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Xavier University (Cincinnati, Ohio)

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## Church scandal hits close to home

*List of Jesuit priests accused of sexual abuse of minors includes four previously assigned to Xavier but none currently associated with the university*

BY HEATHER GAST AND  
RYAN KAMBICH  
*Campus News Editor and  
Opinions & Editorials Editor*

A report issued last month by the Midwest Province of Jesuits revealed that no members of the society currently associated with Xavier face allegations of sexual abuse of minors.

The Province's Dec. 17 report listed all Jesuit priests with established allegations of sexual abuse of minors since 1955 to a nation of believers and non-believers alike wrestling with the consequences of the 60-year scandal.

Although no one currently associated with the university was named, four individuals who had at one point been assigned to Xavier appeared in the report: Fr. Mark Finan, S.J., (at Xavier 1956-1958), Fr. David McCarthy, S.J., (1956-1961), Fr. Donald Nastold, S.J., (1979-1991) and most notably Fr. Edward O'Brien, S.J., who was associated with Xavier from 1950-1983 and had a scholarship named for him after his death in 1983. The scholarship is no longer offered by the university.

Of those named in the report, only O'Brien was the subject of allegations for incidents that occurred while serving in a position at Xavier. Those allegations did not arise until 1990, seven years after his death.

According to a statement released the same day by Fr. Michael Graham, president,

two other individuals formerly associated with Xavier — Br. Jerome Pryor, S.J., (at Xavier 1974-2002) and Fr. Louis Bonacci, S.J., (1994-1999) — were also named in allegations of past sexual improprieties.

Pryor was removed from Xavier in 2002 after reports of improprieties with students. However, allegations involving Pryor did not involve abuse of minors, and he therefore did not appear in the Province's report. Bonacci was permanently removed from ministry by the Maryland Province in 2011 following allegations of misconduct with a minor in the late 1970s, prior to his time at Xavier.

The individuals implicated in the report served in multiple capacities at Xavier, such as faculty and ministry roles.

The report was released four months after an 18-month Pennsylvania grand jury report claimed more than 300 clergy had sexually abused more than 1,000 children throughout several decades.

Dioceses nationwide have received mounting pressure from Catholics, survivors and survivor advocacy groups, such as the Survivor Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP) and bishop-accountability.org, since *The Boston Globe* covered allegations against former priest John G. Geoghan in 2002.

While Geoghan was accused of sexually abus-

ing 130 boys, there was only enough evidence to convict him of a single instance of child molestation, resulting in a 10-year prison sentence.

In his statement, Graham assured members of the community that since the university adopted the Dallas Charter in 2002, there have been no reports of sexual assault by Jesuits at Xavier.

The Dallas Charter, more formally known as the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, was created by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to provide universal procedures in response to public outcry concerning Geoghan. It requires dioceses to report allegations to local authorities.

Reporters and survivor advocacy groups like SNAP have worked to expose the reaches of the Catholic Church's scandal since.

Bishop-accountability.org, a non-profit watchdog, hosts a bevy of news articles, released church documents and reports detailing the sexual abuse of both minors and adults in the Catholic Church in the United States. The website provides evidence of sexual abuse in the Church dating back to the 1940s and includes allegations in nearly every state.

In many cases reported on the website, authorities within the Church knew of clergy's abusive behavior and allowed them to continue in their positions involving work with children in schools, hospitals or youth groups. Pennsylvania's grand jury report also pointed to this trend.

According to a 2004 re-



Photo courtesy of Xavier Library Archives  
**Fr. Edward O'Brien, S.J., was one of the priests named in the Midwest Province of Jesuits' report listing those facing established allegations of sexual abuse toward minors. O'Brien was at Xavier between 1950-1983.**

port from the USCCB informally known as the Jay Report, 10,667 allegations of sexual misconduct were leveled against 4,392 clergy, including nuns, seminarians and deacons, between 1950-2002. The Center for Applied Research for the Apostolate at Georgetown University has recorded an additional 4,878 allegations after 2002.

According to the Jay Report, 100 of the 4,392 accused were given prison sentences by 2002. The reasons for this statistic are many. For one, the alleged abuse was often reported after the alleged offender's death or after the crime's statute of limitations had expired. Additionally, because many of the accusers were children at the time the alleged abuse took place and did not bring forth accusations until years, even decades, later, it was difficult to provide evidence of the abuse.

Groups continue to release lists of allegedly predatory clergy, including dioceses in Wisconsin and California. However, survivors and advocates have expressed dissatisfaction with the Church's attempts to redeem itself.

While bishops convened for a retreat concerning clerical sex abuse on Dec. 19 on University of Chicago's campus, SNAP and another survivors' advocacy group held public demonstrations exploring dioceses nationwide to comply with or instigate investigations through law enforcement rather than performing their own audits.

That same day, the Illinois attorney general reported that six Illinois dioceses had failed to name at least 500 clergy in their list of alleged sexually abusive clergy. Each diocese named in the report claimed to adhere to the Dallas Charter.

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Montessori Conversations, a podcast all about this educational field, debuted Jan. 17.



# Title IX Program Director selected

*Former Advocacy and Prevention Coordinator to lead education, prevention*



*News wire photo by Ellen Siefke*

**Talia Tuesta is excited to head efforts for sexual assault prevention and peer education on campus in her new role as Title IX Program Director.**

**BY ELLEN SIEFKE**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

While students were excitedly packing their bags and preparing for Christmas break, the Title IX Office was abuzz with news of its own: the selection of Talia Tuesta for the position of Title IX Program Director.

Previously the Advocacy and Prevention Coordinator, Tuesta's new duties will entail spearheading Xavier's education and prevention programs as well as assisting the Title IX office in education training and investigative work.

Tuesta officially assumed her new position on Tuesday. Until her replacement is hired, she will juggle continuing to fulfill some of the duties of the Advocacy and Prevention Coordinator with her new role as program director.

She said she was attracted to the position because of the potential for growth.

"I'm excited for this new opportunity because it's a same thread of the work I've been doing, but it's looking at it through a different lens," Tuesta said. "I'm looking forward to that opportunity for

growth and being in a space where I can learn how to do things in a different way but still tap into best practices, which is to have a survivor-centered lens and making sure I'm understanding that."

According to Xavier's Title IX Director Kate Lawson, there were four main factors that led to naming Tuesta as the new program director: her understanding of Xavier's mission and ability to articulate how her work fulfills that mission; her "expertise around inclusion and cultural competence around prevention/education," particularly in areas pertaining to Title IX; her understanding of Xavier's five-year Diversity and Inclusion Plan; and her previous work with students through peer education groups.

"Talia has demonstrated an ability to help students discern for themselves, 'What is my role here, while I'm on this campus and beyond?' and really effectively help students, faculty and staff, but particularly students, figure out what role they play and what are the unique skills and interests that they bring," Lawson said.

Tuesta's background includes a variety of work in areas pertaining to sexual and gender-based violence. In February, she will mark seven years in the field of advocacy and confidentiality.

Her work began in Bowling Green near Toledo, which is a high sex-trafficking area. She then worked in a shelter that dealt with cases of domestic or intimate partner violence before going to grad school. It was there that she found her current path in a university setting.

"I realized that the community work, while it's very fulfilling, it's very different than in a higher ed setting, and I wanted to give that higher ed setting a try since I had not experienced it in my previous roles," Tuesta said.

Xavier is her third school, and she previously worked at the University of Cincinnati (UC) and University of Kentucky in peer education roles. She helped develop training tools for the peer educators at UC, and she created a peer education group at Kentucky. She then arrived on Xavier's campus in 2017, where she has continued her work with peer education.

Tuesta said her own experience as an undergrad drew her to this area.

"I know I, as an undergraduate student, really valued the adults in my life who helped me to think," Tuesta said. "I really like doing that for students: not giving them the opinions that they should have, but letting them explore all different kinds of topics, and part of the peer education program is...just giving students the space to explore the things that they are wondering or curious about but either don't

want to say it because they might come across in some way or they just don't have the opportunity to explore those topics."

In her new role, Tuesta's primary function will be to coordinate the university's gender-based violence prevention and education efforts. Her work begins right away: This week, she's attending a four-day training event hosted by the Association of Title IX Administrators that Lawson herself attended five years ago.

Next, she'll focus on developing a plan for the future of education and prevention on campus. For example, part of that plan will be naming the primary prevention strategy to be implemented across campus. Also to be discussed is the role student groups like the BRAVE Peer Educators will play.

"Ideally, we're figuring out some sort of prevention plan and have some sort of vision that has three-, five- and 10-year goals, basically testing those thousands of ideas with key partners, whether that's faculty or students, kind of

**"I think there's a lot of talk about what we're going to do, and I'm getting excited about how those changes will actually look..."**

having the same conversations with lots and lots of people so that it can be tweaked to the way it fits on campus," Tuesta said. "Hopefully, if we look at where we are in five or 10 years, we are in a place where Title IX response is even better and prevention exists."

Lawson said that having a central connecting person like Tuesta to act as the face of Title IX prevention and education on campus will prove invaluable in terms of better connecting student leaders

and groups.

"It seems so small, but it makes all of the difference," Lawson said. "(If a student approaches her), Talia can say, 'You know what? I'm so glad you came, because two other students came yesterday and said x, y, z.' The student activism around these issues has exploded over the past five years...It's a good time to bring all that passion, all that strength, a lot of expertise from student leaders, so that we can harness all that work that they've done."

Tuesta also discussed the benefits of being in a position where she can focus on education and prevention.

"(Prevention is) something that I have been really passionate about but have never had the space or the opportunity to focus most of the time on," Tuesta said. "I'm excited to kind of structure or re-structure the way things are happening with regards to prevention, and I'm excited to be a part of that story and see where we go from here."

Overall, Tuesta expressed eagerness to begin work in her new role.

"I'm looking forward to just getting started," Tuesta said. "I think there's a lot of talk about what we're going to do, and I'm getting excited about how those changes will actually look and just kind of going for it."

In terms of the Advocacy and Prevention Coordinator position, Lawson hopes to have a replacement by mid-March and encourages students who are interested in being involved with the process to contact her or Tuesta and to attend the forthcoming open forums with the final candidates. They also emphasized that advocacy will still be available throughout the transition process and to contact either of them with any questions or concerns.

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**Instagram @Xavier.Newswire**

**Student Government Association Meeting Recaps will return next week**

*Senators were inducted at the Jan. 14 SGA meeting, and there was no meeting this past Monday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.*

# CDI Director headed to Rochester

By **BRITTANY WELLS**  
Staff Writer

Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion Dr. Taj Smith will close the door to his office for the last time this Friday.

After four and a half years at Xavier, Smith will take on his new role as Director of Diversity Education at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York, in February. The new position allows him to be closer to his family and partner while still working in a university setting.

Smith assured that he did not take this decision lightly.

“These kinds of decisions are never easy, and we all have to make them as part of growing up,” he said. “I really valued my time there, the four and a half years that I was able to call it my home-workplace.

“I hope people recognize that it is just one of those life opportunities that I just had to take, but I very much will miss the community.”

Although he is excited, Smith recognizes that there will be differences at his new position.

“A major part of my job right now is advocating for students,” he said. “...At my new job I won’t have that.”

Additionally, Smith noted that dialogue surrounding social justice might differ on RIT’s campus.

“Their mission isn’t rooted in justice and solidarity and all these other great Jesuit values,” he said. “That could be a different type of student to work with as well as faculty.”

Smith also said that he believes the Xavier community is noticeably invested in societal issues.

“While Xavier has room to grow, people, particularly students, are invested in that conversation (of social justice),” he said. “I’m not sure if my next school will be.”

Despite this unknown, Smith expressed his hope to bring conversations about social justice to students and faculty on campus.

One of Smith’s most well-known accomplishments include his role in the creation of the Bias Advisory and Response Team (BART). He was also a familiar face in the Center for Diversity and Inclusion as its director.

Despite his involvement with high-profile BART cases or campus programs and groups, Smith said he feels his greatest contribution to the Xavier community was building relationships across

a multitude of diverse spaces.

“He was always personable. It was never just a ‘hi’ or ‘bye,’ he actually cared about your day,” first-year Kylah Coleman said.

Senior Carolina Wamburga agreed with Coleman that what struck her about Smith was his care and concern for students.

“I remember when we had the wall of expression last semester and Stephanie was concerned about a student’s comment on the wall,” Wamburga said. “Taj was walking by, he heard Stephanie’s concerns for the student and he immediately went into action. The way he cares for students is inspiring and has really stuck with me and made me strive to be a better person.”

Senior Benmun Damul also spoke highly of Smith, though she has not warmed up to the idea of his departure.

“Taj has been fantastic. I like how he is able to balance a good relationship with students and administration,” Damul shared. “I’m hurt, and I feel a little betrayed because he’s always been a part of my Xavier experience, but I understand and I’ll come to terms with it because my anger can’t fix it.”

One of Smith’s favorite memories at Xavier was see-



Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

Dr. Taj Smith will leave his current position as Director of the Center of Diversity and Inclusion this Friday to take a similar job closer to family.

ing students arrive on their first day of Smooth Transitions. Smooth Transitions provides an additional orientation experience and a year-long mentor program for incoming first-year students from underrepresented backgrounds.

“They have this sort of eagerness of wanting to become whoever they are going to become and that they just need the tools and time to actually learn what that looks like,” Smith said.

When it comes to parting words of advice, Smith expressed encouragement for the entire Xavier community.

“I would encourage everyone to continue doing the work,” Smith said, “The work is never done. Even if I stayed at Xavier another 10 years, the work would never be done.”

Smith’s final message to students? “Make sure you hold the university accountable. Keep doing what you need to do... Hold each other accountable in respectful ways as long as other people are showing you respect and make Xavier an even better place.”

An interim director will be appointed for the rest of the semester. BART protocol will continue to operate during the transition.

# Senatorial support marked JBC’s term in SGA

By **ROSE HOFFSTETTER**  
Staff Writer

While JBC did not achieve the majority of their campaign directly as an Executive board, variations of campaign promises were fulfilled by efforts of individual Executives and executive support for senators’ initiatives.

Executive campaign platforms are known to be ambitious and set unachievable expectations, and JBC’s was no different. Of the 19 points, three were achieved during JBC’s term, one of which — providing more gender neutral restrooms on campus — was unassociated with SGA. The goals that were accom-

plished by JBC directly or indirectly through support were establishing a Xavier food pantry and continuing the It’s On X campaign, as well as assisting other sexual abuse prevention efforts on campus.

The first point on JBC’s platform was to reduce food waste by Chartwell’s catering by composting excess food or donating the excess food to a food pantry in the surrounding Norwood area or creating a food pantry on campus.

The Xavier food pantry, known as The Store, was opened in 2018 thanks to the efforts of sociology professor Kandi Stinson but was greatly assisted by funding from

SGA. During the annual allocation of the SGA budget, JBC supported Senator Ellen Rakowski’s push for funding for The Store, which greatly assisted the foodbank.

JBC delivered on their promise to continue It’s On X and supporting sexual assault prevention programs around campus, though in a slightly indirect manner. Stautberg was heavily involved in It’s On X’s efforts, though not JBC as a collective. Stautberg was also involved in the planning for National Eating Disorder Awareness Week.

The Executive team did bring attention to furthering their partnerships with identity and diversity organizations throughout the year, offering senators the opportunity to create events that they believed were important to the Xavier community.

With regard to campus safety, JBC wanted to improve XU Alert Me and have more frequent informative notifications. Students were especially concerned after there was no communication during the Sept. 5 shooting at Fountain Square, which was deemed too far away from campus for notification.

Despite efforts toward communicating student needs, there was a disjunct between the level of notification students wanted and what Xavi-



Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

JBC’s term included some Executive-headed events, but the trio mainly focused on supporting senatorial initiatives, including a voting shuttle.

er Police thought students wanted. Concerns about safety were brought up during the report of administration portion of SGA meetings and afterward discussed as a Senate. JBC did have several meetings with members of the administration in attempts to implement a more effective system, but not much change was brought despite this being a component of their platform.

JBC’s most visible accomplishments during their term were the two “Your School, Your Questions” forums and organizing Xavier’s participation in the We Will Not Be Next National School Walkout following the Parkland

shooting. The walkout attracted more than 450 attendees including students, staff and administrators.

The Executives were avid supporters of senatorial projects and helped senators achieve their goals. Such projects included then-Senator Blair McKee’s P.E.D.R.O Retreat, Senator Macey Windley’s Bill Demott speaker, Senator Beth Root’s voting shuttle or the Residence Life Committee’s new porch swings expected to arrive on campus this spring.

JBC’s greatest strength as a board was motivating senators to use their respective committees to enact change.



Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

Cole Stautberg (left), Johnny Srsich (center) and Bri Boyce (right) were elected as SGA Executives in 2017. They served until December 2018.

# May's proposal faces historic loss

*Brexit plan falls by a vote of 432-202; only clear future on EU exit is deadline*

BY JABARI TURNER  
Staff Writer

British Prime Minister Theresa May's proposal for the United Kingdom to leave the European Union (EU) was overwhelmingly opposed by a historic margin in the British Parliament on Jan. 15.

The result of the vote comes on the heels of eight days of parliamentary debates in which members of the Prime Minister's conservative party voiced opposition to her Brexit deal.

May's proposal was rejected by a vote 432-202. The record 230-vote difference was the worst parliamentary defeat in modern British government era. Of the 430 votes against the proposal, 113 came from her own Conservative party. The vote decreases the likelihood for an agreement to be reached before the March 29 deadline, the date the U.K. must have a plan to leave the EU.

Opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn stated that "one of the former Brexit secretaries promised a 'detailed,' 'precise' and 'substantive' document... The government spectacularly failed in providing a 'detailed,' 'precise' and 'substantive' document."

In his call to vote against the proposal, he critiqued the proposal's lack of clarity, checks and control and failure



Photo Courtesy of Flickr user Tiofaidh ár lá 1916

**Theresa May's proposal for Brexit was defeated in Parliament by a vote of 432-202. The 230 vote difference was the worst defeat in the modern British Government era. The U.K. has until March 29 to pass an exit plan.**

to mention frictionless trade.

May said the proposal provided certainty for business and protections for the rights of EU citizens in the U.K. and U.K. citizens in the EU. Additionally, May insisted the proposal provided the "deepest security partnership in EU history" and an "unprecedented economic relationship with the EU."

On June 23, 2016, 51.9 percent of voters supported withdrawal from the European Union. In her Prime Minister address prior to the Jan. 15 vote, May called on the parliament to honor the 2016 results, by voting for the proposal.

May faced a no-confidence vote 24 hours after she offered the proposal. The Prime

Minister is now meeting with leaders of different parties with the goal of finding a way to finalize a Brexit plan.

"The Brexit process is the British attempt to deal with the collapse of their empire and the growing reality that they are no longer a leading state in Europe," Xavier political science professor Dr. Timothy White said, "Advo-

cates of Brexit simplistically believed that they could recreate an idealized isolated state when in fact isolation will only further the economic demise of Britain. In a practical sense, Brexit has opened up the reality that the United Kingdom itself is fractured as is British public opinion"

White pointed this in part to politicians who provide concise answers to rather complex challenges; by deluding themselves and their followers by "not providing the sober analysis of reality that real leaders would provide."

The only clear aspect of Brexit's future is the impending deadline. Without a deal, there could be devastating economic ramifications.

"Brexit is interesting to watch from afar without having a horse in a race," said first-year history major John Higgins said. He cites the importance of Brexit as the United States are both allies with the U.K. and the nations of the EU. He believes it may be more difficult working with them separately.

Eight amendments have been introduced to fix May's plan. One amendment proposes giving Parliament the power to debate a range of options, including a second referendum or an even softer exit.

## The week in review: no police notes edition

*Medical money, Snoop investments, lunch money, finally an Eagle, big sharks and four percent bling*

- Ohio dispensaries sold \$75,000 worth of medical marijuana on their first legal day of operation. According to the Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program, the total volume of product sold was 8.7 pounds. Eventually, close to 60 dispensaries, including seven in the greater Cincinnati area, will open (Jan. 17).

- The body of a newborn baby girl was found in the women's restroom at an Amazon warehouse in Arizona. Phoenix police said they had contacted the mother but have not

revealed her identity. Amazon released a statement describing the discovery as "terribly sad and tragic" and added that workers are cooperating with police in the investigation (Jan. 17).

- Rapper Snoop Dogg continued to demonstrate that he's got his mind on his money and his money on his mind by investing in the Swedish company Klarna Bank. The start-up founded in 2015 provides finance options for consumers and currently exists in 14 countries. Snoop Dogg previously appeared in a video for the bank, where he is referred to

as "Smooth Dogg" (Jan. 17).

- A 12-year-old student in Georgia faces a 10-day suspension after using a counterfeit \$20 bill to pay for his lunch. The student said he got the bill from his father, who in turn said he got it from a fast food joint and did not realize it was fake. A lunchroom worker discovered the bogus bill's true nature and reported it to school administrators, who handed down the suspension (Jan. 18).

- After 35 years, a former New Hampshire police officer earned his Eagle Scout rank. Bob Hildreth replaced street signs as part of his 1983 project, but a car accident forced him to miss his board of review. "It means I finally got there," Hildreth said (Jan. 18).

- The dog world lost an icon when the pomeranian Boo, dubbed the "World's Cutest Dog," passed away. His owners made the announcement on Boo's Facebook page, which had earned more than 16 million followers. The post speculated that the loss of his beloved companion

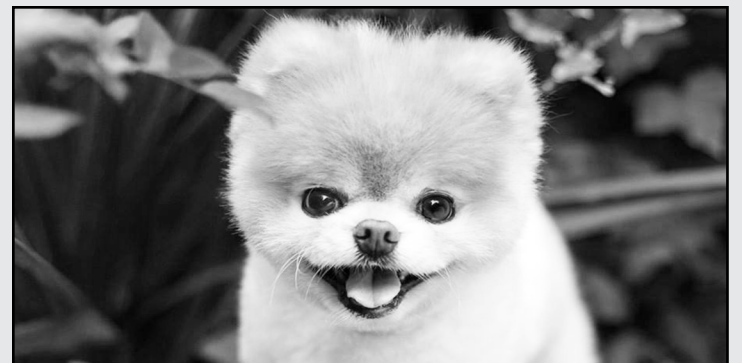


Photo courtesy of Facebook

**Boo the Pomeranian passed away peacefully last Friday. He was 12.**

Buddy last year may have contributed to the heart issues that ultimately led to his death (Jan. 19).

- Deep Blue, thought to be the world's largest shark, was captured on film by divers off the coast of Hawaii. It is estimated that the great white shark measures around six meters long — about half the length of a bus — compared to the average size of 4.6 meters and weighs two and a half tons. The aptly named Ocean Ramsey, a member of the team, added that Deep Blue might have been pregnant and posted a video of the encounter on her Instagram page (Jan. 19).

- Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown recently made a

quick stop at a Pittsburgh jewelry store to spend \$500,000 on some new bling, including five carat diamond earrings. Given that he's due to make \$12.9 million in 2019, that price amounts to about four percent of his salary, the layman's equivalent of a Target run (Jan. 20).

- WhatsApp is reducing the number of times a message can be forwarded from 20 to five in an attempt to limit the spread of false information. The update debuted in India, whose government had asked the company to intervene after several lynching incidents last summer were connected to messages forwarded via the app (Jan. 21).



Photo courtesy oceandiving.com

**Divers recently filmed what is believed to be the world's largest shark.**

# Officers acquitted in McDonald case

## Charges included conspiracy, official misconduct and obstruction of justice

BY ALANA HARVEY  
Staff Writer

Former Chicago Detective David March, ex-patrolman Joseph Walsh and Officer Thomas Gaffney of the Chicago Police Department were acquitted of conspiracy, official misconduct and obstruction of justice in the Laquan McDonald case, a verdict that left supporters of McDonald stunned.

Video footage showed Chicago Police Officer Jason Van Dyke fatally shooting 17 year-old McDonald 16 times, with 10 of these shots entering his body from the side and behind. Initially, witnessing officers stated that McDonald lunged at Van Dyke with a knife in hand, leaving the officer to defend himself with lethal force.

The official police report stated that the footage provided by dashcams of surrounding patrol vehicles confirmed the accounts made by witnesses.

The prosecution argued that those being charged lied to protect their colleague, failed to preserve evidence and dismissed outside sources coming forth with additional information in order to develop a narrative that justified the murder of McDonald.

A Freedom of Information request that was made by journalist Brandon Smith as well as by other local and national media outlets to con-



Photo courtesy of Flickr user Alek S

Activists show support for the family of murdered teenager Laquan McDonald after the acquittals of former Chicago Detective David March, ex-patrolman Joseph Walsh and Officer Thomas Gaffney of the Chicago Police Department for conspiracy, official misconduct and obstruction of justice.

firm the events, but all requests were denied by police on the grounds of an ongoing investigation.

It wasn't until Smith filed a lawsuit that the footage of the incident was released, resulting in March, Walsh and Gaffney being charged a year and a half later for their involvement.

Associate Judge Doménica Stephenson disagreed and

acquitted the accused because of lack of evidence against them. Stephenson justified her decision in saying, "Two people with two different vantage points can witness the same event and still describe it differently."

Van Dyke was convicted of second-degree murder and 16 counts of aggravated battery back in October. He was sentenced to six years and nine

months in prison on Jan. 18.

Due to this case's significant impact on the Chicago community, the results of these trials lead to growing tensions between officials and citizens.

"It was all over the papers for weeks," sophomore and Chicago native CJ Karwowski said of the influence of the crime.

When questioned on what

the future holds for the relationship between the Chicago Police Department and its citizens, Karwowski said he does not foresee an easy recovery from this case.

"I feel like there's a level of trust that needs to be present between citizens and police," he stated.

"I would imagine it's harder for citizens to trust the police after this."

# Government remains closed for 33rd straight day

## Parties remain locked in funding stalemate

BY SIERRA ROSS  
Staff Writer

The United States Federal government has been shut down for 33 days, making it the longest government shutdown in U.S. history.

On Dec. 22, the government entered the shutdown after an impasse regarding President Donald Trump's \$5.7 billion request for funding of a border wall. Earlier in the month, the Senate unanimously passed an appropriations bill without the funding for the wall. Trump refused to pass any bill without funding and maintains that he will veto any bill that denies it. The House attempted to pass a stop-gap bill in order to secure the funding, but it lacked enough support.

President Trump offered an extension to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals immigration policy (DACA) on Jan. 19, as well as temporary protections for undocumented immigrants, in order to bring about compromise and end the crisis. This would give undocumented immigrants who entered the country as children

a three-year reprieve from deportation. Democrats have opposed the proposition, refusing to discuss negotiations on wall funding until the government is reopened.

The Senate will vote tomorrow on both Trump's plan and a bipartisan compromise that will extend funding for federal agencies through Feb. 8.

Nine executive departments have been partially or fully shut down.

First-year political science major Sophie Boulter said, "It is painful to see so many workers out there that aren't getting paid" because of politicians inability to come to an agreement.

The Antideficiency Act, which prohibits non-essential operations without proper legislation in place, has caused employee furloughs.

Agencies have left federal employees to miss their first paycheck with the potential to miss more.

Several charities are offering housing and financial assistance to the unpaid workers, but it hasn't been enough to cover all of the affected in-

dividuals.

Xavier students have felt the impact of the government shutdown as well.

First-year business undecided major Ryan Persons encountered delays at the airport last week as a result of the shutdown. Person's security experience ran at least an hour at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York. His past experiences normally took about 20-30 minutes. He explained that this was because "the airport was low on staff."

Currently, a lot of airport employees are working without pay. More than 10 percent of TSA employees called out of work on Sunday alone.

Other government agencies are experiencing similar issues. The U.S. Coast Guard missed a pay check, the first time the armed services missed a pay check during a shutdown.

It is expected that this will not end until the government is out of the shutdown and funding is restored.

The federal government cannot operate at its full capacity until an agreement in Congress is reached.



Photo courtesy US Capitol on Flickr

Government buildings remain closed as the federal shutdown goes on.

# SGA Execs: State of the Campus

Empowerment. Engagement. Equity. These three simple words serve as the foundation of our platform, initiatives and goals as an administration. These words are the ignitor of change and action we hope to begin on campus. We, BDA (Blair, Desmond and Alfredo), saw from our various involvements prior to our election that there were pressing issues of food insecurity, a deflated campus environment, minimum student engagement and inequitable opportunities for various groups of students. As Executives, we have officially begun working to solve some of these problems and are collaborating with many other

students to have their input on solutions.

Many students have been openly frustrated and dissatisfied with the delay of the renovations in the lower level atrium of Gallagher Student Center. As students ourselves, we share some of the same frustrations with the constant miscommunication. Based on the conversations we have had with some of the staff members in ConneX, we are confident that the groups working on this project are doing their best to get the new dining area open and accessible to students as soon as possible.

Last semester, there were also heavy discussions involving student wellness and safety. With transitions and expansions within XUPD, the Title IX Office and the new HUB, many students have questions, comments and concerns aimed toward these sectors. In past years, there has been a lack of transparency between the administration and the student body. Our plan for February is to have our first campus-wide community discussion event with administrators whose roles have a direct impact on those areas. This forum will be public and

free for students to address concerns, issues, suggestions and even solutions about this university on a monthly basis. This will allow us all to move forward together.

Aside from the projects that will stem directly from current events on campus, we plan to implement some initiatives and projects throughout our term that are beneficial to the campus climate in general.

We have begun work on the establishment of a student-run child care center and a student-run shuttle service. Both of these will allow students to provide useful and high-demand services to their peers and give them insight on operational, functional and creative facets of a business.

The shuttle will be an on-call driving service to help XUPD spread their area of coverage. The child care center will be a space where students, faculty and staff will be able to drop off their kids for a couple of hours while they are working or in class. This child care center also will help allow non-traditional students to be more successful, as well as open more opportunities for student employment.

In addition to the stu-

dent-run shuttle, we recognize that students have needs off-campus that require more immediate and convenient methods of transportation. We have begun exploring alternatives such as the Zipcar. Having Zipcars on campus will be most beneficial for international students and students living on-campus without a vehicle.

Lastly, for the purpose of creating a more equitable environment, we are in the beginning stages of establishing a clothing bank here at Xavier. Not every Xavier student has access to various types of clothing at any given time. Students from areas that generally have warmer climates may not necessarily have clothes to prepare them for winters in Cincinnati.

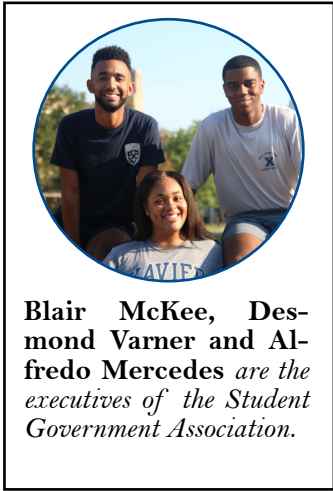
Along with any financial disparities that may occur with clothing insecurity, there is a need among students for business or business casual attire. Many first-year students come to college without knowing that they will need business clothing. Many upperclassmen have limited access to business clothes for professional occasions. Having this be another space run

by students creates another opportunity for student employment and allows for extended hours of operation. Students who donate will feel invested in the bank and show that they are truly "All for One." This clothing bank gives students a real, feasible, economical and equitable service to combat the challenges of the world in style.

Throughout the remainder of our term, we want it to be clear that we often keep the SGA office (GSC 270) open so that we can foster connections and community with everyone here at Xavier. We hope to utilize this space so we can always be present and available to engage with the student body. Our office hours are posted in the office and on our social media platforms.

We understand that we can't completely change Xavier, nor do we want to. We just want to enact real change to the same old problems with creative solutions. Understand that these solutions start with us and end with you, the student body. Let's take this journey together.

Wishing you all Better Days Ahead,  
BDA



Blair McKee, Desmond Varnar and Alfredo Mercedes are the executives of the Student Government Association.

## This year, make a resolution to be wrong

'Tis the season of the seemingly pointless New Year's Resolution. I told myself I'd start to go to the gym, again, and on week three I have still not been within a 500 foot radius of a piece of exercise equipment. Physical betterment is one thing we try to accomplish, but people rarely talk about a resolution to better their minds. A challenge I would like to propose to address this is to open yourself up to the possibility you might be wrong.

None of us likes being wrong. We go online and surround ourselves with an echo chamber of like minded individuals so our worldview isn't challenged. We see a news story, and we immediately jump on the bandwagon of the side we are already comfortable with. Or, as stated in

a previous *NewsWire* piece, we think others should only be allowed to talk about what we agree with.

None of this is beneficial to anyone, especially ourselves. We came to college to learn and to be challenged. I believe you are failing yourself if you don't try to learn from your classmates as well as from your professors.

There is a cultural phenomenon in this country wherein if someone challenges our worldview, we tend to vilify them and their opinions to make it easier to protect our bubble. We are too comfortable with being comfortable. I know people who refuse to be friends with anyone who has a different opinion than them on certain topics. You cannot claim to be an open minded individual and not be open to

other ideas at the same time.

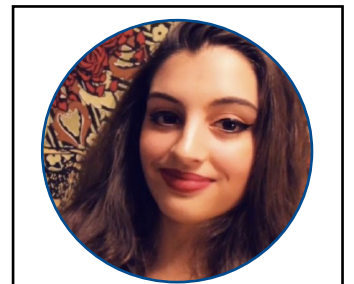
I will be the first to admit I seek out those like me so we can discuss our opinions together. It is completely natural for people to gather based on similarities — that's how early humans were able to become sedentary. But how did early humans learn each other's languages, philosophies and crafts? By interacting with people they were not familiar with and coming together with the recognition that each party present had something unique and valuable to bring to the table. We evolved by learning from each other, a process that is just as important now as it was back then, though we are now learning about differences in thoughts instead of differences in hunting techniques.

The only way our country

can overcome the divisions we are currently plagued with is to start with improving ourselves. When you meet people who have different opinions, open yourself to the possibility that they have those opinions because they have experienced something completely different in their life than you have. Your opinions are different from theirs for the same reason.

Allow your mind room to change and grow, and open yourself to the possibility that your opinions and worldview may also be changed. If we don't learn from each other, and we don't remember that it's OK to have different opinions, we will not be better off as individuals or as a country. Learning how to learn from someone else is a much more beneficial New Year's Resolu-

tion than just giving up soda, because while your soda fast may last all of a month, allowing yourself to be open to knowing and understanding people of all kinds is a skill that will allow you to be wiser, kinder and more fulfilled for the rest of your life.



Anne Marie Coriale is a senior business management major from Lexington, Ky. She is a guest writer for the *NewsWire*.

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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**  
All inquiries should be directed to the Business & Advertising Manager, Jessica Blocker, through [newswire@xavier.edu](mailto:newswire@xavier.edu).

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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.

# Men need to be masculine

What does it mean to be a man? What does it mean to be masculine? Do men need to be masculine? If the recent Gillette advertisement extolling men to “Shave their Toxic Masculinity” was good for anything besides a laugh at the people falling for another “woke” corporate marketing ploy, then it was bringing these questions to the forefront of my mind. I have written an article before about the first question above, and I think now is a good time to revisit the topic in light of this controversy through the framework of masculinity and manhood.

So what does it mean to be masculine? The answers to that question will probably vary in the detail, but there is a rough shape to what we classify as masculine. Generally, these are easily identifiable traits such as strength, courage, stoicism, aggression, independence, assertiveness and so on. Traditionally, societies

have expected men to exhibit as many of these traits as possible in order to be considered a true man. Today, some of these traits are usually lopped in with the trendy concept of “toxic masculinity.”

I will freely admit I loathe that term. I despise it because masculinity is not toxic. The behaviors associated with toxic masculinity, typically presented as various forms of exclusion, aggression or violence, are the result of a lack of masculinity rather than the presence of a corrupted form. They are, to paraphrase Saint Thomas Aquinas, a result of effeminacy.

Now, effeminacy is about as controversial a concept as masculinity and femininity, but it is distinct from these two sets of traits and behaviors. In the context of this article, effeminacy does not mean feminine behaviors. Effeminacy, according to Aquinas’s *Summa Theologica*, is when a man forsakes the good

of the future for the pleasures of the moment. Aquinas calls these men “soft” because they quickly yield to the difficulty and suffering of life. Instead of pursuing what is meaningful through the difficulty of life, effeminate men pursue what is expedient and pleasurable.

Going back to Gillette’s ad, there was one scene in particular that struck me as showcasing effeminacy as I have described. In what is obviously a high-level business meeting, the man standing at one end of the table discredits what his female colleague has said and begins the process of reiterating her idea in his own words so he can take credit. How is this man effeminate? He lacks the ability to see beyond his own ego and need for immediate affirmation from his colleagues. Instead of encouraging his counterpart or asking her to further explain her idea, he has to take over the situation to feel in control.

In truth, he may believe he is actually a “masculine” man for doing so, but he is sacrificing the future potential of his colleague and his company for his need in the moment.

There are a large number of other examples in the ad that I could go to that showcase immediate-gratification effeminacy, but instead I want to move to where the ad succeeds in showing true masculinity. Near the end of the ad, a clip from the long-form video shows a father holding his young daughter up to the mirror, having her repeat the phrase, “I am strong.” This is an entirely heart-warming and applause-worthy example of masculinity.

The father is laying the foundations for his daughter to become a confident, courageous young woman. If I were to sum up what ideal masculinity looks like, it would be using that father’s example: acting as a leader, guardian and teacher. Society

needs more men to act in that exact manner.

Truly, I have much more I could say about masculinity and how desperately we need it in society, but I only have so many words in this article. I will conclude with this: Our men and boys are right now in a time of crisis. Many people claim it is the fault of masculinity. I believe that masculinity is not the problem. It is the solution.



**Colin Lang** is a senior history and Philosophy, Politics and the Public double major. He is a staff writer for the Newswire from Westlake, Ohio.

# Learning to live experience in the Holy Land

Over winter break, I was blessed to go on the Xavier Holy Land study abroad program to Israel. During my high school career, I became both educated and passionate about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. As a high school student applying to Xavier, I was elated at the idea that I may get to go to the Holy Land. Even more enticing, I had always been very connected to my faith, and I was excited to have the opportunity in my academic career to explore the history of the tradition I held so dear.

If you know me, you know that I am incredibly outspoken. I am not one to bite my tongue in any scenario, let alone when I feel passionately about something. On my trip to Israel, I wanted to put my own bias aside and hear all of the lived experiences being presented to me. I did not want to make what I felt was an inherently political trip so polarizing that it crippled my experience.

So, I challenged myself. For me, being silent when I had more than a few words to say was an exercise. Like, harder than running up the Elet stairs. But it felt necessary. I have a lot of entitlement when it comes to my opinion. I value others’ thoughts, but I often feel very deeply about an issue, and then I forget that not everything is black and white. My opinion is influenced by my lived experience, and I get caught up in debates that make me forget that others’ opinions are intrinsically tied to their lives, too.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is horrendously complicated. To explain it, even briefly, in an op-ed would be not only idiotic but would also disrespect the lived experience of all of those involved. So, I won’t. What I will do is outline a few lessons I learned from my internal struggles on the trip.

First, why the “Us vs. Them” mentality? I personally worked very hard on the

trip to keep my professionalism in group discussion, masking my own opinion to the best of my ability. One day, though, I found myself overwhelmed with the conversation at hand and the language being used. In so many political narratives, there is an “Us” and a “Them,” and someone benefits from “the other.” The differentiation of the human race and the demonization of whoever is different leaves an unerasable mark on discourse in its duration. So much so that the language used to discuss issues as sensitive as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is privileged to one side. For me, the “Us vs. Them” mentality brings up one resounding question: *Who benefits from the difference?* I have accepted that wherever we see the making of someone as “other,” someone is profiting. But why? And how?

Second, you have to accept that no matter how much you know and how passionate you are, you have much to learn.

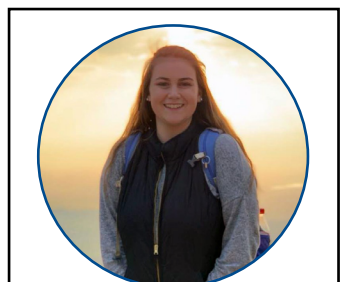
You always need to consider what you may not know. Each and every person you meet has something to teach you, and you have something to learn.

For me, my confidence can often come off as arrogance, even when I am eager to learn. As I sat surrounded by opinions different than my own, I was reminded that in the grand scheme of things, I knew absolutely nothing. It was not my lived experience, and I did not get to decide that feelings and emotions were negligible in the political climate. They aren’t. In the end, I care more about the individuals than I do about being right or proving my point.

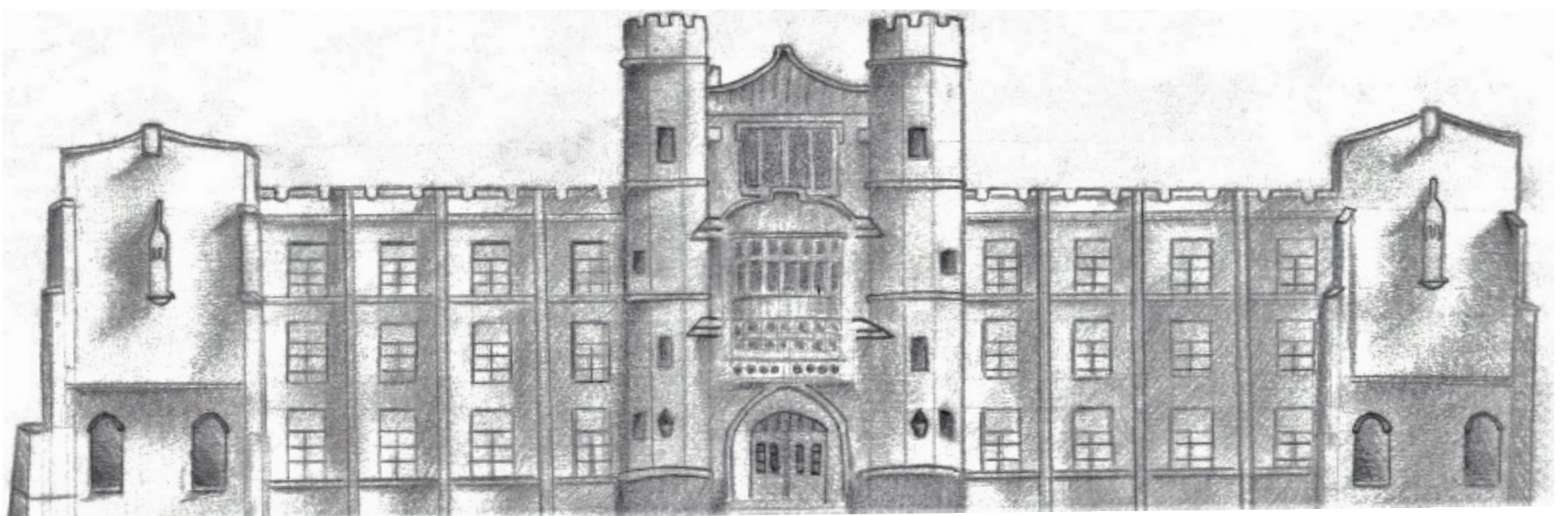
This brings me to the third thing I realized. If I truly want to embody *cura personalis* and care for the whole person, that includes when I feel strong politically. That includes me swallowing my pride to listen to someone and hear them out, and it includes me challenging my own bias.

It is accepting that I do not know what I have not lived and that I have many things to learn.

I guess you could say I learned a lot on my study abroad to Israel, but perhaps it is a bit different than what I had imagined I would learn when I first heard about the program. Sure, I learned where Jesus walked, but I also learned a bit more about how I should live in my faith and walk in Jesus’s footsteps.



**Brianna Ledsome** is a senior Philosophy, Politics and the Public and political science double major. She is a guest writer for the Newswire from Youngstown, Ohio.





# Takeaways from Xavier's matchup with Villanova

BY COLIN COOPER  
Staff Writer

Last Friday night in Philadelphia, the men's basketball team took the court against defending National Champions Villanova Wildcats.

This Big East tilt between Xavier and Villanova has been a marquee matchup since Xavier joined the re-aligned Big East in 2013, and this game was no different. In a gritty battle, Xavier came up short in the end by a score of 85-75.

Here are some of the main takeaways from the matchup.

## Villanova still holds the throne in the Big East

Despite Xavier winning the Big East regular season title, it still has not gotten over the Villanova hump.

The Wildcats won both the Big East Tournament and National Championship last season, continuing to show their dominance over the conference.

Even with a slow start to this year's season, Villanova remains the only undefeated team in conference play. Jay Wright's squad is playing their best basketball right now, and it showed on Friday night.

## Xavier's "double big" scheme works

Prior to the Georgetown game a couple weeks ago,



Newswire photo by Desmond Fischer

**Graduate transfer forward Zach Hankins continued his strong play in the frontcourt against Villanova. He put together a robust performance with 12 points and four rebounds, shooting 75 percent in 14 minutes.**

Xavier adopted the double big scheme to go up against the Hoyas' own double big. The Musketeers have used it ever since.

The deadly combination of Zach Hankins and Tyrique Jones down low creates huge disruptions, allowing for shooters like Paul Scruggs to get open. Hankins' defense

and shot-making combined with Jones' strength and creativity make them wildly successful when on the court together. If the two can stay out of foul trouble, continue to look for this duo more and more down the stretch.

## Shooting confidence is building

Multiple times on Friday night, Xavier found itself in the midst of a prolific shooting performance from Villanova.

Even with run after run from the Wildcats, the Musketeers stayed calm and collected.

Big shots from players like Ryan Welage and Naji Mar-

shall kept Xavier in the game — down by a point with less than 12 minutes to go in the game.

This resiliency is tied back to the new confidence this team has found when shooting the three-pointer.

The Musketeers are very close to breaking the scoring difficulties from deep, and the Villanova game was another step in the right direction.

## Do not sleep on this team in crunch time

The last three games for Xavier have all been exciting and close matchups, which was something rarely seen at the start of the season.

Since entering Big East play, Xavier has been in every single game down the stretch besides one.

After a few tough losses in the final minutes, along with a few great wins, this team is built for close games.

With the experience they have been building week after week, the Musketeers have found their identity.

Consistency and toughness will define this squad in the final months of play.

If Xavier wants to run the table in the Big East, the time for action is now, and it has many chances upcoming.

Xavier returns to action twice this week at home, first against Providence Wednesday night before facing No. 12 ranked Marquette on Saturday.

# Gray leads strong push, but Musketeers fall twice

BY DONNIE MENKE  
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team suffered a pair of tough conference losses, dropping games against Creighton and Providence on the road.

The Musketeers took Creighton to overtime before ultimately falling short but lost by double-digits to Providence.

Against Creighton, it was a back-and-forth first quarter. Xavier led 10-6, but Creighton fought back with a 13-6 run to grab a 19-16 lead heading into the second quarter.

The second quarter, however, was not close. Xavier won the quarter 18-2, including a 7-0 run to open the quarter, and led 34-21 at halftime.

Creighton responded with its own 7-0 run to start the second half and only trailed by single-digits, 34-28, as a result. Creighton continued to chip away at the lead until it tied the game at 40-40 with 1:27 remaining in the third quarter.

The fourth quarter was even closer than the first, with neither team leading by more than five points. Xavier led 54-49 with 1:22 left in regulation. Creighton closed



Newswire photo by Desmond Fischer

**Sophomore forward A'riana Gray scored a team-high 23 points against Creighton and 13 points against Providence last week. She also recorded a double-double in both games despite the Musketeers' two losses.**

the fourth quarter on a 5-0 run to force overtime.

In overtime, Creighton took a seven-point lead, 61-54, before Xavier was able to get on the board in overtime. They were able to cut the deficit to three, 65-62, with 10 seconds left, but a Creighton free throw sealed a 66-62

win against Xavier.

Sophomore A'riana Gray led the team in scoring with 23 points. She also led the team in rebounding and steals with 13 and seven, respectively. Junior guard Tee Owens also scored in double-figures, getting 11 points.

Against Providence, the

game started out close, with the score being 11-11 with just over five minutes remaining in the first quarter. However, a 12-3 Providence run allowed the Friars to take a 23-14 lead into the second quarter.

Providence was able to keep their momentum go-

ing into the second quarter, eventually stretching its lead to double digits. It led 46-31 going into halftime.

The Friars continued to build a lead after halftime, opening the third quarter on a 7-0 run to lead by 22 points, 53-31.

Xavier responded with a 9-0 run to cut the Providence lead down to 13 points, but Providence was able to extend its lead back to 15, 58-43, heading into the fourth quarter.

The Musketeers were able to fight back in the final quarter, outscoring Providence 15-13. However, it was not enough to overcome the deficit as Providence won the game 71-58.

Gray posted another strong stat line, getting a double-double by scoring 13 points and grabbing 14 rebounds. Sophomore guard Princess Stewart was second on the team in scoring with nine points. Owens and junior forward Tierra Floyd also scored eight points apiece.

Next week, Xavier plays No. 10 Marquette at Cintas Center on Friday at 7 p.m.

The Musketeers also play DePaul at home on Sunday at 2 p.m.

# Rams, Patriots win, advance to Super Bowl LIII

## Controversy erupts after games are decided by debatable calls on the field

BY MICHAEL RAUBER  
Staff Writer

There was no such thing as home field advantage last Sunday as the Los Angeles Rams won the NFC Championship in New Orleans against the Saints, while the experienced New England Patriots beat the Kansas City Chiefs in Kansas City to win the AFC Championship and clinch another Super Bowl berth.

In New Orleans, the Saints jumped out to a quick 13-0 lead. However, a fake punt by Rams punter Johnny Hekker and a touchdown from Rams running back Todd Gurley cut the Saints' lead to 13-10 at the end of the first half.

In the second half, Saints quarterback Drew Brees led the longest drive of the game — a 12-play, 71-yard drive resulting in a touchdown pass to Taysom Hill.

The Rams responded with a drive that resulted in a touchdown pass to Tyler Higbee. Heading into the fourth quarter, the Saints led the Rams 20-17, and with about five minutes left in the game, Zuerlein hit another field goal to tie the game 20-20.



Photo courtesy of therams.com

Los Angeles Rams quarterback Jared Goff helped lead his team to Super Bowl LIII in Atlanta on Feb. 3, when they will face the Patriots.

The Saints were looking to score a touchdown in the final minutes, but a blatantly missed pass interference call forced them to kick the field goal. After the game, Saints head coach Sean Payton claimed that the refs “blew that call.”

Wil Lutz nailed a 31-yard field goal to give the Saints a 23-20 lead with less than two

minutes to go in the fourth quarter. Zuerlein answered with a 48-yard field goal to tie the game at 23 points apiece with 15 seconds remaining in regulation.

In overtime, Brees threw an uncharacteristic interception on the Saints' first possession, and the Rams won 26-23 thanks to a 57-yard field goal from Zuerlein.

In the AFC Championship, the New England Patriots faced the Kansas City Chiefs. This was the 11th season since 2000 that the Patriots had made the AFC title game.

On the opening drive, Patriots running back Sony Michel scored, giving the Patriots a 7-0 lead. At the end of the first quarter, the Patriots led 7-0, with a total of 119 yards to the Chiefs' -11 yards.

Tom Brady connected with Philip Dorsett for a 29-yard touchdown to cap off a 90-yard drive, giving the Patriots a 14-0 lead at the end of the first half.

In the second half, the Chiefs opened up with a touchdown pass from Patrick Mahomes, cutting the Patriots' lead in half before Patriots kicker Stephen Gostkowski gave the Patriots a 17-7 lead with a 47-yard field goal.

Mahomes responded by leading a drive that culminated in a touchdown to Damian Williams, cutting the score to 17-14 in favor of the Patriots.

Brady was intercepted by Chiefs' Daniel Sorensen, which turned into a Mahomes touchdown and a 21-17 lead for the Chiefs.

The Patriots responded

with a touchdown from Michel and took a 24-21 lead before Williams scored his third touchdown of the night, giving the Chiefs a 28-24 lead with two minutes remaining in regulation.

On the following drive, the Chiefs seemed to clinch a Super Bowl trip, but an interception was nullified by a penalty, and the Patriots scored, giving them a 31-28 lead. The Chiefs tied the game 31-31 with a field goal, sending the game into overtime.

In overtime, Brady seemed to march the Patriots down the field as he had done so many times throughout his career, and a Rex Burkhead touchdown gave the Patriots victory and a trip to the Super Bowl to face the Los Angeles Rams.

Xavier senior and Kansas City native John Russell commented, “You know, it is hard to be mad at the game. It was a great game, the one everyone wanted to see. It was sad to see because Kansas City wanted it, needed it, but I know our future is bright and Mahomes will bring a trophy to KC.”

The Rams and Patriots will meet in Super Bowl LIII in Atlanta on Sunday, Feb. 3.

# Ranking the top five announcers in college hoops

BY CLAY MERK  
Guest Writer

With a collision of intertwining sporting events all happening at once, fans nationwide will begin the yearly talk of who their favorite announcer is.

The sports broadcasting scene contains a wide variety of personalities, from the likes of the 6-11 Hall of Famer Bill Walton to the golden voice of Gus Johnson, whose “Crawford's gotta hurry” line in the 2010 Sweet Sixteen game against Kansas State remains engraved in the hearts of Xavier fans worldwide.

Here is a look at some of the best voices in sports:

### 5. Dick Vitale

Some may know Dick Vitale through his coaching career, which started at the elementary school level in Garfield, N.J., and continued all the way to the NBA as a head coach for the Detroit Pistons. Vitale is distinguished by his enthusiastic voice, which brightens the worlds of college basketball fans across the globe. Vitale uses his past experiences and passion for the game to deliver an analysis of the game that fans admire. Vitale is rarely heard without a positive attitude and continues to inspire young hoops fans through each game he calls. Vitale frequently combines sayings such as “Diaper Dan-

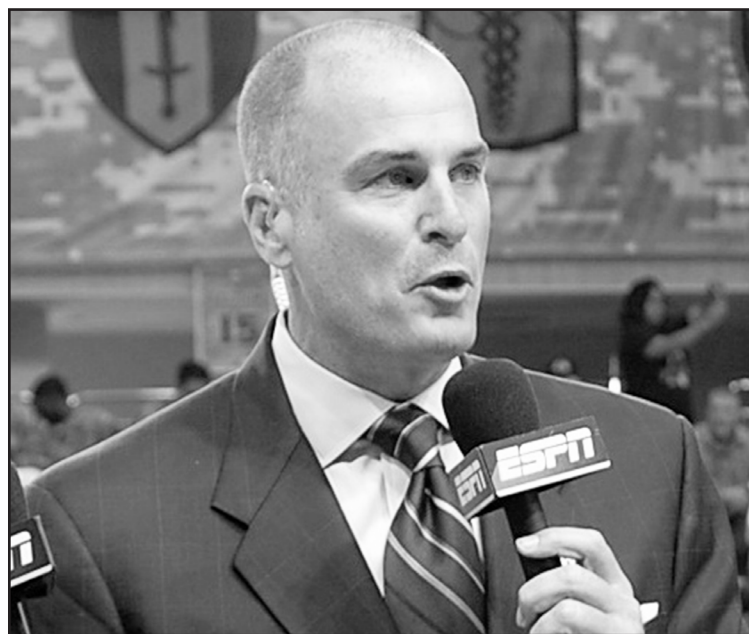


Photo courtesy of Wiki Commons

ESPN broadcaster and former Duke basketball player Jay Bilas continues to be one of the best analysts that the arena of sports announcing offers.

dy,” “PTPer” and sometimes “He's awesome, baby, with a capital A” to describe players who play at a high level. Vitale, 79, has been with ESPN since 1979. He may be in his last couple years on the job, and college basketball fans must enjoy and admire each call left in his storied career.

### 4. Clark Kellogg

CBS personality Clark Kellogg is one of the most accredited announcers there is. When it comes to experience in basketball, few live up to the resume that Kellogg has built for himself. He spent three years at Ohio State before becoming the eighth overall pick in the 1982 NBA

Draft. Kellogg averaged nearly 20 points and 10 rebounds with the Indiana Pacers before knee injuries cut his career short. Kellogg began his career in broadcasting in 1990 and has run with it ever since. Kellogg's experience in the game provides top-class analysis that has been demonstrated in multiple national championships, selection shows and even the NBA 2K video game franchise.

### 3. Gus Johnson

Gus Johnson may have the most unique voice in all of college sports. Currently working for Fox Sports calling many Big East games, Johnson provides an energy to

the game that is unmatched. He provides a passion for his job that few have seen before in any host in the history of sports. While Johnson has made a name for himself calling regular season college basketball games, in *Madden 11* and in college football, many people know of Johnson for his calls during March Madness. Johnson has a knack for making an ordinary regular season game seem like a Final Four game no matter who is playing. The Big East must enjoy the greatness while it lasts, because as long as Gus Johnson is calling the games, life is good.

### 2. Bill Raftery

You cannot have a list of great announcers without having Bill Raftery on the list. The game of basketball would not be close to what it is today without Bill Raftery. He has bettered the game of basketball. The former Seton Hall head coach has served more than 30 years as a play-by-play announcer with CBS Sports. While watching a game you may hear Raftery utter, “Send it in to the Big Fella!,” “Onions” when someone splashes a 3-ball or “With the blow by” when someone scoots past a defender. However, Raftery is most known for his famous line, “Send it in Jerome!” after Jerome Lane of Pittsburgh shattered the backboard in

1988. While Raftery, 75, continues to grow older, the magic of his voice stays the same. There is no greater icon in basketball broadcasting right now than Bill Raftery. College basketball fans must enjoy each and every game Raftery has left on the call because he has once-in-a-lifetime talent.

### 1. Jay Bilas

Jay Bilas is the best college basketball announcer in the game right now. The Duke product has an absurd amount of knowledge of the game. After a stint of playing professional basketball overseas, Bilas coached with Mike Krzyzewski, whom he once played for at Duke. He began his broadcasting career in 1995 with ESPN and has since climbed his way to being ESPN's No. 1 analyst. It is not Bilas' enthusiasm or loud voice that separates him from other announcers. Rather, it is Bilas' pure knowledge about the game. Bilas is able to simplify the game and relate it to the audience in a way that no other announcer can. Bilas is consistent with his takes on the game. His preparation for each game he calls is shown weekly in the booth on the College Gameday program. Bilas' unique knowledge and smarts for the game are some of the best there are right now — don't expect that to change anytime soon.

# Montessori Dept. debuts podcast



Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

Xavier's new podcast *Montessori Conversations* engages professors and parents alike in dialogues about topics debated in Montessori education.

BY JOSEPH COTTON  
*Staff Writer*

*Montessori Conversations* (MonCon) is a Xavier-run podcast that discusses topics at the forefront of the Montessori education field and is funded by a two-year grant from Xavier Women of Excellence (WOX).

Montessori is a multi-stage educational pedagogy in which teachers who are familiar with the child's social and cognitive development guide them as they engage with an educational environment.

According to the podcast's website, "the goal is to share what is new in the field, dive into specific aspects of the world of Montessori and talk to experts in the field." The podcast is hosted by Jill Sagerman and Senior Teaching Professor Julie Kugler-Ackley.

The podcast, which can be found at [www.xavier.edu/moncon](http://www.xavier.edu/moncon), is slated for two seasons during the next two years with episodes that are released every Thursday.

Each season is nine episodes long.

The podcast is set up to reflect what the audience wants to hear.

"Our audience is mostly Montessori teachers and parents, as well as those interested in educational outcomes," Kugler-Ackley said. "We conducted a survey, and it seems like parents are expecting to hear about topics like Montessori research, nature and art."

The MonCon website also has a feedback tab.

The first episode of MonCon is on the topic of dementia. Kathy Farfaring, Montessori Dementia Program Coordinator, discusses how she is utilizing Montessori techniques and philosophy to help improve the quality of life for people in living communities and in a home care environment suffering from cognitive decline.

Farfaring spoke specifically about how Montessori practices are incorporated into opportunities for people with dementia to plan out tasks

that they are willing and able to do.

The podcast is produced in collaboration with Xavier's Digital Media Lab (DML). The DML staff provides technical know-how in the form of editing, recording and graphic design expertise.

Xavier students are also involved in the creation of the podcast. Brittany Wells is a student producer, and Bryan Berwanger composed and recorded the podcast's introduction song.

The podcast also provides alumni and current students a view of what is going on around the Xavier Montessori department.

"One of the plans for the season is to include voices from the field where we talk to current students," Kugler-Ackley said. "We want listeners to see the broad world of the Montessori field."

"The podcast is looking to improve the experience for Xavier students studying Montessori education now and in the future."

## Nintendo Switch-es things up on its console

*Price, versatility and interactivity make it an ideal choice for a casual gamer*

BY LUKE FELICIANO  
*Sports Editor*

After the new year rolled around, I decided I would indulge myself with the gift of a new gaming console. I considered multiple options — including the PlayStation 4 and Xbox One. However, I ultimately decided on the Nintendo Switch console.

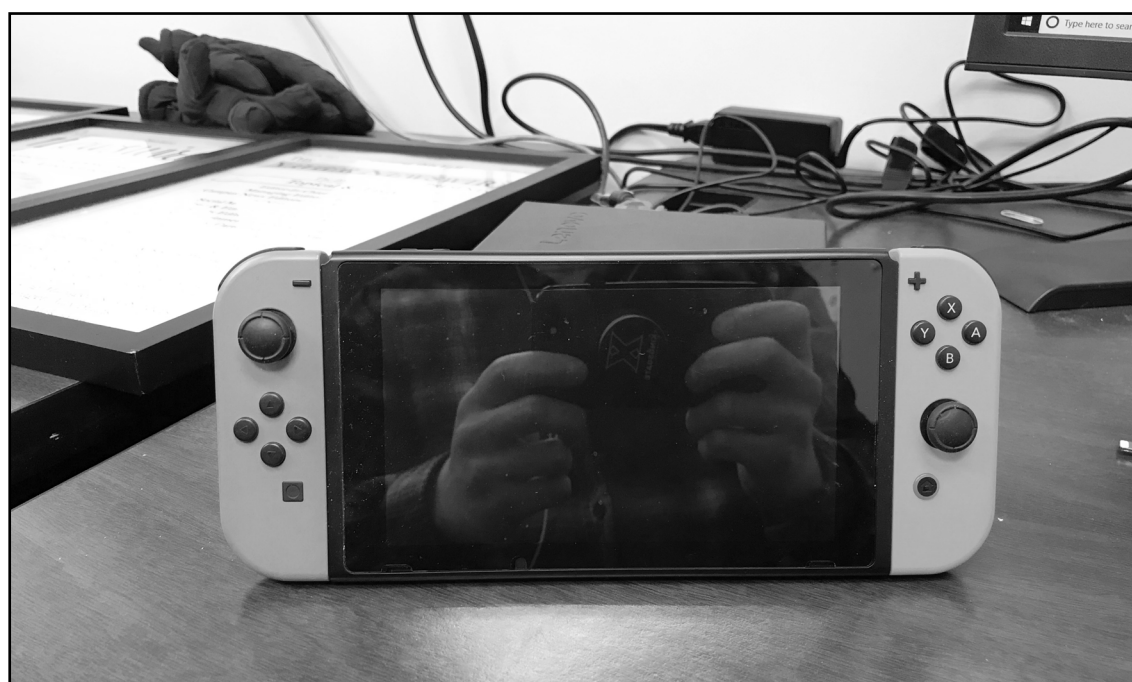
While the Switch isn't as popular as competing consoles among our age demographic, the price is what really swayed me to purchase it. The Switch costs \$299.99 while the others are about \$100 more.

The main factor that drove my desire for the Switch arose because of my personal experience beforehand with the product. While I was home over winter break, I played my friend's Switch constantly — almost every day of the break, in fact — and very much enjoyed it.

Personal experience aside, I was intrigued by the uniqueness that the Switch offers in that it is one of the only consoles that can be docked "permanently" while also having the full-fledged capability of being portable with the opportunity to play on-the-go.

The versatility of the Switch is perhaps most notable in the ergonomic design of controllers, with several options a user can utilize.

For instance, players can opt to use a single Joy-Con



NewsWire photo by Luke Feliciano

The Nintendo Switch Console utilizes either one or two Joy-Cons to imitate the usability and fluidity of a traditional controller while also enhancing the gameplay experience with both docked and portable modes.

and slide in the makeshift bumper that Nintendo includes with the system.

Players can also slide the two Joy-Cons into the controller grip to mimic the feel of a traditional controller. Additionally, for those who prefer to use a typical controller, Nintendo sells a Pro controller that resembles a generic controller.

Interactivity was also an enticing aspect of this game. While there are certainly many Switch games that are designed to be played solo, there are also a variety of games meant to be played with a party of people.

A fan favorite like *Su-*

*per Smash Bros. Ultimate* is a great example of a game that should be played with a group of people. Nintendo even offers a GameCube controller adapter to use in the game for diehard Nintendo lovers who still have their controllers left over from the old system.

Another great game that any retro — or even new — gamer would enjoy is *The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild*.

This game allows the player to play in an open-world concept. There are a lot of awesome features that this game entails such as the chance to either simply follow the main quests or to take the scenic

route and explore around the sizable map.

With a game setup marked by longevity, it is certainly a great "bang for your buck" game as it takes a fairly long time to progress through.

For a system with a relatively less powerful processor, the Switch's graphic interface holds up. There are some glitches at times, but they don't hinder or interfere with the gameplay of the console.

There are some downsides that come with the Switch just as with any other gaming system.

For instance, the constant motion of docking and undocking the portable screen

into the dock has the potential to scuff up the screen. However, this can be prevented by simply purchasing and installing a screen protector.

The other negative — which is what most gamers would argue against it — is that the system doesn't necessarily have a large offering of games. Many of the most popular games played aren't available on the Switch, although the system was only released in 2017.

Nintendo is working to adapt more third-party games to the available offerings. The company has also announced that more Switch-tailored games are on the horizon for the end of the year, so hopefully more options are headed gamers' way in the not-so-distant future.

Overall, the new Nintendo Switch is a perfect console for the casual gamer and more specifically for gamers who play with a group.

The distinctive nature of the system in that it can be played portably without sacrificing many of its features is what truly sets the Switch apart from other consoles.

In just a few short weeks, I've enjoyed playing my Switch. I am enthralled by what Nintendo will release in the foreseeable future, and I'm thoroughly pleased with the affordability of being able to receive a more customizable gaming experience.

# Cincy offers a cinematic paradise

BY HANNAH SCHULZ  
Head Copy Editor

Last week, a movie production team rolled into town to begin filming a new project starring Anne Hathaway and Mark Ruffalo.

The project, still untitled, tells the story of an environmental lawyer taking on a case against chemical pollution. This is just the latest of projects being filmed in Cincinnati, so it may have you wondering more about the film industry and its presence here.

One of the most well-known films, *Carol* (2015), saw the transformation of Cincinnati streets into 1950s Manhattan. A number of Cincinnati hotspots, including Eden Park and Over-the-Rhine were featured in the film. It received critical acclaim and was nominated for a number of Oscars and Golden Globes, among other awards. It was also shot with period appropriate equipment.

Once in a while, movies that are filmed in Cincinnati are also set in Cincinnati, or takes place here as opposed to a different time and place. A good example would be 2018's *The Public*, which shows what happens when library patrons, many of them homeless, refuse to leave the library amidst a brutal winter storm.

Bruce Willis has even filmed multiple movies in Cincinnati. Two of his latest, titled *Reprisal* and *Ten Minutes Gone*, were filmed in 2017 and 2018, respectively. Senior Digital Innovation, Film, and Television major Trace Walker worked as a production assistant on the latter film when the production team was in town in September.

"During the day, I would do things like blocking off cars and street traffic from the background of shots, pass out water to cast and crew, grab things for people, and run any kind of errands," Walker said. "Most movies are shot over the duration of multiple months, this was a much shorter shoot of only 14 days. This meant having to make the most out of each day and often times we wouldn't head home until after 7 or 8 p.m."

The Hollywood film industry, though, is almost completely separate from the local independent industry that exists here. Adjunct Professor Kyle Howland has been working in the Cincinnati film industry for more than a decade.

Larger Hollywood films have little effect on the smaller local scene but do big things in terms of job creation for people in this field, like Howland.

"Our infrastructure that exists allows production companies to come here from Los



Photo courtesy of Trace Walker

Both the local and mainstream film scenes find Cincinnati the perfect backdrop for the production of many films. The Queen City's financial incentives and diversity also make it the prime locale for film production.

Angeles, hiring our local people and never missing a beat on their productions," Howell said. "The grips, camera operators, costume designers, audio recorders and more are all top notch and as talented as anyone in any other city."

Walker echoed this idea. "Big movies can often require hundreds, even thousands of people to get the job done. Not only are there cast members and extras but lots of people behind the scenes taking care of equipment, transportation, catering and planning."

But... why Cincinnati? Walker cited a combination of tax incentives and diversity in the city. "There are also

tax exemptions that make Cincinnati appealing to shoot in. What's also great about Cincinnati is its diversity, amongst people and architecture. Cincinnati is known as the city of immigrants and is home to a wide variety of people. Representation of a diverse group of people is important in filmmaking and Cincinnati provides that."

As for the future of the local film scene in Cincinnati, Howland thinks there's a lot of possibility. "I think the future of independent filmmakers in the city is a future of great opportunity. There are multiple festivals and competitions in Cincinnati that sup-

port and give an outlet for indie filmmakers. There is great support for indie filmmakers in this town... It is dependent on the indie filmmakers, as a collective unit, to keep these festivals, companies and outlets supported and in operation."

Movies might look like glitz and glamour, but Howland has some more sobering thoughts about the film industry. "While filmmaking is very exciting and sounds like a lot of fun, there is a misconception that it is easy... But it is a really enjoyable and rewarding industry to work in, and I wouldn't change it for any other industry," he said.

## Shows to include on your upcoming watch list

BY HANNAH PAIGE MICHELS  
Staff Writer



Photo courtesy of 1stfidele.com

### Game of Thrones

*Game of Thrones* fans were in for a sneak peek when HBO premiered its surprise 2019 lineup trailer featuring clips from a variety of its shows. During these lineup trailers, there are some new GoT clips to note: Jon and Sansa hugging and the first meeting of Sansa Stark and Daenerys Targaryen, during which Sansa says, "Winterfell is yours, Your Grace." The official trailer for the six-episode season launched HBO's #ForTheThrone campaign, showcasing flashbacks of some of the show's most memorable scenes. A more mysterious and atmospheric trailer released Jan. 13 featured repeat footage from season seven. In the trailer, we follow Jon Snow, Arya Stark and Sansa Stark through the crypts under Winterfell as they happen upon statues of themselves. An icy fog covers a fallen feather and begins feeding into the catacombs, crawling closer to the three characters. Though this trailer shows nothing fans haven't already seen, it does reveal the anticipated release date of the final season as April 14, 2019.



Photo courtesy of Screenrant.com

### Stranger Things

"Starcourt Mall has it all." This is when fans of the 80s-themed Sci-fi show got a taste of what *Stranger Things* season three has in store. The teaser trailer plays as a commercial for the new facility coming to Hawkins, Ind., and even features the beloved Steve Harrington serving ice cream in the food court. The release date for the third season dropped on New Year's Day through another minute-long teaser featuring glitching footage of the ball dropping in Times Square ringing in the year 1985, snippets of green code flashing in between news coverage. A few things stick out, such as the zoom-in on the phrase "SilverCatFeed," the voice of Mike Wheeler shouting "Eleven!" during the ominous countdown to midnight and the footage eerily starting to turn upside down. Overlaid with cheery 8-bit music, we are told that "One summer can change everything" before revealing the date: July 4, 1985. This teaser trailer was paired with an Instagram post from StrangerThingsTV showing Mike and Eleven holding hands as fireworks illuminate the sky, a carnival in the distance and parts of a demogorgon in the foreground.



Photo courtesy of Comedy Central

### Broad City



Photo courtesy of Youtube

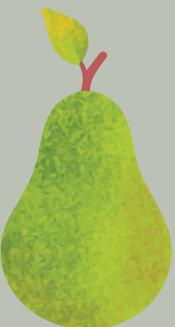
Comedy Central's *Broad City* returns for its final season tomorrow. With four seasons in the books, the trailer for the fifth season is a compilation of past episodes that only features scenes of Abbi and Ilana screaming and running, which are briefly interrupted by the duo smoking cannabis on a New York street. The characters barge into a modern office space, out of breath, to directly tell the camera that the show premieres Jan. 24 at 10 p.m. and that the final season is "so good."

# Puns to annoy everything and everyone

BY SOONDOS MULLA-OSSMAN  
Features Editor

If you haven't already reminded your friends of how much better off they are staying off campus and at home than being stuck here with people like you, then use this nifty assortment of puns organized into no particular order or ranking to ensure they no longer want anything to do with you ever again!

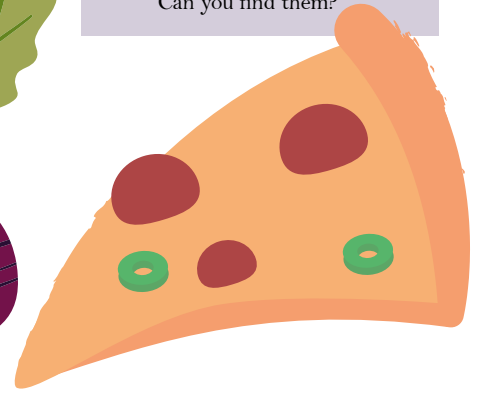
1. **"I don't see your point."** Say this while pointing to the tip of a sharpened pencil.
2. **"Eggcellent."** For best results, use this pun with an egg in any form as a visual aid.
3. **"Eggciting."** See above.
4. **"Appeas me."** Deliver with peas from the salad bar section of the cafeteria.
5. **"How you bean?"** Deliver with any bean of your choosing from the cafeteria.
6. **"What the hail."** Best used outdoors when it is hailing outside.
7. **"I'm going to get in treble."** Best used in a class pertaining to music.
8. **"I'm feeling a little depresso-ed."** Because it borrows from "espresso," use this inside some coffee place.
9. **"Let's not beet around the bush."** Best used with beets.
10. **"Want a pizza me?"** Deliver with a slice of pizza in hand.
11. **"I went pasta barbecue."** Say this with some kind of pasta food item on hand.
12. **"An impasta!"** This is trickier to use, but appropriate situations for this pun can and do come up.
13. **"There's apple-ace I know nearby."** Hold up an apple during the delivery of this pun.
14. **"I've been melon over the possibilities."** A pun on mulling. Best delivered with any nearby melon.
15. **"Alpaca book."** Sounds like "I'll pack a book." It might be easiest to simply pull up an image of an alpaca for this one.
16. **"Bee honest."** Try to wear some bee-inspired accessory to make this delivery beautifully cringe-worthy.
17. **"Bear with me."** Say this when your friends look emotionally scarred by the previous puns you've made them sit through. Be sure to pull up an image of a bear.
18. **"You've cat to be kitten me right meow."** This pun is almost too powerful. Use sparingly.
19. **"Your lecture was crabtivating."** Have a crab, real or an image, prepared for this.
20. **"Do you think she saurus?"** Sounds like, "Do you think she saw us?" Have a little dinosaur toy ready with the delivery of this pun.
21. **"That looks li-chameleon miles!"** Sounds like, "That looks like a million miles." You could probably get away with using the image of any lizard for this pun.
22. **"I'm cherrying you on!"** Dangle a pair of cherries for this optimistic pun.
23. **"I've got a pear of shoes."** Earn this cheap laugh by wielding the mighty soft fruit: the pear.
24. **"I don't see any tissue with it."** Tissue is the stand-in for issue. With seasonal sicknesses spreading about, this will be a simple yet clever pun to deliver to unsuspecting peers.
25. **"Feel butter soon!"** This should be self-explanatory. Since butter is so versatile, almost anything involving cooking can take advantage of the pun.



GVUDWC I KCVLVFTQ  
PTRLAGRVS N LVMHG  
BSLMFWL I BEANSPT  
OVPEZNRANAMBQLO  
NVXMETSSDGHAEBO  
YKAEEXTNYOEHXEK  
LKFNFZUONHAILAT  
XKQSNMOWBQXMOFA  
VCMSTYOJRPWPF CJB  
PCXZEHYAPIZZAMQ  
SNAGEGEPQWTGYEB  
APDHTXHP TCDWNLB  
BDURUJBLUTZBDOU  
GGPNSTNEDUOVVNC  
LDBJSFL LUDVWWWN

Cringe	Puns	Meme
Annoy	Beet	Pizza
Snow	Melon	Bean
Apple	Hail	Yeet

Jan. 16 crossword puzzle answer key:  
**Down:**  
1. Dogs  
2. Gallon  
3. Hannah  
4. Cancer  
7. Yoga  
**Across:**  
1. Degree  
5. John  
6. Healthy  
There are also three secret words. Can you find them?



Comic courtesy of Dami Lee



**Aries:** If you're taking any creative or performing arts classes, you're basically the majestic salt sprinkle meme guy with the shades. Cool, collected and producing something that doesn't suck.



**Taurus:** Don't bottle things up too much this week. Snow dampens sound, so you can scream as much as you want with only half the consequences!



**Gemini:** You're only two or three weeks back into classes. It's too early to give in to the force of procrastination. If you already have, the stars will remember to mourn for your grades.



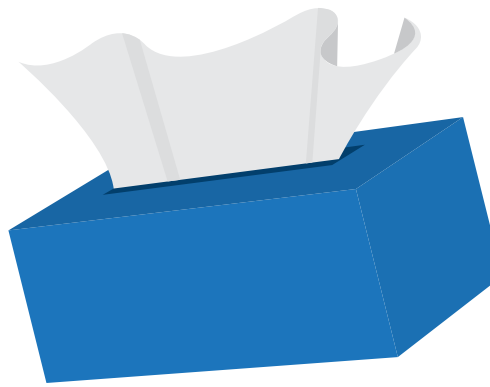
**Cancer:** Try to take care of some housekeeping. Return books you don't need, clean the snow, build a blanket fort and live in it for the remainder of your adult life — you know, school things.



**Leo:** This is a week you own. So long as you don't get careless, you'll have some pretty great luck, like getting a due date for a big homework assignment pushed back.



**Virgo:** It's nice to daydream about things like having all records of your student loans erased during the government shutdown, but if you're not careful you could get lost in it.



**Libra:** If you're worried about doing things on time, know that everything you've done in your Xavier career hasn't taken as long as the opening of Gallagher dining has.



**Scorpio:** Favors you've done for others may be recognized this week. Whether it's a thank-you card, a yummy treat or your favorite meme printed in color, embrace it.



**Sagittarius:** Two weeks in, and you may already be ready to yeet yourself from your routine. Eating an entire tub of ice cream is a temporary comfort, but it's less drastic than dropping out.



**Capricorn:** Why so serious? Oh, right: loans, food, money, rent, grades, clubs, a crumbling social life...



**Aquarius:** If you're looking for something fun to do that's not necessarily flirting with the Xavier Code of Conduct, try catching Winter Club Day today and signing up for a club.



**Pisces:** You've been there for your buddies lately, but how about yourself? If you're stressed, cancel some commitments. Sleeping in till 3 p.m. is the best feeling.