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Xavier University Newswire

Xavier University - Cincinnati

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Activists continue to fight against DAPL

As DAPL continues construction, crackdown on activists intensifies in North Dakota

BY SAVIN MATTOZZI

CANNON BALL, ND - A cloud is over the heads of water protectors at the Oceti Sakowin Camp in Southern North Dakota. People stop what they are doing and look up at the sky. "Is that one of our's?" a man asks. "Yeah, I heard there looks like it's going to the media tent," another man says. Their assumptions were confirmed when the drone descended by the area of the media tent, an activist-controlled multimedia center.

Since April, Native Americans from across the Americas and other activists from across the country and world have descended on North Dakota to protest a pipeline that crosses into the federally protected land of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. Energy Transfer Partners and Sunoco Logistics, the parent companies of Dakota Access, insist that they are taking the proper legal and environmental avenues to construct the pipeline. Activists contend that Dakota Access is using excessive and illegal means to build the pipeline through land that is protected under an 1868 treaty between the surrounding tribes and the United States government.

Cemposa, a freelance artist from Los Angeles, has been at the camp for about a month. He has a soft, direct voice. His tattoos peak out underneath his red scarf. "They just want to suck the life out of everything. Maximizing profit. That's what they do... it's a sickness."

Although he is frustrated, his voice remains calm. "We don't want to be living here. I have a family, I have an album to finish. That's my life. But I had to come here, these are my people."

Cemposa, like many of the activists at the camp, has witnessed violence by Dakota Access (DAPL) as it is referred to locally. "The one that has touched me the most, the grossest definition of a burial site. Burial sites to our people are sacred sites... sacred sites. That was one of those things that touched me mostly [sic] because... that's just saying to the people "we don't care about you." Even though we know they never really cared about us, ever since they arrived here."

The Natural History Museum, a member of the American Alliance of Museums and the Association of Science and Technology Centers, authored a letter to President Barack Obama, the Department of Justice, Department of the Interior and the Army Corps of Engineers to condemn the Sept. 3 incident where DAPL bulldozed land that contained Native American burial grounds, grave markers and artifacts such as "ancient cairns and stone prayer rings."

The letter was signed by more than 1,500 heads of museums, anthropologists and academics from various countries and institutions across the world including Belgium, Singapore, Canada, Cyprus, Argentina, Italy, Norway and Brazil and was also signed by members of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian and the World Bank.

In a statement released more than a week after the Sept. 3 incident, Energy Transfer Partners Chairman and CEO Kelcy Warren stated that "multiple archeological studies conducted with state historic preservation offices found no sacred items along the route... If any potentially sacred objects existed that were to be found, archaeologists, environmental inspectors or trained construction staff are on site throughout construction to ensure their proper care and that no proper notifications are made."

Warren insisted that "concerns about the pipeline's impact on the local water supply are unfounded. Multiple pipelines, railways, and highways cross the Missouri River today, carrying hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil."

He stressed that Dakota Access pipelines are designed to exceed "all safety and environmental regulations."

Despite this statement, Sunoco Logistics, the other parent company of the DAPL, spilled crude oil more frequently than any of its competitors and has had more than 200 leaks since 2010, according to a Sept. 23 article by Reuters. The most recent spill occurred on its newly constructed Permian Express II in Texas that leaked 800 barrels of oil in September.

Sunoco could face a $1.3 million fine from regulators for poor welding on that line.

Elden JR American Horse and Verdell American Horse sit in a dimly lit trailer donated to them in the middle of camp. JR American Horse sits clad in veteran paraphernalia, holding highlighted treaties, pointing to the parts that DAPL and the government is breaking. He explains they received a letter from DAPL on March 28 stating that construction of the pipeline would begin in 48 hours. He describes the scrape of tribal leaders to assemble and organize a resolution to protect the land. He alleges that DAPL put poison in the holes of prairie dogs that were then eaten by eagles, who also became ill. The surrounding grass was eaten by buffalos, and he estimates that 17 buffalos were killed.

The specific treaty the Standing Rock Sioux allege DAPL and the authorities to be breaking is titled "Treaty with the Sioux-Brule, Oglala, Miniconjou, Santee and Arapahos, 1868."

The treaty states broadly that if any harm is done to the property or persons of the "Indians," the United States will cause the offender to be "arrested and punished according to the laws of the United States" and reimburse the affected person(s) for the loss sustained. JR American Horse finishes reading the section of the treaty and looks up. "They're breaking their own laws."

A law enforcement and private security have faced criticism across the country on the tactics they have used against peaceful protesters. Rubber bullets, bean bag rounds, tear gas, pepper spray and contested crowd dispersal technology like the L-RAD sound cannons have been used.

L-RAD, which stands for Long Range Acoustic Device, was first introduced by the U.S. Navy to warn off approaching small crafts. It was then used by American ground forces in Iraq to disperse crowds, according to a 2014 Popular Mechanics article. It was first used in the U.S. to disperse G20 protesters in Pittsburgh. The ACLU settled a case with the city of Pittsburgh after a bystander suffered permanent hearing damage. King Downing, director of mass defense for the National Lawyers Guild, explains that NLG believes that the way L-RADS have been used and are being used is unconstitutional.

He continues that it does not appear that the harm that they cause is justified by what they have been used against.

In addition to direct tactics on the ground by private security and local law enforcement, people have come forward alleging that larger federal agencies are targeting them. Matthew Black Eaglemain started a crowd funding campaign online for the Oceti Sakowin Camp.

Papal was not able to deposit the money into his bank account and notified him of the issue.

When Eaglemain went to his bank for assistance, they told him that his assets were frozen under the Patriot Act, and none of his money was accessible. The Newswire was unable to independently confirm this with the bank.

"This land, this fight for the water, affects everybody."

Vlo, 28, from Chicago, explains while sitting in a car on the side of Highway 1806. "Everybody needs to keep paying attention and not be distracted by whatever media is going on. I understand. I went back the other day to the casino and finally had some data, and I saw everybody going on about clowns instead of this. That hurts me, that people can be so easily distracted while their water is going to be poisoned."

Tala All and Dr. Yusuf Khan contributed to the reporting in this article.
KRISSALLNACHT

Wednesday, November 9th, 2016
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
GSC Entrance

In commemoration of the Night of Broken Glass
(Germany, 1938), hear the names of those who
were murdered and commit to hear the cries
of others around the world.

BENEFIT NIGHT

Wednesday, November 9th, 2016
5:00 - 10:00 PM

25% of sales will benefit the
Interfaith Guatemala Medical Service Trip.

HYDE PARK
3707 Isabella Ave.
Cincinnati, OH, 45209
(513)-351-3451

JAMES CONE

Dr. James Cone will be speaking to the Xavier
community about the past and present state
of black lives in America.

Wednesday, November 16th, 2016
7:00 PM
Cintas Banquet Center
For Tickets: www.xavier.edu/cone
SGA Senate Election candidates

BY HENRY EDEN
Staff Writer

The elections for SGA Senate will take place starting Nov. 16 and will run through Nov. 17. According to the Board of Elections website, “The Xavier Senate mission is to provide representation and service to students.” These are the candidates running for Senate this year.

- Adriana Smith
- Ellen Rakowski
- Alexander Lopez-Valdevieso
- Chidera Okoh
- Amanda Boruchi
- Devi Jagadesan
- Joshua House
- Ellen Rakowski
- James Kelin
- Luis Gomez
- Mary Fanning
- Sa’mone Ray
- Sunny Guo
- Tori Shaper
- Sunny Guo
- Tori Shaper
- Sunny Guo
- Tori Shaper

Student proposals wanted for GSC

BY ERICA LAMPERT
Staff Writer

The Division of Student Affairs and Student Government Association (SGA) are currently looking for creative ideas from students for the new student focused space in the Gallagher Student Center (GSC).

The project, named Project 350, began in April of last semester when GSC manager Chris Marshall saw the lack of student driven ideas in the student center.

To fix the problem, Marshall decided to create Project 350 as an extension to the other projects that have been occurring in the GSC.

“One thing I noticed right when I got here was that lack of things that students have designed, their ideas and that feedback from the students,” Marshall said.

Project 350 is a way for students’ ideas to be heard and to encourage some healthy student competition.

The project requires students to submit their ideas for the office space of GSC 350 contain, based on what they believe will help the student community.

“We’re asking students to come up with ideas on what they think the space should be or what they believe is missing around campus,” Marshall said. “We really want this process to be a learning opportunity for students as they develop their ideas through this process.”

The space for the project is currently located on the third floor of the GSC, next to the Clock Tower Lounge.

The space is 400 square feet in total area and is currently an office space with an additional office space closed within.

There are some limitations to the student ideas, however because the space is small and has no running water. The room cannot accommodate a restaurant, food vendor or any large operational demands.

The idea should also not be tied to any specific student population or university department.

“Even though we’ve had a couple of submissions involving food, other students have talked about things like napping stations, napping pods, a relaxation type room and a recording studio,” Marshall said.

Initial submissions for the ideas will be held until Dec. 9. Reviewing of the proposals by staff, faculty and students in SGA and the Division of Student Affairs will happen once all the submissions are gathered.

Five finalists will then be decided, and they will be asked to pitch their ideas to the Xavier community with help from business school staff and the Center of Innovation.

“We want to involve professionals and staff members to help them develop their ideas from ‘Hey I have this idea,’ to ‘Hey this is how it will actually work,’” Marshall said.

Students will be able to vote on the project in January and provide feedback about the ideas that are pitched.

They can either attend the pitches of the five finalists or read more about them online after the initial pitch is completed.

Construction of the winner’s idea is expected to begin during summer 2017 with the grand opening occurring in fall 2017.

For more information, students can get in contact with Chris Marshall, or go to http://www.xavier.edu/gsc/Project-350.cfm.

For students who want to submit a proposal, the following link https://orgsync.com/37471/forms/226472 will lead them there.

GSC 350 currently houses Project Search but will be repurposed in the fall.
Student-run investment group performs well

The D'Artagnan Capital Fund is solely run by student analysts, managing about $2.3 million of Xavier’s endowment. The fund began with $1 million in 2008.

By Azl Saeed
Staff Writer

Unlike most classes one might encounter at Xavier, the D’Artagnan Capital Fund (DCF) offers a hands-on experience for students to manage a portion of the university’s money.

Previously known as Xavier Student Equity Investment Fund, DCF consists of an actively managed opportunities fund that manages $2.3 million of the university’s endowment. According to the DCF website, it “values large cap equities within the S&P 500, utilizing a bottom-up approach.”

What makes this fund unique compared to others in the community is that it is run completely by students. In order to join the fund, students must have completed ACCT 200, as well as FINC 300 and receive a B or higher in FINC 390 and receive a B- or higher. In order to become an analyst, students must then enroll in FINC 390 and receive a B- or higher in FINC 490. The DCF itself counts as a class for three credit hours. Currently, the team consists of ten managers in addition to 28 analysts.

Through extensive research of company financials, management and industry competitors, analysts are able to make investment decisions. Currently, the fund manages a portfolio of 40 holdings. Some of these current holdings include Macy’s, Time Warner Cable, Walmart, Apple and Google.

DCF Program Director Blis DeVault explained that this is the largest senior class the program has seen so far, with a record-breaking 14 students films to screen in late April.

She said that the DIFT senior thesis is different than other programs because students are “making films to be seen, and not just read.”

DeVault also emphasized the importance of the program’s community saying, “It’s not something you can do by yourself,” DeVault said.

“What’s most interesting is the fact that students throughout the program help each other out with their respective projects, making the experience just as much collaborative as it is creative,” senior DIFT and public relations major Corey Resch said.

Senior Louis DeVito just switched to the major this year. While the transition has been tough, with the community of the major, DeVito said, “I feel like I’ve been doing this for four years.”

While students help with the production of each other’s movies, the pre-production and scriptwriting process is collaborative as well. DeVito painted a picture of people surrounding a long table, discussing each other’s scripts.

“You have an idea and you think it’s unchangeable,” said DeVito, “but then someone throws in their thoughts and twists your idea into something better.”

DeVito said there is a lot of trust involved in the major, especially when casting actors.

While larger programs have just a few films that result from seniors’ final projects, DIFT majors are able to see their’s come to fruition on the night of Senior Screening.

“The date is still tentative, but keep an eye out late April for a Friday night under the silver screen.

DIFT senior projects begin, students cast as actors

Xavier's Digital Innovation Film and Television (DIFT) majors have just wrapped up castings for senior films, but the process has only begun.

While students in other programs write senior thesis papers, DIFT majors script, produce and screen short films as their capstones. Casting for the projects began on Oct. 27 and ran until Nov. 6, with this begin the biggest year yet.

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By Hannah Paige Michels
Head Photo Editor

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Last week, two police officers, a rookie and a veteran, were shot and killed in Des Moines, Iowa. The officers were shot inside of their patrol cars early in the morning of Nov. 2 with their guns still holstered. The suspect was quickly identified as Scott M. Green, who was described by officials to The New York Times as a "troubled loner who was familiar to the police in his suburban town, Urbandale." The motivation behind Greene’s actions are unknown. However, hours before the shootings Greene was ordered to vacate his mother’s house after she had reported him for emotional and physical abuse. Greene previously had problems with law enforcement, and in April 2014 was charged with making a sexual harassing comment. He was known to walk around armed and was generally hostile toward the police.

Greene was later charged with harassment after approaching a man in a parking lot and threatening to kill him after using racial slurs. Greene pleaded guilty to misdemeanor in both cases and was given probation after being fined.

Weeks before the attack, he was escorted out of a Urbandale high school football game for waving a Confederate flag toward African-American students. A restraining order was placed on Greene, restricting his ability to enter the school’s property.

A spokesperson for the Des Moines Police Department conceded his motivations will likely remain unknown.

Police officers found the bodies of Officer Justin Martin and Sergeant Anthony Beminio after responding to a Wednesday night report of gunfire at the Urbandale high school from which Greene was restricted. Des Moines Police reported Greene walked over to Martin’s patrol car near Urbandale High School and shot between 15 and 30 rounds.

Beminio was found 30 minutes later and blocks away from Martin, but was killed in a similar ambush style.

“It doesn’t look like there was an exchange of conversation. There definitely wasn’t an opportunity for these officers to defend themselves,” Des Moines Police reported. Investigators are currently searching for the gun used in the murders.

President Barack Obama described these recent killings as "shameful acts of violence." These murders follow the slaughter of five police officers in Dallas, Texas and three law enforcement officers in Baton Rouge, La., earlier this year. Martin was 24 and graduated from the Police Academy in 2015. He was hired by the Urbandale Police Department and sworn in on Jan. 19 of this year.

Beminio, 38, was an 11 year veteran to the Des Moines Police Department. He was married with children. According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, the number of officers killed in the line of duty in the United States rose sharply this year to 52 through Nov. 2, compared with 33 by the same date in 2015.

In particular, the organization noted with alarm an increase in "ambush killings," with 14 this year, and up compared to three in the same time period in 2015.
The recent events on campus were shocking to me. It seemed like Xavier students generally refrained from important conversations, but I did notice that when dealing with sexual assault or different political mindsets, I had no idea that the dividing issues of Xavier were as large or ran as deep as blatant racism. It was shocking to see a female to still be able to have in this way, and even more shocking to see the lack of cultural education that allowed this to happen. Arguments have been heard that Black student girls doing blackface was actually trying to show solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement, but even if this is true, there is an extreme lack of cultural education that allowed her to think that painting her whole face black would be acceptable. In fact, what she does not know is that her “display of solidarity,” if that’s what it was meant to be, is a mockery disguised in sympathy.

This realization is what led me to choose to become active in the education of both the campus and myself. I participated in the silent protest and walkout, and then later joined the open forum for the issue. Even just participating in those two events opened my eyes to so many seemingly invisible problems on our campus. I know that Black students were a shockingly small minority on this campus, but I had no idea just how marginalized and unwelcomed they truly felt. Going to the forum I heard so many perspectives and voices and ideas that I had never been exposed to. People talked about how they felt unsafe on campus, how they couldn’t even trust their neighbors.

This is my first semester on campus, and it was scary to move here, but a good scary—the scary that comes with making new friends and adjusting to college. It is scary to be brave enough to continue their education at the college level should be scared to go because of the intolerance of other students, and yet I have now seen the face of that fear. This semester, I am taking a class called Service to Solidarity. We have talked so much about solidarity and what it means, but I have struggled with how to go about it to make real change. These traumatic events on campus allowed me to feel an empathy deeper than I could have imagined for the Black community. I was never quite sure what I could do as a White female to show my support and compassion, but now I know I can just be there. I have learned a lot about the life of Oscar Romero and how he chose to make his time to be a witness to the poor in his country of El Salvador. He listened to their complaints and their sorrows and was simply their friend. That is how I would like to live my life. I want to be compassionate, and I want to show marginalized communities that they are not alone.

I plan to go to Black Student Association’s meetings from now on. If not to participate, then just to show solidarity and support. I do not want anyone to feel alienated on this beautiful campus that Xavier has made up a shockingly small minority on this campus, but I had no idea just how marginalized and unwelcomed they truly felt. -Riley Head

I feel lucky to call home. No one should have to go because of the intolerance of other students, but I had no idea just how marginalized and unwelcomed they truly felt. -Riley Head

What makes you happy?

A lot of things make me happy. I spend plenty of time with family, listening to music and working out. What I must have most in my life is happiness. What is happiness? I think that happiness is when you’re content with life and enjoy the little moments you have every day. As a college student, I struggle with this sometimes, and I’m sure every other college student does too. There are so many people in the world and donating anything they can to help people in need. For example, they went to Africa a few years ago and donated mosquito nets for the people in a village. They did this because they knew it couldn’t have been fully happy with all this fame. I wouldn’t even say it was fame because many people things said about both of them, and they have both made mistakes, but we all have made mistakes. They were both trying to be leaders for our country and many people thought they couldn’t. Personally, I’m not worried about the fame for a few reasons. They made the greatest decisions, but they both made a choice to try and lead our country and that takes a lot of courage. Do you think they’re happy? They couldn’t have been fully happy with all this fame. I wouldn’t even say it was fame because many people just brushed them off.

My Nana and Papa are the happiest people I know in my life. They have lived their whole lives traveling the world and donating anything they can to help people in need. For example, they went to Africa a few years ago and donated mosquito nets for the people in a village. They did this because they knew it would help and make people happy. People who give willingly to strangers, knowing the happiness that it will bring are truly loving people. At the ages of 83 and 84, they have both lived a long, happy life. Although I don’t see them as much as I want to, I know that when I do they will put me in the best mood. They are the definition of true happiness because they still smile after everything they’ve been through and manage to make others happier along the way.

The key to true happiness is to find your passion. My passion is photography. When I took my pictures, I feel connected to the world. I’ve learned that there is so much happening in the world when you think about it. Happiness is being able to be the person that I am supposed to be in. I also have a passion for travelling. Two years ago we went on a trip to Nicaragua through my church. I loved my time spent there, and I was truly happiest because I was helping other people. There is no better feeling than that.

My advice to everyone out there is to never give up, even when times get hard. Always pursue the things you love and I guarantee you’ll be happy. What makes you happy?

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America is unfairly a two-party system

Opinions & Editorials
November 9, 2016

For a country that values freedom and the ability to choose, America has failed its voters when it comes to political choices. Americans only have two options: a Democratic or a Republican candidate. Yes, there may be other parties such as the Libertarian and Green parties that also offer up candidates, but no third party candidate has ever won a presidency. The closest a third party had ever gotten to being elected was in 1912 when former president Teddy Roosevelt left the Republican party to run as a member of the Bull Moose or “congressional 27th” party of the votes. The lack of choices forces Americans to either align with the far right or the far left if they want to feel like their voices are heard.

There is no middle ground and little variety when it comes to government. What we watch the primary debates, before any of the candidates open their mouths, is the first time for the most part what issues they support based on their party affiliation. While there does seem to be some variety within the primary stage of the election – for example, on the Democratic side, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders had opposing views on campaign financing, healthcare and Wall Street policy – by the time the parties have chosen their presidential nominees, voters are left with a far right or far left candidate. A moderate candidate is not attractive to the two larger political parties, since they only like to show one side of the spectrum in order to appeal to their demographic of voters and keep everybody happy.

A poll done by the Pew Research Center shows that during the past 20 years, unfavorable views between Democrats and Republicans have more than doubled. The number of Republicans who view Democrats as highly unfavorable has jumped from 17 percent in 1994 to nearly 60 percent in 2016. In addition to that, the number of Democrats who view Republicans as highly unfavorable tripled from 28 percent to 84 percent. I believe that this jump is due to the us-against-them mentality held by many politicians and Americans. For example, while giving a speech, Clinton said that you could put half of Donald Trump’s supporters into a “basket of deplorables,” and many times throughout his campaign, Republican candidates have not shown they are attractive to the two larger political parties, since they only like to show one side of the spectrum in order to appeal to their demographic of voters and keep everybody happy.

Donald Trump has used derogatory terms such as calling some women “fat pigs” and Mexican immigrants “criminals” and “rapists.” How can either of these candidates expect to lead a united country and create policies that benefit everyone if they misunderstand the other side? Mudslinging, another problem with our two-party system, seems to be the preferred way in this country for a politician to gain power. In a multiparty system like that of Germany, which includes five to six serious political parties to choose from, candidates cannot throw mud at their opponents without getting mud on themselves. This forces candidates on what they plan to do when they take office, our candidates focus on attack ads to scare voters away from the other opponent. The focus on mudslinging and the practice of financially supporting candidates puts political power into the hands of wealthy investors. These investors can greatly influence a political campaign by buying airtime for attack ads against certain candidates to be played. The two-party system is failing as Americans. The political divide between the two parties is only growing larger, and thus, Republicans and Democrats refuse to work together to do what’s best for this country. They are too caught up in their own political agendas and are always fighting for total control. This either leads to legislation that only benefits one side of the political spectrum or no legislation at all, making whoever is on the losing side feel like their voices and opinions do not matter. What we need in this country is not only more moderate politicians but also for third party candidates to be taken as seriously as a Republican or Democratic candidate. Good ideas for the country come from all areas of the political spectrum, not just the left or the right.

An ode to the African Student Association

Following the now infamous “Blackface incident,” many students, staff and faculty continue to question the validity of our university’s core principles. Students, especially, question the worth of words such as “diversity,” “inclusivity,” and “opportunity.” We expect these words to self-actualize themselves, living out diversity, inclusion and community in rhetoric rather than intended and principled practice.

Despite the flawed example of its campus, the African Student Association (ASA) operates per the intentional and principled practice of diversity, inclusion and community. As our campus recovers from a treacherous two weeks and seeks to finally define our socio-cultural principles, ASA thrives as an example we have too often ignored.

Under the inspirational leadership of Dr. Jerry Clovis Mbowo, it may not surprise the reader that ASA achieved recognition as Club of the Year last spring. The members’ commitment to intersectionality won them the Embracing Diversity Award and one cannot mention ASA without noting its specific traits— a dinner fashion show and theater performance melded into one exhilarating and monumental evening. The ASA Gala is a pillar of our university, a must for any and every student, staff and club committed to expanding our cultural competencies and our ability to actively engage in the complex and ever-changing world beyond Xavier. The Gala received exceptional reviews, ultimately awarded as the Cultural Program of the Year. As an organization, ASA certainly deserved the institutional, social and cultural recognition last spring. But what the Gala awarded did not show was the many individual achievements of ASA members. Uplifting individual accomplishments is to me an act to promote individualism or diminish the virtue of community. Rather, the individual achievements of ASA members are best understood as a testament to the power of diversity, inclusion and community—collective love and authentic support manifested in the shared pursuit of excellence.

The unprecedented work ethic of Eze Obinna was recognized via the Employee of the Year Award, while the impassioned dedication of Valerie Oguah paved the way for the ASA Mentor of the Year Award. Work ethic and academic achievement landed Mayuhi Oyotogun the annual Rebecca Swell-Cummings Book Scholarship, an award hosted by the “Renowned Rhino Xi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.” Bennam Dumal won the Muskies Freshman of the Year award in addition.

“As our campus recovers from a treacherous two weeks and seeks to finally define our socio-cultural principles, ASA thrives as an example we have too often ignored.”

- Taylor Zachary

The fall as Chioma Orozi received an Accounting Leadership Award, alongside Aasi Naiju who won a Gold – X Key Leadership Award. She shared the stage with Elahe theme who also won a Gold – X Key Leadership Award, all the while continuing his induction into the Alpha Sigma Nu honor society.

Sarah Ochieng concluded last year with a Muskies Junior Member of the Year Award, the Diversity and Inclusion Award and the prestigious Antonio Johnson Scholarship Award. Additionally, she was a Brueggeman Research Fellow, traveling to Tanzania and Kenya where she contested child marriage and childhood mutilation. She helped pave the way for her ASA sister Sylvia Chemswee, who is a current Brueggeman Research Fellow. Last semester, Sylvia’s courageous leadership was recognized via a Silver – X Key Leadership Award at the Muskies awards ceremony.

President Ese Obinna said, “Our theme this year is Ubuntu, which is a Zulu word for humanity through others. We will focus on intersectionality and the growth and well-being of the whole person.”

ASA’s goal is to create a greater sense of community between Africans and the larger Xavier community, a goal that is making strides in the right direction. Our campus community should celebrate and herald ASA for its exceptional example. As the members continue to collectively live and love freely, building power and success via an authentic organizational commitment to diverse identities, inclusive engagement and durable community, so too do they grant the Xavier community at large permission to do the same.

ASA hosts bi-weekly general body meetings Mondays at 6 p.m. in varied locations. They invite visitors and encourage membership from all corners of the Xavier community.
College basketball makes long-awaited return

By LUKE FELICIANO  Staff Writer

The regular season of college basketball begins this weekend, with many of the top teams in the country returning to action. We took a look at some of these squads that play outside of the Big East.

After having a down year, the Duke Blue Devils are primed to return to prominence once again. They return Player of the Year senior guard Grayson Allen along with sophomores Luke Kennard and senior Amile Jefferson, making Duke a favorite to win the national title.

Duke has also reloaded with the addition of highly touted recruits for the class of 2016. Look for freshmen Harry Giles and Javin Tatum to make contributions.

The Kentucky Wildcats saw nearly all of their players declare for the NBA draft last year, making freshmen De’Aaron Fox, Bam Adebayo and Malik Monk, in addition to returners sophomores Isaiah Briscoe and senior Derek Willis, to step up.

The Oregon Ducks are a new contender to the top of the rankings and have achieved success through the outstanding play of their sophomore Tyler Dorsey and junior Dillon Brooks duo, both of whom return to Eugene this year.

The Kansas Jayhawks are making preparations to come out on top of an increasingly powerful Big 12 field. Their leader over the past few seasons, Perry Ellis, has graduated, but the Jayhawks still bring back senior Frank Mason III and junior Devonte Graham.

Kansas also secured the top rated small forward for the freshman class this year in Josh Jackson.

North Carolina will have to rebound from a heartbreaking loss last year in the National Championship.

The Tar Heels lost some valuable players when Marcus Paige and Brice Johnson graduated, so they will have to recoup their roster around juniors Joel Berry II and Justin Jackson.

The Virginia Cavaliers will have to handle the loss of last year’s ACC Player of the Year Malcolm Brogdon.

Senior point guard London Perrantes returns, and the addition of top transfer junior Austin Nichols from Memphis will help make the Cavaliers a solid contender in the ACC.

The Wisconsin Badgers return almost all of their key starters from a year ago. Sophomore big man Ethan Happ has the inner makings of a top forward in the NCAA. Platteau and his team should experience of senior guard Bronson Koenig and senior forward Nigel Hayes and the Badgers are a scary good side of 8-3 overall and 4-4-1 in Big East play.

The Musketeers failed to make the NCAA Tournament. They instead spent the whole year preparing to come out on top of the Big East, arguably the toughest conference in basketball.

Michigan State is another team that saw its season end early. The men’s soccer team had to handle the loss of last year’s ACC Player of the Year.

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GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO GO VIRAL?

THE OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS WANTS YOU AS A MULTIMEDIA STORYTELLER

Are you a chronic tweeter? Can’t stay off Snapchat? Blog like a fiend? Master podcaster in the making? But most importantly have stories to tell? WE WANT YOU!

Here’s how it works: Starting in January you’ll submit one story a week through the spring semester. Tell the world about your life at Xavier—cram-hacks for midterms, Pizza ATM selfies, even Alternative Breaks to parts unknown. The media is up to you and so is the message. We’ll even provide training, guidelines and suggest a few ideas.

Here’s what you get: A great experience, possible fame, and even a little fortune—IT’S A PAID POSITION!

Interested? Tell us a story via video (can be shot on a smartphone) about why you’d like to be a Xavier storyteller.

Applications are due by November 11. To apply visit xavier.edu/storyteller, log in/create an account and search for “Multimedia Storyteller”.

xavier.edu/storyteller
Nintendo steps up its game with Switch

By Jason Smith

The biggest mysteries of the Internet over the past year have been the rise of Harambe’s fame and Nintendo’s NX.

One of those mysteries has been solved. This past week, Nintendo unleashed a video upon the masses about its most closely guarded secret. No longer the NX, Nintendo’s newest console is now called the Nintendo Switch.

In what could be considered the most hipster video currently on the Internet, Nintendo demonstrated the power and novelty of its newest console. Set against the backdrop of the song “Ha Ha Ha Ha (Yeah)” by White Denim, Nintendo’s newest machine is shown to seamlessly integrate into our future lives.

The people in these commercials love the Switch so much that they play it at home and on the go and enjoy themselves immensely. The funky music projects their enjoyment as their faces glow while they gaze at the Switch’s screen. You can start playing in your living room and then travel with it by using connecting controllers.

No more waiting to go home to play your console, Nintendo is attempting to shift paradigms here. The Switch will forever change our lives…or will it?

The video is a sexy piece of public relations, I concede that. Once again, we are all at the mercy of Nintendo’s secrecy. That make this now popular YouTube video somewhat disappointing. Spec-wise, I’m sure Nintendo was probably desperate to generate excitement for its latest piece of “paper-ware.”

Websites will speculate prices, and fans will debate. I, however, am skeptical. Novelty works for Nintendo for a while, but then it doesn’t. Its most successful novelty item is the 3DS and DS family of consoles, but Will disappoints. How can I not expect that the Nintendo Switch won’t eventually suffer the same fate?

We can all find out if it is as fun as the people in the commercial are having on a mysterious day in March 2017.

That is when things will be new and different again, at least for a while.

‘Harry’ receives yawning reception

By Jason Smith

In the ’90s, singer/songwriter/actor Harry Connick, Jr. was blown up in the film Independence Day. That film launched Will Smith’s career, but Harry had to play the long game.

Harry has always been a likeable guy. He helped rebuild New Orleans after Katrina, he loves his family and his family has a long-storied musical history. Now, he’s the daytime talk show host of Harry.

Daytime television, after the four hours of morning news is over, has to have a certain tone: light and cheerful, informative and fun. If TV was just like the Internet, every daytime show would just be cat videos. Harry is trying to shake the formula up with a new brand of happy.

What sets Harry apart from the rest is his business casual style. He’s unshaven, or maybe that’s the best beard he can grow, and he wears a suit without a tie. Though usually a fashion faux pas, it is deemed acceptable when one is competing against Dr. Phil and Ellen. In Harry’s case, however, his competition is probably closer to The Price is Right.

Harry seems entertaining and informative with his new brand of fun. There are lots of segments with kids doing cute things like karate or inventing gadgets. Then come the celebrity talk and some sort of cooking segment. Mix and match and repeat.

The PR spin pitches that Harry is different than the other shows, but really he’s just like every other show, albeit with a new host.

This is the feel-good TV they put on televisions in waiting rooms. This is the show that your mom will watch and tell you to watch. This is the show that is so easily forgettable I struggled to remember what was good about it.

A recent episode featured a lady who baked scary-looking cakes. For a laugh, Harry bit off the nose of a cake resembling him. He then took a runway strut when the guest chef mentioned she used “modeling cake.”

The audience loves him, and the stage is bright. It’s gags and Harry performing. Here is television that is basically like a pair of mom jeans.

I can’t recommend or not recommend it. It’s just television for television’s sake. It isn’t going to change the world. Watch at your own discretion.
Xavier Theatre has a penchant for picking the right production at the right time. *The Diviners* offers a simple exploration of redemption. Perhaps now more than ever it's a story that we need to hear.

*The Diviners* is centered around the relationship between CC Showers (Aaron Robinson), a disenchanted preacher, and Buddy Layman (Micah Price), a young boy with disabilities struggling with the death of his mother during the throes of the Great Depression. Against a backdrop of dynamic supporting characters and a lighting design that rivals any seen on the Xavier stage so far, CC and Buddy explore redemption through hope. As CC's relationships with the members of the Layman family unfold, conflicts of faith, beauty and destiny carry *The Diviners* to its inevitably heart-wrenching conclusion.

Performances in *The Diviners* continue in the high standard set by the season so far. Standouts include senior Katie Mitchell, whose skeptic Luella counteracts Nora Weisz's zealot Norma to perfection. Senior Michael Thompson and junior Henry Eden offer subtle comedic relief, as well as welcome emotional depth, to the farm hands Melvin and Dewey. Spearheading the group, however, is sophomore Micah Price as Buddy. His work is unprecedented on the Xavier stage, and his chemistry with Aaron Robinson's CC Showers carries this beautiful narrative into a transcendent territory.

*The Diviners* is directed by department head Stephen Skiles who said the production is close to his heart.

"What I love about *The Diviners* is that every night I wish I could see the world like Buddy, because everything that he comes in contact with is this new wonderful discovery. And except for water, he just really loves. It's a really beautiful view of the world," Skiles said.

In discussing what he hopes the audience will gain from the performance, the goals of the production are simple. Though one to have, it is one that Skiles has found himself drawn to in the script and one that he has found audiences have gravitated toward in past performances.

"I hope audiences can take a little bit of Buddy with them," Skiles said. "And that last line of the play, when Basil says 'We look to each other and call it a blessing' – even if it's just for an hour and 15 minutes in the theater, I hope we can recognize how important we are to each other. It really just re-emphasizes the idea of community that's at the center of the play."

*The Diviners* runs Nov. 11-19 in the Gallagher Student Center Theater. Tickets can be purchased at xavier.edu/theatretickets.

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**By Hannah Sgambellone**

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**Journeys of Immigrant Entrepreneurs: Stories of Hope, Guidance & Economic Growth**

Join a panel of people who have moved to America by choice or by necessity, who have faced the challenges of trying to establish themselves and found success.

Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016
6:30 – 7:00pm Networking
7:00 – 8:30pm Panel Discussion
Conaton Board Room, 2nd floor, Schmidt Hall, University Drive, Xavier University.
Detailed Map at: www.xavier.edu/center-for-international-business/Events.cfm

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**FEATURED PANELISTS**
- Moulay A. Essakalli, CEO & Co-Founder Zid Zid, Play with Languages™
- Haneen Farhan, Founder & Owner of Queen of Brows
- Clara Matonhodze, BusinessNdata Partners Principal Consultant
- Mahendra Vora, Executive Chairman of Vora Ventures
- Mary Stagaman, Panel Moderator Senior Inclusion Advisor, Cincinnati Regional Chamber of Commerce

**Light Refreshments will be served**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**
Contact Thilini Ariyachandra at 513.745.3379 or ariyachtr@xavier.edu
Halloween is over, and November has begun. The fall weather is crisp, and everyone looks great and cozy in fall fashion. And the next holiday that is coming up is Christmas...NO! It’s Thanksgiving!

Everyone goes from “Happy Halloween!” to “Merry Christmas!” unnecessarily fast. People need to calm down with the Christmas joy! It’s weird when you walk around Kroger and “I’ll be Home for Christmas” is playing when it’s barely November. It’s not right! We are forgetting the part where we are thankful for the things we have and appreciative of everyone in our lives. I know everyone is really into the December holidays, but we’ve got to put a halt on hanging up wreaths for the time being.

Poor Thanksgiving is often overlooked and taken for granted. Sure, you don’t get presents or free candy, but you do get the chance to sit down with the people you love and be thankful. Life moves fast, and we don’t often stop to be grateful for everything we have.

Halloween is the holiday of scares. Christmas has turned into a holiday of greed thanks to capitalism. Thanksgiving is the holiday during which we should remember the values that matter most. We should remember to give thanks all the time, not just on the last Thursday in November.

Plus, on Thanksgiving, you get a huge, home cooked meal, and it’s perfectly acceptable to consume your body weight in potatoes.

The appropriate day to set up December holiday decorations is Dec. 1. That should be the official day that the Christmas trees go up, the lights twinkle and the gingerbread cookies are served. Give Thanksgiving a chance to shine, and then you can spread the yuletide cheer.