

Welcome Back!

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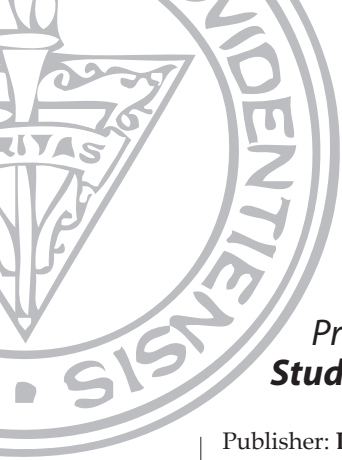
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Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

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Editor's Desk

Welcome Back

Another year has commenced at Providence College. For some, this year is the beginning of an ending. It's the time to spend that extra hour over a cup of Dunkin' Donuts coffee with friends; it's the time to tap into that last pool of intellectual energy in order to become the graduate you always knew you could be.

For others, this year is merely the spark to their collegiate adventures. It is a difficult yet exciting time for these freshmen, all most likely beset by feelings of homesickness and anticipation. If there's one piece of advice we can give you, it's to not fret over the insignificant. This is easier said than done because most insignificant events seem massively important. But we've all tripped up the stairs in Feinstein, dropped our plates in Ray, and walked into the wrong room on the first day of class. You have four great years ahead of you that will be filled with so many promising memories that losing your way in Harkins will just seem funny. Don't believe us? Ask any senior beginning their final year at this home away from home.

No matter where you stand in the hierarchy of PC, it's important to remember that with every ending comes a new beginning. These four years are not only meant to give us the opportunity to make friends and learn some facts about western civilization; they are here to help us discover the potential within each and every one of us to live a fulfilling life. We don't mean to sound cliché, but it's true. So here's to an academic year filled with meeting new people, broadening our perspective and reading The Cowl. We hope this Welcome Back edition will appeal to those reaching the end of their time at PC, as well as those who are just beginning theirs.

Arman & Dara

Logo for Associated Collegiate Press with text: The Cowl is a proud member of the Associated Collegiate Press

Campus Calendar

Table with 7 columns (Fri 7 to Thurs 13) and 3 rows (Weather, Temperature, Events). Includes weather icons and event details like Men's Soccer vs. Boston University and Provalooza.

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The Cowl welcomes guest commentaries and letters to the editor from members of the Providence College community and outside contributors.

All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, a phone number, and an e-mail address where he or she can be reached. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length and will be printed as space permits.

Mail submissions to The Cowl, 1 Cunningham Square, Providence, R.I. 02918; fax to 401-865-1202; submit online at www.thecowl.com; e-mail to thecowl@providence.edu; or hand deliver to The Cowl office in Slavin G05.

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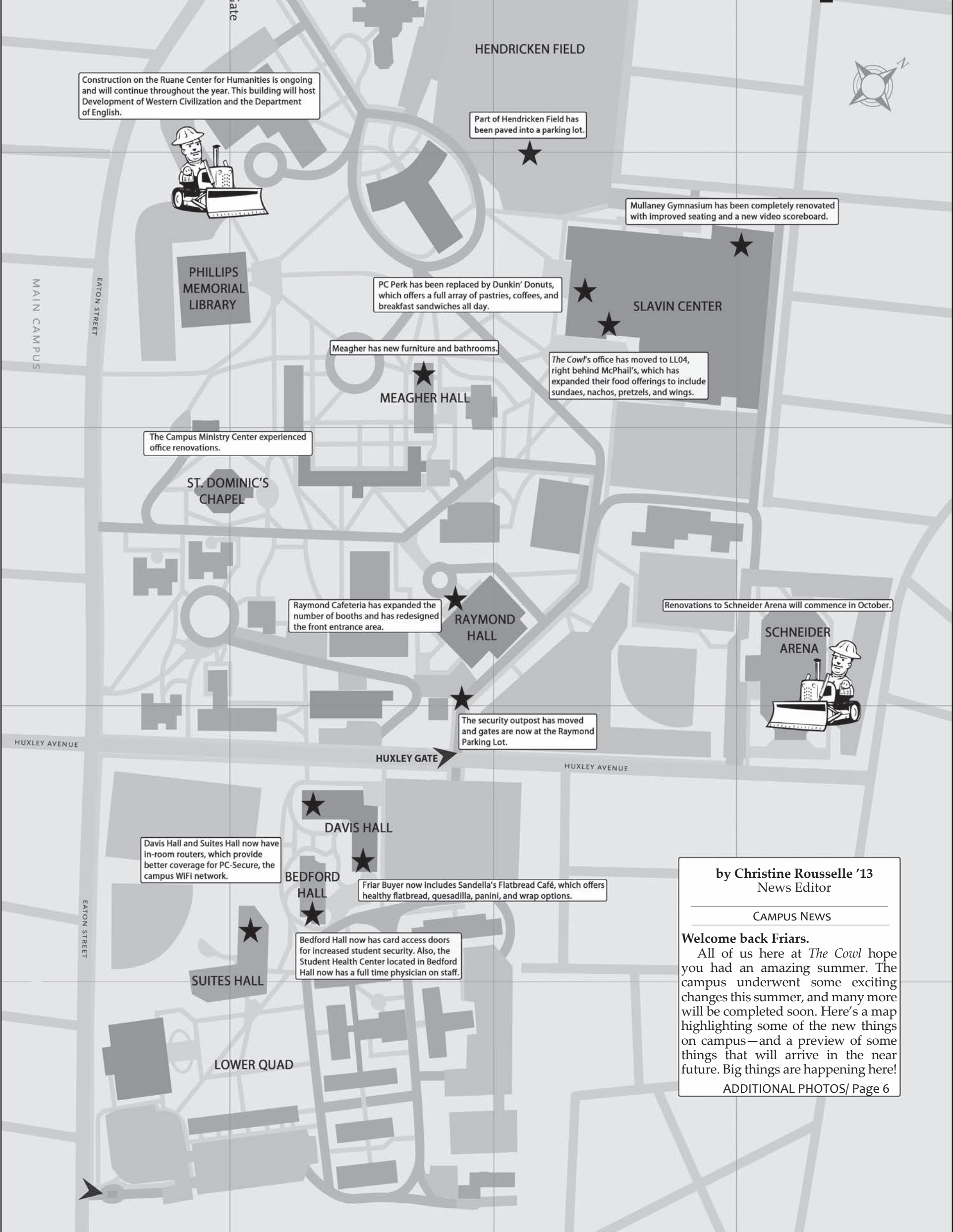
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NEWS

What's Different on Campus



by Christine Rousselle '13
News Editor

CAMPUS NEWS

Welcome back Friars.
All of us here at *The Cowl* hope you had an amazing summer. The campus underwent some exciting changes this summer, and many more will be completed soon. Here's a map highlighting some of the new things on campus—and a preview of some things that will arrive in the near future. Big things are happening here!

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS/ Page 6

Class of 2016 is Diverse, Well-Prepared



SAADIA AHMAD '14 / THE COWL

Members of the Class of 2016 created teddy bears as one of their activities during orientation week.

by **Christine Rousselle '13**
News Editor

FRESHMAN CLASS PROFILE

The Class of 2016 enters Providence College at about 1,000 strong. Among their numbers are 412 members of the National Honor Society, 29 class presidents, 12 valedictorians, four salutatorians, two NHL draft picks, and 10 National Merit finalist, semi-finalist, and commended students.

The class comes into the College with an average GPA of 3.37, and 99% of students graduated in the top half of their classes—although 61% of freshmen come from high schools that do not report class rank. According to Raul Fonts, dean of admission at the College, the school “doesn’t really consider” class rank, but focuses rather on the strength of curriculum and the recalculated GPA. The College recalculates a GPA for every applicant.

The majority of freshmen, 57.3%, come from public high schools, with another 35% coming from Catholic schools.

Although the Class of 2016 is comparable to the classes of 2013-2015 when it comes to regional origin—about 85% of students live between Boston and Washington, D.C.—the College is seeking to expand its profile and recruit more students from across the nation in the coming years. The school is focusing particularly on recruiting students from southern California and Chicago.

The plurality of freshmen, 40%, entered the College as “undeclared” in their program of study. About 7% of students are studying education, with 16%, 20%, and 17% of the class studying science/math/engineering, business, and liberal arts, respectively.

The Class of 2016 has a higher level of diversity than any other class in the school’s history, with 16% of students identifying as African American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, or “other,” and includes 26 international students. The typical class at Providence College only has around 15 international students. According

to Fonts, this was the highest number of international students that he could recall.

Fonts stressed that GPA and class rank were not the only factors when it came to selecting the members of the Class of 2016. The College received a total of 9,642 applications this past fall, and accepted 5,644 students through the early and regular decision rounds. An additional 248 were accepted off of the waitlist. Of those students who were accepted, 1,006 enrolled, which exceeded the College’s goal of 980 enrolled students.

In regards to the freshman class’ preparation before enrolling, Fonts cited the fact that nearly three fourths of the incoming class has participated in athletics and community service, in addition to taking a very rigorous curriculum in high school. The Office of Admissions sought to find a “complete” student who was involved in numerous activities in high school.

“It’s very cliché, but it’s true. That’s the type of student who does well [here],” said Fonts.

The College currently maintains a retention rate of over 90%, which puts the College far above the national average. PC hopes to maintain a class of about 980 students overall.

The College had experienced a drop of enrollment in the Class of 2013 due to the economic downturn, which resulted in an abnormally large Class of 2014. Fonts said that while the Class of 2013 was more New England-based, that trend has disappeared with the Class of 2016. He did note, however, that there were “a few more” full-pay students in the Class of 2016, and that a large percentage of merit scholarships went to students with middle-class backgrounds, freeing up more need-based aid for other students.

The Class of 2016 has just begun their Providence College journeys, but they appear to be off to a very good start.

“It’s a talented class, and academically they’re as good as any other class,” concluded Fonts.

Dunkin’ Donuts Arrives on Campus

by **Andres Taborda '15**
Asst. News Editor

CAMPUS NEWS

Rumors floated last year about PC Perk being transformed into a Dunkin’ Donuts, but the year ended without any assertion from the administration on what plans they had for the summer.

It was through social media that the Providence College community was notified of a big addition to the college: a Dunkin’ Donuts would finally be coming to campus.

The largest coffee chain in New England opened one of its most recent franchises in the College’s Slavin Center. Veronica LeJeune '15 said, “I love having Dunkin’ Donuts on campus because, as a Rhode Islander, it’s vital to our lives.”

PC Perk, an internal brand establishment, is not going away for long. The shop has been temporarily removed and will be transferred to the new Ruane Center for the Humanities, which will open in the fall of 2013.

The Dunkin’ Donuts franchise on campus is a full service station offering all products and services that one would find at any other franchise off-campus.

Special gift cards have been made for the Providence College community that include the Friar logo and the Dunkin’ Donuts logo. The cards can be activated online, offering parents the ability to feed their children’s coffee addictions. They can also be activated on smartphones using the Dunkin’ Donuts mobile app found in the Apple App Store and Google App Market.

The store is working on accepting credit cards, but as for now, only cash, gift cards, and PC Cash are currently accepted.

Kati Phelan '15 loves the idea of having a franchise on campus, but had this to say about it: “I love having one here, but I wish [Dunkin’ Donuts] accepted credit cards and definitely Friar Bucks.”

Cailé Kohlbrenner’s '15 favorite summer beverage is iced coffee. “I drink iced coffee all summer. Then I got to campus and we only had Starbucks, which was too expensive,” she said. “Dunkin’ Donuts is more affordable, and I can have iced coffee here.”

With a business comes profits, and the College has decided to donate its profits to Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official humanitarian agency of the Catholic

DUNKIN/ Page 6

Students Told to Transform Themselves at Convocation

by **Micaela Cameron '13**
News Staff

CAMPUS NEWS

The Providence College community welcomed the Class of 2016, transfer students, and new faculty at the academic convocation held in Peterson Center on Tuesday.

Rev. Brian Shanley, O.P., opened with a question from St. Thomas Aquinas’ Summa Theologica. Shanley quoted Aquinas’ question on learning and teaching, a question that asks if one person can teach another. Shanley followed with two thoughts for students.

He urged new students to bear the responsibility of their own learning and reminded them that they will not learn if they are not committed to their students. Shanley reminded the students that they have been given a great gift from God and their parents, one that gives them the opportunity to learn at the College for the next four years.

“Beginning today, take responsibility for your education,” Shanley said.

Next, Shanley addressed the faculty members and stated that Aquinas believed teachers to be a critical part of the learning process. He told the faculty that a good teacher is able to lead students to see something previously unknown to them.

He went on to encourage the faculty members to know the minds of their students, a critical starting point to teaching. Shanley stressed the importance of those who teach. He said the role they hold which leads students to the truth. He reminded

them that good teaching requires listening to the students.

In conclusion, Shanley stated that the divine providence of God has brought the Class of 2016 together with the College’s faculty.

Next, Justin Gomes '13, president of Student Congress, addressed those in attendance, reflecting upon the changes that occur in the lives of undergraduate students at the College. In the next four years, Gomes stated, the interests and personalities of the freshman class will change, a development that is not to be feared and will ultimately better them as individuals and as a community.

Gomes told the Class of 2016 to “transform yourself and transform the community.” He encouraged the freshman class to learn about each other’s lives and appreciate their differences. Gomes said that their differences will be a great influence on the community.

“It’s not what you learn, but how you use what you learn to make a difference,” Gomes said.

He told the freshman class to ask themselves how they can personally have an impact on the College, and how they can benefit others in the community.

Next, 27 new faculty members were introduced by the chairs of their respective departments.

Following the introductions, Dr. Reinhard Hütter was introduced as The Reverend Robert J. Randall Distinguished Chair in Christian Culture.

Dr. Chard deNiord was recognized as the recipient of the Joseph R. Accinno Faculty Teaching Award.

Following that, Dr. Charles Toth gave the principal address entitled

CONVOCATION/ Page 6

Ask PC: Freshman Orientation Edition

“What was your favorite Orientation memory?”

“I really liked my orientation group. I was able to meet new people there and at the night activities that were planned. As a commuter, I felt more included.”

-Vanessa Zuleta '16

“I like that this school attracts a good group of kids and how my floor is already close.”

-Matt Tinsley '16

“I loved visiting the mansions in Newport during orientation and all of the diversity activities.”

-Asha Ahmed '16

“I thought the Orientation Leaders were very helpful and they were cool, too.”

-Hunter Benson '16

“My favorite part of orientation was the ‘What Stands Between Us’ speech. I really like how everyone is so close.”

-Kimberly Stephenson '16

“My favorite part of orientation was the big ice breaker on the quad. The hypnotist, [Jim Spinnato], was fantastic and the carinval was awesome.”

-Troy Valdivia '16

“I liked the bingo because it was an activity we could all do together. Also, the build-a-bear activity was a good way to get a keepsake for free.”

-Nicole Toscano '16

“We all really liked the hypnotist show on Sunday night.”

-John Hanley '16

Jack Kelly '16

Pete Norberg '16

Kyle Sullivan '16

The Bucket List: Things to Do Before You Die

(And by “Die” We Mean “Graduate”)

Here at *The Cowl*, we thought it would be fun to share a “bucket list” of some of the things that we do when we are not holed up in Slavin LLo4. Enjoy, and please do not break any laws while you are completing this list.

- Roll under the locked Fennell Gates
- Dress appropriately for a blackout or whiteout hockey game
- Eat a buffalo meltdown for lunch and a buff chick wrap for dinner
- Go to Civ Scream
- Appear on ESPN, NESN, or Cox
- Make a bacon sundae in Ray
- Pull an all-nighter in the Aquinas Lounge or Chapel Basement
- Go to Fire and Ice on Mondays for \$10
- Sample a drink at all of the neighborhood bars
- Attend a women’s hockey game
- Sunbathe at PC Beach
- Ford the Huxley River during a rainstorm
- Go a whole week living on free food at events
- Ice skate at Schneider Arena
- Go to the Providence Place movie theatre for \$6 Bargain Tuesday
- Fear for your life on the RIPTA
- See a play at the Smith Center for the Arts
- Listen to (or DJ) a WDOM show
- Successfully complete the Awful Awful challenge
- Lose your PC ID, panic, and then find it in an obvious place
- Skip one DWC class
- Order Chinese food after 2 a.m.
- Try to order a hamburger in Ray on a Friday during Lent
- Spend more than \$10 on frozen yogurt at FroYo World
- Juggle in *The Cowl* office
- Attend a twilight retreat
- Go on the March for Life trip with PC for Life
- Keep a goldfish alive for more than a week
- Eat something from every station in Alumni—bonus if it is in one sitting
- Befriend Larry
- Build a snowman on the quad
- Cheer on the rugby team
- Witness a small child scream and run away from the Friar mascot
- Get the \$2 cans of Narragansett in McPhail’s
- Order a garbage plate from the Haven Brothers Truck at 3 a.m.
- Go to Dinner with Dominicans in the Campus Ministry Center
- Visit the fish pond on lower campus
- Attend the 10:30 Mass before finals and pray to St. Joseph of Cupertino
- Get a picture with Coach Cooley
- Go to dinner on Federal Hill
- Mudslide on the lower quad
- Dance your booty off at Zumba class
- Climb the tree on upper quad
- Sneak into Ray without swiping
- Roll your eyes at a Brown University student
- Have a near-death experience with the moving bookshelves in the library
- Meet the Dore or Aquinas ghosts
- Write a letter to Tiffany and Earl (or follow @cowltiff and @cowlearl)
- Eat only Golden Crust pizza for an entire weekend
- Capture and domesticate a squirrel
- Attempt to swipe into Ray using a driver’s license
- Attend an away game
- Go to more than three bars in one night that end with the “ies” sound
- Read *The Cowl* every Thursday!

DUNKIN: No Friar Bucks Accepted

Continued from page 4

community in the United States. Many students are not satisfied with the fact that Dunkin' Donuts does not accept Friar Bucks. Dunkin' Donuts' predecessor, PC Perk, accepted them as a form of payment for any purchases. Students were able to use money allocated to their meal plans to grab a sandwich or muffin, or fuel their coffee dependence and keep them from falling asleep on their books. Now students are forced to

use their own money to indulge in the College's latest delicacy. A request for comment to the administration went unanswered. *The Cowl* will continue to investigate the decision of not taking Friar Bucks. The Dunkin' Donuts on campus is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hours may change in the near future.



Dunkin' Donuts was installed in the area formerly occupied by PC Perk at the end of August.

CONVO: New Faculty Introduced

Continued from page 4

"How Henrietta Lacks Changed Science and Society." In the address, Toth, the keeper of HeLa cells at the College, spoke about the science of the book selected for the Common Reading Program for the freshman class. Toth noted that Lacks' sacrifice was not in vain, and that without the cells, a generation may not have benefited from vaccines developed during the 1950s. Toth went on to discuss informed consent, a large aspect of the book. He concluded his address by stressing the

importance of science education. He encouraged the freshman class, the first class to experience the change in PC's core curriculum, to go above and beyond the minimum core requirements in science. He reminded them that they must first transform themselves before transforming society. The Convocation concluded with the announcement of the Common Reading Program essay winners, as well as the "Veritas" pin blessing and benediction by Shanley.



New faculty members are introduced at the 2012 Academic Convocation.

Additional Photos From Around Campus

Continued from page 3



Renovations are nearly complete on the Mullaney Gymnasium in Alumni Hall.



Bulldozers turned part of Hendriken Field into a faculty/staff parking lot.

Have big dreams of being a journalist?
Start your dream off right as a member
of *The Cowl*!

Join the News Staff!

Pick up an application in LL04
(Right behind McPhail's)

Rejects on the Rise

PC's Only Short-Form
Improv Comedy Group

Auditions and Shows Coming Soon



Arab Spring Update: The Fires Still Burn

by Ben Remillard '13
World Staff

International

Egypt



On January 25, 2011, protests began against President Hosni Mubarak, focusing on economic issues, free elections, freedom of speech, and issues of police brutality. In attempts to please his people, Mubarak dismissed his cabinet and promised reform. In less than three weeks of protest, Mubarak abdicated power to the Egyptian military amid public protest. It was not until June 24, 2012 that Mohamed Morsi, a prominent politician in the Muslim Brotherhood, was elected President. But civil rights abuses ran rampant following the coup, with cases of rape and sexual abuse towards women being the most prominent. The BBC reports that in recent months, these abuses have reached "epidemic proportions," where even women wearing conservative dress have been targeted. One of the most published stories involved an American, *CBS News* reporter Lara Logan, being raped in Tahrir Square as she was reporting in February 2011. Some of these cases were perpetuated by the Egyptian military, drawing ire from the public who once supported it. Additionally, military leaders refused to give up power to President Morsi, preferring to maintain a stranglehold on Egyptian politics and civilian life. It was this disdain towards the military that ultimately led to its overthrow this August by young military officials in collaboration with President Morsi, effectively completing the Egyptian pursuit of revolution.



Yemen

Unlike in Egypt, much of the Yemeni government and military forces refused to support President Ali Abdullah Saleh, defecting as public protest grew. The civil war was marked by Saleh's military fighting against the combined forces of different tribal lords. The main turning point came when President Saleh's own tribe rejected him in favor of war. This was followed by an assassination attempt which led to Saleh's removal from power and a transfer of authority to his vice president, Abed Rabbo Mansour al-Hadi. Al-Hadi was formally elected president in February 2012. According to *The New York Times*, however, Saleh still holds considerable influence over the country, as many of his family members and aides still hold positions of power in government and in the military. The combination of this old guard refusing to give up power and the government being in a state of flux have given rise to a new militant movement in the South of the country, partially supported by Al-Qaeda.

In January 2011, populations across the Middle East and Africa began protesting the corrupt governments that dominated their lives. While some were peaceful and did not attract much attention on the world stage, other countries plunged into violence and civil war. Many news agencies stopped covering these countries after their revolutions were perceived to be over almost a year ago. As any student of history knows, history is ongoing and continues to shape the lives of not only these populations, but of people and policies around the world.



Libya

Protests in Libya against Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, who ruled from 1969 until his death during the revolution, began on February 15, 2011. Opposition quickly mounted in the capital, Tripoli, and the country's second largest city, Benghazi. Concerns over human rights abuses and ownership of chemical weapons drew aid from both the United Nations and the drone air strikes of the US military less than a month later, carrying the rebel forces to Tripoli in August. Following Gaddafi's death in October, power was maintained by the National Transitional Council, a political body formed by rebel forces at the outbreak of the uprising. Since then, the NTC passed legislation that protected any rebel fighters from acts committed during the war and banned all propaganda criticizing the new government or supporting the old one. Following elections on Aug. 8, the NTC handed over power to a newly elected national assembly, which is charged with naming a new prime minister.

Syria



Starting in March 2011, protesters demanded an end to 50 years of political dominance by the Ba'ath Party, calling for the resignation of President Bashar al-Assad. Unlike other revolutions across the Middle East, the fighting against Syria's president is ongoing and spans the country rather than just taking place in a select city or two. According to the United Nations, between 24-33,000 people have been killed, half of which were civilians, and up to 1,900 opposition protesters. The UN also reports that about 1.5 million Syrians have been displaced, with tens of thousands of civilians fleeing to Iraq, Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan. Support from other countries has been mixed, with the US and its allies calling for Assad to step down, while Russia and China show support for the Syrian government. This disagreement has halted the UN from accomplishing any united front for or against the civil war, with the members of the Security Council gridlocked. Embedded reporters and local activists have reported widespread human rights abuses on the part of the government forces. For example, CNN showed footage of government helicopters and planes attacking civilians in a bread line.

Defections, Doping, & Other Bizarre Olympic Stories



by Naomi Eide '13
Senior World Writer

London

This past summer's Olympics were given the title "raunchiest Olympics" by the *London Daily Mail* because of the 150,000 condoms passed out to Olympians housed in the Olympic Village. Divided equally, 15 condoms were allocated per athlete, which marked a 50 percent increase since the 2008 Beijing Olympic games. Hope Solo, the goalie for the United States' Women's Soccer Team, claimed that she had "seen people having sex out in the open, getting down and dirty on grass between buildings." However, many others kept their antics isolated in the Village. The 2012 Olympics was the first Olympiad where the athletes' partners were allowed in the Village, so many thought the bed-hopping trend would be less pronounced. In the past, people believed that sexual activity diminished athletic prowess, but no research has ever proven the myth true. Instead, researchers reported in the *Daily Mail* that "tests of performance" revealed no diminished activity after sex, but in competition, psychology very likely plays an important role.

Scandal rocked the Men's Olympic Race Walking when the defending champion, Italy's Alex Schwazer, was ejected for doping. Schwazer was booted following a positive EPO test, which tested for the blood doping agent erythropoietin. EPO oxygenates the blood system, making it a popular doping drug in endurance sports, like the 50 kilometer race walk or cycling. The Associated Press reported that Schwazer was placed in the uncomfortable position of defending his 2008 Beijing gold, because some of his fans suspect his past victory was also due to doping. Schwazer admitted to the 2012 doping which led to what the Italian Olympic Committee described as "one less medal [for Italy] but [would allow for] more cleaning house" in future games.

The *London Telegraph* reported numerous missing athletes from the London Olympic Games, many of which were suspected of defecting from their original countries. The

missing athletes included seven members of the Cameroon delegation, three from Sudan, and one from Ethiopia. Though defections are a huge embarrassment to the country of origin, athletes have defected in the past from their home countries because of economic reasons or because they are seeking political asylum. The athletes hold visas allowing them to remain in England and compete in the games, and they are not required to leave until November 2012. This means that as of yet they are not breaking any laws by remaining in England. Mark Adams, spokesman for the International Olympic Committee, said, "[T]he team [from Cameroon] has obviously raised a concern and the police are obviously informed, but at this stage I don't think it's necessarily for the IOC to worry about whether they will outstay their welcome."

Racial remarks in the media got some athletes into trouble, as countries showed zero tolerance for biased remarks over Twitter, Facebook, or in the media. A Swiss Olympic men's soccer player was sent home following remarks over Twitter after his team lost to South Korea in the semifinals. The *Bleacher Report* said Swiss player Michel Morganello fumed on Twitter over the loss, stating that the South Koreans were "a bunch of mongoloids," that he wanted to beat them up, and that they should "burn." Also dismissed for her remarks, Greek triple jumper Voula Papachristou tweeted, "with so many Africans in Greece, at least the West Nile mosquitoes will eat home made food!!!" The Great Britain Olympic Committee continued to remind athletes throughout the games that their remarks needed to remain tasteful, and many of the participating countries maintained high standards for the actions of their Olympians, with severe consequences for those who did not uphold the highest Olympic values.

Lane '14 Interns in Mexico, Speaks about Service

by Emily Kennedy '15
World Staff

Mexico

Like many PC students, Emma Lane returned home this summer.

This was not an ordinary home. For the last five years, she has made a second home in Oaxaca, Mexico.

First, she had to build where she was going to eat, sleep, and work. Oaxaca is an impoverished community deprived of basic necessities, such as running water and electricity.

Lane and other volunteers from the organization Simply Smiles started by helping to build a base camp that would house volunteers throughout the summer.

When that was complete, she and other volunteers travelled eight hours through the mountains to a small community in the jungle called Santa

Maria Tepexipana.

There, they would feed the community by either holding a weekly community meal or a dispensas, where 3,000 people would receive a month's supply of food.

"The people in the jungle simply do not have the resources or money to feed themselves," Lane said.

The villagers live in bamboo huts with no running water. They have no access to clean drinking water and are frequently sick with disease because of it, she said.

The goal of Simply Smiles, a Connecticut-based non-profit organization, is to provide food for these communities. Lane has been volunteering since she was a sophomore in high school, and she worked as an unpaid intern this summer, organizing the volunteers and the community meals.

The community meals would serve as many as 500 to 600 people each

week. The women of the village helped them cook the food, which consisted of a bowl of soup, a couple of tortillas, and salsa.

"Some people walked up to three or four hours just for one meal," Lane said.

Feeding the hungry is only one way Simply Smiles serves the poor in Mexico, she said. A longer-term goal of the organization is to help people find a way out of poverty.

"We understand that the food dispensas and community meals are temporary band-aid fixes," she said. But they can't focus on long-term goals when people are hungry, "because people can't do anything without something in their stomachs."

She described a coffee farmer named Don Hilario, who "pours his heart and soul into his coffee everyday and he has five people in his family, and last year he only made \$1,600 for his whole family."

Simply Smiles is working with coffee farmers in the region to create an official coffee cooperative recognized by the Oaxaca government, Lane said. The goal is to have the farmers sell their coffee at a greater than fair trade price to US customers so that they can increase their income.

The organization is unique, she said, because they ask the villagers what they want help with, rather than coming in with their own ideas.

"The villagers are unbelievably receptive," Lane said. "People welcome us into their home. They have us sit in their homes as friends."

Lane told *The Cowl* the internship and the friendships she has built over the years have been very rewarding.

"This relationship has grown to a great, great friendship and I like to call them my great friends, although I only get to see them over the summer."



Student Loans:

An Ever-Growing Burden in a Tough Economy

by Iryna Bocharova '15
World Staff

United States

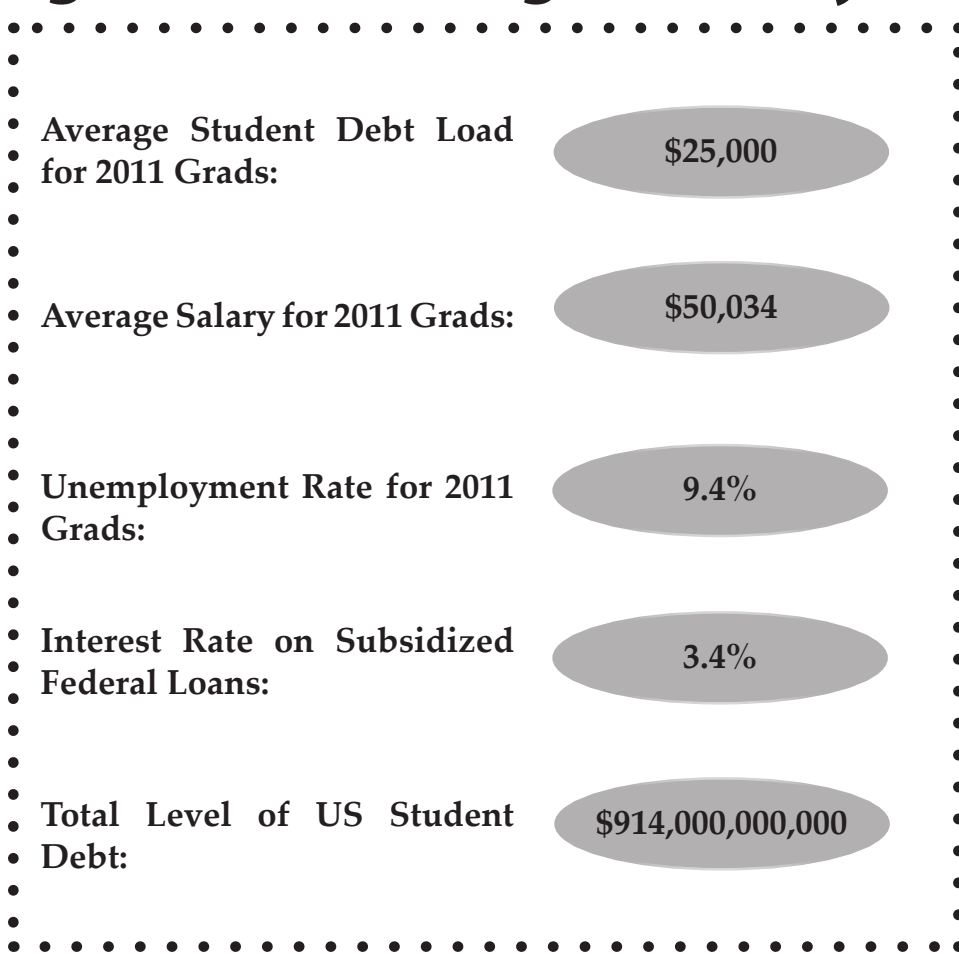
On June 29, the US Congress approved a bill fixing the rates for federally subsidized student loans at the current 3.4 percent for one more year. This news seems good, but since there is a varying limit for both subsidized and unsubsidized portions of a Stafford loan for each year of college, the bill affects the rate for only a small portion of the loan that the average student takes out. According to Forbes, this legislation saves “an average of \$1,000 on loan repayments,” while students nationwide graduate from public and private four-year institutions with an average of \$25,000 of debt. The news also only concerns undergraduate students eligible for subsidized Stafford loans. Since July 1, graduate students can no longer apply for those. The unsubsidized and graduate rates remain at 6.8 percent. July legislations also brought bad news for the students who take out federal subsidized loans from now until July 1, 2014. The interest will accrue right after their graduation, even during the six-month grace period.

With the latest legislation, Congress won time until next year to deliberate on the rates, but did not offer a solution to the student debt issue. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York reports that college debt “increased by \$303 billion, while other forms of debt fell a combined \$1.6 trillion” since the end of 2008. With a total of \$914 billion as

of June 30, educational debt beats the national credit card and auto loans debt. But as in the case of the housing debt that peaked in 2008, many borrowers are not familiar with all the consequences of their decisions and do not have a clear plan for repayment.

When it comes to student loans, a number of Providence College freshmen, upperclassmen, and recent alumni agree on one thing—heavy reliance on parents’ advice. One PC student from the Class of 2013, wishing to remain anonymous, remarked that “[his] parents took care of the loans paperwork the first two years of college and co-signed the loans, but [he] took the initiative to work and begin paying them back starting [his] last year of college.” Recent PC graduate Danielle Ladd '12, noted that in the beginning of her college career she “almost put how [she] would pay for the loans on the back burner because it was difficult to focus on everything—classes, friends, activities, family, and loans—at the same time.”

Some students come up with their own loan decision-making strategies early on. Elaine Caban '16 relates that she took time to read some literature before making her final decision on how much to borrow and which college to attend, taking into account her potential starting salary in her field of study and expected monthly loan payments. Italia Ieraci '13, MBA student, said that as an undergraduate at PC she started a long-term CD that she may now use to pay a lump sum for her loans. Ladd plans on consolidating her federal loans [combining them into one] in the near future to have a better



Information collected from New York Times, New York Fed, and the Economic Policy Institute

grasp over them. Collin Anderson '15 looks into alternative ways for college debt relief, such as participation in the Teach for America corps where he could teach Spanish or ESL to children in low-income communities. The program offers a salary, certain employment benefits, and loan forbearance, as well as paying the interest during two years of service. Americorps and Peace Corps are among other programs that

offer loan assistance under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.

While the students focus on choosing the right college and the right major, increasing student loan delinquency rates prove that the right loan decisions may be the ones affecting their future the most.

A Dark Night in Colorado: Gun Law Fallout?

by Meaghan Lambert '14
World Staff

United States

Known for its killer directing, action-packed plot, and comic inspiration, Christopher Nolan's *The Dark Knight Rises* was one of the most anticipated films of the summer. The July 20 midnight premiere in Aurora, Colorado overshadowed the movie's notoriety, when a man opened fire on moviegoers in the cinema. The shooter began firing during an action scene in the film, causing a state of chaos and panic in the theatre—killing 12 and wounding 58.

Minutes after the attack, police arrested 24-year-old James Holmes in the parking lot of the Century 16 Multiplex. Holmes was reportedly dressed in “ballistic gear,” including a long black coat, gas mask, and leggings, according to *The New York Times*. Holmes released two smoking devices down the center aisle of the theatre, and began to shoot confused onlookers as they stood up to escape the fumes. Moviegoers remarked that Holmes had dyed his hair red and said something to the effect of “I am the Joker.” After being detained by the Aurora Police, an assault rifle, shotgun, and handgun were found in Holmes’ car. He was further identified as a former Ph.D

student at the University of Colorado and a former undergraduate honors student at the University of California in the field of neuroscience. Holmes’ nearby apartment was found to be booby trapped with trip wires and chemical devices.

Occurring only 20 miles from the site of the massacre at Columbine in 1999, the “Batman shootings” immediately resurrected gun control questions of the past. New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg challenged the 2012 presidential candidates to take a stand on the issue of stricter gun legislation, “...because this is obviously a problem across the country.” Luke O’Dell, leader of the Rocky Mountain Gun Owners—a Colorado political group lobbying for the protection of the Second Amendment—released a statement proposing that if law-abiding citizens had been able to carry firearms in the movie theatre, maybe the premiere would have been bloodless. Colorado natives were haunted by memories of Columbine, connecting the movie theatre to the small-town high school where twelve people were mercilessly gunned down thirteen years ago.

Warner Brothers Inc. responded to the incident with sincerity, indicating their grief, extending their deepest sympathies, and even cancelling several premieres around the world.

Random acts of violence have frequently taken the country by surprise in the last few years, and

Gun Laws in Some Local States Compared with Colorado

Colorado: Open carry and concealed carry permitted without license
Connecticut: Open carry and concealed carry permitted with license
Massachusetts: License required for ownership, with licenses obtained through police departments
New Jersey: Open carry and concealed carry permitted with license, although licenses are rarely issued
New York: Open carry and concealed carry permitted with license
Rhode Island: State permit required to purchase
Pennsylvania: Open carry permitted without license, except in Philadelphia

Source: Wikipedia

continue to send shockwaves through the gun control issue. While some believe these shootings to be reason enough to strengthen gun control legislation, others insist that increased gun ownership is the answer. Lexi Juelis '13 remarked, “I could see why this event would make people think gun control was the answer, I can definitely see that side of it. But at the same time, the Constitution doesn’t wish for this to happen, the Constitution hopes guns can be a protective tool for the people.” Collin Anderson '15 expressed his discontent with current gun ownership restrictions on his Twitter account, sparking much conversation with his peers, and ultimately challenging President Obama to take a stance on the issue.

With gun-related injuries varying

widely across the states, variation in gun control regulation comes into question—and the political stance of a state seems to dictate how common gun violence can be, with New York’s gun related injuries in the smallest bracket and Colorado’s at the average.

Gun control seems to be an issue that will continue to plague the United States. With both sides of the struggle campaigning for the safety of US citizens, the country strives to reach this goal—and extends utmost sympathy to those who have lost their lives.



No Need to Break the Bank

Tricks to Save Money While at PC

by Kelly Sullivan '15
Asst. Commentary Editor

SOCIETY

For the majority of college students, summer is filled with endless work shifts, not only to pay college tuition, but to have spending money when you finally get to campus. It may seem like you have “made bank,” but it sure is hard to keep tabs on your money once the weekend comes. I think that it’s important to take advantage of obvious and easy opportunities to keep your wallet full. With that in mind, we should all try to do the impossible this year: earn and save money without even leaving campus.

Most college students spend their money on food, whether it is on restaurants or dorm room snacks. The obvious fix is to get your hands on free food. Grocery Bingo, usually run by PC After Hours, is the best option for this. You can play multiple games of bingo to win a whole bag of food. Some bags include mac and cheese, hot chocolate, Pop-Tarts, and cereal. Take your roommates with you to increase your odds! Not to brag, but I have won Grocery Bingo twice and brought home some fantastic goodies. Not only did it save me a trip to Walmart, but it didn’t cost me money to bond with friends.

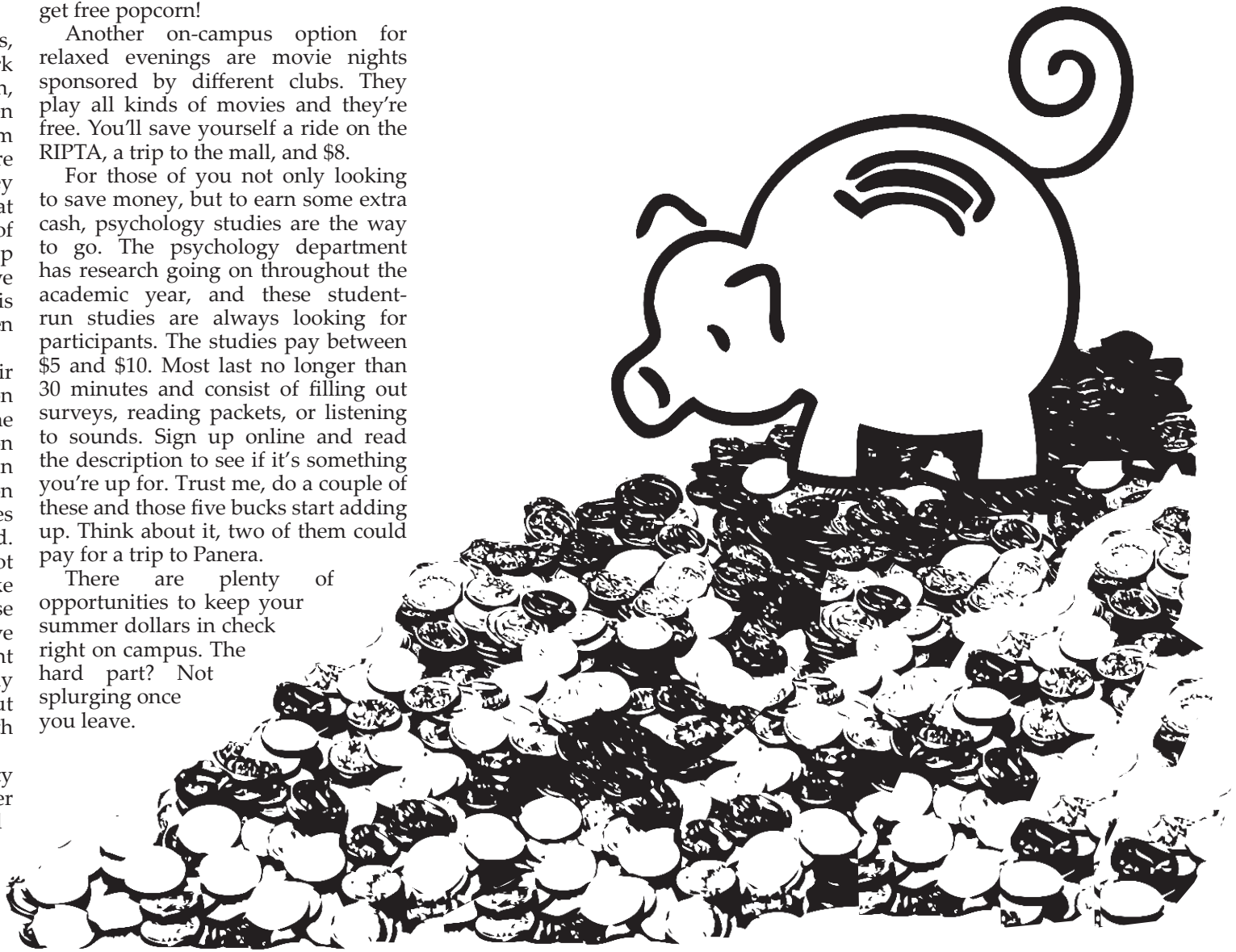
Nights in the city can also get pretty pricey. There are plenty of cheaper on-campus opportunities for a good time. Not enough people take advantage of the godsden that is McPhail’s, a perfect location for a low-key night. You can watch music performances or games on the big

screen, or play pool and ping pong for free. Milkshakes are basically a food group at PC, and they’re only \$2 at McPhail’s on Wednesdays! Ever need a late night snack? Go to McPhail’s and get free popcorn!

Another on-campus option for relaxed evenings are movie nights sponsored by different clubs. They play all kinds of movies and they’re free. You’ll save yourself a ride on the RIPTA, a trip to the mall, and \$8.

For those of you not only looking to save money, but to earn some extra cash, psychology studies are the way to go. The psychology department has research going on throughout the academic year, and these student-run studies are always looking for participants. The studies pay between \$5 and \$10. Most last no longer than 30 minutes and consist of filling out surveys, reading packets, or listening to sounds. Sign up online and read the description to see if it’s something you’re up for. Trust me, do a couple of these and those five bucks start adding up. Think about it, two of them could pay for a trip to Panera.

There are plenty of opportunities to keep your summer dollars in check right on campus. The hard part? Not splurging once you leave.



Top Five Ways to Keep Up with Your Studies

by Jennifer Giffels '14
Commentary Staff

CAMPUS

It is strange writing an article as a junior for an audience of freshmen. I don’t feel like a 20-year-old who has completed half of my college career already. Alas, I’m supposed to have all this infinite wisdom to offer. While I’ll never stop learning new things about Providence myself, and I’m sure the class of 2016 will arrive this fall ready to leave their own mark, I’ve tried to gather up a few tidbits about campus life to share with you. And after I finish writing this, I’m going to go back to pretending I’ll be in college forever.

If your parents are anything like mine, you’ve heard the “school is your job” line many times before. I hate to admit they’re right, so I’ll just say that balance is really the key. Between living on your own, meeting new people, joining clubs, attending

sporting events, exploring Providence, etc., there are so many new and exciting opportunities that beg to be a part of your life. Where is studying supposed to fit in to all of that? Well, here are some opportune moments to get in some studying so you can always make the most of your time:

1. When you’re at the gym: Technically known as “Concannon Fitness Center,” the gym is the perfect place to break up your day while also relieving some stress. But study here? Yes! Bring a few notecards to flip through as you use the bike, and it will keep you distracted from how out of shape you got this summer (or maybe that was only me) and give you more time to hang out with your friends later that night.

2. When you’re eating breakfast: Ray is the perfect spot for some last minute review before your test. And yes, breakfast is an acceptable meal to eat alone. You might even notice other kids from your class studying for that test

you all have later. Grab a booth and review together!

3. When you’re getting coffee: Mix up your study scene a little by walking down the street to LaSalle Bakery—pouring over Civ notes is always better with a latte in hand. The Starbucks downtown (accessible by RIPTA) is also a great study spot, and you’ll be close to the mall to meet up with your friends later!

4. When you have a club meeting: You just got out of class and have an awkward amount of time until your club meeting, so head to your club office (many of which are in lower Slavin) and hang out and study until the meeting starts!

5. When you’re in the library: As obvious as this one sounds, the key is to be productive in the library. Walk around some time and you’ll be amused at how many people are scrolling through their Facebook newsfeeds. I’m as guilty as anyone, but hey, this article’s about advice, not my strong points, right?

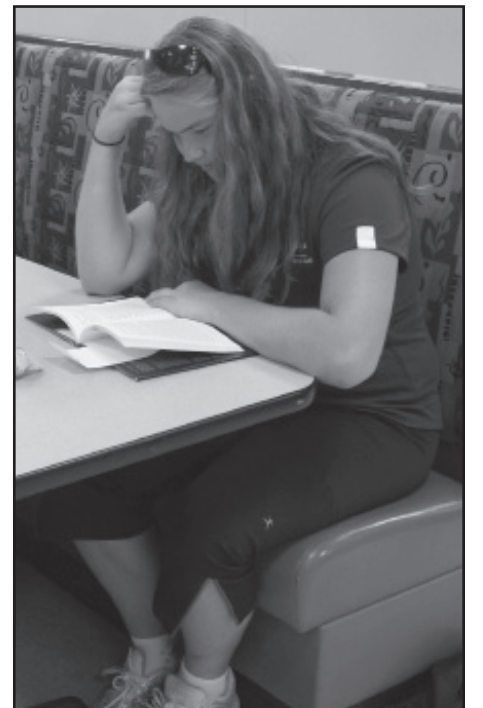


PHOTO BY SAADIA AHMAD '14

Anna Wicciorkowska '14 studying in Ray during breakfast.

Sullivan '14 Offers Insight to Transfer Students

by Kathleen Sullivan '14
Senior News Writer
Guest Commentary

REFLECTION

There is a sense of uncertainty that every young person, no matter how confident, feels upon entering college. As you prepare to move away from home and adjust to college life, common questions plague the minds of most new students. Will I make friends? Will I succeed here? Did I choose the right school? Am I going to be happy?

Even with one year of college under my belt, I couldn't help but ponder these questions about a year ago as I was preparing to enter Providence College as a transfer student.

I was frustrated that I had to start over again at another new place with new people and new expectations, but I was sure that I had made the right decision for myself. Orientation was much less awkward the second time around, perhaps only because I had realized by that point that you can either have fun with it or be miserable, and I was ready to enjoy myself and move forward.

Entering PC as a transfer student was, in all, a pleasant experience. Although it is a relatively small school, I found that students are always in the process of meeting new people and creating new connections.

That being said, as I became active in my classes and in a few different activities around campus, the fact that I was a transfer student was really just a moot point. I may not be able to share all the memories of freshman year with my friends, but I now have a year full of new memories with them. I also have my own unique experience that I will always cherish.

At my old college, I was able to play soccer at the varsity level and be an influential member of the team. I proved to myself that I could compete at a high level, which surprised me. I learned a lot from the experiences I had and the people I met, and I don't

see my initial college decision as a mistake. Instead, I choose to see it as just another step along my journey. Now, I am challenging myself in new ways in and out of the classroom at PC.

For example, I joined the Irish Dance Club this past fall and performed in the show after only a few weeks of practice. I can proudly say that according to my parents, I "really looked like I knew what I was doing," and frankly, that's all I needed. Of course, I still have to deal with the technical difficulties that come with transferring in terms of class credits and transcripts, but those are simply trivial issues in the long run.

I think that the most significant thing about adjusting to Providence through this past year was the sense of certainty I have finally gained. I know I am exactly where I am supposed to be, and I am taking advantage of every minute of it. Few feelings compare to the sense of excitement I felt in anticipation for moving back to school early and training to be an Orientation Leader for this year's program.

"Entering PC as a transfer student was, in all, a pleasant experience."

This was the happiness I anxiously yearned for as I began my own orientation just one year ago. The fact that I have gotten to a place where I have made a complete turnaround just seems really great. Plus, I am only halfway done with my undergraduate experience, so there are undoubtedly many more good things to come.

Sometimes I envy those students who get to have the full four-year experience at PC. Yet, I know that my experience cannot accurately be compared to anyone else's because each person has a unique story, no one better or worse than another. And if that does not subdue those thoughts, I like to remind myself that because I was a transfer student, I only had to take one year of Civ. That always puts the smile back on my face.

A PERSPECTIVE ON POLICY



by Genevieve Ilg '14
Commentary Editor

Freshmen Common Reading Program: Transitioning into Academic Excellence

The Freshmen Common Reading Program (FCRP) is here to stay and for good reason. For its second full year, incoming freshmen and transfers were required to read a selected novel and prepare to discuss it in a roundtable fashion with faculty and staff during orientation. Not only does this program set students' academic wheels in motion, but the selected novels enlighten students in a way that helps them begin their interdisciplinary inspired transformation at Providence College.

I was frustrated initially that the School of Professional Studies—which houses the education, health policy and management, and social work programs—was using its incoming students as guinea pigs for FCRP's pilot. After reading the book and completing the assignment with it, I had mixed feelings about the program. We were initially told that this book would be integrated into our yearlong curriculum, and it wasn't.

The summer reading assignment, so I felt, was nothing more than busy work we were told to do to help the school meet a quota. Despite my disappointment, the program was approved and fully integrated into the orientation for the class of 2015 and new transfers.

During my orientation, I was handed Mary Pipher's *In the Middle of Everywhere*—a book that takes readers into the hearts and homes of refugees living in America. The compilations of the interviews enlighten readers to the complexity of cultures that are found in the United States. It wasn't until later in the semester that I realized the book I was told to read for the FCRP pilot would prove to be helpful in preparing me for the semester.

I chose not to read *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* because of its emotional investment—my cousin died in the 9/11 attacks—but I could instantly recognize its academic richness and complexity. I read *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* before the book was announced and couldn't be more thrilled with the committee's selection for its intertwining concepts of inequality and ethical advancement.

Charles Haberle, assistant vice president for academic affairs and

chair of the FCRP Implementation Committee said, "While I do not know specifically how [this year's implementation] will occur, I [know of] several faculty who have used the book in their classes in the past, or who are considering its use." Although this is reassuring, I am disappointed to hear that implementation is not solidified.

To begin the academic transition into the new year, the FCRP held its first essay contest for *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* and offered cash prizes to the following students: Christina Perri '16 (first place), Alyssa Kinney '16 (second place), and Kailyn Jennings '16 and Nicholas Tavares '16 (third place tie). The opportunity for students to reflect on what they read outside of a classroom setting allows for a more intellectually stimulating environment.

Haberle said, "We are thrilled with the response from the community for this year's common reading text. The choice of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* has sparked great excitement among our new students, faculty, staff, and others." Others agree.

Grace Twardy '16 said, "A lot of my other friends have required essays and questions [for college], and I think that in comparison, our assignment wasn't bad at all...I actually did enjoy the book."

Another freshman, Valeria Zarate '16, said when I interviewed her in mid-August, "I've read a little bit more than half, but honestly I love it up to this point. It's uniquely written and has a lot of great themes. I didn't feel too bad about having required summer reading. I love to read."

It is difficult to find a reason not to have the FCRP program. Not only have I participated in it, but the selections so far have deeply touched me. If these selections have not touched incoming students, at least the program helps them begin thinking thematically and in an interdisciplinary manner—which only trains them better for DWC.

Freshmen may not want to do summer reading, but this program is so much more than that. I only hope that the FCRP can integrate the year's selection into the greater scope of the core curriculum to avoid the presumption that this isolated assignment is "busy work."



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TANGENTS & TIRADES

Here's to Us

Here's to doing it better this time. Here's to setting goals, to reaching them, to pushing aside reservations and diving headfirst into that which you only dreamed of trying. Here's to striving with everything you have, relishing in the successes, and learning from the failures. Here's to starting something new, building on what has come, and hoping for what may be. Here's to always appreciating, doing it for the story, and having a great time along the way. Here's to collegiate journeys began, continued, and perfectly concluded. Here's to tangents and tirades of which Hallmark would be proud.

Here's to a new year.

—Matt Santos '14

Live Regret Free, Join a Club

I don't know about you, but unless I am in a history department class, I feel as if there is no existing male population at PC. Where did all the boys go? Is it not "brah" enough to do anything in college except don a lax pinnie and play Frisbee on the quad? So here's my proposal—the involvement fair is next week. Do yourself a favor and say "peace" to all your "brah" floor mates and sign up for something. College gives you the freedom to choose whatever you want to do—make sure 10 years from now, you have no regrets.

—Emily Corr '13

Mom's Kitchen at PC

As wonderful as PC is, sometimes I find myself feeling trapped inside the bubble of our wonderful campus. I find that I spend endless nights trekking back and forth between my apartment, class, the library, and back to my apartment for a late night slumber. There are times that I need to get off campus for a reality check to remind myself what real life is like. There are few places that are close enough to campus that offer me that feeling of satisfaction like LaSalle Bakery. LaSalle is a place that I did not even discover until the end of my freshman year, and I wish I had discovered it much, much sooner. Their endless supply of baked goods and fresh coffee is enough to provide any college student with a few re-charged batteries and a fresh smile. It allows you to stretch your legs, get some fresh air, and mingle with the local neighborhood (beyond Eaton Street). So please, within the first few months, please try to treat yourself to a fresh coffee or red velvet cupcake, by my recommendation. For any freshmen who are missing home, this will provide the taste and smell of mom's kitchen, all while making your own traditions. LaSalle is a place that provides wonderful treats and is sure to provide wonderful memories throughout all four years of PC.

—Kaylee Miller '13



by Fr. James Cuddy, O.P.
Campus Chaplain

PC: God's Plan Brought You Here

One of my prized possessions is a framed photo that I keep on my desk. The picture is from a wedding about 10 years ago. The groom is one of my old PC roommates, and he is standing at the center of the photo with his new bride. They are flanked by 25 of our friends and roommates, a couple of whom are clutching a Providence College banner. And looking around this motley assemblage, I notice that many are striking hysterically characteristic poses. There's the guy who always took an hour to get ready to go to class; in the picture, his hair looks perfect and he knows it. There's the guy who would always pretend he didn't have a weight problem; he's sucking in his gut and sticking out his chest like Chris Farley in *Tommy Boy*. Next to him is the guy who liked to pretend that he was a sensitive soul for the purpose of getting girls; he's got his head tilted and lips pursed in a manner usually reserved for soulless Abercrombie models.

Then there's the guy standing on the end of the picture who doesn't know that, in a few years, he's going to marry a PC girl standing on the other side of the group. Another will appear on a reality television show. Another is wearing his PC Intramural Champion t-shirt under his dress shirt. (Okay, that's me. I still do the same thing 15 years later. That's pathetic, you say? Clearly you've never tasted intramural glory.) Anyhow, we're all there and all exceedingly happy.

This picture that I look at every morning when I get to the office is a reminder to me of the goodness of God and just how much I love Providence College. These are my best friends. We've gone through it all together. We've laughed and rejoiced at weddings and baptisms. We've wept and mourned at funerals for friends and family members gone too soon. My life is better because they have been in it, and they have been in it because God brought us together as freshmen at Providence College, nervously offering awkward introductions in the waning days of summer in 1994.

Ours is an aptly named college. It refers not just to the city in which it stands, but to the theological concept that takes flesh and unfolds daily in the lives of thousands of members of the Friar family. Providence refers to how God gradually carries out and reveals his plan for our lives and the lives of those around us. He can speak to us quietly through prayer and contemplation, or he can make himself known through friends, roommates, professors, and even—occasionally—a lowly Dominican. That's what Providence College is all about.

We cannot know how and when God will choose to reveal himself and make his plan known. But if we stay open, he will most certainly do it. If you don't believe me, stop by my office. I've got pictures to prove it.



Dear Stud Muffin,

Psychobabble aside, it sounds to me like you have a little case of cognitive dissonance. You've created a positive, self-affirming image for yourself when in actuality you're not a real person—at least, not yet. It's

little wonder that you're banging your head against those gray McDermott walls, wondering why your two normal roommates won't talk to you. But don't worry, sweetie. The first step is admitting you have a problem. Accept that you have a poorly constructed personality and work on those social skills! Smile at the Ray ladies, hold that pesky Feinsteen door open for fellow aspiring scholars, and know that whenever you think you have something interesting to say, you don't. Eventually, fellow Friartown fanatics will view you as that cute, shy boy who couldn't hurt a fly.

Keep it quiet.

P.S. Judging by your alias, I can only assume your stomach problems stem from an excess intake of Ray fries. Pace yourself.

Tiffany

This Week: I Don't Need a Love Doctor!

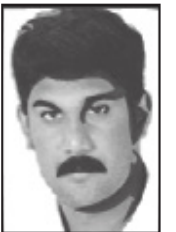
Dear Tiffany and Earl,

I'm a freshman, and I hear you two give relationship advice. Not to brag, but I'm a real catch and don't need help in the love department. But, I am having some roommate trouble and stomach problems from the food in Ray. Do you guys give advice on anything other than romance, or are you just a one trick pony?

Sincerely,
Stud Muffin

Dear Studly,

It's really cute that you think you can function on your own. Keep tooting your own horn! Alone. In your Fennell single. I pull more chicks than a barista makes tips and you turn me down? Fine, whatever. I'm kinda sick of clueless nerds saying "HELP EARL! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TALK TO A GIRL AND ALSO I'M A CREEPY NERD PLEASE ADVISE." You can sink or swim on your own merit. Meanwhile, I can turn my attention to important Providence College issues like How Many Twitter Followers is Too Many and Are Parietals Catholic Enough. My considerable talents are wasted on freshman romance advice. From now on I'm gonna ~spread my wings~ and do some helpful and soft-spoken commentary. Well, commentary anyway.



EARL



A Moment of Teaching

by Kiernan Dunlop '14
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

I am not the man my father wanted me to be, but this is not a desperate attempt to elicit your sympathy or pity; it is simply the truth. I first realized this at age six when I was diagnosed with dyslexia. My father had hoped for the best and the brightest, but instead got a son who had to work at what came naturally to everyone else. I'm 18 now, so I've adjusted to my role as the perpetually disappointing son.

My father, a lawyer, relied on books every day of his life. Books taught him his craft and were the tools he could return to on the rare occasions when he was stymied. Books, to me, were an enemy—a stonewall between me and my father's approval. As I grew older I stopped trying to scale the wall, but law books continued to appear on my dresser even as it became clearer and clearer that I had never read a word of them. I shoved each one under my bed as a monument to my defiance.

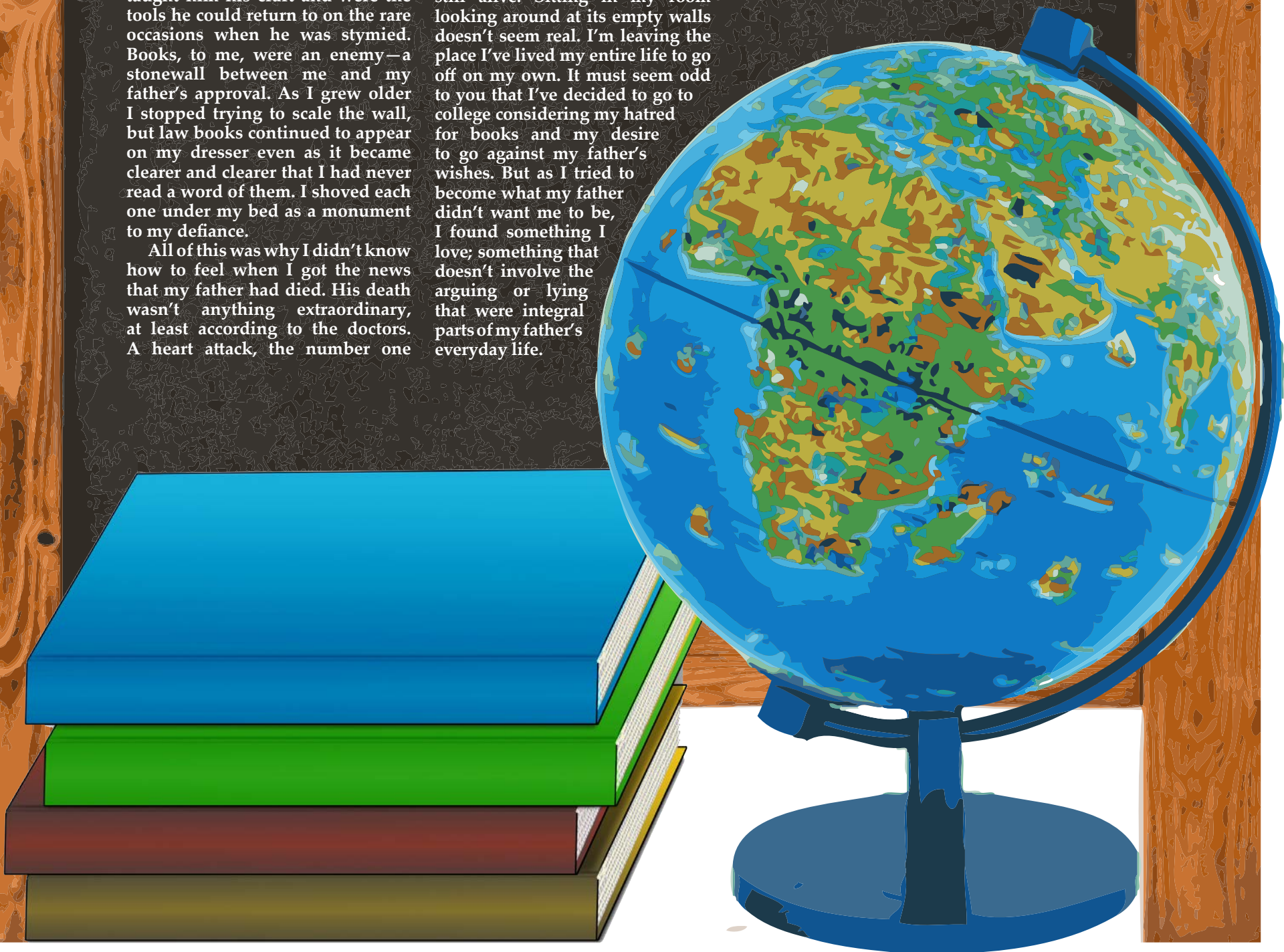
All of this was why I didn't know how to feel when I got the news that my father had died. His death wasn't anything extraordinary, at least according to the doctors. A heart attack, the number one

killer of middle-aged men in America, took down the strongest man I knew. It was an ironic way for someone who strove for excellence and spat on mediocrity to go. The day of his funeral I went through all the motions—hugging and shaking hands with perfect strangers, and delivering a eulogy at the funeral. I know I did all of these things, but when I try to remember, my mind goes blank. One thing I know for sure is that I didn't cry.

I don't know if that makes me a horrible son or makes him a horrible father.

Tomorrow I leave for my first day of college, and my dad would have taken me himself if he was still alive. Sitting in my room looking around at its empty walls doesn't seem real. I'm leaving the place I've lived my entire life to go off on my own. It must seem odd to you that I've decided to go to college considering my hatred for books and my desire to go against my father's wishes. But as I tried to become what my father didn't want me to be, I found something I love; something that doesn't involve the arguing or lying that were integral parts of my father's everyday life.

Tomorrow when I head off to college I will be going for myself, not for anyone else. I am enrolled as an elementary education major, which I know involves reading, but it's all for a purpose. I want to do what my dad never could; I want to give kids alternatives to becoming doctors or lawyers. I want to help dyslexic children like me—those that think they're slow because of the way their parents or teachers have treated them—realize that there is absolutely nothing wrong with them. I am not the man my father wanted me to be, but I am becoming the man I want to be.



A Whole New World

by **Mason Sciotti '15**
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

The sound of leaves crunching underfoot reminded Kit of home. He remembered how the smells of crisp September air and freshly cut grass would intertwine, and he replayed his route home from school every day: left turn into the neighborhood, through the intersection, around the bend, up the hill, first blue house on the left. He imagined the blue house with its red door, slightly mismatched in his opinion, but as comforting and welcoming as his mother's arms.

But this was a different September. They were not suburban streets along which Kit walked, but concrete pathways that meandered through campus, taking unexpected forks and leading to nondescript buildings of brick and ivy. He did not return to his local high school this fall. No, he was on to bigger and better things—at least, that's what everyone told him. The more Kit wandered, the surer he was that bigger and better wasn't all it was made out to be.

The linoleum floors of his dorm room were a far cry from the plush carpeting of his room at home, and the cafeteria left something to be desired. The food wasn't that bad, the upperclassmen tried to tell him, after you realize what's good and what to stay away from. But so far Kit's diet consisted mainly of bread, pizza, and the occasional turkey sandwich. His mom had never been a fantastic cook, but he found himself yearning for her homemade dishes, even the overcooked meatloaf.

Kit's roommates were friendly enough, two teenage boys who acted exactly how he thought they would: polite, friendly, but just as anxious as he was. The other guys in his hallway seemed nice as well, but Kit was too shy to approach any of them. They all had their doors wide open, inviting everyone to come in and socialize. Kit kept his slightly ajar, hoping that someone would care enough to come

say hi to him. The orientation leaders had told them all to meet as many people as possible, and Kit had tried to heed their advice. He had shaken hands and exchanged pleasantries half a million times, but he couldn't pair up a face and a name even if he wanted to. Defeated, he went back to his room at night and ignored the sounds of boys getting ready to go out without him.

And then, one day, things began to change. Kit was sitting in his room alone, as usual, when he heard music coming from the next room over. It wasn't the head-pounding house music that had been playing earlier; it was the soft strum of a guitar. For once Kit dared to venture out into the hall. He peeked his head into the adjoining room and saw a boy strumming away with two others looking on. The player had slicked, jet-black hair that reminded Kit of Johnny Cash. One of the onlookers was about his height with fair skin; the other was a shorter, tanned boy. They began to accompany the Johnny Cash look-a-like on the piano, and the three of them sounded as beautiful as the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Kit grabbed his own guitar from his room.

"Hey man, you play?" Johnny Cash asked when he returned. Kit nodded.

"Cool, man," Cash said again. "Come jam with us."

Kit sat down and began to strum along with him. "I'm Johnny," Cash said. Kit chuckled to himself.

"I'm Samuel. You can call me Sam," the smaller boy said.

"And I'm Jay," said the taller one.

And just like that, Kit had made three friends.

The four of them quickly became close, and within a week they had added three more to their pack: a soccer fanatic named Tom, a sharp witted boy from down the hall named Cole, and a Spanish boy named Tristan. Kit now found himself surrounded by friends when a week ago he had felt utterly alone. The cliché advice of his elders now seemed wise, rather than hackneyed:

"Be yourself, and others will take to you."

"Everyone else is just as nervous as you; be the one who starts the conversation!"

"These are the best years of your life."

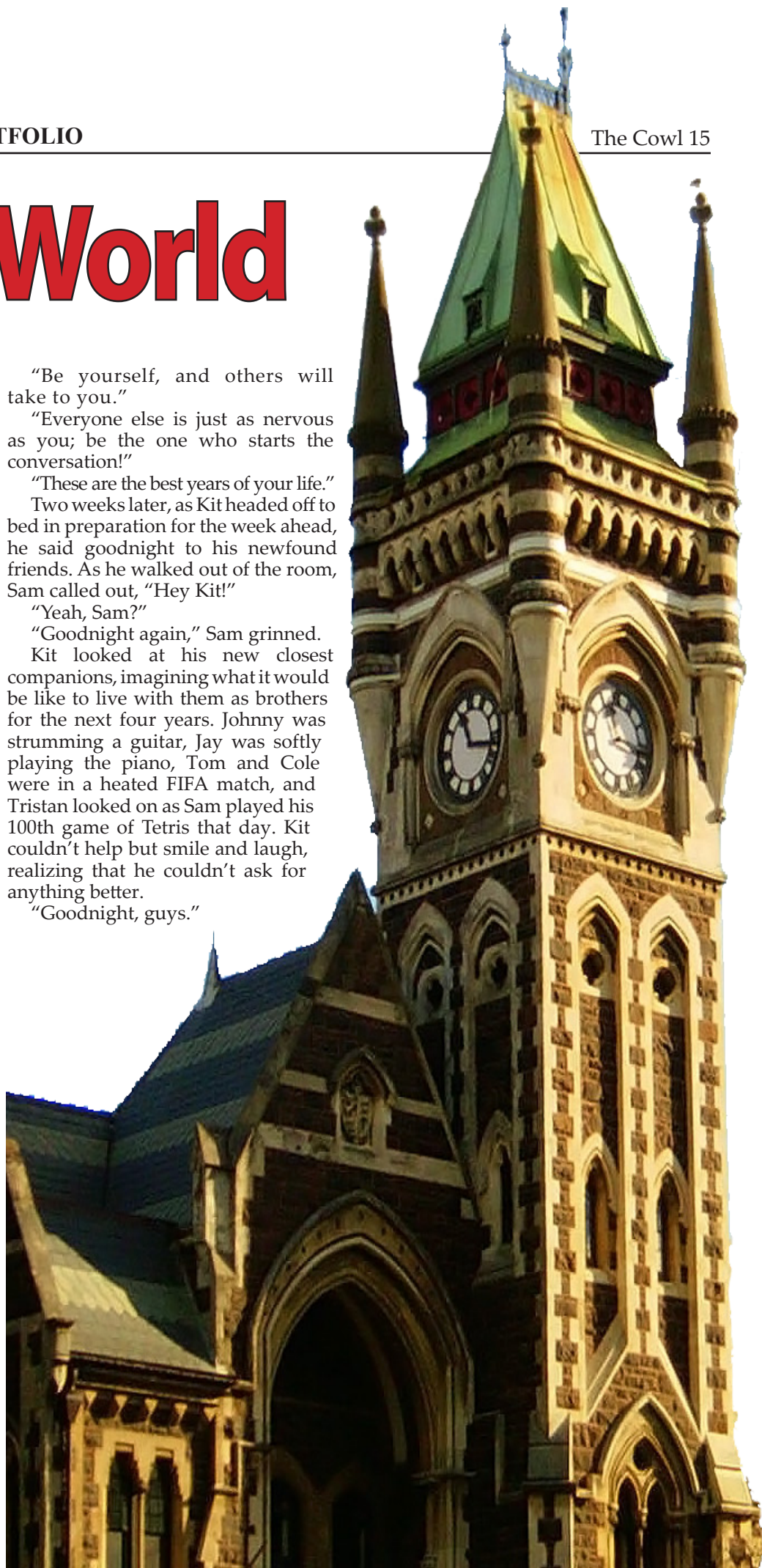
Two weeks later, as Kit headed off to bed in preparation for the week ahead, he said goodnight to his newfound friends. As he walked out of the room, Sam called out, "Hey Kit!"

"Yeah, Sam?"

"Goodnight again," Sam grinned.

Kit looked at his new closest companions, imagining what it would be like to live with them as brothers for the next four years. Johnny was strumming a guitar, Jay was softly playing the piano, Tom and Cole were in a heated FIFA match, and Tristan looked on as Sam played his 100th game of Tetris that day. Kit couldn't help but smile and laugh, realizing that he couldn't ask for anything better.

"Goodnight, guys."



Silly Putty

by **Justin Fernandez '15**
Portfolio Staff

Far from the shore we'd glide over the ocean tides
And kiss the salted lips of Grace,
As her golden face lights up the sky.
And we'd race past this light desire and reach no limit
Standing on the dreams of infinite.
For the cool breeze won't wake or tease
These weary limbs from that happy hour,
But our laughter it will carry over miles
Of outstretched hands reaching for hands
Amidst the stormy seas.
And time would see no end;
No great divide between beginning and the end.



A Frosh's Guide to Food

by Sarah Dombroski '13
A&E Editor

FOOD

Stealz and Dealz

The Abbey: Arguably boasting the best wings that have ever graced my lips, The Abbey is one of Providence's hidden gems. They have a great beer selection (if you are of age), and an entirely different menu solely for burgers. Not to mention, the burgers are probably the size of my head. If you are looking for a bargain, hit up The Abbey on Tuesday for \$0.35 wing night. It used to be \$0.25, but the price of poultry went up!

Geoff's: I have yet to try out Geoff's, but I have heard wonderful things. At Geoff's, expect good times, big sandwiches, and a line. As I cannot speak from experience, I'll keep it brief and say to go see it for yourself. And when you do venture to College Hill, be sure to do so on a Tuesday—two for one subs!

Baja Burritos: A Thayer Street hotspot, Baja is probably the only dining establishment that will serve you both a Philly cheese steak and a burrito—if your heart so desires. Baja lets you build your own burrito for \$5.99, all toppings included, and no extra charge for sour cream or guacamole. You will never want to go to Chipotle again.

Parents' Weekend

Siena: This pricey Federal Hill haven houses some of the best Italian food you can find in this neck of the woods. Siena is known for its pleasing atmosphere and even more pleasing menu. My dish of choice is the penne a la vodka with blackened chicken. At Siena, you will never go home hungry and always leave happy.

Walkable

Anthony's: My go-to order at Anthony's is the Cluckin' Russian: chicken cutlet with bacon, Muenster cheese, and Russian dressing, all panini-ed on a hard roll. Anthony's also boasts impressive Italian masterpieces for the more streamlined sandwich lover.

LaSalle: I have written about LaSalle Bakery in this newspaper about 70 times over the past three years. The entire Class of 2016 should have already discovered LaSalle, so this should really just be a reaffirmation of what we all already know. The Local Favorite and the Buffalo Chicken Calzone are LaSalle's two crown jewels, and the chai tea latte is not half bad either.

Milano's: The corner of Pinehurst and Smith Street houses Milano's, a convenience store/pizzeria. Milano's sells dollar slices and is conveniently open until 2 a.m.

****For on-campus thriftiness, follow @PCpHatKidZ for all of the hot tips on free food.



Being Well-Fed Starts Here



The Campaign Voted Worth Watching

by Marisa Urgo '14
A&E Staff

Film

Kids are out of school, the weather is warm, and people are generally more relaxed. This is why summer is the best time for blockbuster releases. *The Campaign*, starring Will Ferrell and Zach Galifianakis, was set to be the big-name comedy of the summer. While I don't believe it lived up to its hype, *The Campaign* is a refreshing change from Ferrell's other stylistic movies and promises to make you laugh.

Will Ferrell plays the incompetent Cam Brady, a congressman who accidentally leaves a lewd message intended for his mistress on the answering machine of a humble Christian family. The scandal prompts rich power players, the Motch brothers (John Lithgow and Dan Aykroyd), to try and oust Brady from office so that they can gain influence over the district to create a Chinese sweatshop. Their pick for his opponent is Marty Huggins (Zach Galifianakis), an odd man and the joke of the town, because they think they can

manipulate him. This springs into a hilarious campaign that depicts every part of the electoral process.

I liked *The Campaign* because it differed from typical Will Ferrell movies. The humor is still over the top and "frat boy"-esque, and the movie includes the traditional wacky Will Ferrell sex scene and punching baby jokes. There seems to be more one-liner jokes than big laughs. However, I thought this was one of the few Will Ferrell movies with a meaning. There was a message behind all the chuckles. In the end, characters did the right thing through challenging times, and the best man won.

It is important to note that the political system in *The Campaign* is not identical to that of the United States. The unlikely combination of politics and fart jokes actually pans out well to deliver the message that our political system might be heading out of control. Although the tactics taken in the movie are a bit more outlandish, the movie proves the point that politicians are not afraid to bring the other candidates down in order to raise themselves up. Every political commercial you see tends to put down the opposing candidate rather

than talk up the one sponsoring the ad. The movie also hints at the notion that they might be putting personal interests before important issues. In one satirical scene, Cam Brady proclaims that "schools is [sic] this nation's backbone," but then proceeds to also say that "Filipino Tilt-a-Whirl operators are this nation's backbone." Although this scene is funny, it rings true to the fact that politicians will say anything to gain votes.

Overall, the film is worth seeing. Director Jay Roach of *Austin Powers* and *Meet the Parents* nails comedy once more while sneaking in a heartfelt message. Leading actors Ferrell and Galifianakis utilize their comedic strategies. For Galifianakis, this entails quirky characters, and for Ferrell, senseless raunchiness. They have a chemistry that expels beyond the screen. Jason Sudeikis added to the film by playing Brady's agent, although I didn't think the role highlighted Sudeikis' goofy charisma as much as it could have. Dylan McDermott, playing the secret agent hired by the Motch brothers, also shined as an attractive upcoming star to watch.

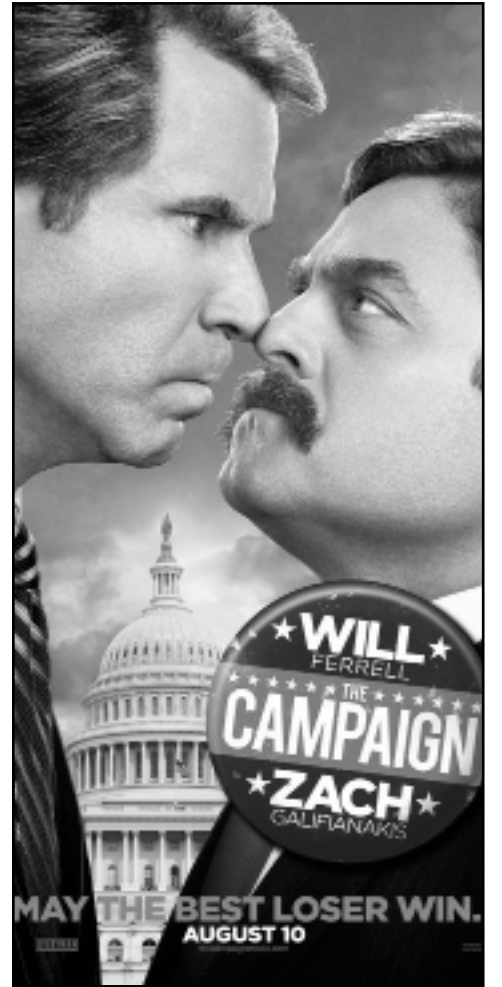


PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

Mumford & Sons & Satisfied Fans

by Mary McGreal '15
A&E Staff

Film

This past August, I had the pleasure of attending a Mumford & Sons concert at the Providence Performing Arts Center, also known as PPAC. It was the first "real" concert I ever attended, as well as the first time I visited PPAC. The experience was enhanced by the fact that my sister managed to secure amazing seats that were only 16 rows back. We were close enough that we could see the band members' faces clearly, which made it feel more like an intimate bookstore session than a regular concert. It did not hurt that theatre is a gorgeous early 20th century building that perfectly encapsulated the whimsy and eclectic feel of Mumford & Sons. A fan since I first heard "Little Lion Man" used in a BBC Drama advertisement in 2010, I was thrilled to be able to see Mumford in person. I was nervous that the live performance would not be as good as the studio recording, as it is with many popular artists, but thankfully, that was not the case. The band delivered a jam-packed two-hour set filled with old favorites and some material off their new album, *Babel*, which will be released on Sept. 25. They were so good that my least favorite song off the last album, "Dust Bowl Dance" annoyed me just as much in person as it does

when I am at home listening on my iPod. Although I still danced along, I couldn't help myself.

Being the inexperienced concertgoer that I was, I made the rookie mistake of making sure I got to the theatre exactly when the ticket said the show started. Being early might be beneficial in a situation where the seating is determined on a "first come, first served" basis, but for this particular concert at PPAC, the seating was prearranged. In my opinion, which is probably not worth very much as I have no real business to be judging others' musical talents (as I have none), the two opening acts brought down my mood a bit. The first act had a sort of Christian country feel and seemed to be over before it started. The band Dawes came on next; they had a moderately sized fanbase, but it was just not my type of music. Yes, they gave off the same sort of folksy rock vibe as Mumford, with their flannel and probably ironically hipster haircuts, but they just lacked something. Perhaps the sound system was off, but they were loud, and not in a good way. I felt like all I could hear was the drums, and even then, the energy level that brought to the stage by Mumford was lacking with Dawes. Opening acts aside, I was there for Mumford, and Mumford was amazing. I wish I could go back and relive the night, soak in the atmosphere, and fully appreciate the art of the music.

As we begin a new school year, it is always good to remember that there is always something different

to explore and do in Providence. That is the thing about the city—it may be small, but it is far from boring. It never crossed my mind as a freshman to go online and look at upcoming shows at local theatres or take advantage of the vibrant theatre and music scene of the city. Just like the lyrics of Mumford's single which promise "I Will

Wait," Providence will wait for you to discover all that it has to offer, whether that is when you are a freshman, senior, or even a graduate.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MUMFORDANDSONS.COM

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EDITOR vs. EDITOR

This Week: Favorite Olympic Event

Sarah O'Brien

Favorite Olympic Event: Swimming

Her Views: Okay, I swear it's not just that I like shirtless guys. Okay, maybe it is. But you have to admit, you can't start watching the swimming events and *not* get into it. The races are so intense, I feel like I'm the one standing on the diving board, possibly having to beat opposing swimmers by mere seconds. Who doesn't want to be four-time gold medalist Missy Franklin? All I got when I was 17 was my license. Then there's Mr. Michael Phelps smoking the competition (pun definitely intended). In the words of the genius Dory the fish, just keep swimming, Olympians. Just keep swimming, and I'll keep watching.

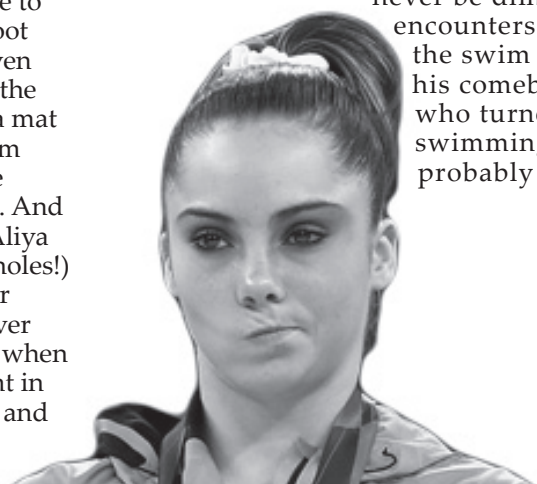
Her Views on Sarah: Don't flip out—gymnastics doesn't thrill me. Wait! What! Everyone's supposed to love gymnastics! Gabby and Jordyn and Kyla, oh my! And let's not forget Danell Leyva and his blankie (@LeyvasTowel). I want to be invested in my sports; I like to understand what is going on, who is winning, whom I should root for. With gymnastics, there are 800 events, and teammates are even competing against one another. Then you want me to figure out the crazy scoring system on top of that? Forget it. A handspring on a mat is a handspring on a mat, right? If you can even *stand* on the beam I think you deserve a perfect score. The best part of watching the gymnastics events (besides Gabby's grin) was Raisman's parents. And even when Aly was screwed out of a bronze (Russian gymnast Aliya won the tie) she remained a sweetheart. (See, we're not all Massholes!) McKayla Maroney can vault, sure, but she made winning a silver medal look like a PC basketball loss to UConn (which would never happen, just speaking hypothetically). But hey, I'm never happy when I come in second in the Olympics either. Dombrowski's argument in favor of gymnastics? <http://mckaylaisnotimpressed.tumblr.com/> and neither am I.

Sarah Dombroski

Favorite Olympic Event: Gymnastics

Her Views: Gymnastics defies the laws of gravity, physics, etc, and maybe that is why we are so mystified by it. These 13-year-olds doing flips and splits are intriguing, and this year's "fab five" helped to catapult America's gymnastics to superstardom. Gymnastics may be my favorite Olympic sport this year solely for the "McKayla is not impressed" Tumblr, rivaled only by Aly Raisman's sassy performance to "Hava Nagila." If enthusiasm could be awarded a prize, I would win a gold medal.

Her Views on Sarah: I can't lie, I do genuinely enjoy swimming. The Michael Phelps craze of Beijing should never be diminished. However, the same Mr. Phelps' encounters with weed and laziness made the start of the swim season annoying for me. He was harping on his comeback, so everyone focused on Ryan Lochte, who turned out to be a flop. I won't say I didn't enjoy swimming, but I am disappointed. Missy Franklin was probably the best part, and she's only 17. *Lame.*



Picks of the Week

by Haley Webster '14
A&E Staff



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

Movie: *Happy Gilmore*

In honor of this weekend's festivities, it is only appropriate to feature the greatest golf movie of all time, *Happy Gilmore*. While I am pretty sure most people will not take the *Happy Gilmore* route and sport a Bruins jersey on Saturday, there are plenty of other outfit-inspiring characters to get you ready for the big day (as if you did not already have an outfit planned). Just gloss over the part when Gilmore talks about kicking himself if he dressed like his fellow golfers.

Album: *Bon Iver, Bon Iver*

If you haven't already heard me screaming it from the rooftop of Harkins, *Bon Iver* is coming to the Providence Performing Arts Center Sept. 12. It is arguably the absolute best back-to-school event of the week. Not only is this album exquisitely crafted with a variety of hauntingly beautiful tracks, it is also the perfect soundtrack to ease your transition back into long nights in Phillips Memorial. Even if you unfortunately cannot make the concert, this album will be a necessary addition to any studying playlist.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMAZON.COM

Book: *Viola Davis' 2012 PC Commencement Speech*

So this isn't technically a book or literary work, but it is highly accessible, relatable, and enough to get you started for an amazing year. Davis refers to the "call to adventure" that is innate in all of us. Whether you find this call at the golf party, or while skipping civ seminar, her words are inspirational and aimed directly to the Providence Community. Luckily for us, adventure is something we have never had a hard time finding.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.PROVIDENCE.EDU

SUPERHERO MOVIES:

Saving You from Boredom

by Alanna Smith '14
A&E Staff

REVIEW

One is a reclusive millionaire; the other is an awkward schoolboy. One uses military-grade weaponry; the other constructs tools in his bedroom. Most importantly—at least to some comic book fans—one is DC, and the other is Marvel. So, what do Bruce Wayne and Peter Parker really have in common? They are both vigilantes, fighting crime while running from the law. They both don masks to conceal their identities; they were both the subjects of two of the most anticipated films of 2012.

The Amazing Spider-Man

This movie had a lot to live up to. Not only was it released right between the highly-successful *Avengers* and *Dark Knight Rises* films, but it also rebooted a trilogy that had only ended five years before—a trilogy that grossed \$2.5 billion around the world.

So how was it? The film followed the basic plot of the Spider-Man mythos. Peter Parker (played by Andrew Garfield of *The Social Network*), a high school student who lives with his aunt and uncle, gets bitten by a genetically—modified spider. While the premise is nearly the same, the approach is much different. While not the focus of the film, the action scenes are still very well done, and occasionally tread the line between comedic and riveting. The script concentrates more on the characters than the action: the maturation of Peter Parker, and the sad and twisting humanity of the film's villain, Dr. Curt Connors (Rhys Ifans). The romance between Peter and Gwen Stacy (Emma Stone) is sweet and believable, not forced like the hollow performances by Tobey Maguire and Kirsten Dunst in the previous series. The characters are not portrayed like comic book caricatures; they are real people, and the film grants the audience windows into their lives.

Altogether, this was a very emotional film—funny, romantic, and suspenseful—perfect for new and old fans.

Reboot Rating: A-

The Dark Knight Rises

This was arguably the most anticipated film of the year. It garnered a lot of success, drawing in an insane amount of money and earning hundreds of positive reviews—but how did it fare as the end of one of the most beloved trilogies of the last decade?

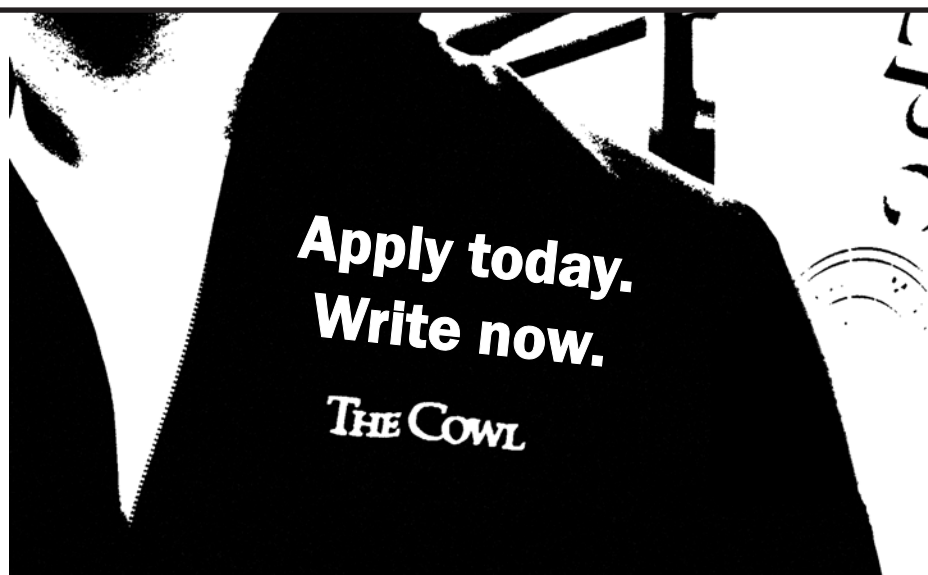
As a "threequel," the movie would ideally be composed of an even mixture of the first two films, tying up the themes and overarching plots. Generally, it succeeded. In terms of the overall feel and look, this third movie is similar to *Batman Begins*. Much screen time is spent outside of Gotham, and more of the script is dedicated to character development and reflection. Due

to the movie's length, there is still plenty of action, filled with choreography and awesome stunt work that Christopher Nolan has become adept at providing.

A different villain fills the gigantic shoes that Heath Ledger left behind. Bane (Tom Hardy) is much more physically menacing than the Joker, but he is not as psychologically terrifying. He possesses a tragic humanity, however, a quality of which the Joker seemed to be devoid, and a quality that makes Bane slightly more accessible to the audience. The other new characters delivered as well. Despite the apprehension of some fans, Anne Hathaway and Joseph Gordon-Levitt rocked their roles.

As mentioned earlier, the film contains the themes of the previous two films, but in addressing them, even more questions are left. Can a good and ordered society exist without chaos and evil—and if not, how should the latter be combatted? *The Dark Knight Rises* provides an answer of its own, but this question is something that all people should consider.

End Movie Evaluation: A



BEYOND HOUSE PARTIES:

Live It Up in the Creative Capital

by Sarah O'Brien '15
Assistant A&E Editor

Out About Town

By now, most of you have heard about what Providence College has to offer. Either you are a freshman or transfer getting adjusted to the countless options PC provides, from clubs to events to academic services (there is this great group called *The Cowl*...), or you are a returning student occupied with your classes (and with teaching the newbies to golf). Sure, you attend the BOP events—thank you *Stall Street Journal*—but are you taking full advantage of living in the city of Providence? Nicknamed the “Creative Capital,” the city boasts many forms of arts and entertainment to keep you busy throughout the year. Below, I’ve highlighted some of my favorite haunts; I dare you to explore.

RISD Museum of Art

You do not have to be an art student to enjoy the Rhode Island School of Design’s art museum, located at 224 Benefit St. With six stories, 84,000 pieces, and ever-changing exhibitions, there is something for everyone. Best of all, the museum is now free to PC students! Off-topic plug: There are also art galleries on PC’s lower campus—Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery currently features an exhibit by Deborah Coolidge, and Reilly Gallery features an exhibit by Ben Anderson. Receptions for these shows will be held on Thursday, September 20 from 5-8 p.m. in conjunction with Providence’s monthly Gallery Night, during which 21 of the city’s hottest “art spots” allow visitors free admission and tours (<http://www.gallerynight.info/>).

Thayer Street

Okay, this one is pretty obvious, but deserves a mention anyway. Advice? Go hungry. More advice? Go to La Crêperie. Though it is technically located on 82 Fones Alley (just off Thayer), no trip to this part of town is complete without a visit. Open until 12 a.m. Monday-Thursday and Sunday and until 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday, La Crêperie claims to be where “Paris meets Providence.” Say bonjour to a satisfied stomach and savor every bite. Other quirky places you may want to venture to on Thayer include Avon Cinema (the place to see independent and foreign films, besides Cable Car Cinema on South Main Street), Rockstar Body Piercing (my friend had a good experience getting her nose pierced there last year), and Blue State Coffee (donates 2% of sales to “local and progressive” causes).

Lupo’s Heartbreak Hotel

Looking for a fun venue to see your favorite performers and events? I thought so. Located at 377 Westminster St. in downtown Providence, Lupo’s offers an intimate, club-like environment that enables spectators to get close to the stage and allows performers the ability to get off the stage (as Issac Slade, lead singer of The Fray, did at a concert last year) and connect with their fans. Lupo’s has a jam-packed schedule this year, featuring everything from The Offspring and Neon Trees on Sept. 11, to a Barstool Blackout Foam Party on Sept. 12, to State Radio on Nov. 2, to a Taking Back Sunday 10-Year Anniversary show on Nov. 20. There are plenty of other people gracing Lupo’s stage this season, so head to <http://lupos.com/events/> for the complete calendar.

Roger Williams Park Zoo

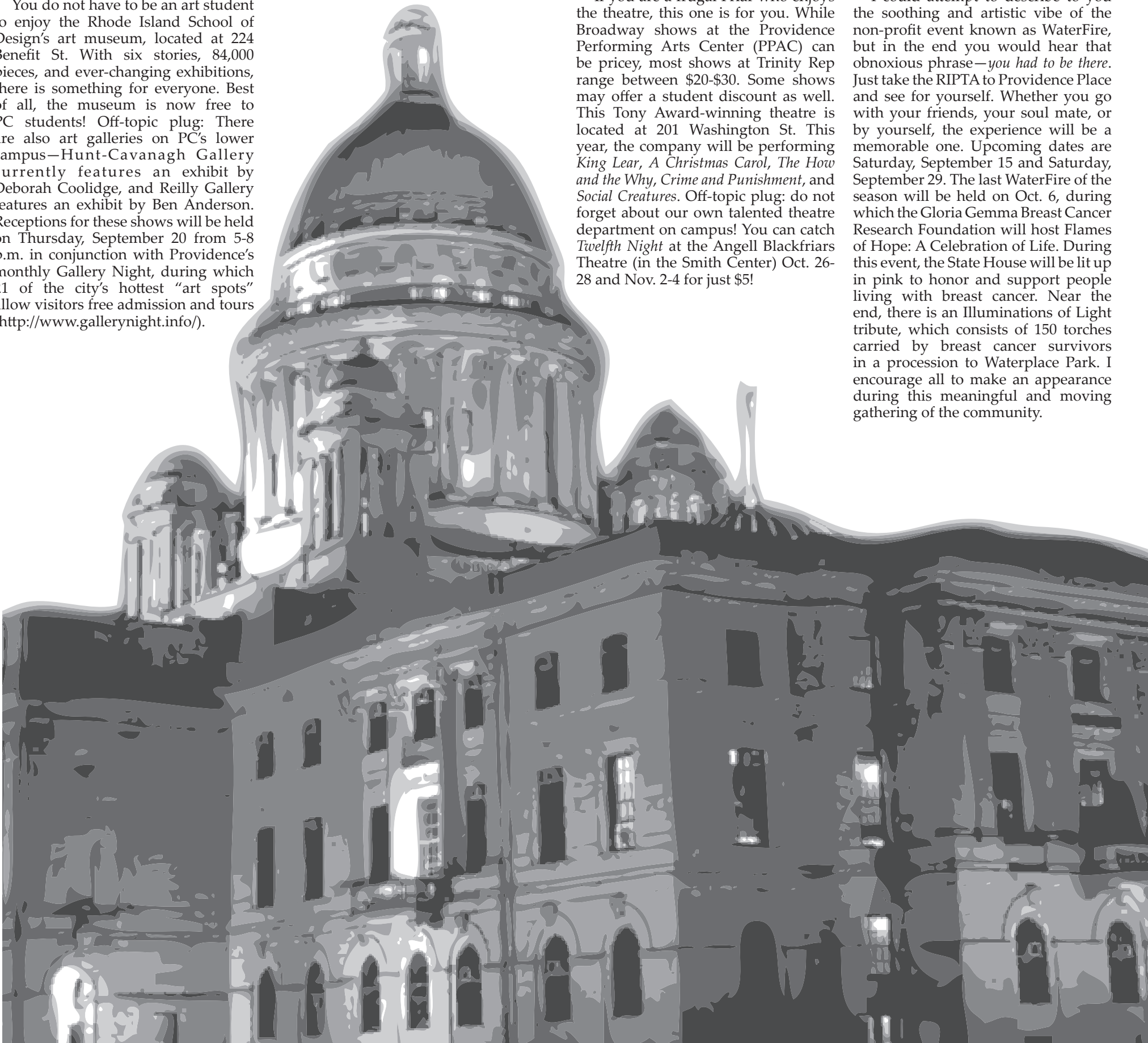
The zoo! This is a childhood classic that never gets old. Roger Williams Park is one of the oldest zoos in the nation, founded at 1000 Elmwood Ave. It even houses three African elephants (my favorite animal) named Alice, Kate, and Ginny. Throughout the month of October, be sure to visit Roger Williams for the Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular—one of the coolest ways to celebrate Halloween ever. For only \$12 (\$15 on weekends), be amazed by the 5,000 beautifully carved jack-o-lanterns. This year’s theme is “All the World’s a Stage,” and will display scenes from movies, Broadway hits, and television shows. The carvers continue to create new works throughout the course of the 30-day show to ensure that the pumpkins stay in decent shape, so no two visits are alike.

Trinity Repertory Company

If you are a frugal Friar who enjoys the theatre, this one is for you. While Broadway shows at the Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC) can be pricey, most shows at Trinity Rep range between \$20-\$30. Some shows may offer a student discount as well. This Tony Award-winning theatre is located at 201 Washington St. This year, the company will be performing *King Lear*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The How and the Why*, *Crime and Punishment*, and *Social Creatures*. Off-topic plug: do not forget about our own talented theatre department on campus! You can catch *Twelfth Night* at the Angell Blackfriars Theatre (in the Smith Center) Oct. 26-28 and Nov. 2-4 for just \$5!

WaterFire

I could attempt to describe to you the soothing and artistic vibe of the non-profit event known as WaterFire, but in the end you would hear that obnoxious phrase—you *had to be there*. Just take the RIPTA to Providence Place and see for yourself. Whether you go with your friends, your soul mate, or by yourself, the experience will be a memorable one. Upcoming dates are Saturday, September 15 and Saturday, September 29. The last WaterFire of the season will be held on Oct. 6, during which the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Research Foundation will host Flames of Hope: A Celebration of Life. During this event, the State House will be lit up in pink to honor and support people living with breast cancer. Near the end, there is an Illuminations of Light tribute, which consists of 150 torches carried by breast cancer survivors in a procession to Waterplace Park. I encourage all to make an appearance during this meaningful and moving gathering of the community.



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PHOTOGRAPHY

The Cowl 22

September 6, 2012

Compiled by Saadia Ahmad '14

Halfway through the spring semester of every year, the SAIL office selects approximately 60 Orientation Leaders from an application pool of hundreds, thus beginning the extensive preparation of welcoming the newest incoming class of freshmen for the upcoming fall. After an intensive two-week training just prior to the arrival of the freshmen, the OLs welcome their group of freshmen with icebreakers games and informational lectures throughout the day, and food and entertainment in the evening hours. Throughout this rigorous, six-day orientation, freshmen "have the opportunity to reconnect with students in their major, participate in the Common Reading Program, attend seminars and interest sessions, and learn about the vast resources available to them on the campus."



For the past two freshman orientation sessions, BOMA has brought in Lee Mun Wah, a renowned diversity trainer and teacher, to share with students the "value of diversity and how to engage with greater intention with those we do not know and who may differ from us."

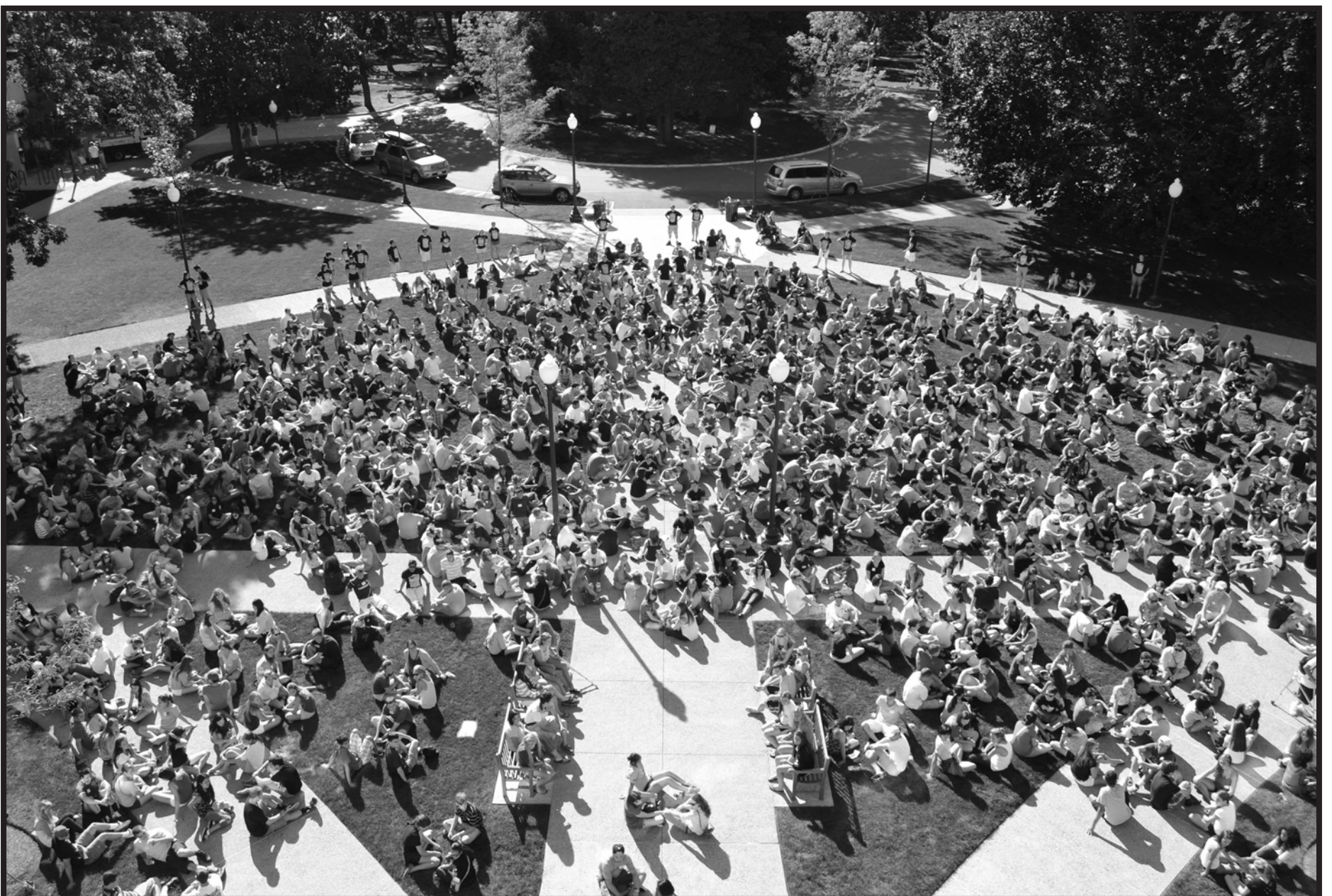
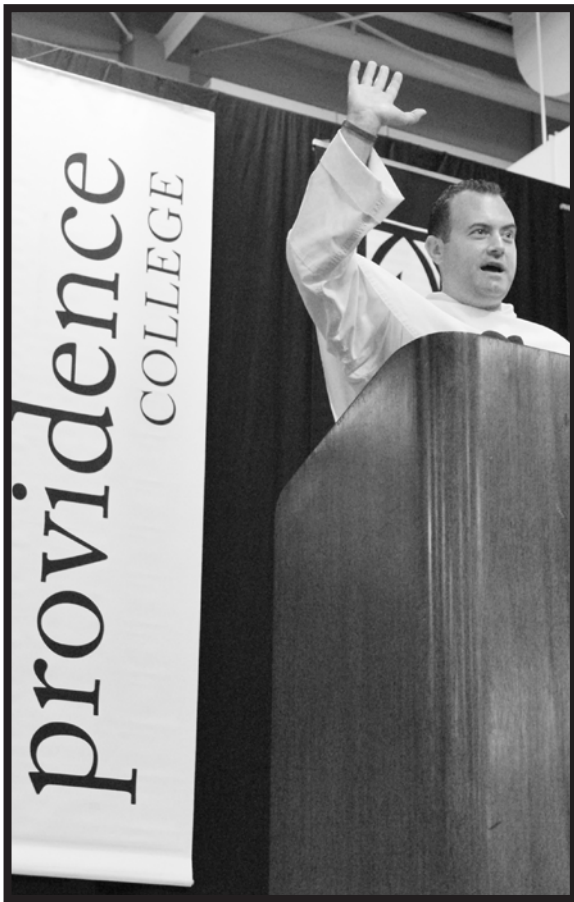


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDRES TABORDA '15/ THE COWL



BMSA hosted an info session on its multitude of cultural groups. Executive officers walked around, recruiting and chatting with wandering freshmen.

BELOW: Fr. James Cuddy, O.P., delivered a warm welcome during the student affairs' and chaplains' "Who's Who and What We Do" introduction session.



ABOVE: A long line of students traveled far down the hallway by the Unity Center and around the corner, waiting to stuff their own teddy bears.

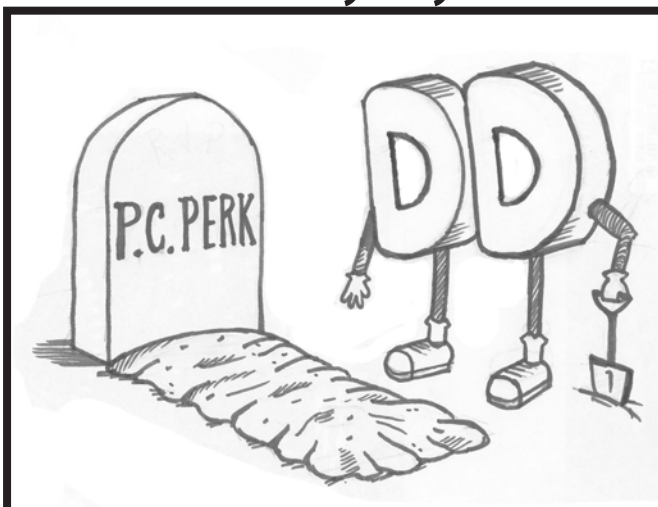


ABOVE: Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, Steve Sears, shared a story about his kids with members of the Class of 2016 during the welcoming session from Student Affairs, Chaplains, Class Dean, and Dean of Students.

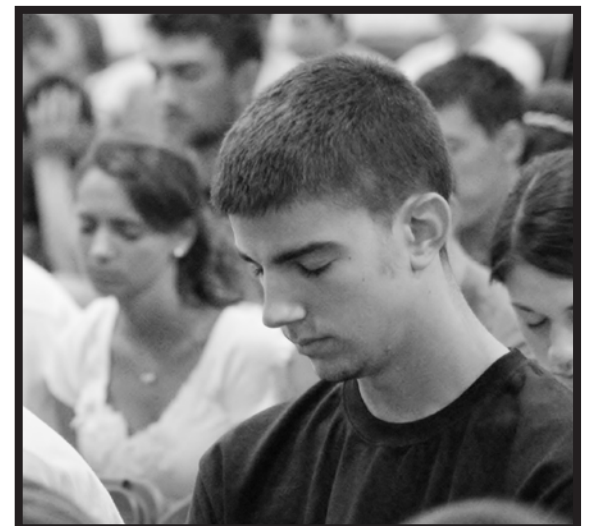


ABOVE: Slam poet Javon Johnson brought the audience before him in the Mural Lounge to tears of laughter and of sadness as he shared his stories of relationships and race relations through intense, fast-paced verses of poetry.

Not So Perky Anymore



by Michael Rose '13



ABOVE: During a session entitled "Contemplation & Communication," which discussed the five core values of the Strategic Plan and welcomed students of all faith and non-faith traditions, freshmen reflected on their past and wrote a letter to themselves in the future.



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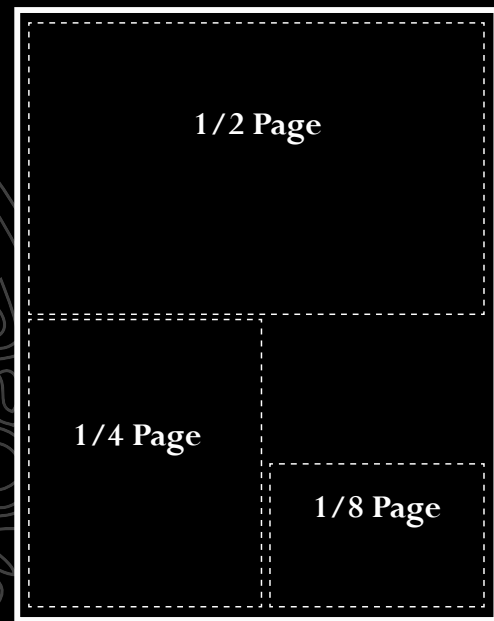
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PUBLICATION DATES

Fall	Spring
September 6	January 31
September 13	February 7
September 20	February 14
September 27	February 28
October 4	March 14
October 18	March 21
October 25	April 4
November 1	April 11
November 8	April 18
November 15	April 25
November 29	May 2

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Basketball Preview: Freshman Edition

by Daniel McNamara '13
Sports Staff

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Two years ago, there was no Top 10 recruiting class and no one talking about Providence basketball in ways that the program had grown accustomed to over the years. Most recognizably, there was no head coach willing and able to stamp his name to a program in desperate need of a John Hancock.

Despite the growing pains, the Friars were trudging through. One player looked past that and saw what it could be. Josh Fortune signed with Providence two years ago last week and has never thought twice about it. The 6'5" silky sharp shooter from Kecoughtan High School in Virginia brings much needed wing talent to the Friars, especially after the departure of Gerard Coleman in the offseason. "I believe Josh Fortune is an elite shooter," said Cooley. "He will bring a lot to our squad and he will surprise people next season with his skill."

Fortune is an upgrade from Coleman with long range shots. He will also be able to take his man off the dribble, get into the lane, and create scoring opportunities for himself and others. The first thing you notice about Fortune when you see him play is his length. His long arms make it easy for him to jump passing lanes and be a solid on-ball defender. Although he is a do-it-all type of player, he is someone that at times seems overlooked by most evaluating the Friars for the 2012-2013 season. Fortune can play, and there is no denying his offensive prowess. He will be one of the better bench players the Friars have had in a long time.

Being called the best player to come out of the state of Connecticut is no small accolade for a player that didn't explode on the Amateur Athletic Union scene until his junior year. Kris Dunn was a good

football player early on in high school, and turned out to be more than a great basketball player. He is an all-around athlete, but more importantly someone who is never satisfied with the end result. "From day one, I've had no concerns. He's played every possession at both ends," said Craig Parker, Dunn's high school coach at New London. "Normally, when you coach a great player, they take possessions off. Kris Dunn's defining attribute is that he is wired to play hard." So hard that Dunn tore his labrum and needed shoulder surgery in the beginning of the summer. He will likely be out until December. "It's very tough," a humbled Dunn said. "I just can't play basketball, that's all I know. Just sitting out for five months not being able to play basketball will be totally different."

Dunn will rehabilitate this fall and hopefully be back before the heart of conference play in January. "Hopefully, I can bounce back," Dunn stated. "Providence fans wanted to see me and Ricardo [Ledo] and other new recruits coming in. Hopefully, they understand the process that I'm going through and I'll get back on my feet."

He already has a song about him. He has people all over Rhode Island saying, "ballin' like I'm Ricky Ledo." A mix tape recently surfaced on YouTube of him beating one of the best young guards in the NBA, John Wall. He goes by Ricky D, and some already refer to him as a Hometown Hero. He is the best scorer coming out of high school in the country and has been ranked as high as the sixth best player in the nation. He turned down the likes of Syracuse, Connecticut, Kentucky, and Louisville to stay home and play for Ed Cooley. He attended four high schools in five years and is waiting to see if his grades match up from place to place.

Ledo can score from just about anywhere inside the lines on the hardwood. He can pull up from 30 with ease and hit four or five shots in a row. He can cross up just about any defender and use his frame to shield off players bigger and taller than he is, and get up his

floater he loves. He can also finish at the rim with some authority. If you have seen Ricky Ledo play, you know he can score about 25 in his sleep and 35 if he doesn't like you, and the latter is usually the cause. Ever since he was a junior in High School, people questioned if Ledo would ever play Division I ball. He was the kid no coach wanted to touch, but every coach wanted to have. Only one could do both, Ed Cooley.

Ledo has been granted a partial waiver from the NCAA to practice with the team this season and attend Providence on scholarship. The waiver means he cannot, and will not, suit up and play for the Friars this season. He must wait until next fall to showcase his talents for Friar fans. Many are already questioning if Ledo will take his talents to Europe, where he could play this upcoming winter and be eligible for the NBA draft next summer. Others are saying he may go right to the NBA development league, where he could play for an NBA "minor" league team, if you will, and have the chance to be called up during the season. Yet Ricky Ledo wants to be at Providence. "I am happy to be a student at Providence College," Ledo said in a statement. "It has always been a dream of mine to represent PC, and I am looking forward to my days as a student-athlete."

He wants to play for the Friars in front of his family and friends. He wants to disprove those that write about how he doesn't deserve to attend Providence College and play college basketball. And most of all, he wants to play for Ed Cooley, the other native son who has returned to bring the Friars back to the national stage that is college basketball. Some will still doubt if Ledo will ever play for Providence, or any NCAA Division I school for that matter. I have to believe that will drive him every time he steps onto the practice court this year.

What does all this mean? Well, it means that Providence is back. Obviously no one will pick them to make the Sweet 16 or even make the NCAA Tournament, but the Friars will display some serious upper level Big East talent for the first time in years. They are led by a man who will not settle for second in a conference that feels like teams are leaving every night. Will Providence win six, seven, eight, or even nine Big East games this year? I have no idea. Could they?

Sure, why not. They have just as much raw talent as any other team in the league. They are a team that will have their experience questioned by most, and their hearts questioned by many. What Ed Cooley has done entering his second year at Providence is something that they will be writing about years from now.

With New Rules, NCAA Finally Wises Up

by Sean Bailey '14
Asst. Sports Editor

SPORTS DIGEST

The NCAA has never been known for making sense. Their forms of punishment and double standards have left many confused for years. For instance, it is legal for a school to give a recruit a bagel, but as soon as they give a recruit a bagel with cream cheese it is a rules violation for giving a recruit improper benefits.

Many athletes have held grudges against the NCAA. Former Oklahoma linebacker Brian Bosworth famously called it the "National Communists Against Athletes." Recently, college sports have been beaten to a pulp with huge scandals. For example, the Penn State case, an assortment of arrests, and colleges tarnishing age old rivalries in search of bigger pay days—Syracuse, West Virginia, and Pittsburgh, I'm looking at you.

However, amidst all the negative stories that have left the NCAA reeling, they actually passed rules that, dare I say, almost make sense. New rules for academic standards have been released by the NCAA, which include a 2.3 minimum GPA, 16 core courses that must be taken, 10 of which must be taken by an athlete's senior year. Seven of these 10 cores need to be in English, math or science. Philosophically, these rules make sense. Why not make these athletes earn their way to school, instead of coasting through life with every advantage given to them because of their athleticism? A 2.3 is a very manageable GPA, and most schools would not accept regular students with GPAs lower than that.

These rules, however, look great on paper but lack the ability to follow the script. According to NCAA statistics posted on ESPN.com, 15.3 percent of student-athletes who enrolled in 2009-2010 would not meet 2016 academic standards. 43.1 percent of men's basketball players from that season would fail to meet the new standards.

These standards also do not account for differences in high schools. For instance, at a prestigious private high school, a 2.3 may be harder to obtain. At an impoverished school getting proper courses required may be even more of a challenge. Also, this means recruits have to make playing college sports or enrolling in college a focal point, when not every person plans on enrolling into four-year programs from freshman year onward. Plus there is already a plethora of students struggling to gain eligibility, even at Providence College. Prized basketball recruit Ricardo Ledo '16 is sitting out a season for graduating high school in nine semesters. Sidiki Johnson '14 and Carson Desrosiers '14 are sitting out a year after transferring to Providence. Former Friar Gerard Coleman '14 even struggled with academic eligibility, having missed a game as a freshman against DePaul.

While the NCAA is trying to clean up its image, there are still gaps in ensuring fair competition for all schools, and there is still lots of work to do.



Photo Courtesy of Prospect Central

The Freshman Guide to Intramurals

by Julia Claudy '13
Sports Staff

INTRAMURALS

Greetings Freshies! I am sure you are completely overwhelmed with all the new and great changes in your life over the past couple of days. From getting to know new roommates and figuring out classes to learning what is edible in Ray, an overload of information is being thrown in your direction. While the things you have learned thus far are very important, I have yet another tidbit of information that will be great for you to remember.

I am sure that you recall from your tour around campus the strong emphasis placed on the intramurals at Providence College. This was no exaggeration; the College was voted number three in the country by the Princeton Review in the category, "Everyone Plays Intramurals." PC students are obsessed with putting together fierce intramural squads.

As you get more comfortable in your classes, you will get to know that many of your classmates are

varsity athletes. The beauty of PC is that athletes and "civilians" get to mingle far more freely than in larger Big East schools. Our highly athletic campus does not stop at the varsity athletes. The rest of the population loves to stay active by joining as many intramurals as their schedule will allow.

One of the most popular fall intramural sports is flag football, while the most intense sport is dodgeball. Why do Friars love intramurals, do you ask? Victorious intramural squads win the coveted "Intramural Champions" t-shirt at the end of the season. These shirts have become a prized possession on campus, so winners are sure to keep an eye on their laundry to prevent any jealous thievery.

In order to join an intramural, you must register on the IMLeagues website: imleagues.com/providence. Every team must have a representative at the designated captains' meeting at the times listed below.

Lace up your sneakers, put on your game face, and go get athletic this school year.

Captains' Meeting Dates

- Field Hockey:** Tuesday, September 11, 7:00 p.m.
- Flag Football:** Tuesday, September 11, 7:30 p.m.
- Tennis Singles:** Wednesday, September 12, 7:00 p.m.
- Co-Rec Kickball:** Tuesday, September 18, 7:00 p.m.
- Co-Rec Dodgeball:** Tuesday, September 18, 7:30 p.m.
- Team Handball:** Tuesday, September 18, 8:00 p.m.
- Wallyball:** Wednesday, October 10, 7:00 p.m.
- Indoor Soccer:** Wednesday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.
- 3 on 3 Basketball:** Tuesday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.
- Ice Hockey:** Tuesday, November 13, 7:00 p.m.

*All meetings will be held in the Concannon Fitness Center Conference Room

**All teams must have a representative at the meeting with their \$20 team forfeit deposit

Lacrosse Future Looks Bright with New Coach

by James Kirby '15
Sports Staff

MEN'S LACROSSE

Rev. Brian Shanley, O.P. was very optimistic as he spoke to the audience that attended the press conference welcoming new Head Lacrosse Coach Chris Gabrielli, and he had a reason to be.

As he put it himself, "We are at a historical moment with respect to our lacrosse program. We are making the investments to have the facilities that we need to be a great lacrosse school."

Gabrielli is the newest head coach to join Friartown, along with Ed Cooley, Nate Leaman, Craig Stewart, and Susan Robinson, who have been added in the past two years. Athletic Director Bob Driscoll showed high praise for the new acquisition by calling Gabrielli "the final piece of the puzzle," as well as assuring that Gabrielli is the man to lead the program to the "next level," which includes competing for championships.

Gabrielli, who grew up in Farmingdale, N.Y., was an assistant coach for the past six seasons and recruiting coordinator at Duke University. Those who follow college lacrosse know that national powerhouse Duke has had a prestigious lacrosse program with plenty of success, including the national champion in 2010. Gabrielli played a key role during his stay at Duke; Providence now has a coach that knows and has been the cause of past success on the largest stage in the Division I Lacrosse level. An extremely humble and grateful man at his press conference, Gabrielli expressed gratitude to his wife and the people who allowed him to follow his dreams all before addressing his

excitement by joining the Friar family.

Gabrielli is not the only new addition to the coaching staff. Shortly after being inducted, he announced that his assistant coaches were John Galloway and Brett Holms. Galloway, who had a very successful and decorated career at Syracuse as a goalkeeper, joined the staff after working with Gabrielli at Duke this past season. Holms will join Gabrielli after being an assistant coach at Tufts for the past four years, where he too earned many accolades, including National Assistant Coach of the Year in 2010. Regarding the selection of Gabrielli as head coach, Galloway states, "If I had to describe him in one word, it is loyalty. Coach has worked for everything he has earned and done so with great morals and high character. He is a man I am honored to apprentice under and learn from as I grow as a coach. He will bring a sense of toughness, urge to compete, and genuine passion back for the game of lacrosse."

Both Gabrielli and Galloway stressed the importance of leadership in developing their players into men of character and value to succeed in any area of life, on and off the field.

Since joining the Big East in 2010, Providence had only managed to win one conference game, a statistic that has disheartened a community that generally loves lacrosse. The bleak past is set to change thanks to an off season that most can agree have set up the lacrosse program for future success. Not only are the new coaches amazing recruiters, but all three have seen success firsthand and simply know how to win. Galloway added, concerning this year, "Our seniors and team leaders are here now, and we don't plan to wait until our recruits come in to begin implementing plans for a championship caliber program."

Familiar Face Returns to Friartown

Stewart Looks to Build off Recent Success

by Veronica Lippert '15
Sports Staff

SOCCER

Chaka Daley spent 12 years building Providence College into a Big East powerhouse, and when he resigned to take the head job at the University of Michigan, he left a program that is now well respected on the national stage. Daley's successor, Craig Stewart, takes over a team with high

expectations that should soon be ready to take the next step.

Stewart is a former Providence assistant, serving on Chaka Daley's staff from 2006 to 2008. He was the top assistant for some of the Friars' best seasons. His first head coaching job with the NCAA was with Division II powerhouse Franklin Pierce, a recent national champion. During three years with Franklin Pierce he compiled a 51-8-6 record. Last year, he led Franklin Pierce to an undefeated regular season, a final four appearance, and set a school record for wins.

Most of Daley's staff returns, making for a smooth transition. The only new addition is Tim Murray, a Providence graduate and current player for the New England Revolution. "To have a staff member at the highest level of US professional soccer is a great asset to have,"

Stewart said of the hire. Murray will be working mainly as a keeper's coach and should be an asset as there is very little experience in goal down the Friars' depth chart.

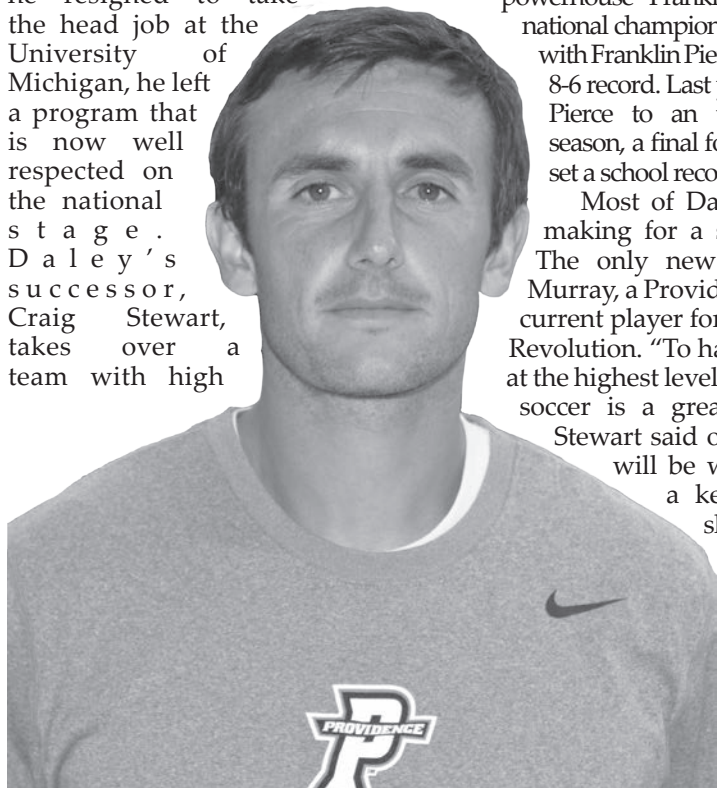
Two year starter Jhojan Obando graduated last spring, leaving two returning players, Byron Regester '13 and Keasel Broome '15, and incoming freshman Austin Davis as the keepers on the Friars' roster. The three have five collegiate appearances between them, but Stewart is optimistic. "We feel we have good depth in this area and all three have had good camps and are doing a great job of pushing each other to get better every day." Stewart seems content to let the competition play out through the early part of the season, having started both Regester and Broome in the two games Providence has played.

Without a definitive number one in goal, scoring will be all the more important. Providence has a very talented crop of returning players, including four of the top five scorers from last season. However, the undisputed star of the Providence soccer team is Marc Cintron '13. Last year he was limited due to injury, but still earned All-Northeast Region honors.

He made a name for himself on the

national stage, racking up a number of achievements this summer. He made his international debut, scoring a goal against defending World Cup champion Spain. He was named to the Preseason All Big East team and to the MAC Herman Trophy watch list.

The Friars did not get off to the start they wanted, dropping their season opener 2-1 in double overtime to Northeastern and losing 3-1 to Monmouth. Overall, this is a talented team and should not prove to be more than a blip on the radar.



Head Coach Craig Stewart, left, and Asst. Coach Tim Murray, right, are already making a difference for men's soccer.

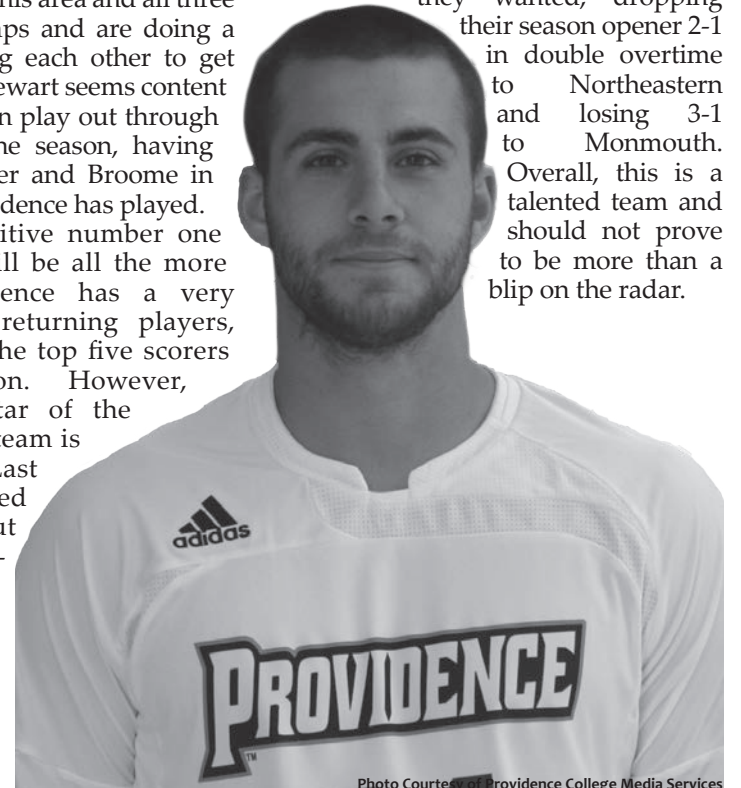


Photo Courtesy of Providence College Media Services



SPORTS

An Olympic Dream Achieved Stephanie Reilly '01 Makes It to London



by Bridget Stack '13
Sports Editor

OLYMPICS

As a billion people watched, a lone runner walked into Olympic Stadium dressed in an Irish uniform. This runner, one of many Irish track and field competitors, was the only one from her country competing in the 3000 meter steeplechase.

As Stephanie Reilly toed the starting line of the second heat of qualifications in the 2012 Olympic Games, a dream that long laid dormant was finally achieved. The 34-year-old competitor, a 2001 graduate of Providence College, finished ninth out of the field of 15, ending her Olympic games. For Reilly, the objective of the games was not to win, but to have an experience. "It was an experience of a lifetime and something I will always cherish," said Reilly. "You can never really expect or imagine what it will be like until you have been there and lived the dream."

Reilly's Olympic aspirations began in a small town on the east coast of Ireland. Hailing from County Wicklow, Reilly found her way to Providence through Ray Tracey, the head coach of the men and women's track teams. "It was an opportunity I could not refuse," she explains.

While at Providence, Reilly held a visible presence for the school and the sport. Consistently being a top

finisher, Reilly continued running throughout her life after Providence College. She is the current head coach of track and field and cross country at Bryant University. She is married and a mother of two young boys—she is now also an Olympian. How was Reilly able to accomplish something so monumental, so exclusive as going to the Olympics? Though the passion for running had depleted momentarily for Reilly, it was rekindled when she realized her full potential was not met.

"You always dream about being [at the Olympics] one day. But it takes a lot of dedication and commitment to achieve, and sometimes that is even not enough," said Reilly. For many, the thought of ever going to the Olympics is quickly dissipated when faced with the reality of how difficult it is to make it. "As I moved on with my life, the Olympics were not on my mind at all. I always knew I had never reached my potential, but felt my time had come and gone—until I married, had children, found the passion for the sport again, and essentially got fit again. From there the Olympic dream came back."

For many, the Olympics were viewed intermittently; the Opening Ceremonies intermingled with commercials, Olympic events cut and pasted so that key events were shown in primetime. For Reilly, this firsthand experience was something that few are able to experience. "The opening ceremony [was one of my favorite

moments]," says Reilly. "Although the athletes were not in the stadium to see the opening ceremony, walking into that stadium with my country and all other countries was incredible, and something I will never forget."

The race itself was quick—it lasted all of 29 seconds. But for Reilly, that was enough. "Racing in a full to capacity stadium of 80,000 was an incredible thrill, and I loved every second of it," she says. "I was so happy to have performed really well and to have given it everything I had."

For many, racing in an event such as the Olympics means that nerves would be wound tight, and the pressure would be crushing. For Reilly, she entered the race with a simple methodology: it is just like the hundred other races she had raced. "I get the same nerves whether it is a local road race or an Olympic heat," explains Reilly. "The bottom line is this race is the same distance, the track is the

same length as any other, you have the same number of bodies around you racing, and the familiarities go on." The hundreds of other races that Reilly has participated in aided her ability to simplify the grand event that the Olympics are: "It is a race like any other once that gun goes off."

Though London finished a month ago, Rio is already in Reilly's sights. In the meantime, she will continue coaching, racing, and being a mother and wife. In 2016, though, look for the Irish runner entering the stadium with one dream achieved, and one more to accomplish. "My goal going forward is to get faster, and wherever that brings me I'll take it," she says. "I am still loving and enjoying the sport so much that it is hard to stop."

There are many things that Reilly is able to take away from her Olympic experience, though there is one sentence that cannot be taken away from her: "I am an Olympian."

Providence College has always been known as a powerhouse for cross country and track and field competitors. This summer, that was demonstrated as three former Friars competed in the Olympics. Stephanie Reilly '01 ran for Ireland in the Steeplechase. Dylan Wykes '05, who competed for Canada, ran in the marathon. Wykes made a strong showing in London, finishing 20th out of over 85 competitors. Wykes finished the 26.2 mile course in 2:15:26. Wykes was not the only Friar competing in the Olympic marathon. Kimberly Smith '05 ran for New Zealand, finishing an impressive 15th out of the 118 competitors. Smith finished with a time of 2:26:59. Good job, Friars!

