Four-part Success Team launches

First-years, sophomores can take advantage of this new initiative

BY MAX BRUNS
Distribution Manager

Xavier students begin their careers at the university by hearing an inclusive pledge with a passionate message. At the opening ceremony during Manresa, the words “We are unique individuals who come together in the spirit of St. Ignatius, to learn together, to serve together, and we will succeed in changing the world together” are first recited by incoming students.

This language of community and success is mirrored in the new Xavier Success Team initiative. On the Xavier website, the Student Success Team page greets visitors with the words “All students at Xavier have a Success Team here to help you adjust to college life, manage your time, keep up on your academics, and navigate sticky situations.”

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The success team is a major initiative for 2017. The rollout includes the announcement that every first year and sophomore will have direct access to four coaches. The first, the Success Coach, is described by the Student Success Team page as an adviser from the faculty or staff who can offer support in the areas of social adjustment, academic support or time management. These advisers are categorized by major so that students can easily find their coach, but “success coaches are ready and willing to create a plan that ensures every student has the best college experience here at Xavier.” Their concern is for the students’ entire college experience.

The second coach students can reach out to is a Career Coach. Career Coaches, like the Success Coaches, are divided by major for students to easily look up. They are based out of the Career Development Office, and they “can help you figure out career paths and identify strengths and interests that may help you in your career or graduate school journey.” According to the website, Career Coaches also manage the career fairs in the fall and spring, host employers on campus and give students advice on their resumes.

The third kind of coach students have access to is an Academic Advisor. Academic Advisors have been accessible to all students for many years, as students must have their schedule for their next semester approved by their adviser. Academic Advisors are professors in the student’s major and are knowledgeable of the requirements their respective majors.

The final type of coach is the Financial Aid Counselor. Financial Aid Counselors, according to the Success Team page, can “work with you to discuss your FAFSA, scholarships and other financial aid options.” This coach is accessible to students as a result of continuous feedback from the student body.

Sophomore Joe Spirk spoke to the success of this type of adviser in the GOA program. “They do a great job of giving students ways to figure out what their own financial aid plan entails rather than just relying on the choices their parents or guardians make for them,” Spirk said. Junior Kaitlyn Clyne is a student who missed out on the opportunity and wishes she could have access to such a coach.

“Unfortunately you make at Xavier aren’t just important academically, but they affect your financial future as well,” Clyne said. “An advisor who could guide you through those important decisions when you’re fresh out of high school would be really helpful.”

Xavier is excited to roll these coaches out with the Student Success Team. First-years and sophomores can find their coaches at http://www.xavier.edu/student-success/Your-Success-Team.cfm

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Advice to first-years from professors

“About once a year, take a course simply because you find it interesting, not necessarily because it is required...In college, I took many courses, but the three I remember most were about classical music, about theatre and about dinosaurs. Those were experiences that I treasure. And, don’t be scared to try a class in which you have no talent. Everyone needs to start somewhere.”

-Dr. Dena Morton,
Mathematics Department

“Maximize the experience! College flies by, so make the most of it. Your Xavier experience is like everything in life: You get out of it what you put into it, so give it everything you have and you’ll be amazed to discover all the experiences, relationships, and growth that will result. Have fun and your joy will be contagious.”

-Dr. Marcus Mescher,
Theology Department

“My advice to first-years is to enjoy their year and not overcommit... They can’t do everything the first semester or year, so they shouldn’t stress about their resumes. Given Xavier’s post-graduation placement rate, students have to try really hard to not succeed. First-years should take some time to find where they best fit and what they’re passionate about.”

-Dr. Wendy Maxian,
Communication Arts Department

“Go to office hours! Seriously! We are here to help you, and you showing up is probably going to make my day. No one I know at Xavier is not delighted to meet one-on-one with students. I usually ask my students if they feel better as they are packing up their things, and they always say yes, usually with a big smile of relief.”

-Dr. Marita von Weissenberg,
History Department

“Learn how to study. In other words, know what ways that you learn best. Whether you’re a visual or an auditory learner. And schedule study time into your day!”

-Dr. Brenda Wiles,
School of Nursing

“Treat school like a full-time job. Make a weekly plan that uses the ‘free’ time between classes. A 15-credit class schedule means 15 hours in class and 30 hours studying/writing out of class. A thoughtful schedule and self-discipline promotes a healthy mind, body and spirit and will help you best prepare for life beyond college as well.”

-Dr. Jennifer Robbins,
Biology Department

“First, learn to fail. After college, life does not hold a string of successes...Second, realize that we, your professors, teach you nothing. All we do is help you teach yourselves...In my several decade experience of teaching...in all that time I’ve never actually taught anyone anything. If I’ve had any success in the classroom, it’s because I’ve been able to help my students learn for themselves. So let us help you do that.”

-Dr. Timothy Quinn,
Philosophy Department

“For life I would recommend taking advantage of the opportunities that you have now when you are young like study abroad or the spring trip to Guatemala. When you get older you have the time but not the money or the money but not the time. You really regret some of the opportunities you let pass by.”

-Dr. Laura Wessels,
Physics Department

“Consumption is not enough. In high school, it was usually enough to consume answers from a study guide. That’s typically not enough in college. Make sure you output what you’ve learned by practicing, quizzing yourself, asking questions—before the exams. You likely will not do as well as you can if the first time you’ve practiced is during the exam itself.”

-Dr. Ari Ray,
Biology Department

“I would say be consistent. Like in terms of when you’re getting your work done...the semester is like a marathon. You (have to) pace yourself. And in order to pace yourself, you have to have kind of a rhythm... Be consistent. Make sure that you’re on top of stuff and chip away at whatever work you need to get done. And you know you can look up, and you’ve done 26 miles.”

-Dr. Jerry Cline-Bailey,
English Department

“... Carve out the time and space to listen to those around you so you can broaden your horizons. The world needs more empathy and understanding, especially across differences, and being curious and willing to listen is a great way to start.”

-Dr. Marcus Mescher,
Theology Department

“Your best work is not likely to be a paper you slapped together at the last minute. Yes, usually we can tell if you procrastinated. Take the time to review faculty feedback on assignments. Our feedback is provided with your growth in mind. You can’t integrate that feedback if you don’t read it!”

-Dr. Reneé Zucchero,
Psychology Department

By Erica Lampedt and
Soondos Mella-Ossman
Staff Writer and
Copy Editor

xaviernewswire.com
Library shooting scares librarians

Many are in shock after two people were killed and four injured in N.M.

By Savin Mattezzi  
Staff Writer

The quiet tapping of keyboards and whispers of children at the Clovis-Carver Public Library in Clovis, N.M., was shattered by gunfire last Monday, Aug. 28. By the time the suspect was apprehended, two people had been killed and four others wounded, including a 10-year-old boy. The two people who were killed were both employees of the library.

Margaret Groeschen, Xavier’s campus liaison librarian, recalls that she received training for these types of situations. She repeats the instructions she was taught: “Duck, cover, escape, do whatever you can. If you are willing to sacrifice yourself for others, that’s a personal choice.”

That was a personal choice made by Alexis Molina and Howard Jones, two of the four who were injured in the attack. Molina was shot once in the chest and once in each leg while protecting her brother. Jones was hit in the arm while protecting his granddaughter. Both are expected to make full recoveries.

“I would like to think that I would be thinking of others as well as myself,” Groeschen said. “I would like to think I would be) trying to make sure that people find a safe spot.”

“I would be thinking of others, and protecting my granddaughter. Jones was hit in the arm while protecting his granddaughter. Both are expected to make full recoveries.”

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The worst mass shooting in U.S. history occurred last summer at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Fla. A gunman opened fire on patrons, killing 49 and injuring more than 50 others.

“No one is safe, anywhere… theaters, schools” Groeschen said. “It’s a new mentality that people find a safe spot.”

Week in review

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Photo courtesy of The Chicago Tribune

A woman leaves a bouquet of flowers outside of the library in Clovis, N.M., where two were killed and four were injured after a teen opened fire last Monday. The teen will be tried as an adult and faces a litany of charges: first-degree murder, child abuse, assault and aggravated battery.

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Hospital deal benefits Avondale

In last week’s Newswire, there was an op-ed about the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital deal, a deal that made quite a bit of noise during local politics. In this article there were a lot of really great things that were brought up, especially the acknowledgment that Avondale has been through an arduous history that left a once thriving neighborhood mostly deserted. Often lost in these times a community will be left out of the conversation about developments that are directly affecting its future. The writer argues that this deal is, in effect, the cherry on top of the story of how Avondale has been cheated throughout its history. While I agree that Avondale has a storied past forgotten by former leaders in the city, the Children’s deal is by no means a development that will hurt Avondale. In fact, it may be one of the best political deals Cincinnati has seen in quite some time, and it will help our entire city including Avondale.

The city of Cincinnati is giving no mon- ey whatsoever to help this development because Children’s Hospital is paying for all of it on their own accord. In fact, the hospital has already purchased the properties from landlords and given compensation. In total, eight families will be displaced, which is not something that is good by any means. However, the benefits that come from this expansion outweigh this. Children’s has already agreed to invest $81.3 million in Avondale, outside of what they are already pay- ing to expand. They also are already funding a school-based health clinic, and they are partnering with a homeown- ership program in Avondale. Since there is an emergency, it is much easier to rush a patient between connected buildings in these cases, time is crucial and can make a difference between life and death.

This is truly an awesome deal that could help Avon- dale out of issues they are currently facing. Although it may seem like this is your typ- ical “government vs. community,” the work that Children’s does will legit- imately bring all of the commu- nity together.

Children’s has proven time and time again they are com- mitted to doing the right thing, which brings up a larger is- sue. We spend a lot of time critiquing big businesses and seemingly do nothing for their communities. It is a rare thing to see groups investing back into their communities. This is why when we have a com- pany as good as Children’s willing to invest money to us, it is a shining example to others. We should all want ev- ery company in Cincinnati to be like Children’s Hospital. If everyone gave back as much as Children’s has, we could solve many major problems in our communities.

This deal is by no means perfect, and I do feel for the eight families who will have to move to move but since they have done something commen- cated, the commu- nity has been engaged and Children’s is giving back to the commu- nity complete- ly of their own accord, this deal is completely worth it, especially if we hope to continue fighting the her- opin epidemic and childhood poverty.

The Scarlet “R”

I am a Republican. Now that I have admitted that, I might as well walk around sporting the dreaded scarlet “R” because of the constant associations that come with my political party. Donald Trump has completely tainted the reputation of Republicans and plays into the stereotypes that make this party appear as pretentious, hateful, exclu- sive, close-minded and full of White men. Although those adjectives basically describe the average Trump supporter, I believe there are actually conser- vative and the impor- tance of giv- ing a voice to Middle America, but not just that. I also believe in equali- ty, global warming, and bettering our whole coun- try. So believe it or not, it is possible to be a Republican and human.

The previous election was between two extremes of the political spectrum. One was the lack of moderation set the stage for people voting against a candidate and not for either one. Last November became a race of who could outdo the other more and less about policy and more about attacking. Although Trump won this battle, Republicans still lost this last election.

The sheer fact that Trump is in the White House is nothing that goes beyond my mind’s capacity. I cannot comprehend how the U.S. has come to this conclusion and elected a man of enor- mous unqualified and irrational man as our president. But what I really struggle with is why every single Repub- lican in America is now lumped in with Trump. I’m here to help you understand that Trump supporters, alt-right believers or White supremacists don’t exist. They do, but they are not the majority of Republi- cans. The Republican Party does not approve of Trump’s actions – no one does. He has somehow managed to receive the record for lowest approval rat- ing during his first term in history, with a staggering 34 percent of last Monday’s New York Times poll. So no, Republicans aren’t supporting his lack of action in immigration or his disdain for those who are different is slander against everything. No one supports it except for the select few extremists who give the entire party, and nation for that matter, a terrible reputa- tion.

Our country is meant to have two political parties. I don’t say this with implica- tions that the Democratic Party is superior to Republicanism, but right now it seems as though the whole country does. The saying, “If you’re not a Demo- crank when you’re old, there is something wrong with your head” is taken way too liter- ally. Today, I’m sure many seem harmless phrase is a common perception of the two most prevalent political parties in the U.S.: Democrats ruling publicanism, but right now it seems as though the whole country does. The saying, “If you’re not a Demo- crank when you’re old, there is something wrong with your head” is taken way too liter- ally. Today, I’m sure many seem harmless phrase is a common perception of the two most prevalent political parties in the U.S.: Democrats ruling publicanism, but right now it seems as though the whole country does. 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Love never fails

For when they are done in love they are done well
So if it is not done in Love
It must not be done at all
I cannot promise you much
But I can promise you this
If I can give you nothing else
I will give you love
I will listen to your problems
And speak on them only if you ask
I will be a shoulder to cry on
Your 2 am phone call because you couldn't sleep
Your 5am ride from the airport
And your ride to work at noon
I will write a sermon in the form a poem & perform it in front of 'thousands of people'
simply because you asked
A friend that lifts the weight off your shoulder when you cannot bear it any longer
I will be your diary
and keep your secrets under lock and key
I will encourage you when you cannot encourage yourself
I will pick you up when you are down
No matter how often you stumble or fail
I will be your safe guard when you are defenseless
I will be the small flame to lead you through the darkest of days
I will do all this
And so much more for those that I Love
Because Love is never-ending
It knows no finish line
Only perseverance
Because Love
Never fails

By Diamond Brown, senior psychology major

Is Xavier for and with its students?

As a Jesuit institution, one of the values that Xavier teaches its students is the importance of being people "for and with others." Xavier is committed to engaging students in discussions about social justice and service in the surrounding neighborhoods. Amidst all this, Xavier's actions, as an institution, raise questions about whether it is actually for and with its own marginalized students.

Xavier's international student population has been slowly decreasing as fewer international first-years enroll each year. This caused me to ask how the admissions office recruits international students, if it does so at all. During training for Manresa, the orientation team gets a snapshot of the incoming class from the admissions staff, who seem to know everything about the new students, from the top three majors to the most common male and female names.

One of the years I was a Manresa leader, I asked the admissions staff how many international first-years were coming. They didn't know. They knew how many students were coming from New York and Indiana but not the number of students coming from across the sea. To me, there doesn't seem to be any effort being put forth by admissions to ensure Xavier becomes a more diverse space where students can be exposed to different cultures, values and ideas. This inadvertently harms the few international students who are here. Case in point: the class of 2021 is made up of only 22 percent of students who identify as racial minorities.

This past year the Manresa Core, the team that plans Manresa, made an effort to recruit a more diverse orientation team. Emails were sent to presidents of clubs like ASA, BSA and SOL asking for an opportunity to speak to club members to encourage them to apply to become Manresa leaders. This approach seems admirable until one realizes that having a diverse orientation team doesn't automatically make Manresa a more diverse program. Manresa is not designed to appeal to students of different cultural backgrounds.

Real World: Xavier, for instance, is a part of Manresa meant to connect with the first-years by highlighting a variety of issues they may face as students. However, there is not a monologue about being an international student. In addition to that, monologues about race and ethnicity do not highlight the reality of being a minority at a predominantly White institution to the extent that other monologues discuss the difficulty of going through certain issues in a college setting. The lack of acknowledgment of certain students' realities contributed to students not feeling like they are seen at Xavier. Manresa is designed to be color blind, which means it is designed to be White, and no matter how diverse the orientation team in the program will continue to fail to appeal to students of color.

Although I am not privy to how Xavier makes decisions about funding, having seen the changes that have been made in various offices in the three years I have been at Xavier, I have been able to conclude that Xavier is not for and with its students when it makes decisions about funding.

You are not for and with your students when the Center for International Education does not have enough funding to host events that will enhance the experiences of international students at Xavier.

You are not for and with students when you impose hiring freezes that limit the Center for Faith and Justice's ability to host retreats and programs that help students build community and grow in faith.

You are not for and with students when Smooth Transitions only has enough funding for its pre-orientation program and has to struggle to keep first-years engaged throughout the year.

You are especially not for and with students when all this happens at the same time a Pizza ATM is purchased. Xavier cannot choose to tell its students that we should be committed to standing with others and then turn around and make decisions that leave many of those students without the programs that keep them on campus and help them feel like they are a part of a community.

I was told
Of faith
And hope
And love
The greatest of these was Love
That when all else fails
Love never does
That love is consistent and unwavering
And it knows no bounds and has no limits
I was told
That prophecies come to an end
As all things do
That knowledge though seemingly everlasting is incomplete
You must understand
I could be prophetic
With knowledge, I will be your helper and guide
I could have faith that this world has never seen
And that would be good
I could have hope in this degree that I've worked so hard to earn
And that too would be good
But if I have all these things and do not have love
I have nothing
I am nothing
I could speak sweet words & tell you all you'd want to hear
I could give to others
I could study abroad and look at the world
And I could donate to the noblest of causes
But if I do all this without love
There is NO purpose
The bible says
Let all thing be done in love

Ese Obrimah is a senior marketing major and guest writer for the Newswire from Lagos, Nigeria.
Monumental NFL decision

Ezekiel Elliott will serve a six-game suspension after Week 1

BY DONNIE MENKE  Staff Writer

The NFL handed down its decision Tuesday night. As reported by ESPN, NFL appointed arbitrator Harold Henderson has upheld the suspension of the Cowboys feature running back, Ezekiel Elliott.

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 Volleyball improves to 4-3

 Xavier has two career-high feats in tourney

 BY DONNIE MENKE  Staff Writer

 Xavier Volleyball placed runner-up in its tournament this past weekend. Thought the host team began play on a sour note by losing to UC in five sets, it was able to recover well.

 Against UC, the team kept it close throughout the first two sets, despite losing them 25-20 and 25-22, respectively. In the third and fourth sets, Xavier stormed back to tie the match at two sets apiece, Xavier went down 17-12 before

 making a 6-3 run to close

 the set. The second set was much closer, featuring seven ties and two lead changes before Texas State pulled away. In the third and final set, the league was a close one to get Elliott. They believe that Elliott was

 “(a) victim of a conspiracy by the National Football League and its offi-

 cers to keep exonerating evi-

dence from the decision-makers, including the advisors and Roger Goodell.”

 Despite the NFL’s deci-

 sion, Elliott will be eligible to play Sunday in the Cowboys season opener against the New York Giants. His sus-

 pension will take effect begin-

 ning Week 2 and will remain in effect pending official legal proceed-

 ings.

 Two previous cases judged by Henderson resulted in the reduction of the suspensions of Cowboys defensive end Greg Hardy and the Cleveland Browns’ quarterback Tom Brady. The Elliott decision marks the longest sus-

 pendance to the collective bargaining agreement of the league’s personal con-

 duct policy.

 Elliott surpassed all expec-

 tations last year, becoming the 2016 rushing champion as well as Offensive Rookie of the Year running-up to his teammate, quarterback Dak Prescott.

 The Cowboys, without Elliott, will most likely be forced to use a committee of running backs including veterans Darren McFadden and Alfred Morris. The Week 2 game against the Denver Broncos will be the first in-

 dicator of how the team will handle Elliott’s absence.

 No criminal charges were

 brought against him after the Columbus City Attorney’s office said there was “conflicting and inconsistent” information about the incidents between Thompson’s and witness’ tes-

timories.

 The NFL felt the opposite, and the NFL Special Coun-

 sel for Conduct Todd Jones wrote in a letter that “there is substantial and persuasive evidence supporting a find-

 ing that Elliott engaged in physical violence against Ms. Thompson on multiple occa-

 sions during the week of July 16, 2016.”

 “I am both surprised and disappointed by the NFL’s decision today,” Elliott tweet-

 ed out on Aug. 1, “...I admit I am far from perfect, but I plan to continue to work very hard, on and off the field, to

 mature and earn the great opportunity that I have been given.”

 Elliott’s legal team said in a statement after the announce-

 ment, “Two are extremely disappointed with Mr. Hen-

derson’s inability to navigate through league politics, and follow the evidence and, most importantly, his conscience.”

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BY SHON WEATHERS
Guest Writer

Rapper/Rockstar Lil Uzi Vert has officially dropped his first studio album, *Luv Is Rage 2.* While most mix-tape-to-album continuations tend to fall short of expectations, the long awaited sequel to the *Luv Is Rage* mixtape is fun, original and everything but disappointing.

The young rockstar takes a leap in the right direction with this newly released project, making sure to stick to the roots of *Luv Is Rage* while also allowing himself some room for growth as an artist. “The Way Life Goes” stands as a perfect example with Lil Uzi opening up about his recent breakup while also showing off a different side of his vocals. Surprisingly, Uzi opens up to his audience more than before in certain songs throughout the album, like “Feelings Mutual,” where he illustrates heartbreak and the numbness to his feelings that soon followed. Another is “UnFazed,” where The Weeknd brings his soothing presence as Lil Uzi deals with gold diggers over an 808 that’s impossible not to bounce to. The album also holds several true bangers as well. With his VMA Song of the Summer and platinum selling single “NO Tour Life,” Lil Uzi Vert set his own bar pretty high. While he may not have fully surpassed the memorabilia in the way he did with the Weeknd’s “Neon Guts” the staple track of the album outside of “NO Tour Life.”

While I personally am not much of a fan of Lil Uzi Vert, there is no denying that the young artist has made strides in perfecting his sound. While rising rapper Lil Uzi Vert releases his much anticipated first studio album, *Luv Is Rage 2*, *Netflix* is seen to be working within. However, the CIA wants the DEA to step back from its position of screen time goes towards Peta locating a money launderer and getting him to talk. While these events end up being vital to keeping the Cali godfathers in jail, they are dragged out to prevent the show’s only returning character from taking a backseat. This was annoying in the second finale hinted at Peta being the main character of season four which will take place in Mexico.

Even with its flaws, *Narcos* third season is an enthralling race against time. Its bloody events leave you wondering which side was true. Even for a fan of the show you’re some-one looking for a new addictive series, make sure *Narcos’* captivating world of drugs, money and murder is next on your watchlist.

BY WEBB MCNAMEE
Guest Writer

Narcos season three is finally released to Netflix. *Narcos’* biggest failure is giving too much time to Peta. Instead of getting the show’s new characters take control of the series, large portions of screen time goes towards Peta locating a money launderer and getting him to talk. While these events end up being vital to keeping the Cali godfathers in jail, they are dragged out to prevent the show’s only returning character from taking a backseat. This was annoying in the second finale hinted at Peta being the main character of season four which will take place in Mexico.

Even with its flaws, *Narcos’* third season is an enthralling race against time. Its bloody events leave you wondering which side was true. Even for a fan of the show you’re some-one looking for a new addictive series, make sure *Narcos’* captivating world of drugs, money and murder is next on your watchlist.

11 best college finds on Amazon for less than $25

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The third season of Netflix’s original series *Narcos* came out on Friday to critical acclaim. There had been questions surrounding the show and if it would maintain its quality after the death of Pablo Escobar in season two’s finale or if it would come off as a lazy extension of a series that passed its prime. The show now centers on DEA agent Javier Peta (Pedro Pascal) who took a backseat to his partner Steve Murphy (Boyd Holbrook) in the first two seasons. Peta is seen as a hero in America after the takedown of Pablo Escobar’s Medellín Cartel. He heads back to Colombia as a leader of the DEA in charge of taking down the Cali Cartel, which became the largest producer of cocaine in the world after Escobar’s fall.

The main conflict is “The Gentlemen of Cali” hanging on to their own. Gilberto makes a deal with the Colombian government to cease all of Cali’s operations which the cartel dedicates to making as many ill-gotten gains as possible before departing. This creates a timeline for the DEA to work within. However, the CIA wants the DEA to step back and let the cartel’s plan go through. The Colombian CIA station chief, Bill Stech- ner (Eric Lange), says there will be “no more swallowing the spider to catch the fly. Peta does nothing until a mistake by Miguel’s son David (Arturo Castro) costs inno-cent lives. The former sends Chris Feist and Daniel Yanez (Michael Stahl-David and Matt Whelan) into Cali.

Feist and Van-Ness discover that they are working against the cartel, the coronel Cali police force and the CIA. To counter this, they work in secret and find the hideout of Gilberto Rodríguez, who has been praised for his intelligence and his ability to keep Cali out of public scrutiny. He’d bribed and blackmailed every policeman and politician in Cali, giving the cartel relative impunity. The DEA arrests Gilberto in episode four, aptly named “Checckmate.”

This causes the slow-paced show to spiral into breakneck pandemonium. In Gilber-
By Ellie Conniff

Guest Writer

Xavier Theatre will be launching its 2017-2018 season Thursday with the world premiere of Charise Green’s Cannibal Galaxy: a love story. The play follows the lives of five science museum workers whose lives are drastically altered by a single traumatic event. It tracks how each character copes, some in healthier ways than others, and how their relationships with each other change when trauma and the perils of intellect are a rare spectacle.

"The subject matter is incredibly pertinent to the world today," sophomore technical theatre major and stage manager Ereni Suarez said. "The technical aspects are a rare spectacle.

The production utilizes the theater space in an entirely unconventional way to challenge the audience’s perspective in more ways than one. The show will be a fully immersive experience. The set and lights, designed by Joe Leonard and Joe Beumer work in tandem to create a landscape that allows the audience’s perspective in nearly every part of the theater, from center stage to the cat-walks suspended above. Cannibal Galaxy: a love story is directed by Tiffany Greene. Tickets are available in the box office or online at xavier.edu/theatre/performances. Performances will take place in the theater on the lower level of Gallagher Center Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

BY SUSANA DUFFY

Guest Writer

This morning I clocked in at 15 mph. And I think I could have gone faster still. Had it not been for the old man in the middle of the street explaining to his wife how the L-trains in Chicago work, I would have had a straight shot to the next light. You see, if I time my commute just perfectly, there’s always one golden minute, 60 pure seconds, that makes my entire day.

During this holy moment, the gods of everything just and beautiful in the world are all in perfect harmony, granting me five glorious blocks from Calhoun Street to Jackson Street of radiant white silhouettes of what I can only assume is also some one rollerblading. This gives me the perfect opportunity to test my range of speed.

My last train pass expired around the same time summer crept in, and I’ve been skating to work since then.

In the beginning I was a late a lot. You see, I value my sleep immensely. Every second is important.

So when I found out that I can make it to Harold Washington by 6 a.m. if I am out the door by 5:45, my whole outlook on mornings changed. They went from a monotonous ride in a tube that smelled like dry vomit to an addicting, exhilarating and adrenaline-filled challenge.

Every morning I put on the same playlist. If it’s timed perfectly I should arrive at Lake Street just as ‘Another One Bites the Dust’ begins. I start my watch speedometer and then start flying. If it’s a really good morning, there are hardly any people to avoid.

Even though my end goal is speed, what makes it truly exhilarating is the near misses – all of the times I’ve come so close to a situation that could have very easily turned into something much worse with speed comes into play.

The faster I go, the closer I come to making the light and adrenaline-filled challenges. They went from a monotonous ride in a tube that smelled like dry vomit to an addicting, exhilarating and adrenaline-filled challenge.

The closer I get, the better the miss feels. The thrill will be worth it until it’s not one day. Maybe then I’ll stop.