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THE NEWSWIRE

Published by the students of Xavier University since 1915 | *Fiat justitia, ruat coelum* | Volume CII Issue 30

April 26, 2017

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Don't judge a book by its frosting CLC hosts 10th Edible Book Competition

BY ERICA LAMPERT
Staff Writer

The Conaton Learning Commons (CLC) encouraged students and faculty to take a bite out of their favorite books in celebration of National Library Week on April 11.

To celebrate the library and its catalogue of 235,000 books, the CLC held the 10th annual edible book competition where students, faculty and staff could make an edible representation of their favorite book.

"Most often people will make cakes, but you can do anything that is edible," Circulation Specialist of the CLC Megan Martin said. "This year, we had all kinds of things. For example, one entry used a New York-style and Chicago-style pizza for *A Tale of Two Cities*. It was very clever."

This year, the pizza representation of *A Tale of Two Cities* was a fan favorite, in addition to the *Bunny Cakes* winner. The winner of the event won a Visa gift card this year.

"One of our librarians actually did *Tattoos On The Heart* this year," Martin said. "It took a lot of time because he had his edible book cooking in the crockpot for over 48 hours!"

The competition consisted of 22 participants with their edible representations of books and about 60 community members

who stopped by to eat and vote on the entries.

"It was the most attendance we have seen in the 10 years we have done this event," Martin said.

The Edible Book Competition began as a fun event to get the community involved with the library. The staff is always happy to have any participants involved with the event, whether they are voting, eating or actually entering an edible book creation.

"I think the event is really enjoyable in the sense that you don't have to enter to actually come and enjoy any of it or vote on any of it," Martin said. "This is a very low-key event that you don't have to put a lot of effort into

to participate in. We are always happy to have any participants, whether they are just voting or going to make an entry."

The library staff also held a staff recognition breakfast in addition to the competition. There was also a contest where the Xavier community could make a guess on how many books were in the library. The winner received a gift card for having the closest number.

"We have 235,000 books in our library," Martin said, "so we thought it would be fun for the community to guess and to see what they came up with."

The library also celebrated its 50th anniversary the week prior

to National Library Week with a party involving all of the library staff.

"The party was catered and we even (had) a birthday cake for the library," Martin said. "Father Graham also came to speak as well as our archives volunteer."

Through these events, the library staff wants to get the community involved with the library, so they can understand all of the resources the library has available for them.

"We don't want the library to just be confined to a building," Martin said. "We want to be able to serve the student population and even have some fun things for the students."



Anne Davies and Miti Von Weissenberg's Chicago-style and New York-style pizzas represented "A Tale of Two Cities." Photo courtesy of twitter.com

Baumann picked for Provost

BY SOONDOS MULLA-OSSMAN
Staff Writer

Dr. Melissa J. Baumann has been named Xavier's new provost. Father Michael Graham, president, made the announcement Friday, selecting Baumann from a field of eight finalists. She will start June 15.

The provost, a position unknown to many students yet vital to the fabric of the university, is the chief academic officer (CAO) of the university. Provosts are responsible for the creation and implementation of the academic priorities for the university and for the allocation of resources that would support those priorities. In other words, the provost works to ensure that everything

in the day-to-day happenings surrounding students, including clubs, events and academic programs, continue to run smoothly.

Baumann is currently Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Studies at Auburn University in Alabama, where she also serves as director of the Auburn University Honors College. She also has an extensive record prior to joining Auburn in 2013, such as serving as an administrator and faculty member at Michigan State University.

"Melissa's impressive academic profile and 25 years of experience as an administrator and faculty member certainly made her a strong candidate for me

and members of the Provost and CAO search committee," Father Graham said in a statement to *The Business Journal*. "Those credentials, combined with her genuine passion for students and enthusiasm for advancing our Jesuit mission of forming men and women for and with others, make her the absolute right choice for Xavier."

Baumann will succeed Scott Chadwick, who stepped down on June 30, 2016, to become a tenured professor. He has since left the university and is now working for a crowd funding campaign in New York.

While the position was empty, Brian Levin-Stankevich served as the university's interim provost

and CAO. He has a Ph.D in history and was selected from among active retired academic leaders referred through the Registry for College and University Presidents.

Baumann earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering at Case Western University in Cleveland in 1986 and 1988, respectively.

Graham stated in his message to students that he looks forward to Baumann's stepping into the central role "in the life and future of Xavier." Baumann looks forward to working with Xavier, and Father Graham also encourages everyone to assist and support Baumann in successfully transitioning into her new role.

April 26, 2017

Campus News

 Edited by: Hannah Paige Michels
 michelsh@xavier.edu

“Pitiful” lecture is anything but

 BY KEVIN THOMAS
 Campus News Editor

Although philosophy lectures are often not well-attended, the 59th annual Thomasfest lecture was the opposite of pitiful, even though that was the subject.

On Wednesday evening, Dr. Tongdong Bai, currently a Fulbright Scholar at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University, gave a lecture regarding his recent work in the field of political philosophy entitled “Mencius, Nietzsche, and Pity as a Modern Virtue.” Bai is the Dongfang chair professor of philosophy at Fudan University in Shanghai, China and was a professor of philosophy at Xavier from 2003 to 2010.

The lecture and subsequent reception took place in the Arrupe Overlook in Gallagher Student Center. It drew a crowd of around 60 to 70 people, according to sophomore Politics, Philosophy and the Public major Ryan Kambich.

“I know the Thomasfest lectures are always a really excellent program put on by the philosophy department every year,” Kambich said, “so for me, I wanted to swing by and see how it was going, and I really enjoyed it.”

Bai was introduced by Dr. Timothy Quinn, chair of the philosophy department and a long-time friend. While at Xavier, Bai taught the philosophy of science, but it was during his time here that he became interested in political philosophy, his current area of expertise.



Dr. Tongdong Bai is a Fulbright Scholar at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University.

“He told us multiple times that the things that came together in his paper and this lecture. He took bit by bit from his colleagues at Xavier,” Kambich said. “So it was a very instrumental time for him as a professional.”

Bai’s work revolved around the usage of pity in larger communities as being a way for understanding and relationships to occur between strangers, building off the writings of Mencius, a Chinese political philosopher who wrote in the fourth century

B.C.E.

The lecture was overwhelmingly regarded as successful on all sides, especially Bai, who apparently remarked to Quinn that he was pleased with the reactions from students.

“I have to say that Dr. Bai himself was extremely impressed with the students’ questions,” Quinn said. “He made a point of calling on the students during the question and answer before calling on any of the faculty and the students really had very

challenging questions for him. He remarked that, afterwards, that it was quite impressive.”

On the receiving end of the lecture, both Quinn and Kambich thought that the lecture was a great one.

“Because [the lecture] was so provocative, it was a satisfying lecture,” Quinn said. “I don’t want to listen to people I agree with. I want to learn something, and I felt like a lot of students felt the same way.”



Trump’s sanctuary city executive order blocked

On Tuesday, federal judge William H. Orrick blocked the Trump administration from enforcing its executive order to take federal funding away from sanctuary cities. Orrick sided with Santa Clara County, which argued that removing these funds from cities that don’t comply with some federal immigration rules could be unconstitutional. Orrick did not rule Trump’s policy as unconstitutional, but he did find that it could cause counties and cities “immediate irreparable harm.”

Thai man kills infant daughter on Facebook Live

A 21-year-old man hanged his infant daughter and then himself in a deserted hotel in Phuket, Thailand on Monday. The content has since been removed, and Facebook has sent its condolences to the family for the graphic incident. Facebook has promised to review its processes after footage from a murder in the U.S. stayed online for hours earlier this month.

Neither Mexico nor U.S. will pay for wall...for now

Funding for Trump’s infamous border wall is not included in a budget bill that must pass by Friday. Democrats have long threatened to block the bill if money was allocated for the wall, which could lead to a government shutdown. Trump insists the wall will still eventually be built.

X U P D Announcement

Xavier Police is in the process of cleaning out its lost and found property locker. If you would like to check for any lost or missing items, please stop by Flynn Hall on business days between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. by Friday, May 5.



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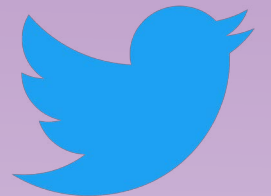
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POLICE NOTES



The Best of the Best

June 4, 5:17 a.m. – A non-student found in Alter Hall was arrested on more than 21 outstanding arrest warrants and for criminal trespassing. He or she had taken classes at Xavier before, and it is believed the non-student may have been staying in the building for several nights.

June 22, 2:08 p.m. – A 9-year old juvenile was arrested for theft after stealing a student worker's iPhone which was left near his or her register in the All For One Shop.

June 27, 10:17 a.m. – Two juveniles found sleeping in Schmidt Memorial Field House were advised and sent on their way. Later the juveniles stole a campus utility vehicle and cell phone from the loading dock at Buenger Hall. After a short chase, both were apprehended in Lower Millcrest Park with the assistance of Norwood Police. They were charged with motor vehicle theft, obstructing official business, trespassing and outstanding warrants.

Aug. 4, 10:22 p.m. – Xavier Police investigated a report of interns drinking on the volleyball courts. Two interns with open containers were advised and sent on their way. Additionally, several unopened beers, which no one would claim, were confiscated and destroyed.

Aug. 23, 12:27 p.m. – A commuter student living in the 900 block of Dana Avenue reported that an unknown intoxicated subject was in his or her apartment the previous night, had eaten some food out of his or her refrigerator and stolen a credit card. The student was referred to Cincinnati Police.

Sept. 2, 12:51 a.m. – Xavier Police cited an underage intoxicated student after an Uber driver dropped him or her off at the United Dairy Farmers on Dana Avenue and Montgomery Road after the student had vomited in the driver's vehicle. The student was also cited for possessing a fake ID.

Sept. 4, 11:27 p.m. – Xavier

Police assisted Norwood Police in the investigation of a loud house party complaint and a report of a neighbor possibly waving a gun at the party-goers in the 3900 block of Regent Avenue. Police interviewed the neighbor, and it is believed the item seen in his or her hand was a black iPhone and not a gun. The students hosting the party were advised to break up the party.

Sept. 17, 2:36 p.m. – Xavier Police helped Norwood Police respond to a disorderly conduct report at U-Station. Subjects were throwing water balloons outside their window from the balcony, striking patrons of Gold Star Chili. The residents were advised to stop throwing water balloons.

Sept. 20, 5:41 a.m. – An employee reported someone had placed a large amount of soap in the fountain near Albers Hall. A mountain of suds had formed.

Oct. 4, 12:55 a.m. – Xavier Police and Residence Life investigated a report of a Snapchat video of a clown outside one of the residence halls. The location of the residence hall could not be confirmed, but Xavier Police increased patrols to ensure safety.

Oct. 15, 3:34 p.m. – Xavier Police, Physical Plant and Cincinnati Fire responded to Fenwick Place where three students were trapped in an elevator. The students were freed by firefighters, and the elevator was taken out of service.

Oct. 18, 7 p.m. – Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire and Physical Plant responded to a fire alarm at the Alumni Center. An employee using a fog machine during a photo shoot inadvertently activated the alarm.

Oct. 27, 4:56 a.m. – Xavier officers investigated an intrusion alarm at the McDonald Memorial Library. A non-student found sleeping in the basement restrooms was cited for trespassing and escorted off campus.

Nov. 14, 11:15 a.m. – A student reported while walking down Musketeer Drive in front of the C-2 Lot, two subjects driving by attempted to coax him or her into the vehicle. When the student declined, the vehicle drove away and was last seen go-

ing up St. Francis Xavier Way near Smith Hall. A public safety notice was issued, and an investigation is pending.

Nov. 19, 12:45 a.m. – A student carrying a parking cone in front of Flynn Hall was warned and sent on his or her way.

Nov. 19, 1:37 a.m. – Four students observed setting off fireworks outside the entrance to Fenwick Place were referred to the student code of conduct.

Dec. 9, 8:32 a.m. – An employee reported that someone had broken into a vending snack machine in Fenwick Place, stealing the entire product line.

NOTE OF THE YEAR

You wanna pizza me?

Jan. 14, 12:28 a.m. – Xavier Police and Residence Life investigated a report of a fight in the Fenwick Place lobby. Three underage intoxicated students fighting over who was in line first for the Pizza ATM were separated and sent on way. Residence Life will follow up.

Jan. 12, 10 a.m. – An RA reported someone had attempted to burn paper door decorations in Fenwick Place.

Jan. 21, 1:21 a.m. – Xavier Police investigated the report of two students urinating outside a vehicle in the R-2 Lot. Both students will be brought up on charges through the code of conduct process.

Jan. 25, 1:50 a.m. – Four University of Cincinnati students attempting to put a Bearcats shirt on the D'Artagnan statue in front of Cintas Center were advised and sent on their way.

Jan. 26, 3:18 a.m. – Five University of Cincinnati students attempting to decorate the D'Artagnan statue in front of Cintas Center were advised and

sent on their way.

Jan. 24, 4:49 p.m. – Xavier Police and Physical Plant extinguished a smoking-recycling bin in front of Gallagher Student Center. It appears that a discarded cigarette caused the smoke.

Feb. 11, 3 p.m. – An underage student found passed out in one of the stalls in the women's restroom during the basketball game was ejected from the event and transported back to his or her room after he or she was checked by medics. The student was given the OK to stay in his or her room.

Feb. 14, 12:06 a.m. – Cincinnati Fire and Rescue transported an intoxicated student celebrating his or her 21st birthday to Good Samaritan Hospital for possible alcohol poisoning. Physical Plant was notified to clean up the vomit at his or her apartment.

Feb. 17, 7:36 a.m. – An employee reported that sometime overnight the Pizza ATM had been broken into, and five uncooked pizzas were stolen. The structure was also damaged during the offense. Through the use of the lobby cameras in Fenwick Place and ALL Card readers at the entrance doors, two student suspects were identified and interviewed and admitted to the offense. In lieu of criminal charges, the students were referred to the code of conduct process.

Feb. 17, 4:23 p.m. – Xavier Police and Cincinnati Fire responded to Brockman Hall for a fire alarm. Investigations revealed an electronic cigarette emitting a cotton candy odor may have activated a smoke detector. The system was reset and Residence Life was notified.

Feb. 17, 6:14 p.m. – A student reported his or her vehicle had been egged and the tires had been slashed while parked in the R3 Lot.

Feb. 27, 12:23 a.m. – A student reported he or she was approached by an older subject on the Residential Mall who was possibly carrying a blanket or tarp and began to talk and scream at the student while he

or she continued to walk along the Mall. The subject may have been driving a gray four-door vehicle, possibly a Toyota. The area was searched, and the subject was unable to be located.

March 2, 11:29 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Physical Plant with a maintenance emergency in Kuhlman Hall. A student who had fallen asleep in the shower caused the bathroom to flood, resulting in damage to the floor below.

March 3, 1:49 a.m. – Xavier Police investigated a report of a fight between four to five students on the Xavier Yard. Investigations revealed three intoxicated students were just arguing loudly over a video game. All was OK.

March 5, 6:32 a.m. – Several juveniles playing hide and seek on the Academic Mall were transported home to a family member.

March 18, 10:33 p.m. – Cincinnati Fire and Rescue transported an underage intoxicated student found passed out in the laundry room at Kuhlman Hall to Good Samaritan Hospital for possible alcohol poisoning. Residence Life was notified.

March 25, 7:10 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Norwood Police in apprehending an underage student who ran from officers at Regent Avenue and Cleney Avenue carrying a case of beer.

March 25, 9:14 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Norwood Police in apprehending a student and two non-students who were wanted for dining and dashing at Betta's Restaurant after failing to pay their bill.

March 26, 12:12 a.m. – An underage student carrying a 12-pack of beer near the front of Cintas Center was referred to the student code of conduct process for underage possession.

April 3, 8:47 p.m. – A student reported that he or she lost his or her ALL card, which was then used to purchase approximately \$18 in vending machine products around campus.

April 26, 2017

Opinions & Editorials

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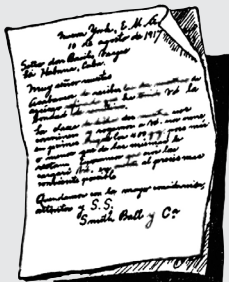
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First Amendment to the United States' Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Newswire has made the decision to stray from the AP Style Guide when printing the words White and Black in reference to groups of people. We have decided to capitalize both.

Who are your bows and arrows

As a Christian, one word I have heard a lot is “discipleship.” After Jesus’ resurrection and before He ascended to heaven, he gave a mandate to his disciples to go out and “make disciples of all nations.”

But who is a disciple? A disciple is a student – a less experienced person who follows a teacher, a more experienced person, in order to grow and learn from the wealth of experience of the teacher. A nice way to see the vision of mentorship relationships is in Jesus’ saying, “a disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.”

When Christ asks His followers to make disciples. He is asking men and women to be in a relationship with others and train them to be more like Him. This principle can also be applied to other areas of life. We are always in disciple-like relationships: Boss/employee, student club leader/adviser, student/professor. I would argue that one-on-one intentional mentoring relationships shape us significantly, and we need to pursue them more actively.

Throughout college, I have had the opportunity to be mentored in various ways by some of my professors as well as my staff leaders in the Coalition for Christian Outreach and African Students Association. More specifically, I have seen that one-on-one life discipleships have been vital to my spiritual health as a Christian, and this has impacted every other area of my life.

For roughly two years in college, I had the privilege of being mentored by a man named Mark Bruner. Mark did not just share words of wisdom with me. He shared his whole life – good, bad and ugly. I saw a grown man become vulnerable with someone he did not have to be vulnerable with. He opened up the path for me to be vulnerable with him about my life’s victories and struggles, and boy, it was hard! It would be an understatement to say that iron sharpening iron produces sparks, but the sparks that arose from soul

rubbing soul gave way to a fire of zeal, purity and wholeness.

We did life together – ordinary things like getting meals around Cincinnati, driving to the airport together, sharing life’s challenges, victories and encouraging each other. I learned from Mark, watched him lead his family and got to love and serve him even as he did the same for me. He invested his time and poured his resources into me, and most importantly, he walked side by side with me as we both pursued a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

I once heard someone illustrate a mentor/student relationship with the metaphor of a bow and an arrow. He explained that the bow and arrow are both necessary for effectiveness and usefulness. Like the arrow, youths have speed and like the bow, adults have direction. Alone, they can’t do too much, but paired together, they

can hit their target. Check out Proverbs 20:29: “The glory of young men [and women] is their strength, and the honor of old men [and women] is their gray hair. The gray hair of elderly experience must partner with the vigor and zeal of youth!”

It is wise to learn from older ones who have walked ahead of us and can guide us to avoid foolish mistakes of our youth. In obeying and following their guidance, we achieve greater results because we bring

in old lessons and learn new ones too. I have drunk deep from the fountain of discipleship, and it has only made me thirst for more. Will you invest in someone and allow someone to invest in you? Now is the time!



Muiyiwa Oyatogun is a senior biology major and guest writer for the Newswire from Oyo, Nigeria.

Sometimes it’s the little things

At 7 a.m. every Wednesday, the alarm sings out the iconic words by Bobby McFerrin that might score every cliché moment of distress in popular movies: “Don’t worry, be happy.” I get up, brush my teeth, take a shower and throw on some gym clothes. Then, I walk to Gallagher Student Center, pick up the 1200-1500 newspapers that are to be delivered around campus and I walk the route with a smile and a whistle.

This is the Disney version of my Wednesday sojourn around campus, and it is very unrealistic. If I’m ever awake at 7 a.m., it’s because I didn’t sleep the night before. Half the time my alarm clock doesn’t work, and I can’t whistle at all. But in some ways, this Disney version is accurate because the feeling of joy, literal joy, that the story seems to exude is absolutely true. I get true joy out of delivering the paper every Wednesday. In fact, it is one of the small joys with which I measure my life.

The theory of small joys is something that my dad and I have been developing ever since I was a little kid, and I’m sure it’s a commonly held theory that is widely written and talked about. Nevertheless, it holds true to form – if you measure the small things in your life that make you happy, they will amass and, over time, form a sustainable center of happiness from which you might draw happiness in other areas of your life.

Everyone who has the phrase “that’s privileged” gracing the tips of their lips right now, please inhale deeply instead of saying it and just give me a minute. I know that “happiness,” the kind you’re thinking of, is a privileged kind of happiness. The kind of happiness where you don’t have to worry about money or stress about safety in your town is not the only kind of happiness. It is a privileged kind of happiness, but it is qualitative and informed by societal context.

I believe that there is something universally regarded as happiness. It rests inside the human soul, and it cannot be taken away from a human being. It can be stifled and shuffled and de-prioritized, it can be challenged and suppressed and widely diminished, but it is not something which can be stolen. And, the way to access it is through the theory of small joys.

In everyone’s life, there are moments that are better for their mental, emotional, spiritual and/or physical health than other moments. The ones that do the best things for mental, emotional, spiritual and physical health are moments of joy. If your cultural context is that you are a poor, single, working mother in a country with high crime, your moment of joy might be that your kid didn’t spend all his money on lunch and now you have two extra dollars for the week. If your cultural context is that you are a rich, married, working father in a city with no crime, your moment of joy might be that your huge meeting with the investors ended early, and you can go home and see your wife.

Qualitatively, these two scenarios are extraordinarily different. In terms of social justice and identity politics and general fairness of life, there are many reasons why saying the working mom is happy in that moment seems absurd. But quantitatively, the working mom’s spiritual, emotional, physical and mental health is increased by the extra cash, and that is a moment of joy that she can look back on and draw from in the future. Small joys are important because they color moments without joy with the tinge or potential for joy in the future and with the memory of joy from the past.



Max Bruns is a junior HAB, English and philosophy triple major. Bruns is also the advertising manager for the Newswire from Cincinnati.

On the resiliency of now A departing Musketeer's plea for all to keep trudging the course

In the summer of 2013, I remember the celebratory feast at a Presbyterian church in Albany, Ga., that was propagated as a college send-off for members leaping into the crossroads. I remember the joy and happiness that shone bright in the festive room situated inside the wing of the cathedral.

There were deliberations, recognition of the course that was upon us and prayers for the crossroads that were ensuing. When I leaned back and painted pictures in my mind, I realized that my sensitivity clung onto the idiolect – crossroads, which stood out for me within the holy precincts at that moment in time. My gaze at the word, “crossroads” did not intimidate me so much as the realization that it was not typically present in my own parlance at that point in my life and even more so the fact that it was not a route I traveled often.

Maybe, it was an epiphany considering the vantage point of the cross. Whenever I saw the cross, I have not so much made a stern habit to append it to the big name that is The Church. It meant something personal to me, an unfettered self-sacrifice and a point of undiminished faith in crossing the road even in times of trembling affliction.

When the celebrations were over, the next few weeks in preparation for college were not easy. There were not difficulties with regard to the logistical layouts for college. My siblings were wary of my ambitions to attend a college in the Midwest. Amidst their concerns, the notion of crossroads came back to me. I felt dissuaded. Their concern was that a community college could not only placate my interest in attaining a higher education but could also do so at a lesser cost. The other strand of worry for them was how I would cope in the new environment I was seeking though it was not expressly mentioned. Even in the face of the remonstrations, I felt a visceral urge to heed the

path of the crossroads, parts unknown.

It was with this resolve that my mom accompanied me to embark on the strains of a journey to Xavier. It seemed as if my sibs' cacophony over my

“My gaze at the word, “crossroads” did not intimidate me so much as the realization that it was not typically present in my own parlance at that point in my life and more so the fact that it was not a route I traveled often.”

- Alfred Nwankwo

departure was the overruling consensus for me to reconsider my journey. On the contrary, the unreserved blessings from my parents ensured I did not look back.

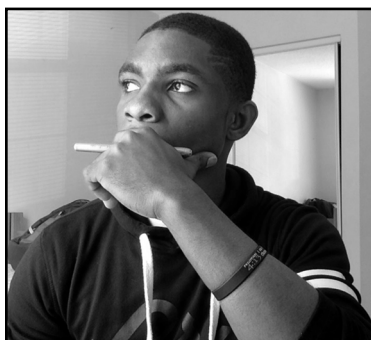
Upon arrival at X, I remember the helter-skelter scramble to settle in. During my first semester, the financial burdens weighed down upon my shoulders, and I eventually went in to resolve them with the Bursar. Financial holds had a bearing on my account and meant that I could not declare a substantive major at the time. I came into college with accounting as a discipline I would pursue, a major prescribed to me by my dad and backed by my family because of its perceived utility. However, the reality at the time was that I was listed as undeclared as a result of these the financial restraints on my account. In these moments, mixed messages crept into my mind about the concerns that my siblings foresaw earlier about attending a private institution.

The financial struggle was real in conjunction with the simultaneous struggle of my first

college all-nighter. It became obvious to me that the amorphous crossroads that I did not know much about was manifesting itself before my eyes and on my nose, albeit at an infant stage. In subsequent semesters, I would encounter moments of reproach and grief. When I declared English Literature as a substantive major that I passionately wanted to pursue in my junior year, I received a stream -+of scathing criticism from some members of my family mainly to the effect it would serve on the feasible angle of economic utility.

During the first semester of my senior year, I was dealt a blow by the disheartening message about the passing of one of my dearest uncles, Uncle Ude, from my mother's village in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. If there is anything I imbibed from his brief physical passage on this planet, it was his philosophy of communal living wherein one lives within one's modest means with integrity and commitment. Being at a crossroads is a journey situated in the world of lived experience. On behalf of my uncle roaming the universe and burning within me, I leave this message: I plead with every one of you to breathe, endure, never repose hope and build personal resilience – sustaining it through community resilience in the critical moments of now.

Yours Truly and Resiliently,
EZE, An Embattled
Musketeer for Life



Alfred Nwankwo is a senior English major and the outgoing Online Editor for the Newswire from Ebonyi State, Nigeria.

The boy who cried freedom

I have my mother's mouth and my father's eyes;
on my face, they are still together.

I have traveled outside
my body and returned
to bones cracked on pavement
& blood spilled in concrete seams.

I saw Katrina in my reflection,
red sea crashing between buildings:
Black bodies and babies drowning in breath
& blood,
& brothers,
& sisters,
& mothers,
& fathers.

No oxygen is the logic of policy – pollution.
Suffocation is drowning out of water.
Snipers knelt behind American flag
& carved heaven
into my body
one inch
at a time.
One memory
at a time.

My skin mixed with American blood
softens sharp bristles.
My Black cheeks laid across a blank canvas:
Standing and watching smiles go unanswered.
Ten seconds is the hallmark of four years.

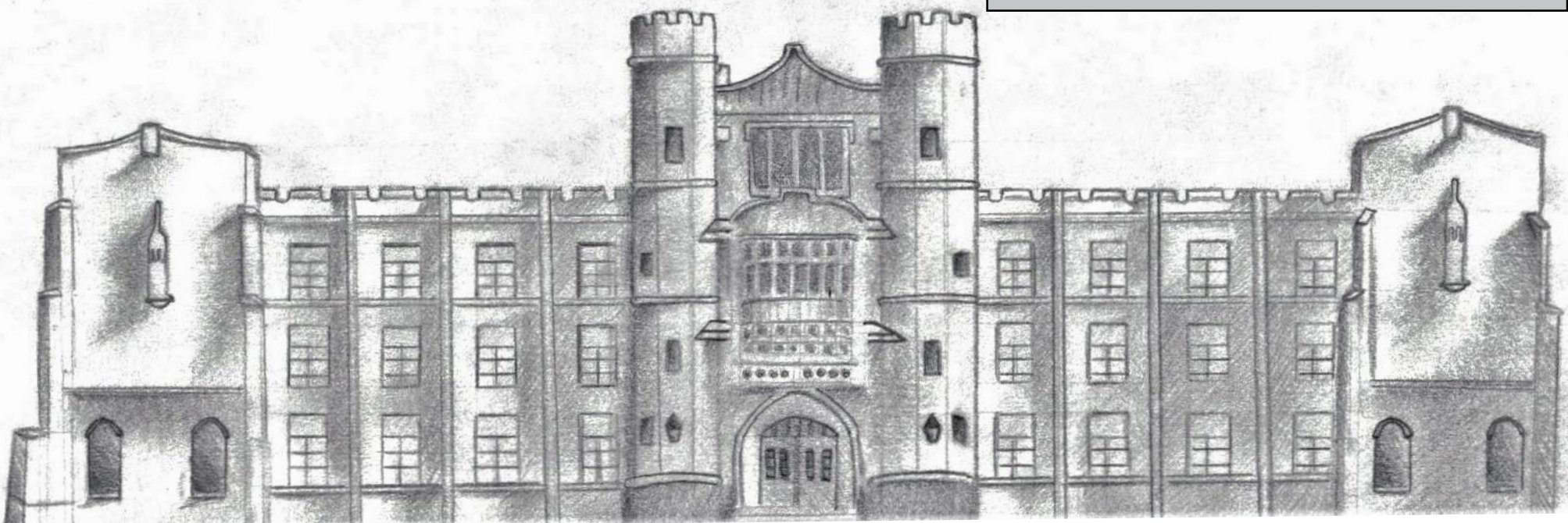
Emails are not reconciliation.
I was taken to the top of the world and left on the floor.
My limbs extended into each corner of a page;
daggers were drawn across the surface of my chest.
Metal teeth cut into my organs.
White fingers touched my stomach.
Dreams were pulled from my sky
& tattered feet walked on my clouds like water.
But.

When my lungs broke the surface tension of your palm,
I taught my heart how to breathe.
Today, I live caged between
lines, suffocated by thoughts
imprisoned to white space.
Our time flows like oceans returning to the sea.
Where is heaven if not all around me?
I am places inside myself you could not see
or dare.

I swear. I know my destination.
I am just not there.
Xavier is America; God bless you if it's good to you.
I followed your heart into the wild,
outran your love and denial;
I drank holy water,
meditated in your eyes,
& sat at the center of peace
until
the sound of earth cracked my bones
& I traveled outside myself...
Let love lead you home.
Let redemption keep you warm.

Please, no more broken bodies.

Taylor Zachary is a senior sociology major and staff writer for the Newswire from Oakland, Calif.



April 26, 2017

Sports

Edited by: Luke Feliciano
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Opinion: Harden should be named MVP

By **DONNIE MENKE**
Staff Writer

The MVP race has been hotly debated all season long. The top two players in the race, Oklahoma City Thunder point guard Russell Westbrook and Houston Rockets point guard James Harden, both have strong cases with few weaknesses.

Westbrook became the first player to average a triple double for the season since Oscar Robertson more than 50 years ago. Westbrook also broke the single-season record for triple doubles. It is also widely believed that the Thunder would not be in the playoffs without Westbrook.

However, there is one big thing working against Westbrook. The Thunder only finished sixth in the Western conference with a record of 47-35. Harden's Rockets finished third in the West with a record of 55-27, and in the MVP race, wins matter.

No MVP's team in league history has ever finished with a record as bad as the Thunder, nor has it ever finished so low in the conference standings. The only other player in league history to average a triple double,



Photo courtesy of cavsation.com

James Harden put together an impressive season and is now hoping to be named NBA MVP for the first time in his career.

Robertson, also did not win MVP that year. Robertson lost to Bill Russell, whose team won 60 games while Robertson's team won 43.

Not only is history not on Westbrook's side, Harden is not very far behind Westbrook statistically. Harden only averaged 2.5 points a game less than Westbrook (31.6 to 29.1), while averaging 0.8 more assists (11.2

to 10.4). Although Westbrook averaged 2.6 more rebounds, Harden had one of the better rebounding seasons ever for a guard, averaging 8.1.

As far as blocks and steals go, both players average a combined two blocks and steals a game.

While traditional statistics favor Westbrook slightly, the advanced metrics heavily favor Harden. Harden bests

Westbrook in net rating, effective field goal percentage and assist ratio. Harden also has a better true shooting percentage and assist to turnover ratio. Westbrook does best Harden in assist percentage, player impact estimate and rebound percentage.

Harden also leads the league in win shares and offensive win shares, while Westbrook ranks fifth and ninth respectively. Even

though Westbrook ranks eighth in defensive win shares while Harden is not in the top 20, the difference on the offensive end is enough that Harden still beats out Westbrook.

Although it is a tight race for MVP, Harden deserves the award over Westbrook. Yes, Westbrook averaged a triple double, and he had the highest efficiency rating in the league this season. However, Harden was not far behind in either area and even beat Westbrook in assists. On top of all of this, the metrics favor Harden more than Westbrook.

Even putting the statistics aside, history is not on Westbrook's side given his team's success. No MVP in league history has had a season of fewer than 50 wins and a worse seed than fourth in his respective conference.

It is a tight race, and Westbrook is certainly deserving, but so are LeBron James and Kawhi Leonard. Not everyone who is deserving can win the award, and Westbrook will be a victim of this. Westbrook had a great season, but Harden had a better one.

2017 NFL Draft preview



Photo courtesy of theundefeated.com

Myles Garrett (No. 15) is projected to be the 2017 NFL Draft's first overall selection to the Cleveland Browns.

By **LUKE FELICIANO**
Sports Editor

With the 2017 NFL Draft beginning Thursday night, here is a comprehensive list of the top college standouts hoping to make a splash in the professional league.

Deshaun Watson of Clemson is arguably the best quarterback talent for his NFL-caliber arm, precision and ability to perform under pressure. Watson's agility and speed can also be used effectively at the next level. North Carolina's Mitchell Trubisky is high on experts' draft boards for his prototypical NFL build and downfield passing ability. Texas Tech's Patrick Mahomes is another top prospect, according to most draft experts. Another talent includes DeShone Kizer from Notre Dame, who has the potential to be a surprise sleeper pick.

Dalvin Cook from Florida State and Leonard Fournette from LSU lead a quality running back class. Recent draft projections have the explosive Christian McCaffrey,

who also has kick return capabilities, being drafted high. A sleeper pick in the running back group is San Diego State's undersized playmaker Donnell Pumphrey, who became the all-time FBS rushing leader last season with 7,125 total yards.

Perhaps the strongest position on the offensive side of the ball is the wideout group. Mike Williams from Clemson and Corey Davis from Western Michigan both have top 15 potential with elite size, speed and hands. The speedy slot receiver from Washington, John Ross, also has first-round potential. Eastern Carolina's Zay Jones had a strong combine and may slip into a late first-round spot.

Alabama's O.J. Howard and Miami's David Njoku headline the tight end position. Some experts have Howard being selected as high as No. 6. Another top prospect for the tight end class is Jake Butt from Michigan.

On the defensive side of the ball, Myles Garrett, a defensive

end, figures to be a sure-fire No. 1 overall draft pick. Garrett possesses superhuman size, strength, natural instinct and speed. Solomon Thomas from Stanford and Derek Barnett from Tennessee are two other defensive ends projected to go off the board in the first round.

Reuben Foster from Alabama headlines the linebacker class. However, his combine was cut short after a dispute with a hospital staff member during a medical exam. Some other top linebacker prospects are Haason Reddick from Temple and Zach Cunningham from Vanderbilt.

LSU's Jamal Adams and a pair of Ohio State defensive backs, Malik Hooker and Marshon Lattimore, are all projected top 15 picks. One player to watch on the defensive side of ball is the versatile Jabrill Peppers from Michigan, who has the ability to play both cornerback, safety and even some outside linebacker in a nickel defense.

Women's golf finishes season

By **JACK DUNN**
Staff Writer

After beating out three-time defending champion Seton Hall in the Big East Women's Golf Championship on April 23, the Xavier women's golf team finished fourth in the Big East.

Before the tournament started, freshman Mikayla Fitzpatrick was named to the All-Big East first team. She has finished in the top-25 five times, including a tie for eighth at the Rio Verde Invitational. She was the only freshman named to the All-Big East first team.

"It was a great accomplishment to add to my resume and an honor to be named to the team," Fitzpatrick said.

Despite not having the start the team had hoped for on April 21, sophomore Mikayla Smith was able to tie for the 10th spot on the day with a score of +5. The Musketeers ended the first day with a combined score of 31 (+28 over par) and tied for fifth.

The Musketeers had a stronger showing on day two of the championships. Smith contin-

ued to play well on the par 5s, while Fitzpatrick shot a 76 (+4) with four back-nine birdies. Smith fell out of the top 10, but Fitzpatrick was able to move up from a tie for 21st to 15th. Redshirt junior Grace Howie was also in the top 20 with a tie for 18th. The team still remained in fifth place with the same score of 316 (+28).

Xavier had a great finish on the final day of the Big East Championships, with two Musketeers finishing in the top 10 and senior Rachel Johnson recording a season-low of 72 even. She led the Musketeers in the tournament with 34 pars and had a pair of birdies on the last day. Fitzpatrick was able to finish the final round with a 73 (+1), which nudged her into the top 10. She also led the Musketeers with eight birdies. Smith was also able to finish inside the top 10 with a 75, after a strong performance on the par fives. The Musketeers were able to claim fifth place over the Seton Hall Pirates with a score of 301.

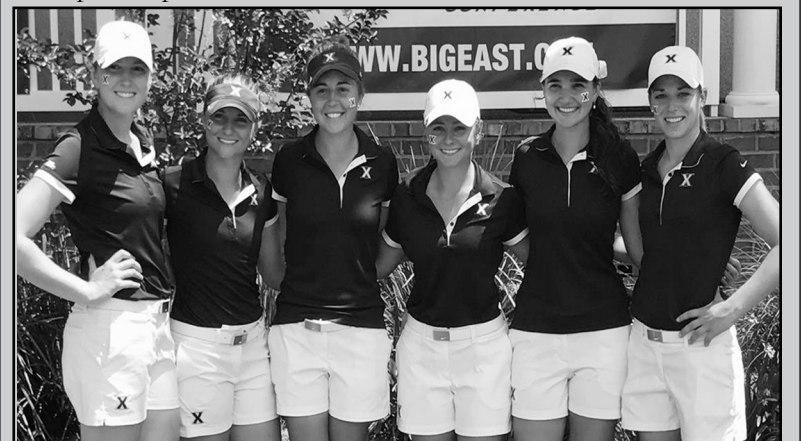


Photo courtesy of Mikayla Fitzpatrick

Xavier women's golf team after tournament play last Sunday.

Music Review: Kendrick Lamar

The Year in Plays

Guest writer Kelsey Kraft ranks Xavier Theatre's five best plays of the 2016-2017 school year.



Photo courtesy of vulture.com

Kendrick Lamar's newest and most emotionally raw album gets a review from guest writer Harrison Hensley.

BY HARRISON HENSLEY
Guest Writer

Kendrick Lamar doesn't think he is just one of the top five rappers right now: He thinks he is numbers one through five. His last LP, *To Pimp A Butterfly*, was met with praise from both the hip hop and greater music communities. With a heavy jazz-influenced production, people wondered what direction Kendrick would take next. More jazz? Rock-n-roll? Polka? Country? Disco? Although he is probably capable of rapping over anything, *Damn* is a return to Kendrick rapping over more traditional hip hop production, and that is not a bad thing at all.

The album contains everything that makes Kendrick Lamar himself: Impressive rhyme schemes and penmanship, fantastic production and captivating storytelling. Each track is impressively complex and introspective,

which is becoming increasingly scarce in the genre. It never feels like he is talking about nothing.

On the album cover, Lamar looks tired and angry. This vibe is conveyed throughout the album. The first four tracks heavily reference Fox News clips of anchors talking about Kendrick's negative impact on the youth. Another common theme throughout the tracks is the idea of nobody praying for him. The weight of the world seems to be on his shoulders.

Although the album must be heard in its entirety to fully appreciate the various concepts, there are several standout tracks. The first full track, "DNA," is possibly the hardest hitting and most chaotic song Lamar has made so far. The second half of the song feels like a thousand fireworks going off in a car driven by a rabid grizzly bear going 120 MPH down the wrong side of the high-

way next to an erupting volcano.

Another strong track is the album's lead single, "HUMBLE." The production and lyrics are instantly catchy.

The censored versions will probably be featured on every JV basketball team warm-up playlist for the next few years. "XXX" gives listeners a taste of the storytelling that is now expected of Lamar.

The track, a collab with U2, illustrates a conversation between Kendrick and a friend whose son was recently killed. It is filled with raw energy, and it also features the one and only Bono. "FEAR," the longest track, displays "Kung Fu" Kenny's lyricism. Each verse deals with his different fears and different points of his life.

Overall, the LP lives up to the high expectations. If you are a hip hop fan, check it out. Kendrick is clearly continuing his winning streak.

5. The Complete Works of William Shakespeare

The three-person parody of Shakespeare was incredibly entertaining. There were laughs throughout the show, but it lacked a more serious and lasting message compared to other shows.

4. The Aliens

The dark coming-of-age play was uncomfortable in the best way. It challenged the audience to consider a new perspective on adolescence and adulthood and featured comedic relief to keep the show from becoming too heavy.

3. Into the Woods

This musical was extremely entertaining and had the perfect mix of comedy and tragedy to keep the plot moving along throughout the long performance.

2. Hamlet

In a creative take on the show, the two leads, Hamlet and Horatio, were played by women. Katie Mitchell and Gigi Relic, along with the rest of the cast and crew, delivered a clear and relatable performance of the Shakespeare classic.

1. Slut Shaming

This moving play details a girl's time-warped account of her rape. Hannah Sheppard, Katie Mitchell and Cassie Delicath left the audience stunned with a message they wouldn't forget. In addition, Xavier Theatre provided a discussion afterward with Title IX Officer Kate Lawson to help the audience process the show.



Photo courtesy of Mikki Schaffner

Top 5 Albums of 2016-2017

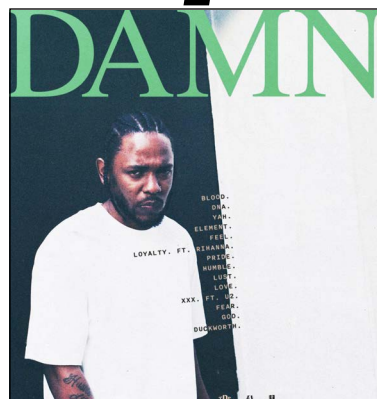


Photo courtesy of twitter.com

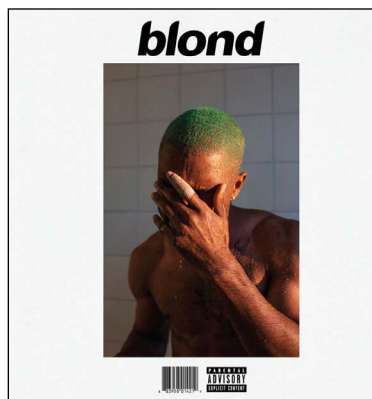


Photo courtesy of lyricgenius.com



Photo courtesy of saintheron.com

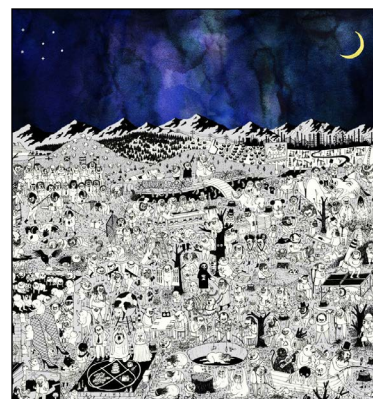


Photo courtesy of lyricgenius.com

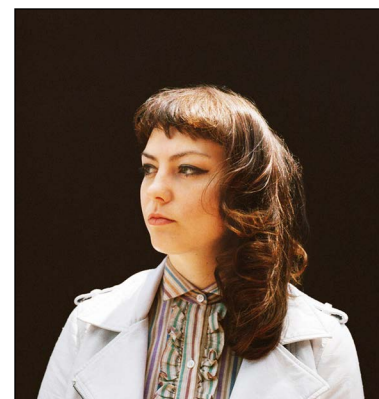


Photo courtesy of bandcamp.com

Arts and Entertainment Editor Riley Head reviews her personal top five favorite and most influential albums of the school year so far, from the soul of Solange to the irony of Father John Misty.

Kendrick Lamar- DAMN.

DAMN. is the emotional implosion of a conflicted artist that has manifested itself in a unique exploration of sounds that both harmonizes with and contradicts itself to form an organized chaos of music. Kendrick's rawest emotional output to date asks us why and questions the decisions we make.

Frank Ocean- BLOND

Frank Ocean's long awaited sophomore effort delivers in every way as fans are given an extremely unique and at times strange listening experience that shows Ocean's range as an artist. He delivers both vocally and lyrically on nearly every track.

Solange Knowles- A Seat at the Table

While subtle, this album is a stunningly elegant venture into neo-soul territory with an enticing mix of both personal and political messages that cement Solange as a reputable artist. This album gives a beautiful voice to an intersection of society that is very often silenced.

Father John Misty- Pure Comedy

Singer songwriter Josh Tillman revives the Father John Misty Pseudonym for his third full length LP. This is the magnum opus for the character as beautiful melodies and scathing critique of modern America combine for a truly unique listening experience.

Angel Olsen- My Woman

One of the most influential female rock stars returns as Angel Olsen combines gritty indie rock sounds with elements of singer-songwriter genre to produce a very emotional and hard-hitting album. Both her vocal and lyrical abilities provide an abundance of entertainment.

April 26, 2017

Coming this Fall**THE****XAVIER NEWSWIRE****PRESENTS**

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