Xavier University Newswire

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Don’t judge a book by its frosting

CLC hosts 10th Edible Book Competition

By Erica Lampert
Staff Writer

The Conaton Learning Commons (CLC) encouraged students and faculty to take a bite out of their favorite books in celebration of National Library Week on April 11.

To celebrate the library and its 50th anniversary the week prior to National Library Week with a party involving all of the library staff. “The party was catered and we even had a birthday cake for the library,” Martin said. “Father Graham also came to speak as well as our archives volunteer.”

Through these events, the library staff wants to get the community involved with the library, so they can understand all of the resources the library has available for them.

“We don’t want the library to just be confined to a building,” Martin said. “We want to be able to serve the student population and even have some fun things for the students.”

Baumann picked for Provost

By Soondos Mulla-Ossman
Staff Writer

Dr. Melissa J. Baumann has been named Xavier’s new provost. Father Michael Graham, president, made the announcement Friday, selecting Baumann from a field of eight finalists. She will start June 15.

The provost, a position unknown to many students yet vital to the fabric of the university, is the chief academic officer (CAO) of the university. Provosts are responsible for the creation and implementation of the academic priorities for the university and for the allocation of resources that would support those priorities. In other words, the provost works to ensure that everything in the day-to-day happenings surrounding students, including clubs, events and academic programs, continue to run smoothly.

Baumann is currently Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Studies at Auburn University in Alabama, where she also serves as director of the Auburn University Honors College. She also has an extensive record prior to joining Auburn in 2013, such as serving as an administrator and faculty member at Michigan State University.

“Melissa’s impressive academic profile and 25 years of experience as an administrator and faculty member certainly made her a strong candidate for me and members of the Provost and CAO search committees,” Father Graham said in a statement to The Business Journal. “Those credentials, combined with her genuine passion for students and enthusiasm for advancing our Jesuit mission of forming men and women for and with others, make her the absolute right choice for Xavier.”

Baumann will succeed Scott Chadwick, who stepped down on June 30, 2016, to become a tenured professor. He has since left the university and is now working for a crowd funding campaign in New York.

While the position was empty, Brian Levin-Stankevich served as the university’s interim provost and CAO. He has a Ph.D in history and was selected from among active retired academic leaders referred through the Registry for College and University Presidents. Baumann earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 1986 and 1988, respectively.

Graham stated in his message to students that he looks forward to Baumann’s stepping into the central role “in the life and future of Xavier.” Baumann looks forward to working with Xavier, and Father Graham also encourages everyone to assist and support Baumann in successfully transitioning into her new role.
Although philosophy lectures are often not well-attended, the 59th annual Thomasfest lecture was the opposite of pitiful, even though that was the subject.

On Wednesday evening, Dr. Tongdong Bai, currently a Fulbright Scholar at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University, gave a lecture regarding his recent work in the field of political philosophy entitled “Mencius, Nietzsche, and Pity as a Modern Virtue.” Bai is the Dongfang chair professor of philosophy at Fudan University in Shanghai, China and was a professor of philosophy at Xavier from 2003 to 2010.

The lecture and subsequent reception took place in the Arrupe Overlook in Gallagher Student Center. It drew a crowd of around 60 to 70 people, according to sophomore Politics, Philosophy and the Public major Ryan Kambich.

“I know the Thomasfest lectures are always a really excellent program put on by the philosophy department every year,” Kambich said, “so for me, I wanted to swing by and see how it was going, and I really enjoyed it.”

Bai was introduced by Dr. Timothy Quinn, chair of the philosophy department and a longtime friend. While at Xavier, Bai taught the philosophy of science, and the students really had very positive remarks for him as a professional.

He remarked that, afterwards, “I have to say that Dr. Bai was extremely impressed with the lecture, both Quinn and Kambich thought that the lecture was a great one. Because [the lecture] was so provocative, it was a satisfying lecture,” Quinn said. “I don’t want to listen to people agree with. I want to learn something, and I felt like a lot of students felt the same way.”

Bai’s work revolved around the usage of pity in larger communities as being a way for understanding and relationships to occur between strangers, building off the writings of Mencius, a Chinese political philosopher who wrote in the fourth century B.C.E.

The lecture was overwhelmingly regarded as successful on all sides, especially Bai, who apparently remarked to Quinn that he was pleased with the reactions from students.

“I have to say that Dr. Bai himself was extremely impressed with the students’ questions,” Quinn said. “He made a point of calling on the students during the question and answer before calling on any of the faculty and the students really had very challenging questions for him. He remarked that, afterwards, that it was quite impressive.”

On the receiving end of the lecture, both Quinn and Kambich thought that the lecture was a great one. “Because [the lecture] was so provocative, it was a satisfying lecture,” Quinn said. “I don’t want to listen to people agree with. I want to learn something, and I felt like a lot of students felt the same way.”

BY KEVIN THOMAS
Campus News Editor

“Pitiful” lecture is anything but

News in brief

By Hannah Paige Michels
Campus News Editor

Trump’s sanctuary city executive order blocked

On Tuesday, federal judge William H. Orrick blocked the Trump administration from enforcing its executive order to take federal funding away from sanctuary cities. Orrick sided with Santa Clara County, which argued that removing these funds from cities that don’t comply with some federal immigration rules could be unconstitutional. Orrick did not rule Trump’s policy as unconstitutional, but he did find that it could cause counties and cities “immediate irreparable harm.”

Thai man kills infant daughter on Facebook Live

A 21-year-old man hanged his infant daughter and then himself in a deserted hotel in Phuket, Thailand on Monday. The content has since been removed, and Facebook has sent its condolences to the family for the graphic incident. Facebook has promised to review its processes after footage from a murder in the U.S. stayed online for hours earlier this month.

Neither Mexico nor U.S. will pay for wall...for now

Funding for Trump’s infamous border wall is not included in a budget bill that must pass by Friday. Democrats have long threatened to block the bill if money was allocated for the wall, which could lead to a government shutdown. Trump insists the wall will still eventually be built.

Xavier Police is in the process of cleaning out its lost and found property locker. If you would like to check for any lost or missing items, please stop by Flynn Hall on business days between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. by Friday, May 5.

Like what you see?

Have story ideas?

Reach out to Editor-in-Chief Jessica Griggs
(griggsj1@xavier.edu)
or Managing Editor Ellen Siefke
(siefke@xavier.edu)

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See something, say something
Xavier Newswire

U. S. & World News

April 26, 2017

POLICE NOTES

The Best of the Best

June 4, 5:17 a.m. – A non-student found in Alter Hall was arrested on more than 21 outstanding arrest warrants and for criminal trespassing. He or she had taken classes at Xavier before, and it is believed the non-student may have been staying in the building for several nights.

June 22, 2:08 p.m. – A 9-year-old juvenile was arrested for theft after stealing a student worker’s iPhone which was left near his or her register in the All For One Shop.

June 27, 10:17 a.m. – Two juveniles found sleeping in Schmidt Memorial Field House were advised and sent on their way. Later the juveniles stole a campus utility vehicle and cell phone from the loading dock at Buenger Hall. After a short chase, both were apprehended in Lower Millcrest Park with the assistance of Norwood Police. They were charged with motor vehicle theft, obstructing official business, trespassing and outstanding warrants.

Aug. 4, 10:22 p.m. – Xavier Police investigated a report of interns drinking on the volleyball courts. Two interns with open containers were advised and sent on their way. Additionally, several un-opened beers, which no one the volleyball courts. Two interns drinking on their way. Later the juveniles stole a campus utility vehicle and cell phone from the loading dock at Buenger Hall. After a short chase, both were apprehended in Lower Millcrest Park with the assistance of Norwood Police. They were charged with motor vehicle theft, obstructing official business, trespassing and outstanding warrants.

Aug. 23, 12:27 p.m. – A commuter student living in the 900 block of Dana Avenue reported that an unknown intoxicated subject was in his or her apartment the previous night, had eaten some food out of his or her refrigerator and stolen a credit card. The student was referred to Cincinnati Police.

Sept. 2, 12:51 a.m. – Xavier Police cited an underage intoxicated student after an Uber driver dropped him or her off at the United Dairy Farmers on Dana Avenue and Montgomery Road after the student had vomited in the driver’s vehicle. The student was also cited for possessing a fake ID.

Sept. 4, 11:27 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Norwood Police in the investigation of a load house party complaint and a report of a neighbor possibly waving a gun at the party-goers in the 9000 block of Regent Avenue. Police interviewed the neighbor and believed the item seen in his or her hand was a black iPhone and not a gun. The students hosting the party were advised to break up the party.

Sept. 17, 2:36 p.m. – Xavier Police helped Norwood Police respond to a disorderly conduct report at U-Station. Subjects were throwing water balloons outside their window from the balcony, striking patrons of Gold Star Chili. The residents were advised to stop throwing water balloons.

Sept. 20, 8:41 a.m. – An employee reported someone had placed a large amount of soap in the fountain near Albers Hall. A mountain of suds had formed.

Oct. 4, 12:55 a.m. – Xavier Police and Residence Life investigated a report of a Snapchat video of a clown outside one of the residence halls. The location of the residence hall could not be confirmed, but Xavier Police increased patrols to ensure safety.

Oct. 15, 3:34 p.m. – Xavier Police, Physical Plant and Cincinnati Fire responded to Fenwick Place where three students were trapped in an elevator. The students were freed by firefighters, and the elevator was taken out of service.

Oct. 18, 7 p.m. – Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire and Physical Plant responded to a fire alarm at the Alumni Center. An employee using a fog machine during a photo shoot inadvertently activated the alarm.

Oct. 27, 4:56 a.m. – Xavier officers investigated an intrusion alarm at the McDonald Memorial Library. A non-student found sleeping in the basement rest-rooms was cited for trespassing and escorted off campus.

Nov. 4, 11:15 a.m. – A student reported while walking down Musketeer Drive in front of the C-2 Lot, two subjects driving by attempted to coax him or her into the vehicle. When the student declined, the vehicle drove away and was last seen going up St. Francis Xavier Way near Smith Hall. A public safety notice was issued, and an investigation is pending.

Nov. 9, 12:45 a.m. – A student carrying a parking cone in front of Flynn Hall was warned and sent on his or her way.

Nov. 9, 1,37 a.m. – Four students observed setting off fireworks outside the entrance to Fenwick Place were referred to the student code of conduct.

Dec. 9, 8:32 a.m. – An employee reported that someone had broken into a vending machine in Fenwick Place, stealing the entire product line.

NOTE OF THE YEAR

You wanna pizza me?

Jan. 14, 12:28 a.m. – Xavier Police and Residence Life investigated a report of a fight in the Fenwick Place lobby. Three underage intoxicated students fighting over who was in line first for the Pizza ATM were separated and sent on their way. Residence Life will follow up.

Jan. 12, 10 a.m. – A RA reported someone had attempted to burn paper door decorations in Fenwick Place.

Jan. 21, 1:21 a.m. – Xavier Police investigated the report of two students urinating outside a vehicle in the R-2 Lot. Both students will be brought up on charges through the code of conduct process.

Jan. 25, 1:50 a.m. – Four University of Cincinnati students attempting to put a Bearcats shirt on the D’Artagnan statue in front of Cintas Center were advised and sent on their way.

Jan. 26, 3:18 a.m. – Five University of Cincinnati students attempting to decorate the D’Artagnan statue in front of Cintas Center were advised and sent on their way.

Jan. 24, 4:49 p.m. – Xavier Police and Physical Plant extinguished a smoking-recycling bin in front of Gallagher Student Center. It appears that a discarded cigarette caused the smoke.

Feb. 11, 3 a.m. – An undergraduate student found passed out in one of the stalls in the women’s restroom during the basketball game was ejected from the event and transported back to his or her room after he or she was checked by medics. The student was given OK to stay in his or her room.

Feb. 14, 12:06 a.m. – Cincinnati Fire and Rescue transported an intoxicated student celebrating his or her 21st birthday to Good Samaritan Hospital for possible alcohol poisoning. Physical Plant was notified to clean up the vomit in his or her apartment.

Feb. 17, 7:36 a.m. – An employee reported that sometime overnight the Pizza ATM had been broken into, and five un-cooked pizzas were stolen. The structure was also damaged during the offense. Through the use of the lobby cameras in Fenwick Place and ALL Card readers at the entrance doors, two student suspects were identified and interviewed and admitted to the offense. In lieu of criminal charges, the students were referred to the code of conduct process.

Feb. 17, 4:23 p.m. – Xavier Police and Cincinnati Fire responded to Brockman Hall for a fire alarm. Investigations revealed an electronic cigarette emitting a cotton candy odor may have activated a smoke detector. The system was reset and Residence Life was notified.

Feb. 17, 6:14 p.m. – A student reported his or her vehicle had been egged and the tires had been slashed while parked in the R3 Lot.

Feb. 27, 12:23 a.m. – A student reported he or she was approached by an older subject on the Residential Mall who was possibly carrying a blanket or tarp and began to talk and scream at the student while he or she continued to walk along the Mall. The subject may have been driving a gray four-door vehicle, possibly a Toyota. The area was searched, and the subject was unable to be located.

March 2, 11:29 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Physical Plant with a maintenance emergency in Kilham Hall. A student who had fallen asleep in the shower caused the bathroom to flood, resulting in damage to the floor below.

March 3, 1:49 a.m. – Xavier Police investigated a report of a fight between four to five students on the Xavier Yard. Investigations revealed three intoxicated students were just arguing loudly over a video game. All was OK.

March 5, 6:32 a.m. – Several juveniles playing hide and seek on the Academic Mall were transported home to a family member.

March 18, 10:33 p.m. – Cincinnati Fire and Rescue transported an underaged intoxicated student passed out in the laundry room at Kilham Hall to Good Samaritan Hospital for possible alcohol poisoning. Residence Life was notified.

March 25, 7:10 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Norwood Police in apprehending an underaged student who ran from officers at Regent Avenue and Cheneay Avenue carrying a case of beer.

March 25, 9:14 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Norwood Police in apprehending a student and two non-students who were wanted for dining and dashing at Ben’s Restaurant after failing to pay their bill.

March 26, 12:12 a.m. – An underaged student carrying a 12-pack of beer near the front of Cintas Center was referred to the student code of conduct process for underage possession.

April 3, 8:47 p.m. – A student reported that he or she lost his or her ALL card, which was then used to purchase approximately $18 in vending machine products around campus.

Xavier thomask36@xavier.edu
As a Christian, one word I have heard a lot is “discipleship.” After Jesus’ resurrection and before He ascended to heaven, He gave a mandate to His disciples to go out and “make disciples of all nations.” But who is a disciple? A disciple is a student – less experienced person who follows a teacher, a more experienced person, in order to grow and learn from his or her experience of the teacher. A nice way to see the vision of mentorship relationships is in Jesus’ saying, “a disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.”

When Christ asks His followers to make disciples, He is asking men and women to be in a relationship with others and train them to be more like Him. This principle can also be applied to other areas of life. We are always in disciple-like relationships: Boss/employee, student/teacher, student club leader/advisor, student/professor. I would argue that one-on-one intentional mentoring relationships shape us significantly, and we need to do this attentively.

Throughout college, I have had the opportunity to be mentored in various ways by some of my professors, as well as my staff leaders in Campus Life (Xavier Outreach and African Students Association). More specifically, I have seen that one-on-one life discipleships have been vital to my spiritual health as a Christian, and this has impacted every other area of my life.

For roughly two years in college, I had the privilege of being mentored by a man named Mark Bruner. Our weekly meetings are just a series of words that fill in the blanks of our conversation: “He shared his whole life – good, bad and ugly. I saw a grown man become vulnerable with someone who he did not have to be vulnerable with. He opened up the path for me to be vulnerable with him about my life’s victories and struggles, and boy, it was hard! It would be an understatement to say that iron sharpening iron produces sparks, but the sparks that arise from soul rubbing still gave way to a fire of zeal, purity and wholeness.”

We did life together – ordinary things like getting meals around Cincinnati, driving to the airport to watch different life’s challenges, victories and encouraging each other. I learned from Mark, watched him lead his family and got to love and serve him even as he did the same for me. He invested time and poured his resources into me, and most importantly, he walked side by side with me as we both pursued a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. I once heard someone illustrate a mentor/student relationship with the metaphor of a bow and an arrow. He explained that the bow and arrow are both necessary for effectiveness and usefulness. Like the arrow, youths have speed and like the bow, adults have direction. Alone, they can’t do too much, but, paired together, they can hit their target.”

Muyiwa Oyatogun

For your information:

Who are your bows and arrows

Each edition:

The Xavier Newsure is published weekly throughout the school year, except during vacations and final exams, by the students of Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207.

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First Amendment to the United States Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Newsure has made the decision to stray from the AP Style Guide when printing the words White and Black in reference to groups of people. We have decided to capitalize both.

Sometimes it’s the little things

As 7 a.m. every Wednesday, the alarm sets off the iconic words by Bobby McFerrin that most people would probably not hear or see: “Don’t worry, be happy.” I get up, shower, brush my teeth and throw on some gym clothes. Then, I walk to Gallagher Student Center, pick up the 1200-1500 newspapers that are to be delivered around campus and I walk the route with a smile.

The theory of small joys... is something that my dad and I have been developing ever since I was a little kid, and it is very unrealistic. If I’m ever awake at 7 a.m., it’s because I didn’t sleep the night before. Half the time my alarm clock doesn’t work, and I can’t wake up at all. But in some ways, this Disney version is accurate because the feeling of joy, literal joy, that the story seems to exude is absolutely true. I get true joy out of delivering the paper every Wednesday. In fact, it is one of the small joys with which I measure my life.

The theory of small joys is something that my dad and I have been developing ever since I was a little kid, and I’m sure it’s a commonly held theory that is widely discussed and talked about. Nevertheless, it holds true to form – if you measure the small things in your life that make you happy, you will amass and, over time, form a sustainable center of happiness from which you might draw happiness in other areas of your life.

Everyone who has the phrase “that’s privileged” gracing the tips of their lips right now, please inhale deeply instead of saying it and just give me a minute. I know that “happiness,” the kind you’re thinking of, is a privilege, and it has only made me thirst for more. Will you invest in someone and allow someone to invest in you? Now is the time!

Muyiwa Oyatogun is a senior biology major and guest writer for the Newsure from Oyo, Nigeria.

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On the resiliency of now
A departing Musketeer’s plea for all to keep trudging the course

In the summer of 2013, I re-member the celebratory feast at a Presbyterian church in Alhany, Ga., that was propagated as a college send-off for members leaping into the crossroads. I re-member the joy and happiness that shone bright in the festive room situated inside the wing of the cathedral.

There were deliberations, recognition of the course that was upon us and prayers for the crossroads that were ensuing. When I leaned back and painted pictures in my mind, I realized that my sensitivity clung onto the idioluct – crossroads, which stood out for me within the holy precincts at that moment in time. My gaze at the word, “crossroads” did not intimidate me so much as the realization that it was not typically present in my own parlance at that point in my life and even more so the fact that it was not a route I trav- eled often.

Maybe, it was an epiphany considering the vantage point of the cross. Whenever I saw the cross, I have not so much made the cross. Whenever I saw the cross, I have not so much made my dearest uncles, Uncle Ude, from my mother’s village in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. If there is anything I imbibed from his brief physical passage on this planet, it was his philosophy of communal living wherein one lives within one’s modest means and integrates with integrity and commitment. Being at a crossroads is a jour- ney situated in the world of lived experience. On behalf of my uncle roaming the universe and burning within me, I leave this message. I plead with every one of you to breathe, endure, and burn within me. I leave this message. I plead with every one of you to breathe, endure, and burn within me. I leave this message.

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- Alfred Nwankwo


The boy who cried freedom

I have my mother’s mouth and my father’s eyes; on my face, they are still together. I have traveled outside my body and returned to bones cracked on pavement & blood spilled on concrete seams. I saw Katrina in my reflection, red sea crashing between buildings: Black bodies and babies drowning in breath & blood, & brothers, & sisters, & mothers, & fathers.

No oxygen is the logic of pollution. Suffocation is drowning out of water. Snipers kneel behind American flag & carved heaven into my body one inch at a time. One memory at a time.

My skin mixed with American blood softens sharp bristles. My Black cheeks laid across a blank canvas: Standing and watching smiles go unanswered. Ten seconds is the hallmark of four years. Emails are not reconciliation. I was taken to the top of the world and left on the floor. My limbs extended into each corner of a page; daggers were drawn across the surface of my chest. Metal teeth cut into my organs. White fingers touched my stomach. Dreams were pulled from my sky & tattered feet walked on my clouds like water. But:

When my lungs broke the surface tension of your palm, I taught my heart how to breathe. Today, I live caged between lines, suffocated by thoughts imprisoned to white space. Our time flows like oceans returning to the sea. Where is heaven if not all around me? I am places inside myself you could not see. I swear, I know my destination. I am just not there.

Xavier is America; God bless you if it’s good to you. I followed your heart into the wild, outran your love and denial; I drank holy water, mediated in your eyes, & sat at the center of peace until the sound of earth cracked my bones & I traveled outside myself… Let love lead you home. Let redemption keep you warm.

Please, no more broken bodies.

Alfred Nwankwo is a senior English major and the outgoing Online Editor for the Newswire from Ebonyi State, Nigeria.

Taylor Zachary is a senior sociology major and staff writer for the Newswire from Oakland, Calif.
Opinion: Harden should be named MVP

By Donnie Menke

Staff Writer

Harden had one of the better seasons in the league this year. He had a season-high in net rating, effective field goal percentage and assist ratio. Harden also has a better true shooting percentage and assist to turnover ratio. Westbrooks does best Harden in assist percentage, player impact estimate and rebound percentage.

Harden also leads the league in wins shares and offensive wins share, while Westbrooks ranks fifth and ninth respectively. Even though Westbrooks ranks eighth in all of this, the metrics favor Harden more than Westbrooks.

Although it is a tight race for MVP, Harden deserves the award over Westbrooks. Yes, Westbrooks averaged a triple double, and he had the highest efficiency rating in the league this season. However, Harden was far from behind in either area and even beat Westbrooks in assists. On top of all of this, the metrics favor Harden more than Westbrooks.

Even putting the statistics aside, history is not on Westbrooks side given his teams success. No MVP in league history has had a season of fewer than 50 wins and a worse seed than Harden in recent history.

It is a tight race, and Westbrooks is certainly deserving, but Harden deserves the 2017 MVP award. Not everyone who is deserving can win the award, and Westbrooks will be a victim of this. Westbrooks had a great season, but Harden had a better one.
Music Review: Kenrick Lamar

BY HARRISON HENSLEY

Kenrick Lamar doesn’t think he is just one of the top five rappers right now; He thinks he is numbers one through five. His last LP, To Pimp A Butterfly, was met with praise from both the hip hop and greater music community. With a heavy jazz-influenced production, people wondered what direction Kendrick would take next. More jazz? Rock’n’roll? Polka? Country? Disco? Although he is probably capable of rapping over anything, DAMN is a return to Kendrick rapping over more traditional hip hop production, and that is not a bad thing at all.

The album contains everything that makes Kendrick Lamar himself: Impressive rhyme schemes and punniness, fantastic production and captivating storytelling. Each track is impressively complex and introspective, which is becoming increasingly scarce in the genre. It never feels like he is talking about nothing. On the album cover, Lamar looks tired and angry. This vibe is conveyed throughout the album. The first four tracks heavily reference Fox News clips of anchor talking about Kendrick’s negative impact on the youth. Another common theme throughout the tracks is the idea of nobody praying for him. The weight of the world seems to be on his shoulders.

Although the album must be heard in its entirety to fully appreciate the various concepts, there are several standout tracks. The first full track, “DNA,” is possibly the hardest hitting and most chaotic song Lamar has made so far. The second half of the song feels like a thousand firework go off in a car driven by a rabid grizzly bear going 120 MPH down the wrong side of the highway next to an erupting volcano.

Another strong track is the album’s lead single, “HUMBLE.” The production and lyrics are instantly catchy.

The censored versions will probably be featured on every JV basketball team warm-up playlist for the next few years. ‘XXXY’ gives listeners a taste of the storytelling that is now expected of Lamar.

The track, a collab with U2, illustrates a conversation between Kendrick and a friend whose son was recently killed. It is filled with raw energy, and it also features the one and only Bono, “FEAR-,” the longest track, displays “Kung Fu” Kenny’s lyricism. Each verse deals with his different fears and different points of his life.

Overall, the LP lives up to the high expectations. If you are a hip hop fan, check it out. Kendrick is clearly continuing his winning streak.

Top 5 Albums of 2016-2017

1. Slut Shaming
2. Hamlet
3. Into the Woods
4. The Complete Works of William Shakespeare
5. Pure Comedy

The Year in Plays

Guest writer Kelsey Kraft ranks Xavier Theatre’s five best plays of the 2016-2017 school year.

5. The Complete Works of William Shakespeare

The three-person parody of Shakespeare was incredibly entertaining. There were laughs throughout the show; but it lacked a more serious and lasting message compared to other shows.

4. The Aliens

The dark coming-of-age play was uncomfortable in the best way. It challenged the audience to consider a new perspective on adolescence and adulthood and featured comedic relief to keep the show from becoming too heavy.

3. Into the Woods

This musical was extremely entertaining and had the perfect mix of comedy and tragedy to keep the plot moving along throughout the long performance.

2. Hamlet

In a creative take on the show, the two leads, Hamlet and Horatio, were played by women. Katie Mitchell and Gigi Relic, along with the rest of the cast and crew, delivered a clear and reliable performance of the Shakespeare classic.

1. Slut Shaming

This moving play details a girl’s time-warped account of her rape. Hannah Sheppard, Katie Mitchell and Cassie Delich left the audience stunned with a message they wouldn’t forget. In addition, Xavier Theatre provided a discussion afterward with Title IX Officer Kate Lawson to help the audience process the show.

By Harrison Hensley

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Xavier Newswire

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**Topical & Tasty**

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