

# The Cowl



SINCE 1935

Vol. LXXXII No. 17 | February 15, 2018 | thecowl.com

## Villa-game-ova: Friars Claim Victory

by Sullivan Burgess '20  
Sports Staff

MEN'S BASKETBALL

As the end of the season swiftly approaches, the Providence College Friars dominate the Big East Conference play, with a major win against the # 3 overall Villanova, with a final score of 76-71.

After suffering a heavy loss to DePaul last Saturday, 80-63, the Friars bounced back and came back better than ever beating Nova and securing a 8-5 record in the 2017-2018 Big East Standings behind Xavier, Villanova, and Creighton, and a 17-9 overall record in the NCAA.

While the season has been back and forth with significant wins and tough losses, the Friars hope to provide the burning energy and spirit needed as they head towards the Big East Tournament and hopefully an appearance in the March Madness Tournament. Some of these notable wins come from Big East play, including ranked rivals such as #5 Xavier, Creighton, Marquette, DePaul, and Butler when the team was on a four-game winning streak.

However, things took a turn for the worse when the team's streak was snapped by back to back losses to Villanova and Seton Hall. The team found themselves back on pace with



Isaiah Jackson '19 scored 11 points to help bring the Friars a win against Villanova.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THECOWL

back to back wins against Marquette and Georgetown, but DePaul, as mentioned previously, came out

swinging to hand the team their fifth loss. All hope was not lost as the Friars brought the win to Villanova and look

to carry the momentum of this win into the end of the regular season.

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## Celebrating Black History



GRAPHIC DESIGN BY PAIGE CALABRESE '18/THECOWL

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18  
News Co-Editor

ON CAMPUS

As part of Providence College's celebration of Black History Month,

multiple departments across campus, such as Student Affairs and the Office of Institutional Diversity, sponsored the return of the Black History 101 Mobile Museum, which was on display all day in the Slavin Fishbowl

this Wednesday.

The museum features a collection by Khalid el-Hakim, a current doctoral student from the University of Illinois. After taking a sociology class in his undergraduate career, el-Hakim began

to collect Jim Crow memorabilia in 1991 from flea markets, antique shops, and estate sales "From that point I've started to collect all I could that exhibits the black experience in America," el-Hakim said.

With over 7,000 artifacts in his collection, el-Hakim explained he often develops themes each year that he brings with him to over 50 locations across 15 states. He explained that just the day before arriving at PC, he put on his exhibit at the FBI Academy in Virginia.

The artifacts are all authentic, and this year's theme covers the 75th anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination. From a *Sports Illustrated* magazine dated May 22, 1967 with athlete Tommi Smith on the cover, to pins that say "Write in Dick Gregory for President," or to the *Newsweek* cover from April 15, 1968 covering Martin Luther King, Jr.'s funeral, to a flyer made up by the Citizen's Council of Greater New Orleans that reads "Help Save the Youth of America, Don't Buy Negro Records," el-Hakim has captured the experience of struggle that black people in the United States have always faced.

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### News

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## Clubs Across Campus Sponsor Event on Mental Health *ESPN Reporter and WNBA Player Share that It's Okay to Not be Okay*

by Abigail Czerniecki '19  
A&E Co-Editor

ON CAMPUS

Several of Providence College's clubs and departments, such as Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), Active Minds, Athletics, and Student and Academic Affairs, have teamed up to bring awareness of mental illness to campus and express the idea, "You're Never Alone In Friartown."

This past Monday, February 12, these groups sponsored an event in Mullaney Gymnasium to bring awareness to mental illness not only to the athletes on PC's campus, but the whole Friar Family. Guest speakers Kate Fagan, ESPN reporter and author of *What Made Maddy Run*, and former WNBA player Chamique Holdsclaw provided a thought-provoking discussion that touched upon their personal experiences as Division I athletes and the idea that it is okay not to be okay.

Fagan, a former DI basketball player for the University of Colorado-Boulder, shared her experiences dealing with anxiety throughout college specifically as a freshman, recalling the hardships she endured and the fear she felt being a part of a new school as well as a new team. It was because of Fagan's athletic trainers, coaches, teammates, and resources that were on her campus that she was able to take the beginning steps in overcoming her anxiety.

Holdsclaw, who played DI basketball for the University of



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE ATHLETICS  
**Kate Fagan inspires students by explaining the importance of mental health.**

Tennessee, was selected as the first round draft pick in the WNBA 1999 draft, and was a member of the U.S. Olympic team that won gold in 2000 in Sydney, Australia. What many may not know is that this talented athlete struggled with mental illness throughout her career. Through the many resources that were offered to her by her college campus, her teammates, and coaches she is able to live rather than just exist.

Together Fagan and Holdsclaw created a discussion that touched upon the importance of acknowledging that colleges attitudes today that glorify pushing through pain and proving one's strengths in athletics are unhealthy, the importance of mental health, and removal of the

"mask" that covers the not so perfect world of PC students.

The discussion covered several aspects that surround mental illness including—social media, "masking," third party validation, and the fear of having conversations about mental illness. The two guest speakers provided some answers and helpful hints to initiate the beginning steps in making PC's campus a campus that will support one another, create healthy validation, and become better educated about mental illness.

The main goal of this event was to inform PC students that they are never alone in the process. John Rock, head athletic trainer and creator of the slogan "You're Never Alone in Friartown," expressed to

the attendees that there are so many people around campus that are ready and willing to help and that no one should feel as though a mental illness is a weakness.

Kari Moyer '19, a member of the PC Women's Field Hockey Team said that the event was, "Eye-opening in the lives of student athletes and students alike who suffer through mental illness, and shed light on how athletes tend to think that they have to push through any tough time and adversity they go through, when in actuality they should not feel weak asking for help." The event brought awareness to PC students who may have never had the chance to discuss or think about mental illness.

Fagan and Holdsclaw emphasized the significance of being there for one another and sometimes that means just lending an ear to a friend or teammate and listening. David Procopio '19, a member of the Men's Lacrosse Team, understood the message Fagan and Holdsclaw gave, "I now have the confidence to know what to do in a situation involving mental health, and it is my responsibility as well as my fellow athletes and peers' to make sure we support and take care of one another, because we are after all a friar family."

Now is the time to get connected and interact with PC's campus and to make the ties that already exist even stronger. PC has several resources and clubs one can get involved in to help bring awareness of mental health across campus. Like Fagan said, "we don't have to reinvent the wheel" we just have to build upon it.

## The College Seeks to Fill New Security Position *Search Committee Made for New Associate VP Position*

by Darren Squillace '19  
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

Over the past few weeks, a search process has been conducted to replace the longtime head of our campus security in Major John Leyden. While Major Leyden's experience here on the campus will be sorely missed, a search committee was constructed to interview three highly-qualified potential candidates to serve as the new chief of campus public safety.

As many students are aware due to the influx of emails sent out regarding this important position, each candidate was given an opportunity to meet with faculty, staff, and students and present their qualifications in an open session, on-campus interview. Elizabeth Walsh, assistant vice president for human resources, was responsible for keeping everyone in the loop about this ongoing process through email. While the new position of associate vice president and chief of campus safety, will be similar to the previous position Major Leyden filled, it will also include the responsibility of transitioning of the department into a hybrid system which will include both campus police as well as security.

Walsh gave some insight into how this committee and search process began. "The search committee comprised of faculty, administrative staff, and student representatives began the search process in late August or early September," said Walsh.

"The process involved the review of 91 resumes, initial phone screenings, and in person interviews with the committee," Walsh continued. The pool

was narrowed down to three candidates who were brought to campus to interview with various campus constituents over a two-day period."

The search committee to fulfill the task of fielding the lengthy number of candidates encompassed seven individuals, Walsh included, that serve a variety of different roles here at PC. The members of the committee include executive president of Student Congress Phionna-Cayola Claude '18, Lt. John Dunbar, crime prevention and campus relations officer, Tierra Marshall, the office of institutional diversity, Maureen Outlaw associate professor of sociology, Steven Sears, dean of students and associate vice president of student affairs, and Gregory Waldron, senior vice president of Institutional Advancement.

Each of the three candidates Walsh refers to come from a variety of different backgrounds regarding campus security at their respective universities.

The first interviewee in January was Edward Rodriguez, who currently serves as chief of public safety and emergency management at Quinnipiac University. Later that week, the second of three candidates, Paul Shanley, was interviewed. Shanley serves as the deputy chief of police at Brown University. The last of the three interviews took place the following week for Stephanie Hill. Hill is the director of public safety and chief of police at Central State University in Wiberforce, Ohio. Between the three candidates, they have over 90 years of experience related to and around law enforcement.

According to Walsh, now that the interviews have concluded, and everyone has been given the



NICHOLAS CRESNHAW '20/THE COWL

opportunity to evaluate each candidate extensively, the search to fill Major Leyden's position is in its final stages and will be filled in the coming weeks. The board of trustees will review each candidate and their applications thoroughly before putting the decision to a vote.

Regardless of who is ultimately chosen, each of the three candidates hopes to lead the charge in several advancements and enhancements to campus security to ensure that safety remains one of the top priorities here on campus.



# Featured Friar: Major John Leyden

## Friartown Says Goodbye to Head of Department of Public Safety

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18  
News Editor

FEATURED FRIAR

After working at Providence College for 14 years, this past Wednesday, Friartown said goodbye to the head of the Department of Public Safety on campus, Major John Leyden.

In the time he has been here, Leyden has seen the campus and his department change in immense ways. "Campus public safety has evolved tremendously over the last 10 years," Leyden said. He explained that the tragic shootings at Virginia Tech and other active shooter incidents nationwide helped motivate an increased emergency preparedness that was mandated by the Department of Higher Education.

According to Leyden, PC was one of the first colleges in the area to hire a full time Emergency Management Director to oversee the emergency notifications system (FriarAlert). This position, currently filled by Koren Kanadianian, is also responsible for updating and retro-fitting the emergency blue phones and conduct trainings.

Other changes include the re-establishment of a campus bike patrol, collaboration with Independent Title IX investigators to conduct investigations and the adoption of policies and procedures based on those from the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators that reviewed the campus last year. The new position filled by Lt. John Dunbar,

crime prevention/campus relations officer, was created last year, and now his office works under the executive vice president's office rather than student affairs.

"We continue to work very closely with our partners in Student Affairs," said Leyden. He explained that his office continues to increase its staff of qualified and diverse officers and dispatch personnel, and has also increased and expanded their focus on working with the city and Providence police to address safety and quality of life issues in the neighborhood.

He explained that during his time here, he has accumulated countless fond memories and has greatly enjoyed working senior week activities and commencement. "During this time the students, some of whom we've developed relationships with for four years, express their appreciation and we recognize how the students have matured throughout their time here," said Leyden.

Leyden will miss the dedicated and professional staff and faculty at PC most. "They share a commitment to the safety and success of our students as well as the relationships that are built with members of this community," Leyden said.

As for filling his position, a search committee has been hard at work to fill his role. "The search committee has put a tremendous amount of effort into attracting and vetting candidates," Leyden said. "I'm confident a selection will be made soon."



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

Major Leyden says goodbye to PC after 14 years.

In his next chapter in life, Leyden hopes to spend more quality time with his family. He would also like to do more boating and fishing year round, as well as travel and expand his physical activity. He insists he will always be a Friar heart and soul.

# Discussion Held on Viewing Racism as Anti-Christian

## Dr. Dana Dillon Speaks at First Theology on Tap of the Semester

by Alexandra Huzyk '20  
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

In honor of Black History Month, and as a continuation of the conversation initiated by Dr. Bernice King's Convocation speech, the first Theology on Tap of the semester was titled "Anti-Racism as a Necessary Christian Virtue." The talk, led by Dr. Dana Dillon, a professor of theology at Providence College, delved into the pervasiveness of racism in America and the corresponding responsibility of Christians to establish anti-racism.

Dillon began the talk by sharing with the audience a personal story about how racism has affected her. When she was younger, she had been contemplating whether or not she and a friend should go take a trip to Canada. In her rationale, she used the argument: "Why not? We're free, white, and 21." The friend that she was speaking with, however, was half Chinese and half Hawaiian. She felt ashamed when she thought about the implications of what she had said, and this instance served as a moment of realization. Dillon said, "I had received a script from my parents, and others, that was implicitly racist."

Dillon stressed, "Unless we are working to be anti-racist, we are passing on inherited habits of racism," and we cannot be truly "good" Christians if we act in either intentionally or subliminally racist ways. In order to combat this mentality, she elaborated upon the Aristotelian premise that like acts can become like habits. If people can commit to a particular act, they can become oriented toward virtue through their actions. In other words, if a person makes the



Theology on Tap takes place multiple times a semester in McPhail's.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THECOWL

conscious decision of acting in anti-racist ways, they can then eventually live a life of anti-racism and lead others to that same way of life. "We are so used to seeing subtle forms of racism, implicit forms of white supremacy, as normal ways of being in the world," Dillon said, "Our sense of what justice and love of neighbor looks like is terribly skewed." Dillon asserts that every person must make a conscious effort to orient all of their actions around charity and love.

To expand on the context of racism in America, Dillon provided a brief history of racism and how that has influenced our current state. First and foremost, the establishment of the United States of America began with the killing and displacement of Native American people. Following this, slavery became a widely accepted practice and institution that persisted for over 200 years. Even with the legal abolition of slavery, racism remained a pervasive

part of society, emblemized by a history of sharecropping, Jim Crow, and lynching. To emphasize the prevalence and widespread approval of racism, Dillon emphasized a quote from a Catholic bishop in Louisiana. This quote asserted that slavery was a necessary institution, "far from an evil," because they were not capable of freedom. In a historical context, it was believed that it was the Christian responsibility to take care of people of color in order to lead them to a good life. Dillon emphasized that this mentality towards slavery was extremely un-Christian.

Dillon said, "Our Christian responses to racism, like our Christian responses to anything, need to be centered around Christ." She said that Christ—as a person who was able to cross boundaries and borders, interact with the marginalized and be their advocate—should serve as an example for Christians today.

This encompasses a tradition which Christians call the preferential option for the poor, a theological mentality that proposes giving love and help to those in need of it most. Within the context of racism, that means Christians have a responsibility to help those in need regardless of their race or ethnicity.

Dillon ended her talk with some steps towards confronting racism, in order to establish a life of anti-racism. Her first step was to recognize that race and racism concerns everyone. Dillon said, "It's crucial for those of us who are Christians to not fall into the trap of white moderates who get along with the status quo and reinforce racial structures in our failures to act on them in concrete ways." Her second step urged students to discuss racism with their friends, proposing the idea that friends hold each other accountable for using more appropriate and effective language.

Dillon also suggested that students take a Black or Latin American Studies class that would give them exposure to different authors of color and discussion with peers. Another step that Dillon proposed is for students to go to events on campus that are hosted by people of color as a powerful sign of solidarity. Lastly, Dillon emphasized her last step; "try to develop friendships and relationships across ethnic barriers."

Following Dillon's talk, Katherine Martinez '20 said that most people are unwilling to hear about the issue of racism because they do not understand that it affects everyone regardless of race. She emphasized Dillon's point that "one way to be an ally to people of color is to listen and learn." In this way, one can truly hear a person's story and determine how it intersects with one's own life.



# Alumnus Creates Global Health Fellowship

## Fellowship Will Allow Students to Conduct Medical Research

by Hannah Langley '21  
News Staff

ON CAMPUS

Last May, Dr. Robert C. Gallo, M.D. '59 and '74Hon., and his wife, Mary Jane Gallo, made a generous donation to create a fellowship dedicated to global health and medicine, which will allow Providence College students to develop technology through medical research in impoverished countries.

Dr. Gallo is most well-known for his 1984 co-discovery of HIV as the cause of AIDS. At the time, AIDS was a newly developing threat in the United States that was killing thousands of people, and the cause of the virus was unknown. It was due to the research of Gallo and his colleagues that the cause of AIDS was detected which prevented future infection by developing a blood screening test, which prevented the spread of future infections by blood transfusion. He is also responsible for discovering HTLV, one of the only known viruses proven to cause leukemia. He used this research to create a therapy that is still used to treat certain cancers and AIDS.

Gallo is the co-founder and director of the Institute of Human Virology (IHV) at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and he is the director of the Global Virus Network (GVN). In 2013, he was named the Homer & Martha Gudelsky Distinguished Professor in Medicine.

The idea of a global health fellowship program was initiated by Dr. Charles Toth, chair of the biology department. "I started working on this in 2009 after I had Dr. Gallo visit my HIV class," Toth said. Following this, he formed a group of professors who all had extensive knowledge and backgrounds in global health, including Dr. Nicholas Longo, professor of global studies and



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN VIROLOGY  
Dr. Robert and Mary Jane Gallo are glad to support students.

public and community service studies, Dr. Tuba Agartan, associate professor of health policy and management, Dr. Terence McGoldrick, associate professor of theology, and Dr. Stephen Mecca '64 and '66G, professor of physics.

Earlier this year, Gallo decided he would use his career and success to benefit his alma mater's current students aspiring to help those in need of medical assistance, and help Toth's idea come to fruition. With Gallo's support, about \$185 million was raised to fund the fellowships. This money then went to the Office of Institutional Advancement, which works with alumni, students, and others to "build, cultivate, and steward relationships, as well as secure the necessary resources and financial support to

enhance the PC student experience," according to the College's website.

The fellowships will take place each summer, beginning this year with a trip to Ghana led by Mecca. The current plan for the two-week trip is that students and Mecca will set up an electronic health portal, which will allow for health workers in Ghana to access information more efficiently, and an AIDS hospice. Commenting on the effect the fellowship will have on students, Mecca stated, "Our hope is that the new Gallo Fellowships will be impacted by their first-hand experience with health conditions and practice in the developing world in a way that influences their course of study and practice in the health and allied health professions."

While this summer will be in Ghana, future fellowships will take place in many different countries. "Dr. Gallo has promised he would help arrange fellowships with his world-wide clinics," said Toth, "giving the students multiple sites to go to."

The trip is open to students of various majors, which is one of the reasons why Toth likes it so much. "The fellowship is open to everyone," said Toth. "It provides an opportunity for majors in biology, global studies, public health, public and community service, theology, and the list goes on." Toth hopes that this fellowship will allow for students of many different majors to blend together in the pursuit of helping others. Dr. Gallo has the same hope for this program. In an interview with Debbie Hazian, Gallo mentioned, "It's nice that this is not just for science majors... We need people from all kinds of fields to fight these diseases."

Dr. Toth talked about his excitement about the fact that his nearly 10-year plan has finally become a reality. "There's so much interest in global health by PC students," Toth said, "and I think it's going to be a really attractive program."

## Black History Mobile Museum Comes to PC

### Museum:

Continued from front page

el-Hakim explained that Black History Month is necessary because the Black experience has not always been inclusive in the American narrative. He explained that stories have been silenced and omitted throughout history. "These artifacts can help spark honest conversations about race, identity, and where we are in current times," he said.

"These original articles are the evidence that this history happened," el-Hakim said. He explained that in a lot of ways what we hear in lectures about history (such as signs that say "whites only") sounds so absurd that it is easy to think that these events did not happen. "It really sheds light on the absurdity of racism and white supremacy," he said.

The tables with the artifacts were set up like a timeline, with artifacts from history that lined up in order to show what influenced what events. el-Hakim stated his favorite artifacts are the signed historical documents. In his collection, el-Hakim has documents signed by MLK, Malcom X, Muhammad Ali, Rosa Parks, and Frederick Douglass.

In his discussion of the museum, el-Hakim also shared why affirmations are so important. Starting at the earliest of his artifacts, the depictions made by white people of black people were unnecessarily exaggerated and unjust. "We say Black is Beautiful



The museum featured artifacts set up in a timeline, taking students through black history.

and Black is Power because these affirmations did not exist," el-Hakim said. "We say Black Lives Matter because there has been a constant struggle of the oppressed and the oppressor involving social justice and liberation," he said.

el-Hakim also explained that he loves when people who look at his

collection are inspired to respond to it. What he is doing is activism, as the artifacts spark discussion. The question el-Hakim asks however is, "How do we sustain this conversation?"

Advice el-Hakim offers is to do self-check and reflect on your own relationships. "There needs to be

authentic friendships and space where honest conversation can happen," he said. "Let this be a starting point."

"In this period of racial tension, you must ask yourself which side you want to be on when it comes to social justice," el-Hakim said. "Be on the right side of history."

MAGGIE BRANHAM '18/THE COWL



# Wonder Women of PC Speak at Friarcon

## Panel of Female Leaders Discuss Their Super Powers

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18  
News Editor

ON CAMPUS

This past Friday during Alumni and Family Weekend, the Providence College events department of the Office of Institutional Advancement put on the campus' first ever Friarcon, an event that showcased student performance and involvement.

The night kicked off with a panel titled The Wonder Women of PC, where the leading ladies of five major on campus organizations discussed their super powers. The panelists included Marcie Mai '18 of the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs, Phionna Claude '18 of Student Congress, Simran Madhani '18 of Friars Club, Marla Gagne '18 of *The Cowl*, and Elizabeth Jancsy '18 of the Board of Programmers.

This is the first time in the College's history that all presidents of the major organizations on campus are women.

The panelists were guided through their discussion and given questions by Karen Monti-Flynn '80G of the National Alumni Council. The first question the female students were asked was what is their superpower, or more specifically what character trait helped lead them to their success.

Claude, president of the Believers of Words Club and head resident assistant, attributed her success to her personality and her ability to connect with a wide range of people on campus. "I am grateful for my personality, and being able to communicate well," she said. "It has helped me get to where I am today."

Jancsy shared that she has her compassion to thank, as well as her background in theater. She is on the all-women's A capella group and has participated in a wide variety of performances. "You'll always catch me singing or dancing," said Jancsy. Jancsy shared that she is proud of her implementation of the slogan "Caring is Cool" on BOP, and believes that this mindset gets her far in life.

Just as superheroes have superpowers, they also have nemeses, and the ladies were reflective on the aspects of themselves they wish to continue

to grow and learn from. For example, Madhani, a student worker in the Office of Institutional Advancement, discussed the value she has found from being extremely involved, but also making time for herself.

When asked about sidekicks, Madhani was quick to explain that she is appreciative of her fellow executive board members, and thanked them for being a perfect team.

Gagne also shared that she was very thankful for her associate editor-in chief, Paige Calabrese '18. She explained that the nature of *The Cowl* involves long nights and editing, and Calabrese has been the perfect companion to getting each issue out. Gagne also explained she is proud of making *The Cowl* a fun environment to work in by celebrating birthdays and creating bonding events to get the staff together.

Mai, a resident assistant in McVinney Hall, was first to answer a tough question involving what aspects of her executive board she wished she possessed. She complimented each executive board member on BMSA (which is also composed of all women) and the whole board. She explained

she is very proud of the work her club does.

When asked about hobbies and what the panelists do when they are not "saving the world," it was clear these ladies in particular are very busy. "I don't necessarily have time for hobbies, but something I am trying to do is spend more time with my family," said Mai. "One thing I am doing each time I go home is cook a traditional Vietnamese meal with my mom." She shared that the next time she goes home will be for Lunar New Year, and is looking forward to cooking with her mother.

Other highlights of the evening included an exhibit on the past mascot heads of Friar Dom, performances by student groups such as Dance Club, Step Team, and A cappella. Adam Hanna '18, the campus' own singer/songwriter, performed a concert for those in attendance. The night was filled with PC spirit.

At the end of the Wonder Women of PC panel, the audience in attendance applauded the leading ladies. "We know you are going to each go very far, and make PC proud," Monti-Flynn said. "These ladies are stellar, and represent the good of our college."



Female students discuss their leadership positions at PC.

JOANNA MEYER '20/THE COWL



by Connor Nolan '19  
Student Congress Publicity

CONGRESS

This past Tuesday, Father Brian Shanley, O.P., came to speak to the Congress and field any questions or concerns from its members. He began by speaking about construction projects on campus now and in the future. He spoke of his relief in the fact that the new sciences building is developing on time, but still has a long road ahead of it. If the new additions are ready by next fall, they can begin "phase two" which includes renovating the badly outdated portions of the building. The Ruane Friar Development Center's steel work is almost completed, and they hope that the basketball team will be able to utilize it by next September, according to Fr. Shanley.

After that is completed, they plan on creating some sort of atrium between Slavin and Alumni as well as renovating '64 Hall. Providence College is also looking into adding a second story to Slavin in order to give Career Services more space to expand. Fr. Shanley then shifted his focus to the question, "what next?"

## Congress Updates



Apparently, the College has set its sights on improvements to residential housing for the next building plan. A firm is in the process of being hired to come in and evaluate the housing currently on campus. Fr. Shanley assumes that Aquinas Hall and other undergrad dorms will be the main focus of any projects as well as the area "behind the business school," which is very outdated.

Fr. Shanley then opened the floor to questions. Students asked who would be allowed to use the Friar Development Center, and if tuition money is going to it if we are unable to utilize its facilities. Fr. Shanley was unsure of the numbers as far as the tuition question was concerned, but the facility will be solely utilized by athletics and predominantly the basketball team. However, Fr. Shanley believes this will allow Alumni's facilities to be more available to the student body for club or intramural sports.

Fr. Shanley also hinted at the school attempting to cover a field for rainy days so that sports practices and other activities can still take place. One student asked if the school planned on making changes to food options on campus in any upcoming plans, but Fr. Shanley believed changes to Ray and alumni to not be as important as some of the

plans he had previously discussed. Another member stated that as the College makes residential changes, more study areas should be added as the library and Ryan Center are often full of students and it can be tough to find an area to work. Father Shanley then spoke briefly about his upcoming sabbatical and talked about Father Kenneth Siccard, O.P., taking over his duties while he is away.

One student talked about having spoken to trustees who were unhappy with the College's work in completing its Catholic mission statement. He answered that it took many years to rework the current mission statement. Also, there are people who believe the College is doing too little, and some who think they are doing too much. According to Fr. Shanley, this is a sign that a middle ground has been found. He was also asked about the school increasing its environmental practices utilized on campus. He said that in the last few days they have made an agreement to use more solar energy on campus. Many questions followed regarding the increase in tuition and room and board implemented by the College.

Some students suggested implementing a freeze program so a student pays the same price all four

years, and some thought more of the money should be going to financial aid. Also, a student wondered if the school could allow more financial aid rather than the loans offered.

The questions then shifted to a more academic focus. Fr. Shanley was asked about ways to improve the standing of the business school and stated that changes may be made to quell the number of students allowed into the school. One student suggested having a class that is required for all majors to help with this or a GPA requirement.

He then said the school may not be doing a good enough job of encouraging students to choose majors they enjoy or are good at rather than preparing to get a job. Courses are being looked into to help better prepare freshmen for these major decisions. Fr. Shanley was also asked why classes were not cancelled to allow students to attend Dr. Bernice King's Convocation speech, and he stated he wished he could have but the preparations for the event happened too late. The Congress would like to thank Fr. Shanley for attending and fielding the student bodies questions.

For the rest of this week's minutes and for legislation updates, please visit [thecowl.com](http://thecowl.com).



# Bursting the PC Bubble

## Stock Market Experiences Severe Dip

*PC Economics Professor Analyzes the Effect of Stock Market Volatility*

by **Ernie Andreoli '18**  
News Staff

WORLD NEWS

The stock market experienced a severe dip on Monday, February 5 as the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed down 1,175 points, or 4.6 percent. A drop of this magnitude has not been recorded since the index dropped by 778 points in September 2008, in the course of the Great Recession. Specific macroeconomic factors precipitated the stock market's oscillation. "This is a correction in the stock market," noted Dr. Christopher Limnios, assistant professor of economics at Providence College. "As economists, we have to ask ourselves why this occurred," added Limnios. On Feb. 2, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the United States' economy added 200,000 jobs in January. According to the report, this addition marked the 88th consecutive month in which the economy added jobs to the market. Average hourly earnings rose to \$26.74, with an annual growth of 2.9 percent—an upturn not seen since June 2009. In conjunction, the unemployment rate currently stands at 4.1 percent. Altogether, the growth in the labor market, and the

previously steady bull market, prompted investors' fears over the likelihood of further interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve, or "Fed," as well as the prospect of higher inflation. As reflected in the volatility in the Dow Jones index and the S&P 500, among other equity indices, the drop off was attributed to investors' panic that a loss in real value of the dollar could lead to additional interest rate increases by the Fed. "We have had prolonged low interest rates since 2009, so many investors reacted to the prospect of higher inflation by hastily betting on what the Fed will do," stated Limnios. As a side note, analysts have examined trends in the Fed Funds futures market, and projected three interest rate increases for this year. Yet since the recession, inflation in the United States' economy has not deviated from its 1 to 2 percent level. "While we do not have a sure handle on inflation, many investors reacted to the signal of labor market inflation last week," declared Limnios.

In addition to the perils of rising inflation, the Federal

Reserve's interest rate strategy moving forward will also take into account the recent \$1.5 trillion tax cut passed on Dec. 20, as well as the passage of a two-year spending deal for the federal government approved by President Trump on Feb. 9. Also, on Feb. 14, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released a monthly report revealing that prices rose, across sectors, more than expected in January. This surprising jump in prices was reflected in a 0.3 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index, excluding food and energy, two uniquely volatile categories typically omitted in order to better determine the inflation trend. This revelation will play a key role in stock market volatility over the coming weeks.

So, how does this turbulence affect people's daily spending habits? According to Edward Wolff, an economist at New York University, 84 percent of all stocks are held by the richest 10 percent of Americans. In contrast in 2001, "the richest 10 percent owned only 77 percent of all

stocks," noted Wolff in an interview with NPR on Feb. 12. Despite this concentration, consumer spending, particularly on durable goods such as appliances, houses, and cars, is impacted. This "psychological effect from a decline in markets," according to Limnios, could prompt a recoil in consumer spending. While the United States' GNP diminished a great deal during the Great Recession, there has been tremendous recovery in a variety of sectors since then. Prior to the stock market's descent last week, the Dow Jones yielded a 25 percent return over the last year. For the most part, the stock market is essentially back to where it stood in December 2017. "These are growing pains," acknowledged Limnios. "We are going to see further growth in output, but people jumping the gun on the Fed's decisions will lead to dips in the stock market."

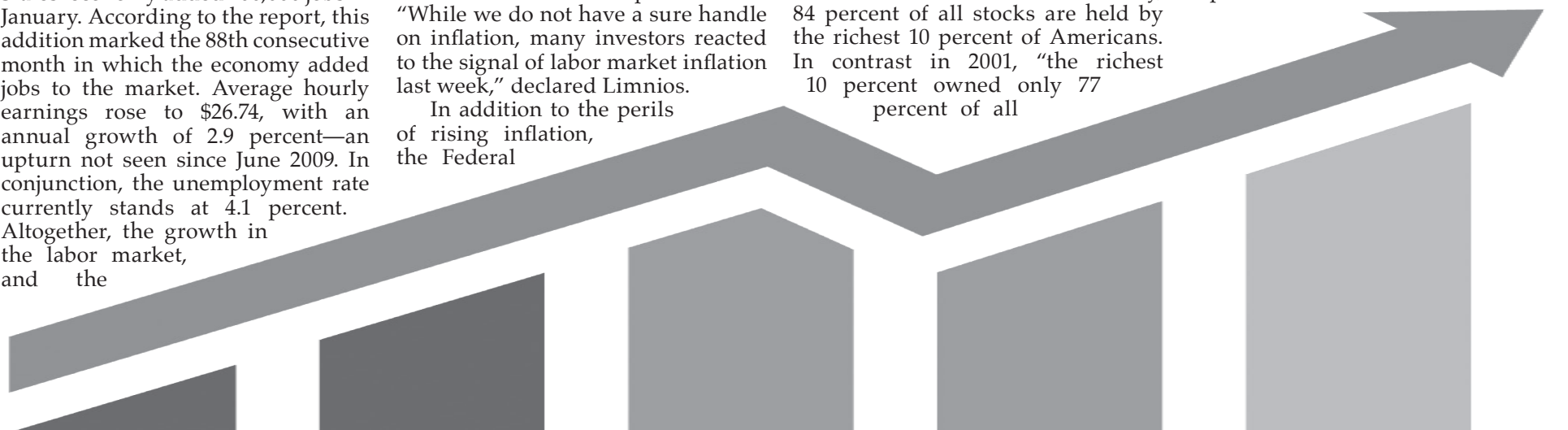


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BALANCE.COM

## Breaking News: Valentine's Day Shootings

### Shooting at NSA Headquarters

by **Brian Garvey '20**  
News Staff

WORLD NEWS

On Wednesday, February 14, a vehicle attempted to force its way into the front entrance of the National Security Agency Headquarters in Maryland. After stopping the vehicle, shots were fired, but no injuries or fatalities related to firearms were reported. Three men were taken into custody, with the driver currently in the hospital due to injuries sustained during the crashing of the car.

An NSA police officer and a civilian onlooker were injured as well, but no serious injuries have been reported. The NSA is a national-level security agency and a wing of the U.S. Department of Defense. Specializing in global monitoring, collection, and processing of information and data for foreign intelligence and counterintelligence purposes, the NSA has been riddled with political controversy over the tracking and storing of "metadata," or the personal information of millions of citizens.

The FBI special agent in charge, Gordon Johnson, said, "We don't believe there is a nexus to terrorism, we believe this was an isolated incident. We are still trying to figure out why they were there. We're still in the fact-collecting business right now." The driver and two other men have not had their identities made public, and the two uninjured men are currently under questioning with the FBI. At this point in time, the FBI has said that this is not an act of terrorism, but rather an isolated incident. Law enforcement sources told news sources that the

suspects were not "targeting" the NSA or Fort Meade. It is unclear whether they were running from local police, but they ended up at the gate, crashed through it, and then tried to exit the gate. The incident shut down MD 32 in both directions at Canine Road during rush hour. Anne Arundel County fire personnel assisted the Fort Meade Fire Department and cleared the scene around 8:45 a.m. Maryland State Highway Administration reopened the road before 9 a.m. This is not the first time an incident like this has occurred at the NSA front gate. In May 2015, two people attempted to drive a stolen SUV through the front gate, resulting in one being shot and killed and the other injured.

According to the White House, President Donald Trump has been "briefed on the shooting" at Fort Meade. "Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone that has been affected," said spokeswoman Lindsay Walters in a statement. "We will continue to provide updates as they become available."



PHOTO COURTESY SPEIGEL.DE

### Shooting at a Florida High School

by **Gabriella Pisano '18**  
News Editor

WORLD NEWS

A shooting at a South Florida high school, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, marks the 17th school shooting in the United States in 2018. While the story is still developing, as of Wednesday night many were injured and at least 17 were killed.

After having a fire drill earlier in the morning, the fire alarm was again pulled at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14 when shots were fired at the high school in Parkland, Florida. Just last year, Parkland was named the safest city in the United States.

With a student body of around 3,000, the school was immediately evacuated. Some students and faculty locked themselves in classrooms while some left the building. The SWAT team and emergency responders rushed to the scene. Parents gathered outside the school waiting to hear from their children.

Fourteen-year-old Hannah Siren told a reporter, "The people next door to us must have not locked their door. They all got shot."

Nineteen-year-old suspect, Nikolas de Jesus Cruz is in custody. A former student of the high school, Cruz's motive is still unknown. Jim Gard, a former teacher of Cruz, told the Miami Herald, "There were problems with him last year threatening a student, and I guess he was asked to leave campus."



## Ladies Celebrating Ladies *Galentine's Day Empowers Women, Promotes Friendship*

by Sarah Kelley '18  
Opinion Co-Editor

SOCIETY

From January to mid-February every year, we are reminded (whether we like it or not) that the season of love is upon us.

While many view Valentine's Day as a romantic opportunity for couples to celebrate their love and relationship, most would agree it also forgets about the rest of the romantically uninvolved segment of society—leaving them alone to eat heart-shaped chocolates sent by relatives, scroll through Instagram posts of cute couples, reflect on their single relationship status, or utilize any of the countless coping mechanisms to simply get through this day of “love.”

From Valentine's Day cards and chocolates filling the aisles of convenience stores, to restaurants promoting couple's dinner deals, escaping this over-advertised, consumer-driven celebration of romantic love can often seem impossible, and for many singletons out there, even depressing.

But one recent holiday trend has revolutionized the season of love for women—single or taken—reminding us romantic relationships are not the only ones worth celebrating.

Galentine's Day, the annual celebration of female friendship, began as a light-hearted, fictitious holiday created by the television character and

star of *Parks and Recreation*, Leslie Knope.

On the 16th episode of Season 2, Knope explained the holiday in her own words, “What's Galentine's Day? It's only the best day of the year! Every Feb. 13, my lady friends and I leave our husbands and our boyfriends at home and we come and kick it breakfast-style. Ladies celebrating ladies. It's like Lilith Fair, minus the angst. Plus frittatas.”

But what began as a television celebration of gal pals has quickly turned into a genuinely observed holiday, gaining momentum and popularity.

Galentine's Day has become not only a day to forget about one's

relationship status and the expectations of Valentine's Day but more importantly has provided women everywhere with an opportunity to celebrate another important kind of relationship in their lives: female friendship.

Jenna Marsala '18 commented on the impact of Galentine's Day, describing how “It takes away from Valentine's Day, especially for individuals who are not dating anyone, and instead focuses on the importance of female empowerment.”

Samantha Keating '18 also commented, “Valentine's Day is often taken very seriously, especially by its

portrayals in the media. Galentine's Day creates a more light-hearted, but still equally important holiday to celebrate female friendships.”

Taking the time to appreciate and celebrate the love and support of lady friends promotes positive female empowerment and reminds girls and women of all ages of the importance of embracing love for someone aside from just a significant other. Especially during a time of the year when romantic relationships are over-advertised across social media and television, Galentine's Day provides a timely reminder that there are other, equally important relationships worth recognizing.

Combine the importance of celebrating female empowerment with the appeal of brunch, and there is no wonder why Galentine's Day has and should continue to be a holiday of growing importance and meaning.

And within a larger societal context, the movement towards empowering women in all parts of society intensifies the significance of this growing holiday.

With social movements such as #MeToo and Time's Up championing the importance of uplifting women, and all individuals, giving a voice to the voiceless, and combating the social inequality and injustices have previously long been silenced and ignored. Galentine's Day is one small but important example of the pressing need for women to recognize their own strength as individuals and the power of female friendship.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NBC

*Parks & Recreation* television character Leslie Knope pioneered the observance of Galentine's Day.

## Social Issues Are Not For Selling Cars

by Hannah Paxton '19  
Asst. Opinion Editor

SOCIETY

“Recognize that he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. That's a new definition of greatness.” With Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Black History Month at the forefront of everyone's mind, Dr. King's words still ring true.

But what does his definition of greatness have to do with buying a Ram truck?

When Dr. King delivered his famous “Drum Major Instinct” sermon in 1968, he inspired everyone to achieve greatness through acts of service. He sought for everyone to have an equal opportunity to serve, regardless of socioeconomic position.

What is so important about this sermon is that he emphasized the importance of greatness being something that one earns through showing compassion to others. He believed that greatness is not something we are simply born with, nor is it something measured by material goods.

Ironically, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles made the decision to use Dr. King's anti-materialist sermon to sell cars.

The commercial shows various circumstances of human suffering, such as a person doing push-ups, as well as heroic acts, like a firefighter saving a young child. None of these images seem to be related to the one of the Ram truck at the end. Dr. King's words we are used as a voice-over throughout.

Undoubtedly they meant well, having received permission from Martin Luther King Jr.'s estate. Nevertheless, the Super Bowl commercial struck a nerve for many viewers—and rightfully so.

The aim of the company appeared to be to



Ram used Martin Luther King Jr.'s sermon to advertise their trucks.

PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTUBE/ RAMS TRUCKS/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

generate an advertisement that included a positive social idea in order to portray its brand in a good light. What we saw on screen instead was an inappropriate use of Dr. King's powerful address.

What is most disconcerting is the fact that in the very same “Drum Major Instinct” sermon, Dr. King specifically mentioned automobiles.

He does not praise their utility or the possession of them. Rather, he calls attention to the fact that the wish to be recognized induces people to spend more than they should on material things, like cars.

“Do you ever see people buy cars that they can't even begin to buy in terms of their income?... it feeds a repressed ego,” said Dr. King in the the same speech that was used in an ad to market a brand of automobiles.

Not only is this choice of speech contradictory in its meaning, but it is also confusing from a marketing perspective.

If the goal was to promote their brand, then where is the correlation between that and advocating a social message? One cannot endorse public service and industrialism at the same time.

In light of a heightened interest in social issues, it is important to recognize that we cannot simply promote equality and diversity for the sake of attaining credibility. Social advocacy is not merely a political or economic concern; it is a fundamental matter that everyone should be invested in.

Regardless of whether or not the Ram advertisement meant well, it did not sit well with the majority of viewers. If we are to endorse social messages, they need to be done sensibly and respectfully, with a primary concern for its value and meaning before its degree of marketability.

If Dr. King were alive today, he would say the same. He would want his words to inspire a movement of love and compassion, not for power or popularity.



# Come for the Food, Stay for the Experience

by Taylor Godfrey '19  
Opinion Co-Editor

SOCIETY

If there is one thing that will convince a Providence College student to come to an event on campus, it is free food. If that food is PVDonuts, it is basically guaranteed that they will be making an appearance. So when the College's Inside Out Week events involved a "Set Your Intention" workshop including PVDonuts, students did not hesitate to mark their calendars.

This event required pre-registration, as one of the students running it explained, because they did not want students simply showing up for donuts and leaving. Students, of course, laughed at the thought of doing such a thing, yet felt guilty in the back of their minds because they had come to the workshop aiming to do just that. But when students took the time to slow down and really appreciate the rest of the activities, they found that the break from work and studying was exactly what they needed and that they should appreciate campus events for more than just the free food.

The all-important donuts were present at this event, but the main objective was for students to create vision boards to "set their intentions," as the name of the workshop suggested. There was an array of pretty colored scrapbook paper, stickers, inspirational quotes, and glittery washi tape that students could use to decorate a little canvas and uplift them during a time when everyone is starting to really stress about classes and work.

We all have busy schedules and between classes, papers, reading, and extra-curriculars, it seemed silly to take time out to do arts and crafts. But those 20 minutes do not impact someone's schedule very much, and students can then return to my work with more clarity and ability to focus. In the end, students have a much more productive break than they would have if they had just snagged a donut then and procrastinated later by scrolling through social media.

This does not just go for Inside Out Week events either. Between the colorful cards littering



Vision boards made by the Opinion Editors at the "Set Your Intention" workshop.

NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20 / THE COWL

the tables in Ray to overstuffed bulletin boards and the Morning Mail emails we get every day, there are clearly a plethora of different activities happening around campus all the time. It is easy to simply dismiss them either because the sheer number is overwhelming or because our schedules are jam-packed as it is. But these four years are a chance to attend some great events for free.

There is no shame in attending campus events because of free food. Anyone who plans events on campus will tell you that having snacks available

is a great way to boost attendance. But while you are there grabbing pizza or donuts, try to appreciate the event itself as well.

Not only did someone put in a lot of effort to put that hour or two together so you could go enjoy the culinary offerings, but you might find the experience is a lot more enjoyable and beneficial to you than you originally thought. And who knows, you might come out of it with not only a deepened love and appreciation for donuts, but a little inspiration to get you through your day as well.

# Abstain and Gain: the Benefits of Lent

by McKenzie Tavella '18  
Opinion Staff

SOCIETY

As a Catholic institution, we recognize that many Providence College students observe Lent and have probably learned a thing or two about the religious season throughout the years. There are many traditions that people often overlook or even struggle with during this season, such as deciding what to give up. Attempting to follow these customs and avoiding these difficulties is both important and challenging.

Putting in effort and making the right choice can positively impact your life and others, especially on the Providence College campus, as there are many benefits to giving something up for Lent.

Lent begins each year on Ash Wednesday. This means that this is the start of giving something up, if you choose to do so. Although it may seem like a loss on a surface level, giving something up can be a very humbling, effective, and meaningful experience.

Not only are you making a difference in your own life as a Catholic, but depending on what you choose to give up, you could make a difference in other people's lives as well. For example, what if every



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20 / THE COWL

student at PC gave up gossiping for Lent? Just imagine how much of a better a place campus would be. There would be less drama, less hurt, and less time spent on futile conversations.

Beyond doing this for others, give something up for yourself as well! To be completely honest, I always feel better about myself when giving something up for Lent. Even trying makes you feel good inside. This

may sound self-absorbed, but at the end of the day, do you not want to like who you are? Therefore, giving something up for Lent will not only change the people around you, but who you are as well.

Of course there are always the choices that seem to have no meaning at all, such as chocolate or junk food, but even these options go a long way, as they are unhealthy. Giving something up that will

encourage a healthy lifestyle in terms of diet is always a good idea. There are also the options of social media or alcohol, which are also healthy choices in their own way with regards to mental and physical well-being. Ultimately, you cannot go wrong.

There is also the option of making this decision based on religious significance. After all, it is the season of Lent. One option is to give up cursing, which is actually one of the Ten Commandments, asking to not take the Lord's name in vain. Therefore, not only are you choosing something that could positively impact those around you and your individual persona, but this is also directly connected to Catholicism.

However, this does not mean that if you are not a Catholic, you cannot abide by the traditions of Lent. Giving something up during this season is a good idea for anybody, regardless of faith or religious affiliation. Helping others in any way you can is a custom we should all strive for, regardless of the time of year, as well. In fact, it may turn into a permanent change.

Most importantly, it is crucial that you put thought into this decision. Make sure it is realistic or something that will actually stick. Ask yourself if it is really doable for you or something you are going to give up for two weeks and then call it quits.



# Is Education Changing for the Better?

by Kelsey Dass '18  
Opinion Staff

EDUCATION

"Common Core is a disaster," said Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos at the American Enterprise Institute conference on Jan. 16. "At the U.S. Department of Education, Common Core is dead."

For the past eight years, the Common Core State Standards have been the guidebook to educating the youth of America. All programs and curriculums created have been tiered to meet the needs addressed by the initiative.

The Common Core State Standards were designed with the thought of achievement scores, numbers, and rank for all learners. With the anticipation of its extinction, the teachers of America are asking, "what comes next?"

Countries across the globe are constantly in competition, ranging from inventions to governmental policies, yet the U.S. insists on being defined as the best. In order to be the best, we must be the smartest.

The question: how do we become the smartest? The answer is education.

The Common Core State Standards are, as stated as its initiative, "preparing America's students for success." In order to do so, they provide a clear set of expectations of what needs to be learned in the areas of English language arts and mathematics per grade level. Ranging from kindergarten to high school, teachers must create, design, and implement lessons that are geared towards meeting these standards.

In addition, it is not just what the children are doing, it is also how they are doing it. Listening and oral and written communication are all standards for success, and the quality of their ability to do so is seen as either proficient or not proficient.

DeVos believes the Common Core no longer serves a purpose, and more importantly, never has.

Fifteen people created the Common Core State Standards and none of these creators had more than three years of classroom teaching experience. Many of these people support the profitable testing industries, such as The College Board.

The list could go on and on, and it consistently reflects the idea that we are not thinking of students as human beings. Could a machine or robot succeed at all of the standardized expectations brought forth by the Common Core? Of course! However, we are human beings, and the reason why we are not "racing to the top" is the clear disconnect between the core curriculum



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JABIN BOTSFORD / THE WASHINGTON POST VIA GETTY

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos plans to eliminate Common Core Standards.

and varying abilities of children.

DeVos has called for change and will further focus on pursuing individualized instruction, which is essential to the development of learners, especially in the area of special education. Individualized education plans (IEPs), have created a world in which all children can learn and succeed.

DeVos makes valid points in that area; however, her idea of individualized instruction is directed towards technology-based learning. Therefore, instead of walking into a classroom and watching children interact and converse, their eyes will be glued to a computer screen. While this allows for each individual child to focus and achieve in their own way and at their own pace, is this truly the most effective route to take overall?

Melissa Gavin '18, who studies elementary and special education, said, "In a diverse classroom, technology can help to differentiate lessons and tier them towards student's individual needs. Math programs like Zearn and IXL are helping my students master concepts that they might

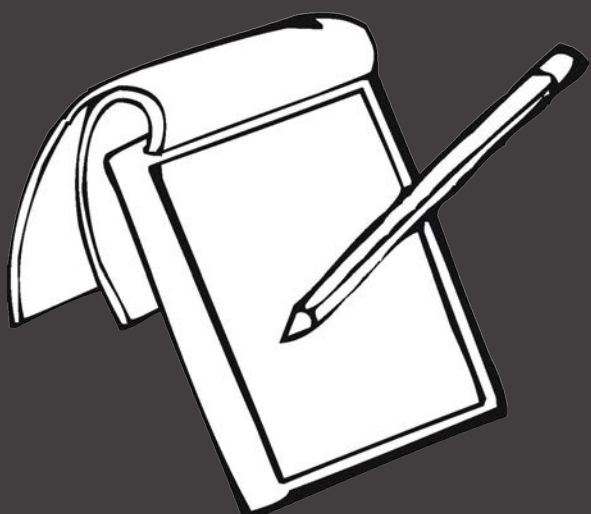
miss in a whole group lesson."

On the other hand, there is immense fear that the growing use and push for technology will not only eliminate teaching jobs but could also immensely change the nature of teacher-student relationships.

Allison Woodruff '18 notes this fear, saying, "I believe education should be used as a tool to enhance teaching such as Chromebooks for text to speech and iPads for close point models. However, we should not completely rely on technology to the extent that teachers are not needed as much."

Going forward, how will the sole use of technology in education transfer to college? Providence College prides itself on its meaningful use of discussion based classroom settings. Every week for two years we spent two and a half hours discussing and analyzing historical, literary, philosophical, and theological texts. What will happen to the art of discussion, and how will PC approach the monumental change we are going to see in education?

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# Getting the Gold at PC

by Marla Gagne '18  
Editor-in-Chief

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Whether you are a die-hard sports fan or just in it for the curling, the Olympics is a time to amaze and be amazed. Athletes from around the world defy all odds and show their skill, intensity, and passion during their



one shot to prove they are the best.

In the first week of competition, the United States has already claimed four gold medals and created superstars. We are amazed by the young athletes, like snowboarders Red Gerard and Chloe Kim, who claimed gold at their first Olympics and at the age of 17. We are amazed by returning champions that continue to train and stay motivated—Jamie Anderson just became the first female snowboarder to win two Olympic gold medals. And we are amazed by athletes setting records, like Shaun White who just became the first snowboarder to become a three-time Olympic champion and claimed the U.S. historic 100th medal in Winter Olympic history.

Each Olympic season, I am always equally surprised by what I learn about different countries, cultures, sports, and the skill and devotion of these athletes. And while I may not be training to make it down the half pipe or to perform a triple axel, I think we can all be our own Olympian by getting out of our comfort zone, advancing our skills,

and all around bettering ourselves.

February is the perfect time to attend different events and learn something new. This week's issue features events surrounding Black History Month, including mobile museums, faith-based talks, and movie reviews. Join conversations and learn something new about people's culture, accomplishments, and struggles.

Challenge your mind with Opinion articles—what do you think about attending Providence College events and do you support the newest Super Bowl commercials? Or be fearless with A&E and go visit the local bands mentioned in "Let's Rant" or explore Brown's art and architecture. And see what our own devoted and talented athletes are doing in softball, tennis, and swimming—do we have any future Olympians here at PC?

The campus is filled with opportunities to do what you love or find something new to love. Take February to explore interests, meet new people, and live like an Olympian—fearlessly.

## TANGENTS & TIRADES

### *Under the Kardashian Spell*

The Kardashian-Jenner family has managed to break the internet—again.

On Feb. 1, Kylie Jenner and rapper Travis Scott announced the birth of their first daughter, Stormi Webster, in an 11-minute-long YouTube video titled, "To Our Daughter." But why do people care so much?

Maybe it is because Jenner's pregnancy was never officially confirmed by the family, despite heavy media speculation.

Perhaps it is because people were able to see how loyal, supportive, and enthusiastic Travis Scott has been throughout Jenner's pregnancy (how sweet, right?).

Or maybe it is because people are fascinated by Stormi's name ("Stormi" with an "I," not Stormy with a "Y"). Yet why do we care so much? They are just people, right?

Well, maybe people are so infatuated with the Kardashian-Jenner family because they just seem so unrealistic. Remember when Kim cried over losing her diamond earring and Kourtney had to remind her, "Kim, there's people that are dying?"

But, still, so what?

While there's no singular reason as to why the Kardashian-Jenners are so infatuated as a whole, you simply cannot deny the amount of power and influence they have on society.

Nevertheless, why do we care if Kylie Jenner had a baby or if Kim Kardashian was married for 72 days?

If anyone has figured out how to break the infectious Kardashian-Jenner spell, please explain.

-Katherine Torok '20

### *No More Stressful Saturday Nights*

Once sunlight begins to fade on a Saturday night, only a few pockets of light brighten up Phillips Memorial Library. Motion sensors begin to shut out the lights in empty areas, leaving lone light bulbs shining over the remaining students like stage-lights. Only the sound of clattering keyboards echoes through the library halls, as students race to finish papers before the dreaded midnight deadline.

Walking back to their dorms after writing a small paper, the irony begins to set in. Their Sunday and Monday nights are free, and they do not even have that class until Tuesday! Frustratingly, had the deadline been the start of class, they could have spread out the work over the three days. Saturday night could have been relaxing. Instead it was spent nervously racing to meet the deadline in the dimly lit library.

Exhausted from a week of lectures and readings, burnout is at its worst on Saturday. Eyeing a break from the workweek, weary students typing in the library are not doing their best work, nor will they feel recharged for the next week, as the workweek seemingly never ends. Yet by moving the deadline to class-time, rested students will have an energy boost and craft better assignments.

-Nicholas Moran '19

### *Shaky Stage Set for PC Dancers*

Dancing on elevated surfaces is great, but not in front of Providence College alumni, students, and families.

Friday's Friarcon festivities offered guests some great food, a beer garden, live music, and a wonderful showcase of student performances.

A number of campus dance groups performed, including PC Step, Dance Company, Dance Club, Irish Step Club, and Motherland Dance.

Performing in and of itself can be nerve-wracking, but dancing on a semi-precarious mobile stage is particularly daunting. The first reason is because no matter how solid the structure, one cannot help but think that landing the first leap is going to result in mass destruction.

The nature of a raised platform is to have space underneath it, space for students in matching outfits to fall through and onto the floor.

Secondly, the stage might be sturdy, but it is still mobile. It is hard to suppress that creeping paranoia telling you that the whole situation is on wheels and going to roll out of control.

Thirdly, mobile stages are always smaller than you think they are. If choreography involves leaps and rolls, or, God forbid, aerial stunts, you are in trouble.

You will not be fully dancing the choreography, and if you are, you are doomed to trip over the speakers, fly off the stage, and land on the unsuspecting crowd below.

At least the Friarcon stage was one continuous platform; many events have featured stages made up of multiple smaller platforms questionably connected to one another.

The Friarcon stage was a step in the right direction, but an end to the small, shaky, raised platforms altogether would be best.

-Lela Biggus '18

Kylie Jenner holding newborn daughter Stormi's hand.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLIE JENNER/INSTAGRAM



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# Last Week's Answers

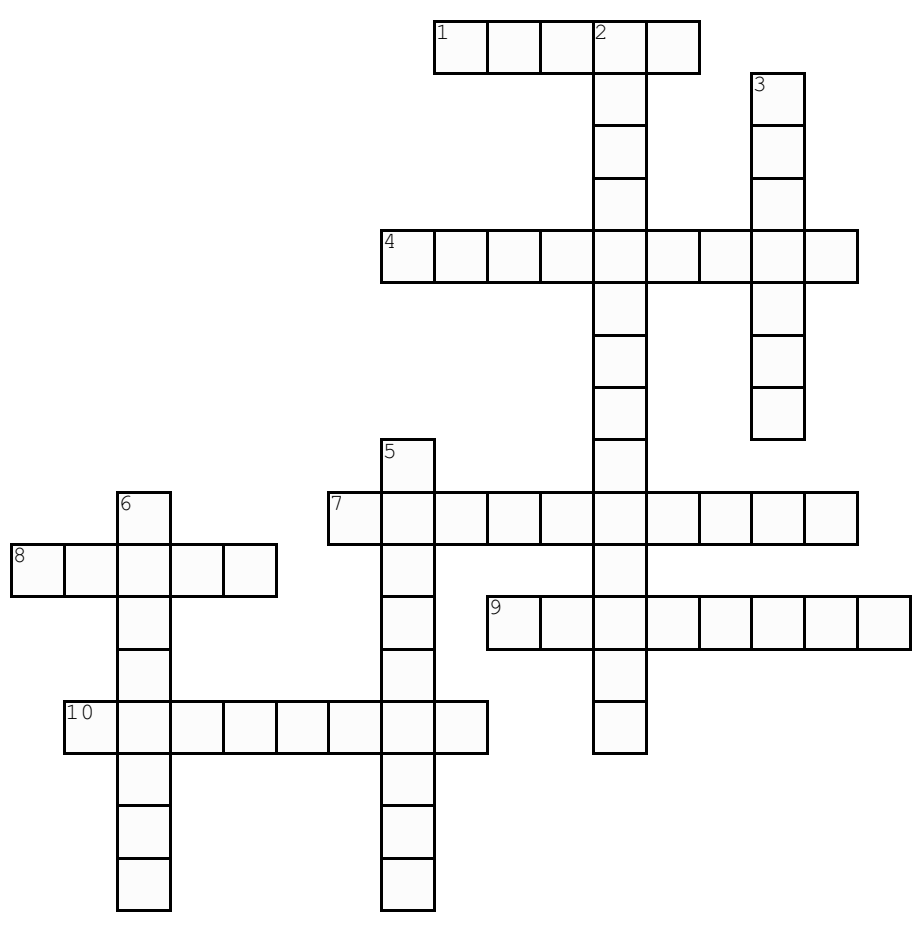
## Across:

- 2. Bloomingdale's
- 4. The Ritz
- 8. Martha's Vineyard
- 9. Australia

## Down:

- 1. Margaritaville
- 2. Big Ben
- 3. Hotel California
- 5. Vegas
- 6. Caddyshack
- 7. Barcelona

# Spring Break Essentials



### Across

- 1. You take this to help combat the aftermath of Thirsty Thursday.
- 4. A form of payment that allows you to access cash.
- 7. You can always buy a cheap pair when you get to your destination, but they're never the same as your own pair.
- 8. A small, discrete, and customizable container for a beverage; fits neatly into pockets and purses.
- 9. Outfit of choice for hitting up the beach or pool.
- 10. Necessary in order to travel outside the country.

### Down

- 2. You can't get into a bar without it!
- 3. You need this if you want to keep your technology alive.
- 5. A necessary product for those who need extra UV protection.
- 6. What you need after you wear those cute heels for the first time.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THETEACHERSCORNER.NET



CARTOON COURTESY OF DAVID MARTINEAU '18



# PHOTOGRAPHY



BRIANNA COLLETTI '21/THE COWL



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

**ABOVE:** Katie Bettenhauser '20 and Caroline Johnson '20 make Valentine's Day cards for local pediatric cancer patients and their friends, sponsored by Love Your Melon.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Ricardo Guzman '20 writes ideas on how to be a better LGBTQ+ ally based on his group's discussion at the How to Be A Better Ally Workshop, sponsored by SHEPARD.

**RIGHT:** Nick Hatzipetrakos '19 dodges defenders as Providence College faces off against The College of the Holy Cross. The Friars won 9-5, with Hatzipetrakos scoring five of the goals.



KRISTINA HO '18/THE COWL



LAURA CHADBOURNE '20/THE COWL

**LEFT:** Alise Parker '18 performs at Love Your Melanin. The annual event, sponsored by Believers of Word, celebrates Black History Month by providing a stage for students to express themselves through poetry and other mediums.

**BELOW:** Providence College students rush the court after the Providence College Men's Basketball Team beat Villanova University 76-71.



NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL



# ROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

*If you were a winter olympian,  
what would your sport be?*



**"Skiing and figure skating."**  
Andre Rogers '20 and Magnoly Maria '19



**"Ice hockey."**  
Erin O'Rourke '21 and Laura Cerulle '21



**"Curling."**  
Alex Shute '20



**"Figure skating."**  
Daniel Nguyen '21



**"Bobsledding."**  
Onassis Valerio '18



**"Ski slopestyle."**  
Dan Clark '20



**"Snowboarding."**

**-Chloe Kim**

PHOTO COURTESY OF EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

Photos by Kristina Ho '18, Photography Co-Editor



## Honoring Black History Month Through Film

by Patrick Fuller '21  
A&E Staff

ON CAMPUS

Lawyer Thurgood Marshall an outstanding United States lawyer, won 29 of 32 Supreme Court cases in the U.S., the most cases ever argued. He had a sarcastic sense of humor, a raging compassion for the innocent, and an unparalleled tact in the courtroom.

As the chief counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Marshall led the integration movement, landing the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision to desegregate schools. He won the Spingarn Medal in 1946 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1993. And as Solicitor General, Marshall won 14 of the 19 cases put before him, until he served as the nation's first African American justice on the national supreme court from 1967-1991.

Elizett Pires, Assistant director of Student Activities and Cultural Programming, made sure to pay homage to this American legend in Moore Hall on Feb. 8, showing a screening of the 2017 film *Marshall*. Directed by Reginald Hudlin, producer of *Django Unchained*, and written by Michael and Jacob Koskoff, the film put actor Chadwick Boseman, into Thurgood Marshall's shoes in the year 1941.

In the film, Marshall teams up with an unqualified, inexperienced insurance lawyer named Sam Friedman, played by Josh Gad, to defend Joseph Spell, played by Sterling K Brown. Spell is accused of raping an affluent white woman, Eleanor Strubing, played by Kate Hudson, in Bridgeport, Connecticut and finds himself up against the forces of prejudice, deception, and social pressure.

When the white judge refuses to allow Marshall to argue the case, claiming it is because Marshall was not licensed to practice in Connecticut, but likely to send Spell to prison Marshall was not allowed to speak in court and can only work on the case behind the scenes. The life of the defendant, and the rights of African Americans everywhere, rest on the reluctant, originally unmotivated soulders of Sam Friedman.

This film not only follows the development of Friedman as a lawyer and a human being,



A scene from *Marshall* of Chadwick Brown in court in front of an all white jury.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BARRY WETCHER/SONY PICTURES

but also supports Marshall's fame in history and sheds light on African-Americans' long struggle for equality in the justice system. During this Black History Month, Marshall's example is not one to be observed and remembered just by a select few. No matter your skin color, language, ethnicity, or belief system, Marshall proves what it means to be a virtuous human being dedicated to securing justice for the innocent, no matter the cost.

He was regularly insulted, physically beaten, and separated from his wife as he traveled throughout the country, fighting for the legal rights of African Americans. Marshall courageously stated for the first time that in the film that, "the forces of tyranny have unified under the decisions of a master race... from now on we claim the Constitution as our own."

In the United States and Canada, the movie ended up making 3 million dollars, in its opening weekend and over 10 million dollars total, finishing 11<sup>th</sup> at the box office alongside *Happy Death Day*,

*The Foreigner*, and *Professor Marston and the Wonder Women*. Rotten Tomatoes gave the film an 83 percent approval rating based on 125 reviews saying, "*Marshall* takes an illuminating, well-acted look at its real-life subject's early career that also delivers as an entertainingly old-fashioned courtroom drama." *Rolling Stone* critic Peter Travers also praised the film with three out of four stars, noting, "Charged by Boseman's dramatic lightning, *Marshall* gives us an electrifying glimpse of a great man in the making."

Furthermore, the movie's song, "Stand Up for Something," is nominated for Best Original Song in the Academy Awards coming up in March 2018.

Yet this film encourages viewers to notice not only the art form and focus on the history. The brilliance of the actors and actresses, the realistic costumes, cars, accents, and the beautiful cinematography merely lay the foundation for the celebration of one of America's greatest citizens and the resilience of African Americans which continues to this day.

## Avon Cinema Hosts Annual Providence Children's Film Festival

by Blaine Payer '18  
A&E Staff

FILM

Grab your kids, grab your wife, because they are showing all of the movies this weekend! It is Oscar season, which means it is the perfect time of year to get together with all of the youngsters and head over to Avon on Thayer Street. This year, they will be holding their ninth annual Providence Children's Film Festival (PCFF) between Feb. 16 and 25.

After a meal at one of Thayer Street's many eateries, get your tickets and prepare for 10 days of activities, filmmaking workshops, short films, and feature films made by local and international talent.

It seems as though there is never a shortage of fun things to do in the most artistic city on the East Coast. Whether you are in the mood for art exhibits, old-fashioned movie-going experiences, walks in the park, or eating at the best food trucks on the planet, Providence has got it all. It is the perfect size for an art-lover; big enough to hold major, mainstream events, but also small enough to indulge in things like the PCFF.

Alex Pollan '18, a Rhode Island resident and avid moviegoer, said, "It's good to see a local business



A scene from *Negative Space*, a film shown at PCFF.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCECHILDRENSFILMFESTIVAL.COM

giving back to the youth of their community," and that "hopefully the services provided by the festival will inspire kids to pursue their dreams." Given the current tumultuous political and social environment, it is likely that some of these films will serve to educate both kids and adults alike.

However, not all of the films are gracing the silver screen for the first time. Beloved classics like *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* will also appear in the lineup.

*Snow White* will hold a dual position, serving both as a throwback that every family has bonded over at least once, as well as the main event for a workshop entitled "Deconstructing Disney."

The most interesting event, arriving at the tail end of the festival, is the "2018 Youth Filmmaker Showcase," which will display short films made by kids, for kids. The feeling of pride any independent filmmaker experiences having their work shown is difficult to describe, never mind a filmmaker under the age of 13.

Stop by any night between Feb. 16 and 25 for great fun and even better movies. Just because they are kid's movies does not mean that they are just for kids. Invite your younger siblings and cousins, grab a burrito, and enjoy an evening of films made by some of the best artists in the world.



# Let's Rant: The Providence Music Scene

by Ryan Cox '18  
A&E Staff

MUSIC

*Travel and Leisure* ranked Providence the second most-cultured city in America, behind New York City, in 2015. *Thrillist* ranked it the second best city for college students in the United States in 2016, behind Austin, Texas. *Momondo* placed it among the most underrated travel destinations in the United States in 2017, along with Albuquerque, Sacramento, and Atlantic City. So what is this mysterious city others describe as remarkably artistic?

The city is Providence, Rhode Island, the one we call home for nine months of the year. For us Providence College Friars, it is no surprise that Providence stands tall alongside these big cities. Events like WaterFire, destinations like Westminster Street, and venues like the Providence Performing Arts Center have made Providence one of the art capitals of the country.

This reputation draws many big-name acts of all kinds to its historic venues. The Dunkin' Donuts Center, the Veterans Memorial Auditorium, and The Strand, formerly Lupo's, draw some of the top names in music year-round. In addition to drawing in headline talent, Providence also supports local talent seeking to enter into the music business.

The Met, just north of Providence but still in the Providence metropolitan area, hosts both rising acts and local artists. The venue is known for musical diversity; the Met will host local jazz/funk band Brass Attack and former pop star Aaron Carter within three days of each other in February. PC's own Adam Hanna '18 has performed at the Met on a number of occasions as well, proving the Met's commitment to supporting local artists.

Until it switched to a low-power station, Brown University's radio station WBRU, 101.1 FM, formerly 95.5 FM, hosted the Rock Hunt, an annual summer battle of the bands in which local rock bands performed for a chance to headline the WBRU Summer Concert Series at Waterplace Park in downtown Providence.

For many of the acts, the Rock Hunt was their

chance at local stardom, and scores of bands vied for their shot on the finals stage at the Met, and again at the Summer Concert Series. It is unknown if the Rock Hunt will continue now that WBRU is no longer a statewide radio station. WBRU also features local acts in a segment they call "Home BRU'd," most recently featuring Providence-based "art rock" band Roz and the Rice Cakes in October 2017.

These are just two examples of the way Providence and Rhode Island as a whole supports its rising musical

talents. Bars and restaurants statewide host local acoustic musicians and full bands almost nightly. From Point Street Dueling Pianos to G Pub, Providence's local, unique businesses recognize and support the same kinds of musical talent that help breathe life into one of the most artsy cities in the United States.

In a business where talent has to constantly fight for performance opportunities, Providence welcomes its rising musicians with open arms, giving them some opportunity in a dog-eat-dog world.



The Providence Place Performing Arts Center performs several well-known plays throughout the year. PHOTO COURTESY OF SHUTTERSTOCK

## Embracing the Arts: Brown and PC's Newest Art Additions

by Catherine Goldberg '20  
A&E Staff

ON CAMPUS

Constructing monumental statues on college campuses has become a widespread tradition throughout the United States. They tend to take on a life of their own as they represent cherished traditions, school pride, and big accomplishments. These iconic features to liberal arts campuses are prevalent here in the city of Providence.

Brown University's "Untitled Lamp/Bear" sculpture has become an iconic piece of art up on College Hill. Some of the Ivy League students love the big blue bear, while others are completely turned off by it, calling it distracting, untraditional, and stupid.

Urs Fischer is the artist behind Brown's bear sculpture, which depicts a Bakelite desk lamp extending from the head of a teddy bear, symbolizing Brown University's mascot, the Kodiak bear. It is meant to be both bold and humorous, bringing a sense of nostalgia, hard work, playfulness, and a larger-than-life presence to the school's campus.

This past fall, Providence College added a new sculptural art piece to its campus. Located on Slavin Lawn, the sculpture of a torch symbolizes a beacon of light and truth. The giant torch glows at the center of The Calabria Plaza for people to sit and observe.

"The construction of the torch and plaza during the centennial year marked the end of our first century and the beginning of

new opportunities at Providence College," said John Sweeney, the chief financial officer at the College, "It [serves] as a place to remember as well as inspire." Surrounding the bench seating inside the plaza is a wall of black granite containing the names of various inspirational Dominican saints, notable PC alumni, and important quotes.

The donation of the statue came from the Calabria family. Choosing

the location of the statue was rather obvious, for Slavin Lawn has always been a popular space for public gatherings and student hang-outs. Now, with the addition of the torch, PC has a space to come together as a Friar Family and reflect upon the torch as a symbol of light and truth. The Calabrias hope that as students reflect on famous names and inspirational quotes inside the plaza, they will be inspired by

grace to be the best that they can be.

If one were to compare the big blue bear statue at Brown with PC's Calabria Plaza, one may note the immense differences between the two. However, both serve as important symbols of tradition and truth for their communities. While many students may find both sculptures to be ostentatious forms with no importance, others are touched by their symbolism and meaning for the campus.



Brown's "Untitled/Bear Lamp."

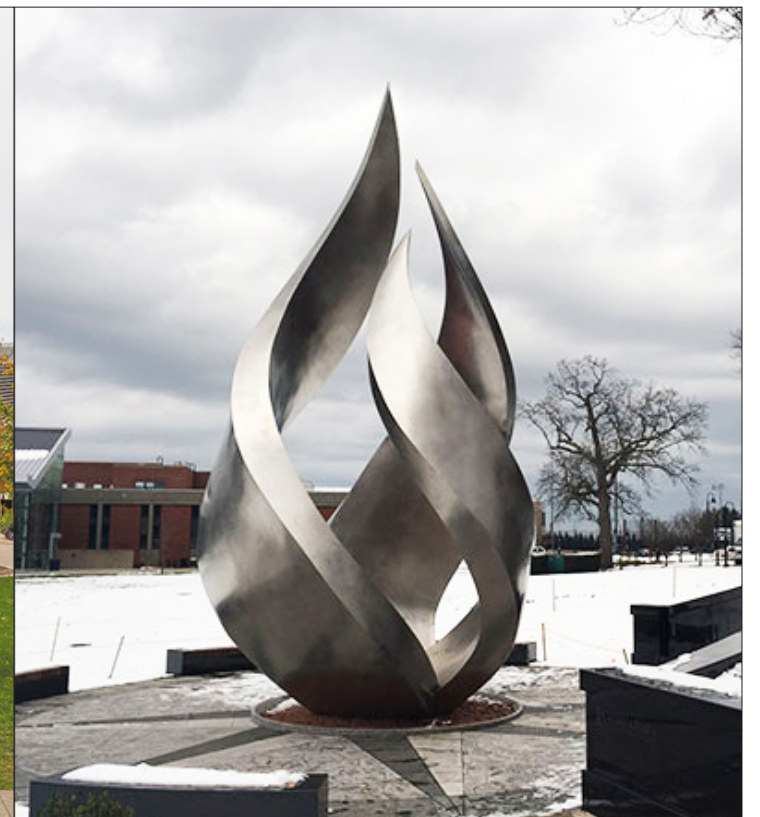


PHOTO COURTESY OF TONY PACITTI The Calabria Plaza located on Slavin Lawn at PC. PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE



# Nintendo Develops New Mario Kart iOS App

by Julia Vaccarella '20  
A&E Staff

ENTERTAINMENT

Nintendo announced in late January that they are currently in the process of making their well-known video game, Mario Kart, into an app for iOS users. It has been speculated that the game

will be accessible on the iPhone and other devices including iPads, as well as Android phones and tablets. The game's parent company, Nintendo and web company DeNA, will be the main developers for the smartphone version of the popular game.

Nintendo's first version of Mario Kart was released in 1992; in the 26 years since then, several variations have been released for six different game consoles. The most notable versions

are Mario Kart 64, DS, and Wii. Mario Kart 8 Deluxe, the version for the more recent console known as the Nintendo Switch, has also become popular.

Gamers join go-kart style races, choosing to play as famous characters like Mario, Luigi, Princess Peach, and Yoshi, among others. There are also powerups within each set of courses that players can use to move closer towards first place and potentially slow down opponents. Particularly for the Wii,

Mario Kart has been available for both single player and multiplayer options.

It was announced that the mobile version of the game will be called Mario Kart Tour. An article from *The Wall Street Journal* has also explained that the game will be "free to start," implying that users will eventually have to pay in order to access all of the features included on Mario Kart Tour. It is possible that Nintendo will release a game that is free to play, with in-app purchases that help with certain tasks. Nintendo has utilized this strategy in the past and continues to do so today.

The mobile version of the popular game Animal Crossing, called Pocket Camp, was released as "free to start" and is offered on iOS devices. Similarly, according to the website for Super Mario Run, interested customers "can download and enjoy a portion of Super Mario Run for free."

Techradar suggests that the free version of the game will include a limited number of courses and characters. Customers could then purchase a separate version that will include access to the full game. As for the logistics behind the game, Nintendo has not revealed how Mario Kart Tour will operate, but it is possible that players will be able to race against real opponents just as they can with the Wii console version.

Many people within a varied age range have reacted positively to Nintendo's announcement of a Mario Kart app. For many college students and young adults, this game will ignite the nostalgia of playing on a Wii or Nintendo DS console. With the rise of iPhones, Android devices, and other smartphones, this feature will certainly make the game more easily accessible.

Nintendo confirmed that the app is still in development and will be released sometime before March 2019.



Classic Nintendo characters, such as Mario, Bowser, Princess Peach, and Daisy, will most likely appear in the new mobile app.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MOBYGAMES.COM

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

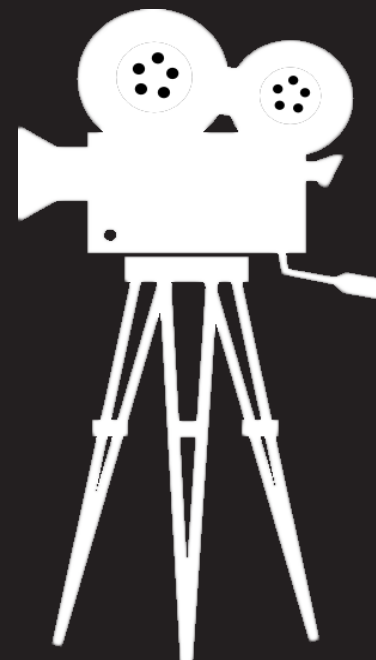


PHOTO COURTESY OF BUSTLE.COM

"My mama always said life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get."

- *Forrest Gump* (1994)

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# DON'T

# FEAR THE

# REAPER

by Marisa DelFarno '18  
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

There is nowhere to hide from death. This is the administration's motto.

How did this become their motto? Short answer—overpopulation. Every three years, the population kept creeping over another billion. Another three years would go by, and another billion or so people would find an uncomfortable, claustrophobic home on Earth. When our population was inching its way to nearly 20 billion, people got scared, food got scarce, land got congested, and the administration felt that something had to be implemented. So they decided to play God.

It was about 100 years ago when the administration first announced that everyone would be assigned an expiration date. The date cannot be private or hidden. They believed it was best to plaster the date onto people's foreheads. Why? Because you cannot hide it nor can you hide from it.

You do not receive the expiration date when you are born. Instead, you have to wait until you are 16 years-old to get the expiration date. That is when people get stamped like how cattle get tagged. By now, it has become some kind of coming-of-age event like someone's Confirmation or Bar Mitzvah. On your 16th birthday, you have to report to the administration's local branch first thing in the morning, 9 a.m. to be precise, and sit on some little chair, veiled by a thin, gauzy curtain, and get your death date confirmed on your forehead. If you refuse to report there on your birthday, they will find you.

The phenomenon with the stamps is not global. The administration argue that the countries that do not enforce the stamps are in "calamitous disrepair," with no agriculture, only loads of people and collapsed infrastructure. The whole song and dance. They further justify that we live in a sunny utopia. Then why do many of us live in constant fear of the reapers?

Reapers is the slang word for the administration, because you know, the whole death-knocking-on-your door joke. It is a little

silly and too tongue-in-cheek, but it somehow found a way to steep itself into our everyday language. But the reaper's arrival is still completely unforeseen since the stamp only divulges the month and day, not the year of your death.

The date is October 11, my 16th



birthday. I am in a line, about to find out what date will permanently be known as my death date. The line I find myself standing in is pretty humble in size. There are only about two hundred of us here. Some states have lines consisting of over a thousand or more 16-year-olds. The lines vary depending on where you live, and the size of your state. The wait shouldn't be too long. The procedure takes a minute per person, though there is unfortunately only one lady administering it today.

As the clock drags, I eventually find only two boys remaining in front of me. They have the same exact cinnamon hair color and green eyes. Twins, I assume.

"I heard that they now make the date close to your birthday, or even on your birthday, and that is when they get you. They wipe you out immediately!" one of the boys says.

"Nonsense. Dad knows someone that has the day after his birthday pressed on his forehead and that man is now 50 years-old!"

"I said they now do it. Also, how come last year that sophomore boy never made it

back to class after his birthday weekend? He hasn't been seen since."

"Eh...uh...he's probably just the ultimate prankster," the boy says shakingly.

"I guess he is Andy Kaufman then," his twin scoffs.

"Next!" a worn, smoker's voice calls out behind the white curtain.

One of the twins steps towards the curtain.

"Don't flinch! They will botch it!" his brother calls out.

The other twin responds by rolling his eyes and vanishes behind the curtain. A minute or so passes and the twin exits the curtain, revealing a reddened forehead with the date 10/25 newly etched on.

"Huh," his brother catatonically responds before going behind the curtain himself.

I wait patiently for a minute before I hear the lady screech, "Next!" from the curtain.

I tiptoe my way over there, knowing my face will never look the same again. I unhurriedly tug the curtain out

of my way.

Fluorescent lights soils the area with brightness like someone is viciously burning an ant with a magnifying glass. The station consists of a stool, a folded table with alcohol pads and a rectangular device laying on it, and a lady who fully materializes everyone's vision of a reaper. Her eyes are so sunken in and blurred with dark circles that they resemble the hollow sockets of a skull. Her twiggy arms poke out of her baggy, pastel-colored smock. The bones under the sheer, veiny skin of her hands flex as she grabs one of the alcohol pads. She irons my forehead with the

frigid pad, and promptly peels it off before she snatches the rectangular device.

"Look up," she coughs.

I crane my neck up and before I know it, the strange rectangular device is cemented to my forehead, and a sudden flash of white light blinds me before the pain of 10 million needles rips through my forehead. The lady harshly removes it like Velcro. The procedure took a mere five seconds, but the pain continues to echo. I don't even know if I have any skin remaining on my forehead.

"Don't rub your forehead!" she snaps. "You will smudge it, and we don't do redoes!"

"May I ask what date is on my forehead?" I shyly say.

"Pssh, like you are never going to see a mirror again." She pauses. "Remember. Don't touch it!" she says in a school teacher's voice.

I let my arms stick to my sides and force myself to refrain from picking at my forehead. Smudged forehead stamps are never pretty.

The lady tugs at the curtain and barks, "Next!"

I get up from the rickety stool and tear the curtain out of my way. I wonder if there is a bathroom somewhere so I can get a glimpse of the date forever etched on my forehead, but knowing the administration, they probably have no public bathrooms.

It is now a mission to exit the labyrinth so I can run home and peek at the first mirror I can find. The elevators are too slow and always mobbed, so I stick to the stairs—all 10 flights.

My desire to dash home is fierce because reaching the front entrance took all of a millisecond.

As I am about to step out the door, I realize that the gleaming, freshly wiped down glass has a faint reflection. I drop my hand from the doorknob, and peer a little closer. The reflection is barely discernible, but the markings on my forehead are so bold that you can even see it through a foggy mirror. I squint. A boldface 11 is pressed on my forehead, separated with a dash and followed by 01. I read the date backwards and it hits me. The date is October 11.



# A Brother's Love

by Marisa Gonzalez '18  
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

The war raged on, and Henry was in the middle of it. Guns exploded. Smoke filled the air, and Henry's vision was cut off. His father always warned him about going out into the war zone unprotected. But he had to. His baby sister was out there. The one he had sworn to protect. The one who just had her sixth birthday and was so full of life. The one who was now helpless and alone. He had no choice, he had to find her.

Henry stumbled over some debris and balanced himself against a fallen building. His breathing was heavy, and his face stung from the smoke, but he couldn't think about that. His pain was nothing. He was strong; his little sister was not. He wiped away some sweat from his face, took a deep breath, and continued his search. The air had cleared a little bit, and he could see the outlines of soldiers. He wanted

to speak to them. To ask them about his sister, but he knew he could not distract them. They needed to be alert. They needed to survive.

Henry watched the soldiers pass and ran across the road when he thought the path was clear. He made it halfway when a tank came barreling down. Henry quickly rolled out of the way, cutting his hands and knees in the process. Again, he couldn't think of the pain. Pain was nothing, and his sister was everything. Another tank passed by, and he ran for cover as guns began to explode around him. More smoke filled the air causing Henry to choke. He tried to calm himself down but the loud noises made it impossible.

Suddenly the ground began to shake. Gunfire ceased. Henry, still trying to catch his breath, looked out from where he took cover and saw a dark shadow approaching the soldiers.

Feeling more panic rising, Henry took off, not looking back when he heard a terrible noise—like a roar that made the buildings vibrate—and the screaming of soldiers. There was no time for curiosity, no time for sorrow. He needed to complete his mission. He needed to find her.

Henry ran as fast as he could, tripping over debris and stumbling over bodies. He could not look at those faces. He had no time to mourn. He had to carry on. More soldiers ran past him, and another roar shook the buildings, causing Henry to fall. A tank drove past him with a large gun. He slowly rose to his feet and was about to begin running again when the gun fired. Black smoke engulfed him, cutting off his vision once more. He did not know what was going on. He could only hear the screams, and the roars. But he still ran. He would not let his sister down.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIC.COM

# STUCK IN A CRIME SCENE

by Sam Pellman '20  
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

It was closing time. The gates were starting to be secured and locked up. Our group had split up about halfway through, but it would be fine, we'd meet up with them outside the car. At least that's what I thought. It was what any normal person would think. It's definitely not what happened though.

It was 5:26 p.m., and the sun was just starting to sink down. The air was warm but without the sun it became cool. We were in France. At a museum, but not your average museum. We were in a village called Oradour-sur-Glane in Haute-Vienne.

The history of the place is remarkable. This village was destroyed by a German Waffen-SS company on June 10, 1944. The Nazis wanted to use the village as an example. Six-hundred and forty-two of its inhabitants were massacred all in one night. The scene was traumatizing as women and children were locked in churches that were set on fire.

Men were led into barns and sheds and shot with machine guns. Only a few people were able to survive, but the majority of the village was completely wiped out in only a few, short

hours. During the time, a new village was called to be built nearby, but the French president, Charles de Gaulle, ordered the original to be maintained as a permanent memorial and museum.

I had been on vacation, traveling through France with my mom, dad, brother, aunt, uncle, and two of my cousins. My dad has always been fascinated with history and when he heard about this museum, he knew he had to see it. As for me, the topic piqued my interest. To hear about such a tragic situation was one thing but to be able to walk through it and see it first hand was much different.

We arrived at the museum early afternoon and began first in the inside area where we read much of the history and eventually made our way outside to walk the streets of this untouched village. It was silent, no one said a word. The vibe was eerie and as I looked at the building remnants and churches, I could see the women and children pounding on the doors to let them out. I heard the screams, and I smelled the fire. There were rusted cars, bicycles and even baby strollers, all left

in place, untouched. I felt scared as I walked these streets, sticking by my cousins, horrified of wandering off and getting myself lost.

My dad, uncle, and aunt all strolled away in a different direction than the rest of us. The ruins were large and led to all different places. It soon began to get darker, as I realized the sun was setting. The workers in the museum began to come out and said the museum was nearing closing and we should begin to make our way back to the front. My cousins and I hurried our way out, this was not a place I'd like to be trapped in. We met up with my brother and mom at the front gates. But where were my dad, uncle, and aunt? We hadn't seen them in a while. We went to go back in, but the gates were locked. In fact, all the gates were locked, the side ones as well. They had closed down the whole place, just like that, without even looking to see if anyone was still in there. Okay, don't panic, I thought. We'll just call them. Too bad I forgot we were in France and the only people who had the international phones were the three that were stuck inside. It was getting dark now, we

needed a phone and we needed one quick. All we had to do was drive into town and ask a local shop to borrow a phone. Too bad I also forgot the only cars they drive in Europe are stick shifts and the only people who knew how to drive a stick were the three inside, once again. This was a disaster. That's it; they were stuck inside this haunted town forever.

We had to act and it had to be now. My brother jumped into the car. Just before this trip my dad had only briefly taught my brother how to drive stick shift, but he was no pro. The car was also parked on a hill... Yet he somehow pulled himself together and got us to the closest town nearby. We frantically ran inside and tried to call them, although the phone system didn't match up as nicely as we thought. Finally, finally! We got a hold of them and found out they had safely left the eerie village. The local French people must've thought we were crazy Americans. My dad said he could've sworn he heard a gunshot noise while inside. I believe him; what happened in that village should most definitely stay in that village.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMPOSSIBLELIVING.COM



# Snow

by Erin Lucey '20  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Snowflakes fall from the generous sky,  
Blanketing the grateful ground  
with their grace and charm.

They cover each fear,  
they hide every regret,  
they mask every drop of pain,  
and reveal only the sparkle of the frosted, silvery night.

Snowflakes fall from the resentful sky,  
covering the sorrowful ground  
with their culpable disgrace.

They slaughter each flower,  
they massacre every butterfly,  
they drown all the laughter,  
and reveal only the hateful chill of their presence on the buried world.

But soon enough spring returns again.  
along with each fear, each regret, and all the pain.

along with every flower, every butterfly, every echo of laughter.  
And the snow slowly melts away, fading from the colorful earth  
to remind us that:

Nothing beautiful can last forever;  
and nothing terrible will stay for long.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PINIMG.COM

# The Empty Crowded Room

by Marelle Hipolito '21  
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Dear boy in this crowded room,  
Do I dare sit next to you?  
Will you pause your video, and say hi  
Or will you refuse me a second of your time?

Dear girl in this crowded room,  
Do you see me looking right at you?  
Will you pause writing that post and look up  
Or is my gaze not strong enough?

Dear mister in this crowded room,  
Do I dare say hi, and nice to meet you?  
Will you be impressed by a face-to-face introduction  
Or will you be too worn down by your device dungeon?

Dear miss in this crowded room,  
Do you hear me compliment you?  
Will you remove your blasting headphones and say thank you  
Or is your music too loud for my voice to break through?

Dear people of this crowded world,  
Do you hear my screams, do you hear my hurt?  
Or is the light of your screens so bright  
You didn't see me give up, and wave goodbye?

PHOTO COURTESY OF READERSDIGEST.CA



# Listomania

## Sports We Wish Were Held At The Winter Olympics

Jacuzzi Diving

Hibernating

Ice Cream Scooping

Snowman Building

Dog Sledding

Busting My Ass On Icy Sidewalks

Hot Chocolate Drinking

Layering Clothes

Shoveling

Ice Fishing

Brushing Snow Off Of Your Car

Cutting Out Paper Snowflakes

Ice Sculpting

Karaoke

## Tiffany & Earl

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

Dear Tiff and Earl,

Why do professors make us print so much? I shouldn't be out of PC Prints before midterms!

Sincerely,

Low on Ink (and Patience)

Dear Low on Ink,

Here's a tip: just don't print any of it. Then, when asked why you didn't do the reading, say you have the flu. I know that's lying and lying is bad, but enough people have been sick lately that no one is going to notice if you are telling the truth or not! You have at least two weeks to use this excuse so take advantage of it! I know that's what I would do.

Also, for the record, I actually do a lot of my printing for class (surprising, I know) and I never actually run out of printing money. You're fine. Stop being so dramatic.

All the best,

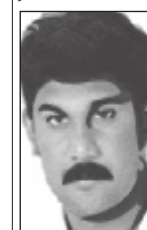


Tiffany

Dear You Guys Made Me Ink,

I haven't printed for years. I switched to cursive years ago and haven't looked back. It doesn't seem to matter much that I can't read my own notes, but I guess that's why I'm still here at PC! To prove a point, I suggest using large feather quills to take scripty longhand notes in your classes. I will endorse ostrich or peacock, depending on your aesthetic.

Also, I don't know who this "PC Prints" is or why you're out of him, but I can only imagine it's yet another scam by our autocratic oppressors. They'll take any chance they can get to milk another dollar out of the deep pockets of our Patagonia fleece jackets.



EARL

*This is a satirical column that does not reflect the views of Providence College or The Cowl.*

# The World

by David Martineau '18  
Portfolio Editor

POETRY

You grow on me like a coat of fur, but offer me no warmth.  
And sometimes all I would like to do is shave you off,  
But I cannot, for you are my children.

Before, when I was whipped by fire and scarred by ice,  
When my skin blistered and burned and burst open with molten sores,  
The pangs of birth that brought me out from the bowels of the void,  
I thought of you, and could endure that pain.

For you were going to save me, improve me  
Take what little I had and make it new,  
Like the acorns that spawn new forests  
After fire has devastated them.

But instead of building, you burn,  
Instead of feeding my beauty, you consume it.  
Instead of loving me, you take me for granted.  
Instead of giving me Life, you bring me closer to Death.

I wish, sometimes, that I could be rid of you,  
That I could return to the torments of my youth, and forget you.  
But I cannot, for you are my children.



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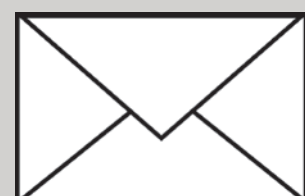
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## Senior Night in Friartown

*Last Class of the 2015 NCAA Championship Hockey Team Celebrate Senior Night*

by Sam Scanlon '19  
Sports Staff

MEN'S HOCKEY

When the Class of 2018 first stepped on the ice at Schneider Arena four years ago, they would never have expected their college careers at Providence College to go the way they did. This year's senior class celebrated their Senior Night in style last Friday as they defeated the University of Maine 3-2 in overtime. As their season draws to its end, along with their college hockey careers, the 2015 national championship banner still hangs high in the rafters. The final wave of National Champions will soon take their last strides with the Skating Friar proudly on their chest, but their legacy will forever remain.

This year's class is tightly knit and collectively a great group of leaders in the locker room. Captain Brian Pinho '18 commended those who came before him, such as National Hockey League players Noel Acciari '15 and Mark Jankowski '16, saying, "They did a good job of taking us under their wings and showing us the ropes, while reinforcing the culture of our team. The upperclassmen on the team now have done a good job of bringing our young team along." Pinho also described their journey together saying, "These past four

years have been unbelievable, and it's been awesome to play with my best friends for four years. We are such a close group, and we love being with each other."

Perhaps the biggest underdog story of this class is goaltender Jake Beaton '18. Beaton joined the squad this season as the team's emergency goalie. Last year, he was stopping pucks for the College's club team but was granted the incredible opportunity to play Division I hockey for his senior year. The Falmouth, Massachusetts native made his first collegiate appearance late in the third period against Arizona State University at PPG Paints Arena on Dec. 30. Although it was just a few minutes on the ice, he got the experience of a lifetime for a team so close to home compared to some of his teammates, who live much farther away.

For example, hailing all the way from Anchorage, Alaska, Truman Reed '18 found a home 4,500 miles away in Providence, Rhode Island. Standing at 6'2" and 212 lbs., he is one of the biggest defensemen on the team. Reed made his collegiate debut last season versus Hockey East foe Northeastern University. He plays a physical role when on the ice- a role that is sometimes lacking on the Friars' roster. Thus, in games with Reed in the lineup, the Friars physicality has been enhanced.

Texas is not exactly considered a hockey hotbed, but Alex Cromwell '18, a McKinney, Texas native, defied the odds and became a part of the Providence College hockey program. Like Reed, Cromwell stands tall and uses his large frame as a power forward. As one of the program's best students, Cromwell won the John Ferguson Award, which recognizes the player with the highest GPA on the team, two years in a row.

The Friars' firecracker is forward Robbie Hennessey '18 out of Garnet Valley, Pennsylvania. Standing at 5'10" Hennessey is one of the smaller players on the team. Despite his small size, he is always buzzing all over the ice. Hennessey has embraced his role as a grinder as he loves to play the body and block shots. As another top scholar on the team, Hennessey has made the Hockey East All-Academic Team in each of his first three seasons and is well on his way to a fourth. Hennessey has appeared in 95 games as a Friar, posting 15 points on four goals and 11 assists. His high speed and energy on the ice will be missed.

Friar superstar and team captain Pinho was the last honoree this past Friday night. Pinho has been nothing short of spectacular throughout his four year career at PC. He has appeared in 144 games thus far and has registered 108 points on 38 goals

and 70 assists. Among his many awards and other accolades, he was named the 2016-2017 Team MVP.

Along with his dominant play on the ice, Pinho has demonstrated his outstanding leadership qualities as captain of this year's team and assistant captain last year as a junior. "I think being a leader of this team is a great honor, but also a huge responsibility" Pinho said. "I try to keep everything fun at the rink, while also bringing some intensity and competing hard everyday." His leadership has allowed a young team to excel and exceed all expectations.

Now that his four years have come and gone, Pinho offered some advice for the underclassmen and future Friars. He said, "My advice to the younger guys is to cherish their time here because it flies by. Also, I would tell them to never take anything for granted because this has been the best four years of my life."

The Class of 2018 has been through a lot in their four years, including winning the program's first National Championship. Pinho reflected on his career and explained, "My favorite memory was definitely winning the National Championship, but also having a really good group of guys my entire time here."

Congratulations and best of luck to the Class of 2018, but before you go, bring back another championship.



Brian Pinho '18



Jake Beaton '18



Truman Reed '18



Robbie Hennessey '18 PHOTO COURTESY OF PCATHLETICS



All four seniors stand with their families during a pre-game ceremony.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL TOLLESTRUP



# Tennis, Softball Kick Off Spring Seasons

by Eileen Flynn '20  
Sports Staff  
PC SPORTS

## Softball:

The Providence College Women's Softball Team traveled to the University of Central Florida's "Friends of Jaclyn" Tournament on Feb. 9 to 11. Facing four tough opponents, the Friars went 0-4 the first two days of the tournament. However, Brittney Veler '18, stirred up some momentum her team needed to get the season going. With her impressive RBIs and variation of hits, the team was inspired on their last day of the tournament, just in time for the match-up against the University of North Carolina.

The game started off quiet, two innings passed and both teams still had a zero under their names on the scoreboard. Emma Lee '19 began the third inning with a leadoff single. After a few more pitches, Lee made her way over to third, stealing two bases. Vanessa Portillo '19 brought her teammate home with an RBI single.

The Tarheels did not take long to respond to the one run deficit. In the bottom of the third, UNC tied the game at 1-1. In the top of the 5th inning, Mackensie Compton '20 and Veler worked together to set up Portillo yet again. Portillo responded with a clutch sacrifice fly, sending the winning run across home plate. Miranda Trinidad '21, pitched a complete game and held the Tarheels at just one run. PC finished the tournament on an upset, handing ranked UNC their only loss of the weekend.

Veler tallied a .400 batting average over the course of five games. The

senior had six hits, a double, a triple, and four RBIs. The Big East named Veler to the weekly honor roll after noticing her impressive performance. Although this was not her first time being recognized, Veler said she was excited to start off her final season as a Friar with this accomplishment.

After a busy weekend away, Veler looked ahead to the upcoming season. "We have a team of veterans; we only lost two players, so we have a lot of experience." Veler mentioned the previous years' heartbreaks where her team was just short of qualifying for the Big East Tournament. However, Veler is confident that this year her team can "break through" past outcomes and have a better ending.

When asked about what games she was most excited for on this season's schedule, Veler was quick to name St. John's University. "That team has rocked us every year I've played them; they have a powerful program with a head coach that was once a stud pitcher at Providence." Veler hopes to beat this team at least once before she has to hang up her cleats. Other match-ups the outfielder is looking forward to include games against DePaul University and Villanova University. Although she loves beating a team on the competition's turf, she tells me there is nothing better than the comfort of a Ray breakfast and the walk to Glay Field for a big game.

Veler only has a few more walks to her home field before she graduates in the spring. Veler has been playing softball since age six, and she is both sad and excited about her transition into the "real world." She said that "it is much more than saying good bye to the sport, there were so many ups and downs, so many places it brought

me, and so many emotions that are all wrapped together." She has a few different paths in mind for after graduation. Whether it be a career within the organization of Major League Baseball or in the field of health policy and management, Veler is excited to find out.

As for the rest of the season, she is not losing focus. Veler tells me the key to success for her team is to "stick to the PC way." She has faith in her coaches to keep pushing her team forward and to keep reminding them that no matter what field they are on, "they own it."

## Tennis:

The Providence College Women's Tennis Team is patiently waiting for the snow to stop and for the wind to die down so they can start practicing for their 2018 spring season. This past fall, the Friars defeated teams from Johnson & Wales University and the College of the Holy Cross. The team lost two close matches, 4-3, against Fairfield University and Assumption College. When they participated in the Quinnipiac Invitational, the Friars displayed promising talent on the second day. In a complete transition from the first day of tournament, three PC players played their way to the semifinals in their respective brackets.

Due to the Friars' younger roster, this inconsistency in performance can be expected. However, with the fall season under their belts, the team has matured together and have high expectations for their spring season. There are a total of six underclassmen on the team, three freshmen and three sophomores. Katie Marvin '18 and Risa Takenaka '19 will lead

their younger teammates with their experience and talent.

Takenaka explained how she led her teammates by example during the fall season. "I think I was able to set an example for the team on how to be a competitor on the court when playing tough players," she said. Since the spring season is filled with tough competitors, the team will need to prepare. Head Coach Jakob Kleason will return for his third year at Providence College.

Saturday, February 3 marked the season opener for the team against Saint Peter's University where the team got the season off to a hot start with 7-0 sweep.

The next day the Friars faced off against a tough Siena College team in Albany, New York. The Friars fought hard but ultimately lost 5-2 though many of the matches were tight until the end. Takenaka was the only player to pick up a win in the single matches for PC.

Other opponents the team will face this season include Butler University, Dayton University, College of Charleston, Harvard University, Villanova University, St. John's University, and Brown University. Takenaka is already looking forward to the matchup against Harvard. She said, "They have a really strong lineup, and it's always a fun time playing as the underdog."

The Big East Tournament will proceed during the last week in April in Cayce, South Carolina. The Friars are looking to redeem their 4-0 loss to Villanova in the previous 2017 Big East Tournament. The Lady Friars are ready to start their spring season, despite the winter weather.



The Providence College 2017-18 Softball Team.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS



The Providence College 2017-18 Tennis Team.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS



# PCI: Which Spring Sport Will Have The Best Record?

## Lacrosse

by Max Anderson '18  
Sports Staff  
PC SPORTS

I believe this is the breakout year for the Providence College Men's Lacrosse Team, which leads me to believe the team will finish as the spring sport squad with the best record.

As a senior, I have watched the lacrosse team progress every year. The 2015 season saw the team have a final overall record of 5-9, with a 1-4 tally in Big East play. The team improved in 2016, finishing with a final record of 7-9 and again finishing with a record of 1-4 in conference play.

It was last year's finish, however, that has me confident in the lacrosse team this year; the team improved by three wins to finish with a final record of 10-7, including a 3-2 mark in Big East play, making it the first time that the team finished with a winning record since the 2005-06 season. Perhaps most impressive, however, is the fact that the team was able to advance to the Big East Championship game, where they lost by just one point to Marquette in a 10-9 nail biter.

While the 2006-07 team regressed after the superb 2005-06 season, I do not see that being the case with this year's team. The team lost just 10 players to graduation last year,



Conner Byrne '18 looks to make a play against Villanova University.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICK CRENSHAW '20/ THE COWL

meaning a large portion of those who finished with a winning record for the first time in over a decade will be back. Among those returning are Brendan Kearns '19 and Nick Hatzipetrakos '19, the Friars two leading scorers from last year, who both finished the season with over 40 points. Along with Kearns and Hatzipetrakos, the

Friars are returning nine of their ten leading point scorers from last season, meaning there will be no shortage of offensive power for the Friars this year. Along with the superb offense, the Friars also bring back goalie Tate Boyce '19, who started all 17 games for the Friars last season and finished with over 1,000

minutes logged for the year. Boyce finished the season with final tallies of 178 saves to go along with a 56.9 percent save percentage.

With so many returning faces, I can easily see the Friars topping their 10-win mark from last year and picture them being the most successful team on campus this spring.

## Softball

by Ethan Ticehurst '18  
Sports Staff  
PC SPORTS

The Providence College Softball Team is on track to have the best record out of all the spring sports this season. They are on the rise after an average 2017 season. They have steadily improved over the past few years, with a two game improvement in 2017 in their win total from the 2016 season. Building a strong team has taken time, but this team has done the work to be as strong as they can be.

The work that they have done from previous seasons, coupled with the added familiarity that they now have with their relatively new field, is expected to bring them even more wins this year.

The Friars kicked off the season last week down in Florida, where they proved through their win against the University of North Carolina that they are on track to having a successful season. Though they currently sit at a record of 1-4, they have already shown some flashes of good things to come while playing some pretty difficult teams. When the Friars kicked off their Big East season, the



Mulry runs down the third base line at Glay Field.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

games will be more evenly matched between PC and their opponents. The first home game takes place on March 17 at 12 p.m.

The team will have the advantage of a strong senior class this year, consisting of Paige Mulry '18, Julianne Rurka '18, Christina Ramirez '18, and Brittney Veler '18. All four of these players were a big part of last year's squad, and played a majority of games for the Friars. It is likely that the team will look to these seniors for their experience and their leadership as they go further into the season. In a sport where it is common to play over 40 games in a season, it comes down to having the endurance and energy to keep on going, qualities that these seniors have shown that they have.

This year should be a good year for Friars softball as they play against a rather evenly matched Big East conference. Friar fans can look forward to an exciting season for the softball team as they look to improve upon last season.





# Friars' Win Creates Big Upset

## Villanova:

Continued from front page

In a game filled with jaw-dropping dunks, plays, and a court storming by the entire student section, the team now has something to celebrate. The Friars defense was able to stop Nova from shooting threes and allowed 19 turnovers that turned into some scoring opportunities. The offense was excellent as five Friars had double digits in scoring, including a leading 17 points from Kyron Cartwright '18.

Head Coach Ed Cooley stated to the press after the game, "Honestly, the greatest win I've ever had at Providence College."

The team will look to continue this spark for the last few games, including the last home game of the season against St. John's. Despite a few losses on the way, the players have played consistently good basketball throughout Big East games. Rodney Bullock '18 has been leading the team in both minutes and points this season with 31.9 minutes per game and 14.6 points per game, as he continues to find a rhythm both on and off the court.

Cartwright has also been leading in assists with six per game, noticeably becoming the difference maker on the team. With games coming down to the wire, Cartwright has been putting the team on his back to provide the leadership needed for this squad.

The Friars must face each team this year without forward Emmitt Holt '18, who is redshirting this year due to injury. However, Holt has been back on campus this semester and has been practicing with the team. This not only provides an on-campus energy used on game day, it creates the opportunity for Holt to teach the younger players and allow them to be stronger in the paint from experience.

These younger players include Alpha Diallo '20, Kalif Young '20, and Nate Watson '21, all of whom have improved their game, including great offense and stellar defense against the Big East's



Rodney Bullock '18 celebrates a slam dunk.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICHOLAS CRENSHAW '20/THE COWL

best players. With minimal games remaining in the regular season, it is now or never for the Friars.

Soon they will be sent off to Madison Square Garden for the Big East Tournament, hopefully taking down Villanova and becoming the champions again, which will hopefully make things easier after their upset. For now, Friar fans must wait and enjoy the last few games of the season while continuing to bring the constant energy to the Dunkin' Donuts Center and help the team motivate each other to secure a spot in March Madness.

Villanova: 71

Providence: 76

# PC Swim Gets Ready for Big East

by Jeremy Perrigo '18  
Sports Staff

SWIMMING AND DIVING

February has come at last, and for the Providence College Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Team, this marks the end of a rigorous six months of training and competition that began back in early September.

The Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving teams travel to Geneva, Ohio on Feb. 21 for four days in the pool in a six-way battle against Big East conference rivals Seton Hall University, Georgetown University, Villanova University, Xavier

University, and Butler University for the Big East Championship.

For a few Friars, this competition marks the last of their collegiate career. Alexandra Kartsounis '18 shared her thoughts on what it will take to find success in Ohio, "Definitely working together, staying together, keep each other in a positive situation because it is a four-day-long meet and we have prelims in the morning, finals in the afternoon. It is just a lot going on and chemistry I think is really important."

Leadership is an important aspect of any sports team, and as freshmen go on to become seniors, their roles change. When questioned about how

her responsibility on the team has changed, Kartsounis had a few words to add about her fellow teammates, saying "It definitely puts you in a leadership position. I am not captain this year. My captains are Erin Cunningham '18 and Katie Fallon '18 and they both do an excellent job leading the team." She went on to note that leadership can be found across the board, "I think it is important for all the seniors to kind of take that leadership role, and I think everyone does a pretty good job doing that. Mostly just lead by example and keep a positive attitude, I think is really important."

The Friars are trying to use the championship to rebound from a disappointing loss in their last competition, a tri-meet against Georgetown and Seton Hall, "We all raced pretty well, but we lost to both teams. I think that meet is pretty difficult for our team just because it is so close to our championships so we have all been beaten down by training really hard. But overall I think everyone pulled through and had some pretty good times."

When asked if a single team stood out from the rest going into the competition, Kartsounis, who specializes in backstroke and butterfly, pointed to one school in particular. "Butler is our closest competition; all the other schools are pretty strong but we always go and race our hardest."

She also mentioned a group of Friars that she believes do not get

enough credit for the boost they add to final scores: the divers. "The divers are super important to us because they contribute to the pointing scales." She mentioned one teammate in particular. "Kendall Jerzyk '18 made Big East and she is one of the top [divers] on the diving team and I do not think people give her enough credit. She gives us a bump up in our pointing scale," Kartsounis said.

While cohesion amongst teammates is important, coaching plays just as integral a role, and good coaching is essential for any team that hopes to be successful. Kartsounis elaborated on the impact her coaches have had on her swimming career. She began with the man in charge, saying, "Our head coach John O'Neill is great, he has led our team through some good wins and tough losses but definitely kept us going through."

Not forgotten is the impact of assistant coaches. "I also want to give note to Ken Reall, we got him my sophomore year I believe and he has a great swim background, great resume, and overall just a really good person and great motivator. I definitely think he has had a big impact on my swimming career here," Kartsounis added.

The Friars have high hopes for the week ahead. For some athletes, the event marks the beginning of more to come. For this group of seniors, it presents the opportunity to put an exclamation point on an eventful four years.



Antigone Rigas '19 competes in a meet.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS



# Friends of Friar Football

by Jack Belanger '21

Sports Co-Editor

FRIAR SPORTS

This past weekend, Providence College hosted its Alumni and Family Weekend and many former Friars made their way back to campus. While many met up at the events and games on campus, one group of friends found themselves at McCormick & Schmicks, a seafood restaurant in downtown Providence. This group of friends, or brothers if you asked any of the men in attendance, make up the Friends of Friar Football.

While Providence College has not had a club football team on campus since 1988, the Friends of Friar Football is comprised of former members of PC's club football team, known as the Fighting Friars, which started in 1967 and was active up until its last season in 1988. From Paul McGuire '70, the team's first QB, to Tom Allen '88, a member of the final team, and men nicknamed Spider, Weasel, Skunk, and Bear, the gathering gave men across multiple generations time to connect and reminisce about their playing days. The group had about 100 men in attendance and was over 200 active members who stay in contact with the club.

Geno Harding '74 who has helped organize the gathering for the past 10 years, has acted as the organization's historian, compiling old photos and memorabilia from the Fighting Friars days. Back when he was in school, Harding was one of the main organizers for the team as he was in charge of selling tickets and lining Hendricken Field on game days.

Even though the team was not an official varsity team, the former players will be quick to tell anyone they treated every game like they were in Division I. The team

competed against schools such as Marist College, Assumption College, Westchester Community College, and Stony Brook University before many of these teams moved up to Division III. Multiple alumni said that they played for the love of the game.

In 1973, the team was given money to design new uniforms and many of the players could not have been happier with the outcome. Harding and Ted Fitzgerald '75 worked together to create a new helmet logo for the team. With the Fighting Friars already sharing the same silver and black color scheme as the Oakland Raiders, the two went the extra mile and modeled the new logo after one of the National Football League's most popular. Harding created the black shield with "Friars" sketched in. Then Fitzgerald sketched out a Friar head over a cross to complete the logo. Any of the men who played for PC are quick to say it was the best logo in all of college football.

One of the reoccurring stories during the reception was the tale of when PC played "the champs from the west," Chapman University in

California, in the 1979 Heritage Bowl in Providence. The day before the game the temperature was well above 50 degrees. Then all of a sudden, come gameday, the temperature dropped below 30° and the players from California experienced New England weather at its finest. One player recalled that the game was so windy that on one play where Chapman was punting, the football actually went backwards on the kick. The Friars ended up winning in a blowout 34-0, in what was one of the most memorable games in the club's history.

Despite a 21-year gap between the first and last teams, the Friends of Friar Football has been able to bring men from different eras into one brotherhood. Gerry Marzilli '72 described the Friends of Friar Football and the club team itself as "a special group...we paid to play football, we are lucky to be together this long." Despite only consisting of alumni that attended Providence College over about 20-year span, The Friends of Friar Football is one of the largest PC alumni groups that are still active. The club manages to raise

money through donations to give a scholarship to one PC student every year.

After a few hours discussing who was the fastest or who was the toughest player, the alumni made their way outside to take their yearly group photo on the front steps of City Hall. Afterwards, Marzilli presented games to former players Mike Lee '79, Steve Lamendola '79, and Bob "The Bear" Peters '78, to recognize them for creating the Friends of Friar Football group.

Even as years pass, the gathering has not lost any of its allure for any of the men. As each former player entered the restaurant, all of them were just as excited to see their former teammates as if they were getting ready for game day. Jim Murphy '70 said that football at PC "has forged a friendship for over 50 years." Murphy was one of the key contributors to starting the football club back in 1967 as he oversaw raising money for the team.

Even though most of the members of the varsity team are no longer around, the club takes time to remember the men who brought football to Providence College by looking back at the old photos and share the stories of the alumni. Harding shared one story of former player Hank Soar '37, who played nine seasons in the NFL and then went onto become an umpire for Major League Baseball from 1950 until 1972.

While the PC club football team does not have the documented history of the University of Alabama or even Boston College, every player has his own stories to share and every team had its place in the school's history that is just as important to the College. None of these men played with future glory in the back of their heads, but rather to play their hearts out for the game they cherished.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK BELANGER '21/THE COWL  
The Friends of Friar Football pose for a group photo on the steps of city hall in Providence.

## The Gold Standard Panel

by Meaghan Cahill '20

Sports Co-Editor

OLYMPICS

It has been 20 years since a women's hockey team from the United States has won a gold medal. And this past weekend, on Saturday, February 10, three members of 1998 Women's Olympic Hockey Team were present at Providence College to speak on a panel called The Gold Standard.

"I wish I could be there," Cammi Granato '93 said as she kicked off the panel in a prerecorded video that played after a video montage of highlights featuring the gold-medal round game. The montage brought player Lisa Brown-Miller '88 to "tears" and "gave [her] goosebumps." On it being 20 years since winning, Granato, captain of the only gold-medal winning, commented, "I can't believe it."

So, why did PC put together this panel during Alumni, Family, and Accepted Students weekend? The answer to this question is that the first ever Women's Olympic Hockey Team consisted of seven PC alum, and three were able to speak on behalf of their team and the remarkable feat they accomplished: Vicki Movsessian '94, Sara DeCosta '00, and Brown-Miller. "Thank you to the College for inviting us back to be remembered," Brown-Miller started once Granato's video had finished.

Hosted by current Providence College Women's Hockey Coach Bob Deraney, the panel consisted of the three women reflecting on both of their Olympic experiences, PC experiences—all of which they said was "the best," and how they formed their lives today.

"Every aspect of PC shaped me for the Olympic games...even Western Civ!" DeCosta said with a laugh when asked how PC helped her in her Olympic success. Movsessian was quick to bring up how seven members of the 20 member team came from PC. "A championship environment...that PC built. [The] identity of what women's hockey became was transformed at PC." Movsessian's point really kicked off what became the main topic of discussion of the panel: women's hockey then and now. "We really were the pioneers [of women's hockey]," Granato stated in her video. "And that is a bond we'll have forever."

As mentioned, the 1998 women's hockey team, a team that Movsessian said was made up of "20 people who wanted so badly to do well for each other and collectively win," was one of the first ever female hockey teams to compete in the Olympics. They also remain the

only U.S. women's team to ever win a gold medal in the Olympic Games.

Prior to 1998, outside of New England, women's hockey was still almost unheard of. "Growing up...I didn't know any other girls who played," Brown-Miller, a Michigan native, stated. "There were not a lot of opportunities back home. PC opened the doors and just as the doors were opening, I was able to step through." Even DeCosta recognized how small the women's hockey world was just 20 years ago. "I wasn't aware of what women's hockey...was at the time," she said.

However, Movsessian, a Massachusetts native, had a different experience with hockey growing up, stating, "There were tons of opportunities in Mass to play girls and boys hockey." But even with all of her opportunities to play, Movsessian still commented, "We didn't know about the Olympic games [and the efforts to put a female team together]. We weren't playing for that reason; we were playing because we loved to play."

Twenty years after the victory that started a hockey phenomenon, DeCosta stated, "[It has been] an amazing experience to see the growth of women's hockey...amazing to see the skills and the talent."

The talent that they spoke of, can be seen in the current PC Women's Hockey Team, which is currently ranked second in Hockey East, as well as the current 2018 Women's Olympic Hockey Team. As for this year's Olympic team, Granato is convinced that the women "are ripped to win." Of course, it has been 20 years since the U.S. has won a gold medal, but Granato stated, "I have a strong feeling this year's team [will win]," and her sentiments were echoed by all three of her teammates.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE  
DeCosta (left) and Movsessian (right) talk at the panel.