of Bagels



GRAPHICS COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM

Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

**Across**

- 2. Found in the ocean.
- 3. Type of flower in the 'Wizard of Oz.'
- 6. Type of muffin and pancake
- 10. Spicy and cheesy.
- 12. '\_\_\_\_\_ have layers. Ogres have layers.'
- 13. Boring, bland, dull.

**Down**

- 1. Dark in color, ends with a type of coin.
- 2. Elmo, Big Bird, Oscar the Grouch.
- 4. Dr. Seuss made these green (singular).
- 5. Cookies for breakfast?
- 7. Sweet swirled bread.
- 8. Fancy cheese.
- 9. 'Entire' and 'Grass.'
- 11. The opposite of nothing.

## Last Issue's Answers

**Across:**

- 4) Club Penguin
- 5) Chokers
- 7) Wonder Ball
- 10) Hollaback Girl
- 11) Scholastic
- 13) Dinosaur
- 14) Webkinz
- 16) Scooters

**Down:**

- 1) Heelys
- 2) GoGurt
- 3) VeggieTales
- 6) Sillybandz
- 8) Pillow Pet
- 9) Waldo
- 12) Clifford
- 15) Kim



## The Corny Corner

Flip the paper upside down to reveal the answer!

What do you call a sick eagle?  
Illegal

Why are basketball players messy eaters?  
They're always dribbling

Where does a cow stay when it is on vacation?  
A moo-tel!

Why doesn't bread like warm weather?  
Things get toasty

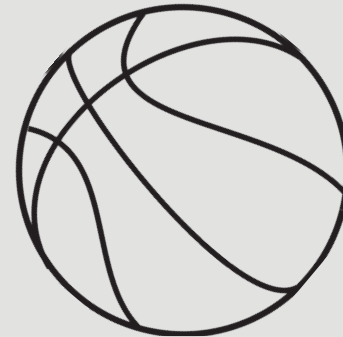
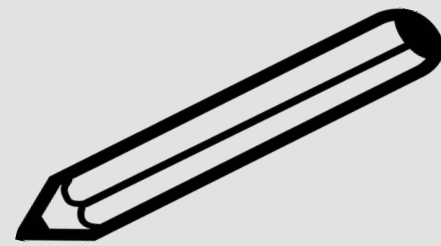
JOKES COURTESY OF JOKES4US.COM



# BIG EAST Basketball Teams

Z C N T D B S P P S T J O H N S J  
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 T S Y T T Q H F O J R G K U U G L  
 L N L A K H B M V D O P E F Y S J  
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Providence College  
 Villanova  
 DePaul  
 Creighton  
 Georgetown  
 Xavier  
 St. Johns  
 Butler  
 Marquette  
 Seton Hall



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## *Beasts* Explores Time and Tension TDF Performs Original Student-Written Play

by Peter Keough '20  
A&E Co-Editor

ON CAMPUS

Upon entering the John Bowab Studio Theatre on Feb. 13-16, viewers were met with a scene that could be described as calamitous. The room was covered in overturned furniture with chairs, tables, lamps, and more lying around in complete disarray. Even more of this debris was suspended from the ceiling, appearing as if it had started to rain down but had become frozen in time before crashing to the ground.

Designed by Trevor Elliott, the set for *Beasts* captured what seemed to be one of the play's main themes: the moments of tension before things go completely and utterly wrong. The play, directed by John Garrity of Providence College's Theatre, Dance, and Film Department, is an original work penned by Thomas Edwards '20.

A theatre major, Edwards had been working on this piece since 2014, when he drafted the initial script as a sophomore in high school. Recognizing his requirement to complete a capstone piece for his major, Edwards spent his four years at PC workshoping *Beasts* with professors, peers, and others. This process was truly extensive, as Edwards stated, "Throughout this past summer and fall...I was making edits; anywhere from a line here and there to wholesale rewrites of scenes." While his work may have begun years ago, it continued to evolve until it was performed.

This long-term commitment is more than evident in the final product. With a runtime of about two hours and a range of complex characters and themes, *Beasts* is a multifaceted and holistic piece with a lot to say. Throughout its runtime, characters experience both internal and external challenges, varying from marital demise to facing one's own demons. The play also jumps between time periods, as omniscient watchers named "Left Samael" and "Right Samael"

(played by Katie Vennard '22 and Carolyn Bradley '22, respectively) travel between 1945 and 1948 to observe the choices made by the leading character Jason Anderson (portrayed by Tim Brown '20).

By bouncing back and forth between these time periods, as well as allowing the actors to rearrange the chaotic set, *Beasts* makes sure to convey the aforementioned tension throughout. Each scene feels as if it is adding stress to something that is destined to break. The mounting troubles of the characters only grow more tense and worrisome as their stories continue, while the audience waits with bated breath for something to finally snap.

As can be expected, this snap does occur. Acted,

staged, and written in impressive fashion, the most extreme moments in *Beasts* each carry a weight that continues the plot and elicit gut-wrenching emotion from the audience. These moments allow the audience some relief from the tension that had been building throughout, but also double-down on the unsettling themes of the play. By serving this dual function, the most emotionally-potent scenes become integral to the play's success.

As an entire piece of artistic output, *Beasts* is truly full-bodied. With layered characters, introspective themes, and a gripping story, Edwards created something that truly reflects the years of work that he put into it.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASHLEY DICARO '20

The play showcases moments of tension right before they break. From left to right: Tim Brown '20, Daniel Jameson '21

## PC Students Present *The Vagina Monologues*

by Anne DeLello '20  
A&E Staff

THEATRE

*The Vagina Monologues* has been performed by Providence College students for the past 17 years at AS220, a performing arts venue in downtown Providence. The play was written by Tony Award Winner and known activist Eve Ensler.

Ensler wrote *TVM* in 1994. Since its debut, it has been translated into 50 languages and performed in over 140 countries. The play was originally written as a "moving work of art on violence," according to the V-Day website. As the show became more popular, Ensler was approached by many women who were survivors of violence, and she realized that the show could be more than just a piece of art about violence against women. *TVM* then progressed to being a "mechanism for moving people to act to end violence."

The V-Day Movement has grown since the original production of *TVM* and is a "global activist movement to end violence against women." Not only is the V-Day Movement on a mission to end the violence against women that is sadly present around the world today, but it has also raised over 100 million dollars to support women and end the fight



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIZ DONNELLAN '20

PC students tell real stories of women who have been victims of violence.

against domestic and sexual violence.

All of the funds raised from the two shows on Feb. 19 and 22 will be donated to the Sojourner House in Providence. Sojourner House provides a safe haven 24 hours a day, seven days a week for victims of domestic and sexual abuse.

The performance tells the stories of real women and maintains a serious tone with hints of humor throughout.

The show ran for two hours with a brief intermission and was broken up into a series of monologues, as the title suggests. Some titles from *TVM* include "Over It," which spoke to how fed up the speaker is with violence against women, and "Crooked Braid," a monologue that specifically refers to the domestic violence that Native American women face within their homes and communities.

Emily Tolbert '20 is on the executive board of *TVM* at PC along with Maria Johnsen '20 and Lucia Gonzalez '22. When asked to comment on her experience with *TVM*, Tolbert said, "*The Vagina Monologues* has been the most empowering thing I've done at PC. It is so inspiring to see this tradition continue thriving each year without any support from the institution." She went on to emphasize that "It's so important to be able to speak openly about sex and sexual violence, and this show starts those conversations within the PC community."

Sparking conversations about domestic violence is one of the goals of *TVM*. Generally, sexual violence against women is not talked about, and the world needs to start having this conversation if violence against women is going to end. *The Vagina Monologues* has ignited this discussion around the world and will continue to do so for many more years to come.



PHOTO COURTESY OF EVEENSLER.ORG



# Trivializing President's Day

by Brenna O'Leary '20  
A&E Staff

FILM

Which president was the fattest? Which president had an animal skull knick-knack? Have you ever wanted to learn about strange and interesting facts about the United States' 45 presidents?

If so, the President's Day Trivia hosted this past week by PC Democrats was the place for you. Held in Ruane 105 at 7 p.m. last Thursday, the event was an intimate and fun way to celebrate President's Day after the long weekend. To go along with the trivia, the PC Democrats also provided pizza.

The club attempts to do a trivia event every semester. Brian Bates '20 commented, "It is just a fun night where we get to come together and do

some fun trivia." Bates also said that in the past, they have done trivia themes such as *Parks and Recreation*, and *Spot the Fake News*. He mentioned to keep an eye out for future PC Democrats events this semester.

The crazy questions and the even more shocking answers had participants dumfounded. What was intriguing was that the trivia questions were mainly personal tidbits or random factoids about the presidents. The trivia was hosted via Kahoot, which was so exciting that the group had to do another round. The event was a success, with participants competing in good fun and searching Kahoot for another game. So, which president do you think was the shortest? And who thinks they know the presidents of the United States?



PHOTO COURTESY OF PC DEMOCRATS INSTAGRAM

“  
Life doesn't  
have to be so  
planned. Just  
roll with it and  
let it happen.

TO ALL THE BOYS I'VE  
LOVED BEFORE,  
JENNY HAN

GRAPHIC BY SARA CONWAY '21/THE COWL

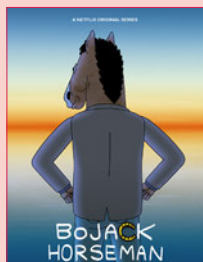
## A&E Editor Picks: TV Shows



Anne with an E  
Netflix



The Bachelor  
ABC



BoJack Horseman  
Netflix



The New Pope  
HBO

PHOTOS COURTESY OF IMDB

# Netflix Releases *P.S. I Still Love You* *TATBILB* Sequel Excites and Disappoints

by Madison Palmieri '22  
A&E Staff

FILM

The much-anticipated sequel to Netflix's 2018 hit film *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* premiered on the streaming service on Feb. 12 to positive reviews, earning a 6.1 out of 10 rating on IMDb and 72 percent on Rotten Tomatoes.

The first film follows teenager Lara Jean Covey (Lana Condor), whose life is upended when the letters she wrote to her various love interests over the years are mistakenly mailed. She agrees to pretend to be the girlfriend of one of the boys, Peter Kavinsky (Noah Centineo), in order to make his ex-girlfriend jealous. Predictably, but nonetheless romantically, the pair begin to fall for one another, agreeing to actually date at the end of the movie.

In *P.S. I Still Love You*, Peter and Lara Jean's fledgling relationship is soon threatened by his friendship with his ex-girlfriend and her coincidental encounter with another one of her former crushes. By the end of the film, however, the pair reconciles and reignites their romance.

Aside from Condor and Centineo, the movie features Emilija Baranac as Peter's ex-girlfriend Gen, Jordan Fisher as Lara Jean's old crush John Ambrose McClaren, Anna Cathcart and Janel Parrish as her sisters, and Madeleine Arthur as her best friend, Chris.

The films are based on a set of

popular young adult novels by Jenny Han, published between 2014 and 2017. The first book in the series, *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*, has been published in over 30 languages and spent 40 weeks on the New York Times Best Seller List.

The novels' transition to screen follows a larger trend of young adult novel adaptations that have graced Netflix in recent history, with everything from *Anne with an E* (based on *Anne of Green Gables*) to *13 Reasons Why*.

With such a volume of material to watch, what made *TATBILB* so popular? According to a recent article in *The Atlantic*, the plot was fairly predictable, but "the adaptation's delightful spin

on classic teen rom-com tropes did take many viewers by surprise."

For some viewers, however, *P.S. I Still Love You* did not live up to the magical whimsy of the first film. "It felt like there wasn't enough of a plot twist. Nothing really made me sit on the edge of my seat. However, I really liked that there were two love interests!" Alexandra Velleca '22 notes.

Regardless of whether *P.S. I Still Love You* lives up to the hype generated by its predecessor, fans of Peter and Lara Jean will certainly look forward to the Netflix premiere of the third and final film in the trilogy, *Always and Forever, Lara Jean*.



The sequel continues a trend of young adult novel movie adaptations.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NETFLIX



# Tame Impala Releases *The Slow Rush*

## Fourth Studio Album Comes after a Five-Year Wait

by Julia Vaccarella '20  
A&E Staff

MUSIC

After a five-year hiatus since their last release, Australian Kevin Parker's musical project, Tame Impala, debuted their fourth studio album, *The Slow Rush*, on Feb. 14. The record, coupled with the resurgence of popularity of the 2015 hit "The Less I Know the Better," as well as previously released singles such as "Borderline," has been met with much anticipation. *The Slow Rush* contains 12 songs, with several tracks running for over five minutes.

Despite the fact that *The Slow Rush* is their first album release since 2015, Tame Impala has still been wildly active in the music industry. Their main focus recently has been performing at music festivals. These efforts culminated with an appearance at the coveted Coachella Music Festival, where Tame Impala performed as a headlining act last April.

As for the new album, time is one of the main themes to surface. After five years without a release, there has certainly been increasing pressure for new music. This is a struggle that many artists are faced with at some point. Additionally, *The Slow Rush* was originally supposed to be released in late summer 2019 but its completion was delayed.

"Ruminating on memories, nostalgia, uncertainty about the future, and the nature of time itself lies at the heart of *The Slow Rush*. Likewise, the music itself is both a reflection on the sonic evolution of Parker's project as it's reached festival headliner status—from warbly psychedelia to hypnotic electronic thumps—and a forward thrust towards something new and deeply fascinating," relays Apple Music.



Pitchfork magazine gave *The Slow Rush* an 8.0 out of 10.0 score, citing the album's richness.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

The tendency of clinging onto the memories of the past is appropriately evident in tracks like "Lost in Yesterday," which has nostalgic references throughout its entirety. The imagery of time deeply characterizes *The Slow Rush*, such as in "One More Hour" and "Tomorrow's Dust." However, Parker delves even further, touching upon the intersection between the past and the future.

Much of the credit for Tame Impala's success has gone back to Parker himself, who not only functions as songwriter, but also oversees its production. His personal life has continually influenced the work of Tame Impala, and it is certainly applicable to *The Slow Rush*, given that he went through the

significant life change of getting married last year.

Kitty Empire, a writer at The Guardian, states in a review of *The Slow Rush* that as it "builds, you have to hold on tight to the idea that, despite the musical lengths Parker used to go through to camouflage his lyrics, he is actually one of our most intriguing confessional singer-songwriters...That luminous emotional core is harder to locate on *The Slow Rush*. But it is there."

Going beyond the lyricism of *The Slow Rush*, many of the tracks on the album are performed in the indie folk style that Tame Impala is known for. After a five-year wait, Parker has once again delivered exactly what fans of his work were hoping to hear.

# Apollo Masters Fire Destroys Priceless Vinyls

## Tragedy Upsets the Vinyl Industry Worldwide

by Daniel O'Neill '21  
A&E Staff

MUSIC

On Thursday, February 6, one of the two lacquer vinyl manufacturing plants in the world, Apollo Masters, was destroyed by a catastrophic fire. The plant is located in Banning, CA and acted as a storage facility for the products. While there were no employees injured or killed in the fire, the damage done to the vinyl industry may be irreparable.

The Apollo Masters' website has a note on the front page explaining their current position after the disaster. The note reads, "The best news is all of our employees are safe. We are uncertain of our future at this point and are evaluating options as we try to work through this difficult time."

This is indeed a difficult time for the vinyl industry, as Apollo Masters was the leading producer of lacquer vinyl discs in the world. According to the Los Angeles Times, the only other



The fire took 82 firefighters and nearly three hours to control.

GRAPHIC BY SARA CONWAY '21/THE COWL

mass producer of this vinyl product is MDC, located in Japan. The trouble is that MDC is operating at full capacity, and the vinyl community may have trouble recovering.

Apollo Masters became the leading producer of lacquer vinyl discs by perfecting the production process over the years. The company did well when it was owned by Capitol Records in the 1960s and 1970s and managed to survive the rise of CDs and streaming services in the past decades. The company, along with the entire vinyl community, has been extremely resilient in the complicated and ever-changing music industry. The fire, however, has the potential to bring this section of the industry to a standstill.

According to Pitchfork, Ben

Blackwell of Third Man Records said, "From my understanding, this fire will present a problem for the vinyl industry worldwide... I imagine this will affect everyone, not just Third Man Pressing and Third Man Mastering, but to what extent remains to be seen." There are those who believe that the destruction can be partially fixed through GoFundMe, as the community is tight knit and passionate. Apollo held the majority of the industry, however, so a comeback and rebuild from the vinyl producer seems more unlikely as time passes.

The likelihood of Apollo Masters returning has diminished even further with news of the need for hazardous waste removal and inspection from Fernando Herrera,

**"Apollo Masters became the leading producer of lacquer vinyl discs by perfecting the production process over the years."**

the Riverside County Fire Department public information officer. The strict environmental regulations of the state of California puts the company's rebuilding hopes in jeopardy.

Apollo had such a strong position in the vinyl industry that this tragedy directly disrupts the global supply chain for vinyl. For streaming services, it is easy to upload music files to share with the public. With vinyl, however, there are many techniques and strict steps that must be taken to produce the record itself. Those who produce in the industry are craftsmen who are professionally trained. Every product must be absolutely perfect; there is little room if any for mistakes in the production process.

Many of the workers in the manufacturing plant in Banning were laid off. Their high skill levels and distinct knowledge of production processes are what the industry needs for Apollo Masters to return.

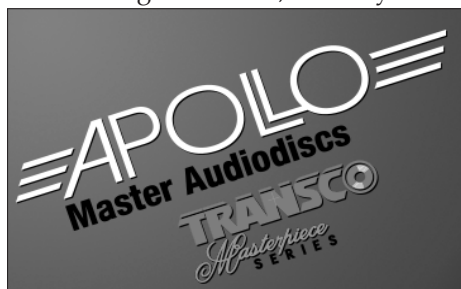


PHOTO COURTESY OF APOLLOMASTERS.COM



# PHOTOGRAPHY



TESSA McANDREWS '23/THE COWL



JAY WILLET '20/THE COWL

**ABOVE:** A.J. Reeves '22 walks through the Providence College Men's Basketball Team during the starting line-ups on Saturday, February 22. The Friars played against the Marquette University Golden Eagles at the Dunkin Donuts Center. The Friars won with a total score of 84-72. Reeves ended the game with a total of 11 points and 4 rebounds.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Thomas Edwards '20, Grace Dolan '20, and Jack Grosso '22 perform in the Six Gents Valentine's Day Sadness Show. The show took place on Tuesday, February 25 in the Smith Center Concert Hall. Six Gents writes and performs their own skits for pure comedy.



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

**ABOVE:** Jolssen Rodriguez '21 participates in BELIEVE in LGBTQ\* Accessibility on Thursday, February 20 in Slavin Overlook Lounge. SHEPARD and BELIEVE cosponsored an event that raises awareness about the intersectionality of the LGBTQ\* community and people that have disabilities. During the event the organizations showed a clip from a Netflix Original called *Special*.

**LEFT:** Avery Fransoo '20 is pictured skating in for timeout on Saturday, February 22 at Scheinder Arena. The women's ice hockey team played against the College of the Holy Cross on both Friday and Saturday night to come out with two wins.



# ROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

*What is some advice you want to give to your professors?*



**"Keep in mind that we have other classes and assignments aside from that class."**  
Alisha Singharaj '23 and Myai Lam '23



**"Be open to students asking questions, even during lecture time."**  
Grace Foltz '23



**"Take from your own experience and remember that students can be overwhelmed."**  
Alba Rosario '23



**"Get to know your students."**  
Jimmy McCarthy '21



**"Allow for different types of participation than just speaking in class."**  
Jake Carlson '20



**"Cancel class at least once a semester."**  
Rob Lesch '20 and Morgan Starkey '20



**"More days off."**

**-Ferris Bueller**



## *The Simple Truth*

by Grace O'Connor '22  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Large crowds always made her head spin  
She could never hear herself think which is why  
She preferred to be alone, hear her own thoughts  
Flood in her head like a much-needed drug

Silence is what led her to feel the rawness of her emotions  
She felt the most alive, embracing the tranquility and authenticity  
Of the simple, nothing forced, just truth  
She craved this around other people, in a crowded room filled  
With every other voice besides her own

The beach always made her feel the most alive  
The cold sand between her toes as the breeze embraced her in a natural hug  
No one to judge every move she makes, simply just the water waving  
As the sand made room for every step she took, molding around her footprint

She likes to think more than anything  
Unlacing the knot of every new thought that came to her head  
Understanding the whys and hows of everything around her  
Feeling her essence and recognizing herself in these moments  
In the silence that some think is a burden

She welcomes it with open arms  
Her internal voice is the most driven, and sure  
Her outward voice is quiet, and scared.  
Terrified.

Silence, is what some are afraid of  
She was too  
But does silence always have to be a burden?  
Is it scary to see your raw emotions? Thoughts?



# THESE PERISHABLE THOUGHTS

by Sam Ward '21  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

The only thing I fear are these perishable thoughts.

I grasp onto them like they are golden-tipped winged shoes fluttering above my halo'd mind.  
I clutch them close like the cross my grandfather bore around his neck, falling gracefully over his beating chest.  
I behold them like Eris's apple, the idyllic piece, missing from the grandest schema.

I grasp. I clutch. I behold.

I grasp them until they float from reach, transcending, elevating, leaving this earthly coil.  
Winged shoes become fabricated visions.  
I clutch them until they melt into my chest, burying themselves deeper than Freudian wizardry could uncover.  
Even silver crosses turn black.  
I behold them until they become objects of fantasy, distant, sublime.

Golden apples must rot, too.

Careless, I would be, without these perishable thoughts.  
So I continue to  
grasp, clutch, behold:  
and write it all down.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM

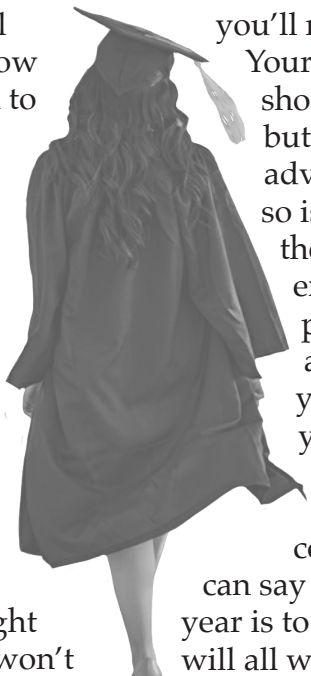
## From Freshman to Freshman

by Kate Ward '23  
Portfolio Staff

CREATIVE NON-FICTION

Dear Kate,

You're now almost done with your freshman year of high school. It's been a long and winding road full of trials and tribulations, but you made it through, even when you thought you wouldn't. I'm proud of you. Fourteen is a tough age and you've made it. I'm writing from Providence College, where you'll be going to school after you graduate. I know you haven't even begun to think about college, but I know you want to be an author. I'm currently writing to you from my dorm, and I, too, am in the midst of my freshman year! We are nearly there. PC will open up a world of possibilities that you wouldn't dream of even in your dizziest daydream. I'm going to tell you something right now that you probably won't



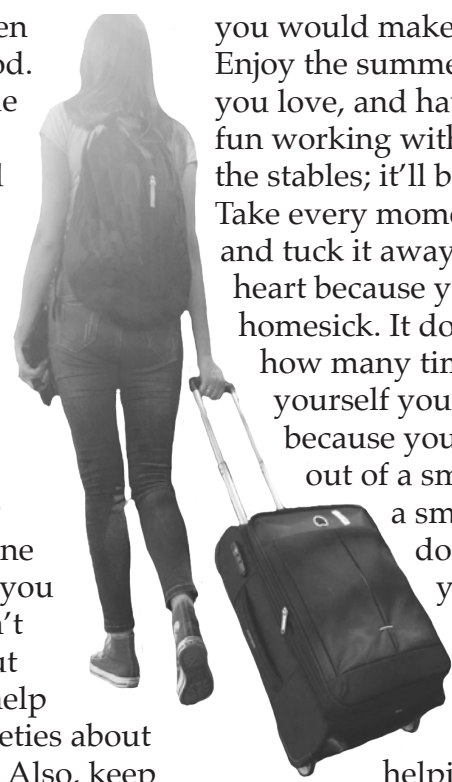
believe. You're going to be studying in London in your sophomore year of college, imagine that. The Harry Potter fan in you will combust, I can bet on that. But it will be new and scary and so much fun. You'll open yourself up to an entirely new culture, education, and new friends.

Your sophomore year will be tough, as you'll take chemistry. It will forever haunt you, but you'll never use it again.

Your friends will also show their true colors, but if I can offer some advice, them doing so is not your fault in the slightest. You'll experience a lot of personal growth and often question yourself and what you're doing, but that's okay; it will all help in the coming years. All I can say about sophomore year is to hang in there, and it will all work itself out.

Junior year is when things get really good. You'll meet your true friends and work extraordinarily hard on school work as usual. ACT and SAT prep, well... that's a trip you're going to have to figure out because I've blocked that out. Please, please remember that your AP scores don't define your efforts or who you are as a person. Don't be afraid to reach out to your friends for help and share your anxieties about applying to schools. Also, keep on killing it in field hockey; it will get you places you never would have thought possible.

Hey senior! Congratulations on getting into PC! Welcome to the big leagues, and congratulations on becoming an all-county athlete. I told you things would get better after sophomore year. I told you



you would make real friends. Enjoy the summer, do what you love, and have so much fun working with Tessa at the stables; it'll be a blast. Take every moment at home and tuck it away in your heart because you will get homesick. It doesn't matter how many times you tell yourself you won't. Just because you're breaking out of a small town and a small family doesn't mean you won't get homesick. And please thank Mom and Dad for helping you and supporting you every step of the way. Tell them you love them. Tell them for me because right now I'm missing them. Give the dog a kiss and clean the fish tank. See you in McVinney.

Much love,  
Kate

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM



# Free Will

by Sarah Heavren '21  
Portfolio Staff

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POETRY

---

A great blessing  
And a great curse  
Choose what is best  
Choose what is worst.

Your decision  
In good and bad  
Choose the happy  
Choose the sad.

Follow a path  
Go and embark  
Choose what is light  
Choose what is dark.

GRAPHIC DESIGN BY SARAH MCLAUGHLIN '23

# alone on a pier

by Jay Willett '20  
Portfolio Staff

---

POETRY

---

Moss beams teal, tides crash sloping soliloquies,  
withdraws, slicing bay reefs sucking out to Adrian.  
Slime crawls up poles, infecting, seeping, into designed drains.  
Concrete, salt cracks finish, a sand texture feeling by foot—barefoot.

Perhaps it's selfish to think your happiness is a salvation.  
I'm not so foolish as to believe that anymore. Sweetheart, I've run out.  
Darling, we can't dance anymore. The bar's closing. The band went home.  
You might be smiling, but in that dark, I could never truly know if you were.

Ah—right, the poem. I'll make you feel something, that's the point, right?  
You want to cry together, laugh, sing, it's a pretty idea.  
It should rhyme, right? What's the scheme?

Ah—

You're expecting a trick.  
Something witty perhaps?  
Some of you want me to trick you.

I can't.

It's not that I can't do it. I don't want to.

Poets are all liars. It's what we do.

Sell pieces of ourselves to you, to make you feel something.

But how could I when I have nothing to feel—to give you?

There's no deeper meaning. No pages between the lines.

This is it.

This is the poem.

If you were expecting more, well—sorry.

I'm just a dirty poet. A liar. A fraud.

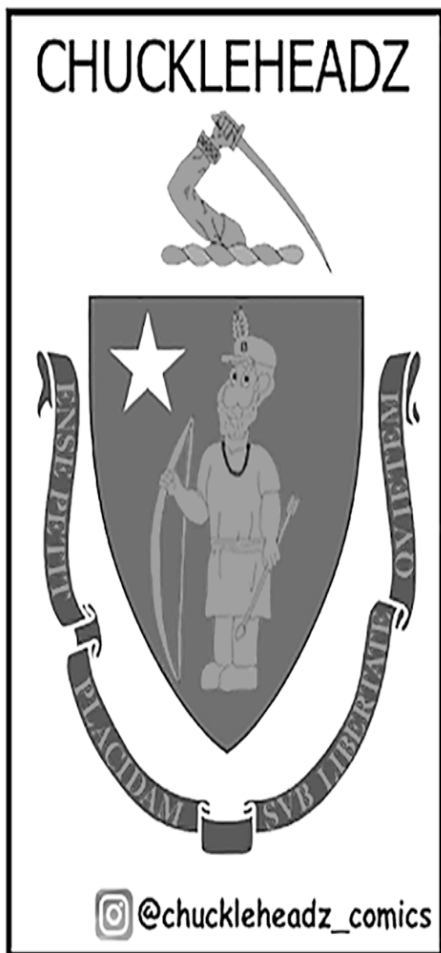
A boy alone on a pier, waiting to be proved wrong.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM



by Mark Fairchild '20  
Portfolio Staff

CARTOON



# Tiffany & Earl

*Making PC an emotionally stable place one letter at a time*

Dear Tiff and Earl,

I just woke up, and I wish I didn't. I'm covered in MondoZ ranch dressing and I might've stolen a poster from them. I even called them the other night to say hi. I think I have a problem. What do I do?

Regretfully,  
MondoZ Maniac

Dear Mondiac,

Admitting you have a problem is the first step. You could take this opportunity to form an MA group—MondoZ Anonymous. Something tells me you're not the only one with this problem. You can all bond over some pizza (depending on the severity of the issue; you wouldn't want to be insensitive).

Cheesily,

**Tiff**

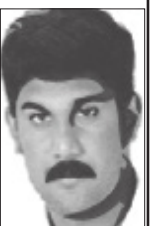


Dear Manic Mondo,

Say hello to my little friend, Big Tony. I think this is a problem that only a good fella like him can solve. I make a few phone calls and all of this disappears. After all, Big Tony is one for making offers which can't be refused...

Gangsterly,

**Earl**



## Listomania\*

### Plans to Make for Spring Break

- Go to Namibia (they have a significant cheetah population)
- Go to your bed/hibernate
- Go to any place that has better food than Ray
- Fyre Festival
- Buy a ranch in the old country
- Go to space (the final frontier)
- Hop the fence and explore Father Shanley's house
- Do your taxes
- File your FAFSA
- Go down a Wikipedia rabbit hole
- Binge Shane Dawson conspiracy videos
- Dabble in Scientology
- Watch the Oscar nominees you never got around to
- Get your textbooks for this semester
- Reverse engineer a Boeing 737 Max
- Steal the Declaration of Independence
- Prove that the Earth is really flat
- Make money (so that you can afford to go on Spring Break next year)

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



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# INTERNATIONAL women's WEEK 2020

OUR WONDER WOMEN ALL WEEK @ LOWER SLAVIN STUDENT CONGRESS & PC REPUBLICANS

GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN DANCE SAT. 2/29, 8PM-10PM @ MCPHAIL'S SSA & WOMEN WILL

WOMEN, GENDER JUSTICE, & THE POLITICS OF REPRESENTATION MON. 3/2, 5:30PM-6:30PM @ LIBRARY LL-04 WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES


THE STIGMA BEHIND QUEER ASIAN WOMEN TUES. 3/3, 6PM-7PM CO-MEETING @ MOORE 118 SHEPARD & ASIAN-AM

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February 27, 2020

## Sports Shorts

by Sullivan Burgess '20  
Sports Staff

SPORTS SHORTS

### Men's Ice Hockey:

This weekend, the Providence College Men's Hockey Team played a home-and-home series against Hockey East rival Merrimack College. The first game occurred on Friday, February 21 in Providence, where the Friars lost to Merrimack 0-2; this was their tenth loss of the season. While goalie Michael Lackey '20GS recorded 21 saves for the Friars, nothing could stop Merrimack's goal in the second period, which put Merrimack up 0-1. Merrimack then closed the game on an empty net goal late in the third period, to win 0-2. The next night at Merrimack, the Friars did manage to score but lost again—this time with a score of 2-3. Patrick Moynihan '23 started the game off for the Friars with a pair of goals, making the score 2-1 by the end of the first. However, Merrimack scored the tying goal on a power play during the second period. The winning goal came for the Warriors at even strength during the third period.

### Men's Basketball:

The men's basketball team won a 84-72 victory against the no. 26 seed Marquette University this past weekend. The win puts the Friars at a 16-12 record overall 9-6 in the Big East. It was their fourth win over a ranked team, as well as the Friars' third straight win. While Marquette's Markus Howard dropped 38 points on the Friars, nothing stood in the way of the overall outstanding defense played by the team throughout both halves. Six Friars broke double digits in scoring, including Luwane Pipkins '20GS with a team high of 24 points. David Duke '22 scored 15 points, which included a pair of alley-oops to ignite the crowd. Coach Ed Cooley was beyond proud of the team as the season ends soon and the Friars desperately work to make the NCAA Tournament.

### Men's Lacrosse:

On Saturday, men's lacrosse found themselves in Pennsylvania for a non-conference matchup against Saint Joseph's University. Sadly, the team came up short in their matchup, losing 8-10 for their first loss of the season. SJU started the game with a 3-2 lead throughout the first quarter. Three players from the Friars, Dan Axelson '20, Ryan Nawrocki '20, and Sean Leahey '20 each had three points in the outing. This marked Axelson's first hat-trick of the season and third of his career. Goalkeeper Toby Burgdorf '21 had 11 saves with an overall .524 save percentage, recording three more saves than SJU's goalie. This puts the Friars at an overall 3-1 record for the season as they continue their non-conference games for the beginning of the season until Big East play comes into effect in late March. The Friars will look to secure the Ocean State Cup against Brown University next weekend.

## Weekly Winners: Friars Dominate February

### Four Friars Nab Weekly Big East Awards

by Cam Smith '21  
Sports Assistant Editor

FRIAR SPORTS

The second week of February was a great one for Providence College athletics, as four Friars took home weekly awards for their outstanding play. Besides putting up great stats, Alpha Diallo '20, Alyssa Geary '22, Lauren DeBlois '23, and Toby Burgdorf '21 all played key roles in leading their respective teams to pivotal victories.

The Big East Player of the Week went to Diallo, who became the first PC Men's Basketball Team player to receive the award since Rodney Bullock '17 in 2016. The senior forward averaged 27 points, 13.5 rebounds, and 3.0 assists while leading the Friars to a 1-1 record for the week.

Certainly contributing to his achievement is the fact that Diallo set single-game career highs in both points and rebounds during the week. On Feb. 13, Diallo grabbed an impressive 17 rebounds to go along with 19 points in a loss to St. John's University. He followed that performance up by pouring in 35 points on 5-5 shooting from the three-point line in a statement win against tenth-ranked Seton Hall University.

Diallo's outburst from downtown came as a bit of a surprise due to the fact that he attempted zero three-pointers in the previous game against St. John's University. Even so, there was little hesitation in pulling the trigger against the Pirates. "I just tried to do whatever it took to help us get the win," said Diallo after the game. "My teammates were finding me in open spots. I make those shots a lot in practice, so they knew to have confidence in me."

Further sweetening Diallo's triumphant week is the fact that his scoring outburst against Seton Hall pushed him past 1,500 career points.



ISABELLA BAFFONI '23/THE COWL

Geary currently has 135 points this season, which is third most on the team.

Diallo now sits as one of just 17 Friars in school history to pass the scoring milestone.

Meanwhile, on the women's basketball team, Geary was named to the Big East Weekly Honor Roll. In a week that very much mirrored Diallo's, Geary helped lead her team to a 1-1 record while posting a team high in points against Seton Hall.

"It felt pretty good to receive the weekly award," said Geary when asked about the honor. "I did not expect it at all and was shocked that I was even considered, let alone picked as a recipient."

Geary credited her teammates for allowing her to play at such a high level in recent weeks. "I owe it all to them. They have the confidence to constantly feed me the ball in the post or kick it out to me believing that I can knock that shot down."

Geary played a crucial role in the Friars' defeat of St. John's on Feb. 16, posting 10 points, four rebounds, three assists, and one block to go along with a game-saving three pointer to tie the game with 1:36 left in regulation. "I knew I was feeling the three," Geary said of the shot following the game. "I knew I was going to knock that down and my teammates gave me the confidence to do it."

Geary would later add, "The three was a great play because of the way my teammates hustled down the floor and found me. Mary [Baskerville '22] could have easily tried and scored as soon as she got the ball, but she gave me that extra pass we practice with one another and I was able to knock it down."

Geary and the Friars would go on to seal the victory on a miraculous Earlette Scott '22 and-one from the top of the key with four seconds remaining.

Representing the Providence College Women's Hockey Team, DeBlois continued PC's success by being named the Hockey East Pro



TESSA MCANDREWS '23/THE COWL

Diallo's performance helped push the Friars to their third win over a ranked opponent.

Ambitions Rookie of the Week. She and the rest of the squad took down third-ranked Northeastern University on Feb. 14 in a game that featured two goals from DeBlois.

Her first goal came off a Sara Hjalmarsson '22 faceoff win that was flicked back to Whitney Dove '20. Dove slid it over to DeBlois, who placed a perfect wrister through traffic into the back of the net at 16:04 in the second period.

DeBlois' second goal just so happened to be a game-winner, as she sent the Huskies packing with a wrister from the point with 1:03 remaining in overtime. The goal would secure a 2-1 Friar victory and the second game-winner in DeBlois' young career.

Finally, Burgdorf wrapped up a phenomenal week for Friar athletics by being named the Big East Defensive Player of the Week for men's lacrosse. Burgdorf picked up a career-high in saves versus Bryant University in the Ocean State Cup, stifling 15 shots on a .625 save percentage. In the fourth quarter alone, he turned back seven shots compared to a measly two by the opposing goalie.

It was the second time this year that Burgdorf has been named Defensive Player of the Week, with both honors due in large part to the goalie's impressive 3-0 record in his first three career starts for PC.

Diallo, Geary, and DeBlois look to continue their success as their respective teams make late-season pushes for the postseason. Burgdorf, on the other hand, looks to maintain his status as a defensive stalwart as the men's lacrosse team continues to start the season strong. Regardless of the status of their season, all four athletes have shined so far this year for the Friars, and their long list of accolades is a testament to their hard work.



# Should Students Be Allowed to Storm the Court?

## Providence College Investigates:

### Yes, They Should Be

by Gavin Woods '22  
Sports Staff

PCI

In light of the recent Providence College Men's Basketball Team victory over Seton Hall University on Feb. 15, many are questioning whether or not student spectators should continue to storm the court. However, I do not think that this instance should be representative of the policy. Storming

the court after a big win is a staple of the college basketball experience and should be continued.

Part of what makes the Dunkin' Donuts Center such a difficult arena for opponents to face is because the PC crowd is so vocal. The best way to measure a crowd's effect on the game is to look at how it affects the home team's performance. Head coach Ed Cooley commented, "I'd be remiss if I didn't talk about how great our crowd was tonight. Our crowd helped us win this game, no question about it. I don't know what they fed

them in here tonight."

It was exactly this intense excitement that the student section showed for their Friars that made them want to celebrate this conference win. Coach Cooley offered his perspective on the premature court storming: "I know it got out of hand at the end when they thought the game was over. Hopefully we won't get fined for that. But if we do... I'll pay for it. It's worth it if we're winning."

When Alpha Diallo '20 was asked how the sold-out crowd at home made him feel, he replied, "It was a great moment. The storming the court is always fun, especially for the young guys. It was a great atmosphere and we fed off of it for sure."

Banning the act of court storming would discourage the crowd's participation. Big wins do not happen often and when they do, students should have the opportunity to celebrate with their fellow classmates. The student body should be free to celebrate with the team however they see fit, so long as it does not interfere with the game as it did this past Saturday.

Storming the court is a longstanding college tradition that has, in some cases, been deemed an essential part of the college experience. To deny students the opportunity to do so takes away the ability for students to make memories of a situation they may never find themselves in again. To put a limit on their celebration is to essentially remove students from the game, which already confines them to mere spectators. Lastly, to reiterate what Diallo said, storming the court not only energizes the fans, but also the players because they feed off the excitement in the stadium and it can be a motivating factor for the team going forward.

Therefore, storming the court, when done correctly, should be allowed because both the fans and players love it. It is a great sports tradition that brings players and fans together.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL/GLENN OSMUNDSON

Due to the passion of college basketball fans, banning court storming is an unrealistic option; instead, the NCAA should work towards implementing rules to make the act more safe and enjoyable for all.

### No, They Should Not

by Eileen Flynn '20  
Sports Staff

PCI

With unexpected outcomes comes unexpected celebrations, and for college basketball an upset at home usually calls for the students to storm the court at the final buzzer.

What might seem like harmless excitement at first can actually turn into mayhem on the court. In addition, large fines can be placed on the institution itself. Some might argue to "let the kids play," but there have been incidents in the past that should convince any school or league to ban fans from storming the court, with no exceptions.

Student fan sections during the game are expected to get rowdy. Indeed, they are responsible for cheering their team on when it is on a roll, as well as in charge of picking their team up when they need some momentum. Chants, signs, and themed outfits are all encouraged and express the crowd's commitment to their school's team. Rushing the court, however, creates a dangerous situation for students and players that can be completely avoidable.

One of the worst cases was in 2004, when a promising high school basketball player, Joe Kay, helped his team beat their rival school with a game-winning dunk. The high school students, who had watched college court storms all their lives, were ready to celebrate the same way. Unfortunately, Kay was a victim of the chaos, being thrown to the ground before suffering a stroke which would later paralyze him on his right side.

The Southeastern Conference and the Big East have started to implement fines for teams that continue to storm the court even after being advised not to do so. However, this does not seem to stop students. A University of South Carolina announcer warned the

Gamecock fans prior to their upset victory against University of Kentucky that if the students were to storm the court, the school would be fined up to \$50,000. The students charged the court anyways, leaving their school to pay the large fine.

Providence College students are all too familiar with rushing the court after their basketball team comes up with an unexpected win. This season, the team was 0.2 seconds away from beating Seton Hall University, who was sitting first in the Big East and ranked tenth nationally. With an unexpected foul, the students started rushing the court even though

the game had not yet ended. Embarrassing the team and the school, the students took their time walking off the court. Providence College was issued a \$5,000 fine for the unnecessary fiasco.

How do you distinguish which victory deserves a court storming? Many PC students decided the game was not worthy of storming the court and stayed in their seats at the end of the game, which was a good thing.

Storming the court is not going to get any safer, it embarrasses the school, and in the end, is just not worth it.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEE LUTHER JR.

Not only can storming the court be a dangerous event for students and players, but also for other spectators and security guards who try to prevent students from stepping onto the court.



# Tennis Looks to Start Spring Season Strong

by Leo Hainline '22  
Sports Staff  
TENNIS

The Providence College Women's Tennis Team recently got its season underway as the squad looks to improve from the previous year and aims to establish itself as a competitive program in the Big East.

Returning veterans Aidan Epstein '20 and Natalie Pitocco '20 will

need to bring their experience to help lead an underclassmen-heavy roster. In his fourth season as head coach, Jakob Klaeson recruited four freshmen to Friartown to join Mimi Dailey '22, Haley Gurski '22 and the two seniors. The squad looks to usher in a new era for the program.

The roster is full of competitors and Coach Klaeson anticipates both their youth and depth as two big potential strengths.

"One of our strengths is that we're very similar from top to bottom," he said. "We have two seniors, no juniors, two sophomores, and four freshmen. One of our strengths could be that everything is so new and exciting, but that could also work against us that we don't have the prior experience as much as other teams, but I see the depth of our team as our strength."

Dailey agrees with Coach Klaeson that there are many reasons to be optimistic about the rest of the season.

"I think our team from last year has already improved from the previous season a significant amount," she stated. "We have four hardworking and determined freshmen and four returning players. I believe this year the eight players are driven and ready to compete to our best abilities."

She spoke very highly of the newcomers to the team, saying, "All four of our freshmen are amazing. Each freshman has brought new and different talent to the team. I believe they are all worthy of looking for out there on the courts this season."

PC women's tennis is coming off a 5-18 season and currently are 1-3 in the 2020 season, having lost a tight match to Fairfield University this past weekend. Providence and Fairfield have been evenly matched but this time the Friars lost 4-3 in singles, with many of the matches going all three sets.

In doubles, the Friars went 1-2, with the two losses coming in hard-fought matches. PC came back from

2-5 down only to fall 6-7 (women's collegiate tennis only plays one set in doubles). Brenna Magliochetti '23 was the only Friar to grab wins in both singles and doubles, winning her singles matches 6-3, 6-0, and linking up with fellow Katie Mulvey '23 to grab the sole doubles win 6-2.

The Friars take the court next in Orlando, FL over spring break for matchups against Millsap College and Big East opponents Georgetown University and Creighton University. Coach Klaeson noted that he is looking forward to Big East play.

"The Big East matches are always highlights of the season," he stated. "We have a couple of exciting ones. For my tenure, we're heading to Marquette University for the first time. We head to Marquette and play Butler University at Marquette so that will be an exciting trip."

Coach Klaeson also mentioned that their match against Sacred Heart University is one to watch out for.

"Coming back from spring break, we have Sacred Heart at home again. We lost to them last season 3-4, so that's an exciting match. I think we're very evenly squared up and we're very excited to kind of, like, reclaim that because we have beat them in the past and going a bit back and forth, they've always been close matches."

The Friars plan on demonstrating their ability on the court this season with a youthful squad that screams potential. As the season progresses, PC will look to show that they are ready to compete against some elite competition.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

Julia Migliorini '23 and Katie Mulvey '23 have made an immediate impact in their first season at PC.

## Softball Takes on 2020 Bearkat Classic

### Friars End on Good Note, Walk-off for Win

by Liam Tormey '22  
Sports Staff  
SOFTBALL

Two weekends ago, the Providence College Softball Team traveled to Huntsville, TX to compete in their first competition of the season: the 2020 Bearkat Classic.

Traveling did not come easy for the Friars as they planned to head down on Thursday, February 13. Unfortunately, the ladies faced travel problems as their flight was canceled. On the bright side, they were able to reschedule their flight to the next morning.

The team woke up at 3 a.m. and had a double-header which started just 15 hours after wake-up. Problems in the air caused problems for the Friars, but they still had to play five games during the weekend.

On Friday, the first game for the ladies was against the Houston Baptist University Huskies. The Huskies jumped to a 6-0 lead thanks to a four-run fourth inning which sealed the victory at 7-1. Miranda Trinidad '20 got the start on the mound for the Friars and Elysia Cunnigan '23 came in to relieve Trinidad for her first appearance for the Friars.

Game two started very quickly after the conclusion of game one for the Friars. Their opponent was Sam Houston State University Bearkats. The first inning put the Bearkats at

a 2-0 advantage and the Friars were not able to claw their way back into the game. The final score was 9-1. Coach Jill Karwoski said the ladies "emptied the tank" after travelling for most of the day and being short on sleep.

Saturday would involve two more games for the Friars. It would be a much better day after a full night of rest.

Houston Baptist was the first opponent of the day and the game was much closer than it had been just 20 hours before. After a run in

the first inning for the Huskies and a response in the third by the Friars, the Huskies scored four runs in the bottom of the third to make the score 5-1. The Friars brought the game back to make it 5-3 after Mackensie Compton '20 had four at bats and three RBIs with a two-run home run in the fifth.

The next two games of the weekend showed the promise the Friars wished for heading to Texas. Sam Houston would be the opponent again, but with a much different result. After being down 5-2, the

Friars had an eight-run fourth to seal the first victory of the season with a score of 11-7. Cunnigan got the win on the mound for the ladies with four strikeouts in 3.1 innings pitched, which secured her first win as a Friar. Crista San Antonio '20 had a great day at the plate with four RBIs and two hits, one being a home run, for three at bats.

Coach Karwoski said, "Besides sleep, the biggest change the team made was finding their ability to play loose, letting go of the outcome and being more present in each moment as it presented itself."

The Friars finished the weekend strong with an exciting win against George Mason University. After going down early in the first inning, 1-0, the Friars played well defensively but could not get the bats going. In the bottom of the seventh inning with three outs before the game was over, Tiana Wren '23 hit a walk-off three-run home run to win the game 3-1 and finish the weekend 2-3.

The Friars will be competing in several competitions before the start of Big East play and coach Karwoski stressed the importance of these tournaments because they "allow for us as coaches to see what lineup options we can potentially have and for our players to see, adjust, and compete against a range of competition and talent."

Big East play for the Friars will begin March 20 at home against St. John's University.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

Molly McGarry '21 has been a solid presence behind the plate, recording no errors in 10 games.



# A Look Around Friartown

## Men's Ice Hockey:

2/21 vs. Merrimack College, loss 0-2

2/22 at Merrimack College, loss 2-3

### Upcoming:

2/29 vs. University of Maine

3/06 at University of Maine

## Women's Ice Hockey:

2/14 at Northeastern University, loss 1-4

2/21 at College of The Holy Cross, win 3-1

2/22 vs. College of The Holy Cross, win 3-0

### Upcoming:

2/27 — 3/01 vs. University of New Hampshire  
(Hockey East Tournament First Round)

## Men's Basketball:

2/19 at Georgetown University, win 73-63

2/22 vs. Marquette University, win 84-72

### Upcoming:

2/29 at Villanova University

3/04 vs. Xavier University

## Women's Basketball:

2/16 vs. St. John's University, win 54-53

2/21 at Xavier University, loss 42-61

2/23 at Butler University, loss 42-51

### Upcoming:

2/28 vs. Georgetown University

3/01 vs. Villanova University

## Men's Lacrosse:

2/15 vs. Bryant University, win 16-9

2/22 at St. Joseph's University, loss 8-10

### Upcoming:

2/29 at Brown University

3/07 at Sacred Heart University

# PROVIDENCE

## PC Alumni Shed Light on Careers

by Joseph Quirk '23  
Sports Staff

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

This past Wednesday, February 19 the Providence College American Marketing Association and the Providence College Sports Business Organization hosted a sports marketing panel featuring three PC alumni who have had remarkable success in the sports marketing field. The panel consisted of Matt Ryter '07, an NFL Account Executive; Molly Giudice '18, the New York Giants Suites and Premium Service Director; and Mike Hill '07, the Mediahub Global Vice President and Group Director. The event ran for 45 minutes and began with an introduction of the panel, followed by a guided interview by a head speaker. Following the conclusion of the interview, the panel was opened to audience questions.

One of the first things the panel discussed was how they got to where they are right now. "Well, I'd say that everyone in this room is already very far ahead of where I was at this age," joked Ryter. This was a common theme throughout the entire panel. All three guests stressed creating connections through networking and then aggressively following up with them.

Ryter talked about how he got his first job working for ESPN at a career fair in Gillette Stadium. After spending some time working for ESPN, Ryter used what he learned in a radio advertising class he took here at PC and took a media and advertising job with CBS. Networking led him to his NFL position today. His position entails many responsibilities, including negotiating sponsorship deals for the league.

Guidice met an executive for the Philadelphia 76ers on a trip and "badgered" him until she got an interview. She made calls for the 76ers and then used her experience working in ticketing to get an analytics internship with the Knicks and Rangers at Madison Square Garden. After realizing that was not for her, she took a job again with the Knicks and Rangers in ticketing. It was during this time she realized she wanted to work in service. She had options to do this with the Rangers and Giants, and she chose the Giants. Guidice has many responsibilities including managing premium partnerships, suites, and important events.

Hill works with clients who are purchasing sports sponsorships. He started by sending a ton of emails to different agencies, which is how he got an internship. He worked hard and was persistent and covered a wide area of internships. This allowed him to explore what he wanted to do and diversify his skillset and resume. He believes that this is very important. He got a marketing job right out of college, which he did not like, and this led to him bouncing around jobs before getting a low-level position in his agency and working his way up. He is working with Ryter now, as Ryter is trying to get Hill's clients to sponsor the NFL.

The next segment was dedicated to any advice the alumni had for students trying to break into the sports

marketing field. Hill followed his introduction with some good advice, saying, "Once you build up that foundation, you need to be persistent." This was in reference to the competitiveness of the sports business field.

He continued: "Don't be discouraged if it's not working out because it is a competitive industry. If you are just persistent and network, you will find the job right for you." He also mentioned the career fair, which is supported by his networking advice, as well as being informed on the responsibilities of these jobs, and being connected on platforms such as LinkedIn. Hill also wanted people to find what they want to do and understand what career path they want to follow.

"When you're a freshman in college, you don't really know what you want to do. You're winding it down until you're a senior," he said. "When you're first out of college, you're a freshman in your career, you may not know what you want to do and that's okay."

These sentiments were echoed by the other two panelists. "Be the best at what you are doing now," Guidice added. "If you want to get into sports, get your entry level job and be the best you can at it and the rest will fall into place."

Hill advised students to keep an open mind, saying, "Don't pigeon-hole yourself into one company or career path."

The panelists provided more valuable advice when asked how students can start getting involved in the sports industry. One suggested website was Teamwork Online. Every team and league post their jobs and internships on that website. They also encouraged not staying in one city for these experiences but being willing to try new places. Ryter suggested internships at sports marketing agencies.

Guidice suggested that working for bad sports teams may be more valuable as well because you are expected to have more responsibility. "When I worked for the Sixers, and they sucked, you get to learn a lot about how to handle more. It's very easy to work for a team that's great." All three panelists encouraged students to follow a passion and interest and let the sports aspect come to them.

When asked about how PC readied them for the sports field, Guidice said that you do not need sports marketing degrees to get these jobs. Everyone has these degrees, and teams may look for people with something else so they can contribute more unique opinions or skills. She also says a liberal arts background is invaluable in offering versatility to companies.

The final 10 minutes of the panel allowed for student questions. These questions varied on the topic of general interest in the industry itself. One question that led to a discussion is how the new forms of media and different ways to consume live games will affect the price and frequency of sponsorships and ads.

Overall, the entire panel was insightful and entertaining for the students. After the event was over, audience members had a chance to meet and network with the three alumni and grab a slice of pizza.



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

The event is one of several events SBO has planned this year to bring in former alumni in the sports industry.