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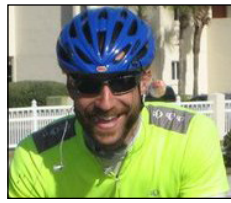
inside



Campus News, pg 3

The Social Network

Xavier is among the best in the country at utilizing social network. It is Facebook official.



Feature, pg 8

Breaking Away

XU grad Andy Gibson biked across the country over 34 days this winter

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Water main break re-routes XU traffic



Photo courtesy of Joe Frecker

A water main break at the corner of Dana and Ledgewood Avenues sent water erupting down the street for half an hour on Saturday morning.

BY JAKE HEATH

News Editor

At approximately 3 a.m. Saturday morning the streets and sidewalks of Dana and Ledgewood Avenues were flooded when Cincinnati's lane expansion project uncovered problems involving dilapidated piping under the roads.

According to Physical Plant's Construction Manager of Capital Projects, Joe Frecker, the construction crew had been attempting to turn off the water valves for the area before continuing road work.

After reaching the valves, old piping behind them burst loose

flooding the adjacent streets and sidewalks.

"Luckily, no one was hurt," Frecker said. "Everyone was able to get out of the underground hole safely before the water reached too high."

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Advertising	(513) 745-3561
Circulation	(513) 745-3130
Editor-in-Chief	(513) 745-3607

www.xavier.edu/newswire

CLC to have 24-hour access

BY MIKE GLYNN

Asst. Campus News Editor

The start of spring semester does not only mean new classes, but also new hours at the Conaton Learning Commons. The CLC, starting on Jan. 23, will offer 24-hour access from Sunday morning through Friday evening.

During the extended time, the second and third floors will open to students in need of a place to study.

The second floor is home to a 24-hour computer lab with a lab technician available if assistance is needed.

Also, the Connection Center desk and some of the study rooms positioned throughout the building will remain available to students.

The project to allow 24-hour access to CLC was accomplished by a combination of administration and students, most notably: Luther Smith, dean of students and senior student affairs advocate,

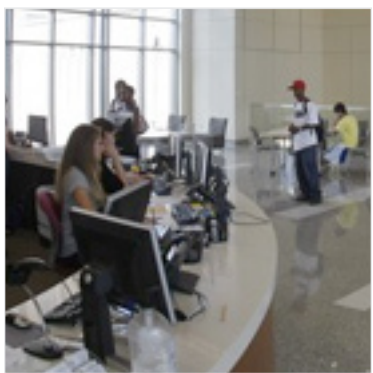


Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

The Conaton Learning Commons will be open 24-hours beginning Jan 23.

Bob Cotter, associate vice president for information resources, Alison Morgan, assistant director of the Connection Center, Joseph Christman, director of Gallagher Student Center and summer conference programs, student senator junior Ryan Alleman and student representative senior Mark Mangione, as well as efforts by the Information Resources, Student Life and Leadership, Xavier Police and Physical Plant departments.

"It was always our intention to

Haiti trip canceled

Political and health concerns force shift to Guatemala

BY DOUG TIFFT

Editor-in-Chief

After months of planning and fundraising, dozens of meetings and hundreds of phone calls and e-mails, it was an unsteady political climate and uncertain medical environment that ultimately forced the cancellation of Xavier's medical mission trip to Port-Au-Prince, Haiti over the semester break.

The money for the mission trip, which had been scheduled to take 13 students, two administrators and four medical professionals to Haiti from Jan. 1 to Jan. 9 to treat a variety of illnesses and provide hands-on training, will now go toward the same group's venture to Guatemala from March 5 to March 13.

"It was really tough to get that call to cancel the trip," Rabbi Abie Ingber, the founding director of Interfaith Community Engagement and the leader of the trip, said. "We shed a lot of tears. But we had to steel ourselves for that outcome ahead of time, and now we are excited about Guatemala."

Inger canceled the trip shortly before Christmas, when Heart to Heart International, Ingber's source for logistical research—everything from ensuring that there would be enough SPAM and water for the students to eat, to looking after the safety of the



Photo courtesy of Nicole Shovlin

Medical Mission team members (left to right bottom row) sophomore Shelbi Reed, senior Kathy Moebius, senior Oluwasayo Akinoyosoye, senior Nicole Shovlin, Amy Wetterau, (left to right top row) sophomore Brittany Mays, senior Brenden Barker, sophomore Julie Krechting, junior Keith Alberktsen, sophomore Jonathan Kuhl, senior Blake Frey and Rabbi Abie Ingber will now be going to Guatemala.

visitors—called Ingber to inform him that many of the Americans associated with Heart to Heart were being removed from Haiti for safety reasons.

The safety concerns began with the earthquake in Haiti on Jan. 12, 2010, an event that continues to present challenges such as cholera remaining prevalent in Haitian communities.

Ingber and Heart to Heart also considered political concerns. The Haitian presidential election, originally planned for Feb. 28, 2010,

but re-scheduled to Nov. 28, 2010, because of the earthquake, did not produce a majority winner, with Mirlande Manigat, Jude Célestin and Michel Martelly all receiving between 20 and 32 percent of the vote.

A second round of voting is scheduled for Jan. 16.

But Heart to Heart expressed concern that it would not be able to keep its compound safe in the event of an announcement that

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Tumultuous holidays



Newswire photo by Andrew Matsushita

Sophomore Mark Lyons has averaged 10.1 points per game during a 4-3 stretch in the last seven games.

BY SCOTT MUELLER

Sports Editor

For the men's basketball team, the last five weeks can be summed up with four key phrases: rematch, three-point shooting, rebounding differential and new season.

Rematch: Of the Musketeers

seven games in the last five weeks, five were against opponents they faced just last season. In four of those games, the team that won last season lost this season. The only exception is the Musketeers defeated Rhode Island both this and last season.

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Book Club reaches out to students who enjoy reading

BY REBECCA BAYENS
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Dec. 1, a small group of eager readers better known as the Book Club met in the Clock Tower Lounge to discuss *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*.

The book, a crime novel that explores a murder mystery case, was written by Swedish author Stieg Larsson and published after his death. *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* is the first novel of Larsson's Millennium Trilogy.

The Book Club's discussion, which featured a dialogue of everything from possible themes and protagonists to favorite and least favorite characters, was facilitated by co-presidents sophomore Sarah Jolly and sophomore Elsa Gardner.

The club also had a movie night on Friday, Dec. 3, where they watched the original Swedish version of the movie.

The club's purpose is "to expand members' personal literacy experience and to increase their love for literature by providing

books and regular discussions," said Jolly.

Jolly also said that the club usually reads two book per semester,

something too few Americans do these days," said Dr. Jodi Wyett, Book Club advisor and associate professor of the English department, in a recent e-mail.

"I'm pleased to know there are a group of students on campus who want to read and talk about books outside of the classroom," said Wyett.

Wyett primarily helps the club by suggesting books for the club to read; she said that although she has been invited to attend the club's meetings to discuss books, she is "reluctant to do so because I don't want to shift the focus of the club from talking about any and all of the ways a book might inspire you to concentrating on its literary qualities."

Wyett's desire to have the club discussions be very open-ended was displayed at the Book Club's Dec. 1 meeting, and Jolly also emphasized how "informal" the club's discussions are.

The group's next book will be *The Poisonwood Bible* by

Barbara Kingsolver, a novel portraying the story of a missionary family who moves to Africa in the 1950s.

If you are interested in reading this book with the club, e-mail bookclub@xavier.edu.

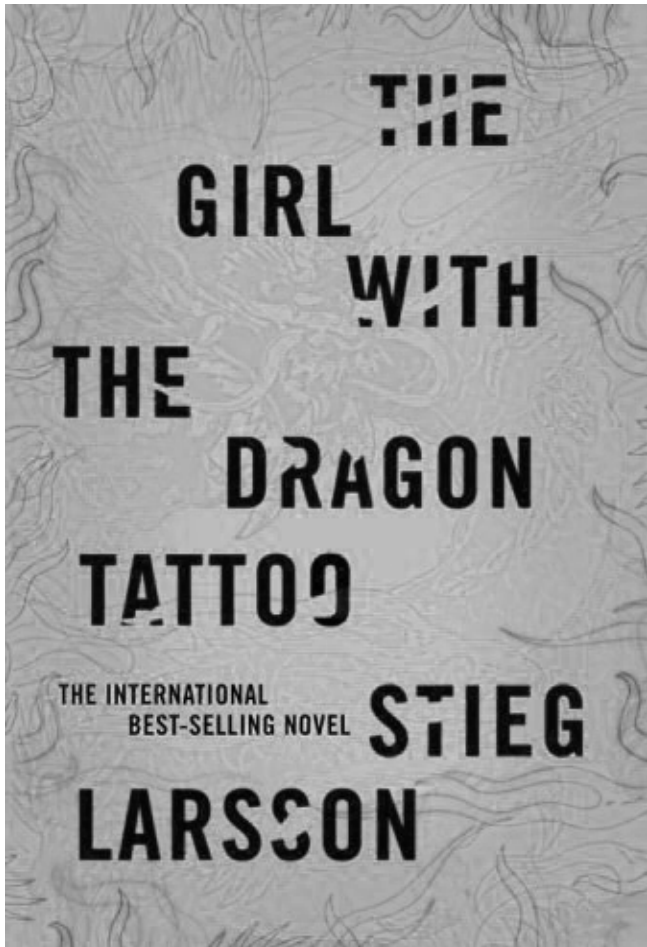


photo courtesy of www.starkinsider.com

The Book Club finished reading and discussing *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* Stieg Larsson.

which are agreed upon by the members of the club, allowing the members to explore books that spark an interest in them.

"I think the book club is valuable because it encourages students to use their leisure time to read,

Haiti trip canceled

Continued from page 1

the second round of elections are called off or one of the candidates is not allowed to run.

"I said all along that if I got the red light, we would not go," Ingber said. "And when they called, that was the red light. I am proud that we were able to know when it was safe for us to go, but then back away at the point when it was not safe. The system was tested and rose to the occasion."

Within 24 hours of receiving the initial call from Heart to Heart, Ingber had secured an alternative trip to Guatemala in March, having been in contact with Guatemalan representatives previously because of the uncertain nature of the Haiti trip.

The medical mission trip had raised approximately \$40,000 for the trip—coming from multiple weekends raking leaves, entry fees at the Nearly Naked Mile, appeals to organizations such as Catholic Help Partners, a \$3,750 sponsorship from the Student Government Association and a slew of private donors. The money will now be transferred directly

to the Guatemala trip over Spring Break.

"It was kind of upsetting to not be able to go to Haiti because we had worked for so long to raise money and get ourselves ready to go," senior Blake Frey said. "But there is still a need in Guatemala, so that will be a great experience, as well."

In Guatemala the medical mission trip will work with two Mayan villages to attempt to determine the source of disease, predominantly through epidemiological assessment. The two villages that the group will visit recently received a clean water source, but medical maladies persist, requiring further exploration to determine alternative causes.

"I think it will be a great experience for everyone involved," Ingber said. "It will be different because we will be in the homes for home visits—whereas we would not have been in Haiti. This is where the human family needs us to make a great impact, and we will be able to help a great deal."

The medical team going on the trip is led by pediatrician Lauri

Pramuk of Children's Hospital of Cincinnati, who adopted two Haitian children last January with her husband, Dr. Chris Pramuk of the Xavier theology department.

There will also be three members of a medical professional team out of Los Angeles, along with Ingber and Amy Wetterau of the Interfaith office and the 13 students.

"Everyone has been so committed to this trip from the start it is amazing," Ingber said. "We said if there was a plane that was to pull up in front of Gallagher Student Center, we would have gotten right on it without even packing and gone. I think that is still true, even with the changes."

The medical mission trip will not be the first Xavier group to travel to Guatemala, as a group of occupational therapy students make the trip each summer. However, Ingber said the site of the medical mission trip was not related to the occupational therapy trip, and the medical mission group is unlikely to stay at the same location as the occupational therapy group.

Xavier students give back to community

BY KEVIN TIGHE
Staff Writer

The Dorothy Day Center for Faith and Justice not only aids students in their spiritual development, but also provides them with various opportunities to help people in need throughout the Cincinnati area.

The opportunities vary in regards to who they help as well as the level of time commitment.

Opportunities provided by the Dorothy Day Center to serve the local communities include: Connexions, a program that travels weekly to different non-profits throughout Cincinnati; S.T.A.R. (Students Taking Active Roles), a program that also allows students to travel weekly to a single service site of their choice; Habitat For Humanity, a national program that allows students to help those in need by building houses; and Community Action Day, a day devoted to serving the Cincinnati

community.

Both students who grew up in Cincinnati and students who grew up elsewhere have seized these various opportunities in order to be able to give back to the community.

"The human family is affected by the injustices of inequality and service is a way to better our human family," Gerardo "Jerry" Patron-Cano, a Xavier student who co-directs the S.T.A.R. program said.

If you wish to become a part of these volunteering opportunities, sign-ups for the service programs are due soon and Community Action Day this spring will be on Saturday, March 26.

To receive more information, contact the Center for Faith and Justice at their new office on the first floor of Alter Hall or contact Molly Robertshaw, assistant director for the center.

A cappella heard at XU

BY MIKE GLYNN
Assist. Campus News Editor

Xavier University has more than 100 different clubs and organizations and each year dozens more apply for approval by the Student Government Association. A new club named Harmon-X is just one of the new clubs set to make its presence known on Xavier's campus.

Despite some initial concerns regarding the single gender nature of the club, Harmon-X, an all-male a cappella group, was approved by Senate earlier this week.

The club itself was formed by Sean Minion and other club members with experience and an interest in singing.

"After hearing that a lot of people had this similar interest, I got together some music, and a group of us started meeting since the beginning of last semester," said Minion.

Water main break re-routes XU traffic

Continued from page 1

Messer construction, currently building the new residence hall, offered to help along with Cincinnati and Xavier Police.

"This problem is not common, but certainly not unheard of," Frecker said. "The issue had nothing to do with the workers negligence, but rather an old piping issue. Sometimes they just break down."

The water poured for more than 30 minutes before Cincinnati Water Works arrived to investigate the problem.

By this time, water had poured down onto Xavier's Campus, quickly prompting Physical Plant to attempt to block water to prevent future ice patches.

Frecker said Xavier's water

supply still incurred no hazards, considering the vast amount of runoff that occurred during the incident.

"Fortunately, Xavier taps its water at two locations right before the water main that broke," Frecker said. "We collect right across from the Central Utility Plant and near the sand volleyball courts."

By Monday, the old piping had been fixed and the hole had been covered for traffic to resume normally.

According to Cincinnati Water Works website, regular repairs to a water main break usually take six to eight hours.

Despite the large spillage, construction for the lane expansion—otherwise known as the Dana Streetscape—should remain on schedule.

University popular on social networking sites

Facebook, Twitter used to enhance communication and recruitment

BY ASHLEY SROUFE
Staff Writer

Xavier has taken a seat at the popular table in the Facebook cafeteria.

Out of the 28 Jesuit schools in the U.S., Xavier University currently ranks second in number of Facebook fans. Boston College beat out Xavier's fan page by a little more than 1,000 fans; however, Xavier is far ahead of the 22 universities who have less than 10,000 fans.

As of 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 11, the Xavier University Facebook page had 20,357 fans while the Twitter account, @xavieruniv, had 1,318 followers.

Though this statistic likely won't be used in the admission brochures, it serves as evidence of something greater than a popularity contest: Xavier is dedicated to communicating with its constituents.

Because the Facebook following is more than triple the size of the university enrollment, current students are not the only ones with an interest in what Xavier has to say. Facebook provides an evaluation tool that breaks down fan information for users with administrative controls.

This tool, known as page insights, allows administrators to understand the age, gender and hometown of precisely who views and interacts with the page.

"Roughly half of Xavier's 20,000 followers are prospective or current student ages, meaning the other half are adults, alumni [and] parents,"



Photo Courtesy of Facebook.com

Since the creation of its Facebook page in April 2009, Xavier's page, which has a link on the home tab of the MyXU portal, has more than 20,000 fans.

said Kevin Lavelle, director of web and media. Therefore, Xavier tries to vary the posted content and find a way to make stories relevant to all.

"A photo gallery of the Hoff Quad could be interesting to prospective students who have never visited campus, alumni who like to see changes at their former home and current students who might find an interesting perspective on a space they see every day," Lavelle said.

Only 12 percent of 500 million Facebook users worldwide

update their status every day, according to Digital Buzz's analysis of 2010 social media trends.

However, a team from the Office of University Communications updates Xavier's Facebook page at least once a day with pictures, events, basketball scores, trivia questions and news stories about faculty and alumni.

"It's something people might just 'like' on a whim, but they

Lizzie Glaser, Campus News Editor
Phone: (513) 745-3607
Newswire-News@xavier.edu

might actually benefit from it," Facebook fan senior Shane Mulvihill said. "I like to see posts about current Xavier students doing something in the community or famous alumni."

Prospective student, current student, parent and alumni websites all have quick links to "Become a fan on Facebook." Xavier's home webpage features icons to connect with its Facebook, Twitter and YouTube accounts in just one click.

Even if students don't check Facebook every day, the most recent posts appear on the home tab of the Portal.

In addition to this constant free advertisement, which has sustain a steady growth since April 2009, the Office of University Communications also employed fan page advertisements.

"We did some minimal Facebook advertising during March Madness last year when Xavier had a lot of national attention with the men's and women's basketball teams," Lavelle said.

As Xavier's enrollment and Facebook's popularity only continue to grow, the Office of University Communications hopes the fan page will become increasingly functional.

Lavelle encouraged students to use Xavier's social media page as a resource to spread the word about an interesting story or campus event.

"Share photos and videos too," LeVelle said. "At least photos that you wouldn't mind your mom seeing, since she's probably on Facebook too."

RA demand increases, requirements unchanged

BY SABRINA BROWN
Staff Writer

With the start of a new semester, it is again the time for hiring new Resident Assistants. Residence Life intends to hire 17 addition RAs for next year, bringing the total number of RAs from its current total of 49 to 66.

Despite the increase in the number of RAs, Associate Director of Residence Life, Lisa Brown, said that the qualifications to become an RA will not be altered.

Students are still required to have a fall semester and cumulative GPA of 2.5 and be of sophomore status by the start of their employment.

RAs cannot have any significant disciplinary history, and it is encouraged that they have lived on campus, though it is not required.

Though the qualifications have not changed, the amount of recruiting has increased. The Residence Life staff has blanketed the campus with flyers, held multiple meetings and sent out numerous e-mails.

As in past years, faculty, staff and current RAs have been encouraged to suggest students to the Residence Life staff who they



Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

Resident Assistants pledge commitments to integrity, leadership, community, loyalty and personal development. They also participate in team-building and other community focused activities to enhance their ability to work with others.

believe would serve as good RAs. These students are then sent e-mails which encourage them to look into the position; however, it in no way influences their likelihood of being hired.

A few more meetings will be held this week as applications are due by Jan. 20.

The applications consist of standard information, three letters of recommendation and

multiple essays.

Selected applicants will then move on to the interview process which includes a group and independent interview.

"We like to observe how they interact in a group because so much of the position is working with others. So we have them participate in a series of activities that allows us to observe their group interactions," Brown said.

Applicants then move on to an independent interview with a professional staff member and two current RAs.

The group interviews will take place from Jan. 21-23, and the independent interviews will begin Jan. 24 and continue through Feb. 4.

Selection letters for next year's RAs will be available on Feb. 18.

POLICE NOTES

Dec. 9, 12:44 p.m. – Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire Department, Residence Life and Physical Plant responded to a fire alarm in the Commons. The investigation revealed that a student cooking in a first floor room caused a grease fire. The fire was extinguished quickly and minimal smoke damage occurred to the building.

Dec. 9, 8:23 p.m. – Xavier Police responded to the report of three juveniles in the Gallagher Student Center. The three were located and cited for criminal trespassing and escorted off campus.

Dec. 10, 12:59 a.m. – Xavier Police and Residence Life responded to a loud noise complaint in the Village. At the apartment, students were found with a large amount of alcohol and hiding in bedrooms or jumping off the back balcony. One student appeared to have been injured.

Dec. 10, 9:03 a.m. – An ex-student was arrested in Gallagher for trespassing when it was found that the individual had been permanently banned from campus.

Dec. 12, 1:47 a.m. – A student using the crosswalk at Victory Parkway and Dana Avenue was assaulted by an individual who exited a vehicle and struck the student in the face. Xavier Police and Cincinnati Police searched for the suspect, but were unable to locate the individual.

Dec. 18, 8:50 p.m. – A student was arrested during the men's basketball game in Cintas. The student was observed throughout the game drinking alcohol out of a blue bottle in the student section. The individual was cited for assault, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct and underage consumption.

Dec. 23, 8:07 a.m. – An employee reported the theft of a drill valued at \$200 from the Field Office.

Dec. 23, 11:16 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Cincinnati Police and Fire Department with an auto accident involving a fatality in front of Schott Hall on Dana Avenue. The driver of the vehicle was arrested for a DUI.

Dec. 31, 8:19 p.m. – A non-student driving on Herald Avenue with no headlights was arrested for an outstanding traffic warrant.

NOTE OF THE WEEK

Dec. 18, 1:43 p.m. – An employee reported the theft of a toilet paper dispenser from a bathroom in Gallagher Student Center.

XAVIER NEWSWIRE

Copyright 2011 Circulation 3,000

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Photographers: KELSEY EDSON, ALEX KLEIN

Head Copy Editors: MATT ACKELS, ALYSSA KONERMANN, KARA LENOIR, ASHLEY SROUFE

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EDITORIAL | Haiti medical mission trip
A lost opportunity, rediscovered

Whether passing one of the ubiquitous emergency phones around campus, seeing a cop cruise by on a Segway or rolling over on a Tuesday morning and getting two more hours of sleep because of a snow day, students are reminded of Xavier's protective nature on a regular basis.

The "safety" buzzword is tossed around on the Xavier website, recruiting pamphlets, discussions with administrators and even the occasional syllabus.

But, for all the advantages that come from having a protective guardian keeping crime at bay and our cars from sliding headlong into a snow bank, there are some occasional situations in which we must step outside the Xavier bubble to truly engage ourselves in learning and comprehending our world—to living up to the Jesuit ideals.

The medical mission trip to Haiti took that idea to its logical extreme recently, with students bravely volunteering to venture into a space that likely involved violence and required them to be familiar with the warning signs of cholera when going to the bathroom. Against the quiet, appropriately-protective fears of some in the Xavier community, the Interfaith Office, 13 students and four medical professionals were prepared to challenge themselves not merely from an intellectual perspective like they may encounter on campus, but a social and even perhaps moral perspective as well—all because they saw a need in the world.

Framing the situation as such, it would appear that the goals of the trip adhered almost directly to the concept of being men and women for others.

Yet, there can only be so much leeway on a vacation from Xavier's protective hands. So while the Haitian people may be suffering a setback in aid with American groups and other foreigners leaving the country, a group of Guatemalans will receive medical attention it likely would not have otherwise—especially when one considers the disparity in media attention for illness in Haiti and Guatemala.

Therefore, we would like to applaud the efforts of the medical mission trip to act out the ideals of our University—even if it is not in the place originally planned.

EDITORIAL | Xavier on Facebook
With a little help from my "friends"

In a recent study undertaken by the Office of University Communications, Xavier was found to have the third-highest number of Facebook fans of all 28 Jesuit schools in the country. With 17,525 fans, our school is one of only six Jesuit institutions to have breached the 10,000 fan mark. Although Facebook is not universally adored, most of those who despise it nonetheless maintain an account, which is why we at the *NewsWire* believe that Facebook can benefit Xavier greatly.

For students, the school's use of Facebook may prove to be something of a mixed bag. On the one hand, it may prove helpful in keeping students informed of activities and deadlines, especially those who live off campus and lack the dorms' convenient bulletin boards. On the other hand, the more aggressively Xavier uses Facebook to communicate, the more likely it will be that students will be overwhelmed by mountains of unwanted messages.

On the fundraising front, the outlook seems more optimistic. Most importantly, Facebook adds a degree of convenience to the donation process which should boost responsiveness. As the use of Facebook becomes more widespread, it will allow Xavier to make fundraising appeals online, as well as by mail. Rather than having to write a check and bring it to the mailbox, potential donors could simply pay electronically by credit card, reducing barriers to donation.

Lest we forget, Xavier should also be commended for its sheer popularity. That a small, private university could attract a following more than four times the size of its undergraduate population is a testament to its success in providing a beneficial and enjoyable college experience.

On the Web: www.xavier.edu/newswire

The Xavier NewsWire is published weekly throughout the school year, except during vacation and final exams, by the students of Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207-2129.

The Editorials are written by a different staff member each week and do not necessarily reflect the sentiments of the entire staff. They are also not the sole responsibility of the Opinions and Editorials editor to write.

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Subscription rates are \$30 per year or \$15 per semester within the USA and are prorated.

Subscription inquiries should be directed to Doug Tift, 513-745-3607.

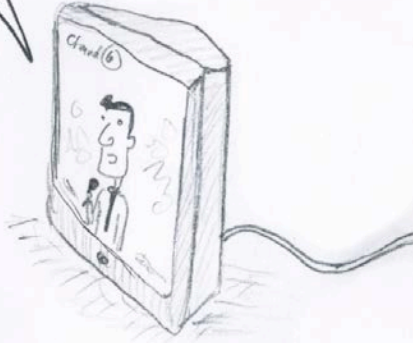
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Baby New Year

six killed, 14 wounded today by 72-year-old man as part of an assassination attempt on congresswoman Giffords.



Matt Krueger

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APPLICATIONS DUE BY DECEMBER 31

Myopic thinking hurts alumni fundraising efforts

I put down my sandwich and took a sip of water, more to digest the utterance than the turkey.

"You give how much?" I asked.

"I give about \$5,000 every year," the woman said, dressed in a grey Georgetown pullover while sitting amid the hubbub of the lunch rush at a café. "I am at the age now where I can begin to donate some, so I just thought it is the right thing to do."

The woman sitting in front of me did not hobble in with a cane or have a photo gallery of grandchildren in her purse, having written her fat checks while sitting poolside in Boca Raton or the Hamptons. She is a marathoner in her early 30s, a working mother with a budding law career.

It struck me as odd to think of such a person as a sizeable donor to a university, but I could not place my finger on why until I ruminated on what I have come to perceive as the standard operating procedure for procuring such donations—a perception I have gathered during three and a half years at Xavier.

Logically thinking, one would assume that the richest donors to any university are going to come from the oldest segment of the alumni base. Once a class hits its 35th reunion, alums are not sitting

in section 214 at basketball games before heading off to an internship at 7 a.m. the next morning; they are in upper management, with six-figure salaries and relatively little to spend their money on with their nest empty and their children's college tuitions paid for.

Xavier, like most colleges, seems to have identified this phenomenon and attacked it to a great benefit. From Smith to Gallagher



**DOUG
TIFFT**

Editor-in-Chief

to Conaton to Buenger, the names of the well-heeled alums from the 1950s and 60s are plastered all over campus. In fact, the University has been so successful at reaching out to this segment of its alumni population that it recently complained of "donor fatigue," having hit up the older generation for 60 percent of the total fundraising in the

history of the University in the last 12 years.

For Xavier, this has become a major problem. Just on the five-year agenda, the fundraising staff has a to-do list of finishing off the last drabs of the \$200 million To See Great Wonders campaign, soon to be followed by the "mini-campaign" to name the new dorm at Ledgewood and Herald, each of its four towers and the impending classroom building to replace Alter Hall (because Karl Alter was merely an Archbishop who contributed to the Cincinnati school system's development intellectually, not financially; it is sort of like how no one has seriously considered naming the newly-erected classroom buildings after legendary professors who make them come alive, but merely on donors who make them happen—but I digress).

Sitting in the café that afternoon, speaking to a donor whose profile bears little resemblance to Charlie Gallagher or Clement Buenger, it struck me that perhaps Xavier will have to start thinking outside the box for its fundraising efforts.

Now, granted, I am still five months from receiving my first shameless appeal for an alumni donation, so I do not have first-hand knowledge of the methods used to procure money from the alumni base. But based on the names sitting in the lower bowl of

Cintas Center for men's basketball games and lining the walls of the donor lists, such as on the fourth floor of Cintas Center, there appears to be a proven method of raising funds—used not just by Xavier, but by most collegiate fundraisers.

You identify an older alum (usually a male, especially if the school was all-male until 1969), figure out what connects them to the school (usually a high-profile aspect like men's basketball), give them access to that connection (with regular updates and some cushy seats, if need be) and sit them down to discuss the school in a casual setting (maybe even over a beer). For men who graduated from St. Xavier High School, then moved on to Xavier University, then on to a corporate job and now follow the exploits of Chris Mack and the boys religiously, this may be the best way to their pocketbook.

But what about the younger generations of alums—the ones who graduated in 1985 or 1995 or 2005? What if they don't care about basketball? What if they don't enjoy throwing back a beer and talking about how hard that Feeney kid hustles? What if they represent a segment of donors the University has not cultivated heavily in its history: females?

"I get e-mails and flyers all the time about study abroad stuff," my Georgetown friend said when I asked her how her alma mater

reaches out to her. "And I talk to my professors every now and then."

So maybe that is the alternative method that Xavier must choose to reach new donors and make not just a new classroom building, but Xavier Square a reality: Xavier will have to identify the next few generations of successful alumni and figure out what makes each person donate, knowing it likely won't be a standard answer as it may have been for previous generations.

The marketing department may have to abandon mere buzzwords like "Academic Excellence," and instead march out the professors who create that excellence to sit down and actually face-to-face present what the English department or the biology department or the accounting department is doing. The Academic Service Learning and summer study abroad programs may have to put together flyers to make alums remember some of the better parts of their college experience and therefore write a healthy check to ensure future generations get to experience the same.

Even current students may be enlisted to tell the story of how Xavier has made them true men and women for others.

I thought of this as I finished my meal, looking up and smiling as the waitress arrived.

"It's OK," I said. "I got the check."

NOTES & ASIDES

A collection of comments, observations, and general remarks from your friendly editorial staff, intended for your edification and amusement

• During Monday's meeting of the Student Government Association Senate, a resolution was proposed calling for SGA to officially congratulate Rep. John Boehner on his recent ascension to the post of Speaker of the House. As if that weren't enough to draw charges of plagiarism from Congress, the irrelevant resolution was even tabled for further debate.

• At the same meeting, two of the three candidates looking to fill the seat vacated by Senator Abdullah Alkloban spoke before the Senate, which will select one of them. Now, instead of competing for students' interests, the candidates are vying for the favor of senators. Thank God we have SGA to make these tough decisions for us.

• The "Police Note of the Week" in this edition

concerns the theft of a toilet paper dispenser from Gallagher, which, if one thinks about it even briefly, is surprising mainly for its originality. Most students, we think, are aware that toilet paper frequently makes its way into off-campus bathrooms, where it sits on the backs of toilets for lack of a sufficiently large holder. So when we raise our eyebrows to this note, it is only because it has not appeared sooner.

As graduation approaches, the specter of reality does, too

For 40 years, my parents lived in Cincinnati. So after moving to Dallas in August, Texas seemed like a whole different country (which is something the natives might boast).

Upon their arrival, they received a booklet in the mail entitled "You've Got 30 Days to Apply to be a Texan." It had four ordered steps to obtain a vehicle inspection, registration, license plate and driver license. The eight page guide outlined precisely how long new residents have to complete each task, where to begin and fees you should expect to pay at each step.

(If you happen to be moving to Texas as well, you can get your own booklet at www.registered-texan.com. Also, would you like to split a U-Haul from Cincinnati in May?)

I was feeling excited and prepared to become a Texan after reading the booklet until I realized that driving was just one small aspect of what I would need to do

in order to successfully live on my own.

In fact, the booklet didn't even cover the whole scope of driving—I'll still have to switch over my car title to my own name, decode in-

surance plans and begin to receive the car payment bills that my parents currently pay. From there the list snowballed in my mind, thanks to my type A personality. Instead of relaxing on my winter break, I began worrying...

I'll need a place to live. Do I get a realtor to show me around, or do I just show up at a leasing

office? Will I need a loan? Does that mean someone will check my credit score?

Speaking of credit, I'll need another credit card to start paying off newly inherited bills: student loans, utilities, health insurance (hopefully, at least), and cable and Internet (just as much of a necessity).

In a matter of minutes I had brainstormed lists and sub-lists, but I really didn't know how to tackle any of the items.

Each major at Xavier outlines a list of required classes. Career Services provides a four-year career development checklist to prepare for the job search. I can run a degree evaluation on the Portal just to make sure I'll have everything completed by May. But that's where I stop

checking off the checklists.

At this time exactly four years ago when high school was coming to a close, I felt fully prepared to begin the college chapter of my life. Now I can't say the same. The faster May approaches, the more worried I am about taking over all of these responsibilities. If my abovementioned lists tell me I'm on the right track to graduate, why do I still feel so unprepared?

A course entitled "Being an Adult 401" might solve all of these problems; however, introducing another core class at Xavier is never a popular idea. Living off campus might have also been beneficial, but then I couldn't have taken all of those extra naps with the time I've saved from a four-minute walk to class.

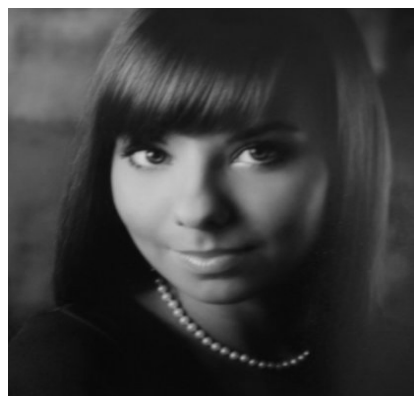
My list-making abilities are undoubtedly adept, but I would be naïve to believe that I could think of every obstacle before it arises. I would also be naïve to ignore the caveats of those who passed previously before it's too late. For

example, is the upfront savings worth the risk of foregoing renters insurance?

After my mini-meltdown during break, I called a few friends from the class of 2010. They unanimously confessed to the same anxious feelings last spring and offered helpful hints. For starters, my list should be prioritized and completed beginning with the largest cost.

I know that generations of college graduates figured out how to function in the real world so I have faith in the class of 2011 to do the same, but we can be even more efficient with the help of those who recently endured the same change.

Perhaps more importantly, we should remember to pay it forward when May 2012 rolls around. Even though I might not have enough money to earn a residence hall donning my name, I can take comfort in knowing that I helped a senior through a more significant contribution.



ASHLEY SROUFE
Staff Writer

Top ranked road foes trip up women



Photo courtesy of goxavier.com

Senior Special Jennings is leading the Atlantic 10 in assists with 4.6 per game. She is also eighth in steals with 2.1 a game.

BY JOCELYN TAYLOR
Asst. Sports Editor

The No. 8 Xavier women's basketball team went 4-2 over the winter break.

After knocking off Middle Tennessee State on the road and Mississippi State at home, XU took two tough road losses at Duke and Stanford. They rebounded back at home against Missouri and Dayton.

The loss at Stanford dropped the team from its previous No. 4 ranking to 9.

The Musketeers won their ninth straight game to open the season at Middle Tennessee State on Dec. 9.

The Muskies had five players record double figures in points and Xavier knocked off the Blue Raiders 65-52.

The Musketeers dismantled Mississippi State 62-36 on Dec. 17. Senior Amber Harris had 22 points leading the Muskies' route.

The women traveled to Durham, N.C. to take on the No. 3 Duke Blue Devils on Dec. 21.

Xavier came up short at Cameroon Indoor, 46-45, unable to overcome a closing minute fiasco.

Harris led all scorers with 22 points, and recorded 16 rebounds and 6 blocks.

Both teams are known for their tight defense. Duke forced the Musketeers to commit 30 turnovers, while only losing the ball 12 times.

Xavier out-rebounded the Blue Devils 51-37, and held them to 26 percent from the field.

Xavier had a 28-25 lead at the half, but lost control late in the game.

With 26 seconds left on the clock, senior Special Jennings raced down the court for a layup, but was blocked. The Xavier bench screamed for a foul, but none was called.

On their ensuing possession, Duke hit a game winning free throw with two seconds left.

Jennings' non-foul call play was supposed to be reviewed, but the referees decided that the clock had expired and the game was over.

A week later, the Muskies took an 89-52 beating from Stanford on the road. Although Harris did not start in the game after suffering a concussion at Duke, she played 30 minutes and led the team with 18 points and nine rebounds.

After the Stanford loss, the Musketeers dropped to No. 9 in the polls before the Musketeers bounced back at home with an 83-51 win over Missouri.

"Coming off two losses in a row, I thought our team really responded well," head coach Kevin McGuff said. "We hadn't played well offensively in either [previous] game so we had to work on our offensive execution."

In the Atlantic 10 opener, Harris led Xavier with 23 points and 11 rebounds to beat Dayton 63-59. Senior Ta'Shia Phillips added 14 points and 13 rebounds.

Xavier grabbed an early 21-7 lead in the opening minutes of the first half, forcing Dayton to commit multiple turnovers.

Midway through the half, Xavier went cold offensively, and Dayton went on a 14-0 run to tie the game at 23. Phillips ended the drought for Xavier with a layup, but Dayton freshman Kari Daugherty countered with a three-point shot to get the Flyer's first lead, 26-25.

The score was tied at 31 at halftime.

With 27 seconds on the clock, Dayton made a layup to bring the Flyers within two of Xavier 61-59.

Harris got the ball on the inbound play and was immediately fouled. She missed her first shot, but senior Megan Askew secured the rebound to give Xavier another offensive possession.

Harris was fouled again and made both shots to seal the win.

"She's a great player, and she along with Ta'Shia around the basket it's really difficult for other teams," McGuff said. "I thought our players did a really good job getting the ball to them especially down the stretch."

The women's team hits the road for the next two games. They will take on Saint Joseph's at 1 p.m. today and Massachusetts at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 16.

Tumultuous holidays

Continued from page 1

It took almost two years, but the Musketeers finally got a victory over the Butler Bulldogs. On Dec. 9, the Musketeers made up for last season's controversial clock game and a home loss to the Bulldogs two seasons ago.

"That game from last year has been on our mind," sophomore Mark Lyons said. "Once they came in this arena, we knew from day one that we had to be ready because they are a really good team."

The Musketeers also avenged last season's loss to Wake Forest in the second annual Skip Prosser Classic on Dec. 18.

Three-point shooting: Senior Danté Jackson hit two early three-pointers and recorded three steals in the first five minutes of the game. Jackson had eight of the Musketeers' first 12 points and had 10 points in the first eight minutes of the game.

The Musketeers would go on to win the game 83-75.

Xavier's three-point shooting may have been at its finest against Albany on Dec. 28. The Musketeers went 14-28 from behind the arc for an 88-64 win.

The Musketeers barraged the Great Danes with nine three-pointers in the first half. Five of the first seven baskets for either team were three-pointers.

Lyons, who arrived in Cincinnati on the Albany team bus because of cancelled flights, went 5-6 from three-point range in the first half. He finished the game with a career-high six three-pointers.

"This whole year... teams have been trying to take a lot of charges on me, so I've got to be more versatile and hit more shots from the outside," Lyons said. "We were just making shots."

Rebounding differential: Holloway scored 26 points, but Gonzaga out-rebounded the Muskies 38-26 en route to a 64-54 win.

Junior Kenny Frease was limited to just 18 minutes and picked up his fourth foul with 10:37 to play in the game. He finished with zero points and no rebounds.

On Dec. 31, the Florida Gators snapped the Muskies 30 game home winning streak, out-rebounding XU 39-31 to beat the Muskies 71-67.

With just under four minutes to play and the Gators up 60-47, the Musketeers started their comeback run. McLean converted a three point play to cut the lead to ten.

From there junior Tu Holloway took over the game. He made 11 of the Musketeers last 14 points down the stretch.

Despite Holloway's efforts, the Musketeers could not overcome the deficit as Florida went 11-14 from the free throw line in the final two minutes.

"I'm trying to just continue to let the game come to me," Holloway said. "Whatever happens, I try to just let it play out."

In the Crosstown Shootout with Cincinnati on Jan. 6, the

Musketeers were once again out-rebounded, 36-29.

UC junior Yancy Gates was too much for the Musketeers, he finished with 22 points and 14 rebounds.

Holloway was taken out of the game by Cincinnati senior Larry Davis and scored just five points on three free-throw attempts, and missed two of them. He did not make it to the free-throw line until four and a half minutes to play in the game.

The 66-46 loss was the worst loss for the Musketeers to Cincinnati since 1965, when the Bearcats defeated Xavier 102-72. The 46 points were the lowest offensive production in a Shootout since 1948. It was also a season low point total.

In the Musketeers three losses over the last five weeks, they were out-rebounded in each game.

In the Musketeers' four wins over the last five weeks Frease averaged 9.5 rebounds a game. In the three losses he averaged 4.6 rebounds a game.

Senior Jamel McLean has provided some consistency for the Musketeers underneath. Over the last four games he has recorded

double digit rebounds in three and has recorded at least 15 points in three of those games as well.

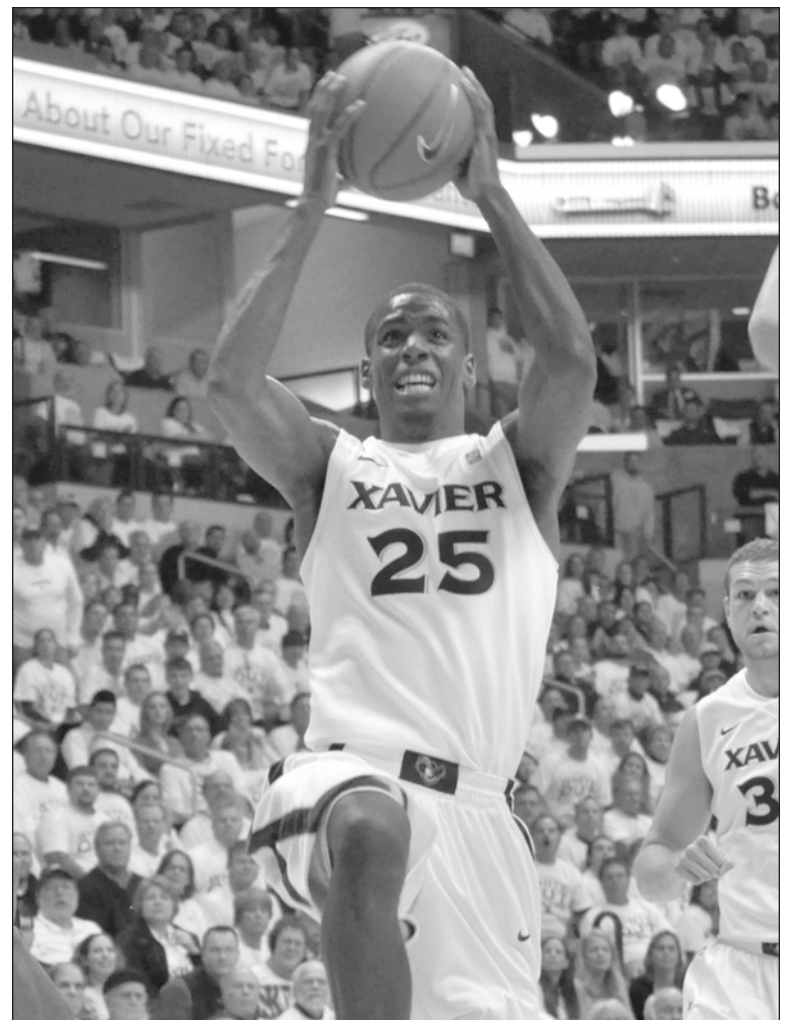
New season: Sparked by McLean's double-double in rebounds and points and Holloway's 21 points, the Musketeers reasserted themselves as a top team in the Atlantic 10 with 72-45 win over Rhode Island.

"There are two seasons," McLean said. "Our non-conference season has prepared us to get better to win our conference this year."

The Musketeers enter a critical stretch of their schedule, with five of their next eight games at home. Xavier has won 32 consecutive conference home games.

The Muskies will host the Massachusetts Minutemen tonight at 7 p.m. The Minutemen are 9-5 (1-0 A-10). They are coming off a five-point victory over Dayton on Sunday. UMass lost 104-79 to Seton Hall, the only opponent the two schools have both faced. The Musketeers defeated Seton Hall 57-52.

The Dayton Flyers will come to Cintas at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 15. The Flyers have not won in Cincinnati since 1981.



Newswire photo by Andrew Matsushita

Senior Danté Jackson leads the team in three-pointers made this season with 25.

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Players participates in American College Theatre Festival

BY RACHAEL HARRIS
Assistant A&E Editor

Xavier Players and its production "Spooky Dog & the Teenage Gang Mysteries" recently participated in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival at the regional level on Jan. 6.

This festival is a national theater program and involves approximately 18,000 college students nationwide. It recognizes and celebrates the finest college theater productions and strives to improve the quality of those productions.

NewsWire recently interviewed Assistant Director of GSC Operations Tracy Macmorine about Xavier's participation in the festival.

XN: How did you react when you received the invitation to participate at the regional level?

TM: I found out via voice-mail, and spent the first five minutes alternately jumping up and down in excitement and hyperventilating—I even got a little teary-eyed for a couple minutes. It was a Sunday night, so once I got hold of myself, I phoned our technical director, Dave Zlatic, and then texted our cast mem-



Photo courtesy of Facebook.com

The cast of *Spooky Dog* (from L-R): freshman Will Clemens, junior Ollie Birkhead, sophomores Alex Rogers and Jackie Hart, senior Lauren Yadlosky, junior Nick Tsangaris and senior Kelsey Gray.

bers and production team.

XN: This is the third time Xavier has entered a show. Is this the first time they have competed at regionals?

TM: We have entered shows three times, this is the first time we were invited to showcase a production. KCACTF is less about competing and more about providing valuable learning expe-

riences for the students.

XN: Did *Spooky Dog* win any prizes at the festival?

TM: Prizes are not offered. Some of the students were recognized for their accomplishments, though — student costumer Brigid Gallagher received a certificate of merit for the *Spooky Dog* costumes and Will Clemens (*Scraggly*) was cast in one of the

productions in the 10 Minute Play Festival (with performances on Saturday). We found out that Ellen Beltramo has made it to the semi-final round of the National Stage Management Fellowship Competition.

XN: How do you think the performance at the festival went?

TM: I think it was our strongest show. The audience was extremely responsive, even before the show they were singing and clapping along to the pre-show music.

That sort of energy, really created an atmosphere for our actors to really be open to the impulse and really went for it. Our show was the first to sell out. Attendees are given vouchers which they then exchange for tickets to the shows that they wish to attend.

XN: Xavier Players also participated in 40 hours of service at HEARTT (Helping Each Animal Rescued Today & Tomorrow) Animal Refuge. How did that go?

TM: It was so much fun. We all came home wishing we could adopt a slew of animals, but, of course, it doesn't work that way.

We cleaned a few of the cat rooms top to bottom, I personally scrubbed out dirty litter box-

es for about three straight hours, we walked every dog, and for the last half hour we just played with animals.

While we were there, a kitten was dropped off, and I got to hand-feed it, weening from its mother by having it lick canned kitten food from my pinkie finger.

They decided to name that kitten "Will," after one of our cast members. Will began the day saying that he was allergic to cats, and needed to work with dogs only, but he sure spent a lot of cuddle time with his namesake.

XN: Does Xavier plan to participate in the KCACTF again next year?

TM: I'm sure we'll attend the Festival again, but after the extra work and expense of actually taking a show, I'm not sure if we'll enter a show at the participating level so soon.

Perhaps we'll enter at the associate level, where respondents still come and review the production, but it's not considered for Festival entry.

We'll just have to see, once we've had a little more time to process the experience, and as we begin to plan for next season.

JANUARY

26: The Asia Project - Slam Poetry - 6pm-7:30pm (Gallagher Student Center Theatre) Don't miss Asia performing live slam poetry and music - telling stories about his life, surviving cancer in his 20s, and the promise he made to God to never take life for granted again. Asia has been featured on Russell Simmon's HBO DEF Comedy Jam and is the winner of the 2008 College Performer of the Year Award. His performance is deeply moving, passionate and humorous - you won't want to miss this event! For more information on The Asia Project, follow this link to his website. Arrive early for the best seat in the house!

27-29: "The Social Network" Late Night Movie - 11pm-1am (Gallagher Student Center Theatre) Critically acclaimed as one of the best movies of 2010, *The Social Network* tells the story of Facebook and its founder, Mark Zuckerberg, starring Jesse Eisenberg and Justin Timberlake; written by Aaron Sorkin (*The American President*, *The West Wing*, *Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip*) and directed by David Fincher (*Seven*, *Fight Club*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*). Nominated for 6 Golden Globes (including: Drama, Actor, Screenwriter, Director).



YOU DON'T
GET TO
500 MILLION
FRIENDS
WITHOUT MAKING
A FEW
ENEMIES



Project Levanter

A Xavier grad's cross-country journey for a cause

By Kari Peglar, Staff Writer

Photos courtesy of Facebook.com



Andy Gibson biked cross-country to raise money for fellow Xavier grad Ashley Thompson.

In looking at Andy Gibson's resume of accomplishments, it is apparent that he loves to take on huge, audacious challenges.

Graduating from Xavier with an entrepreneurial studies major in 2005, he was one of the three founders of FliX. Now a successful brand manager at Proctor & Gamble, Gibson is not afraid to work hard and dream big.

In fact, while at Xavier, Gibson's go-get-em' personal-

ity caught the attention of A.G. Lafley, a successful Proctor & Gamble CEO.

More impressive than Gibson's tough mental attitude is his kind-hearted demeanor and giving soul.

Such qualities led him to take on his latest endeavor, Project Levanter, for which he biked cross-country alone in order to raise money for fellow XU grad Ashley Thompson, who was diagnosed with Fibrohistiocytoma, a very aggressive form of cancer with expensive treatment.

When Gibson and Thompson met in Brockman Hall during their freshman year at Xavier in 2003, Thompson was happy and healthy. After attending classes, going to countless basketball games and hanging out on the weekends, the two quickly became close friends.

While graduation led them to take on different careers, Thompson's outgoing personality and loving spirit always stayed with Gibson.

"Ashley has epitomized a positive, motivating person and has always had an amazing outlook on life," Gibson said.

However, Thompson's opti-

mistic attitude was challenged in 2008 when doctors found that cancer in her leg had spread to her lungs and esophagus.

For two and a half years, she has been fighting to regain her health, undergoing three rounds of chemotherapy, radiation and, incredibly, surgery on four separate occasions.

Unsurprisingly, Thompson has kept up her positive outlook on life. She came up with the saying "KCA," which stands for Kicking Cancer's Ass. Throughout her battle, she has added to that acronym — "KCAAA", Kicking Cancer's Ass Again and Again, after the cancer relentlessly refused to go into remission.

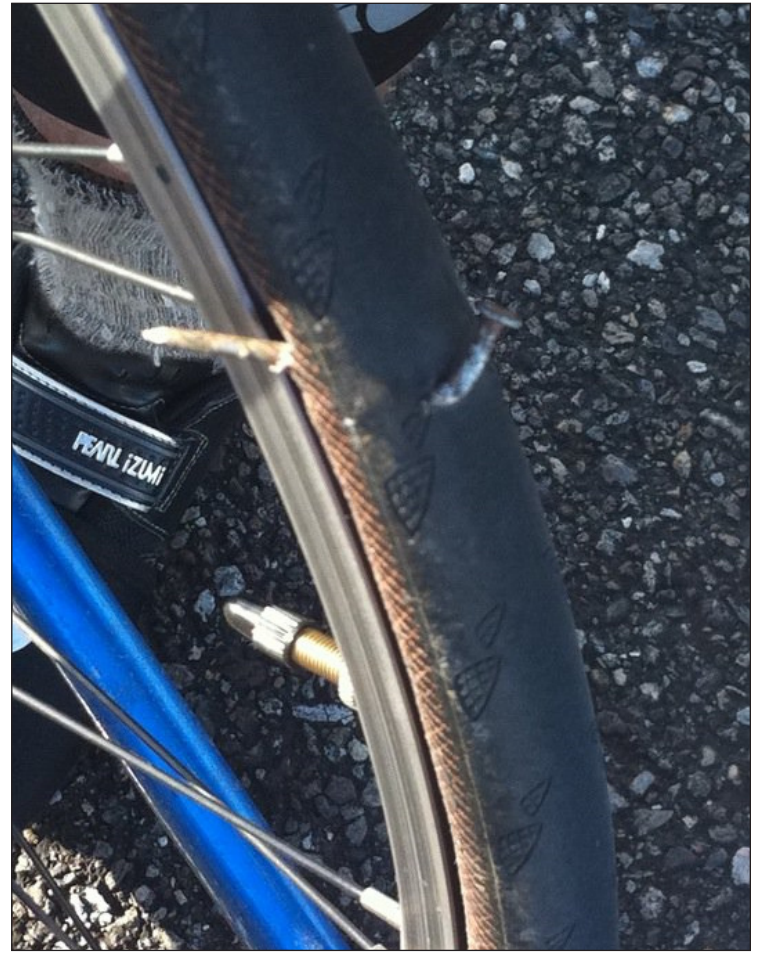
It is Thompson's strength and friendship that has given Gibson a worthwhile cause and the inspiration to bike cross-country.

"She's been there for me in the rough spots with a little extra push," Gibson said. "[Project Levanter] is the least we can do for her. I would only do this ride for a cause that I personally believe in."

With that simple concept, Project Levanter was born. Gibson, with the help of other XU grads Sarah Kathmann and Emily Ledford set up projectlevanter.com, a website through which people can donate money that goes directly to Thompson.

Donors can choose to either pledge money per mile or give a simple one-time donation.

Gibson also created a Facebook page and Twitter account for Project Levanter, where followers could track



Fatigue was not Gibson's only struggle. He faced numerous flat tires such as this one, which was punctured by a nail.

his progress across the nation. As those followers saw, while Project Levanter seemed like a small challenge in comparison to Thompson's fight against cancer, it was still a daunting undertaking filled with challenges of its own.

After dipping his tires in the Pacific Ocean, Gibson began his journey on Nov. 26 in San Diego Calif. He biked 3,200 miles in 34 days, ending his journey in St. Augustine, Fla.

On average, Gibson biked around 100 miles per day, reaching speeds of up to 40 mph while battling through the hills and mountains of California and Nevada.

Throughout his 34 day journey, Gibson faced several flat tires, relentless hills and even a bout of the flu.

Nothing could stop Gibson on his journey to help Thompson, however. He kept riding and relied on the kindness of strangers, including a former Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race champion, to help him reach his destination.

The amount of physical stress Gibson endured on the ride was astonishing. Over the span of one day, Gibson could burn between 5,000-6,000 calories, meaning he had an appetite as relentless as his cross-country

journey.

One of his dinners on Christmas Day included a rib eye steak, four eggs over medium, four pieces of toast, a Texas steak and bacon melt, a double quarter pound cheeseburger, and two pieces of chocolate pie — a dinner any Xavier student would envy.

Finally, Gibson dipped his tires in the Atlantic Ocean on Dec. 29, bringing his daunting challenge to an end.

"[The ride] was arguably the most physically disciplined and demanding month of my life and at times never seemed as if [the end] were never actually going to occur," Gibson wrote on his Facebook page upon the completion of his journey.

After all was said and done, Gibson raised over \$2,800 for Thompson.

"I am amazed and really humbled by the contributions from everyone," Gibson said after checking the donation total once he finished the ride.

Not only had he accomplished his dream of biking cross-country, but he accomplished the biggest challenge of all — making life easier for a friend in need.

For more information about Project Levanter, visit www.projectlevanter.com



Gibson dips his tires in the Atlantic Ocean on a beach in St. Augustine, Fla at the end of his 3,200 mile journey 34 days after doing the same on a beach in San Diego, Calif.