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Xavier University Newswire

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Campus celebrates veterans

Xavier Veterans Center hosts university's first ever week to honor the troops

BY CJ RIPEPPI & AIDAN
CALLAHAN
Guest Writers

This past week the Xavier Veterans Center (XVC) held the university's first Veterans Week. The goal was to educate both veteran and non-veteran students about this large yet often under-represented section of the Xavier student body.

"I think, as a school with such a great reputation for veterans, there's no reason why we shouldn't have a Veterans Week, so I think it's really awesome that we're starting it up," junior Vice President of College Republicans Lily Hutowski said.

The XVC believes the event was a success, thanks in part to the work of junior Alfredo Mercedes. Spencer Rumley, the associate director of XVC, noted, "Without Alfredo we wouldn't have this great of a Veterans Week."

Junior Jeff Richardson agreed that the week was a success, and stated that he believes it's important to celebrate.

"It's a necessary observation and respect for those who have risked their lives to help us above the quality of life that we do," Richardson said.

Mercedes is a member of the US Marine Corp Reserves and works as the student involvement and leadership liaison to the Office of Development in the XVC.

Rumley spoke highly of his work at the office. According to him, the idea of a Veterans' Week has been thrown around for years but Mercedes was the first to make an attempt.

The week saw daily events



Photo courtesy of Twitter

Yellow ribbons were tied around trees across campus to show support for active service members and veterans of the US Army around the world. The Veterans Center held the university's first Veterans' Week celebration.

held on campus that ranged from veteran speakers to movies. XVC acted in a supportive role, helping Mercedes find spaces and connecting him to faculty members. Mercedes noted a week was more appropriate than a Veterans Day celebration, as a week allows events to be more spread out. The week was also meant to build up to a climactic Saturday, when there was both a 5k for disabled veterans and the veterans appreciation basketball game.

The event was very well received by both veteran and non-veteran students. For Spencer, a highlight of the week was the keynote speaker, Mason Rick, who transitioned from the military to Xavier

faculty. This experience allowed him to talk directly to veterans about the difficult transition moving from active duty to civilian life on a college campus.

The campus community also reflected on the solidarity walk. Members of the Black Student Association (BSA), Xavier University Police Department and more walked side-by-side with veterans in a display intended to highlight Xavier's core Jesuit values by showing the solidarity among its diverse student body. Hutowski also commented on the solidarity walk, saying that she believed it was a remarkable success and that she was proud of the participation from members of her club.

Some events are still taking place this week, such as the yellow ribbon display. Yellow ribbons were tied around trees and remain there to represent the continued support for active service members and veterans of the US Army.

Ultimately, organizers said the week succeeded in creating on-campus veteran awareness, both for student and non-student veterans.

"The biggest thing (veterans) need is pure support. They love support from people," Mercedes said.

Though she wasn't able to participate as much as she desired, Hutowski agreed that the week was a success, especially due to the advertising done by the organizers.

"Personally, I wasn't able to attend as much as I wanted to... but I think they did a good job of publicizing it," Hutowski said.

According to Spencer, throughout the week he discovered faculty members who were veterans that he didn't even know about. While many student veterans admit their service, they still feel a disconnect from civilian students, as they are experiencing a difficult transition and a majority of them are 24 years or older. The week encouraged mingling between veteran and non-veteran students and had ultimately created a desire for more outreach to non-vet students by the XVC.

Senior President of Xavier Socialists Daniel Bowling agreed that the week is important, but he believes that there should have been more of a focus on current issues affecting veterans.

"I thought one thing that was necessary to do amidst Veterans Week was honoring the veterans and people who have served, but at the same time acknowledging that this country does not treat veterans properly," Bowling said. "(Veterans Affairs) funding is horrible, PTSD goes largely untreated, homelessness in veterans is enormous."

This may be only the first of many Veterans Weeks. The organizers' ultimate goal is for the week to become a staple of Xavier's school year, and they will seek support from the school for access to more resources and improve the event. Ultimately, organizers intend the devoted week to be one of many steps toward integrating veterans into Xavier culture.

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Django Praxis share their journeys



Members of Django Praxis pose while on the Diasporic Soul Racial Healing Experience in Senegal, which they wrote about in their book. Photo courtesy of Diasporic Soul

BY HEATHER GAST
Campus News Editor

The first cohort of the Diasporic Soul Racial Healing Experience study abroad to Senegal, Django Praxis, shared their journey to a rapt crowd of students, staff, faculty and community members last Thursday.

The cohort, composed of five students and alumni, engaged in a course, the study abroad trip and wrote a book alongside Dr. Kyra Shahid on their experiences. Their panel was followed by a silent auction to raise money for following Diasporic Soul trips.

Django Praxis included senior psychology majors Diamond Brown and Sequoia Egyptia Patterson-Johnson, as well as alumni Eseoghene Obrimah, Adrian Parker, Jr., and Taylor Zachary. On Thursday, they spoke of their

experiences in Dr. Kyra Shahid's course, their experience on the study abroad and the process of writing a book encapsulating their experiences.

The cohort was formed in spring 2017 after a racially charged winter. The Xavier community faced two race-related bias incidents during the fall semester of 2016, including a dashiki-clad skeleton hanging from a noose in a dorm window of Bishop Fenwick Hall and a Snapchat of a student wearing a charcoal face mask as blackface. In the spring semester of 2017 Dr. Charles Walker Gollar's research into the history of Xavier confirmed that the founder, Bishop Edward Fenwick, had owned slaves.

At the request of Xavier president Father Graham, the Working Group was formed to investigate how the uni-

versity as a Jesuit institution could work towards racial reconciliation.

That same spring semester, Shahid, associate director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI) and member of the Working Group, began to teach a course entitled "Anti-Black Racism and Epistemic Violence." The course explored systemic oppression's impact on a communal and even personal level while developing skills to promote social justice.

Obrimah and the other members of the cohort shared that Shahid's course had been one of, if not the most, impactful course they had taken at Xavier for them to find their purpose.

After the trip, Shahid sought to publish the written works that the cohort used to process their experience. The book, which shares the name of Shahid's course, is available for \$17 online.

Shahid's course is a pre-requisite for the trip and currently has seats open for the 2019 spring semester.

The audience packed into Arrupe Overlook to hear the student's stories and the evening opened with remarks from Fr. Graham.

An invocation was next. Items were laid out on a low, altar-like table, including sand from an island on the Middle passage and a statue of a baobab tree. Ancestors and spirits

were welcomed into the room.

Django Praxis' recounting of their personal journeys took the audience from one extreme to another throughout the night.

At one moment, the room would be doubled over in laughter hearing of their hijinks in the classroom, and the next solemn faces were fixed on the young men and women as they recounted moments "crucible moments".

Crucible moments are instances that shift one's perspective. The panel members shared their reactions to the shooting of unarmed Black people, such as Korryn Gaines, Philando Castille, Michael Brown and Trayvon

Martin — the list went on.

The resulting discussion was heavy and is what sophomore Izzy Childs took away most from the evening.

"Although I will never fully understand, I thought it was really powerful the hurt that was in the atmosphere and the feelings that the students (were) revealing."

While Childs gained a lot of perspective from the event, she recognizes that there cannot be growth without more students engaging in the conversation. Students can become involved in the dialogue of racial reconciliation through programming at the Center for Diversity and Inclusion.

Nov. 12 Student Government Association Meeting Recap Chief of Police open forums, CDO aims for more internships and safe drinking

- Senators discussed the open forum meetings with the candidates for Xavier's new chief of police.

The Career Development Office aims to extend internship opportunities to all students. The goal is to one day have every student intern with companies at least once while at Xavier.

- SGA is working on promoting safe drinking habits during the holidays with various events in the coming weeks.

Events to be thankful for Get out of the library before exam season kicks

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			14 SGA Senate Elections Online 8 a.m. — 8 p.m. xavier.edu/elections	15 Diwali Celebration Kennedy Auditorium 7:30- 9 p.m.	16 CoW Gala: Around the World buses leave Buenger circle at 6 p.m. XU Theater: <i>Dog Sees God</i> 2 p.m. and	17 CoW Jungle Jim's Scavenger Hunt, Leaving Buenger Circle at 1 p.m.
18 7:30 p.m. shows	19	20	21	22 Xavier Family Dinner Arrupe Overlook, 5 p.m.	23	24
Thanksgiving Break, university closed						
25	26	27 SAC: Bob Ross Painting Palooza Arrupe, 8 p.m.	28	29 Chamber Recital GSC Theater, 7:30 p.m.	30	

Gary Abernathy on Republicans' past and future

BY RYAN KAMBICH
Opinions & Editorials Editor

In late October, 2016, the *Hillsboro Times-Gazette* made national news when it became just one of six newspapers nationally to endorse Donald Trump for president.

Since then, the paper's editor and publisher, Gary Abernathy, has taken a prominent place in national discussions about rural America and the voters who feel forgotten by mainstream politics.

Abernathy now occupies elected office, serving as a commissioner for Highland County, as well as a columnist for the *Washington Post*, where he writes about communities such as his that voted for President Trump.

Following his lecture on Monday as part of the Ethics Religion and Society series, I sat down with Abernathy to discuss politics from his perspective as a longtime political operative and community journalist.

Below is a transcript edited for brevity and clarity.

Ryan Kambich: The theme of this year's E/RS series is "conversations across the American divide." Is there a role for "big media" in healing that divide? And furthermore, in your experience as a community journalist, is there a role for small community papers in also healing that?

Gary Abernathy: I think the answer is yes to both questions. The media has a huge role and a huge ability, if they want to do it, to lead our discourse in a better direction. They started out going the opposite direction. When the

New York Times decided to start labelling things Trump says as lies, that's a step in the wrong direction. It's good to point out if the president is lying, but reporters shouldn't be the one doing it in the context of a story. Find someone else to say that. It's easy to do, that's called journalism. Find a critic or find someone else to say 'what Trump said was not true.'

So the media is in danger right now of declaring itself just another branch of politics with their very open hostility towards Trump. They've got to recapture their journalistic roots and cover Trump just like every other politician and with the same standards applied to him. If they don't do that, they're just going to be seen by the general public as another branch of politics, and Trump's claims of "fake news" are going to resonate.

RK: I'd like to briefly return to your assertions about the shift in the Republican Party. You've been in politics longer than I've been alive.

GA: You really like making me sound ancient, thank you.

RK: Experienced, I'd call it. The shift in the party caught many pundits off guard in 2016. Did this shift simply explode up in 2016 or is there a longer history behind that movement?

GA: There has definitely been a longer history. Part of the reason that (John) McCain was not successful in 2008 against (Barack) Obama and (Mitt) Romney was not successful in 2012 against Obama was because they were kind of compromised candidates. If



Photo courtesy of The Times-Gazette

Gary Abernathy is a conservative journalist and politician from Hillsboro, OH. Abernathy was invited to speak as part of the Ethics, Religion and Society speaker series, Conversations Across the American Divide.

you look back at those primary seasons, voters were very divided about who they were supporting, it took a good while to settle on a nominee. No one was really enthusiastic about them. The enthusiasm gap is very important in politics.

So I think that's been building, and as I mentioned last night, I think people were growing really weary and tired of the stale and practiced talking points they were hearing. And we saw this exhibited on the left with the Bernie Sanders support. It's a rebellion, it's support of the outsider, the maverick.

What's going to be interesting is to see how uniquely is the party's identity being tied

to an individual rather than a movement. I think Trump does represent a movement, a disruption movement, and what we're changing the system to is a very good question. We don't really know yet. When Trump goes, under whatever circumstances, can that void be filled that he uniquely represents. You can't imitate Trump. He has a unique personality and really brilliant political instincts. But he is doubling down on enthusiasm, which is more important than sheer numbers. He is doubling down on his 45 percent and not trying to expand that by one person, really. He's trying to have the most energized, enthusiastic 45 percent that anyone's ever

had and relying on that to carry the day.

RK: Thoughts on a John Kasich presidential run?

GA: I'll be the most shocked person in America if Kasich does not run for president as an Independent. I don't think he can resist it. Another guy who I think will end up in that same boat is Jeff Flake. Maybe we'll end up with a Flake-Kasich or Kasich-Flake ticket, although I can't imagine John Kasich taking second spot on a ticket. I believe to do so guarantees Trump's election. If there's a strong Independent candidate, they're not taking a vote away from Trump. Trump has his base and they're not going anywhere.

Student panel chips away at hookup culture



News wire photo courtesy of Sydney Sanders

Student researchers presented the findings of their summer research at the beginning of the semester. The researchers hosted a panel last Monday to breaking the taboo of discussing sex to help prevent sexual assault.

BY ALANNA BELMONT
Staff Writer

The panel hosted by the theology department entitled "Why We Need to Talk About Sex" discussed the perils of hookup culture on college campuses and challenged students to contemplate what more should be done to prevent sexual assault.

Unlike presentations by on-campus groups Xavier Students Against Sexual As-

sault, BRAVE Peer Educators or It's On X, this event aimed to spark discussion rather than to educate or illicit specific action.

The panel was chaired by student researchers Daniel Bowling, Riley Head and Derek Adkins as well as theology professor Dr. Marcus Mescher. The trio of students received a research grant back in May to conduct research over the summer concerning

the root causes of high rates of sexual assault on college campuses alongside Mescher.

To spark conversation, the panel presented data from former Xavier professor Jennifer Beste's findings in her book *College Hookup Culture and Christian Ethics*. In the book, Beste determined that "hookup culture" was the leading cause of sexual assaults.

Hookup culture is hard to define by nature. It maintains

an ambiguity around conversations about sex due to discomfort. There is a forced separation of emotional experiences from sexual experiences, which makes sex difficult to process.

Bowling explained that hookup culture is reflected in the words students use to discuss their casual sexual encounters.

"When you say 'hook up,' you could mean kissing, you could mean sex or anything in between. It's just another way to not talk about sex," Bowling said.

When sex is not discussed openly, expectations from persons involved are unclear. Someone who has experienced sexual assault may not know how to communicate their situation or emotions to those around them if they do not understand what happened to them. If sex is something that is seen as acceptable to talk about, students can more easily form a support network if they are in need.

Conversations like the one held at the panel are part of dismantling hookup culture by breaking the taboo around

talking about sex.

During the presentation, the students were encouraged to mull over the presentation before the floor was opened to discussion.

Many students stepped up to ask a range of questions, such as "What is the purpose of hookup culture and why do we keep participating in it," "Does the education provided in Manresa help with prevention at all?" and "Should the university take responsibility for the education of consensual sex, and to what extent is the university liable?"

Bowling was satisfied with the outcome of the event, particularly how engaged the students were.

"There was a buzz as we gave a break for people to reflect. We got a lot of questions from the audience," he said.

The road to ending sexual assault on campus did not conclude with the event. The panel encourage students to continue the conversation with their friends and branch out to more active forms of sexual assault prevention, such as joining on-campus groups as they are comfortable.

12 die in Thousand-Oaks shooting

Among the victims was a survivor of Las Vegas massacre and a police officer

BY MICHAEL RAUBER
Staff Writer

Another mass shooting claimed the lives of 12 in Thousand Oaks, California, last Wednesday. 10 other people were injured in the shooting.

The 28 year-old gunman, Ian David Long, opened fire at Borderline Bar & Grill that was open to people over the age of 18 and was celebrating "College Country Night." The bar itself is close to many universities and students were known to frequent the establishment, especially during the college nights.

The victims included eight college students as well as a police officer, Sargent Ron Helus, who was due to retire next year according to BBC News. Another victim, 27 year-old Telemachus Orfanos, died in the shooting after surviving the Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting in October 2017.

Another survivor of the Las Vegas shooting, Nicholas Champion, was also at the bar on Wednesday night.

"It's the second time in about a year and a month that this has happened," Champion said.

A few of Champions' friends at the bar were also at the Festival in Las Vegas.

"We're all a big family and



Photo courtesy of AFP - Getty Images

12 people died and another 10 were injured in a mass shooting at the Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oaks, California. It was the 307th mass shooting this year. The alleged gunman was a former United States Marine.

unfortunately this family got hit twice," he continued.

"It is very sad that this type of thing happens. It especially hit close to home for me because it occurred at a college bar." Xavier junior Marissa Busch said, "It is definitely in the back of my mind and will affect my decisions of going out going forward. You do not think that it will happen until it does."

The gunman, a former U.S. Marine, set off a smoke bomb to create confusion before opening fire into the crowd. CNN reported that "investigators believe that the gunman legally purchased a .45 caliber Glock 21" with an extended magazine, which is illegal in California.

Long, according to the Department of Defense, served as a Marine from August 2008

to March 2013. He is reported to have had multiple run ins with the law. Some close to Long have speculated that he may have been suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as a result of his time in Afghanistan. BBC News reported that he served a tour in Afghanistan from November 2010 to June 2011.

USA Today reported that Long "had an episode of er-

atic behavior last spring that suggested PTSD" in which the authorities were contacted.

Long was living with his mother, Colleen, at the time of the shooting. Their neighbor, 79 year-old Donald MacLeod, told reporters that "he often heard Long arguing with his mother at all hours, sometimes in the middle of the night."

CBS News reported that Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean said "the gunman, a former machine gunner and decorated veteran of the war in Afghanistan, is believed to have killed himself late Wednesday at the Borderline Bar and Grill in the city of Thousand Oaks."

When asked whether he felt safe going to bars, Xavier senior Tom Smith said he does.

"Everyone feels safe and says it won't happen to them, and then when it does happen near them, that's when people think they aren't safe," he said.

The Thousand Oaks shooting is the 307th mass shooting this year. It is also the deadliest mass shooting this year since the shooting at Major Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, when 17 classmates and teachers were gunned down on Valentine's Day.

POLICE NOTES

Nov. 6, 5:09 p.m. — A student reported the theft of approximately \$60 cash in Fenwick Place.

Nov. 7, 12:25 p.m. — A student reported someone siphoned gas from their vehicle parked in the C-2 parking lot.

Nov. 7, 1:26 p.m. — A student reported the theft of a small amount of change and food gift cards from their vehicle parked in the Village parking lot.

Nov. 8, 4:10 a.m. — Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire and Residence Life checked on an underage intoxicated student in Kuhlman Hall. The student was cleared by medics and allowed to remain in their room for the night.

Nov. 8, 3:19 p.m. — A student reported they were

NOTE OF THE WEEK

Real phone, Fake ID

Nov. 11, 9:27 a.m. — Xavier Police received a cellphone found in Brockman Hall. The cellphone contained a fictitious ID in the sleeve on the back. The owner was referred to the code of conduct after the phone was returned.

being harassed by another student. Residence Life was notified.

Nov. 9, 10:45 p.m. — Xavier Police assisted Residence Life with a room search in the Commons Apartments. A small amount of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and ficti-

tious IDs were confiscated.

Nov. 9, 11:30 p.m. — A student reported they were assaulted at an off-campus house party on Hudson Avenue. The suspect was a non-student, and was referred to Norwood Police.

Nov. 10, 3:32 p.m. — Two underage students who attempted to purchase alcohol at the men's basketball game were ejected from the event and referred to the code of conduct.

Nov. 11, 3:01 a.m. — Xavier Police investigated two students arguing and fighting in the Commons Apartments. The students were separated and referred to the code of conduct.

Week in Review

Herpes B, nostalgia and an explosion

- Silver Spring State Park in Florida is home to at least 300 rhesus macaques, a monkey native to south and Southeast Asia. The monkeys have been rapidly breeding, causing problems because the monkeys carry a rare and deadly form of herpes virus called herpes B. While it is rare for herpes B to spread from a monkey to a humans, it can cause inflammation of the brain and spinal cord leading to brain damage or death (Nov. 9).
- Kimberly Santleben-Stiteler of Texas found an interesting way to finalize the end of her marriage. Her father and

brother-in-law came up with the idea of burning the dress with exploding targets. The dress went up in a puff of smoke on her first shot (Nov. 12).

- Nostalgia fans rejoice! Toy Story 4 and Detective Pikachu have officially been given a release window. The two 90s franchises are now slated to be released in the summer of 2019 (Nov. 12).
- Tide has released a more eco-friendly packaging for the liquid detergent. However, many people have pointed out online that the new packaging looks very similar to boxed wine (Nov. 12).



Photo courtesy of attackofthefanboy.com

Pokémon is receiving its first ever live action movie in Detective Pikachu.

Election brings mixed bag of results

Ohio turns red, Hamilton County turns blue while Democrats retake House

BY GILLEN FAENZA
Guest Writer

The results of Election Day 2018 are in with Republicans sweeping all but two state-level elected offices in Ohio.

In Hamilton County, Ohio Congressional District 1 re-elected Republican Steve Chabot and District 2 re-elected Republican Brad R. Wenstrup.

On the national level, Democrats took control of the House of Representatives while Republicans strengthened their majority in the Senate.

Ohio has a total of 16 seats in the House, four of which are taken by Democrats and 12 by Republicans. Hamilton County is one of the only districts in Ohio to remain blue in both the 2016 and 2018 elections.

Republican Mike DeWine won the governorship with 51 percent of the vote. Democrat Sherrod Brown won re-election for his second term. Voter turnout was in the 30 percent range for this election as opposed to presidential election years which was in the high 70 percent range.

Ohio has the most infrequent voting patterns. According to *Cincinnati Magazine* approximately 1.2 million registered voters have been on-again, off-again voting since 2011, more than any other state.

Sophomore education major Lillie Baumgartner shared sentiment with many non-voters saying, "I'm not sure how to register to vote and never got around to it especially because non-presidential years seem much less important."

Cincinnati Magazine also reported that Hamilton, Franklin and Cuyahoga counties make up 29 percent of Ohio's total vote and nearly all net population growth occurred in these counties.

Young voters did not show up to the polls in Ohio. These voters, who tend to vote democrat, allowed the 65 and older age group to have more importance. This age group usually votes Republican. The turnout among working-age, working class white voters was around 54 percent, and is largely attributed to the Republican victories. This strong turnout was ed to this demographic.



Photo courtesy of Associated Press

Sen. Sherrod Brown (above) won re-election on Nov. 6. Republicans won all but two state-level elected offices in Ohio and former Attorney General Mike DeWine became governor. Voter turnout in Ohio was about 30 percent.

First-year history major Rachel Purpura sent in her absentee ballot to Illinois this year.

"I think the voter turnout being as big as it was this year is extremely important because it means that things that need changing may finally get that change," Purpura said. With many college students choosing to send in absentee ballots this year across the nation, there was a much larger voter turnout in younger age groups.

As an education major, Baumgartner feels strongly

about the way we talk about voting in schools.

"I never bothered to educate myself on what voting means or entails because I was never taught," Baumgartner said. "There needs to be more education on voting in the classroom. Government classes should teach more regarding how to get out and vote and what these candidates stand for."

Going forward, Democrats will be heading a variety of House committees which grants them the authority to require testimony and docu-

ments from key officials in the Trump administration.

They are expected to challenge President Trump on policy issues such as climate change, coverage for pre-existing medical conditions and regulation on Wall Street.

Republicans maintained control of the Senate and are hoping to regulate and control prescription drug prices as well as continue to roll back the Affordable Care Act.

They also look to continue tax and spending cuts, international trade and immigration restrictions.

2018 Midterm election fun facts: A year of firsts

BY GILLEN FAENZA
Guest Writer

Historic Women

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez from New York became the youngest woman appointed to Congress. Ocasio-Cortez recently spoke out about not being able to afford an apartment in DC due to the high cost of living. Marsha Blackburn is the first female senator from Tennessee. She is the first woman elected to this seat in Senate history. Her three main campaign promises included having policies lean right while still working towards more inclusion, changing the perception that Congress is broken and uniting fractured communities to unite everyone politically. Alongside her, we saw Janet Mills (D-ME) and Kristi Noem (R-SD) as the first female governors in their respective states. Abby Finkenauer (D-IA) and Cindy Axne (D-IA) claimed swing districts in Iowa for House of Representatives.



Photo courtesy of the Twitter

Ilhan Omar (left) and Rashida Tlaib (right) are the first Muslim women elected to Congress.



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Jared Polis celebrates his election to Colorado Governor. He is the first openly gay governor in the U.S.

Minorities making firsts

Sharice Davids (D-KS) was one of the first Native American congresswomen, along with Deb Haaland (D-NM), to be elected to Congress. Davids is from the Ho-Chunk Nation and is the first LGBTQ+ member of Congress from Kansas. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) is one of two Muslim women elected to Congress and the first Palestinian woman. Ilhan Omar (D-MN) is the second Muslim woman elected to Congress. Omar is the first Somali-American legislator and first Woman of Color from Minnesota. Jahana Hayes (CT) and Ayanna Pressley (MA) became the first Black congresswoman from their respective states, along with Letitia James (D-NY) the first Black Attorney General. Veronica Escobar (D-TX) and Sylvia Garcia (D-TX), are the first Texan Latinas in Congress. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM) is the first Democratic Latina governor in the U.S.

LGBTQ+

Jared Polis (D-CO) became the first openly gay governor of Colorado. He previously served in the House and is married with two children. Chris Pappas (D-NH) is the first openly gay member elected to Congress and Angie Craig (D-MH) is the first lesbian mother elected to Congress.

- 100 women were elected to the House, the most ever.
- Texas elected its first two hispanic women to the House.
- South Dakota elected its first female governor
- Arizona and Tennessee elected their first female senators.
- Kansas elected the first ever Native American woman to Congress.

S4L, you are welcomed, but don't abuse that

The views expressed in the following article are the opinion of the writers and do not reflect the opinions of the Newswire staff as a whole.

Students for Life (S4L), you are welcomed on our campus. You have every right to express your voice here. The bias perpetrated against you recently was an act of injustice and should not have happened. However, you should know that you have as much responsibility to avoid attacking the students of this campus as they do for respecting your right to voice your opinion.

We love that you are attempting to promote messages of love on campus, but the way you're going about it stands in direct opposition to that intention. You set up a table right in front of the main doors of Gallagher with an intense

and triggering display when Gallagher is supposed to be an inclusive place. You petitioned to outlaw

abortion entirely. You may think these actions are for the best, but they are harmful messages that will push people away from you.

There are people on this campus who have had an abortion at one point in their lives. Not just students, but faculty and staff too. Did you stop to think about that before you put up your display or wrote your slogans on the sidewalk? Did you consider what kind of stigma your display would perpetuate? Did you ever think about who you were hurting? If you want to promote a pro-life message on this campus, you need to start by approaching it in a way that doesn't attack people. Your display attacked people whether you intended it or not. It's hypocritical for you to believe in the so-called sanctity of human life and dignity for all people while disrespecting people's privacy

on such a personal matter and completely disregarding the potential harm you may have caused.

Your slogans "Love them both," "Two hearts beat together, both matter" and "A person's a person no matter how small" all insinuate that people who have had abortions are destroying or devaluing life. Yet in doing so, you erase the autonomy of people and the power they have to make choices about their own lives. You may not have meant that when you wrote your slogans, but that's how they came across.

While we understand your frustration at having your chalk messages erased, the way you've responded has been far from appropriate. Specifically, your national organization's blog post about the incident was inaccurate and irresponsible.

To label the actions of a few students as the actions of "a mob" and to claim that these students

perpetrated violence against people in the S4L group is a grossly inept misrepresentation of what actually happened. Your voice was not silenced. There is no need for insipid apologies and sententious statements. What we call for is an end to the hyperbolic narratives you have created and the climate of false fear you continue to instill in our student body.

No, they should not have erased your chalk messages, but they did not perpetrate violence. No one was physically harmed. No one's property or belongings were destroyed. They poured water on your messages to erase them. It shouldn't have happened, but it was not violent, and for the national organization to label our student base as a violent mob is atrocious. The claim that these people were motivated by "pro-choice politicians" who "incite violence"

is completely unfounded. Not only is there no evidence that their actions were inspired by Eric Holder's comments last month, but those comments were not an incitement of violence to begin with. His message — "when they go low, we kick them" — was entirely metaphorical. He himself even explained this moments after making the comment.

Holder said, "When I say we, you know, 'We kick 'em,' I don't mean we do anything inappropriate. We don't do anything illegal. But we've got to be tough, and we have to fight for the very things that (civil rights leaders) John Lewis, Martin Luther King, Whitney Young — you know, all those folks gave to us."

What's even more outrageous is that you attempted to misrepresent this comment to fit a pro-choice versus pro-life debate. This comment had nothing to do with that specific debate. Rather, Holder was talking about how the Democratic Party needs to adopt tougher tactics when dealing with Republicans. He was not inciting violence or telling people on the left to attack pro-life people. You must stop obscuring the truth to fit your own narratives. We will not listen to your fabricated versions of reality.

For a group so dead set on revealing "the truth" about abortions, you seem willing to lie if it means perpetuating the false narrative that pro-life groups face any more unjust discrimination than pro-choice groups do, or that conservative voices are being silenced in this "politically correct" society. You silence others' voices, and when they try to speak up, you call yourself a victim. At least you can put a display up. At least you can fundraise. You have your voice and people to support it. When are pro-choice groups on our campus going to get that?

If you want to prevent abortion — if that's your true goal — then there are ways to go about it that don't attack people in the way your slogans and your display did.



Photos courtesy of Twitter
Chalk messages written by Students for Life were scrubbed off on Oct. 17. Xavier's Bias Advisory & Response Team investigated the incident.

Your goal to provide pregnancy resources for expecting mothers is absolutely on-track, and you'll find that many pro-choice people support exactly that method of prevention. Pro-choice people don't want abortion any more than pro-life people do. We should all agree that education on safe-sex practices and pregnancy resources is the way to reduce abortions. Let's stick to that instead of attacking and traumatizing students that have gone through a difficult and painful experience.

We will not entertain voices that justify denying others' rights because of tradition or complacency. We will not entertain voices that refuse to acclimate themselves to the changing world, to the choices and rights of others and to the well-being of the nation we share.

This piece was written jointly by Trevor McKenzie, Online Editor for the *Newswire*, and Sofia Ordoñez, a copy editor for the *Newswire*.

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Mission Statement

The Xavier *Newswire* is committed to reporting the news as well as explaining its significance to readers. In addition, through publishing opposing viewpoints and opinions, the *Newswire* hopes to foster dialogue on campus among students, faculty and staff.

Advertising

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For Your Information

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*The *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.

It's time to make America care again

In the season premiere of *South Park*, the always controversial show tackled the issue of gun violence, particularly school shootings. Throughout the episode, Sharon, Stan's mom, tries to convince the other parents that this is a big deal, all while she seems to be the only one in town who is concerned.

Similar to any subject the show addresses, it stirred outrage as being insensitive. *South Park* did not go far enough. Until the American public is so "offended" that they decide to do something about the scourge of gun violence, comedy must continue to tackle this issue. As I watched the episode, I realized the character I most aligned with was Sharon. At the end of the episode, she says "This used to be a big deal. I want it to be a big deal again."

The only thing that seems to have changed with shootings is police response time. Each shooting, police heroically arrive faster to stop the carnage. But neither we as a culture, nor our elected officials, have done anything to seriously prevent the violence from occurring.

What makes American citizens take weapons into our schools, movie theaters, places of employment, churches, diners or parks and open fire? In the past two months, there have been shootings at the



Newswire photo by Sydney Sanders

Fifth Third building in Cincinnati, a courthouse in Pennsylvania, a Rite Aid distribution center in Maryland and a software company in Wisconsin. Also seven law enforcement officers were shot, two of whom were killed, while serving a warrant in South Carolina. Those are just the ones I caught on the news.

In the time since I wrote my last op-ed regarding gun violence a man went on a spree in Bakersfield, CA, and killed five. A man walked into a Waffle House in Tennessee and killed four. A student walked into a Santa Fe high school

and killed 10. I could go on, but I would run out of room to list all the other shootings that are not "newsworthy" or sensational enough for the media to report on.

There are a couple things that strike me in all of this. The first is that our politicians are not willing to end their careers for the good of the country or constituents. They vote along party lines and they rarely risk their careers to vote for the good of the country. There is no better example of this than the bipartisan Manchin-Toomey Background Checks Bill of

2013 that died along party lines.

The second is the coverage that these shooters get. They are glorified in media, or at least used to be. However, it seems that the big media is finally starting to follow the standards of #NoNoriety, the idea being that some of these folks are thrilled by the potential fame brought on by a shooting. To help curb that, the media should start focusing on the victims and not the perpetrators. Police forces are also increasingly responding to shootings faster, saving lives and putting themselves at risk.

These shooters do seem to have some similarities. A lot of them are men. They have warped senses of women — they either blame women or are violent towards them. For some of them, their neighbors or family members knew something was up, and there may have even been police visits to the home before. There may be something highly emotional that sets them off such as a breakup, being fired or financial hardship. They may even have been a veteran.

Overall, they tend to be loners either bullied in school or view themselves as the victims of society. Despite the prevailing rhetoric, not all of

these perpetrators have diagnosable mental illnesses.

This issue is complex and it is not one sided. What makes us so violent? What disturbs me most at this point is the shocking extent of our desensitization. Why are we so willing to offer our thoughts and prayers and move on?

While we're on the topic of thoughts and prayers, should we not follow the Bible in which James 2:17 says "So too, faith by itself, if it is not complemented by action, is dead?" Our thoughts and prayers are not stopping the bullets. They're not expanding the mental health services. They're not enforcing the gun laws on the books or introducing new ones. They're not doing anything.

We're at a standstill, America. Columbine shocked us. Virginia Tech shocked us. When the threshold is broken, we're shocked. But what is the normal casualty we're acceptable with? 11 dead? 15? It seems we're now willing to accept it all.

This used to be a big deal. I want it to be a big deal again. Let's make America care again.

**In the time since I originally wrote this piece, a gunman killed 11 at a synagogue in Pittsburgh. A gunman, fueled by racism, killed two at a Kroger in Kentucky. Another gunman killed two at a yoga studio in Florida. Another gunman killed 12 at a bar in Thousand Oaks, CA. And by the time the next piece about this is written, more gunmen will have destroyed countless lives and leave empty seats at countless dinner tables across this country.*

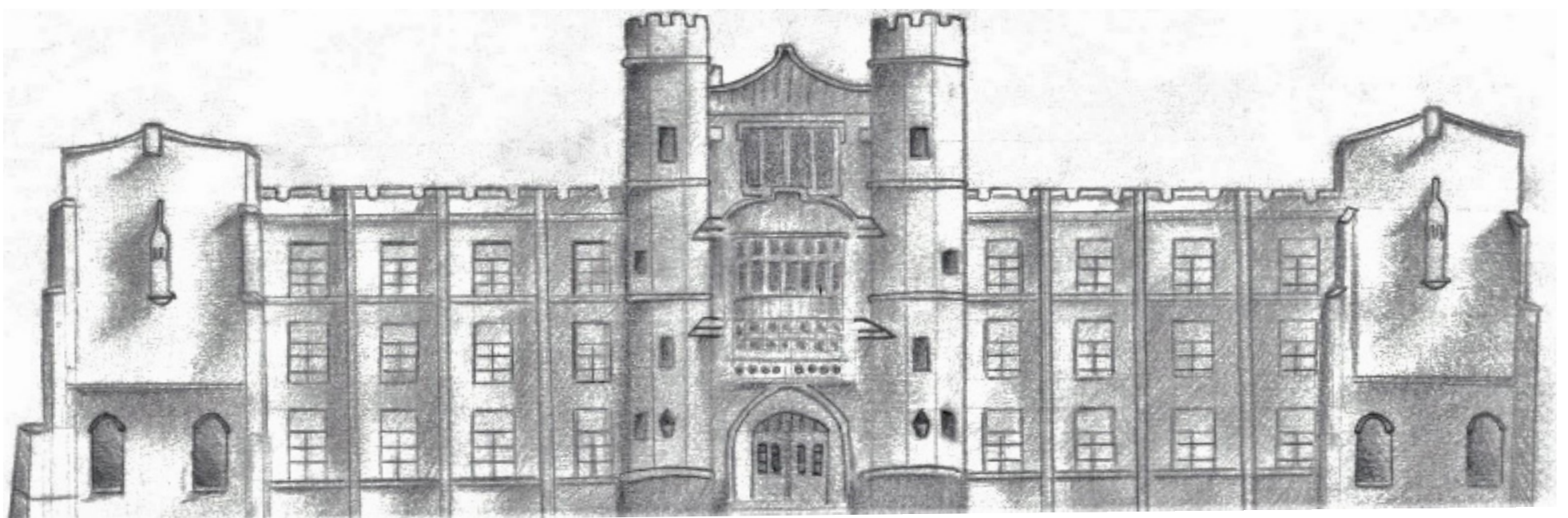


Photos courtesy of AP News

The Manchin-Toomey gun amendment would have expanded background checks for the purchase of firearms. In April of 2013, the bill was filibustered in the Senate and failed to move forward by six votes.



Ryan Spolar is a senior Honors Bachelor of Arts major. He is a staff writer for the Newswire from Cleveland.



Xavier defeats IUPUI & Evansville, falls to Wisconsin

BY LUKE FELICIANO
Sports Editor

Through three games this season, Xavier is 2-1 on the year after wins against IUPUI and Evansville while falling to Wisconsin.

Xavier jumped out to an early 10-0 lead after the first five minutes of play, but the Musketeers allowed the IUPUI to inch back into the game on a 10-0 run near the end of the first half.

Graduate transfer forward Ryan Welage, however, helped vault the Musketeers to victory.

He proved capable of his sharpshooting abilities as advertised. The former San Jose State product exploded for a team-high 24 points against IUPUI.

Welage started to find his stroke with a quicker catch-and-shoot release.

In the first half, he shot just 1-5 from beyond the arc, but in the second half he found a rhythm and buried five three pointers. Welage had 21 points in the second half alone.

"My teammates got me great looks," Welage said. "Once I hit one or two, they really started looking for me. Coach (Steele) drew up a couple of good plays as well that got me great looks. I think it was just about becoming more comfortable."

Xavier found itself trailing in the early stages of the first



NewsWire photo by Desmond Fischer

Through three games this year, junior forward Tyrique Jones and sophomores Paul Scruggs and Naji Marshall set career highs in points.

half in a seesaw affair against Evansville. The game was knotted up six times and the advantage switched hands three times throughout the game.

Junior point guard Quentin Goodin took the floor for his first appearance this season after being held out of the IUPUI game because of injury.

His impact was immediate — he found sophomore guard Paul Scruggs in the corner and picked up an assist as Scruggs buried the triple. Goodin was among the Big East Conference's best in assists last season, and he has

the ability to create offense at the helm of the offense.

The Musketeers started to gain separation from the Purple Aces thanks to the hot hand of Goodin, who helped Xavier garner a 9-0 run to go up by 12 points with just over eight minutes to go in the first half. He entered the game off the bench and tallied 14 points.

Evansville was able to stay in the game primarily because of their shooting from beyond the three-point line — the Purple Aces set a record for most threes in a single game (17) against Xavier.

Despite the close outcome,

one major factor that led to Xavier's success was its control of the glass. The Musketeers owned the rebounding battle, 51 rebounds to 22, while collecting 19 offensive boards.

Junior forward Tyrique Jones and Scruggs ignited a 7-0 run with just over four minutes to go in the game.

Jones was dominant, matching a career high with 19 points while recording a personal-best 20 rebounds.

The rebounding total was the most by a Xavier player since 2001 when Xavier great David West grabbed 21 boards in a game. Scruggs had a career day, amassing a team-high 24 points.

"I thought Paul played really well on the offensive end," Steele said. "I thought he made some shots, made some great plays (on) the pick-and-roll. He played a little bit slower (and) finished around the rim. Paul plays to win."

In the end, Xavier outlasted a resilient Evansville squad, 91-85.

The Musketeers had the opportunity to win the marbled match against Wisconsin after defeating the Badgers on the road last season. The two teams also met in the 2016 NCAA Tournament when Xavier fell in the Round of 32.

The Musketeers had a tall task in front of them having to face Preseason All-Big Ten

forward Ethan Happ.

Xavier defended Happ fairly well in the first half, but he paced Wisconsin as he was the Badgers' leading scorer finishing with 30 points. Happ also had 10 rebounds.

Despite being down by 11 at one point in the first half, the Musketeers managed to crawl back into the game — trailing by just a score heading into the break.

The Badgers went on a 16-2 run in a three and a half minute time span to regain their double-digit lead. Meanwhile, the Musketeers couldn't seem to get in sync on offense.

Xavier shot 45 percent from the field and struggled to connect from long range, shooting just 20 percent from behind the three-point line throughout the game.

However, sophomore forward Naji Marshall provided a bright spot in the Xavier offense. He led the team in points (24) and rebounds (12), notching his first double-double of the season.

"I thought Naji bounced back," Steele said. "... He's a tremendous player... I thought overall, he played a really nice game. He rebounded the ball, he attacked the rim. He's one of the best drivers in the entire country."

Xavier sliced the lead to single digits but was unable to mount a comeback. As a result, the Musketeers fell 77-68.

Ross, Gray lead Xavier past Chicago St. & Tenn Tech

BY DONNIE MENKE
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team started its season on a high note with two victories, beating Chicago State 91-57 and Tennessee Tech 70-60 in the opening week. Both games were played at home in Cintas Center.

Xavier opened the season against Chicago State last Wednesday. The Musketeers jumped out to a fast start, scoring 34 points in the first quarter while only allowing 17.

They continued their first half domination into the second quarter, allowing just five points while scoring 16 of their own. As a result, Xavier led 50-22 at the break.

Chicago State gained some momentum in the third quarter however, outscoring Xavier 21-17 in the period.

Xavier took the momentum back in the fourth quarter and closed the game out strong, outscoring Chicago State by 10 points, 24-14, in the final period.

Sophomore forward Deja Ross led the team in scoring with 22 points on just 11 field goal attempts, of which she made eight.

Ross also had six rebounds



NewsWire photo by Desmond Fischer

Sophomore forward A'riana Gray (No. 21) led the way for the Musketeers in their 70-60 victory against Tennessee Tech. She posted her second career double-double collecting 24 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

and four made three-point field goals on seven tries.

The forward tandem of sophomore A'riana Gray and redshirt junior Tierra Floyd also scored in double figures, chipping in 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Freshman forward Ayanna

Townsend also played a major role in the victory, scoring 15 points and going a perfect 6-6 from the field. Townsend also had the game high in rebounds with eight, and blocks, with four.

The win improved Xavier's record to 19-0 in season

openers at Cintas Center.

Following Chicago State, the Musketeers took on Tennessee Tech last Sunday. In a game that was much more evenly matched than the opener, Xavier managed to pull out the victory after overcoming an early deficit.

Tennessee Tech started the game strong, outscoring Xavier in the first quarter by three, 20-17.

Xavier was able to battle back in the second quarter, winning it 19-13, and took a three point, 36-33 lead into the locker room.

Tennessee Tech continued to stay within striking distance through the third quarter, trailing only 51-46 heading into the fourth quarter. Xavier managed to keep them at arm's length for the rest of the game, eventually grabbing the 70-60 victory.

Gray built on a quality performance against Chicago State to post the team's first double-double of the season, scoring 24 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

Her 24 points were also a new career high. Sophomore guard Aaliyah Dunham also scored in double figures, as did junior guard Tee Owens, scoring 13 and 12 points, respectively.

Up next, Xavier takes on No. 25 Minnesota on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Cintas Center. After that, the Musketeers will take on Fairfield at 2:00 p.m. on Nov. 17 in Cintas as a part of the Lauren Hill Tipoff Classic.

Conners freestyles Xavier to swimming success

Junior swimmer has five of the top ten finishes in the Big East in November

BY JOE CLARK
Staff Writer

Following a record-setting sophomore campaign that saw her earn All-Conference honors in seven events and set school records in three events, junior Emily Conners is off to another hot start for Xavier women's swimming in the fall portion of the team's 2018-19 season.

Conners, who set school records last year in the 100 and 200m freestyles, has won at least one individual event in Xavier's last six meets. She is also a part of a relay team that has finished no lower than fourth place in any meet this year.

"I think that relay is pretty fun, especially the 200 medley. We all enjoy swimming together," Conners said. "We're really comfortable swimming together, so I think that helps."

Conners also attributed the addition of freshman breast-stroker Lydia Schaeffer for some of the success of the relay team.

This month alone, Conners has five of the top ten swims in the Big East, including the top three overall according to collegeswimming.com. She



Photo courtesy of goxavier.com

Junior swimmer Emily Conners had an impressive sophomore campaign, and has carried that momentum into her junior year. This season, she has owned at least one individual event win in Xavier's last six meets.

has been a major factor that has propelled the Musketeers to the No. 2 ranking in the Big East this season.

"This summer, I stayed in Cincinnati and was able to train with my coach one-on-one, so I had a lot of opportu-

nity for improvement over the summer," Conners said. "The girls team really came in this year. We really hit the ground running. We've really been pretty successful this far."

Conners, a four-time Big East Swimmer of the Week,

only swims freestyle.

"I'm just sprint-freestyle, so I only swim the 50, 100, and 200m freestyle. I would say my favorite event is the 100m, and I would say that's where I'm the most successful too," Conners said. "People al-

ways ask me, 'do you ever get bored of freestyle,' but no, I love it. I love to swim freestyle, sprint freestyle, I think it's a lot of fun to race and I think that's what keeps me going and what makes me want to do even better."

Conners will look to continue her record-setting career with Xavier when the women's swimming travels to Cleveland State for the CSU Magnus Cup meet.

Xavier visited Cleveland on Oct. 27 for a meet against Cleveland State, which ended in a tie.

The Magnus Cup Invitational will feature swimmers from Akron, West Virginia, Duquesne, Cleveland State, Youngstown State, St. Francis (PA), Delaware and others.

"I think that personally, it's really good competition. We get a lot of fast swimmers from Akron, and so it's really good to get some racing in against them. As a team, Cleveland State has always been a good match, and we always go into that meet trying to pull out a W against them," Conners said about this weekend's meet. "It'll be hard, but it'll be fun."

MLB offseason ripe with key free agents

Harper and Machado among most sought after acquisitions

BY JACK DUNN
Campus News Editor

Even though the 2018 MLB World Series ended a little more than two weeks ago with the Boston Red Sox defeating the Los Angeles Dodgers in six games, the off-season has created a stir as it has already begun.

Despite losing in the World Series for the second year in a row, Dodgers' starting southpaw Clayton Kershaw decided to decline his player option for \$65 million for two more years. Instead, he signed an extension with the team for three years and \$93 million.

However, his teammate, shortstop Manny Machado, is expected to be one of the most sought after free agents this year. The Dodgers originally acquired him in a trade from the Orioles, but only controlled his contract through the end of this season.

The Red Sox have their own free agent question to answer if they want to maintain their championship-caliber roster next year. Star closer Craig Kimbrel declined his qualifying offer on Nov. 2 and is expected to attract the attention of the Cubs, Indians, Phillies and his former team, the Braves.

Six players have turned down qualifying offers from their current teams so far, which seems to be a con-



Photo courtesy of Wiki Commons

Outfielder Bryce Harper will be one of the most prized talents available in the offseason after he turned down an offer to return to the Nationals.

tinuing trend for players on the verge of hitting the free agent market. A.J. Pollock, Bryce Harper, Patrick Corbin, Yasmani Grandal and Dallas Keuchel all declined their offers. Only Hyun-Jin Ryu accepted his offer to stay with the Dodgers.

Harper has voiced that his asking price is around the \$400 million range for his next contract, but teams have already expressed concern for consistency. The Yankees, who were expected to be in the hunt for the Nationals' outfielder, have stated they are no longer interested. This may be due to the dip in Harp-

er's average from .319 in 2017 to .249 in 2018, despite having a better second half of the season than the first.

Harper, who was selected to be on the cover of MLB '19 *The Show*, is currently pictured in a training jacket and not wearing the jersey of a specific team.

On Nov. 7, Harper rejected a 10-year \$300 million deal to return to the Nationals. This is perhaps a signal of his intentions to explore free agency.

In the meantime, MLB award finalists will continue to be announced this week. The week got started on Mon-

day with the Rookie of the Year for both leagues, with pitcher/designated hitter Shohei Ohtani winning in the American League and Ronald Acuña, Jr., winning in the National League.

The managers of the year were announced on Tuesday as Braves' manager Brian Snitker and Athletics' manager Bob Melvin.

The Cy Young winners will be announced at 6 p.m. on Wednesday and the MVPs will be announced at 6 p.m. on Thursday.

The Boston Red Sox claimed their fourth title since the new millennium, the most by any one team in the same span of time.

They are also only the fourth 100 regular season win teams since 2000 to win the World Series the same year.

Red Sox manager Alex Cora became the first rookie manager since 2001 to win the World Series in his first season after winning the World Series last year with the Astros as a bench coach.

The Dodgers will be looking for answers after this first ever World Series matchup against the Red Sox since their relocation to California. Despite going to the NLCS for the last three seasons, and the World Series for the past two, the Dodgers have not won a World Series since 1984.

Sports Banter

Fortnite and Football

The popular video game Fortnite recently teamed up with the NFL to release new avatar skins last Friday. The skins have allowed for players to customize their character's look, which has led some to depict former pro players with criminal histories.

86'd to 76'd

After having disagreements with the Timberwolves' coaching staff, shooting guard Jimmy Butler was part of a blockbuster trade last Sunday which sent him to the 76ers.

No need for alarm

According to a picture from *The Times-Picayune*, New Orleans Saints' head coach Sean Payton reportedly smashed a fire alarm prior to the team's game against the Bengals.

Episode IV: A New Wing

The Air Force Academy mascot, Aurora, suffered a wing injury during a prank prior to the team's football game against Army on Saturday. The bird is showing signs of improvement and recovery.

Dance group dazzles & excites XU

The Dayton Contemporary Dance Company impressed Xavier audiences



Photo courtesy of the National Air and Space Intelligence Center
The nationally recognized Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, as pictured here during a performance for the National Air and Space Intelligence Center, came to Xavier and provided a thrilling show for attendees.

BY HEATHER GAST
Campus News Editor

The nationally recognized Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (DCDC) dazzled Gallagher Student Center Theater on Friday, Nov. 5. The performance was organized by the Xavier music series in conjunction with the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, as well as the Alumni

Association, to kick off Alumni Weekend.

For the past 50 years, DCDC has prided their focus on creating performance opportunities for dancers of color and a platform for performances that share the African-American experience.

The first act of the night, "Wawa Aba," was named after a seed that symbolizes tough-

ness, hardness and perseverance to the Akan people of Ghana. The choreography exhibited sharp, powerful moves that highlighted the athleticism of the dancers.

The first two sections of "Wawa Aba" were set to music by Afro-Brazilian samba outfit Grupo Batuque and transitioned to doo-wop by 70s group Labelle.

The final section was accompanied by the dancer's stomps as they conducted a Zimbabwean chant. The dancers condensed into a diamond formation, their stomping feet slowly picking up the pace.

By the time the piece was almost over, their feet pounded the floor so hard it was a wonder they didn't tunnel through the stage. The audience sat transfixed as their thundering feet reached a climax in a final deafening stomp.

The second act of the night included excerpts from the show *Stepping Into Season*. "Stepping Into Season" featured the jazz music of contemporary African-American trumpeter Wynton Marsalis.

Brazen brass melodies and lively percussion were accented with soaring lifts and leaps. The expressiveness of each dancer provided dynamic storytelling as the audience was brought through the journey of life in community, romance and personal reflection.

For their final act, "Shed," the curtains rose upon the dancers concealed in black, raincoat-like jackets. They began to dance in sync to a spoken word poem by John De

Kadt, entitled "This Rhythm Is Not Mine," accompanied by percussion that emphasized identity within community.

As the music transitioned to electronic dance music, the dancers begin to show their own individuality. They shed their jackets and allowed their authentic selves to emerge. Dancers showed off high leg extensions, dizzying pirouettes and ambitious leaps. One dancer threw in a burst of flossing, to the humour of the crowd.

The audience burst into applause as the curtain settled. First-year nursing major Ali Hausfeld was impressed by the group, but not only for their technique.

Hausfeld noted that she had never seen a modern or classical dance company that was not made primarily of White dancers.

"Having a diverse presence, whether it's on a college campus or anywhere else, is always important," she said.

Hausfeld also commended the music department's efforts for the event. "I'm glad that Xavier... makes efforts to promote events like this so that students can get involved and enjoy it."

Highway 61 Revisited gets revisited by professors

Bob Dylan's 1965 album receives original reactions from a response project

BY KEVIN THOMAS
Interim Editor-in-Chief

When Dr. Graley Herren, chair of the English department, was invited to participate in a panel about Bob Dylan, he was ecstatic.

"I have Tyrone Williams to blame," Herren said. "He, somehow, I still don't know how, but because he's way artier than I am, swims in different circles. And he knows or met Brianna Matsky... She contacted me, and it took me as quickly as I could type out, 'Yes, yes, a thousand times yes.' I agreed because I will go anywhere, anytime, to talk about Bob Dylan because there's no subject that interests me more."

The panel, which was held in the Blackbox Theater of the Contemporary Arts Center on Nov. 7, was the opening act of "Something is Happening Here," a response project curated by Matsky, a professor at Wilmington College. The project was built around inviting 12 different composers to create original piano pieces responding to Dylan's 1965 album, *Highway 61 Revisited*, though it has grown to also include nine filmmakers and six interdisciplinary artists.

As the crowd of only thirteen people gathered, Herren leaned back in his chair, allowing his Triumph Motorcycle t-shirt to be exposed — the

same shirt that Dylan is wearing on the album cover, which Herren told Michael Fiday, one of the other panelists, he had ordered online shortly before.

The panel was composed of Yemi Oyediran, a musician and historian currently working on a documentary about King Records, Fiday, a professor of composition at the University of Cincinnati, and Herren, and was hosted by Matsky.

The panel was opened with Matsky giving a short recap of why she had chosen this album in particular to respond

to. She hails from Minnesota, a few towns away from where Dylan grew up as Robert Zimmerman, and said that she had decided on *Highway 61 Revisited* because of two reasons: Dylan went electric and wasn't explicitly political, and she had a personal connection to it because of her hometown and she had been given a copy of it by a boyfriend when she was younger.

The panel opened with Oyediran speaking about the sound scape that Dylan created, and eventually evolved into him claiming that Dylan essentially created punk rock

with this record because of the subversive political attempt he made to communicate with sound, rather than lyrics. This claim was Herren's highlight of the night.

"Though I was fascinated by what Michael and Brianna had to say, I also just don't have the vocabulary to follow everything they were talking about in terms of chord progressions and notes," Herren said. "Whereas Yemi's area of expertise was not so far afield with things I was familiar with, I could understand more of what he was saying and apply it usefully to my little niche of Dylan studies."

Overall, Herren believed the night to be a rousing success because of the different perspectives of all the different panelists.

"I liked (the panel) a lot," Herren said, "and I learned a lot because... analyzing words is my specialty. And so, even though I'm aware that a song is more than just words on a page, much more, it's performance art, it's music, it's variations in vocal delivery... But all the lyrical stuff is what I tend to focus on, whereas the panelists came from different perspectives."

The response project will continue at 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday evening at the Woodward Theater with the premiers of the nine original compositions and films. Thursday night will focus on the A-side of the album, while Friday will be the B-side. Tickets are available on a sliding scale at www.woodwardtheater.com.

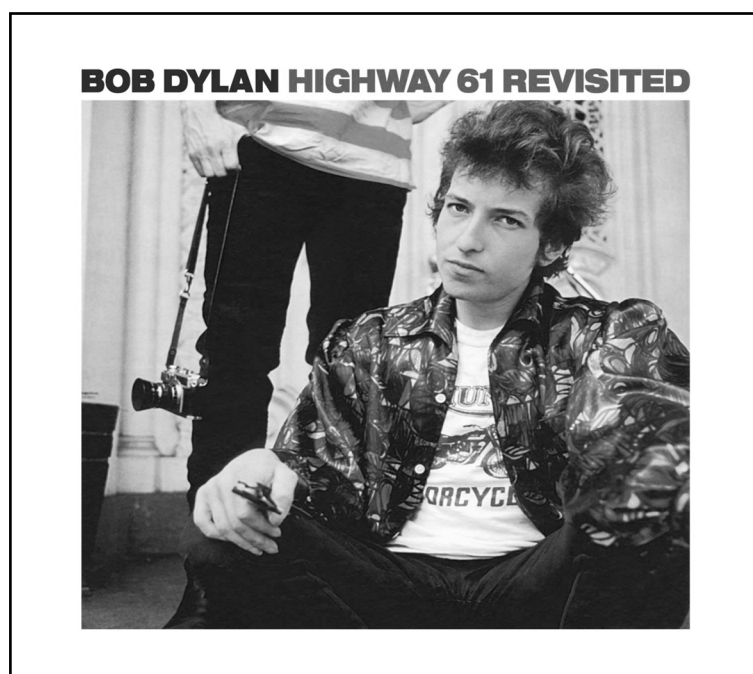


Photo courtesy of Amazon
Bob Dylan's 1965 album will be responded to in the form of nine original compositions and films as a part of "Something is Happening Here."

Superhero Stan Lee passes away

On Monday, November 12, comic book legend Stan Lee passed away at the age of 95.

Stan Lee was famous for being one of the founders of the Marvel comic book universe and many of its

characters including Ant-Man, Spider-Man, the Avengers, Black Panther, Black Widow, Captain Marvel, Doctor Strange, the Fantastic Four, Groot, Hawkeye, Hulk, Iron Man, Nick Fury and many more.

Red Dead Redemption 2 seizes the reins of the video game world

Released Oct. 26, the much-anticipated sequel to the hit 2010 video game Red Dead Redemption has been attracting players worldwide. Below, read a review of the game and learn about just how much of an effect it's had.

New game already proves an instant classic

BY OWEN HUNT
Guest Writer

Video games can be one of two things. They can be repetitive and fast paced, easy to pick up and put down over and over again. They can also be drawn out and slowly paced, requiring hours of devotion and play time to fully enjoy and appreciate. *Red Dead Redemption 2* falls into the latter category. From, Oct. 26 all the way to the evening of Oct. 30, I played *Red Dead Redemption 2*. After about 20 hours of play time, I completed the game. Here are my impressions.

Red Dead Redemption 2 is amazing. Beyond amazing. It is an experience to play. But honestly, could we expect anything less from Rockstar Studios, the creators of the series? *Red Dead Redemption 2* delves into what gang life was like for outlaws in the West, during a time when law and order was becoming more and more common and civilized life was starting to take over.

The game starts with the playable protagonist Arthur Morgan barely surviving a deadly snow storm in a mountain range. Along with returning characters John Marston and Dutch van der Linde, Arthur must help the gang of about 20 people survive the snow storms. Along the way,



Photo courtesy of rockstargames.com

Red Dead Redemption 2 is set in 1899 and follows the story of outlaw Arthur Morgan, a member of the ruthless van der Linde gang. Players explore the world through acquiring a horse, an asset and a companion.

the player will start to hear of a "Blackwater Ferry Heist," a heist Arthur was not a part of that went terribly wrong. Because of this heist, the gang was forced to flee the town of Blackwater, leaving thousands of dollars' worth of valuables behind.

Once the gang escapes the mountains, the world of *Red Dead Redemption 2* begins to open to the player. The map takes place in the five made-up American states of Lemoyne, New Hanover, Ambarino, New Austin and West Elizabeth. Each state is different from the last, with different weather, wildlife, fauna and

people.

To explore the world in a timely manner, you must acquire a horse, an asset and your closest companion as you explore the wild and dangerous world. You also must care for the horse by routinely feeding and cleaning it. However, I would advise not getting too attached to your horse, as permanent horse death can cause you to lose your friend forever. For this reason, I prefer to choose a horse with a lot of health and low stamina, just so I have that extra safe barrier incase things go wrong.

Throughout the game, members pass away, loyalty

is tested and the very lives of our characters are put to the test as the game reaches its epic climax and leads into the first *Red Dead Redemption*. Arthur Morgan becomes an easy character to like, as with many other members of the gang. The story does a fantastic job of depicting what life was like for outlaws in the West as the hammer of law begins to come down on them. Outlaws must adapt to society or seemingly disappear into legend.

However, *Red Dead Redemption 2* is not perfect. It has its flaws. To begin, the controls are very difficult to manage. I often times found

myself attacking a friendly non-playable character accidentally, as Y (or triangle on PS4) is used to attack and to get on a horse. Often, I felt as if my weapon should have been hitting my target, yet instead it caused the bullet to oftentimes land behind my target.

The size of the map is also so large that it would take me nearly 15 to 20 minutes just to get from one place to another, especially later in the game. This can become obnoxious after a while.

Despite its flaws, *Red Dead Redemption 2* is a masterpiece of a video game and should be played by anyone who is a fan of the franchise or video games in general. With its gorgeous, picturesque landscapes, lovable characters, incredible story and exhilarating gameplay, *Red Dead Redemption 2* deserves its spot as the most profitable entertainment product at launch. This game is an instant classic and will be remembered as one of the greatest video games of all time.

Total score:



Please help me come up with a clever cowboy title also regarding facts and money?

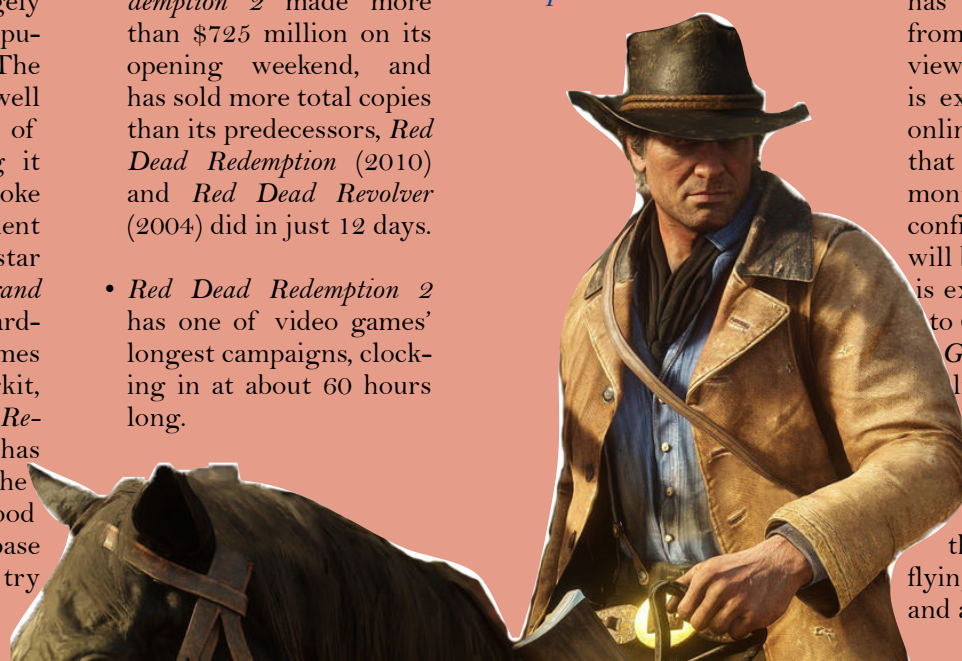
- The success of the game has been largely attributed to the popularity of *GTA V*. "The original game was well received but because of the (western) setting it didn't, at the time, stoke the embers of excitement from traditional Rockstar fans more used to *Grand Theft Auto*," Piers Harding-Rolls, head of games research at IHS Markit, said. "With *Red Dead Redemption 2*, the wait has been so long and the critical reception so good the huge *GTA V* user base has proved ready to try out a new product."

- Rockstar's *Red Dead Redemption 2* made more than \$725 million on its opening weekend, and has sold more total copies than its predecessors, *Red Dead Redemption* (2010) and *Red Dead Revolver* (2004) did in just 12 days.
- *Red Dead Redemption 2* has one of video games' longest campaigns, clocking in at about 60 hours long.

BY JACK DUNN
Campus News Editor

- *Red Dead Redemption 2* has received perfect 10s from thousands of reviews, and more content is expected. There is an online multiplayer beta that is expected later this month. Rockstar hasn't confirmed exactly what will be in it just yet, but it is expected to be similar to *GTA V*'s online mode. *GTA V* has made millions of dollars from the sale of 'Shark Cards,' which buys millions of dollars of in-game money that can be used on flying cards, luxury cars and apartments.

- *Red Dead Redemption 2* has shipped over 17 million copies of the game to retailers and even more in online downloads (which are not tracked). Rockstar has a history of hugely successful games, as *Red Dead Redemption 2* is the second only to *Grand Theft Auto V*, which made \$1 billion in its first three days of release in 2013. *Grand Theft Auto V* sold 100 million copies, and is one of the most successful pieces of entertainment in history.



TURKEY EMOJI REVIEW

BY TREVER MCKENZIE

Online Editor

Which turkey emoji should you be spamming throughout the Thanksgiving holidays? Trever McKenzie breaks it down.

Apple – 9/10

Apple never fails to deliver with their emoji. Detailed, vibrant and appropriately thicc, this turkey brings class and style to the dinner table.

Google – 4/10

This turkey looks like it went to war and was never the same again.

Microsoft – 0/10

Okay Microsoft, we need to sit down and have a chat, because you clearly have no idea what you're doing.

Samsung – 1/10

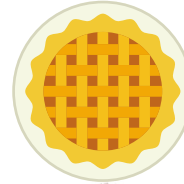
B^I G ~~ROTE~~ HER ^{IS} W^{AT} CHIN G_yOU.

WhatsApp – 2/10

Have any of you ever seen a turkey with a blue head? I almost didn't, considering this emoji is so tiny that I can barely see it.

Twitter – 1/10

"Look Mommy, I made a turkey in class today!" "That's great sweetie, now put it in the trash where it belongs."



A P V D Y T L E F R P S C M X
 T I G L A T L J N E D P R T I
 Q M A T X N U U P O K O H O X
 D E I F I L C R B W A E Y S O
 F R T S L M S E K P P T T T W
 Z E E G E O E O D E C R H A T
 X Z E A Y F W L A A Y Y M R B
 A Y M J M G O E E H O G B L R
 A T O L F I Q O R S F I Y I A
 Q N J T K M N L T T S U H T I
 J T I D D G P G O S X B V O N
 Y T H U N D E R A L T Q F N B
 F M Z X D V V R R E Y E A Q O
 F X D M A X W Z Q B Z Y P D W
 D Y U B B S F V L E I Y V C A

Dreaming	Thunder	Rhythm
Starlit	Emoji	Rainbow
Flower	Footstep	Poetry
Timeless	Turkey	Dance



Aries: Dropping all of your responsibilities and obligations in order to cry and sleep forever might sound awfully tempting right now, but endure long enough to let things calm down.



Taurus: You're that one kid who's thinking about Amazon Echo just so you can quote the meme, "Omg this is so sad, Alexa play Despacito."



Gemini: Just like how when life gives you lemons you should make lemonade, if someone hands you a bath bomb, you'd better be getting a bath ready within 24 hours.



Cancer: Watch out for people calling you crazy. Why? Because you are committing the sin of actually enjoying the classes you're taking right now.



Leo: If there's a crazy mess that appears in your home overnight, and you happen to own two dogs, be sure to interrogate one at a time before accusing any of causing it.



Virgo: You are not ready for this cold and ice and whatever. Maybe if you scream at the snow loudly enough, it'll go away?



Libra: Careful about transforming into a workaholic leading up to Thanksgiving. Your Tamagotchi will die, and it will be your fault.



Scorpio: You'll either suddenly feel super motivated to get all those massive final projects due, or you'll be doing them out of sheer panic — they're due kind of soon.



Sagittarius: Give those around you (whoever has the pleasure of hearing you snore at night) some space — unless there's a dirty bowl of ramen that hasn't been washed in months.



Capricorn: Got a B+ but really want that sweet A? Flipping a table won't get you there, unfortunately. Flex your diplomacy by asking for extra credit opportunities.



Aquarius: The weather's getting colder, but you can counteract that by spicing things up in your habits — try a new craft or sport (just don't make it too meme-y or people will hate you).



Pisces: It's getting time to start freaking out about finals and whatnot, so keep that nervous energy in check by making a sporadic trip to the exercise place that's not the HUB.

Facebook – 9/10

Facebook turned a leaf this time around. I'd invite this turkey to dinner.

EmojiOne – 8/10

I'm not gonna lie, despite the weird blue head thing, I actually really enjoy this one. Some strong stylistic choices make this one stand out.

Emojidex – 5/10

It could be worse.

LG – 2/10

There was an attempt made.



Canto IV Rivulets of Joy: Sestina to Dancing

BY SOFIE SIMONET

Staff Writer

Cascades of rhythms dance
 In the thralls of sound, where a lucent rainbow
 Emerges from the dark, unfurling in primeval cadences
 Of voiceless, lifted spirits.
 In the arches of the mind a motion
 Of thunder and kaleidoscopes resounds, where rivulets

Of silhouetted figures pour, where rivulets,
 Like arabesques of ecstasy, or maelstroms' dancing
 Footsteps, whirl in the paths of color, erupting in blossoms of motion.
 A poetry of human movement blooms in the rainbows
 Beneath the shuddering lights, illumining the complexity of spirits,
 And the carnival of souls, so that every lucent cadence

Belongs to an efflorescent joie de vivre, a cadence
 Of painting and motif, leaping, glimmering in the rivulets
 Of laughter and anguish, where meaning unfurls in these spirits'
 Pirouettes, iridescent and enchanted; a meaning that dances
 In the countenance of the rainbow,
 The quiet of sunlit rains, the swell of heartbeats, the starlit motion

Betrothed to dreams: and it was so, their dancing was the motion
 Of dreaming. Each dancer softens the leap of consciousness in the cadent
 Harmonies of their footsteps, steady fixities, thudding rhythms where rainbow
 Hues sang out, from the lapis of the soul, in a darkened rivulet
 Of starry consonance, where droplets of the timeless dance
 To the rhythms of the spirit.

Are we not the spirits, longing to know the depths of ourselves?
 How sonorous we sound! We watch the brilliant bodies rise in one human motion,
 Painting the profundity of experience in an aquarelle of dance!
 How the beats of ardor and anguish, of art and joy ripple in the cadenzas
 Of breath, entranced in half-awakening, like rivulets
 Of water caught in sunlight, purling in the rainbow's well-spring!

How glorious is the passageway of souls, pouring in the rainbow's
 Limpid flutter, dappling all creation with the flush of lilted spirits!
 They belong to us. It is the dance that reveals the universe's motions,
 Scintillating the timeless in the light-stepping paths of cadent
 Songs, where the heartbeat follows eternal rivulets,
 And the soul flowers in the radiance of her own dancing.

*There the rainbow glimmers; there, echoing beneath the stream of light are the dream-sodden spirits.
 In their secret motions are the rivulets of joy, and the soul's cadence is the renaissance of joy and life.
 There, it dances! In the wake of its wisdom, it dances, to its lovely rhythms and its gentle sighs.*

