



THE



COWL

Vol. LXXX No. 12 @thecowl · thecowl.com

Providence College

December 10, 2015

PC Bids Farewell to Fr. Cuddy '98, O.P., Chaplain for Over Six Years

by Meaghan Dodson '17
News Co-Editor

MISSION AND MINISTRY

Fr. James Cuddy '98, O.P., has been a beloved member of the Providence College community for over 20 years. Now, Fr. Cuddy will enter a new chapter of his life as he says goodbye to PC this week and begins the new year in a new location, a new parish, and a new ministry.

Fr. Cuddy attended PC from 1994 to 1998, and during his time here he made some lifelong friends in Guzman Hall, ate many meals in Raymond Dining Hall, and, most importantly, discerned his call to the priesthood. After graduating, he participated in the AmeriCorps program of South Carolina for a year and then applied to become part of the Dominican Order. He worked for the Archdiocese of Boston during this time as an inner-city youth minister, and in the summer of 2000 he officially became a Dominican Friar.

Fr. Cuddy was ordained a priest in 2007, and then passed an additional year in the seminary in order to further his studies. In 2008 he spent



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAGAZINE.PROVIDENCE.EDU

a year as a parish priest in Kentucky, and in 2009 he made his return to PC, where he has served for the past 6 1/2 years as the College's chaplain.

"I love PC so much and I owe so much of my life to it," Fr. Cuddy stated. "This is where my most

enduring friendships were formed, where my faith came alive for me, where I learned how to be a Christian, and where I heard [God] calling me to a vocation to the priesthood and to the Dominicans."

CUDDY/ Page 3

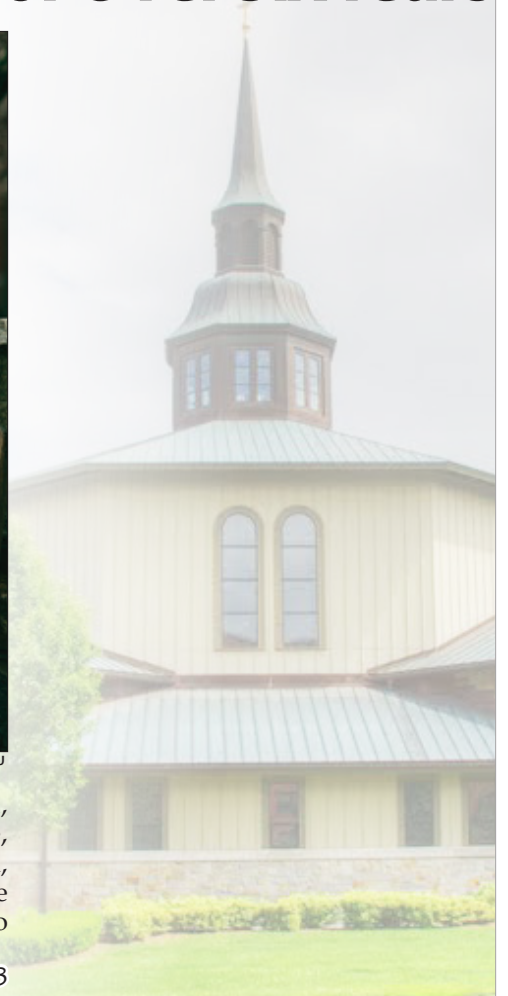


PHOTO COURTESY OF MASON SCIOTTI '15

Do Academic Grades Matter?

by Hannah Paxton '19
Opinion Staff

ACADEMICS

Unfortunately, students' obsession over grades is an ever-growing trend in today's society. A common discussion among peers is, "How did you do on the test?" or, "Did you get an A on the essay?" There is hardly any discussion about the actual substance of the class, or what students learn. By putting too much emphasis on grades, we miss out on the real point of education.

We have been told from day one that doing well in high school will get you into a good college, and from there you will get a good job in the real world. With a good job you can support your family so that they can have a good education and a good life. It is a never-ending cycle. Because of this understanding, many students focus too much on their grades, using them as a measure of their own self-worth. Holding our grades up as the foundation of our entire lives is the source of too much unnecessary pressure.

GRADES/ Page 11



PHOTO COURTESY OF UTNE.COM

A Charitable Christmas at PC

by Sarah Gianni '18
News Staff

COMMUNITY

Even with the stress of finals, the holiday spirit is in full swing amongst Providence College students. Events such as the Fair Trade Christmas Fair, the Jingle Bell Bash, the tree lighting on Slavin Lawn, and the Late Night Cookie Run promoted winter cheer to all community members. On Tuesday, December 1 and Wednesday, December 2, the annual Fair Trade Christmas Fair took place from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Slavin Center. The event was hosted by Campus Ministry's Social Justice Advocacy Group.

CHARITY/ Page 2



KATHLEEN MCGINTY '16/THE COWL

UNDER THE HOOD

Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

News	2
Photography	6
Opinion	10
A&E	15
Sports	19



PHOTO COURTESY OF TANPELU2.XYZ

Pick up a copy of
"A Very Portfolio Christmas,"
inside, for under your tree!



NEWS

Campus Events Shine This Holiday Season

PC Students "Deck the Halls" With Festive On-Campus Celebrations

by Zak Harvey '16
News Staff

EVENTS

Many students were forced to turn on their Christmas Spotify last week across campus to remind themselves and their friends that it was the first week of December. From the bright blue skies to the beautiful 60 degree weather last week, it was both a blessing and a curse. For many who wait all 365 days for old Saint Nick to come back, it took a little extra effort to get into the Christmas spirit.

All across campus different student organizations were sponsoring long-standing Providence College Christmas traditions. But, clubs and organizations also sponsored new events.

From the Christmas tree lighting on the Slavin Lawn to the Santa toy drive, Christmas events decorated the SAIL events calendar last week. Most notably, this past week the Office of Student Activities, in partnership with the Student Congress' senior class as well as the Board of Programmers (BOP), sought to spread Christmas cheer.

This past Friday BOP sponsored a school-wide semi-formal holiday dance. Many students across campus were heard talking about the first-in-recent-memory, school-wide event that has been sponsored on campus. Students flooded into '64 Hall to get their jingle bell rock on all night. Students that attended concluded the event was a huge success.

Reflecting on the event, Kristen Sauer '17 stated, "The holiday semi-formal was a great event that brought all four classes together to get into the holiday spirit. It was fun to share this experience not only with my fellow classmates, but also with my freshmen,



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACKIE KELLEY '17/THE COWL

Students are more than ready to celebrate the holiday spirit (above) and enjoy a fun night of dancing (below) at the College's first school-wide semi-formal event.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACKIE KELLEY '17/THE COWL

sophomore, and senior friends."

Mikaila Christopher '17 agreed, stating, "This was the perfect way to kick off the holiday season. It was also a great event to have right before the stress of finals week begins to hit everyone."

The second event that garnered a great amount of interest this past weekend was the Class of 2016's Ugly Sweater Night in McPhail's.

After speaking with senior class President Kelley Garland, it was clear that the seniors were also looking forward to spreading their own Christmas cheer.

When asked about the event, Garland said, "I think the last senior night of the semester has been our most successful yet. It was great seeing how much fun everyone was having right before finals. Quite a wonderful way to wrap up our final fall semester together as the class of 2016 in McPhail's!"

Hundreds of members of the senior class flocked to McPhail's to celebrate the last senior night of the fall semester. The night marked a huge success for the weekend and for the College's senior class.

While students are cramming for exams and pouring over copious amounts of notes, many are still getting into the Christmas spirit. From the new flavors at Dunkin' Donuts to binge-watching the *Home Alone* series on HBO, the spirit of Christmas is in the air.

With just a week left before finals and everyone departing for home, one cannot help but say Merry Christmas and best of luck with finals.

Charity at Christmas: 'Tis the Season for Giving Back

Continued from front page



JESSICA ARTIGLIERE '17/THE COWL

Thanks to the generosity of PC students, the Fair Trade Fair was able to raise money for CRS.

"The proceeds for the Fair Trade Christmas Fair goes directly back to Catholic Relief Service (CRS)," said Kerry Anne McCrossen '16. "CRS then uses the money raised from the sale to ensure that workers who made these crafts earn fair wages for their work."

The fair sold a variety of items, perfect for Christmas gifts for friends and family. "Some of these items include naturally scented soaps, handmade scarfs, jewelry, Christmas ornaments," said McCrossen.

An additional holiday event taking place was the annual Christmas tree lighting on Slavin Lawn. Members of the PC community gathered around to witness the Christmas tree illuminate with lights, followed by festive desserts.

This year, Campus Ministry also worked to organize their second annual Jingle Bell Bash. The event took place on Friday, December 4 at 7 p.m. in the Campus Ministry Center.

"We had a ton of exciting activities planned for the Jingle Bell Bash," said Events Coordinator for the Community Life Ministry, Madeleine Veith. "Santa is coming, Campus Ministers will be

performing a lip sync, there will be a ton of food, karaoke, and a photo booth," she said.

All attendees also had the opportunity to donate or buy Christmas cards, ornaments, or book cards to rebuild a preschool room for an orphanage that students have worked with in the Philippines.

"The Jingle Bell Bash was a great opportunity to take a break from school, meet and see friends, and have an overall joyful evening," said Veith.

Another truly joyful evening took place on Thursday, December 3, in the form of a Late Night Cookie Run. Sponsored by Organizational Theory, chocolate chip cookies were sold to raise money to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ocean States. Students texted their orders along with their building name and room number, and would receive door-to-door delivery.

With a variety of events open to all students, PC is fully embracing the holiday spirit to add some welcomed cheer to the final weeks of the semester.

Cuddy: Eager to Begin a New Chapter in His Life

Continued from front page

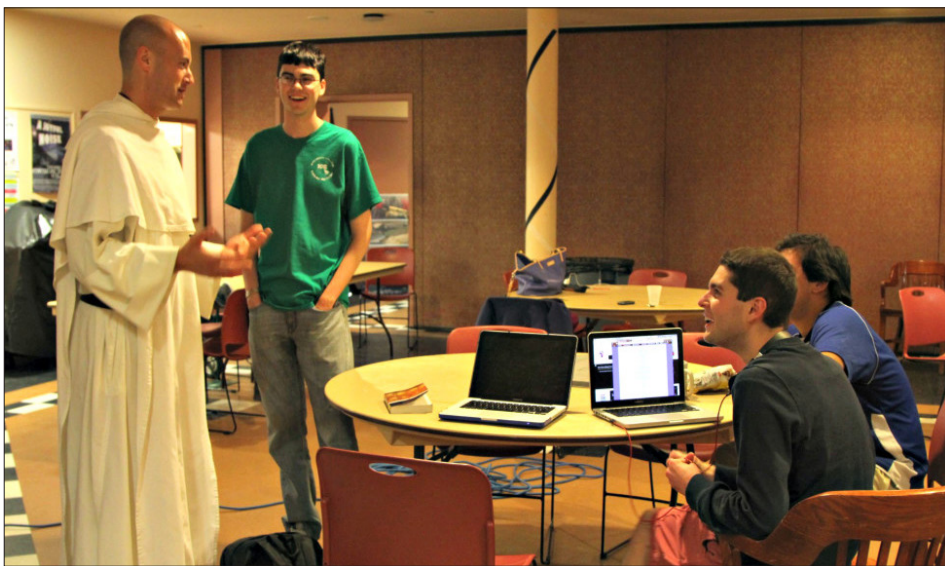


PHOTO COURTESY OF VOCATIONS.OPEAST.ORG

Fr. Cuddy, O.P., shares a moment with students in PC's Campus Ministry. Fr. Cuddy will continue to work with students as his parish is adjacent to the New York University campus.

He reflects that, while he was baptized a Christian and ordained a priest, it was here that he truly learned how to be both.

Fr. Cuddy considers himself blessed to have been a part of the College for so long. The Dominicans who were once his teachers and mentors have now become his partners and friends, and he has met so many "good, loving, sacrificial people" on his journey. He asserts that most of his formation has come from opportunities to know and work with the students, whether it was in times of joy or in times of hardship.

"I have lived two big chapters of my life here," Fr. Cuddy stated. "Looking back, both were extremely formative. This is where I learned how to live the life God had planned for me."

While Fr. Cuddy has enjoyed his experience at PC, he is eager to now begin the next chapter of his life. His new assignment will take him to New York City as the pastor of the Church of St. Joseph in Greenwich Village. The church is next-door to New York University, so he will

be serving NYU students as well as the families of his parish.

Fr. Cuddy will be pastor to the sixth oldest parish in the Archdiocese of New York. It was founded over 180 years ago in 1829, and it has been maintained by the Dominican order since 2003. Dorothy Day, a candidate for canonization, performed much of her charity work in this area and was even buried at this church.

Fr. Cuddy will officially begin his pastorship on January 1, 2016, but he will be leaving for New York next week in order to give him time "to make a transition, not just physically, but emotionally and spiritually."

As part of his vow of obedience, Fr. Cuddy goes wherever the need for priests arises. He does not know how long he will be at the parish, although six years is the typical time frame for most assignments.

"You can never predict where you're going," Fr. Cuddy stated. "The idea is that you're supposed to leave yourself open to whatever God wants you to do, knowing

that's the place where you'll grow and be happy and that it's all part of his plan for you and for others. You just do your best wherever you're sent for as long as you're sent."

One goal he has for his new position is to bring the younger and older members of the community together in worship. He hopes to make mass as "attractive" as possible for the young people without setting unrealistic expectations for when they leave the parish, ideally putting them on a trajectory that they will stay on for the rest of their lives. He believes that the "energy and joy that college students can bring is a great encouragement and source of pride for older people. At the same time, older folks can bring a sense of wisdom, experience, and mentoring to the lives of young people."

Overall, however, Fr. Cuddy does not have any big plans for his parish, stating, "You don't know a community until you get there. You can't have answers if you don't know what the questions are. I want to get to know the people, to listen to them, and to see what they find important and what their experience of church has been. I will watch and pray and learn, hoping

that God will bless those early months of transition and that he gives me the grace to be a good, loving pastor."

When asked if he will ever return to the College, Fr. Cuddy replied, "That's always a possibility, but I don't like to have that mindset because then you miss out on all the experiences, all the blessings, and all the work that the Lord wants to do with you, in you, and through you. I will never be able to repay God for all the blessings I received at PC, and if God ever calls me back here, I trust He will do the same thing in a different chapter, in different ways, and with new generations of students, friends, and co-workers."

Fr. Cuddy will be celebrating the 7 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. masses this Sunday in his last official acts as Chaplain of the College.

"It's good because that's how everything started, so that's how it should end," Fr. Cuddy states. "In the beginning of Mass we make the sign of the cross, and at the end of Mass we receive the blessing to 'go in peace.' This will be my last time to pray with the community, to call down to God, and to have Him send all of us where He wants us to be. I would be hard-pressed to come up with a better ending than that."



ANDREW BUTLER '16/THE COWL

Thank you, Fr. Cuddy, O.P., for your years of service to the Providence College community.

Helping Beyond the College's Gates

PC Teams Up With City of Providence to Reach Out to Community Children

by Marla Gagne '18
News Co-Editor

EVENTS

On Monday, December 7, 2015, Providence College and the City of Providence announced a new partnership that reaches out to city children. The initiative, referred to as the Junior Friars Program, allows members of the Providence Recreation Programs to attend PC athletic events and meet some of PC's student athletes first hand.

The Junior Friars Program was created over the summer by the College's Department of Public Affairs and Community Relations and the director of athletics. Children attend select games free of charge and have a chance to meet PC student athletes on the College's Campus.

Steven Maurano, associate vice president for public affairs, said, "The College believes in being a good neighbor and good institutional citizen. We have a culture here of giving back to our local community. This program is a way for us to underscore our commitment in doing so."

The first out of the seven events took place on Nov. 7, as 15 children watched the Providence College's Women's Hockey Team take on the University of New Hampshire. Six other events will take place through April 2016. The events



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

From left to right: Robert Driscoll, associate vice president of PC athletics; Providence Councilman David Salvatore; Providence Councilman Terrence Hassett; Rev. Brian Shanley, O.P.; Providence Mayor Jorge Elorza; and Councilwoman Jo-Ann Ryan. These city and Providence College leaders work together to make the children of Providence part of the PC "Friar Family."

will cover a range of sports from Women and Men's Basketball to Men's Lacrosse. Each event will include 15 members of the Providence Recreational Programs and three to four student athletes.

The program is not only a chance for PC students to get more involved in the

community, but also a chance for the city's children to think about their own futures and goals. "While our students are involved in a great deal of community service work, sometimes much of that involves neighborhood cleanups and other activities that do not allow for

interaction with younger children," said Maurano. "This program allows the city students to work with our student athletes in a way that might inspire them to someday follow in their footsteps at whatever college they might choose to attend."

The College plans to examine the program and make any necessary changes. Muarano said, "This is the first time we have done anything like this in partnership with the city's Department of Recreation. The plan is to assess the impact and effectiveness of the program at the end of this academic year and decide if we want to continue it for next year. If so, we will also talk about any modifications or enhancements that we might want to make to make the program even more effective going forward."

The biggest event in the program will be the men's basketball game against Bryant University this Saturday, December 12. Over 100 city students are expected, along with a large group of student athletes.



PHOTO COURTESY COLLEGIADIABETESNETWORK.ORG



Bursting the PC Bubble

by Gabriella Pisano '18
News Staff

Shooters Kill 14 in California

On Wednesday, December 2, in San Bernardino, California, Tashfeen Malik and her husband, Syed Rizwan Farook, killed 14 people and injured 21 others. The massacre is being treated as an act of terrorism.

Assistant FBI Director, David Bowdich, claims that there is evidence of extensive planning for the attack. Law enforcement officials have said that so far in the investigation, there is no indication that the couple was linked to a particular terrorist group.

While the two did not have direct ties to ISIS, Malik did declare her loyalty to the group while the attack was underway. She also posted a pledge of allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

Zuckerberg Baby and Donations

Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Priscilla Chan, recently welcomed their baby girl, Max Chan Zuckerberg, to the world. Zuckerberg posted a letter to Facebook stating that he and Chan want to better the world for future generations. He announced that he will donate 99 percent of his Facebook shares valued at close to \$45 billion.

In the Facebook letter, Zuckerberg states, "Our initial areas of focus will be personalized learning, curing disease, connecting people, and building strong communities." He outlined a plan in which this donation is to be enacted. It started with the creation of a foundation, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, LLC.

Germany Declares War on ISIS

On Tuesday, December 1, Germany declared war on the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. Tornado reconnaissance jets, a naval frigate, and up to 1,200 troops will be sent to the region to confront ISIS.

A leaked statement from the German Cabinet revealed, "The German contribution serves the fight against terrorism under the auspices of the alliance against ISIS and is aimed at supporting in particular France, Iraq and the international alliance in its fight against ISIS." Parliamentary approval is still required before any action can be taken.

Japan Sends Ships on Minke Whale Kills

An International Court of Justice ruling forbids the hunting of whales, but Japan seemed to ignore this ruling and sent out an expedition. Australian Environment Minister Greg Hunt said, "We do not accept in any way, shape or form the concept of killing whales for so-called 'scientific research.'"

Japan continually rejects calls for the ceasing of whaling activities, claiming that it is vital for building a body of research. It is being questioned whether these expeditions are ones of poaching or research.

Congress Updates

by Gabriella Pisano '18
News Staff

CONGRESS UPDATES

The 66th Student Congress Meeting on Tuesday opened with announcements from the Executive Board, class presidents, and the committees.

Following these announcements, the proposal of "Providence Immigration Rights Coalition" was discussed and eventually passed. The discussion surrounding the Cyber Leadership Initiative Club was continued from last week, and this too passed. Other continuing discussions from past meetings also included the updating of Providence College ID cards to include the phone number of the Personal Counseling Center, the inclusion of mental health resources on all course syllabi, and an update of the Providence College Health Center website.

New business was discussed about the rental of a second locked charging station, similar to the one in Slavin Center. Some members of Congress stated that some flaws exist in the current phone charging system in the library. It was stated at the meeting that a second locked charging station in the library could solve many of these problems. The meeting adjourned after Congress members discussed extending the hours of academic buildings for study purposes.



Club Spotlight: Figure Skating

by Gabrielle Shkreli '17
News Staff

CLUB SPOTLIGHT



PHOTO COURTESY HANNAH HIGGINS

Are you just bursting with holiday cheer? Do you find yourself yearning to try out every wintery activity before leaving campus for Christmas break? Well then, twist and twirl into the holiday season with the Providence College Figure Skating Club!

Although most members join the club with previous skating experience, the PC Figure Skating Club is open to all students, both male and female, of all levels, whether you are a gold-medal competitor or have never even put on a pair of skates.

The club has an executive board, which consists of a president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. There are also two captains who are responsible for on-ice activities such as developing choreography and running practices.

According to President Hannah Higgins '17, practices occur at Schneider Arena anywhere from three to five times a week, and usually span from one to two hours. During practices, the 20

club members warm up together before working on individual skills, or going over choreography in preparation for their intermission performances during the Men's Ice Hockey Team's games.

During the 2015 semester, there have been many exciting additions to the club, one being performing during the hockey games. Not only does the club get to showcase their impressive skills and dance choreography during the second intermission, members also have the chance to participate in other fun roles as well. Throughout the game, figure skaters enjoy interacting with the fans and handing out free goodies, cheering in the student section, and assisting youth teams during the National Anthem ceremony and first intermission scrimmages.

Other new features are set to be introduced during the spring semester. The club is scheduled to appear in two collegiate competitions, once in New York and another for Nationals in Delaware.

Higgins, who has been involved in figure skating since she was five years old, shared her perspective as to why figure skating is so unique. "The best thing about figure skating is that it can be individual-based and self-paced, but it can also be team-oriented and provide the social aspect that a team does. It's a best of both worlds sport, and a skill that not many people have, which makes it pretty special."

Look out for the Figure Skating Club at the Spring Involvement Fair, or visit <http://www.providence.edu/recreation/club-sports/Pages/figure-skating.aspx> for more information.

Head In the Game

Special Olympics Tournament

by Daria Purdy '19
News Staff

EVENTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRITTANY COLEMAN '18

PC students cheer on their teams at the Special Olympics Unified Basketball Tournament.

The Special Olympics Unified Basketball Tournament was held this Saturday, December 5, in Peterson Recreation Center. The atmosphere in the gym was high-energy as 19 teams competed with over 100 Providence College student volunteers there to cheer them on.

The teams that participated in the tournament were unified teams, meaning that each consisted of players who had either mental or physical disabilities and two players who did not. The PC students in attendance held banners with each team's name, wore each team's colors, and enthusiastically cheered on every basket scored. Delina Auciello '18, president of Special Olympics at Providence College, worked with Special Olympics Rhode Island to coordinate the Special Olympics tournament at PC.

According to Auciello, "The Special Olympics Rhode Island Program is one of the world's most dynamic, providing over 1,600 year-round sports training and

athletic competitions for more than 3,000 athletes."

The goal of the tournament, according to Auciello, was "connecting Providence College volunteers and Special Olympics athletes through basketball, and showing one another how beautifully we are made through God." A special component to the tournament this year was the beginning procession of the teams. Each team had its name individually called, and walked out with PC students cheering them on. Additionally, the PC volunteers received rosters with the names of the athletes, so that they could root them on by name.

Auciello says this served to achieve one of her biggest goals of the tournament, which was to "connect the volunteers and athletes more."

The atmosphere of the tournament can be summed up in the words of Bridgid Walshe '19, as she stated, "I feel really honored and blessed to cheer on the best athletes in the world."

A Spin on History

Re-enacting Past Conflicts

by Patrick Lovett '17
News Staff

EVENTS

Members of the History Club do not simply look back and reflect on past events. Rather, they try to take it one step further and immerse themselves in them.

On Sunday, December 6, in the Ruane Center for the Humanities, the History Club held the event, "Conflict: The Cold War Re-Imagined," where participants learned about diplomacy, conflict, and how to run a successful nation.

The lessons in governance were not delivered as one might imagine: by lecture or seminar. Rather, the event more resembled a game.

Participants were split into teams, assigned an alliance of countries, and worked together to solve various issues confronting their nations.

Each decision and action was given a score by a neutral judge, which, when

tallied, decided which team won the game.

However, beyond simply being a competition, the event helped to educate participants on major events and provided them with a unique perspective on world history.

Every issue given to the teams was historical: the team representing China had to respond to Tiananmen Square, while the team representing Iran had to respond to Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.

Ultimately, by dealing with protesters in Tiananmen Square or a conflict between neighboring countries, the real takeaway for participants was a multi-faceted understanding of the past, both from a factual outsider's perspective and, in a way, as a part of it.

The History Club has held events such as this one bi-monthly thus far and looks to continue them in the future.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WORLDHISTORY.PHILLIPMARTIN.INFO

Sexual Assault and Dating Violence: Community Gathering

Forum Discusses the Prevalence of Sexual Assault on the PC Campus

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18
Asst. News Editor

ON CAMPUS



MEAGHAN DODSON '17/THE COWL

Flyers about how to respond to sexual assault can now be seen throughout campus.

On Thursday, December 3, members of the Providence College community gathered in the Slavin Fishbowl for a meeting on the prevalence of sexual assault on campus. The meeting was organized by

Student Affairs and was meant to discuss what the College has done, is doing, and will do in regards to sexual assault.

Vice President Kristine Goodwin started the discussion by giving the initial welcome. "It's so great to see people come together to talk about such a serious issue," she said.

Goodwin explained that since her arrival on campus in 2012, one of her many goals has been to create an interdivisional task force across campus on sexual assault.

Dr. James Campbell, assistant vice president for student development and compliance, said, "As a psychologist, my job is to help a victim, help a survivor, and help them find a calm in the cyclone of emotions they are experiencing."

Previously, Dr. Campbell was director of the personal counseling center, and he explained how his role is quite different now. "Now I'm changing, agitating, and getting things moving" he stated.

Dr. Campbell referenced Belgian priest Henri Nouwen, and explained that now is the time for holy unrest. "We are charged with changing things and making things better," he said. "We have to bring the community along with confrontation through difficult dialogue so we may grow and rise up."

The meeting focused on bringing the community together to get everyone on

the same page and explain what direction the campus needs to go in. Some steps the College has taken include implementing the bystander training program, in which 96 percent of the College's undergraduates have taken part.

The College also purchased *The Hunting Ground*, a film that examines sexual assault on college campuses. A showing of the film will be held in conjunction with Women's Studies 101 on Thursday, December 10 at 6 p.m. in Guzman 250.

At the meeting, data from the Sexual Misconduct and Relationship Violence Campus Climate Survey which was conducted last spring was presented. The survey had a 28 percent response rate and was meant to cover the "scope and nature of violence and experiences of sexual assault on campus."

According to the data, "21 percent of those surveyed experienced at least one form of unwanted sexual conduct since the onset of the 2014-2015 school year."

"Unwanted sexual conduct" can include oral sex, sex, attempted oral sex, attempted sex, and unwanted fondling.

According to the data, "The unwanted behavior was most commonly perpetrated by an acquaintance or peer," and of those who experienced any form of unwanted sexual conduct, "96 percent did not report the incident to the school."

The data suggested that 63 percent of those who did not report the incident to the school were unsure if the offender intended harm.

A majority of respondents agreed that more education is needed on sexual violence and would be beneficial in increasing their knowledge of bystander prevention.

When students returned to PC after Thanksgiving break, flyers with contact information regarding sexual violence, bias incidents, and other resources were placed throughout campus as a way to increase this knowledge.

"It's a result of the data, so it's one step we can take to put the information all over campus," said Dr. Campbell.

For more information, students are encouraged to visit the Title IX and Sexual Harassment webpage on the College's website.

"Providence College is committed to maintaining an environment in which all students, staff, and faculty are treated with dignity and respect, as created in the image and likeness of God," states the website. "Sexual misconduct in all forms violates the sanctity of the human body, mind, and spirit and will not be tolerated within our community."

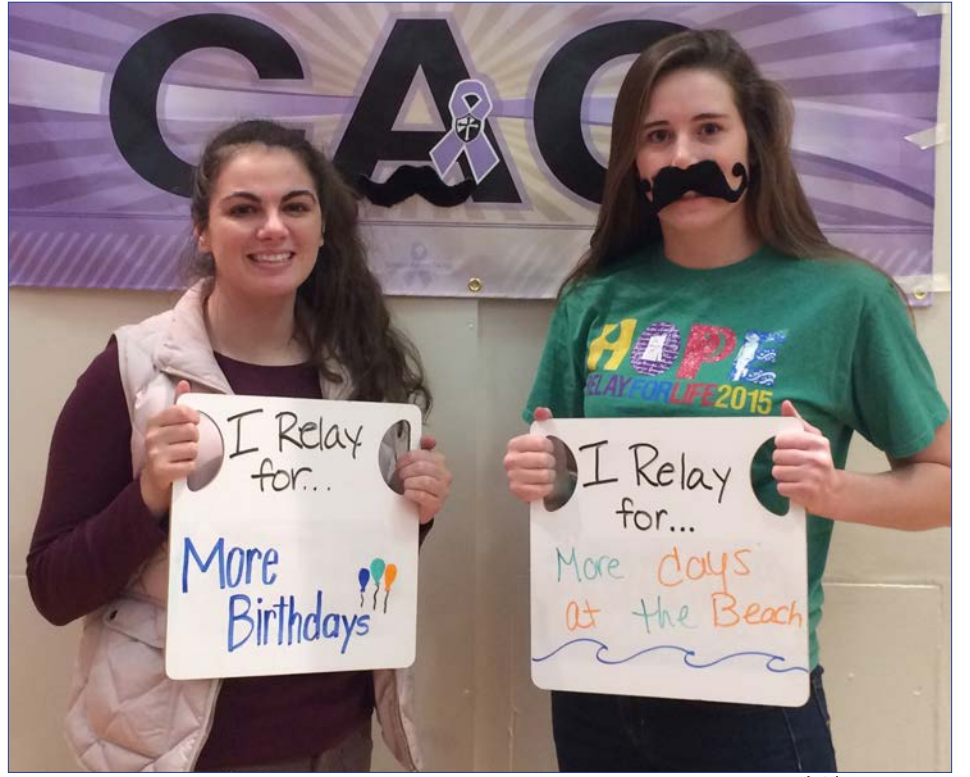


PHOTOGRAPHY

The Cowl 6
December 10, 2015



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL



KIMBERLY LEZAMA '18/ THE COWL

ABOVE: PC's Men's Ice Hockey Team celebrates their 4-0 win over Merrimack College.

BELOW: Women Empowered interacts with students and faculty, discussing the importance of racial and gender issues.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Students come and decorate their own stockings just in time for the holidays at BOP's "Things for Thursday."

TOP LEFT: The Education Club hosts PC's Spelling Bee, where students compete for the title of "Top Speller."

TOP RIGHT: The Colleges Against Cancer Club hosts games and performances to help students learn more about PC's Relay for Life.

BELOW: Students come and compete in BOP's Holiday Movie Trivia.



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL



JESSICA ARTIGLIERE '17/ THE COWL



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL

DEAR FRIARS, HERE TO HELP WITH FINALS IS A DECEMBER CALENDAR.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 2015						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Notes:	

Photo courtesy of calendareraze.com

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

GOOD LUCK!



THE VETS

AN EVENING OF STRIPPED-BACK ARRANGEMENTS HIGHLIGHTING THE MUSIC THAT LAUNCHED HIS CAREER.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT: MATISYAHU
AN INTIMATE EVENING WITH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 AT 8PM
THE VETS | PROVIDENCE

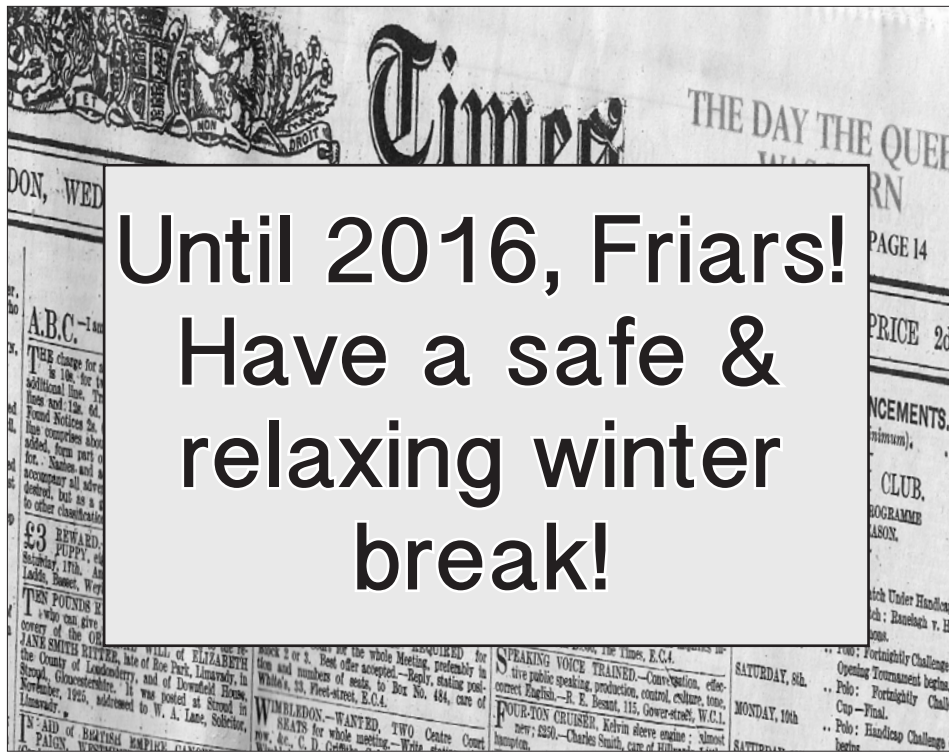
THEVETSRI.COM
(401) 421.ARTS (2787)

library+commons
@Providence College

OPEN 24 HOURS

DURING EXAMS

FRIDAY DECEMBER 11th
to SUNDAY DECEMBER 19th



Until 2016, Friars!
Have a safe & relaxing winter break!

SPRING SEMESTER SHOWS

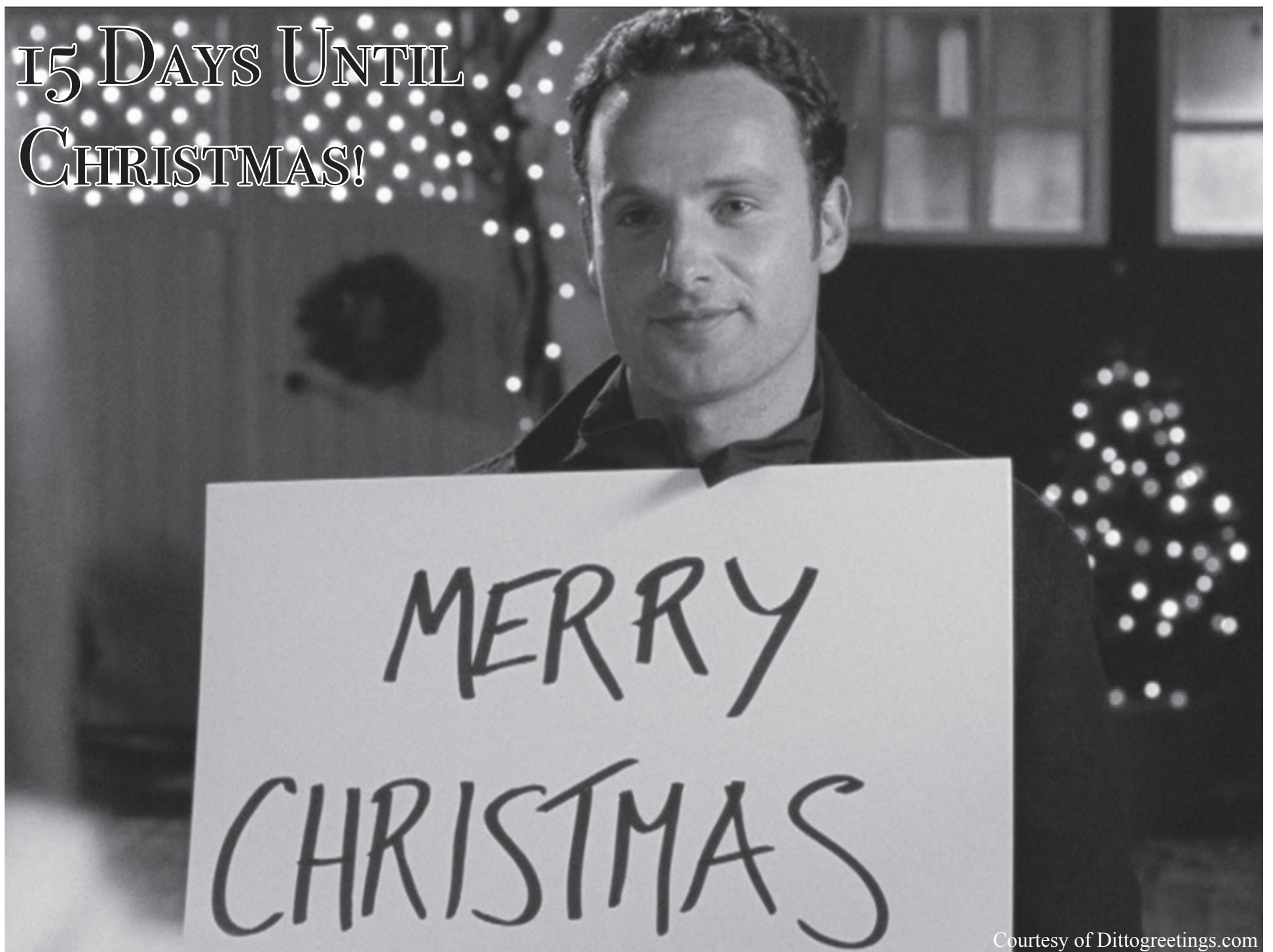
PLAYHOUSE CREATURES
BY APRIL DE ANGELIS
JAN 22-24 & JAN 29-31

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
APRIL 8-10 & APRIL 14-17

AUDITIONS:
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 7PM



15 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS!



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Courtesy of Dittogreetings.com



PROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

How do you stay positive during finals?



"I don't."

David Szewczul '17 and Danny Fink '17



"Think about home."

Ryan Tait '19



"C's get degrees."

Kate Fusco '16 and Carolyn Krokus '16



"Quesadillas."

Annie Ladd '17, Mary Murphy '17, and Julia Carlock '17



"Listening to Christmas music."

Will Murray '19, Christian Laraia '19, Kevin Hanney '19, and Conor Hayden '19



"Knowing our parents still love us."

Sean Cawley '16, Jonathan Van Beaver '16, and Brian Allan '16



"Eating yummy food."

- Remy and Emile
from *Ratatouille*

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.HDWALLPAPER.NU



OPINION



PHOTO COURTESY OF FSB1879.COM

Balance Your Budget

Managing Your Money Helps Maintain Mental Health

by Daniel Barton '18
Opinion Staff

FINANCIAL PLANNING

As Benjamin Franklin once said, "Time is money." Well, for students here at Providence College, both seem to be equally invaluable at this point in the semester.

With finals right around the corner, stress levels are on the rise and the inevitable feelings of anxiety are starting to set in. There is nothing worse than approaching a final assignment with the mindset that your personal well-being for the rest of your life depends on your performance, and while those feelings appropriately exist in all of us, they are rarely accurate.

On top of the striking blow to mental stability that exams bring, the fact that most students have not received any form of steady income since August is equally as troubling. Saving money is the biggest issue that college students find themselves facing in light of many other common issues on campus.

Daily excursions with friends, the funding of weekend activities, impulse buys on Amazon during long lectures, Ubers, Christmas gifts for family and friends, and, of course, the daily iced coffee that brings you to an acceptable level of functionality are all examples of ways in which students indulge. With bank accounts running low, the countdown to the weekly salary of your summer job that lets you return

over winter break begins and soon enough students find themselves in the same position during the next semester.

Money struggles are not what college students need in their lives. On top of all the other stress in their lives, money woes just bring them down more. Having fun certainly is a part of life, especially when you are a college student making the most of your youth. But being more conscious of where money is spent is one of the best habits a student can develop.

This is primarily because of the simple fact that life will one day go on. Your parents, who are probably reluctant to donate to you as it is, surely will not be able to slip you \$20 every time they come to take you out

to dinner, that summer job you have at your favorite burger place certainly will not always be open to take you back at the end of each semester, and the convenience of on-campus jobs will go away sooner than most would like to think about.

Now, obviously *The Owl's* Opinion section is not a place that many go when seeking financial advice, so readers can find specific budgeting tips on their own; that is not to say, however, that this piece cannot be helpful at all. If you are feeling down and out about finals, friends, or any other issue that one might come across, it might be best to be smart with your money to not only save yourself mentally but also to prepare yourself for life after college.



*Happy Holidays from
the Opinion section!*

PHOTO COURTESY OF BIEBKIDSTYLE.XYZ

**Providence College's
Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935**

Publisher: **Kristine Goodwin**

Co-publisher: **Dr. Steven A. Sears**

Advisor: **Richard F. Kless**

Graduate Assistant: **Joseph Flynn '15**

Editor-in-Chief: **Kathleen McGinty '16**

Associate Editor-in-Chief: **Gabriella Nigro '16**

Managing Editor: **James Seabright '16**

News Co-Editor: **Meaghan Dodson '17**

News Co-Editor: **Marla Gagne '18**

Asst. News Editor: **Sabrina Guilbeault '18**

Opinion Editor: **Jacquelyn Kelley '17**

Asst. Opinion Editor: **Carolyn Walsh '17**

Arts & Entertainment Editor: **Serena Ambroselli '16**

Asst. Arts & Entertainment Editor: **Katie Puzycki '17**

Portfolio Editor: **Branan Durbin '16**

Asst. Portfolio Editor: **Jose Martinez '16**

Sports Co-Editor: **DJ Anderson '16**

Sports Co-Editor: **Joey Ciccarello '16**

Asst. Sports Editor: **Gretta Schultz '17**

Photography Editor: **Jessica Artigliere '17**

Asst. Photography Editor: **Kristina Ho '18**

Head Copy Editor: **Casey Clark '17**

Asst. Head Copy Editor: **Abbey Guerino '16**

Copy Editors: **Katie Coyne '18, Courtney Day '19, Jennifer Dorn '18, Sara Grassie '18, Lauren Ioli '17, Annie Loftus '18, Kristina Meyers '16, Anna Munroe '17, Zoe Pavoncello-Kelley '19, Abby Shelley '17, Annie Shelley '19, Rachel Sullivan '18, Jessica Wilson '17, Olivia Winslow '16**

Letter/Guest Submission Policy

The Cowl welcomes guest opinions 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 email 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. Guest commentaries should be limited to 500 words in length, and only one will be published per week. *The Cowl* reserves the right to edit articles for grammar. Submissions must be emailed to *The Cowl* office no later than 9 p.m. on the Sunday before publication. We do not print previously published articles. Email responses to commentary@thecowl.com, and remember a guest submission is only an email away!

Accuracy Watch

The Cowl is committed to accuracy and carefully checks every article that goes into print to ensure that the facts are presented clearly and truthfully. If you find an error in any article, please email the Editor-in-Chief at editor@thecowl.com. Corrections will be printed as necessary.

Advertising

Contact *The Cowl* with advertising requests and questions at cowlads@providence.edu or, if necessary, via telephone at 401-865-2214. Visit www.thecowl.com/advertise for rates, publication dates, and other information about advertising with *The Cowl*.

Subscriptions

Subscription rate for a weekly issue by mail is \$100 per year. Send payment to *The Cowl*, 1 Cunningham Square, Providence, R.I. 02918; make checks payable to The Cowl. Student subscription is included in tuition fee; issues are available around campus on Thursday nights.



The Cowl is a proud member of the Associated Collegiate Press.

Our Aspirations Make Us Who We Are

by **Gabriella Nigro '16**
Associate EIC

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Providence College, it is December 10, 2015. How this semester has flown. Just yesterday I thought the summer sun was too hot, but I am quickly reminded by the frosty air that the seasons have so rapidly changed.



As we look ahead to the anguish that finals bring, let us not forget our many accomplishments this past semester. For some of you this was your first time at college. How did it go? For others, myself included, our penultimate semester is ending. Shocking: Where did the time go?

As we become entirely consumed with the pressures of school, who have we become? It's entirely difficult to keep understanding ourselves when we become lost in the piles of papers and the excess of exams.

Going into finals, I regularly remind myself of my favorite quote by Renaissance painter Michelangelo. Translated from Italian he states, "The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low, and achieving our mark." Quite simply, he is right. How many times do we not understand our own worth and the capacities we are capable of achieving?

Sitting here at my quiet desk, I glance to my left and notice a disorganized pile

of marked-up essays and assignments. Is that my worth, or does that judge my character? Are we only as acceptable as the criticism we receive from others?

We are so much more. We are the goals and dreams we create. Our aspirations, daydreams, and moral accomplishments are what make us who we are. And just because some of us are conditioned to believe that we have miles of improvement to go, we forget our worth.

Since we are almost at the end of the semester, I don't assume many people are reading out of pleasure; my advice will only reach a handful of Friars, but listen closely. You are incredible, and you would not be where you are today if it were not for past accomplishments. Stay strong and no matter how defeated you feel, you will not only survive—you will thrive.

All the papers, exams, and presentations are not tests of your character. However, the smile you maintain on your face is.

Happy Holidays, see you all back here in the New Year.

TANGENTS & TIRADES



Avoid Big New Year's Resolutions

The year 2016 is barreling toward us. In just a matter of three weeks we'll be counting down with family and friends to ring in the new year. Of course, for many people, a new year means making one or more New Year's resolutions. Not to rain too hard on anyone's parade, but more times than not these resolutions are just plain pointless and can be borderline idiotic. Almost all of us have been there before: on Dec. 31 we make a grand decision to completely change our lifestyle once the clock strikes 12 a.m. It could be something like cutting out all junk food from our diets or getting all A's in our spring semester classes. Then Jan. 22 comes along and we're hand deep in a bag of chips or we've done less than excellent on an exam. Suddenly all commitment to our resolutions has flown out the window and we shrug, "Oh well." I am not saying all New Year's resolutions are not worth making—only the drastic, all-or-nothing kinds. The new year can be an extremely stressful, and when we decide to make grand changes to our lives, we are often setting ourselves up for failure and disappointment. Setting small goals for ourselves makes it easier for us to stick to them and make progress. This New Year, think small—not big.

-Carolyn Walsh '17

Reflect Upon the Joy in Christ's Birth

In many households in December, you will find a Christmas decoration rich with meaning: the Nativity set. Reflecting on the joy of Christ's birth can surely bring you peace and happiness during this season. Nativity scenes typically depict Jesus' birth in a manger surrounded by Mary and Joseph, perhaps the three Wise Men, an ox, and a donkey. It is important to note that this scene is not typically taken as strict historical fact. Luke and Matthew provide us a basic image of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, and later medieval traditions crafted the image we are all familiar with—namely Christ's humble birth amongst animals. In the book of Isaiah, we find a passage worth considering: "The ox knows its master, the donkey its owner's manger" (Isa 1:3). Historically accurate or not, what does this scene tell us? What theological truths are at work here? Note that Jesus is born amongst lowly creatures in a poor and humble setting. This image illuminates Paul's words, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich" (2 Cor 8:9). Note also that we celebrate Christmas in December, the darkest time of the year. This is fitting as Jesus tells us, "I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness" (Jn 12:46). Take a moment to reflect on the joy that Christ's birth brings to us all.

-Matthew Tinsley '16

Enough With Premature Decor

STOP YOUR HO HO HO'S AND PUT AWAY YOUR HOLLY JOLLY BUTTS. Listen, I love Christmas as much as the next guy, but why must we deck our halls with boughs of holly when Mr. Turkey has barely been feathered and cooked yet? On Nov. 1, CVS had stocked its shelves with insanely cheap Christmas decorations. THIS HAS TO STOP. WE MUST NOT BRING SANTA CLAUS TO TOWN BEFORE THANKSGIVING, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN. While it is too late to retroactively stop such injustices this year, we can do better for next year. While I may be gone (probably couch-surfing as a professional potato), I implore next year's seniors to take up the mantle to defend Christmas from premature decking. If you see a Christmas tree before Thanksgiving next year, burn it. If you see lights, smash them. Eggnog, pour it down the drain. Ugly sweaters, use them as toilet paper. Mall Santas must be dealt with and their thrones of lies must be torn down candy cane by candy cane. You can do your small part in order to save Christmas in the most bizarre way possible. You can call me crazy, insane, and even a bit of an over-reactor, but, hey, so is putting up Christmas decorations before Thanksgiving has even concluded.

-Edward Walrod '16

Advertise with *The Cowl*

· 3,000 in circulation · Distributed in 80 locations · Over 5,000 Students Enrolled · Competitive Rates · Expert Execution ·

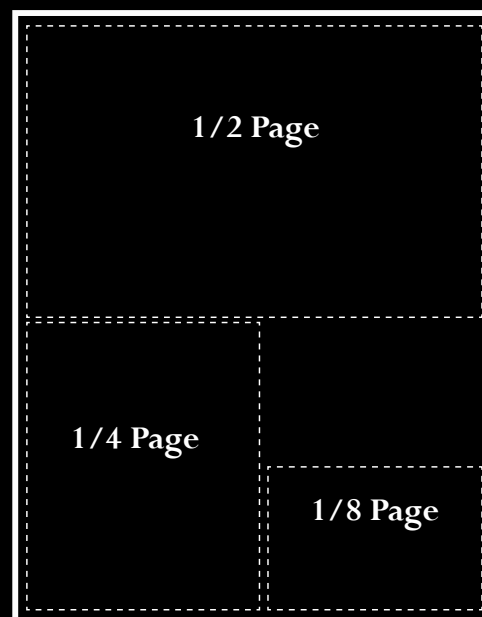
NATIONAL RATES			LOCAL RATES			ON-CAMPUS RATES		
Description	Size (LxW)	Price	Description	Size (LxW)	Price	Description	Size (LxW)	Price
*Full Page	16"x10"	\$600.00	*Full Page	16"x10"	\$500.00	*Full Page	16"x10"	\$250.00
Half Page	8"x10"	\$550.00	Half Page	8"x10"	\$450.00	Half Page	8"x10"	\$200.00
Quarter Page	8"x5"	\$450.00	Quarter Page	8"x5"	\$350.00	Quarter Page	8"x5"	\$100.00
Eight Page	4"x5"	\$300.00	Eight Page	4"x5"	\$200.00	Eight Page	4"x5"	FREE

*all local and on-campus full page advertisements receive a complementary tweet from *The Cowl* twitter, @thecowl.

DISCOUNTS

NATIONAL			
FREQUENCY DISCOUNT		UPFRONT DISCOUNT	
#Ads	% Discount	%Upfront	% Discount
3	2%	25%	3%
4	5%	50%	6%
8	10%	75%	9%
10+	15%	100%	12%

LOCAL & ON-CAMPUS RATES			
#Ads	% Discount	%Upfront	% Discount
3	3%	25%	4%
4	6%	50%	7%
8	11%	75%	10%
10+	16%	100%	13%



PUBLICATION DATES

Fall	Spring
September 3	January 14
September 17	January 28
September 24	February 4
October 1	February 11
October 8	February 25
October 22	March 10
October 29	March 17
November 5	March 31
November 12	April 7
November 19	April 14
December 3	April 21
December 10	April 28

CONTACTS

Kathleen McGinty, Editor-in-Chief
kmcgint1@friars.providence.edu

Gabriella Nigro, Associate Editor-in-Chief
gnigro@friars.providence.edu

James Seabright, Managing Editor
jseabrig@friars.providence.edu

Richard Kless, Faculty Advisor
rkless@providence.edu

Payment Method

Payments are only acceptable in cash or check. They must be delivered by mail or in person to Richard Kless (Providence College - Slavin Center 206, Providence, RI 02918) by the due date. Make sure to discuss these options with your assigned Business Associate. Checks must be made payable to "The Cowl". A PDF of the newspaper will also be available on our Web site for your convenience.

Graphics

All advertisements/graphics should be sent to your personal Business Associate by 5:00pm on the Tuesday before the publication date. Advertisements should be in PDF, JPEG, or PSD and should not contain color (for best quality, we recommend PSD). We print on 11x17 paper (tabloid). Please measure your graphic accordingly to avoid distortion. We do not make graphics.

Contact Method

Contact the Editor, Associate Editor, or Managing Editor if youThe most efficient way to resolve any issues is to contact your personal Business Associate. If you are not a current client, e-mail either the Managing Editor, Editor-in-Chief, or Associate Editor-in-Chief. If you are a prospective on-campus client, please contact our On-Campus Business Associate. If you are a national advertisement agency, please contact the Managing Editor. Note, local ad rates apply to local, privately owned businesses only. All national advertisement agencies pay national ad rates, even for local accounts.

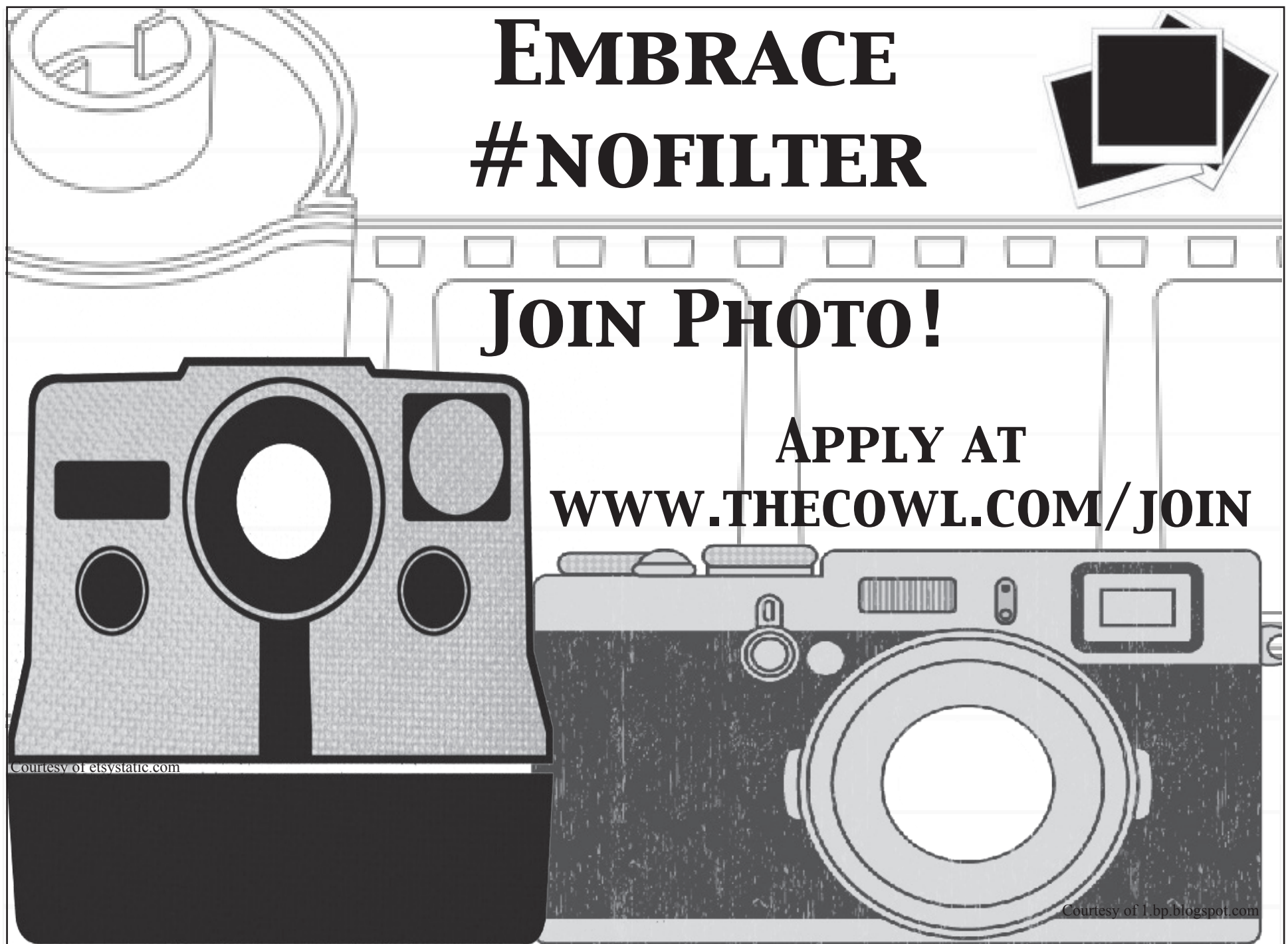


TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

THECOWL.COM

FACEBOOK.COM/THECOWL

TWITTER.COM/THECOWL



**EMBRACE
#NOFILTER**

JOIN PHOTO!

**APPLY AT
WWW.THECOWL.COM/JOIN**

Courtesy of etsystatic.com

Courtesy of 1.bp.blogspot.com



Happy 50th Anniversary, Charlie Brown!

by Ryan Cox '18
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

To call Charlie Brown and the Peanuts a pop culture icon is somewhat of an understatement. For well over 50 years, Charles Schulz's cartoons have permeated American culture, appearing in various comic strips, commercials, TV specials, and most recently, a feature-length movie. The *Peanuts* Christmas special, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, first debuted 50 years ago on December 9, 1965 on CBS and was aired there for 35 years before moving to ABC in 2001. Its unconventional production plans led director and producer Bill Melendez to wrongly predict that the special would be a colossal failure. Instead, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* has left an indelible legacy on American pop culture and has become a Christmas Time favorite for many families.

Its legacy stems from a long list of non-traditional tactics used by Melendez and the staff during production. From the Christian theme of recalling the true meaning of Christmas that is the centerpiece of the special to the soundtrack, the production staff frequently strayed from the norms of film at the time. Never before had children been used to voice cartoon kids, but the production team wanted authenticity.

"Lee [Mendelson, production staff] didn't want to



Charlie Brown and friends gather around their Christmas tree in one of the closing scenes. PHOTO COURTESY OF PEANUTS.WIKIA.COM

use Hollywood kids. He wanted the sound of kids who didn't have training," Sally Dryer, the voice of Violet, and later Lucy, said in a 2005 interview with *USA Today*. She was eight years old at the time that she recorded her voice for the special. Additionally, Schulz, who also worked on the short, decided against using a laugh track; he believed that the viewers could figure out on their own when to laugh. The Vince Guaraldi Trio was contracted to score the soundtrack. He recycled "Linus and Lucy" from an earlier *Peanuts* special and wrote two new songs, "Skating" and "Christmas Time is Here," the latter of which has become a classic Christmas song. On "Christmas Time is Here," Mendelson said to *USA Today*, "So now it's a standard. Who knew? I tell people

USA Today. "When I started reading the reviews, I was absolutely shocked. They actually liked it!" The first broadcast of *A Charlie Brown Christmas* drew in 15.4 million viewers, and was the second most-viewed show during that week.

It was Schulz's choice to make the story from the Gospel of Luke come from the voice of a child that created a powerful cinematic moment. The power of innocence drove *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, and every risk that Schulz, Melendez, and Mendelson took ultimately paid off for them—in its 50th year, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* continues to be aired throughout the month of December, just in time to get families across the country in the true spirit of Christmas.

that I'm old and lucky."

Thematically, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* was somewhat controversial because of its religious focus. Schulz contrasts the growing commercial nature of Christmas that shows in the *Peanuts*' Christmas lists—Charlie's sister, Sally, asks for money in "tens and twenties"—with the birth of Jesus Christ in the Christmas pageant. This caused some resistance during production. Mendelson was especially hesitant. "We told Schulz, 'Look, you can't read from the Bible on network television,'" he said to

Criticism Amidst Prestigious Nomination

by Olivia Walsh '19
A&E Staff

CELEBRITY

Every year, *Glamour Magazine* names an honorable recipient as their "Woman of the Year" for their influence and accolades. To many female celebrities, this is an award they only dream of receiving. For Caitlyn Jenner, this was just another medal to add to her collection.

This past summer, the former Olympian broke the Internet with her feature in *Vanity Fair* that showcased her newfound womanhood. The world-renowned magazine devoted not only the cover to Jenner, but also a whopping 22 pages that commemorated the momentous transition. Whether or not you keep up with the Kardashians, you could not have missed the explosion of social media and tabloids that surrounded this drastic and shocking transformation. Although she did face harsh criticism, as all celebrities do, Jenner held true to herself and her identity,

never lashing back or speaking negatively toward her critics.

Since her new debut this past summer, Jenner has made significant strides for the transgender community. Not only is she normalizing the transition so many people go through, but she is also promoting equality in all aspects of life. As a spokesperson for the LGBT community, Jenner has brought inspiration and comfort to thousands of people going through similar transitions.

Because of her popularity and influence, *Glamour Magazine* chose to name Jenner, along with Reese Witherspoon and others, as Women of the Year for 2015. Directly after this decision, there was an uproar of praise, but it was accompanied by an overwhelming presence of criticism. Matters only got worse when Jenner famously stated that the hardest part about being a woman was picking out what to wear. Obviously, this statement was not meant to be serious, but many people found it incredibly insulting and were outraged that Jenner



Caitlyn Jenner making an appearance at L.A.'s Greek Theater. PHOTO COURTESY OF MARTHA-IGENE.BLOGSPOT.COM

beat out other women, like Malala Yousafzai, who made a difference without concerning themselves with fashion, makeup, or extensive plastic surgeries. Moreover, some women and men argued that naming Jenner Woman of the Year was wrong because she lived more than 60 years as an extremely privileged white male and therefore never struggled with

gender inequality issues, such as health rights and lower wages. It also seems a little ridiculous to name someone charged with vehicular manslaughter Woman of the Year, but that is a whole other issue.

In retrospect, this is *Glamour Magazine*, which celebrates the glitz and glamour of fashion, wealth, and beauty—all of which Caitlyn Jenner so outwardly promotes.

Because *Glamour* is mainly a style oriented magazine, a political figure or someone with less fame and recognition may not have been appropriate for this particular title.

Perhaps Jenner was not the best choice for Woman of the Year, but giving a transgender woman this award proves how far our nation has come in recent years. Acceptance and equality for all is

extremely important in ensuring the progression of our country and it is refreshing to see some change. Straying away from the expectation society has put on both genders is a major victory for the media in the U.S. and is demonstrative of the positive change currently happening in society.

Explore Providence: Kartabar

by Isabella Goldstein '17
A&E Staff

LOCAL

Known for its unique, funky clothing stores, cafés, and bookshops, Thayer Street is home to a variety of venues that includes Kartabar, a hot spot inspired by both mixed-Mediterranean and classic American cuisine.

With its New York City vibes set via dim lighting and upbeat music, Kartabar makes for the perfect place for a fun night out with friends. Due to its popularity, reservations are highly recommended. Even though I had an early 6 p.m. reservation last Friday night, the restaurant was absolutely packed. The staff was very warm and friendly as well; multiple servers constantly came by our table to check in and see how we were doing. However, service was quite slow, especially when receiving our food and the bill at the end of the meal.

To my surprise, the menu was large and offered a wide variety of appetizers, soups, salads, pastas, pizzas, sandwiches, and burgers, in addition to meat, fish, and chicken entrées. Some notable mentions include a hummus plate appetizer served with pita bread; French onion soup; a Z-Wedge salad with iceberg lettuce, smoked applewood bacon, bleu cheese crumbles, pickled tomatoes, and bleu cheese dressing; lobster ravioli; parma prosciutto and buffalo mozzarella pizza with plum tomatoes, mozzarella, and reggiano cheeses; a chicken panini with sautéed onions, feta cheese, tomato, and baby greens on Focaccia bread; and the signature Kartabar burger topped with sautéed mushrooms, bacon, lettuce, tomato, Bermuda onions, and Swiss cheese.

With the exception a few entrées and pasta dishes, prices are quite reasonable. Appetizers average around \$9, soups around \$5, salads around \$8, pasta costing between \$13 and \$21, pizzas around \$10, burgers and other sandwiches around \$9, and entrées ranging between \$16 and \$28.

I enjoyed a delicious grilled chicken caesar salad wrap with a side of tasty fries. Others in our party ordered various types of burgers, paninis, a margherita pizza, and even sushi. Everyone finished his or her meal feeling satisfied because of the high quality of food and perfect portion size.

If you are looking for a lively environment with great food, I would recommend that you head on over to College Hill for Kartabar, which is located at 284 Thayer Street and easily accessible by means of the PC shuttle.



Kartabar's unique take on a caprese salad.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIPADVISOR.COM

Holiday Horrors

by Ryan Charland '18
A&E Staff

FILM

The recent release of *Krampus* reminds us that there is still a market for scary movies with a Christmas theme. Classics like *Gremlins* and the lesser-known *Black Christmas* immediately come to mind, but there is another peculiar subgenre waiting to be discovered. The concept of an omniscient old man breaking into houses at night has resulted in "Santa Slashers," which are exactly what they sound like. For Horror fans searching for something new, look no further than this weird collection of flicks.

Santa made his first homicidal appearance in a segment of 1972's *Tales from the Crypt*. Entitled "...And All Through the House," the piece concerns a housewife who has committed a grisly murder only to become prey to a maniac in a Santa costume. From there, filmmakers took the

idea and ran with it. Eight years later, *Christmas Evil* (1980) gave viewers a killer who punished the naughty. Instead of coal, this St. Nick brings an axe. Be sure to keep an eye out for *The Walking Dead*'s Jeffrey DeMunn as the killer's brother.

Silent Night, Deadly Night (1984) went on to become one of the most infamous entries in this vein. The film created a major controversy upon release, and was eventually pulled from theaters over concerns about the effect a killer Santa would have on children. That did not prevent it from turning a profit and spawning a slew of sequels, including a 2012 remake called *Silent Night*.

These films have all featured maniacs dressed

as Santa, but there are also a handful that feature the real Father Christmas himself. *Santa's Slay* (2005) has the jolly figure as the son of the Devil. After his contract to bring gifts has run out, he sets out on a rampage and James Caan (*The Godfather*, *Elf*) was somehow roped into an appearance as the first victim.

The most creative feature to come out of this trend is Finland's *Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale* (2010). Spoilers for this one should be avoided, but there is a brilliant twist on Santa's elves that will make viewers squirm. *Rare Exports* is also a well-made film and is a significant step up from other low-budget horror flicks. If Roger Ebert's review is any indication, this may be the best of the Kris Kringle creep shows.

This year has seen a resurgence of holiday horror. *Krampus* features an outstanding cast that includes Adam Scott and David Koechner. While the eponymous monster is not St. Nick, the concept is similar. Reviews so far have been mixed. *A Christmas Horror Story* is a horror compilation that has been drawing significant critical acclaim despite mostly seeing release via video on demand. William Shatner's performance alone should be reason enough to give this one a watch.

When movies like *The Santa Clause* and *Miracle on 34th Street* have become stale, remember these sinister Santas that put the Grinch to shame. If nothing else, they provide good reasons to stay off the naughty list next year.

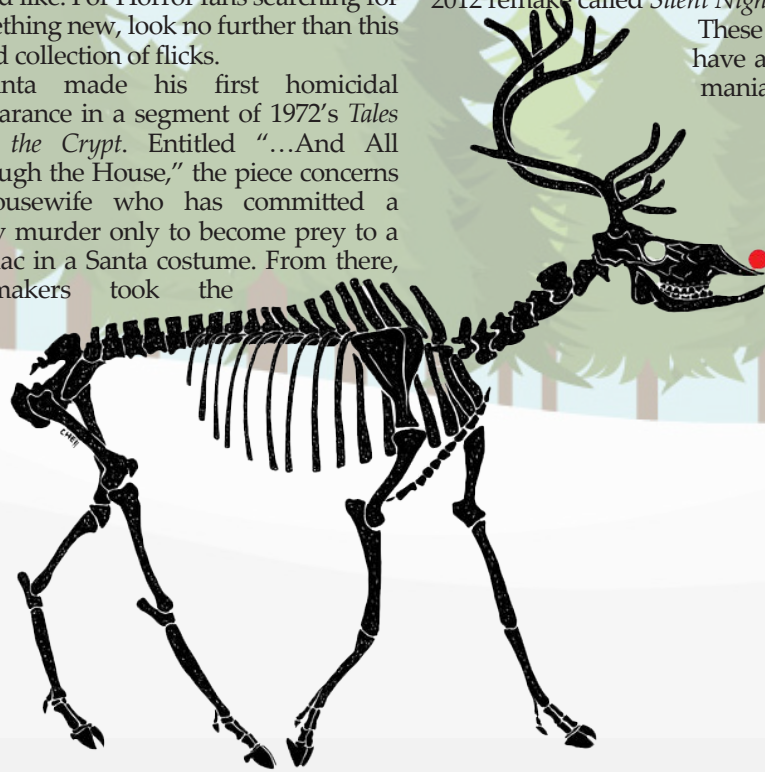


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHELL-DUNPHY.DEVIANTART.COM

2015: A Year of Trendsetting

by Luiza Alves '19
A&E Staff

CULTURE

With each year that passes, memorable trends captivate and identify what is being left behind and what one will look back on in the future. As 2015 comes to a close, here are the top five trends that will not be forgotten anytime soon.

Comebacks. Who would have thought that 2015 would be the year to remind the nation of one's relevance? In music, this year has been the time to do so. After nearly four years off of the radar, Adele released her third album, *25*, on Nov. 20. Her single "Hello" debuted on Oct. 23 and became the first song in the U.S. with at least one million downloads within a week. Justin Bieber also released his fourth album, *Purpose*, three years after his last. "Sorry," "Love Yourself," "What Do You Mean?" and "Till Show You," are hits from *Purpose* that have appeared on the top charts. Selena Gomez took the idea of comebacks quite literally, naming her fifth album *Revival*. The three artists are just a few who debuted new music throughout the span of 2015.

In television, producers decided to grace 2015 by picking back up TV shows that were once hits, continuing them into the new year. With announcements that

a statement in pop culture in 2015. No matter the color, the product, or the inspiration, bold lips became a known trend throughout the year. Through pioneers such as Kylie Jenner, many became invested in dramatizing their lips and experimenting with different colors and techniques, making lip color the accessory of the year.

In fashion and lifestyle, a couple from Australia looked to make bathing suits more comfortable and trendy.

They in turn ended up making a big splash—no pun intended—with Triangl bikinis. The bikinis made out of neoprene have since, and especially throughout this past year, redefined what young women want to wear when it comes to swimsuits.

Sci-Fi movies have also made an impression throughout the year. *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, the seventh of the saga, will be released Dec. 18 among other Sci-Fi movies that have made their way to the big screen. Hype has followed the movie's production since its announcement. As the new year approaches, only time will tell whether the excitement over the movies will continue into the New Year; we will soon learn what excitement and trends 2016 will hold.



Fuller House would be airing thanks to the streaming service Netflix, fans are more than excited for what's to come. *The X-Files* and *Gilmore Girls*, to name a few, are among the TV series preparing to continue production.

Talk about lips! Bold lips also made

PHOTO COURTESY OF FOREX-ANALYSISBLOG.COM

Amy Schumer's Top Moments, 2015

by Kealy Robertson '16
A&E Staff

CELEBRITY

This year has been the year of Amy Schumer. With her movie *Trainwreck* and her stand up comedy skits on Comedy Central, Schumer has become a household name across America. Though her show may not be for young listeners, Schumer has been cracking people up with her vulgar and uncensored comedy. She covers a range of social issues with a suggestive tone and people love it. Here are the top five funniest Amy Schumer moments.

#5: Schumer imitates a person finding out they might have herpes. Paul Giamatti stars as God, making the audience immediately squirm in their seats. He asks her why he should help her and she compares her herpes scare to adult responsibilities. Comically he tells her that he would have to create a world disaster to



Amy Schumer appearing on the *Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FOXSPORTS.COM

rid her of her "problem," and of course she agrees to the ludicrous proposition.

#4: Schumer goes to therapy because her mom has no idea how to use a computer. Remember all those times you have had to help your parents with simple technology questions? Well, imagine wrestling with your

mother while teaching her how to upload photos and trying to explain to her that she does not need a cord in this day and age to do it.

#3: Schumer creates a skit scoffing at the self-hating habits of women today. Each of her friends fear accepting any compliment and body shame themselves, highlighting how

preposterous women can be. When one woman compliments her friend and all she says is thank you without shaming herself, it is like the world has come to an end.

#2: The "Lunch at O'Nutters" skit. All of the gender roles are reversed; imagine a boys gone wild version of Hooters. The male

waiters throw themselves at Schumer and her coworker while the male coworker gets fed up with it. But if it were a man's world, the men would love the attention of a female waitress. Schumer uncovers the gender discrepancies of something like Hooters by making the audience imagine what Hooters would look like if it were

targeted toward the female population, and it is absolutely absurd.

#1: "The Foodroom" is an uproarious parody of a fast food experience from the view of the employees. She gets Josh Charles, the star of *Sports Night*, to guest star with her as manager J.J. He is a glass half empty kind of guy, and all Schumer wants to be is his right-hand woman. Obviously poking fun at the 1950s housewife mantra, Schumer says, "A woman's life isn't worth nothing unless she is making a man's life greater," something Schumer has obviously never believed.

Schumer continues to keep her audience laughing with every skit she puts on. Though her skits deal with a lot of controversial issues, she is able to spin them in a way that is not meant to offend anyone; rather, she tries to shed light on the irrationality of people in serious situations.

10 Holiday Classics to Get You in the Spirit

by Kelly Laske '16
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

With finals in full swing, it is easy to lose that holiday spirit when all you can think about are deadlines and final grades. To keep yourself sane and less stressed, grab a cup of hot cocoa and designate a little bit of time every day to indulge in a holiday classic. Although the holiday season may not feel the same way as it did when we were young, these 10 classics will make you feel like a kid again.

#10: *Jack Frost* —

Starring Michael Keaton and Kelly Preston, *Jack Frost* is about an 11-year-old boy, Charlie, who loses his father in a car accident. Before the death, Jack gave Charlie a harmonica that he got the day he was born. Jack said that if Charlie blew into it, he would be able to hear him from wherever he was. Charlie uses the harmonica and it brings his father back to life in the form of a snowman.

#9: *Frosty the Snowman* —

Released in 1969, *Frosty The Snowman* is a short animated film that even our parents grew up with. The classic movie is about an old top hat that brings a snowman to life. Knowing that he will eventually melt in the spring, Frosty befriends a little girl and heads to the North Pole. A magician realizes that Frosty has his hat and chases after them in an attempt to get it back.

#8: *The Polar Express* —

Based on the children's book by Chris Van Allsburg, *The Polar Express* is about a little boy who boards a train headed to the North Pole. Along the way, he learns about the power of Christmas spirit.

#7: *The Santa Clause* —

Tim Allen performs in one of his most famous roles when he takes over for Santa Claus in the *Santa Clause* movies. When Santa falls off his roof, Scott and his son, Charlie, head to the North Pole to learn how to be Santa Claus for the whole world.

#6: *A Charlie Brown Christmas* —

Recognized as one of the most classic Christmas movies to date, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* teaches children to forget the commercialism of the season and to understand the true meaning of Christmas.



Scene from the 1974 classic *The Year Without a Santa Clause*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PHOTOBUCKET.COM

#5: *A Christmas Story* —

A Christmas Story is the ultimate holiday classic about a chaotic family and their crazy son, Ralphie, who is trying to convince them that a BB gun is the perfect Christmas gift.

#4: *The Year Without a Santa Claus* —

The Year Without a Santa Claus, a start-stop animation film, is about a tired and discouraged Santa Claus who wants to skip Christmas Eve until Mrs. Claus and his elves tell him that he has a job to fulfill.

#3: *Dr. Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas* —

Based on the book by Dr. Seuss, the movie is about an evil creature known as the Grinch who decides to take Christmas away from the happy village of Whoville.

#2: *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* —

In *Christmas Vacation*, the Griswold family tries to take their Christmas spirit to the next level by having a big Christmas dinner, but it turns into a series of disasters instead.

#1: *Elf* —

Though relatively new, *Elf* has become one of the most beloved Christmas movies of all time. Starring Will Ferrell, *Elf* is about a human who was raised by elves who decides to embark on a journey to New York City to find his father.

Take a break during finals week by watching one of these joyful Christmas movies!

Professor Chard deNiord

by Serena Ambroselli '16 and Katie Puzycki '17
A&E Editors

CAMPUS

For those of you who are not familiar with Professor Chard deNiord, we would highly recommend taking an English course, more specifically a poetry course, with him before your time at Providence College comes to a close. DeNiord has a wealth of knowledge that will do nothing less than fulfill your academic career as an undergraduate student. Aside from authoring several books of poetry, including *Asleep in the Fire*, *Sharp Golden Thorn*, *Night Mowing*, *The Double Truth*, and most recently, *Interstate*, as well as a collection of interviews with America's finest contemporary poets entitled *Sad Friends*, *Drowned Lovers*, *Stapled Songs*, deNiord was named Poet Laureate of Vermont, an office that commenced officially on Nov. 2. He follows the likes of famous poets Robert Frost, Galway Kinnell, and Louise Glück. DeNiord is very passionate to say the least, not only about his students' pursuit of knowledge but also about poetry and teaching students the wonderful facets that literature and poetry carry into society. He is a true master of his craft, and it is a blessing for PC to have him as an educator.

Every year, deNiord organizes a field trip with his ENG 481 Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson seminar to the home of Emily Dickinson in Amherst, Massachusetts. Through this field trip, it becomes increasingly obvious that deNiord is a truly passionate scholar in the field of poetry. His dedication to learning the biographical histories of poets like Whitman and Dickinson, in addition to having many of their poems memorized and available for recitation at will, are testament to deNiord's knowledge and make him an admirable instructor. The courses that Professor deNiord teaches are filled with thorough discussions on the subject matter, his personal anecdotes, and tidbits of historical facts that provide a wholesome and entertaining learning experience.



PHOTO COURTESY OF Chard deNiord

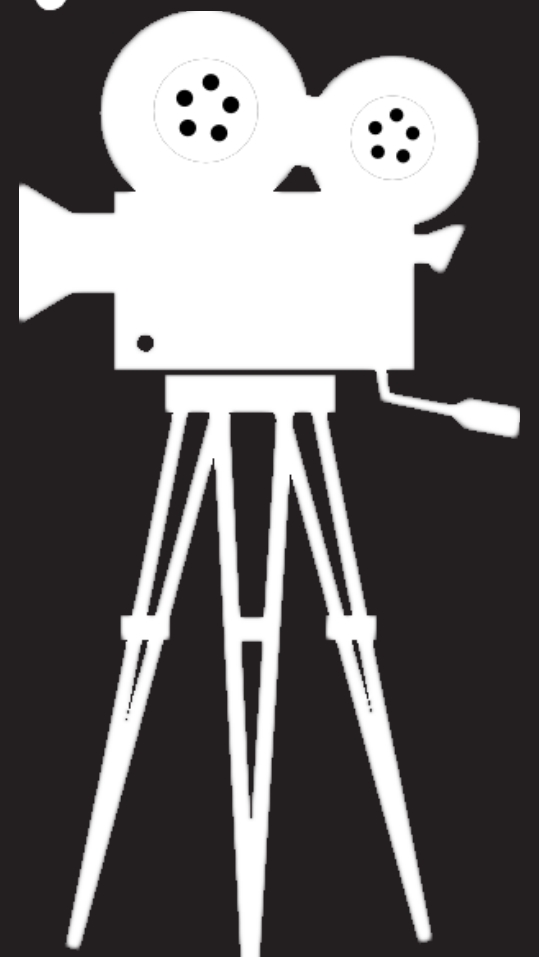
Interested in films,
theatre, or art?



Become a writer for Arts
& Entertainment

Apply Now At

www.thecowl.com/join





SPORTS

Women's Soccer Has Three Players Named to NEWISA Senior Bowl

by Brent Bauerle '16
Sports Staff

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Every athlete will tell you that their individual accomplishments mean nothing in comparison to the success of the team. Goals, points, saves, even player of the year votes—all of them are subsumed into the all important equation of wins and losses. But with their season in the rearview, three players from the Providence College Women's Soccer Team may finally have the chance to feel a real sense of individual accomplishment after being selected to compete in the NEWISA Senior Bowl. They are three of only 23 players total chosen to participate in the event.

The NEWISA Senior Bowl is, essentially, an all-star game for the most accomplished four-year players in the nation. With three players, the Friars had the second-most participants from a single. The Friars trailed the impressive five players who represented the University of Connecticut.

The Friars' three selections, Catherine Zimmerman '16, Allison Mills '16, and Courtney Maguire '16, exemplified the kind of all-around talent this year's team leaned on en route to a runner-up finish in the Big East. Among the three,

all the facets of a great team—offense, defense, and effective transition—were represented in Zimmerman, a forward, Maguire, a midfielder, and Mills, a fullback.

Zimmerman, the leading vote-getter in the northeast, led the Friars this year with 28 points and finished her career as the third all-time leading scorer in the program's history. Zimmerman also made the All-Big East First Team as well, marking her second straight selection and cementing her as one of the more storied members of the program in recent memory.

Mills was a defensive stalwart for the Friars, starting in all 22 games and helping lead the team to an astounding eight shutouts. Her statistics may not stand out in a cursory look at the box score, but she did manage to nearly score double-digit goals in her career, an impressive feat for a noted defensive stopper.

Similarly, Maguire's stats do not jump off the page. She scored only three points on one goal and two assists, but these stats undersell her real impact on a Friars team that made their bones on ball possession, defense, and ball movement.

Her career statistics may not be on par with Zimmerman's or even Mills', but her selection to the Senior Bowl alone shows that her intangible impact on the game was felt by more than just Friar fans.

Though simply being selected to such an event is an honor, no athlete has gotten to such a point without giving their all to win every contest they take part in; the NEWISA game was no exception. After a season in which the women's program set the school record for wins, the three Friars were part of a fierce 1-1 competition that came down to penalty kicks.

With the final buzzer of the NEWISA Senior Bowl, the college careers of three great Friars came to an end. Though none of the three will leave Providence with a national championship, what they were able to accomplish both individually and as part of the team will live on for years to come.

NICK ELLIS

With the departure of All-American Jon Gillies '16 to the Calgary Flames organization after the Friars won the National Championship, it was up to Nick Ellis '17 to fill his skates as goaltender. Midway through the season, he has performed admirably. In 13 games and nearly 800 minutes in goal, Ellis has led his men to 10 wins, zero losses, and three ties. He has saved 351 shots and let in just 23 goals all season. Ellis is third in the Hockey East save percentage (.939) and in goals against average (1.75). Two of his wins have been shutouts—Nov. 21 against the Northeastern Huskies, and Dec. 5 versus the Merrimack Warriors.

While the Providence College Men's Hockey Team began the season facing high expectations, it was easy to think that Gillies' departure might cause the Friars to take a step back. Nevertheless, while he has been far from perfect, Ellis has proven to be a capable replacement. Since November he has been especially essential in keeping the Friars undefeated. That PC is still unbeaten and ranked No. 1 after playing seven games against Boston College, Northeastern, Yale, and Merrimack is pretty incredible. A lot of credit has to go to the goalie; Ellis has allowed two goals or less in five of his last seven games, one or less in four, and has had two shutouts in his last four appearances.

Thanks to his steady performance this season, the Friars are so far the best college hockey team in the nation and could well be on their way to defending their title. As good as the offense has been, none of this could have been done without Ellis' presence. Therefore, the goalie is PC's Most Valuable Player.

-Jeff Williams '17

WHO HAS BEEN THE
MID-SEASON MVP FOR
PROVIDENCE COLLEGE
MEN'S HOCKEY?

JAKE WALMAN

Picking just one player for MVP on the top men's ice hockey team in the nation is a daunting task. A legitimate case can be made for about half a dozen players, but I decided to go with Jake Walman '18, the stellar defenseman who has made a tremendous leap for the Friars this year, even when once considers a solid freshman season in which he played in all 41 games.

The argument could certainly be made that the Friars would not be undefeated without Walman. Through 14 games, he already boasts five game-winning goals—a remarkable achievement for any player, much less a defenseman. His two goals against Boston University in a rematch of last year's NCAA Championship game on Nov. 14 are particularly indicative of his play thus far this season. He comes up big, in big moments, against big-time opponents.

He also had a hat trick against Colgate University in a 7-2 drubbing on Oct. 30—the first hat trick by a PC defenseman since 1991—earning himself a Warrior Hockey East Player of the Week honor in the process.

And did I mention he was recently invited to Canada's National Junior Team selection camp? Or that he leads all NCAA defensemen in goals scored (11 so far), points, points per game, power play goals, game winning goals, and shots?

When opponents take the ice against the Friars, they know all too well that they have to deal with Walman's scoring ability from the defense position along with a number of other threats. So far, he has been too much for any team in the country to overcome.

-Nate Svogun '16



Catherine Zimmerman '16.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.YOUTUBE.COM

Men's Basketball Up to No. 15 in the Nation

Friars Scale the National Rankings After 74-72 Win Over Rival URI



Kris Dunn '17RS is guarded by former high school rival Kuran Iverson during the URI game.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.COXHUB.COM

by **Bryan Blum '17**
Senior Staff Writer

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Late in the second half against Hartford, there was no real reason for Kris Dunn '17RS to be in the game. The rest of the starters had already ended their evening early, as the game was already well in hand. Everyone in the crowd, however, was waiting for just one more play from the National Player of the Year candidate, and with an inconspicuous defensive rebound they got it. On the next whistle, Dunn finally left the game to a round of applause as the posters told the truth; he had "got it Dunn." The final stat line for Dunn: 16 points, 14 assists, and 10 rebounds. A triple-double.

"Honestly I wanted to take him out of the game," Head Coach Cooley said after the game. "He asked me to stick with him and believe in him. He's very unique, a stat-stuffer. I'm really, really proud of him. He really gets us going when he plays at that level."

Fortunately for the 15th ranked Friars, he has been playing at that level for most of the season. Coming in with high expectations, Dunn somehow may have surpassed them in the first eight games of the season.

With the only loss this season coming in a hard-fought game against the No. 1 team in the country, Michigan State, Dunn has shown why he is a top pick in next year's draft. So far this season Dunn

has led the team in points per game and assists per game, averaging 18.2 and 7.3 respectively. He is third on the team in rebounding, averaging 6.4 per game. He is also second in the country with 3.6 steals per game.

As the *Washington Post* put it, "The junior is the nation's best point guard, and the gap between Dunn and other points isn't even that close."

Yes, Friar nation is thrilled that Dunn decided to return for one more year. Because Dunn has confirmed his spot as one of the best players in the country and will have finished his degree after this year, it is pretty certain that this will be the last season that he will don a Friars uniform despite having one year of eligibility remaining.

The fact that Dunn returned even for this year was a surprise to everyone, including his own family.

"If it was me, I would have come out," John Seldon, Dunn's father, admits. "I would have taken the money and been gone so quick, but I couldn't tell him that. I left it up to him."

Even Cooley did not think he would have his star point guard this season. As he told the redshirt junior, "Kris, if you were my son, I'd probably have you go to the NBA."

But that did not happen. And after starting the season unranked, the team earned six straight wins, and which can certainly be

attributed in part to Dunn—especially in the upset win over then No. 11 Arizona, in which he scored the last 10 points in the 69-65 victory.

And while it would be easy to say that Dunn is the only reason the Friars are doing as well as they are, a closer look would prove that to be incorrect. Helping Dunn in the supporting cast are the two starting forwards: Ben Bentil '18 and Rodney Bullock '18RS.

Bentil continues the dominance that he had shown at the end of last year, averaging 17.9 points per game—second behind Dunn this year—and 7.1 rebounds per game.

Bentil is the exact opposite and perfect complement for the future lottery pick. Dunn controls the perimeter; Bentil dominates the inside. Dunn is a smooth, fluid dribbler and distributor; Bentil is physical and strong as a post player. Most surprisingly, however, Dunn is shooting 24 percent from three point range and Bentil is shooting 32 percent from three.

Bullock is another player who scores many of his points in the paint, and after not playing for two seasons he is showing why he was so touted coming out of high school. Averaging 13.7 points per game along with 6.7 rebounds, Bullock is a speedy perimeter player that is not afraid to be physical down low.

The best players after Dunn may be on the inside, but there is also serious talent on the outside. Ryan Fazekas '19 has averaged 47.2 percent from behind the arc so far this season. To put that in perspective, Stephen Curry

currently has a 47.2 percent from three. Also on the outside is Jalen Lindsey '18, who is only shooting 33 percent from three, but began to find his form against Hartford, hitting 4-6 threes including three on three consecutive possessions.

Rounding out the seven man rotation for Coach Cooley is Junior Lomomba '17, who has improved greatly on the offensive end to add to his already strong defensive abilities, and Kyrion Cartwright '18, who will most likely take over for Dunn as point guard after this season.

There is no sign of slowing down this season for the very young and athletic players who are currently putting themselves in a good position to return for a third straight time to the NCAA Tournament. They have faced quality opponents before Big East play begins, and most recently they were able to defeat the University of Rhode Island 74-72 with a thrilling last second tip-in by Bentil.

The Associated Press clearly noticed this game, as the Friars moved to No. 15 in the latest AP poll. Despite their early season success, the most difficult part of the season is yet to come with conference play rapidly approaching. With Dunn at the helm and a solid group surrounding him, this season the Providence Friars might be able to get a lot more "Dunn" than anyone ever imagined going into the season.



COWL CHRISTMAS 2015



Dream Log

by Ariana Panquantonio '16
Portfolio Staff

PROSE POETRY

In the woods of your heart, it is winter. We race on trodden paths until our flaming throats close up and tear into bloom. Burrs snag our clothes and pull us backwards. Should I catch you, you would break into a hundred starlings. Should you catch me, the pines would fold back into the sky, blue foam at morning. For now, we run beneath thin air, snarling at each other's heels. Everything else sleeps.

It is winter. Lift your cracked fingers to the sun, that cold, bright god, and wake.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN DE BOER

Dear Santa,

I wish that the green light could be closer so I could finally grasp it. Yes, I realize there is symbolism present when I reach for it, but I must look like an utter fool extending my hand out every night, trying to grasp a blinking green light in the mist.

I also wish that if my life were made into a movie, which it must be, since it is so fantastic that Leonardo DiCaprio would play me. That man truly deserves an Oscar. Perhaps he will receive one if he stars in a movie about my life.

I also want my dear Daisy to finally see how perfect I am. Yes, it is true that I am a fraud, but I only do it for Daisy. No, I am not obsessed, I am only written that way.

Lastly, I want my history to be erased. What kind of a name is Gatz anyway? It's ghastly! The great Gatz! No, no. Disgusting. The great Gatsby—now that has a nice ring to it. Oh, movie title! Yes, I can see it now: *The Great Gatsby*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio as me.

Oh, and one more thing. I want that creepy billboard gone! I cannot stand having that face look at me. Yeah, yeah, "symbolism," but I cannot focus, and I must focus in order to devise the perfect idea to ensnare Daisy. No...ensnare seems too creepy. I mean, the perfect idea to motivate Daisy to love me and not that rich, cheating snob of a husband. No, it's not wrong if she falls in love with me. Since her husband is cheating, it's only right for her to cheat back. Then, with Daisy realizing her true feelings for me, Myrtle—what kind of a name is that anyways—will be able to marry Tom, and the world will be right again!

Oh, I fear that I may have rambled, but to summarize: green light closer, Leonardo DiCaprio as me, Daisy is mine, no more Gatz, and goodbye judgmental billboard.

If you give me everything I asked for, then you will be invited to my next party.

Merry Christmas Old Sport,

Jay Gatsby

PHOTO COURTESY OF VICTORIANA.COM

Dear Santa,

All the things I really want, you can't give me. At least, I haven't heard of you giving understanding to the incompetent, diligence to the distracted, motivation to the lazy, fortitude to the faint-of-heart, or memory to the muddle-headed. You can't even give me the lesser goods I want! I realize that good grades, Prince Charming, an internship, and warm weather are not things traditionally found in Christmas stockings, but you might make some improvements to your inventory and make an exception for me—I started off by asking for virtues, after all.

I suppose a heap of coal might do the trick—shock me into examining my conscience and grasping the meaning of justice, but honestly, that's a lot of work, and I'm already busy dealing with the grades that you can't fix. So, fine, in that case, since you've backed me into this deal, I'll just have to ask for a roll of cold, hard cash. Unless you have a perfect transcript lying around...or some diligence dust...an internship at the North Pole's San Diego office? No?

Thanks for not contributing to the betterment of my soul,

Bitter College Student

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ORGANICEYOURLIFE.COM

A Christmas Wish

by David Martineau '18
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Snowflakes danced along on a gentle breeze as the angel winged his way through the gray morning clouds. He had traveled long through the night, passing over land and sea alike beneath the silvery light of the moon and the stars, his airy wings stretched out on either side like feathered sails. He enjoyed the solitude of the cold, wintry sky—it allowed him to focus on the task at hand, a task of both great importance and great joy.

Each year, as the days grew shorter and the holiday season drew near, every angel was permitted to go down to Earth with one sole purpose. With only their hearts to guide them, they would seek out a person whose being was consumed with one ardent wish—a hope or desire for the days and year to come—and be allowed to grant it. It was a mission that brought great happiness to each of them when Christmas came around, but it was also a task that required great thought. True wishes—pure wishes—were hard to come by, and each angel needed to be wary of granting a wish that would be disregarded by those who had wanted it.

It saddened the angel to think that some people, no matter how much they begged and asked, were never

satisfied with what they received. Heartfelt gratitude was a rare sight, because people always wanted more. More money, more fame, more power. Not even the children had been spared from it—there was always something new for them to want, something better than they already had. They lined up in endless queues outside stores and shops, trampling each other in their desperate rush to fulfill all their material desires, but they were empty when it came to what really mattered. Their noses were buried in phones, televisions, and computers when they should have been smelling the aroma of Christmas dinners or pressed into the shoulders of the family members they hugged, wishing them a happy holiday.

The angel looked down to see thousands of lights glittering beneath him, the lights of a city beginning to wake. Descending from his height, he wove through the tall buildings like a bird, invisible to all. He saw Christmas trees and strings of holiday lights adorning many a home or office. The spirit of the season was all around him, but the angel knew that it was absent in the most important places. People walked the streets in holiday clothing, sipped holiday-themed beverages in coffee shops, and rushed to and fro buying their holiday gifts. But for all the Christmas spirit outside, there was little within. Christmas was no longer about love and peace; it was about

buying and getting, and the angel saw that in the wishes of all he passed. As he gazed into the hearts of those he watched, all he saw was the material.

As the angel floated above the street, he saw a figure shuffling along the sidewalk dressed in a thin, unkempt jacket. It was a man of about forty, his hands shoved deep within his pockets, his head lowered against the frigid air. The angel saw distress written in the lines of his face and approached.

A quick read told him all he needed to know. The man was ordinary, a normal business-class worker going through life as unassumingly as he was walking down the sidewalk at this moment. But within, his heart was aching. His wife of 15 years had passed away of cancer months before, after a long, expensive stay in the hospital. Their incomes had been relatively stable, but her loss—along with the cost of her medical bills—had depleted much of their savings, and now the man was struggling to make ends meet and feed their two children. At first, he tried taking another job, but the pressure had been too much; his children needed him. He had started selling some of their possessions, things they did not truly need, but all his work had done little to help. At his wits' end, he was now making the hardest decision of his life. He was walking to a pawn shop where he was planning to sell his wife's

wedding ring, the only memento of her presence he had left besides the children.

The angel could feel the torment in his heart as he neared the pawn shop. All around him, people passed with wishes in their minds, wishes for happiness and money, for things of luxury and excess. But this man wanted none of that. He had a simple wish. The angel saw it in his heart. He wanted his children to be happy, and for their life to get better. But most of all, he wanted to keep the ring in his pocket, all that was left of the woman he had cherished for so long.

The angel smiled. He had found the one whose wish he wanted to grant.

It was an easy task—angels do not often find a job that is not within their power. The man's cell phone buzzed in his jacket pocket, and he stopped to answer it, confused as to who it might be. The angel turned and flew away, knowing that the call was coming from the man's employer, who was about to reward his hard work with a promotion...an idea that had spontaneously struck him just a second ago.

As he soared through the morning sky, the angel's heart was filled with joy. A ray of sunlight shone through the clouds, and then he was gone, leaving the golden light gleaming on the waking city, like the smile of one whose wish has just been granted.

December 6th

by Konner Jebb '16
Portfolio Staff

PROSE POETRY

Our Christmas is not snow, whispering fires, nor the ethereal 13-foot fraser firs of our childhoods. It is not tables layered in relatives and hors d'oeuvres, gifts eternal, "Jingle Bells" humming from hidden stereos...

Our Christmas is December 6th, 2015, in a chilly upstairs apartment, unskilled hands fumbling beneath a three foot twig, perplexed that tree stands and straightness are considered compatible. Its tangled lights within uneven branches, the discovery of decoration boxes forgotten by tenants long past, musty closets, and the Food Network...

I've seen that a dish of rice and beans can taste more of love and joy than every roasted turkey.

*In addition to Christmas this year, the Portfolio Staff participated in an ancient holiday dating all the way back to the '90s when it first aired on the show Seinfeld: **FESTIVUS!** Festivus is celebrated with an unadorned aluminum pole, feats of strength, and most importantly, the airing of grievances. Since only one of those is printable, we proudly present the first Portfolio staff*

FESTIVUS AIRING OF GRIEVANCES!

"I'VE GOT A LOT OF PROBLEMS WITH YOU PEOPLE, AND NOW YOU'RE GONNA HEAR ABOUT IT!" –FRANK COSTANZA

The fact that Take 3 is not on weekends. I still gotta eat!

If I want a hamburger with lettuce and tomato for Take 3 that's free and that's fine, but if I want ONE pickle I have to pay for the WHOLE burger?!

There's not enough time to think of Christmas presents for people with all this schoolwork.

All the attention the Business School gets. #bitterEnglishmajors

Incompetent people in group projects, participation grades, and cumulative exams.

The fact that children don't go outside anymore nor do they interact with each other personally. Imagination is slowly dying, and so is human interaction amongst the whole population.

There are no more original plots for Young Adult novels—they're all the same and need new elements!

Laugh tracks on sitcoms.

A lot of Civ reading with no time to read it all, and yet being expected to understand what we read and do well on a quiz.

The attention Donald Trump gets.

Last week of November: really hot out. Dec. 1: BOOM! I can't feel my hands. Too cold, too sudden.

The fact that there are almost no free parking spots on campus.

And last, but not least:

I AM NOT READY TO ADULT.

A FESTIVUS FOR THE REST OF US!

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SCHOOLS.LCSS.US; VIGNETTE4.WIKIA.NOCOKIE.NET



Elf Union Demands

We, the elves of the North Pole, have been mistreated for far too long. Here follows our requirements to continue working in this environment:

More cookie breaks

Almond milk for vegans

Freedom to become dentists

More face time with the Big Man

Same benefits as the reindeer

No height discrimination

More spreading of Christmas cheer by singing loud for all to hear

Vitamin D lamps

A toy at Christmas

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVIDE GUGLIELMO

“Good Christian, Fear...”

by Jonathan Coppe '18
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Upon a night of howling wind
So shrill the savage wolf would quake
To hear it moaning so I went
To greet the darkened solemn streets
And feel the stinging bite of snow.
When then I heard the winter wind
And saw there was no streetlamp's glow
I grinned a sickly grin and thought,
“I know this evening all too well.
Its darkness shines forth like my soul:
Its naught—and like a knell
Its howling is my constant groan.
The light into which all are born
Lasts only childhood's sweet, brief hour
And then goes dark, not to relight
Forevermore. Joy is a phantom thing
And—like all phantoms—haunts the minds
Of fools who should be wiser.
No! Greatness is the only thing:
To find a mountain here below
To set myself atop and rule
And be thought grand by all I know.
Sweet power is the only thrill
In this whirlwind of misery...”
And, quite content in thinking so,
I made my way along,
When all at once a cloud of snow
Urged on by rushing winds came down
And knocked me to the stony street.
As if, though, that were not enough,
I felt upon me grow a sheet
Of winter's white and icy tears,
And, freezing to the bone, I strove

To rise up to my feet once more,
But this in vain, since cold wind drove
Me down and flat onto my back,
'Till suddenly my ghoulish pride
And hate for life, which had consumed
That evening's thoughts, were swept aside
And I called out with my loudest voice,
“If anyone can hear me now,
I plead, for pity's sake, come here,
And save me, and I vow,
To do whate'er you wish!”

When I had spoke these words, I found—
Though to this day I know not how—
Myself upright and warm and sound,
And scarce had yet I realized this,
When, like a blaring horn, there cried
An august voice which said, “Look here!”
Then, as if bound, I turned aside,
To a vision filled with holy fear.
It was a man—no yet! It seemed
More like a thousand men in one!—
And here I gasped, for I had dreamed
Two nights before this very scene:
This being, radiant like the sun
Unsheathed a sword of crimson flame
And in unceasing voice there sung
Behind him in unceasing train
A choir of creatures bright as he,
Who bowed their heads to say:
“Ours is the Lord of majesty
Who sleeps upon the hay!”

I fell then flat upon my face
But the creature firmly bade me stand
And when I did, he said “Make haste!
The One I serve, He waits for you,
It is to Him that you shall bow.
By His design you're dry and warm—
It is by Him you're living now—
For He has seen your dark within,
And deigned to give you light.”
With that, they vanished, and I looked
To see a curious sight
A little babe asleep in hay
His mother by His side.
Rememb'ring then the angels' song
I felt my haughty pride
Dissolve in utter shame to see
That while I dreamt of lofty heights
Where every man would worship me,
This One, Whom mighty creatures serve,
Lies here—a babe, and poor.
And at once I was overcome
With sorrow at my core,
Which mingled, though, with blissful joy
At seeing here this blessed Babe
Who saw and saved me from His crib
When I was to meet an icy grave.
I turned then to His mother fair
And as she looked with kindly eye,
I begged her, “While your Child sleeps,
Permit me now to stay nearby,
To weep.”

“...for sinners here the silent Word is pleading”



HOW THE CUP STOLE CHRISTMAS!



Comic courtesy of Joey Aiello '17/The Cowl

ONE GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS

by Chennah Sharpe '17
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Mary had her child, Brit got engaged, and an American children's choir sang Merry Christmas to the wounded victims and families of France. Fourteen Seaside Road, Melanie looked back and forth between the television and her cell phone. Updates on Mary, a photo of Melanie's third grandchild, 8 ounces, female, name: Grace Anne. The voices from the television broadcast filled the living room, a round plump Christmas evergreen adorned in family-made ornaments stood next to the screen of images of French soldiers standing side by side singing "Merry Christmas" around and on top of the Arc de Triomphe. Projected across the streets, the song spread down the 12 avenues leading to the outskirts of the city. Papa shuffled into the room, slightly hunched over his walker. On the table sat two cups of coffee. As he sat, he handed her a cup filled with cream, sugar, and a pinch of cinnamon. She exchanged the cup, handing him her phone, pointing to the image she just received of the engagement ring on Brit's left hand, a diamond surrounded by two garnets. Papa took the phone, sat down in the leather lounging chair, and looked at the photo while sipping his coffee.

In the background the TV announcer chimed in as the camera zoomed out

for a larger perspective over Paris. "Thank you all for joining us, and Merry Christmas! We are here in Paris where 2,400 soldiers filled the heart of France singing and wishing the families of France a very Merry Christmas. It is truly an incredible moment, if you are here you can feel the good cheer, the deep sense of friendship. As I was coming off the plane earlier today people were singing Christmas carols in the airport. The friendship between the United States and France has been a long alliance that goes far beyond World War I, back to the war for independence as a nation...."

Papa shook his head. "These announcers' commentary is awful. Just let us listen and watch what is going on. They don't know how to report news anymore."

Melanie smiled and laughed softly. "Don't be such a grump, they are doing their best. We should celebrate the widespread responses supporting France after the terrorist attacks. Even through horrible actions there is hope in this world, people's support for France, these moments of solidarity overpower the divides of war and violence. On Christmas especially we celebrate the birth of our Lord, a child born into this broken world to save us from our sin. God, in all your Goodness, please bless our families today. Guide us, help us remember the cries of our brothers and sisters. May we respond with the care, courage, and patience as you have loved us. Thank

you also, Father, for all the blessings given to us today, of dear Grace Anne, and Brit. Amen." Melanie made the sign of the cross and kissed her right thumb, sealing her prayer. She sipped her coffee, stating aloud, not really to her husband but to the open air in hopes he was listening, "We should expect people for the Christmas party around 2 p.m. I got a *Frozen* doll for little Sarah. Also, we should wait to give Ed and Charlotte the pair of pj's until after dinner is served. People will be waiting for dessert, and we can go to the coat room and give them their gifts separately." Papa looked up from the newspaper he had been leafing through. He closed it, put it down and said, "Speaking of gifts, if you will accept it, I would like to give you one before the others arrive." She looked at him, eyes filled with curiosity. He took Melanie's hand and pulled her to her feet. Together they clicked the stereo remote and "O Holy Night" streamed from the speakers. Twirling

her once, they danced for the first time in 10 years. His walker aside, their first song and now 43 years later, he said, "Another year my dear, and I couldn't ask for anything more than being with you. You saved me when I returned from the trenches and I can't believe with each year I love you more. In great joy I cherish the first time we said 'Merry Christmas' and you gave me all your love."

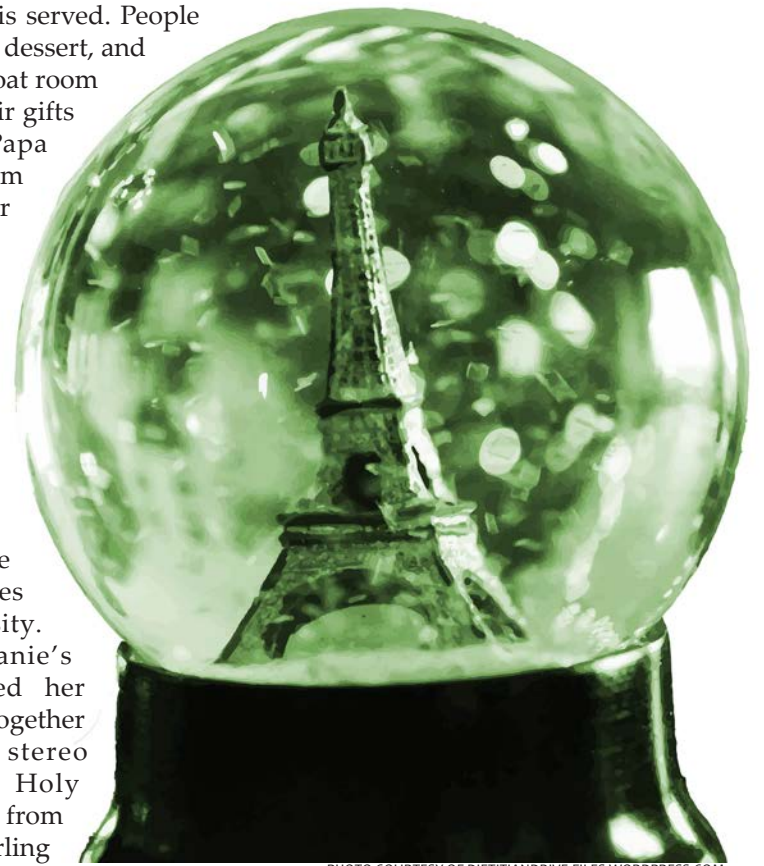


PHOTO COURTESY OF DIETITIANDRIVE.FILES.WORDPRESS.COM



Dear Santa,

Okay, I honestly don't know why I'm writing a letter to you. Your existence was proven false like seven years ago when I got up in the middle of the night to fetch a glass of water, heard a rustling in my living room, and peered in to see both my parents placing presents from a large plastic bag under the Christmas tree. I questioned them about this the next morning and I was told that you left the presents with them because you were tired and had to head back to the North Pole earlier than expected. Once I heard "earlier than expected," I knew that was a load of waffle because you're the same person who can deliver presents to over a trillion homes in the span of a single night; one home that you can't deliver to? C'mon...

But I digress and I'll confess that I am in fact, as the Prince of Mischief Loki would say, "truly desperate to come to you for help." You see, before I can celebrate your joyous day of festive cheer, I have to contend with a little week-long event called "Finals Week" (or "Hell," and I'm sorry if the saying of this word immediately puts me on the naughty list, I truly am), and I could sit here and ask you, the Missus, your hardworking team of elves, and even the reindeer themselves for all my grades to be the highest of A's, but let's be honest here: that's not realistic in the slightest. So for Christmas this year, all I ask of you, Mr. Big Man, is that I *pass* all my finals and classes. No specific B's or C's - I just want to pass. If I could get this one wish, not only will I continue to believe in your Communist-sporting attire, but hey, there could be a lifetime supply of cookies and warm milk heading your way. So what do you say, Mr. Big Man? Make one last Christmas wish come true, for old time's sake?

Sincerely,

Christmas-Is-Okay-I-Guess?

Dear Santa,

How are you doing, big man? The older I get, the less the things I want can be asked for...but hey, you've got God's ear, right, St. Nick? Maybe you can still relay some of these and try to get me what I want this Christmas.

I gotta be honest, Santa: as a senior in college, I'm worried about the future. You probably always knew you were going to eat cookies and deliver presents and joy to all the children of the world for a living—I mean, just listen to that signature laugh of yours and take one look at your bowl-full-of-jelly physique or your cherry nose! Every part of you was obviously made to be Santa and to do what you do. That's fine and dandy for you, but what am I supposed to do for post-grad? Did you go to graduate school for cookie-eating? Did you do a year of service in various elf workshops making toys for underprivileged children? How do you even find and apply to those? (And does cookie-eating school require the GRE?) St. Nick, how did you know what your best way was to become just that—a saint?

I dunno, Santa. This is a hopeful time of year, with a lot of joy, so I'm looking up. I know everything's going to be fine next semester and after graduation, but some answers would really make me less stressed and able to enjoy this wonderful time of year with my friends here at PC. So, some answers would really help a girl out.

With love,

Timmy Lou Who

P.S. Actually, I have one other, much more doable request: can you give my friend Jose some Christmas cheer? I mean, if you can change Buddy the Elf's dad, you can give Christmas cheer to anyone. That'd come in clutch. Thanks!

Listomania

Things You Asked Santa for
but Never Got

Pony

Puppy

Barbie Jeep

Dirtbike

Baby Alive

Robo-Sapien

A 4.0 GPA

Baby Sloth

Real Life Pikachu

Real Life Lightsaber

Laser Sharks

Lifetime Subscription to *The Cowl*

93-inch Teddy Bear

Tiffany & Earl

*Making PC an emotionally stable
place one letter at a time*

Dear Tiff and Earl,

It's Christmas time, and as much as I love (and I mean *love*) the sacred tradition of Secret Santa, what do you suppose my luck is? The person's name who I drew from the hat is both someone I can't really stand and don't really know. At all. In all my years as a Secret Santa gift giver, I've never had this kind of a situation before. And I neither want to spend time learning of this person's interests nor the money. I've thought of faking sick under the excuse of too much egg-nog, but I don't want my Secret Santa attendance record to suffer either. What's a person like me to do?

Sincerely,
On the Verge of Turning Into Scrooge

Dear Bah-Humbug,

This is an automatically generated e-mail as I am gone for the holidays because I am fabulous and you are not. I will return in two or three weeks...or not. Below you will find some generic holiday advice I have prewritten:

1) My grandparents are racist:

Slap the racism out of them. Old age doesn't give you an excuse to be stupid. If you prefer the peaceful route I suggest feeding them melatonin pills. They can't be racist if they are asleep.

2) I am a Secret Santa maniac, but I have to buy a gift for a terrible human or alien (let's not be xenophobic) being, but I don't want to miss Secret Santa:

Instead of decking the halls with boughs of holly, deck them with poison ivy. I would give the person a totally useless or disgusting gift. For an example there is a cheese that is banned in Italy (specifically Sardinia) and it has been made with live maggots, you have to use goggles while eating it because the maggots are known to jump as well as a nose plug because the aroma will knock you out. Just google maggot cheese and buy it.

3) My parents hate my significant other:

Hire a professional significant other who looks vaguely like your real SO and make them fall in love with your SO. Rates vary and make sure they are not an escort.

4) I don't have anything to wear for a formal Christmas party or anything to bring:

Check out my fashion and party blog: youknownothingandneedhelp.com.

Sincerely,
Automatically generated Tiff Elf Worker Bot #7307



Tiffany

Dear Scrooge,

Chocolate. Or candy canes. Or cookies. Anything with way too much sugar. That is an acceptable gift to almost anyone, and if this person doesn't like a week-long sugar rush before and/or during finals week, then they just won't like anything. And if you don't like this person, then it's even sweeter (pun fully intended, because it's Christmas and whatnot) for you because they get to dislike probably the best gift in the room in front of all of your friends.

'Tis the season after all,
Saint Earl



EARL

Disclaimer

The Tiffany & Earl feature is a satirized account of Providence College. Both the question and answers are purely works of fiction. Tiffany & Earl are anti-heroes whose comments ultimately satirize the stereotypes they each represent.

REJECTED TOY

IDEAS

1. Pet Rock
2. Stick
3. Imagination
4. Laser Jesus Action Figure
5. Hillary Clinton E-Mail Scandal Playset
6. Jacks (No Ball)
7. Dotless Dominoes
8. Carly Fiorina Barbie Doll
9. Friar Dom Doll with Pull String saying "I Love You" and "Go Friars"
10. *Cowl* Tiaras
11. Kanye Doll
12. Oliver Twist Mushball
13. Grendel's Arm





*With love,
your fellow Friars at
Portfolio!*



PHOTO COURTESY OF A.SCPR.ORG

