

THE COWL



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Senators of Rhode Island Discuss State of Student Loan Debt

by Marla Gagne '18
News Co-Editor

STUDENT DEBT

On January 15, 2016, Rhode Island Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse visited Roger Williams' Providence campus to talk to local students about the burden of paying off student debt and how the government and schools can make college more affordable.

In the United States, 40 million Americans work to pay off 1.3 trillion dollars of debt—Rhode Island students alone owe 3.6 billion of this amount. Students who have attended four-year colleges in Rhode Island have graduated with an average of \$31, 841 debt, according to the independent nonprofit The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS).

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PHOTO COURTESY OF COMMONS.WIKIMEDIA.ORG

Playhouse Creatures Transports Audience to London's Oldest Theatre

by Ryan Charland '18
A&E Staff

THEATRE

April De Angelis's *Playhouse Creatures* kicked off the spring season at the Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film this past weekend in the Angell Blackfriars Theatre. With direction by John Garrity and innovative set design by Trevor Elliott, *Playhouse Creatures* provides a unique dramatic experience for audiences to enjoy.

De Angelis's 1993 production weaves a tale of the first generation of English actresses in the 17th century. Following the restoration of King Charles II to the throne after the English Civil War and the rule of Oliver Cromwell, London's theatres were reopened and women were finally allowed to appear on stage alongside men. *Playhouse Creatures* addresses these early actresses of the King's Company and their fight for respect within the world of theatre. Through a small cast of just five characters, audiences are given a comprehensive view of the personal struggles of each woman—from the

newcomer Nell Gwyn (Katrina Pavao '16) to the veteran Mrs. Betterton (Veronica Murphy '17). Along the way love, heartbreak, ambition, and

the cost of fame are all explored in depth.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK.COM/PCTDF

Veronica Murphy '17 takes on the role of Mrs. Betterton in *Playhouse Creatures*, which chronicles the lives of three English actresses as they fight for respect in 17th century theatre.

43 Years of Marching for Life Not Stopped by Storm

by Brianna Abbott '17
Opinion Co-Editor

FAITH

Although the winter storm lessened the number of feet on the ground, thousands of protesters marched on Washington, D.C. to protest the 1973

Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade* for the 43rd time. The March for Life has been around as long as legal abortion itself; however, because it has been around for so long, the March has become ineffective at targeting Washington itself. Instead, the March should be looked at as a moral boost within the pro-life movement, and the movement should seek new ways to reach across the political divide and talk about abortion.

Protests and movements often get results when they are groundbreaking, when they are bold and fresh, even if they are just a continuation of a long battle. How can the March for Life break the ground when footprints from 43 years of protesting on the same path have already muddied the snow? Consistency and commitment to a cause are never a bad thing; however, because this March has been repeated so often, the main news outlets no longer see it as news and thus do not cover it, not even to defame or dismiss the protesters as "right-winged nut jobs."

MARCH/ Page 6



PHOTO COURTESY OF COURTNEY GAREAU '17

PC students who attended the March for Life gather at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C.

UNDER THE HOOD

Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

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A&E

BOP announced The Chainsmokers, a duo of EDM DJs, as this year's spring concert artist.

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Sports

Men's Hockey is back on track, winning three of their last four games.

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Opinion

Winter has arrived at PC, with operation snow removal now in full force.

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Bringing a New Feeling to MLK Day at PC

Retired Professor Shares First-Hand Experience with Dr. King

by Marla Gagne '18
News Co-Editor

LECTURE

August 28, 1963, was a hot, humid day in Washington, D.C. Thousands of people gathered together and tried to keep cool in 98-degree weather. Signs acted as shields against the sun and small programs became makeshift fans. This group, numbering close to a quarter of a million people, had been standing outside all day waiting for one person to speak. Dr. Carol Crafts, at the time a college student who had big plans for herself, was one among the thousands waiting to hear from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. That day, he told America about his dream.

Monday, January 18 marked the 30-year anniversary of celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a national holiday. As the week approached at Providence College, Ruth Laurent, interim director of cultural education and programming, said they wanted to create a "new feeling for MLK Day." The Office of Cultural Education and Programming created a week full of events, including a lecture on Jan. 20 co-sponsored by Student Activities. The groups invited retired PC professor Dr. Crafts to share her experience of attending Dr. King's historic "I Have a Dream" speech.

The opening of the MLK service included the singing of the national black anthem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" by Phionna-Cayola Claude '18 and the reading of the "I Have a Dream"

speech by Kelvin Oppong '16. Dr. Crafts then came on stage to discuss Dr. King's famous speech and why she, a retired white woman, was talking about it. Her first reason was quite simple: "I was there"; this is more than the students and staff in the room could say. But secondly, and for her more importantly, Dr. King had a "profound and everlasting impression" on her and is still one of her heroes.

For Dr. Crafts, the idea of getting involved in a march or protest was second nature. At the time she was attending a Quaker college, was part of a Unitarian church that emphasized social justice, and had traveled around the world with her parents and seen many cultures. The march was seemingly about jobs, unity, and social justice, and she was ready to help the cause. We "might make some difference in the world," said Dr. Crafts. "We had great plans for ourselves."

Dr. Crafts and a group of a few friends traveled to Washington, D.C., and prepared to protest in the morning and listen to civil rights leaders speak afterward. But what she saw and experienced in the capital city was something unique and unprecedented. Dr. Crafts described busloads of people filling the protest area by the thousands, with signs like "An end to bias now." Performers, such as Bob Dylan and Dianne Card, entertained protesters throughout the day. As activists from all over the country worked together, marching shoulder to shoulder and with linked arms, she saw "a racial harmony that did exist." Dr. Crafts recalls, "It felt as

if we were all moving as one."

It was not until 4 p.m. on this day that Dr. Crafts heard Dr. King's speech. Ironically, the most famous part of the speech about Dr. King's dream for future generations almost did not happen. Dr. Crafts shared that it was an impromptu move on Dr. King's part after one of the day's performers, singer Mahalia Jackson, told Dr. King to share his dream with the tiring crowd. Dr. Crafts remembers feeling "electrified and inspired by Dr. King's words that day." She, along with the other tens of thousands of Americans, walked away from the day pledging to only protest nonviolently, to march and vote for the cause, and to carry out the message of equality to others, something Dr. Crafts has continued to do since that day.

Dr. Crafts recounted what has happened since Dr. King's speech and assassination: victories of America's first black president and approval of the Civil Rights Act, but also the murders of civil rights volunteers and leaders, like Dr. King. "I'm not sure [Dr. King's dream has] come true, yet," she said, "but I hope it does."

PC students then took the stage to share their thoughts about MLK's dream in the world today. Oppong, a MLK scholar, said, "Without [Dr. King's] dream, I don't think I would be here at PC... We are moving forward, sometimes take a step back, [but] will continue moving forward." And while the week was meant to celebrate and examine the ideas of Dr. King, Laurent stressed, "The conversation doesn't have to stop here."

The MLK Service gave students and faculty a chance to learn firsthand what it was like to hear Dr. King's words and then express their own thoughts on "the dream" in the modern world. Other events throughout the week included a service project to bring students together, a showing of the movie *The Rosa Parks Story*, a gospel concert with PC's Gospel choir and local choirs, and the celebration of two MLK scholars at the MLK Legacy Dinner.

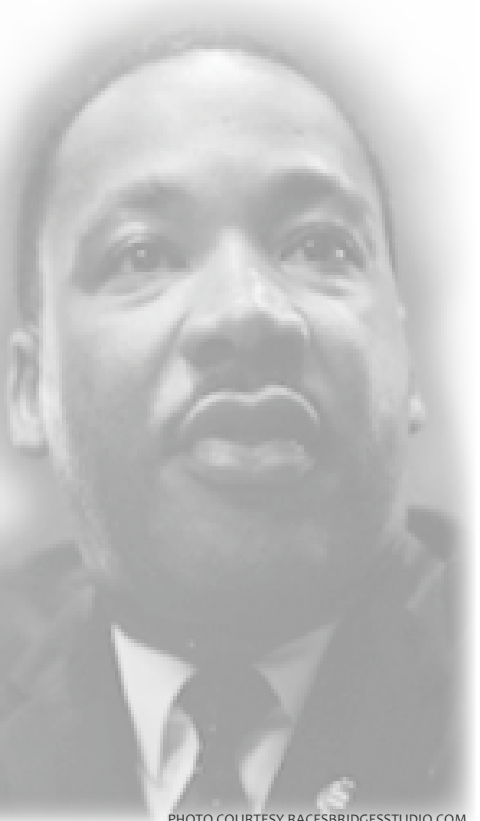


PHOTO COURTESY RACESBRIDGESSTUDIO.COM



Above: Dr. Craft tells students about her experience with Dr. King.
Left: Kelvin Oppong '16 delivers MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech.



PHOTOS COURTESY MARISSA LYNCH '15/THE OFFICE OF CULTURAL EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMING

Members of the Gospel Choir sing at the Beyond the Dream: Gospel Concert in honor of MLK.

Quacks and Snacks

Student Activities Sponsors Duck Hunt

by Gabrielle Shkreli '17
News Staff

EVENTS

As a little kid, your bathtub was most likely filled to the brim with an assortment of accessory-clad rubber ducks bobbing about. But what happens when 26 of these much-loved childhood toys are hidden throughout Providence College's very own Slavin Center?

This past Friday, January 22, 2016 at 10 p.m., over 30 PC students participated in Student Activities' Duck Hunt in Upper Slavin. Each duck was labeled with a number and hidden throughout the building. After an exciting countdown, students then took part in a fast-paced scavenger hunt to find a duck and consequently win a corresponding prize.

Amanda Lock '18, participant and prize winner, shared her excitement. "My favorite part was the excited cheers throughout Slavin as people found ducks. I was lucky enough to win a Spikeball prize. The event was like an Easter egg hunt but with little ducks instead."

Other prizes included a Kindle Fire Stick, Razor Scooter, and

Polaroid Camera. The Duck Hunt also featured a late night breakfast buffet, providing fellow Friars with some of their favorite morning munchies such as an array of donuts and croissants. At the end of a night filled with fun and food, there is no doubt that students waddled away satisfied.



PHOTO COURTESY PLAY.GOOGLE.COM

What is Your Favorite Thing To Do On a Snow Day?

Friars are Dreaming of a White School Day...Just Like the Ones They Used to Know

by Sabrina Guilbeault '18
News Co-Editor

ON CAMPUS

On Saturday, January 23, Providence College saw its first snow of the semester. Although Providence only saw three inches of snow, other cities around the U.S. saw snow in much higher numbers. According to the *New York Times*, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio called the impending storm "very likely one of the worst snowstorms in our history." NYC then received 26.6 inches of snow.

Although PC still saw snow, there was a slim chance of a snow day given that the snowfall occurred over the weekend. According to the National Weather Channel's website, the next expected snowfall is on Wednesday, February 10, where there is a 50 percent chance of one to three inches of snow.

Last year, the College had many more snow days than expected. Even though this winter has been more mild, these Friars share what they will be doing if PC has a snow day this semester:

"Donuts in a parking lot."
Zach Acunzo '17

"Make pancakes."
Katrina Pavao '16

"Make cookies and watch *Frozen*."
Sarah Ramire '16

"Build a fort... out of snow obviously."
Mike Silveira '16

"Not doing the assigned reading that was supposedly due on the snow day that you never read in the first place."
Teddy Kiritsy '19

"Stay in pajamas all day and order flatbread."
Molly O'Hara '18

"Read *Harry Potter* and watch Netflix."
Rachael Minassian '19

"Sledding, even if the only sled I have is the delivery boxes for my textbooks."
Michael Bartels '18

"Netflix and chill... literally or Facebook stalking your crushes back to seventh grade."
Brittany Price '18

"I'd finally try that yellow snow everyone is talking about."
Rachael Johnston '18

"Snuggling in my sweats with a movie, popcorn, and hot chocolate."
Courtney Olenzak '17

"Acting like a little kid and having a snowball fight like it was for the first time."
Pedro Aleman '17

"Building a snowman, sledding, sleeping, and doing absolutely nothing."
Veronica Murphy '17

"Get cozy in my fuzzy socks and drink hot chocolate."
Kaylee Cummings '18

"Eat gummy bears and watch movies."
Andrew Widmer '18

"Catch up on two semesters' worth of sleep."
Molly Sasso '18

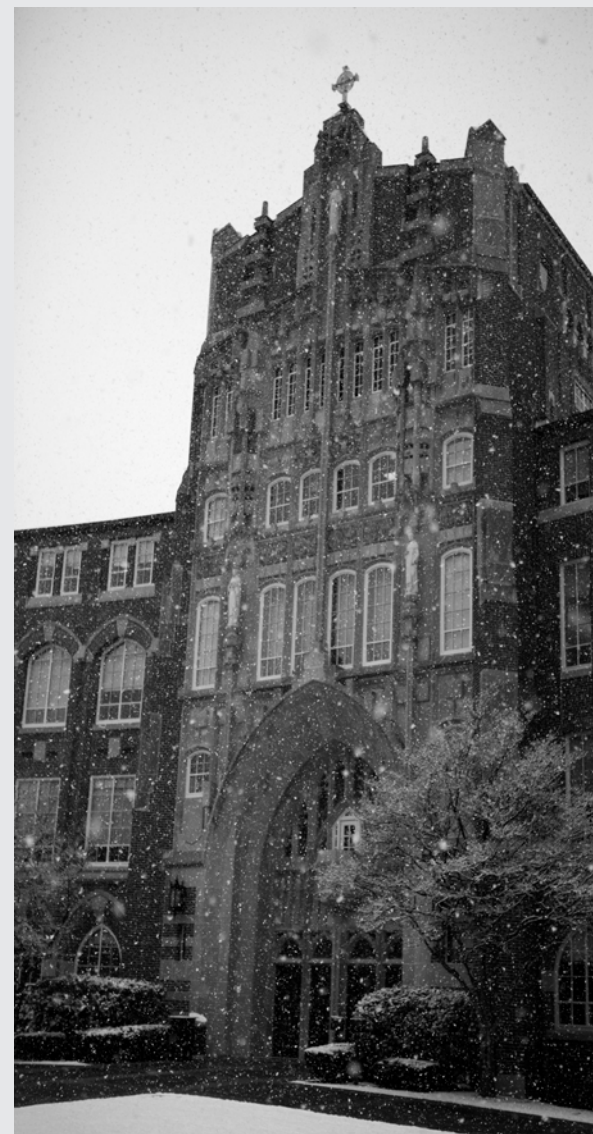


PHOTO COURTESY PROVIDENCE.EDU

Debt: Rhode Island Senators Hear Student Concerns

Continued from front page

This large debt is not unique to Rhode Island colleges and universities, but a new normal. Seven out of 10 students who earned bachelors degrees in 2014 graduated with debt (TICAS).

"Young adults are forced into the social norm of attending a college because it is expected for success," said Victoria Palmer '18. "However, what they don't realize is the amount of debt they can accrue while being in school."

While the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) predicts debt will increase to two trillion by 2025, tuition has continued to increase and government aid has been reduced. Over the last 30 years, from 1984-1985 to 2014-2015, the average published tuition fees have increased by 225 percent at public four-year institutions and 146 percent at private four-year institutions. Despite the increases in tuition, state funding per student has decreased from \$10,726 per student to \$8,655 per student since 1986 (*New York Times*).

"We have to find ways to make college more affordable and reduce the stifling burden of student loan debt," said Senator Whitehouse, who serves on the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. "Our college students and graduates are stuck with more than a trillion dollars in loan debt that inflicts tremendous harm on them, their families, and our economy."

Providence College's tuition currently stands at \$58,660. This figure accounts for residence hall room and board, an unlimited meal plan, tuition, and general tech and activity fees. Final costs do differ based on a student's housing type and meal plan,

and textbook costs are not included. While the College does offer financial aid and merit scholarships, students are concerned with how they will pay off loans in the future.

"It's hard to focus on school and what your future plans might be when you are worried about current school work on top of finding work after college to hopefully cover the cost of your education," said Amanda O'Neill '18. "Providence [College] should try to aid the situation by lowering costs of tuition, housing, and meal plans."

To combat the increasing debt of the younger generation, Senator Reed plans to fight to allow students to refinance their high interest rates to make the paying back of debt easier.

Reed then said, "I am also working with my colleagues on better aligning the incentives in higher education so that all stakeholders, including states and colleges and universities, share more of the responsibility for college affordability and student success. We have a common obligation to ensure that this generation of students has the opportunity to achieve its full potential."

Along with tuition, students are also concerned with the high prices of textbooks for each semester. Genesis Sanchez, a student representative at the conference and junior at Rhode Island College, said she had to take out a loan just to buy books, something she felt was "just ridiculous."

Katie Comber '18 agrees textbooks

are a perfect area to alleviate some of the debt students accumulate over four years. Comber said, "I hope that Providence College and other colleges and universities will take note of how exorbitant textbook costs are and adjust the costs to make them more manageable for students."

A college education has proven to be greatly beneficial for students. College graduates have a less percentage of unemployment than those with just high school diplomas and will make 84 percent more money during their lifetime.

Senator Reed recognized the individual and national need for education and told students at the conference, "We all understand that education is the engine that pulls this economy forward, fulfills individual aspirations, and what makes America what it is. We invented public education and led the world in access to higher education for generations... We must do much more to help our young people afford a college education and provide relief to families currently struggling under the burden of student loan debt."



Rhode Island Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse listen to students' concerns about student loan debt. Rhode Island has the fourth highest average of student debt total in the country.

PHOTO COURTESY STOPOUT.ORG



Bursting the PC Bubble

by David Toro '16
News Staff

Oldest Monastery in Iraq Razed by ISIS

St. Elijah's Monastery was built 1,400 years ago and is the oldest Christian monastery in Iraq. Earlier this month, the Associated Press obtained satellite imagery of the area that shows the monastery has crumbled to the ground. Stephen Wood, CEO of AllSource Analysis, said that "the stone walls have been literally pulverized" and that "bulldozers, heavy equipment, sledgehammers, possibly explosives turned those stone walls into this field of gray-white dust. They destroyed it completely." ISIS is conducting a brutal campaign aimed toward artifacts that go against its hypocritical and erroneous view of Islam and, as a result, more than 100 religious and historic sites have been pillaged.



The Solar System's Ninth Planet

New evidence has been found to support the claim of a ninth planet orbiting around the sun. According to Konstantin Batygin and Mike Brown from the California Institute of Technology, a ninth planet might have come into existence during the early beginnings of our Solar System. The ninth planet commonly referred to as Planet X, is believed to have been pushed around by gasses and knocked out of the "planet-forming region" near the sun; as a result, it has settled in the outer regions of the Solar System. The two Caltech scientists also believe Planet X has an orbit of 15,000 years.

First Taiwanese Female President

Tsai Ing-wen is leader of the Democratic Progressive Party of Taiwan, whose priority is to become independent from China. In her victory speech, she mentioned that Taiwan is about to enter a "new era," as her party will prioritize cooperation between other Taiwanese political parties. Tsai Ing-wen also thanked the U.S. and Japan for their individual support and advocacy for peace and stability.

Striving for the Integration of Muslim Women in the UK

Following the influx of Muslim migrants into the U.K., Prime Minister David Cameron has vowed to invest £20 million toward programs that will teach Muslim women English and aid in their integration into British society. According to Cameron, it was brought to his attention that many Muslim households were continuing to "force gender segregation, discrimination, and social isolation from mainstream British life." Cameron said that in Britain "women and girls are free to choose how they live, how they dress and who they love." Cameron will also seek to make English proficiency a requirement of future visa and citizen applications.

Congress Updates: January 26, 2016

by David Toro '16
News Staff

CONGRESS

Credit Cards in McPhail's

One of the most crucial points discussed in the Congress meeting last week talked about the use of credit cards in McPhail's. Even though it has been a popular notion amongst the student body, some speculation still exists. For example, being able to process credit cards on campus would bring McPhail's in the scope of the IRS for taxation purposes. Additionally, allowing credit cards in McPhail's would increase the amount of incidents on campus due to constant access to credit card information rather than simpler cash on hand.

This past week, the use of credit cards in McPhail's passed; students can now open tabs.

Aquinas Gets Renovation

Upon requests of the student body, Aquinas Hall is going to undergo a renovation that will install a card access point between the Aquinas Hall study lounge and lobby. The main purpose of the bill is to keep the sides open since currently only the women's floors and Hall Office have water refill stations.

Response to Racism and Anti-Blackness at Providence College

Earlier in the year, The Coalition Against Racism, Women Empowered, Society Organized Against Racism, Brotherhood, and The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of Providence College presented a detailed list of demands to Fr. Shanley, O.P., to redress the racism and anti-blackness on campus. The demands are intended to create a more diversified student and faculty body as well as to change the curriculum so as to embrace Providence College's mission.

Last week, Congress hosted board members of NAACP and other clubs on campus to discuss demands. One of the main topics of conversation was the founding of a new multicultural center in Moore Hall. Even though the demands and changes will take effect over many years, the issue has been brought to the attention of the administration and will now remain an important matter when discussing the future of the College.

Club Spotlight: Science Fiction Club

by Patrick Lovett '17
News Staff

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

From vintage video games to television shows and from role-playing games to exciting, thought-provoking discussion, Providence College's Science Fiction Club explores virtually every aspect of the science fiction genre.

To join, one does not really need to fulfill specific requirements or fill out an application. Rather, the only traits common to all members are an interest in science fiction and openness to everything that genre includes.

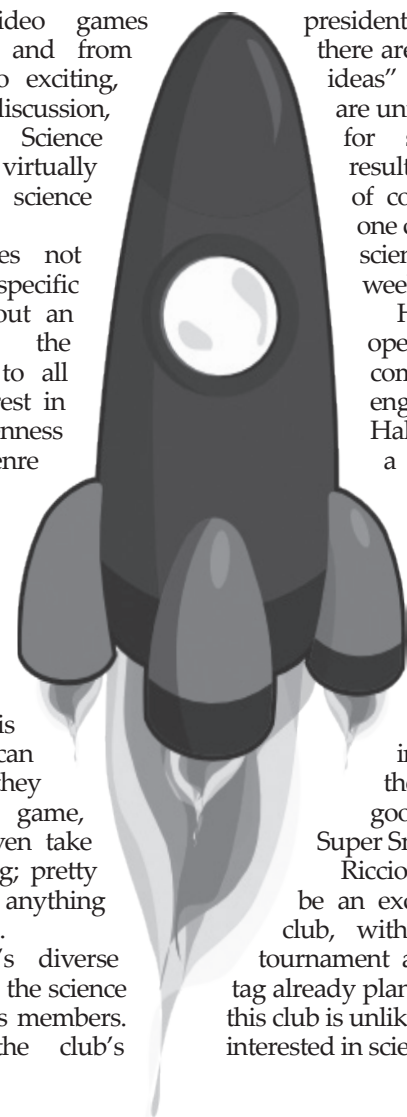
Meeting on a weekly basis, club members generally watch shows like *Doctor Who* or *Star Trek* and then discuss the episodes, but that—by no means—is all they do. Meetings can take many forms: they could play a board game, watch a movie, or even take a trip to play laser tag; pretty much everything and anything sci-fi related is possible.

Just as the club's diverse activities are united by the science fiction genre, so are its members. Josef Riccio '18, the club's

president, finds that although there are "different interests and ideas" throughout the club, all are united by a general passion for science fiction. What results, therefore, is a "sense of community" and a place one can go to find "some cool science-fiction stuff every week."

However, the club operates beyond its own community as well, and engages all of PC. Every Halloween, the club hosts a costume contest where last year's winner wore an impressively handmade Jon Snow costume from the television series *Game of Thrones*. Also, on occasion, the club will host a vintage video game tournament, inviting all to come try their hand at oldies-but-goodies like Nintendo's Super Smash Brothers.

Riccio expects this "should be an exciting semester" for the club, with another video game tournament and a trip to play laser tag already planned. Those events aside, this club is unlikely to disappoint anyone interested in science fiction.



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OPINION

Mourning Lost Talent

Fans Are Allowed To Feel Grief

by Taylor Godfrey '19
Opinion Staff

IN MEMORIAM

The beginning of this year was tragically marked by a number of celebrity deaths, including those of celebrated musician David Bowie and beloved *Harry Potter* actor Alan Rickman. When celebrities with this much influence and such large fan bases die, it often leaves many in mourning. This collective grief sometimes brings outcries of others who claim that people cannot really mourn celebrities they have never met. Yet this process of collective grief is not a bad thing and can often be an outlet for people to grieve for other things that have been bothering them.

For many, the passing of their favorite celebrities is sad because they will never hear a new song from them or see them in another movie. They mourn the loss of talent as well as the person. This is a valid reason, but there is nothing wrong when the level of grief goes deeper.

To many people, adults, and children, the *Harry Potter* movies are a big part of their lives. For many people, college-aged kids especially, the movies were a huge part of their childhoods. So when one of the more prominent and well-liked actors from the franchise died, it felt like something more than the passing of a stranger. They had grown up with this person

and his character. Alan Rickman and his character Severus Snape were staples of their childhood years. They lost more than a person; they lost someone they had grown up knowing.

Even without such an emotional connection to the celebrity, the collective grief phenomenon can help people express sadness about other things in their lives. Sadness can lead to loneliness and, even if you are not sad about the same thing as everyone

else, the feeling of grieving together can be freeing. Everyone needs to be sad sometimes, and grieving is only human. A celebrity's death can be an outlet to allow yourself to just feel sad in a way that is both healthy and can make you feel better about other things in your life.

Yet to some people, the deaths of celebrities such as Bowie and Rickman really did feel like the passing of a dear friend, and that is okay too. It is part of

the allure of celebrity and fame itself. Watching all of an actor's movies or buying all of a musician's songs brings a sense of closeness to the celebrity that you may not really know in person. Watching all of their interviews, relating to the characters they play or the personas they put on can make you feel even closer. It is a big part of the point of celebrities, to make us feel like we really know the people walking the red carpet on award nights. And it is much more fun this way, to pretend that we really know our favorite actors and singers. So of course it hurts when our favorites celebrities are no longer with us.

So do not feel bad the next time someone posts on social media that we should not feel so sad about the deaths of strangers, because to us these celebrities are not really strangers at all. We might know the idealized and perfected version of them, the version touted by celebrity magazines and carefully crafted tweets, but that does not mean that that version is any less important to us. We might not be grieving the same person that close family members are, but that does not lessen the sadness we feel for the character or idea that we will miss. This collective grief may not be the same as the grief we feel for the people we do know, but that does not mean that we should not be allowed to feel it.



Harry Potter icon Alan Rickman passed away on January 14, 2016. PHOTO COURTESY OF AMBWALLPAPERS.COM

March: A New Purpose For An Old Protest

Continued from front page



PHOTO COURTESY OF 4.BP.BLOGSPOT.COM



PHOTO COURTESY OF CALLTOHOLINESS.US

Most of the new sources that even bother covering the March for Life are either religious or pro-life oriented, meaning that they are more or less preaching to the choir when they cover the March and promote pro-life practices. Can we really change anyone's mind if we're talking to ourselves?

Even if the message of pro-life may not reach the minds the March is trying to sway, that doesn't mean that the March for Life itself is a waste. Although I did not attend this year, I went on the March for Life in 2014, and

I have to say that it was an incredibly powerful experience. The cold air makes you feel alive, the number of people and positive signs there gives you hope. You believe in your cause and believe that those around you can make a difference, and you leave the March feeling enlightened and empowered.

And maybe that's enough. Maybe that should be the purpose of the March, to reinvigorate the pro-life cause and inspire those present to take action. Maybe it doesn't matter that not everyone listens to the chants

at March for Life as long as those that listen really hear and choose to do something about it.

The topic of abortion is a tricky one to tackle, primarily because both sides of the debate believe that they are morally in the right. Honestly, despite my pro-life leanings, I don't think we should be fighting to completely reverse *Roe v. Wade*. I do not even know if abolishing abortion entirely is the right thing to do for the country or even possible at this point in time. I do, however, think that fighting for stricter limitations on abortion is a step in the

right direction.

The March for Life, though it does not garner a lot of media attention, inspires change and hope for those present, and those who attend can spread the message and fight for the legislation to restrict or end abortion.

Besides, at the very least, the March is an opportunity for those of similar beliefs to come together and express their views while gaining knowledge on the subject and genuinely having a good time - and that is worth all of those footsteps in the snow.

PC Needs More Effective Shoveling System

School Should Utilize Student Body

by Wesley Trask '16
Opinion Staff

SCHOOL MAINTENANCE

When you spend most of your time in the Northeast, chances are you know a thing or two about snow storms. You know the basics of what to do before the storm (rush to stock up on bread, eggs, and milk that you absolutely do not need and will probably be stale or spoiled by the time the next storm rolls around). You know the basics of riding out the storm, you either stay indoors, warm and safe, or go out and have a snowball fight. After all, snow is just cold water and water is necessary to

sustain life. You also know the basics of how to handle that period after the storm (plow, shovel, salt, etc.), at least if you are not a certain school in Rhode Island.

Yes, another storm comes and goes, and Providence College gets another chance to demonstrate what not to do after a nor'easter. The roads and walkways remain only partially cleared of snow the next day, and there is ice everywhere. Everywhere. The rest is left up to the sunshine. In all fairness, the campus is a fairly large space, but when major walkways are covered in ice of various colors, obviously a bit more of an effort should be made.

So how do we solve this issue?

Well, for starters, perhaps some better shoveling. PC probably hires some company to plow and shovel, and those workers clearly do an adequate job; however, while adequate is enough for some houses or an industrial complex, it just is not enough for a college campus. Perhaps instead of outsourcing the shoveling of walkways, the school could go around the dorms and ask if anyone would do the same job for \$10. I recall last year after a storm some residents of Mal Brown, unsatisfied by the shoveling job (read: lack of) in front of their building, took it upon themselves to clear the walkway. For free. Obviously, residents will be far more comprehensive in shoveling their

own walkways than some random worker who probably has several other jobs to do within the next 24 hours.

Worse than the snow, however, is the ice. There are patches of it everywhere. Whoever salts the walkways does so in a way that can only be described as slapdash. Some walkways are left almost entirely unsalted, while others could supply Ray and Alumni with enough salt to last a month. It really is not fun to have to be aware of patches of ice left by a storm five days ago. Worse still, some walkways substitute sand for salt. Now sand is obviously cheaper so it really is not any wonder that the school chooses to use it, and it does the job decently well. Really the biggest problem is that the sand is just not cleared away. Remember how much snow we had last year? Most of the sand is still on campus. Is it that hard to have it all cleared away just once during the summer?

Now, I honestly am not bothered too much by all the snow and ice. It is a byproduct of living in this part of the world, so you really need to learn to deal with it. It would just be nice if Providence College, that school with the \$60K-per-year price tag, could not look like it is run by people with the winter storm experience of a Floridian. We have a bunch of fairly able-bodied potential shovelers right on campus who would not be quick to turn down a little extra spending money, most of whom have plenty of winter experience, so why not put them to work?



Several people attempt to shovel snowy walkways in the aftermath of a storm.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NBCCONNETICUT.COM

Raymond Dining Hall Surpasses Alumni

Time, Money, and Quality Make For No Comparison



A burger and a side of fries are one of the few options offered by Take 3 at Alumni.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DATECHGUYBLOG.COM

by Daniel Barton '18
Opinion Staff

DINING

At Providence College, there seems to be a never-ending debate on which dining hall is better: Ray or Alumni. Some students believe the answer is obvious due to the fact that Alumni offers a much better and higher quality product than Ray. While the Alumni supporters always seem to be so attached to the fact that the food is downright better, their arguments always leave out a few common and inexcusable oversights.

First, the wait times for food are unbelievably long, even at non-peak hours. Sure, every Thursday at 12:20

p.m. there's a line out the door at Ray for chicken nuggets, but when it's not primetime, a full meal at Ray can be assembled in less than five minutes. Alumni, on the other hand, is the exact opposite.

Alumni and Ray have similar peak hours for both lunch and dinner time, when any observant patron will notice the inconveniently long lines at OBC or Slice of Life. The seasoned PC meal consumer sees the long lines at Alumni and immediately leaves because they know that even the simplest order of a chicken parmesan sandwich or double bacon cheeseburger with cheese fries and guacamole can take up to 15 minutes to produce with no line, almost double that with a queue

ahead.

The second, and perhaps the most important, reason is the lack of value in Alumni's meals. This doesn't just regard Take 3, which is without question the biggest scam this school has to offer; it has to do with the absurd price of all non-take 3 items on the various menus and how little nutrition the Friar community is getting for a \$6 steak and cheese sandwich. It's as if they expect students to drop over \$25 a week on an meal that's so average most probably wouldn't get it if it was the special in Ray.

The final point and easily the most absurd difference between the two dining facilities is the fact that there are no free refills at Alumni. It's not even

that most would want a free refill of their repulsive diet pink lemonade or lime (yes, simply "lime") Gatorade, but the fact that it is not even an option is an insult to all of the hungry young scholars. Nobody has the monetary assets to be paying an extra dollar every time they finish their drink, especially considering they have already overpaid for their cold slice of pepperoni pizza. Surviving on a college budget is clearly not on the food provider's radar.

Sure, they both have their pros and cons, but the fact is, from a pure value based standpoint, Raymond Hall is far superior to its lower Slavin counterpart.

Providence College's

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Don't Forget Those In Need This Winter Season

by Gabriella Nigro '16
Associate Editor-in-Chief

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Three weeks back, and the snow finally hits. Annoyed and hunched over, we shuffle to class under puffy jackets and hoods, counting down the



hours until we can run back to our blankets.

New England can have some pretty ridiculous weather, and with all of these "Snowpocalypse" and "Snowmageddon" references, our Winterfell climate can seem almost enticing. As a New Englander, I embrace our notorious winters, but I have noticed a darker undertone to our arctic weather patterns.

I frequently go back to my home, minutes away from Boston. Naturally, I visit the city as often as I can just to roam the busy streets.

Lately, some views have not been so pleasant. Last week, my brisk pace was cut unexpectedly as I walked past a shivering man taking up a small corner of the sidewalk. Remembering I only had my credit cards on me, I frowned slightly and my heels continued tapping along the Tremont Street cobblestones. Within seconds, a homeless woman shook her paper cup with several cents. I was overwhelmed

with guilt as soon as her glossy eyes penetrated mine. Would she believe me that I had no change to give? Frustrated, I continued walking. How many times do we say we wish we could help, but never follow up?

I was immediately annoyed with myself. For every time I complain, I never fully realize that there are bigger problems in the world. I kept frowning at the thought of how many homeless people endured the holiday season cold and alone. How many of these people would suffer this winter without dinner or a warm bed? I did not want to know the answer.

However, I did want to know the answer to the question of what I was going to do about this. In what form could I possibly help these people? Would donating in various paper cups suffice? Perhaps I am still working out the answer. Perhaps I am not alone in witnessing a problem with folded arms and a silent voice.

TANGENTS & TIRADES

Explaining DJ Khaled's Popularity

If you are a Snapchat user, you almost certainly know who DJ Khaled is. The 40-year-old hip-hop DJ from Miami has enjoyed considerable fame in recent months from his daily, if not hourly, posts on his Snapchat "My Story." Khaled, who has been a major recording artist since the early 2000s, is reaching an astonishing level of popularity. Why is this? Why are people drawn to his message? I submit that our culture appreciates DJ Khaled's sincerity, honesty, and unapologetic mediocrity.

Each day Khaled walks millions of fans through his usual routine, which involves exercise on an elliptical, breakfast made by his own personal cook, Chef Dee, a cruise around the Miami bay in his jet ski, and a night out at Club LIV. Along the way, Khaled has inspiring words for us. "Never give up, never surrender," he says. "They don't want you to eat," he reminds us after a tough workout. Then there are his more puzzling catch phrases, such as, "we the best," "another one," and "bless up."

Khaled's messages are simple, mindless, and at times, they neglect the rules of grammar. And yet, millions of fans have tuned in to listen to them. I believe that our culture appreciates a celebrity that does not try to elevate him or herself above their fans. Every day, Khaled shows that he is just like us: sweaty and tired at the gym, trying to eat healthy, and working on becoming a better person. Even as we see Khaled pop champagne bottles at expensive clubs in Miami, or drive his jet ski over to Rick Ross' mansion, we know that there is a real person behind his hip-hop persona.

- Matt Tinsley '16

Stop The Squirrels

When asked to describe PC's campus, many students and faculty members would most likely highlight some of the most striking and attractive parts of our school. Whether emphasizing the prominence of Harkins Hall, the architecture of the Ruane Center, or the stylish innovation of Slavin, the emblematic nature of these buildings within our campus is undeniable.

Recently, though, another (quite different) element of our campus has been increasing in both its presence within and impact on PC: the squirrel population. The increasing population of these furry rodents on campus has taken quite a toll on the atmosphere of PC.

While the expected squirrel-like behaviors of getting into trash and scurrying across campus have created a general nuisance, I believe the current state of squirrel overpopulation at PC has triggered in these creatures even more extreme forms of behavior.

Not only are PC squirrels fearless, as they have virtually no boundaries when coming near students or faculty, but they are also increasingly aggressive. I have witnessed squirrels crawling across walkways and stairs on campus, catching students off-guard, and terrifying others. Squirrels on campus are not afraid of humans and will do seemingly anything to claim whatever may be lying around for them on campus.

While PC has so many positive features composing our campus, we must also recognize and address those other features that may be detracting from the overall environment of the college, even if they are just squirrels.

- Sarah Kelley '18

Is Commuting Better Than On-Campus Living?

Commuting is not something that most Providence College students think about. At least, so I thought. Oddly enough, this semester is only a little over two weeks under way, and yet I have already met three commuters. Perhaps I just haven't come across commuters at PC before in my previous three semesters here and it is a complete coincidence, or perhaps more students have decided to commute. Another reason could be that, as I get older with each semester, I am surrounded by older students who begin to live off campus, granting them the ability to travel to and from their home. I found that a student commuter in my psychology class originally had mixed feelings about commuting and was worried about her social life, but now thinks it is the best decision she has made. Why is this so? When a student commutes, he or she has even more freedom to do as they wish. Yes, we all love traveling off campus to basketball games, the Providence Place Mall, WaterFire, and to get "real food" any place at anytime, as long as it's not at Ray. But let's face it, the RIPTA is a struggle, as are the cold school busses, especially when you have to turn into a gladiator after every PC basketball game in the hopes of getting a ride home on a shuttle. It's as if someone is giving away Friarbucks, free Starbucks anything, (or Dunkin' depending on personal preference) AND buffalo chicken pizzas are fresh out of the oven — but this isn't the case. All that is up for grabs is a seat — no, a standing spot — on the shuttle home. Now if you're a commuter, you have the luxury of driving, since you have your car nearby 24/7. If you had the opportunity to commute, would you take it for a test drive?

-McKenzie Tavella '18

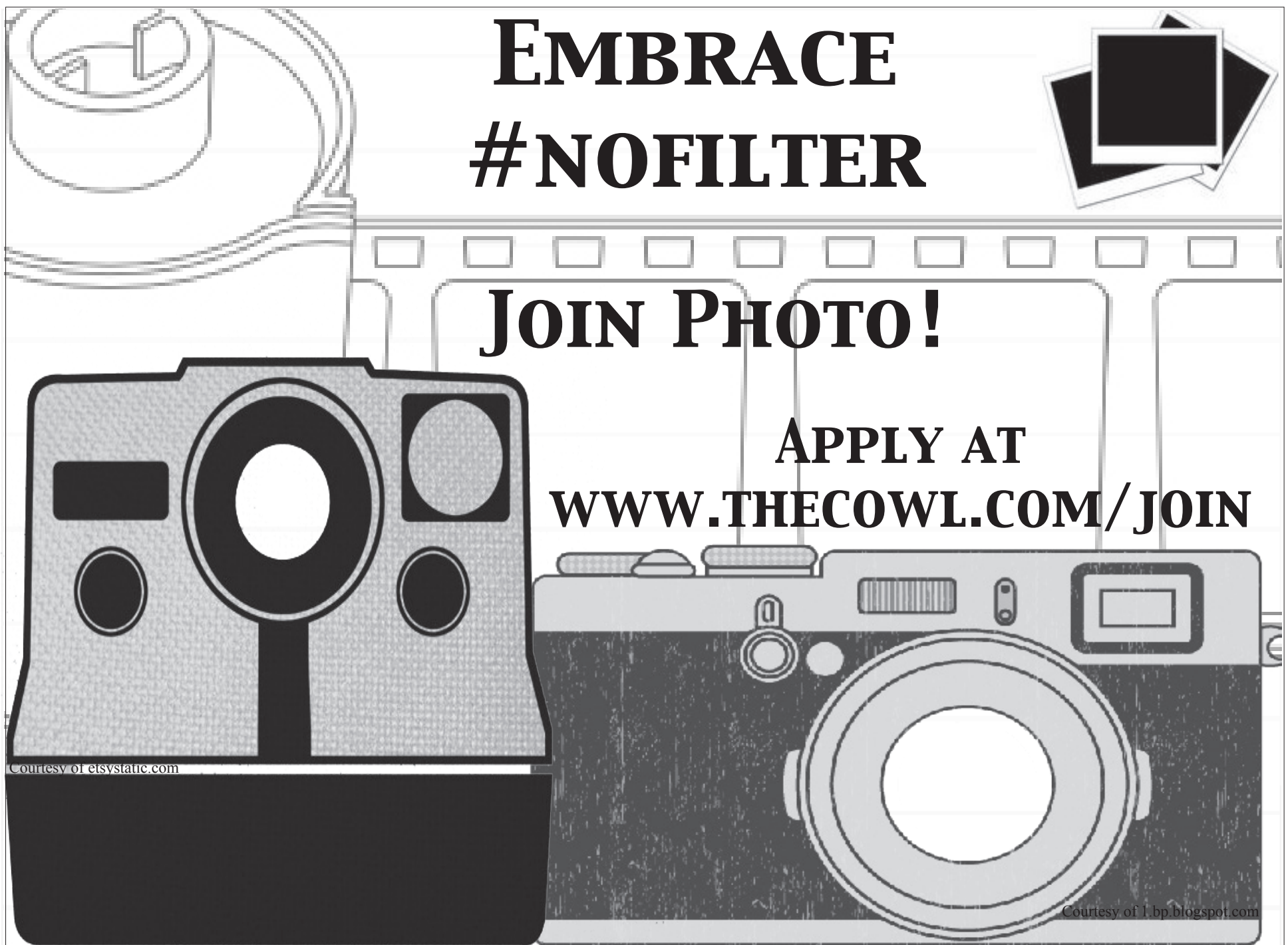


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**PLAYHOUSE
CREATURES**
By April De Angelis

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Hey, Friars! Did you know that one-eighth page ads are free for all on-campus clubs and organizations? Contact The Cowl's Managing Editor, James Seabright, at jseabrig@friars.providence.edu for more information!



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PHOTOGRAPHY

The Cowl 11
January 28, 2016



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL



KIMBERLY LEZAMA '18/ THE COWL



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL

ABOVE: In dedication to Martin Luther King, Jr. and his "I Have a Dream" speech, students and professors gather to discuss its impact and how it is still important today, sponsored by Cultural Education & Programming.

BELOW: Students gather to watch and cheer on their favorite teams during the AFC and NFC championship games.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Students learn how to "break the ice without falling in" at a networking workshop sponsored by the Career Education Center.

TOP LEFT: PC's Gospel Choir is joined by choirs from the community as they sing for a live performance, sponsored by Cultural Education & Programming.

TOP RIGHT: Campus Ministry sponsors an open house, welcoming students and inviting them to learn about involvement opportunities on campus.

BELOW: Students come and design their very own dream catchers at Things for Thursday, sponsored by Student Activities and Cultural Education & Programming.



KRISTINA HO '18/ THE COWL



ANDREW BUTLER '16/ THE COWL



KIMBERLY LEZAMA '18/ THE COWL



PROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

If you were president for a day, what would you do?



"Give student loan forgiveness to the entire country."

Kevin O'Neill '18



"National free pizza day."

Bethany Frank '18



"Try to give as much money as I can to all the schools."

Hannah Perkins '16



"Create a day where all cultures can be celebrated and to not build a wall."

Yucca Reinecke '18 and Jacob Konrad '18



"Take Air Force 1 to Area 51."

Michael Bartels '18, Jimmy Carrillo '17,
Sean Gard '16, Zach Acunzo '17, and Cisco Oller '16



"Take a vacation day on every continent."

Skyler Carlin '17 and Aylin Corapcioglu '16



"Make it Friday."

- Rebecca Black

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.NEWSFEED.TIME.COM



Playhouse: PC Actresses Shine in New Production

Continued from front page

Upon entering the Blackfriars Theatre, audiences were immediately struck by the creative set design that incorporates spectators in the events of the play. Instead of sitting in normal seats, audiences sit in custom stands built to emulate those in London's oldest theaters. During the show, cast members climb the stands for a few key scenes that engross viewers in the story. For the full experience, sitting in the front rows is definitely recommended. With such a small ensemble, each player is forced to be at the top of their game— and they do not disappoint. In particular, Diane LaMattina '18 is wonderful as Doll Common, who serves as a bridge between the audience and the action, often providing monologues and asides for both comedic effect and exposition. Emily Clark '19 and Amanda Piechota '19 also give solid performances as two of the King's Company's younger actresses. Pavao and Murphy give admirable lead performances, inhabiting the role of rising star and fading legend respectively.

Playhouse Creatures does not shy away from touchy subject matter, providing an interesting view of contemporary issues through the lens of Restoration England. Do not expect a stuffy tale of upper-crust aristocracy. This is a tale that is both relatable and prescient, often daring viewers to leave their image of English refinement at the door. One scene later in the play made the audience visibly squirm in their seats, but captivated them nonetheless. In order to solidify the connection between the past and present, punk music (such as Joan Jett's "Bad Reputation") is used between scenes and in key moments of the story. Depending on the viewer, this decision may prove fresh or troublesome. However, it never distracts or overstays its welcome.

Once again, Angell Blackfriars Theatre hosts a well-crafted and engaging production. Showings continue this weekend, running from Thursday, January 28 through Sunday, January 31. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.providence.edu/theatre, call 401-865-2218, or stop by the Smith Center Box Office.



From left to right: Katrina Pavao '16, Amanda Piechota '19, Emily Clark '19, and Veronica Murphy '17. PHOTO COURTESY OF GABI DESS '18

Spring Concert to Feature The Chainsmokers

by Kelly Laske '16
A&E Staff
CAMPUS

Last week, students were taken by surprise with the early release of the spring concert artist. Just moments after the news was released, Raymond Hall was buzzing with students asking each other if they had heard the news. The Board of Programmers revealed that the spring concert will feature DJ duo Drew Taggart and Alex Pall, better known as The Chainsmokers. Providence College will be hosting two of the most popular DJs of 2015, both of whom are benefitting from rising stardom in the music world.

Formed in 2012, The Chainsmokers are newcomers to the entertainment industry. Before they were big, Taggart and Pall would play sets at clubs and open shows for big-time DJs. As they continued to grow, the duo began to brainstorm ideas for their



The Chainsmokers performing during their "#Selfie" tour.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THISSONGLAPS.COM

own original tracks. Their first song, "#Selfie," was inspired by the girls who attended their shows. Taggart and Pall could not help but make fun of all the girls taking endless amounts of selfies at their small gigs, so they decided to write and create a funny song about it. "#Selfie" became

an instant hit, eventually reaching #16 on the U.S. Billboard chart.

As their song became increasingly popular, the duo began to book bigger venues. By 2014, Taggart and Pall were playing sets at world famous music festivals such as Tomorrowland and Ultra Miami.

Besides "#Selfie," The Chainsmokers' sets consisted mostly of their remixes of songs by other artists. As they started to form a fan base, they began to experiment with producing and releasing their own original content.

2015 was by far their most standout year, characterized by

appearances at more international music festivals and the release of their own songs such as "Let You Go" and "Roses." "Roses" has become a song played around the world and has reached #16 on the Billboard charts. In a recent interview with Billboard, Taggart said

that they are going to focus on releasing songs as often as they can instead of making a full album to keep fans happy and excited throughout the year. Taggart said fans can expect new singles to come out in almost every month of the next year.

If you are not a Chainsmokers fan but want to attend the concert, go to their free Soundcloud page and listen to some of their sets and original songs. Each week, The Chainsmokers post a podcast called "Nice Hair" where they will play new mixes and songs they like by other DJs while chatting about their current lifestyle and upcoming events.

The concert will be on Friday, April 22 at 8:30 p.m. in Peterson. BOP has yet to release when tickets will go on sale based on the number of people who have said they are going to attend via the Facebook event, the spring concert could potentially be a sellout!

New Music Spotlight: Saagar Ace

by Ryan Cox '18
A&E Staff

MUSIC

An up-and-coming pop artist is back on the music scene and he has some Friartown roots. Saagar Ace released his newest single, "Start Again," earlier this month. He started at Providence College in 2014 but left after his freshman year to pursue his music career.

Ace was fortunate to sign with Rocket Records this month, saying, "I got connected to [Rocket Records] through the president of the company's relative. After hearing me record, the record label signed me as one of their artists shortly after," Ace said in an interview. Rocket Records is an affiliate of Cheiron Studios, which worked with The Backstreet Boys, Celine Dion, and Britney Spears in the '90s and 2000s. Ace has been singing since he was little and was inspired by his middle school music teacher to pursue music as a career.

The title of Ace's new single is fitting since it marks his return to the music industry and a shift in style from his 2013 self-titled EP. "I decided to change the style of my newer music because as I get older, I feel that my music should mature with me," Ace said. He hopes this mature sound will continue to resonate with listeners. On choosing "Start Again" as his first single in this chapter of his career, Ace thought it was fitting to release this song first, although he has been working on other music as well. He also released it in January in order to coincide with the New Year as an anthem for people's resolutions in 2016.



Former Providence College student and new musician, Saagar Ace.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAAGARACE.COM

The song has a catchy hook and an infectious beat; combine this with a positive message, and "Start Again" could easily become a hit if it gets marketed well enough. The lyrics are catchy and there are several lines that make for motivational quotes, including, "They say don't quit your day job, I say don't quit your daydream." The song features a live horn section that enhances its brightness and the groove that serves as the foundation for the song is upbeat and fun. In the mixing of the final product, the levels of the choral section before the final chorus seem off-

balance, as if there is too much focus on the higher voices, making Ace's voice seem a little distant. However, this is minor and is easily overshadowed by the cleanness of the rest of the song. Overall, "Start Again" is a refreshing contrast to the music on the Top 40 charts both in content and style.

As for Ace's future, he is continuing to work on new music and broaden his audience. "I am also currently putting together a stage show so I can have my music connect with as many people as possible. There is a lot of stuff in the works and I cannot wait to share it with

everyone," Ace said. Before moving to Florida to work more closely with his producer, he performed frequently at Infinity Music Hall in Connecticut as well as Smash Studios in New York City. He is off to a promising fresh start that suggests more music along the same lines as "Start Again." To keep up-to-date on upcoming music releases and concerts, check out www.SaagarAce.com, or find him on all social media platforms under the username @SaagarAce.

Explore Providence: The Flatbread Company

by Isabella Goldstein '17
A&E Staff

LOCAL

Nestled behind Thayer Street lies The Flatbread Company, a rustic establishment that serves wood-fired pizzas made with the freshest organic ingredients and free-range meats.

Arriving around 8 p.m. on a Sunday night, our party of four was seated immediately. The space, which included both a bar and traditional seating, was large and open, and the environment certainly emitted hipster-esque vibes. The service was friendly, helpful, and efficient.

The menu included a selection of salads, flatbreads, and desserts. Some notable mentions include a salad with mesclun and sweet leaf lettuces tossed with celery, carrots, toasted sesame seeds, Maine sea kelp, either aged blue cheese or artisan goat cheese and homemade ginger-tamari vinaigrette. Other mouth-watering dishes include Mopsy's Kalua Pork Pie flatbread, which consists of either pork shoulder or oven-roasted chicken with homemade chipotle BBQ sauce, red onions, pineapple, goat cheese, mozzarella, and parmesan cheese; and Matt's Maine Root Beer Float with vanilla ice cream.

After debating over the list of white, red, or customizable flatbreads, our party decided on Jimmy's Free-Range Chicken, which consisted of black beans, cilantro, tomatoes, roasted corn, mozzarella, parmesan cheese, a sour cream lime drizzle, and jalapeño peppers; Jay's Heart, Flatbread's version of a classic cheese pizza; and the Homemade Sausage, which included sundried tomatoes, caramelized onions, mushrooms, mozzarella, and parmesan cheese. All three were absolutely delicious and we regrettably had no leftovers to take home! We then topped off our meal with a brownie sundae, baked in a wood-



A look inside The Flatbread Company, located at 161 Cushing Street.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WANDERLUSTINTHECITY.COM

fired oven and served with vanilla ice cream, homemade chocolate sauce, and maple-syrup whipped cream—equally as tasty!

Overall, prices are fairly reasonable, with salad costing around \$7, small flatbreads between \$10 and \$12 dollars, large flatbreads ranging from \$14 to \$19 dollars, and desserts around \$6 dollars. Additionally, the service was exceptional!

If you are looking for a great, neighborhood restaurant that serves good quality pizza, you should certainly head on over to Flatbread Company and deviate from your regular Big Tony's or Golden Crust order to give this College Hill establishment a try.

A *Friends* Reunion...Sorta

by Olivia Walsh '19
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

Good news for *Friends* fans everywhere: on Feb. 21, five of the *Friends* characters will reunite in a two hour episode airing on NBC. After the media went back and forth about whether or not the reunion was actually taking place, TV Line has confirmed that there will indeed be an episode in which all but one character from the hit sitcom will be present. What is important to note is that this is not actually a *Friends* reunion, but a television special that will honor producer James Burrows. Characters from other shows such as *Cheers* and *Taxi* will also be present.

The *Friends* special follows Netflix's January 1, 2015 release of all 236 episodes of the series. There are no words to describe the emotions avid *Friends* fans experience while binge-watching every single episode over and over. We laugh, we cry, and we argue about what "a break" means. Watching *Friends* really makes you feel like you are a part of the gang; you begin to characterize everyone you know as one of the characters (I, for example, am definitely a Chandler).

This news brings on a whole new plethora of emotions. First off, Matthew Perry will not be present; the lack of Chandler Bing, the most universally loved character, is definitely going to cause some mourning, but at least we will have Joey. Also, the news that this "Friends Reunion" is not actually a reunion of all the beloved characters and their ever-complicated lives has



The cast of the hit '90s sitcom, *Friends*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO.CO.UK

been somewhat disappointing for fans.

Hollywood media has led viewers on with this one—for almost a full year tabloids have been stating that a *Friends* reunion will be happening, when that is not quite the case. Still, seeing most of the characters together once again will be exciting and memorable.

After bingeing every episode in a matter of weeks, one may wonder how all of the drama, the tears, and the laughs could be over. There are so many more questions to be answered; what happens in the next phase of the friends' lives is the question all fans, who feel as if they have been left hanging, have been asking since watching the finale for the hundredth time. For the past 12 years, fans have been dying for the gang to get back together;

as Rachel might say, we just want some closure.

Over the past few years the '90s have definitely made a comeback, and what better way to rekindle that beloved time period of cropped sweaters and scrunchies than bringing back the most influential TV show of the time? Matthew Perry recently stated in an interview that he has hopes that a real reunion will take place in the not-so-distant future, which gives fans a glimpse of hope. Despite this special being invaded by characters of other sitcoms, not being available to stream it off Netflix, and the fact that it is a special designed to honor the producer, it will be nice to see the faces of the most beloved friend group on TV.

One Direction's Newest Member

by Luiza Alves '19
A&E Staff

CELEBRITY

The first baby of the One Direction clan has been born and he is "perfect." One Direction's Louis Tomlinson became a dad to a baby boy, whose name has not yet been revealed, on Friday, January 22 in Los Angeles. The mother, Briana Jungwirth, is a Los Angeles-based stylist who had been first introduced to Tomlinson through mutual friends. They were first seen together in public at Snoop Dogg's album release party in May. Tomlinson and Jungwirth were briefly romantically involved back in May 2015 following Tomlinson's split with long time girlfriend Eleanor Calder, whom he had been dating for three years before parting ways in March 2015.

Tomlinson talked about the pregnancy on *Good Morning America* in

July when it was first confirmed that the two were expecting a baby together. He stated, "Obviously it's a very exciting time, so I'm buzzing." News of the new baby boy's arrival had spread early Friday morning when Tomlinson's former stepfather, Mark Tomlinson, took to Twitter and wrote: "Is that the patter of tiny feet?" Louis was seen soon after in Los Angeles wearing a hospital band while shopping. The "Perfect" singer confirmed the news early Saturday morning on Twitter, stating, "I'm pleased to say my baby son was born yesterday. He is healthy and pretty amazing. I'm very happy." Jungwirth has not commented on social media about her son's arrival; she must have her hands full.

The status of Jungwirth and Tomlinson's current relationship remains unknown although Tomlinson has been linked to reported girlfriend Danielle Campbell. The two have not confirmed a relationship yet, though the singer has been seen with *The Originals* actress within the past few weeks. They were photographed together in Los Angeles grocery shopping, and most recently in London during Christmas and New Year's Eve. Nevertheless, the British singer is reportedly excited about becoming a father and plans to be a very "hands-on" dad. In an interview with Magic Radio back in August, Tomlinson's One Direction bandmate Liam Payne stated that Tomlinson was "taking it very seriously," also adding that Jungwirth is a "lovely girl."

The group announced their plans to take a yearlong hiatus this past summer and bid a temporary farewell to their fans on the finale of *The X Factor* (U.K.), where they first started. Now that One Direction is on hiatus, Tomlinson will be sure to have some extra time on his hands to spend with his newborn son.



One Direction band member, Louis Tomlinson.
PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMBIO.COM

Spring Trends 2016

by Kealy Robertson '16
A&E Staff

CELEBRITY

Runway shows are something every fashionista looks forward to. Not only are designers able to express their creativity, but their collections also set the tone for the up-and-coming season. As models strutted down the runway wearing various numbers, the trends for Spring 2016 started to take form.

The looks of the '70s are back! You do not even have to look to the runway to realize how hot '70s inspired suede is right now. Designers such as Rebecca Minkoff, Jonathan Saunders, Alberta Ferretti, and Oliver Rousteing all had suede pieces in their collections for Spring 2016. Whether it was a suede skirt, dress, or jacket, it was evident from the shows that the fabric would be a staple in many closets this spring.

Styles did not stop there. Emilia Wickstead, J.W. Anderson, and Erdem all dressed their models in Victorian style garb. Ruffles, high necklines, puffy sleeves, and floral prints are all the rage.

Last year, designers were hung up on an x-factor neckline. For Spring 2016, designers added to this style, creating dresses, shirts, and pantsuits that had an off the shoulder halter-top. Givenchy, Jason Wu, and Derek Lam all had looks that accentuated the shoulder, so if your shoulders are your favorite feature, the noteworthy look will be all over stores come spring.

Oxford shirts have always been a must have in many people's closets. This spring, however, the classic oxford got a makeover. Designers made them bigger statement pieces on the runway. To add to the Oxford look, designers paired them with flat mule shoes. The comfortable, open back shoe is still trending, and designers like Alexander Wang and Victoria Beckham are not willing to let the look go just yet.

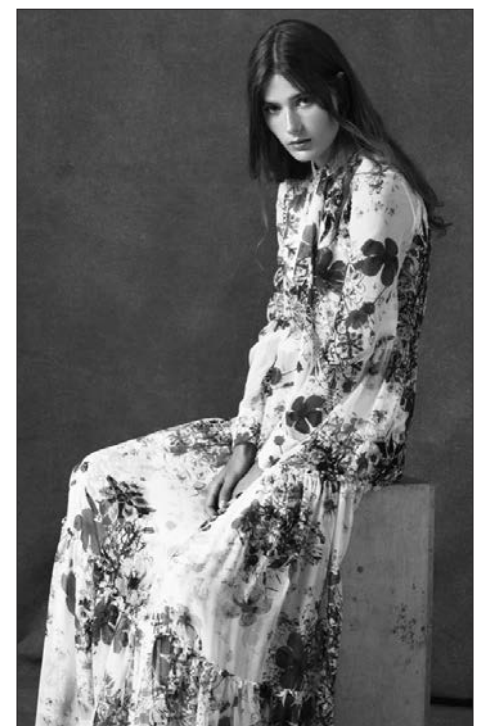
Michael Kors, Diane von Furstenberg, and Proenza Schouler incorporated hints of Spanish flavor in their spring

collections for 2016. Vibrant reds flounced across each of their runways in the form of flowing dresses, blouses, and skirts—pieces that all made a bold statement.

Say goodbye to the defined pleats designers loved in the fall. Tiny, tighter pleats stole the show on the runways. Tome, Altuzarra, and Schouler's collections all had a range of pieces with small pleats.

Next down the runway came netted clothing. Dresses, shirts, even skirts in Wang, Schouler, and Marchesa's collections all used the netted fabric. Netted clothing can provide a statement piece and these designers went above and beyond in making articles of clothing that will stand out this spring.

Finally, Beckham and Kors introduced the hottest accessory. Half-moon bags, a new shape that is taking the world of fashion by storm, will steal the show this spring. Forget bucket bags, which designers are quickly replacing with this trending design.



A look at Erdem's Spring 2016 collection.
PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

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The Harlot

by Branan Durbin '16
Portfolio Editor

POETRY

Objectio

Shadows cast on my round face
by this stark, imposing tower
were welcome kisses of respite
from searing sunbeams—
light was too much for my eyes.
Seeing any Sun was unusual, anyway,
during the task at hand.
Darkness closed my eyes
and led me within the dour prison,
embers of anger and jealousy
smoldering beneath my lids.

Young nobles guided my right hand,
while with my left I clutched my skirt.
Each cold stone step up jolted my mind:
Who was this man, whose brothers
plotted to thwart his holy plans?
Who was this man, secluded,
steadfast, choosing his own fate?
Destiny has its way
of tearing apart life's drafts—
the shreds of mine had fallen before,
departing on the unforgiving breeze—
why should his not as well?

I breathed in deep before his door.
This job never eased,
no matter how many times
I might fall.
My heart beat faster, pulling
backward—was this necessary?
Yes, a voice seethed inside me.
Payment to survive.
Living a lost life.
Theft of another's dream—
why should anyone pretend
they are higher than the rest of us?
Rage and red bitterness goaded me on:
I sauntered in, my hatred
of his purity, possibilities, future
fueling the fire necessary to create.

Contra

I'd like to think it wasn't me—
just what this world forced me to be.
Yet while I fell, I can't help but see
some dark force worked supernaturally.

Respondeo

After that is a blur.
The burning fire he brandished;
running feet below my crying eyes
fleeing the fearsome tower prison.
Thoughts flew through my mind
yet faster than I ran,
confusing, frustrating, throwing me
into some strange sick despair.
Who was I, who had fallen so far
to tempt an innocent, unwilling man?
Who was I, enveloped, overtaken,
succumbing to vindictive envy?
And again, again, most of all,
Who was this man, strong and persistent,
large and direct, a man of God?
Who fell to his knees, praising his Savior
when, stumbling, I fled his room?
Soon running farther than legs could carry,
I collapsed before a crystal brook;
the face in it was not my own.
My tears, however, joined its current.

Ad

The light reflected in that brook
as I laid in a heap, dejected,
felt soft as it danced on my face.
Looking up at the sun, I no longer hurt,
but felt warm...embraced.
The fire he wielded, and the fire of his soul
were inspiring—
Taking in the brilliant sun
reflected in the glistening water,
I couldn't help but see in those bits of light—
brighter for the tears they shone through—
new hope and no need for darkness.

*The above poem is an imaginative retelling of a story from the
life of St. Thomas Aquinas, whose feast is celebrated today.*



Medieval Prayer

by Marisa Gonzalez '18
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Here I plead, please take heed
How the sky cries yet the ground stays dry.
Up from the nest nothing but death
Comes upon our land, where does thy stand?
With us with our voices hushed
Or up in the air with those who are spared?
Give us a sign, show us the wine
So we may celebrate a world without hate.
Centuries ago that was thy home
Why can we not grasp it? Are we not fit
For such a world where riches are unfurled?
Hear us plead, please take heed
Of a garden that shall die though the sky may cry.

PHOTO COURTESY OF [HTTP://UPLOAD.WIKIMEDIA.ORG](http://upload.wikimedia.org)

The Tale of Sir Frederick the Ineffective

by David Martineau '18
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

Once there was a knight named Sir Frederick, who was not a very good knight at all. He had become a knight years ago, after he played an important part in a battle between his kingdom and another kingdom, though his part in that fight came merely by accident. After his knighting, he had told everyone who would listen that he had bravely stayed behind when the army sounded a retreat, manning an abandoned catapult and taking out the enemy's soldiers 50 at a time. The truth, however, was that he had been running away from the fight when he suddenly tripped on a root in the ground and fell onto the lever of the catapult. It just so happened to launch a boulder in the midst of the enemy's commanding officers. But that story is not very important.

Now, when I say that Sir Frederick wasn't a very good knight, I don't mean to say that he was a cruel person. The truth was, he was not at all good at the *other* things a knight was supposed to do. Oftentimes, when he mounted his horse, he would pull himself up too hard and fall right over the saddle and onto the ground. He was very cumbersome in his armor, and he never quite learned to swing his sword right. Those things aside, he was also

rather bumbling, and very rarely solved a problem by his own wit. All of these things led to him being given his nickname, which is in the title of this story, so I don't have to repeat it to you again.

One day, Sir Frederick was riding through the kingdom when he was approached by a peasant boy from a nearby town who said that a dragon was attacking his family's farm and eating all of their sheep. He begged Sir Frederick to help them by slaying the fearsome beast.

"Oh dear," Sir Frederick said to himself, "this is not how I intended this day to go." He did not like to go on quests where he was required to fight dangerous creatures. He much preferred the kind of quest where knights went out in search of treasure hoards or magic rings. After all, he often thought to himself, what harm could be done to you by a magic ring?

Looking around, Sir Frederick saw that there were no other knights nearby to help the village in his stead. He was very frightened, but he agreed to help the boy and his family. Riding to the farm with the boy seated in front of him, Sir Frederick saw a cloud of smoke in the distance and began to tremble in his armor. He was quite certain that soon he would be cooked to a crisp by dragon-fire. Then, instead of "Sir Frederick the Ineffective," the other knights would call him "Sir Frederick the Dead."

Soon they came upon the farm.

The barn had been burnt nearly to the ground, and the stables and corrals were leveled as if by a huge gust of wind. Coiled atop the farmhouse was a large green dragon, gnawing hungrily on a sheep. The boy's parents—whom the dragon had apparently thought too helpless to kill—were huddled inside the house, afraid for their lives.

Sir Frederick, letting the boy down a distance away, rode up to the house and drew his sword. The dragon, spotting him, looked him over quickly and then went back to his meal.

"Hey!" Sir Frederick waved his sword. "Hey, dragon! Go away!"

The dragon looked at Sir Frederick and snorted, shooting two jets of flame from its nostrils. Sir Frederick's horse, frightened, reared on its hind legs, dumping the poor knight on the ground before it ran away. Sir Frederick rose shakily and turned back to the dragon, who said, "You are a very poor knight, to fall off of your horse. Perhaps I will not eat you after all."

Trying to sound more confident than he felt, Sir Frederick said, "Yes, you will not eat me, because I am going to slay you!"

The dragon laughed. "How will a little knight like you slay a fearsome beast like me?"

Sir Frederick paused, looking at his sword. "Well, with this, I think," he said. "I'm not really sure, to be honest..."

The dragon grinned. "Very well," it said, opening its mouth and breathing flames at the knight. Sir Frederick

screamed and ran away from the fire, running as far away from the dragon as he could. The beast's fire followed him, burning a path in the grass behind him as he fled. Chasing him over the hills, the dragon followed Sir Frederick back and forth until finally they reached a high cliff where there was a massive waterfall. Sir Frederick ran toward it, thinking that the water might put him out when the dragon-fire finally caught up to him, but as he reached the cliff he tripped over a rock and fell over the edge. Luckily, he managed to grab the side before he fell into the river far below.

The dragon reached the cliff and towered over him, ready to burn him off the side. But the edge of the cliff was made of loose soil, and the dragon's weight caused it to crumble. This was where Sir Frederick was most fortunate, for the dragon happened to be of the wingless variety, so when the cliff fell, the beast fell with it, plummeting into the river below!

Thus, Sir Frederick the Ineffective did what most thought he never could—defeat a live dragon. He had managed to hang onto the cliff when the dragon fell, though he had a hard time climbing up again. Nevertheless, fortune was on his side, and yet another adventure had passed without resulting in his death. Perhaps someday he will be known as Sir Frederick the Effective, if only he could mount his horse correctly.

The Adventures of Neal the Elf

by Konner Jebb '16
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

In the kingdom of Providence within the castle Ruane sat a young maiden, Chloe. She acquired a comfy sitting place by the fire, reaching into her knapsack to begin her journey into Aquinas. Yet hark! Alas! The bound work that contained her studies could not be found within! Maiden Chloe must have forgotten it within her dormitory! She thought of weeping at the thought of the Civ lecture that would be upon her in an hour, like some sort of accursed spell.

However, she remembered the mystical glowing device within her trouser's pocket and dialed for assistance. The magic item cried out its summoning song, "riiiiiinnnnng, riiiiinnnnng" and a voice called out to her in response, "...Hello?"

'Twas her elf friend, Neal, of the Guzman forest! Chloe proposed a quest upon her young friend, to retrieve Aquinas' teachings from the tower McVinney. It was sure to be a perilous task, explained Chloe, but they could waste no time! So Neal the

Elf leapt from his bed at this early hour of 1:23 p.m. and hurriedly donned his clothes, placing the cap of his people, the Bruins, atop his head. Armed with a Dunkin' iced coffee in one fist and his own knapsack in his other, he rode out into the 30 degree sunlit wasteland to begin his quest.

Except, he remembered he could not ride out, but merely walk. For Neal the Elf was only a freshman level elf and had not earned enough Friar Bucks that would allow him to level up to a junior, whom could be equipped with metal steeds. So he walked uphill, a throbbing pain against his temple, a severe reminder of the previous night's celebratory feast. What a grievous mistake the small elf had made! But he pushed beyond the pain, gaining strength from his liquid caffeine. He must help his friend! Mostly, it was because he was a good lad and liked his friend very much. Also, because he may level up upon completing this quest. He liked the idea of a metal steed more. The rules of this realm are very silly. I do not make them, I am just a lowly narrator. (Chaucer was unavailable for the gig.)

Upon climbing the treacherous Guzman Hill he came upon a strange

looking trash can. The trash can was unique, for it was deceiving Neal! Out of its depths a Providence squirrel bounded, attacking the young Neal's face.

"Who dares pass by my smelly abode?!" squeaked the fat and menacing creature, perching himself atop his trashy home. "To get by, you must yield a portion of a Ray dish as an offering or suffer the traumatic consequences!"

"But I have no Ray items!" admitted Neal. Many elves were nocturnal beings, and thus did not frequent the Ray marketplace anytime before 3 p.m.!

"Then we shall fight!" the tiny beast chattered, bearing its bucked teeth.

The elf, looking for his weapon, realized his iced coffee had fallen during the squirrel's initial attack, and thus had no strength left to combat with. The squirrel proceeded to throw acorns at him until the boy was on his merry way.

Neal ran through the kingdom, past the Ray marketplace and the tombs of Moore until he reached the tallest tower in the land. It was a pretty bland journey elsewhere. Until, the lifts of McVinney were discovered to be

broken, thus Neal climbed 10 flights to retrieve the forgotten book. He nearly fainted from fatigue, cursing himself for not partaking in more athletic activities within the Slavin gym to progress his fitness. Neal reached the peak of the tower, finding the sought after Aquinas knowledge perched upon a podium beneath a glimmering light that shone from a nearby window pane. It was in such an easily located place that Neal began to wonder if this was purposeful. He didn't think much of this, however, like how many quest seekers don't. It's more about completing it despite its possible lack of logic, anyways.

His quest was completed and the brave—late for seminar, but brave—Neal made haste to Maiden Chloe's chair by the fire. He knelt before her, presenting the found Aquinas work, and she smiled. Hurrah! Chivalry was not dead! Chloe thanked the brave elf for his efforts and as a reward presented him with...a cold slice of pizza from a recent on-kingdom event! The young Maiden ran off. Neal was happy yet slightly displeased. His steed would wait.

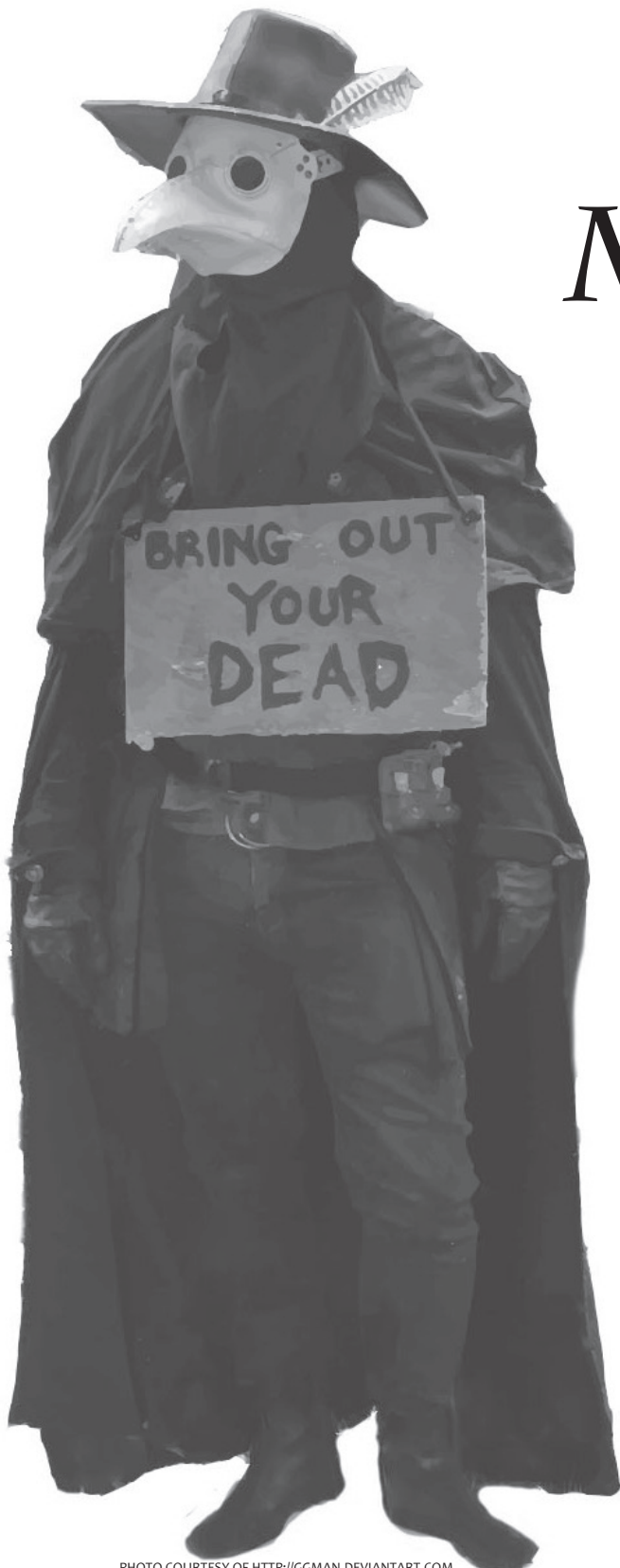


PHOTO COURTESY OF [HTTP://GGMAN.DEVIANTART.COM](http://ggman.deviantart.com)

DATING MIDDLE-AGED MEN

by Joey Aiello '17
Portfolio Staff

DIALOGUE

Beatrice: Are you still speaking with Geoffrey?

Agnes: I would have been, but he's dead now.

Beatrice: Oh no, what happened?

Agnes: The plague.

Beatrice: Oh, right, well what of your other suitors?

Agnes: Well, my options have much dwindled. I'd say about one third or so of my suitors were taken by the plague.

Beatrice: What about John?

Agnes: He's not with us anymore either.

Beatrice: What happened to John?

Agnes: He was 35.

Beatrice: Ah, so he died of old age.

Agnes: Mhmm, he was really getting up there.

Beatrice: Well surely you must still be considering that handsome Adam.

Agnes: Adam's also dead.

Beatrice: What! He was so young!

Agnes: His sister caught a cold.

Beatrice: So?

Agnes: His entire family is now dead.

Beatrice: Well, which of your suitors are still alive?

Agnes: Richard and Patrick.

Beatrice: What about Richard? He was a nice young lad.

Agnes: Yes, except I'd have to move into the forest.

Beatrice: How come?

Agnes: He's moved to the forest to live in seclusion on account of his worsening leprosy.

Beatrice: Good lord! And what of Patrick? Is he dead or deformed as well?

Agnes: No! He's my most likely suitor!

Beatrice: Oh good, I'd like to meet this Patrick!

Agnes: He's actually riding into town today and he plans to stop by!

Beatrice: Lovely!



George: Hello, ladies. Agnes, a bit of sad news, dear.

Agnes: What is it, father?!

George: It appears that Patrick was confronted by a gang of bandits on his way into town and they murdered him for his horse.

Listomania

Things That Would Have Made
Life Easier in the Middle Ages

Penicillin

Hoverboards

Toothpaste

Pumpkin Spice Lattes

Clean Drinking Water

Paper

Underpants

Lysol Disinfectant Spray

Neopets

Hit Clips

MySpace

Star Wars

Kanye West

Heeleys

Tiffany & Earl

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

Dearest Earl Earl & Lady Tiffany,

How dost thou make this St. Thomas Aquinas fellow less boring? More importantly, why ist he the only gent we are reading about? I cannot seem to understand the point that he ist trying to arrive towards. Perhaps the text ist rather lengthy, or perhaps his handling of the English language is too flowery for my interests, but the anticipation surrounding this gentle perplexes me. What dost thou suggest?

Yours,
In Need of Mead

Dear Prepared to be smashed,

You answered your own question, mead. If mead is unavailable any mildly hallucinogenic substance may make St. Thomas Aquinas slightly more...colorful.

Or you can be academic and take the Aquinas route... BURN ALL THE STRAW. Seriously the dude one day was like, "YOLO my works be straw man. I'm gonna burn them." And he did. Then one of his most disrespectful students was like, "Naw I want future PC kids to suffer, so I am gonna save them!"

I took the mead route, then the Aquinas route. This way I can truly say I don't ever remember taking the Aquinas route.

St. Tiffany



Tiffany

Dear Mead Head,

The wisdom of Aquinas hast clearly been lost on plebs such as thou. He is all thou must read because he hast said all that must be said. I suggest thou read a tome that is not about which Lady wore her garment better at the last joust (it certainly wasn't Tiffany, thou could easily gather). Educate thineself in the matters that truly concern our world before thou attempt to comprehend such masterpieces of education.

Earl, the Earl of Earlquinas



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.

After Dawn

by Ariana Pasquantonio '16
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

The willow sways to soft-blown winds and bends
its heavy boughs to sweep the lake's still face.
Beneath its shade, we lie like stretched-out housecats,
our bellies full of berries round and ripe.
There is no life sweeter than this, you say,
and I can only see the swimming clouds
and nod. It's true, it's here where nightfall can
never threaten, here, where life can swell and burst,
the purple lilacs spilling up the rocks,
the light, green-gold, from your eyes to mine.

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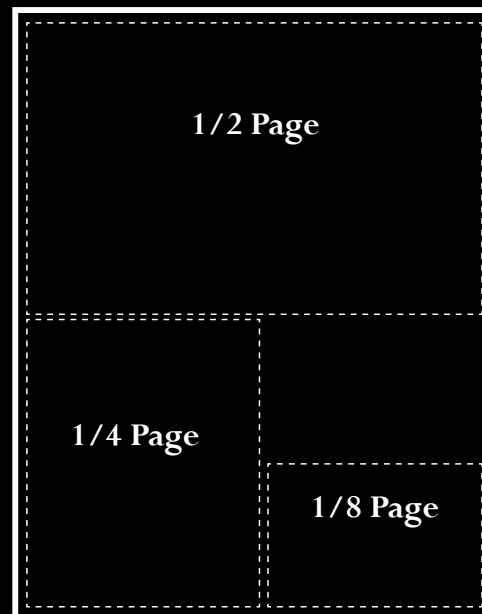
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SPORTS

Editor's Corner: A Packed Dunk

by DJ Anderson '16
Sports Editor

COLUMN

On Jan. 26, the first Top 10 matchup in the history of the Dunkin' Donuts Center occurred. Considering the strength of the Big East Conference throughout history, it seems ridiculous to say that a home stadium of one of the conferences lasting members has never seen this type of matchup. However, when the Providence College Men's Basketball Team hosted the Xavier Musketeers this past Tuesday, this was in fact the first time that the stadium has ever had two top ten teams face off.

The city of Providence certainly did not take this matchup for granted, as both students, alumni, and other fans showed up in waves to create an electric environment in the heart of downtown Providence. This environment was evident from the opening tip-off, with students and fans alike screaming every time that their Friars scored a basket or made a defensive stop. In fact, in my four years of attending the college, I had never seen the stadium cheer as loudly as it did last night. Before last night, my fondest memory of an environment that loud came a few years back, when the Friars hosted the Notre Dame Fighting Irish prior to their move to the Atlantic Coast Conference.

The game back in February 2013 resulted in a 71-54 victory over the then No. 21 ranked Fighting Irish. After that game, I truly never believed that I would see the Dunkin' Donuts Center get that loud again. After all, it was family weekend and the arena was nearly sold out as a result. However, last night proved me wrong, as nearly every single corner of the arena was packed in with Friar Fans.

Ultimately, this type of fan showing is a testament to the strength of the new Big East. Unlike several other major conferences, it seems that Providence is taking on a nationally ranked opponent nearly every night that they take the floor. Furthermore, if the opponent is not nationally ranked, they have a strong record both in and out of the conference.

The weekly struggle facing Ed Cooley and the Friars was shown on Tuesday night, as a talent-laden Xavier team proved to be a very tough matchup for an inaccurate Providence team. In fact, the Friars shot just over 20 percent from the three point line against the Musketeers. Although Kris Dunn '17RS and the rest of the team were able to mount several near comebacks against the

No. 7 team in the country, their dismal three point percentage proved too much to overcome.

Other than their struggles from three point land, the Friars also had a very tough time with the size of the Musketeers, mainly because of James Farr and Jalen Reynolds, two of the big bruisers down low for Xavier. Reynolds finished the game with 15 points and 11 rebounds, and Farr chipped in 11 points and 8 rebounds of his own.

On the Providence side, Dunn had his usual solid showing, contributing 16 points, seven assists and eight rebounds. Also, Ben Bentil '18 continued his insane play throughout the Big East schedule, scoring 25 points and grabbing six rebounds. Nevertheless, these solid games were not enough on Tuesday, as the team finished with only 68 total points.

Going forward, the Friars will need continued strong showings from the fan base. The team will still have to host Villanova and Georgetown, two teams that have proven to be very difficult for Ed Cooley's teams over the years. Despite the result of last night's game, an active fan base can go a long way towards helping Providence succeed down the stretch.

DENVER BRONCOS

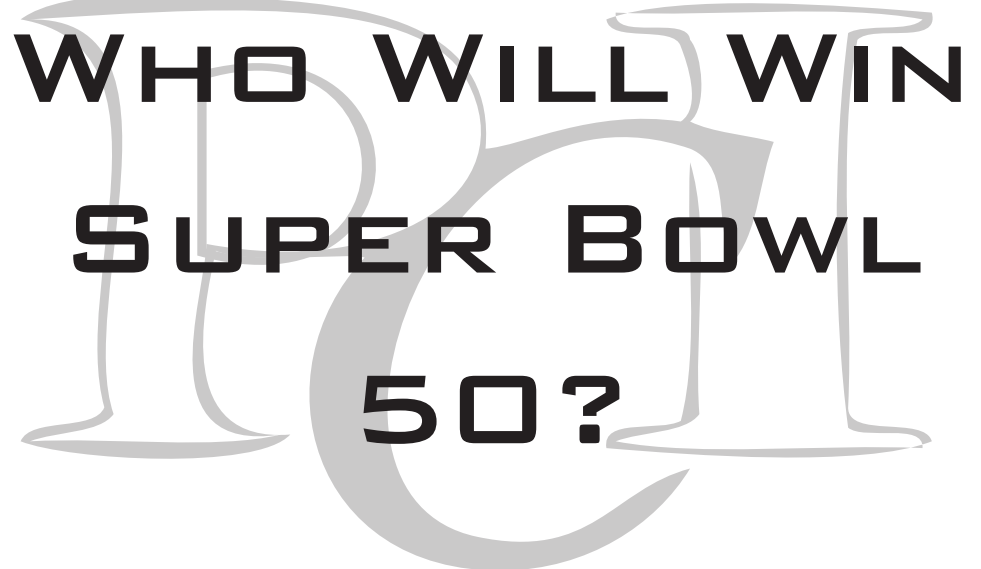
Nobody expected the Denver Broncos to get to this spot. After a year filled with uncertainty at the quarterback position, the Broncos were all but destined to fall victim to Tom Brady and the Patriots once more. However, last Sunday the Broncos revealed the formula by which they could lift the Lombardi Trophy: great defense, winning the field position battle, and just enough offense to get by.

Yes, Peyton Manning is not the same quarterback that he was 10 years ago. He is not even the same quarterback he was just two years ago, when he broke record after record en route to an AFC Championship. However, Manning's mind has not deteriorated like his body has; after returning from his injury this season, he has recognized his limits and has yet to throw an interception in his two playoff starts. If he keeps mistakes to a minimum, and picks his spots right, the Broncos may just score enough to win.

As bad as their offense has been at times this year, the Broncos' defense has been stellar. Led by a menacing pass rush from Von Miller, DeMarcus Ware, Malik Jackson, and Derek Wolfe, the Broncos can get after any quarterback in the league, including the slippery and strong Cam Newton. Their secondary is almost unfairly good; Aqib Talib, Bradley Roby, and Chris Harris Jr. can nullify the Panthers' surprisingly effective receiving corps if they bring their A-game. Last week, the Broncos created pressure by bringing just three and four passers, and taking away Tom Brady's easy, underneath passing options. If they can do the same in two weeks, they will secure the trophy.

The Broncos will not be able to score with the Panthers; however, if they can hold Newton at bay, possess the ball for long stretches of time, and reach even 20 points, they will hoist the Super Bowl trophy on Feb. 7.

-Joey Ciccarello '16



CAROLINA PANTHERS

The NFL has only one question left this season: who will win the Super Bowl, the Panthers or the Broncos? After watching the AFC and NFC Championship games last week, the answer should be clear. The Carolina Panthers will be lifting the Lombardi Trophy in Santa Clara after all is said and done.

The X-factor for the Panthers, as it has been all year, will be Cam Newton. Cam Newton will be the reason why the Panthers win because he can completely neutralize an opposing defense. The Arizona Cardinals had arguably the best defense in the NFL this year. Newton came out and silenced that argument, putting up two passing TDs and two rushing TDs. After the AFC Championship some will say Denver's defense is too good to lose. They showed in their game against the Patriots that their defensive front with DeMarcus Ware and Von Miller is incredibly formidable and able to rush the QB. But Newton is not a QB like Tom Brady. His quickness and ability to get out of the pocket and make plays will be the difference in this game that allows the Panthers to win.

As good as Newton has been, the Panthers' defense has been even better, scoring one TD and holding the Arizona Cardinals to only 15 points. The Broncos' downfall will be their offense, which will not show up at the Super Bowl because of the Panthers' ferocious defense and the fact that, Peyton Manning is a skeleton dressed up as a QB. Denver's defense will test Newton early but the Panthers will prove to be too much on both sides of the ball, leading to Carolina's first Super Bowl victory 27-20 Panthers.

-Sam Hardwick '17



IUB

Coach Ed Cooley has stressed the importance of a loud home court.

PHOTO COURTESY OF COXHUB.COM



Kris Dunn and Ben Bentil celebrate a basket earlier this season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF INDYSTAR.COM

Men's Basketball Looks for Consistency

Falls to Seton Hall, Beats Butler and Villanova

by Nate Svogun '16
Sports Staff

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Any college basketball fan knows that you have to be prepared for an upset every now and then. And all but the most optimistic will tell you that the dreaded, unexpected three or four-game losing streak is always a possibility after one of these rattling defeats.

Luckily for the No. 10 ranked Friars, an uncharacteristic, recent home loss to Seton Hall did not signal the start of such a skid, as they bounced back against No. 18 Butler and No. 4 Villanova in two thrillingly close games.

While their 81-72 loss to Seton Hall on Jan. 16 was unexpected, the disappointment of Friar fans might be tempered by a few conditions that made this match-up a clear example of a "trap game." Seton Hall's coach, Kevin Willard, told ESPN how well rested his team was after a week off from Big East play. "We had three days of practice like it was the preseason," he said, adding that time spent in the film room also increased the team's readiness for the challenge of the red-hot Friars on their home court.

Providence was also coming off of a grind-out 50-48 victory over Creighton in Omaha, Nebraska, so it may have been the case that the team was simply caught off-guard by an underrated and well-rested Seton Hall squad.

There was also the fact that Kris Dunn '17RS had foul trouble all

game long, eventually fouling out of the game with 3:02 left in the second half, or the fact that the Friars simply did not shoot well on the night. The team went five for 25 on the night from three-point range, good for 20 percent, and 22 for 73 overall total, good for a total 30.1 percent field goal percentage.

One bright spot was the continuing excellence of Ben Bentil '18, who put forth yet other 20 plus point game, ending with 21 points and nine rebounds. Although Bentil only went four of 15 from the field, he got to the free throw line a lot throughout the night, making 12 of 13 from the charity stripe.

We all know by now that nothing comes easy in Big East play, and that was true again versus Butler. The bounce back at the Dunkin' Donuts Center against Butler was one of the most back-and-forth games of the season for the Friars. In the first half, it seemed like both teams were trading scoring runs, but separation was elusive. Butler had figured out how to take advantage of Providence's zone defense, but the Friars had an answer with quick passing and the brilliant transition game of Dunn.

Kyron Cartwright '18 provided a jolt of electricity for the Friars at the end of the half. It began with a slick mid-range shot and culminated in a series of on-target three-pointers that had every Friar in the building, the fans, the bench, and Cartwright himself extremely energized. Cartwright ended the night with 13 points, all made in

the first half. He shot an efficient three for four from three-point land, with his only miss coming on a heat-check type of shot taken at least two feet behind the arc.

Drew Edwards '19 also deserves recognition for his contribution throughout the day. Although Edwards rarely puts up the kind of gaudy numbers that Friar fans get from Dunn and Bentil, anyone who has watched Providence play this year knows that this is an important player who can be counted on in big moments. Call him a "glue guy" or any one of a number of basketball clichés if you want—but the simple fact is Edwards knows how to play good, smart basketball, and he has certainly been an asset for the Friars this season.

In the second half, the game remained as close as it had in the first half. Bentil started to assert himself more offensively, scoring 13 of his total 20 points in the half, and Dunn once again showed his usual late-game poise.

Dunn's bank-shot three with 1:04 left in the game put the Friars up 71-66, and it may have been the dagger that finally buried the resilient Bulldogs for good. You could also make the argument that Edwards' clutch free throw to tie the game at 66 was just as important.

The Friars held on for the hard-fought 71-68 win, earning a season sweep over Butler. It is nice to celebrate yet another win over a ranked opponent, but there are more challenges to come for Providence.

Next up came perhaps the most challenging game of the year so far for

the Friars, a trip to No. 4 Villanova, where the Wildcats had won over 30 games straight. As Friar fans have come to expect this season, Bentil came up huge once again. His 31 points and 13 rebounds were crushing to a Villanova team that seemed intent on shutting down Dunn first and foremost.

But Dunn still managed to help his teammates in whatever way he could, tying his career-high assist mark with 14 and contributing 13 points, none more important than a clutch three late in the second half that instantly silenced a raucous Villanova crowd.

Overtime was a defensive battle, but Bentil's 10 points in the period, including an alley-oop lay-in on a beautiful find by Cartwright, proved to be a big reason for the win. The Friars pulled away in overtime, 82-76, for the biggest win of the season so far.

On Tuesday night the Friars lost to Xavier 75-68. The team will take on Georgetown on Jan. 30 in Washington, D.C.

The Friars certainly have a lot on their plate as they move into February, but with Coach Cooley at the helm, and Kris Dunn at the point, Friar Nation should have some more thrilling basketball to look forward to.

Swimming and Diving Enters Key Stretch

by Brannon Walker-Hodges '16
Sports Staff

SWIMMING & DIVING

The Providence College Men's Swimming and Diving Team kicked off their 2016 campaign with their first meet against the Villanova Wildcats on Saturday, January 16 at the Pavilion Pool Complex in Villanova, Pennsylvania. This was the team's first meet since last semester, in which the young swimmers displayed potential and competitive spirit throughout. However, the Friars were defeated by the Wildcats 122-80.

Leading the charge for the Friars was Zach Begnaud '17. Begnaud took first place in the 500 yard freestyle with a time of 4:51.03. The junior also placed second in the 1000 yd freestyle. Begnaud's leadership and experience in the pool, and the Veteran presence that Eric Benz '16 and Nicholas Teri '16 provide will be a key part of the team's success going forward in 2016.

The most positive aspect of the meet against the Wildcats was the strong showing by the underclassmen. Ryan Tremmell '19 was a standout performer and took first place in the 200 yd

breaststroke with a time of 2:17.15. Following behind Tremmell was Kurt Grunder '17, placing second in the 200 yd breaststroke with a time of 2:21.70.

Another swimmer with a strong performance was Jonathan Batista '19, who placed second in the 200 yd backstroke with a time of 1:59.69. Freshmen Batista and Tremmell are looking to become reliable members of the rotation. Their raw talent and hard work ethic are exuded at all times and is appreciated by their peers.

The work ethic can be exemplified through the men's team's business trip to Costa Rica during the winter

break. The trip involved intense training and conditioning to get the team ready for the upcoming season. The Friars will have their opportunity to show that their hard work and commitment will pay off as the season progresses.

Men's Hockey Wins Three of Four



PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK.COM

by Lauren Altmeyer '17
Sports Staff

MEN'S HOCKEY

The Providence College Men's Hockey Team is back on track after a bit of a rough start to the new year. During the first half of the season, the Friars had an unbeaten record of 13-0-3. After Christmas, the team traveled south to play in the Florida College Hockey Classic, where they had their first loss of the season against Cornell University. The Friars also won the Mayor's Cup and went 1-1-1 against Boston College over the break. PC continued Hockey East play with a weekend series against the University of Vermont Catamounts.

Last Friday night, the Friars wasted no time putting themselves on the scoreboard. Just 25 seconds into the game, Nick Saracino '16 blasted the puck behind UVM goalie Packy Munson. Saracino's eighth goal of the season was assisted by linemates Brandon Tanev '16 and Brian Pinho '18. The rest of the first period was quiet as goaltender Nick Ellis '17 stopped all 10 of UVM's shots. In the second period, the Friars were faced with a penalty kill just 12 seconds in due to

a high-sticking call on defenseman John Gilmour '16. Thanks to Trevor Mingoia '16, the Friars notched their first shorthanded goal of the season, which was assisted by Josh Monk '17 and Pinho. Just over two minutes later, Brandon Bradley put the Catamounts on the board from the top of the crease. The Friars took their two-goal lead back in the third period after Tom Parisi '16 made a rink-long pass to Pinho, who slipped it through the legs of Munson. Ellis was credited with his first career assist on Pinho's fifth goal of the season. In the final two minutes of play, tensions mounted as the teams combined for 37 penalty minutes. The final score was 3-1.

The animosity carried over into Saturday's game with Providence's six-goal outburst. The Friars continued their theme of strong starts and scored two goals early in the first. Mark Jankowski '16 put Providence on the board after a rebounded shot from Mingoia. Just 59 seconds later, Jankowski won the faceoff and sent the puck back to Anthony Florentino '17 for his fifth goal of the season. The Friars closed out the first period with a power play goal scored by Mingoia and assisted by Jake Walman '18. A hectic second period saw a combined total of six goals, as well as the ejection

of UVM Head Coach Kevin Sneddon for inappropriate behavior directed toward the officials. Mingoia notched his second power play goal of the game to put the Friars up 4-0. Five minutes later, Mitch Ferguson beat Ellis to give the Catamounts their first point of the night. PC answered right away with Tanev's wrist from the slot, which marked his eighth goal of the season. At 9:25, Jankowski nabbed his second of the night for the team's third power play goal of the game, putting the Friars up 6-1. UVM responded with a pair of goals by Dan Senkbeil and Mario Puskarich to cut the Friars lead in half after 40 minutes of play. Ellis stood tall in the third period, robbing the Catamounts of many scoring chances and the final score remained 6-3.

When asked about the series, Brian Pinho '18 said, "I think as a team we had a really good weekend. Vermont is a tough building to win in and for us to get four points there is huge in the long run. Hockey East is always a competitive league and it's hard to win games and I think our team battled hard to win both games." Pinho has 10 points over his last seven games. Another standout player from the weekend was Mingoia, who totaled three goals and two assists, earning

him Hockey East Player of the Week honors for the second time this season. This weekend the Friars took on the UMass-Lowell River Hawks and split the series 1-1. Friday's game took place at Schneider Arena, where the Friars had a solid 4-2 win. The three first period goals were scored by Kevin Rooney '16, Jankowski, and Tanev. In the second period, Walman scored his 13th goal of the season, putting the Friars up 4-0. Toward the end of the game the River Hawks came within two but could not beat Ellis.

Saturday's game was played at Tsongas Center. A power play goal put the Friars on the board first and marked Tanev's 10th of season. However, three unanswered UML goals lifted the River Hawks to a 3-1 win.

The Friars currently sit at fourth place in the national polls and have a record of 16-4-4. Up next is a weekend series at home against the University of New Hampshire Wildcats. The Wildcats will have their work cut out for them as they currently have a six-game losing streak and the Friars are 8-0-2 at home.