Xavier University Newswire

Xavier University - Cincinnati

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‘Tis the season for construction...

This summer’s projects covered all parts of campus, from a new chapel across from Edgecliff to repairs in Hailstones to upgrades in Elet. Consult the map below for a guide to just what happened while you were away.

In this issue...

World News, Page 3
Hear one student’s perspective on the city’s efforts to remove homeless camps.

Op-Ed, Page 4
Senior Ryan Spolar reminds you to Keep It Simple, Students, as you prep for the year ahead.

Sports, Page 6
This year’s NBA Summer League featured five former Musketeer standouts on the court.

Features, Page 8
Make the most of the last few weeks of summer with this handy list of activities.
Dressing Up D’Artagnan

Directly outside of Cintas Center stands the bold D’Artagnan statue. D’Artagnan’s sword threatens our Catholic rival University of Dayton, and his hand leads the charge against our closest D1 rival University of Cincinnati (UC). More often than not when passing D’Artagnan, you’ll notice miscellaneous items hanging from his pointing finger or off the end of his sword. It’s tradition to place some random treasure on this Musketeer. The best object to placed to this day has been a glazed donut branded against UC.

Late-Night Currito

Currito Burrito is a Xavier gem and the last restaurant on campus not owned by Chartwell’s. Offering internationally inspired cuisine, Currito is located at Fenwick Place. Currito is known for their stellar smoothies, guacamole and music playlists. Currito is also one of the only spots on campus open past midnight. It’s not uncommon to pass Currito at night and see a line of people inside, especially on the weekends. The food just tastes different at night, and the energy in the air is palpable. The later the night, the better the Currito.

The Tunnel

The Tunnel connects the basements of Alter and Hailstones Halls, arguably the two most contrasting buildings on campus. It’s a simple way to get from one building to the next without having to face the elements. The tunnel is also a conveniently located time machine to venture from one era of bathrooms to another. Note the stark difference between the mustard-tinged bathrooms of Hailstones and the stale, starch-white stalls of Alter.

Alter Hall Takeover

Alter is one of the main academic buildings on campus, situated at the front of the Academic Mall. If you somehow manage to avoid Alter during your tenure at Xavier, you are an outlier. Comfortable classrooms, huge windows, individual study rooms and vending machines make Alter the perfect place to study for finals. In fact, Alter is the perfect place to live during finals. There are showers in the bathrooms in the basement that make camping out there during finals week a realistic option.

Elephant Head

Somewhere on campus hides a stone elephant head. It’s your job to find it. There’s nothing more to say on that subject.

Hating UC

This one’s not an option. You have no choice. Hate UC. If you have friends at UC, unfriend them immediately. If you have family members associated with the Bearcats, disown them. Disconnect yourself from everything associated with UC (soliciting their Raising Cane’s is acceptable). If you heed this warning, you will be better prepared for the carnage of the Dec. 8 Crosstown Shootout.

Getting Ready for the Semester

Dates to put on your calendar now

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Week of Welcome

- OSI: Game Night Arrupe Overlook 6 p.m.
- SAC: Taste of Cincinnati Xavier Yard 5 p.m.
- SAC: Movie on the Yard Xavier Yard 8 p.m.

Manresa Orientation

- Upperclassmen move-in
Summer in review
What you may have missed

- A couple in Texas is considering divorcing so that they would individually be able to qualify for Medicare and be able to afford to take care of their sick child (July 11).
- An Arizona congressman claimed diplomatic immunities when pulled over for going 97 mph when the speed limit was 55. He then bragged about typically going speeds up to 140 mph (July 15).
- The Wall Street Journal reported that parents are beginning to pay between $10 and $20 per hour for Fortnites lessons for their children. Parents cite pressure from peers at school as the primary reason for purchasing sessions to help their kids level up (July 31).
- A California’s man was completely destroyed by recent wildfires in the area – well, almost. One item he managed to salvage was his grandmother’s diamond wedding ring. The man said that he had prayed to his grandmother shortly before finding the family heirloom (July 20).
- A London woman woke to find a three-foot python had curled up next to her whilst she slept. By the time animal services reached her home, the snake had slithered away in search of another abode (July 30).
- An Ottawa company fired a van driver after videos surfaced of him deliberately driving through puddles during storms to soak unsuspecting pedestrians. Police decided not to press charges (August 1).
- Two men and a woman stole a baby horn shark from the San Antonio Aquarium by wrapping it in a blanket and disguising it as a baby in a stroller. Police were able to recover the shark from the garage where it was being kept. The shark, named Miss Helen, was safely returned (August 2).

Homeless encampment sues Cincy
The city attempted to shut down The Colony but received a lawsuit in return

BY KEVIN THOMAS
Managing Editor

Mayor John Cranley and Hamilton County Prosecutor Joe Deters are working together to put an end to the encampment of people experiencing homelessness on Third Street, between Main and Walnut.

The city gave the group of people, who call themselves The Colony, 72 hours’ notice before they would be cleaning the space entirely. City officials shut down the encampment on Friday at 2 p.m. for cleaning, but the community moved back in at 4 p.m. The city claimed that the reasons for shutting down The Colony were health issues, safety issues and economic impact. Deters and Cranley are currently working together to find a way to permanently shut down the encampment. “There are valid points to the city’s reasons for shutting down The Colony,” which is why it’s such a tricky thing to talk about,” senior social work major Lauren Bailey said. “I think health and wellness and everybody’s overall well-being needs to be taken into account and it’s important that that aspect is brought in. However, I don’t think it’s valid to use that as a reason for doing this when you don’t offer up viable solutions for the residents to use and take up. So when you’re saying, ‘we’re doing this for your well-being,’ while still not offering up affordable housing for them to move out of a tent and into a home, I don’t think you can justify it as being done for the well-being of these individuals.”

The Greater Cincinnati Homeless Coalition responded to the attempt to clear out The Colony by filing a federal lawsuit claiming that the people living in The Colony are “engaged in symbolic political speech calling attention to the City’s affordable housing crisis.”

The lawsuit will be heard in federal court and revolves around the First Amendment, which grants free speech in public areas to all people in the United States. “People have a human right to speak and to be seen,” Josh Bailey agreed that there is a housing crisis and that something should be done to change it. “I think there needs to be a more comprehensive response so that there is no longer a need for a tent city to exist,” Bailey said. “I don’t think anybody would ever say we should live in a society that encourages people to be living in tents, but that’s because I don’t think we should live in a society where people have that as their only solution.”

Write for the Newswire
It’s a totally fun time.
I swear.
Like, seriously.
Trust me on this.
You’ll love it.

Email us at newswire@xavier.edu
New-ness wears off, we march on

Last year marked the NeWS-ire’s first-ever summer edition. Last year was all about debuting a new layout and a new outlook. It was about turning over a new leaf, overhauling the past and looking to the future. It was about recognizing that the time had come for some of the books of the past to be closed, not matter how hard we had tried to read and re-read them, so that we could open new ones and discover fresh stories. This year, it’s not quite the same. There’s much less “new-ness” to it. Our staff is new in the sense that most are in new positions, but they are not new in roles or skills on the job. Our layout is new in the sense that our masthead now reads “Volume CV” instead of “Volume CVII”, but it is no longer the big change that came to the NeWS-ire over the summer. The summer edition is new in the sense that it’s a new issue, but it is no longer our “big debut” to the rest of campus.

These thoughts, among others, have been running through my head throughout the summer while reflecting on this upcoming year. In fact, a lot of my reflections as of late have concerned “new-ness” — or lack thereof.

As a senior, I find that much of Xavier lacks that fresh, new feeling that I had my first year. As a student who needs two jobs to financially, mentally and physically be accounted for, I have a heavy workload. Many professors expect you to have those assignments in on time, and your club leaders expect you to pull your weight.

It’s OK to go out a lot if that’s your prerogative, and it may not negatively affect your grades (at least at first), but it will begin to affect your other spheres as best as you can to not get too involved with extracurricular activities. Remember, you’re a student first, and you need time to recharge and regroup because a school can take a lot out of you. Eventulty most of us hit a breaking point at some point in our college career: “Wait, I don’t want to do accounting anymore!” “I want to graduate on time!” “I can’t do SGA and SAC anymore.”

Hitting that breaking point is extremely normal and sometimes happens more than once. That’s a sign that it is time to refocus your efforts and balance out the Big Three. Sometimes things are not as hard as you think. It is time to take care of your way to the grindstone and use our opportunity to improve upon the previous one or change something you don’t like. Take advantage of that opportunity.

Invest in your education both inside and outside of the classroom. Explore what the city of Cincinnati has to offer, do community service, Internships, etc. Take hold of what will surely be some of the most memorable times in your life with some of the most memorable people you will meet.

College is about making mistakes and learning from them. You are becoming more independent, but you still have safety nets when you fall. There are really no other times in life when you have this freedom to explore and fail.

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Ellen Siefke is a senior English and Spanish double major. She is the Editor-in-Chief for the Newswire from Mount Prospect, Ill.

To all the incoming first-years, WELCOME! You are about to embark on a great journey throughout the next few years. There are many important aspects of college to balance, and I like to call them the Big Three. In college one gets a “social,” “academic” and “extracurricular/ work” sphere. It’s important to remember this because when you pull from one, you take away time from the other spheres.

It’s great that everyone is going Cancun later, but remember that you have that Anatomy & Physiology test tomorrow. This is the time in your life when more is expected from you, whether that be financially, mentally or otherwise. There are students here who need two jobs to keep their financials afloat. Others are lucky enough to have parents pay, so they get to focus on other spheres. This is not the little leagues anymore. Professors expect you to have those assignments in on time, and your club leaders expect you to pull your weight.

Hitting that breaking point is extremely normal and sometimes happens more than once. That’s a sign that it is time to refocus your efforts and balance out the Big Three. Sometimes things are not as hard as you think. It is time to take care of your way to the grindstone and use our opportunity to improve upon the previous one or change something you don’t like. Take advantage of that opportunity.

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For Your Information

The Xavier Newswire is committed to reporting the news as well as explain its significance to read- ers. In addition to publishing opposing view- points and opinions, the Newsire hope to foster a dialogue on campus, among students, faculty and staff.

Advertising

All inquiries should be di- rected to the Business and Advertising Manager, Alfredo Mercedes, at 513-745-3561.

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Opinions & Editorials

Remember to KISS: Keep It Simple, Student

Ellen Siefke

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How to keep free speech free

We are a country of very detail-oriented individuals, perfectioning the tiniest aspects of all that we do, noticing every minute detail in the way we are addressed. While this can work to our advantage in some situations, it also contributes to an abundance of conflict. Perfecting those tiny aspects produces innovations. However, being hyperaware of someone's word choice and speaking tone results in overthinking that often finds us offended or hurt by what they didn't even say or mean to say.

This doesn't just happen when speaking about personal beliefs, but also in daily conversations.

Every day, we tiptoe around the feelings of the people we work, volunteer or simply hang out with by watching every word we say and the exact tone that we say it with, always breathing a bit more carefully. Yet, somehow, someone still ends up offended. All over the place, we see people apologizing for something they accidentally said while trying to say or do something else. Since it is so easy to offend someone, we should not worry so much about the offenses as we do the ease at which they come about. We are not a naturally offensive country, but a country that is becoming naturally sensitive. There are two problems with this. The first is that it is impossible to never hurt anyone. We try so hard to be nice to everyone and remain perfectly neutral, but it is simply not possible. There are so many different points of view, cultures and beliefs that anyone one person says has the possibility to go against another. The only way to never offend anyone is to never speak. While never speaking or being spoken to may sound like paradise, it is not realistic.

The second problem is that how to ask someone to fit what they believe is to infringe on their right to free speech. In the Constitution, it does not say we have the right to not be offended. It says we have the right to free speech. To the contrary, it means I still have the right to believe what I believe and to say what I believe, even if it offends someone in the room.

To be clear, this is not an excuse to be overtly racist or sexist or to deliberately cause anyone physical or emotional harm. This is permission to say what you feel. This is the right to free speech.

We work so hard to protect people's feelings that we worry about the offenses as we do the ease at which they come about. We are not a naturally offensive country, but a country that is becoming naturally sensitive.

We are not a naturally offensive country, but a country that is becoming naturally sensitive.

2018 offers students a great opportunity. The midterm elections are coming up in November, and political campaigns are looking for volunteers, interns and even staffers to help them win.

The 2016 elections were an exciting display of the American political system. The results, whether you agree with them or not, have generated a lot of discussion about the outcomes or meetings.

As mentioned earlier, the 2018 midterm elections offer a lot for those who are interested in politics. I have been helping on campaigns most of the time we’ve been studying. It isn’t overly stressful, and the opportunities presented have been endless.

Let me assure you, there is a staff writer for the Newswire from Minnaburg, Ohio.

Emily Price is a sophomore psychology major. She is a staff writer for the Newswire from Minnaburg, Ohio.

Tyler Harmon is a sophomore philosophy, politics and public economics double major. He is a former candidate for Colorado Townshend Trustee.

It isn’t hard to imagine someone’s beliefs and therefore their reactions, and therefore their feelings. With some thicker skin, free speech can remain as it was intended: free.
Basketball alums show pro talents

Five former Musketeers played for various teams in the NBA Summer League

BY DONNIE MENKE
Staff Writer

Five former Xavier men’s basketball players took part in the NBA’s annual Summer League. Trevon Bluiett, JP Macura, Edmond Sumner, Kaiser Gates and Semaj Christon all played for different organizations.

Playing for the New Orleans Pelicans’ summer league team, Bluiett impressed with his shot-making ability. In his four games played, Bluiett averaged 19.3 points per game while shooting 57 percent from the field.

Bluiett also averaged 5.3 rebounds and 2.3 assists per game, showcasing his all-around game and how it fit in with NBA-caliber talent. He also had three blocks, which is one fewer than he had his entire junior year.

Macura also impressed with his play in Las Vegas for the Charlotte Hornets. Though he didn’t put up great numbers — six points, 2.3 rebounds and 1.6 assists per game — Macura impressed people with his hustle and off-ball defense.

He averaged 1.4 steals a game, shot 60 percent from the field and turned a technical foul late one game. Macura, much like Bluiett, looked a lot like he did while playing for Xavier.

Summer looked to be close to fully recovered while playing with the Indiana Pacers’ summer league squad. In 19.3 minutes a game, Summer averaged 11.3 points, 2.0 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 1.3 steals a game while shooting 47 percent from the field.

After Gates forewent his junior year to prepare for the 2018 NBA draft, the Musketeers sold out for Bluiett, Sumner and Macura, among many others, on the summer league circuit. In 14.4 minutes a game, Gates averaged 1.9 points, 2.0 rebounds and 1.3 assists a game.

During his four summer league games with the Bulls, Sumner earned 14 minutes a game and averaged 1.7 points and 1.9 rebounds during those 16 minutes.

Christon played with the Brooklyn Nets and got 15.6 minutes a game. However, he struggled shooting from the floor, only managing to make 19 percent of his shots and score 2.6 points a game. He impacted the game in other ways, though, getting his teammates involved with 2.0 assists a game.

Though none of the former Musketeers were able to win the summer league championship, each made his presence known in some way. Christon and Sumner have already played in the NBA, but Bluiett, Macura and Gates, all of whom hope to make an impact this upcoming season.

New ticket system aims for easier use

BY PAUL FRITSCHNER
Staff Writer

The athletic department recently announced a change in its ticketing system for the upcoming basketball season. Xavier Athletics is now partnering with Paciolan, “the leading provider of ticketing, fundraising, marketing and analytics solutions for college athletic departments,” according to the release.

The partnership is part of an effort to make the fan experience more seamless and enjoyable by allowing fans to manage and purchase tickets online or on their phones. The athletic department felt that this software would help fans stay better connected with their ability to manage their tickets online.

“Paciolan is going to be a great partner for the Xavier ticket office,” Ticket Sales Manager Eric Thompson said. “This platform will allow us to better serve our fans who prefer ticketing services or prefer to manage their tickets online. It’s an advantage for us as we’re able to offer better service and more flexibility for our fans.”

The software is immediate and will not be changes to the way they receive their tickets for game days.

This change in ticketing software is immediate and will be in effect for the 2018-19 season. Students received an email with information about activating their new online MyMusketeers accounts on July 11.

Four tips for making the most of your fantasy season

BY JACK DUNN
Campus News Editor

It’s almost football season again, which means excitement for fans across the country.

Ultimately one team will hoist the Lombardi Trophy, and I can tell you right now it won’t be the Bengals. However, even more people are looking forward to playing fantasy football this coming season.

DRAFTING TIPS

1) Wait to draft your QB

There is always that one guy who drafts Tom Brady or Aaron Rodgers in the first round. I always wait till the eighth round or so to find a QB. Kirk Cousins, Matthew Stafford and other solid options will likely still be around.

2) Pay attention to bye weeks

This is simple — you don’t want all your running backs to have a bye in Week 10. By staggering when players have bye weeks you can keep a starter or good bench player in your lineup every week.

3) Check your scoring system

There are two main types of scoring in fantasy football: standard and PPR. PPR stands for Point Per Reception and helps receivers get more points, which is especially good for high-volume guys like Julio Jones. Always read the scoring system and other rules in case your commissioner has some funky rules.

4) Know what other people need and where they are in the draft order

When drafting, it is always good to be aware of what other people are doing. Just like when you’re playing a game of poker, figuring out other people’s strategies will help you with figuring out when you need to reach for that hometown hero or wait for an overlooked player.
Belko Experiment falls flat

By TREVER MCKENZIE
Online Editor

If you ever get to know the real me, you’ll know that I absolutely adore elimination-style shows and movies. There’s a pleasurable thrill in watching characters getting whittled away and trying to predict who the last person standing will be. Reality TV shows and murderous horror movies alike fulfill my desires for eliminations, and I unironically enjoy both despite their campy cliché-ness.

Going into The Belko Experiment, I expected some form of gratification. I knew the characters were all going to die and only one person would be left standing, which was enough to pique my interest. What I didn’t expect were the ridiculous circumstances, unrealistic characters and predictable winner that the movie laboriously churned out in the effort of securing a sequel.

Don’t get me wrong. The Belko Experiment has a lot of potential. The idea of forcing 30 people into an all-out office brawl to survive is promising. The issue lies entirely in the execution. What a movie like this needed was a subversion of the ending that I fully expected from the beginning.

Character and his equally lifeless male coworker annoying him by living their lives and socializing like normal human beings. Even the gratuitous, gory death scenes couldn’t save this movie. A particular sequence in which the people running the experiment kill off 60 people by exploding microchips in their heads sticks out to me because of the pleasing violin music accompanying it.

We assume you studied irony with your Bachelor’s in film. Please use it better.

The Belko Experiment could benefit from examining what made movies like The First Purge so great and narrow its scope if it wants to make a sequel — not that I’m holding my breath for that.

Total score: ★★☆☆☆
Savoring the last of summer

BY SOONDOS MULLA-OSMAN
Features Editor

Summer. It’s a thing that’s ending soon, whether you want to believe it or not. Trust me. I’d much rather make an invitation-only bed fort with a stash of Kroger brand comfort snacks than write eight essays and take five tests in the span of a week. While it’s a reality that’s dangerous to deny, there are some must-dos that can make it feel like summer will last forever — things that you probably wouldn’t be able to do during the school term.

1. Stay up until sunrise (roughly 5 a.m.)
This one’s a classic. The rising sun won’t look pretty to you if you’re pulling an all-nighter trying to finish a lab report you had an entire month to do. Even if you have some sort of summer responsibility, this likely won’t compare at all to the ones you’ll have during the fall semester. Drink up that Mountain Dew or coffee or FaceTime the night away with friends. Or both. Then, when the night sky starts to peel away, step out in them jammies and slippers.

2. Sleep in until at least 2 p.m.
This follows from the previous recommendation. Smash that alarm. Let your own messed up body clock wake you up naturally. Stretch and relish the fact that the annoying chirping birds got too tired of singing long before you rose. Shuffle to the kitchen and eat a well-deserved brunch.

3. Binge watch that show your friend recommended forever ago
You know you have one. I have like 342374987123. Watch it, then gush to your friend about how awesome it was. There was a good reason they recommended it to you, after all — they wanted to share their enjoyment of it with you. There’s no better time than summer to check this off your list when you can talk purely about the show and not that essay you guys have due soon.

4. Go on a road trip
Do you know how hard it is to plan big trips during the school semester? Like obnoxiously hard. Grab a friend or two or some family or both. Google a city you’re always wanted to visit, pack a small suitcase, book someplace to stay and head out the next morning. It’s as sporadic, simple and beautiful as that. You don’t have much time left to do it, after all.

5. Understand that it’s not the end of the world
Summer’s like a hyper-limited-edition Oreo. It’s awesome, it tastes great, it’s always insta-worthy, but it leaves too soon. The nice thing about summer is that it’ll be coming back next year. Change can be scary, but as long as you keep yourself open to new things, you’ll be OK. All kinds of different limited-edition Oreo cookies get pumped out year-round, after all. You just might fall in love with another.

Aries: Careful not to throw money at too many things this week. Mr. Fluffle is going to shred your catnip mouse goodbye gift, in the same way you’re gouging out your wallet.

Taurus: Don’t be afraid to delegate stuff to your pals. It takes two to put up a painted rendition of your favorite meme.

Gemini: Gurl, give yourself some “treat yo self” time.

Cancer: Try heading to your favorite locally owned place and meeting a friend you haven’t caught up with in a while.

Leo: You might be struggling to balance social relationships and work/life obligations. Remember that it’s OK to yetzt, as long as the yezting isn’t the last second!


Libra: Make sure you look on fleek this week. Already looking on fleek? Look extra on fleek.

Scorpio: Now’s the time to unfriend your mom on Snapchat, if for some godforsaken reason you haven’t already.

Sagittarius: You know those rooms where you can pay to break stuff like printers and TVs? Yeah. It’s a pretty smashing stress outlet.

Capricorn: You know you shouldn’t be eating that cookie dough, but I’m here to tell you to eat it anyways.

Aquarius: Don’t say “oh, the weather’s not that bad.” You will jinx it. You will jinx it for everyone, and everyone will hate you.

Pisces: Grab as many of your friends as you can and head out to listen to some live music. Big artist, small artist, it doesn’t matter. It’s summer. Make the most of it!