A new director, a student-oriented sexual health educational fellowship and a pilot program for the theology department highlight the developments

BY ELLEN SIEFKE
Editor-in-Chief

Six years after Title IX Officer Kate Lawson began her Xavier career, she is getting a partner: a new Title IX Program Director. The director will focus on prevention and education efforts as they relate to gender-based violence and Title IX affairs.

The announcement of the new position comes after a summer that included research conducted by juniors Riley Head and Derek Adkins and senior Daniel Bowling as well as an Enquirer article about sexual assault on campus that featured Lawson and Father Michael Graham, president. Both Lawson and Graham feel that the new position is the culmination of efforts and support services in a way that has really led to this sea change in our culture, where we’re significantly decreasing barriers to reporting and students are accessing advocacy and support services in a way that really, we haven’t seen,” Lawson said.

Because of the increases in reporting, however, Law- son has been unable to spend more time on the prevention and education side, which is where the new director will come in. The position will entail promoting gender-based violence goals as stated in the university’s diversity and inclusion strategic plan and directing gender-based violence prevention and education programs. The director will also assist the office with investigative work as needed.

Beyond these duties, the director will focus on being a resource for gender-based violence education and sexual health efforts across campus, which was the focus of the students’ summer research. Head explained that in their conversations with students, faculty and staff, they found a lack of connection among groups or programs dedicated to gender-based violence and similar issues. One of their conclusions, therefore, was the need for a director to act as that connecting piece.

“There’s all of these amazing initiatives...but they’re all so siloed,” Head said. “That’s one of the biggest goals for the prevention director, is that they will be that streamlined communication source, that even if somebody needs to be talking to somebody else, that prevention director can connect those people in communication, so that it’s not just people doing their best in their individual communities but that it’s more of a Xavier-wide effort.”

In addition to the new director, two more initiatives are set to roll out within the year: first, a fellowship dedicated to healthy sexual decision-making, and second, a pilot program within the theology department to bring the issue into classrooms.

The fellowship will consist of a group of junior-senior partnerships that will engage students individually and through connecting groups like Xavier Students Against Sexual Assault or committees like It’s On X. The fellows will work under the director but will enjoy a level of autonomy in that they will determine how to approach the topic of sexual health.

“Part of that would be talking about healthy relationships, planning programming to talk about safe dating, talking about what consent looks like, how to safely have sex,” Head said, “and that’s what we’ve been kind of talking about. When we interview students, when we select students, when they’re part- nered for the senior-junior partnership, (we will be) find- ing what works best for them, what are their passions, what are their interests, so that they can do their best work, instead of us telling them. This is what you need to focus on.”

Lawson emphasized the importance of having these peer-to-peer connections and conversations.

“I think it’s important for students to hear from people my age, perhaps, or in my posi- tion, about these topics, but it does not resonate or have nearly the impact we want unless it’s peer-led conversa- tions,” Lawson said. “So we’ve really talked about the value of having the student fellowships working with the Ti- tle IX Director to...as a pilot program, determine what makes sense, what should we be tackling this first year...and matching the focus with the student interest.”

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Get to know Carabello Coffee, a philanthropic company now serving its coffee on campus.

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A student and police officer reflect on last week’s downtown shooting at Fifth Third.

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Father Michael Graham, president, addresses survivors of sexual violence in an open letter to the Xavi- er community, modeled after former Vice President Joe Biden’s letter.

Students Derek Adkins, Daniel Bowling and Riley Head describe their summer research project about gender-based violence initiatives on campus and highlight their findings. Some of their proposed pro- grams are being implemented this year.
Carabello Coffee more than beans

The new providers of Xavier’s coffee strive to empower farmers through forming cooperatives and connecting them to larger growing communities

BY HANNAH PAIGE MICHELS  
Staff Writer

When Xavier’s dining scene began to change, students had virtually no idea what was going to replace beloved restaurants and coffee shops. Though some others have yet to be revealed, the coffee replacement is no longer a mystery.

All coffee on campus is now sourced from Carabello Coffee Company and can be found at Victory Perk and in the Hoff Dining Commons. While seeing Coffee Emporium choose to leave campus was upsetting for some, Carabello Coffee brings more to the table than simply a new caffeine fix.

The company was founded by Justin and Emily Carabello in 2009 and is located simply across the river in Covington, Ky. It started with an idea 30,000 feet in the air: What if there was a philanthropic company that equitably sourced coffee, sold it in the United States and put the profits back into sustainable communities or these farmers, “that the university and specific communities, that over a five-year or 10-year period of time, could actually create vibrant opportunities on both sides?”

As he spoke, Justin pulled up Facebook Messenger on his phone. He was chatting with Luis, one of Carabello’s main farmers in Nicaragua. Luis had reached out to Justin about a neighborhood farmer who also grew coffee and wanted to bring them on board to harvest beans for Carabello Coffee.

“Can we begin to build relational bridges between the university and specific communities that grow the coffee?” Justin said. “We don’t just serve coffee anywhere. We want to work with other companies that value our brand, our quality levels, that are willing to commit.”

The partnership with Carabello Coffee is important for both sides. For Carabello, the partnership meant making an even greater change. For Xavier, serving Carabello’s coffee meant committing to a company that believes in community, philanthropy and quality.

“What if we think more about the individual or the person at the end of this supply chain and choose to spend our money that way?” And I think the potential is really huge in the long term.”

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“Can we begin to build relational bridges between the university and specific communities, that over a five-year or 10-year period of time, could actually create vibrant opportunities on both sides?”

Besides working with universities and communities, Carabello invests directly in philanthropic initiatives and has donated $10,000 this year alone. The company also works with the non-profit organization Coffee Kids in places like Colombia, Honduras and Tanzania to invest in young coffee farmers. Coffee Kids provides young adult farmers with classes, economic data, resources and support to grow their coffee farms.

“Thinking big picture, Justin hopes that, through creating relationships between Xavier and coffee-producing communities, students might have a chance to visit producers and children in farming families might have more opportunities to receive a higher education.”

“For a lot of people, they feel stuck in this system where, even though they’re getting paid unfairly, at least they’re getting paid earlier,” he said.

That’s where people like Justin and Emily come in. Carabello and similar companies present cooperative structures to these farmers and offer to pay three or four times more than the coyotes. If farmers agree to organize and follow certain protocols, then both parties can arrange a mutually profitable business deal. Farmers can pool their coffee to create an exportable quantity and seek long-term relationships with importing companies. Producers like Carabello can be introduced to farmers and their products.

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According to Justin, 93 percent of coffee consumed in America is still conventional grade, as opposed to Carabello’s specialty grade. With coffee trading at 98 cents a pound on the commodities exchange, many people are unable to survive in coffee-producing nations by farming coffee. Last year, Justin paid an average of $4.64 per pound for coffee when the market price was $1.30 per pound.

“We want to see the seven percent that’s specialty (coffee), that’s priced more based on the quality, not the market,” Justin said. “We want to see that way of sourcing and building relationships change.”

What I find truly commendable is this is the way Xavier is willing to rethink how they spend their coffee dollars,” Justin said. “Instead of just spending it with a national brand...they’re saying ‘Well, what if we think more about the individual or the person at the end of this supply chain and choose to spend our money that way?’ And I think the potential is really huge in the long term.”

Ultimately, the partnership with Carabello Coffee is important for both sides. For Carabello, the partnership meant making an even greater change. For Xavier, serving Carabello’s coffee meant committing to a company that believes in community, philanthropy and quality.

“We don’t say yes to everybody,” Justin said. “We don’t just serve coffee anywhere. We want to work with other companies that value our brand, our quality levels, that are willing to commit...’It’s one thing to have a cool local coffee shop. That’s great. But cool local coffee shops just don’t go through a lot of coffee...The potential to impact people’s lives is much greater when you start tapping into these larger institutions. You can make a bigger impact.’”

Justin is excited to get involved with students at Xavier. Carabello Coffee will be at the farmer’s market on Sept. 27 doing tastings and plans to host events on campus to connect with the Xavier community.
Meet Officer Natosha Yankey

Photo courtesy of Natosha Yankey

Officer Natosha Yankey attended the University of Cincinnati and now works for its cross-town rival.

By MADDY GOODMAN
Staff Writer

Xavier University Police Department (XUPD) has hired seven new police officers for the 2018-2019 school year.

“I would say that having Lime around campus is a good addition for those students who live off campus and are looking for cheaper forms of transportation.”

Joseph Spirk
Junior economics major

“I think they seem like an interesting and exciting new concept, but I have almost gotten hit by a careless student three times now around campus.”

Lizzie Williams
Senior criminal justice major

“Where are the helmets? Is my initial concern, as well as ‘They seem like a DUI waiting to happen.’ If you could even get a DUI on an electric scooter app, I couldn’t tell ya.”

Brennan Kizer Ball
Senior nursing major

Students offer reactions to new Lime scooters

Lime dropped off its long-awaited scooters early Tuesday morning, and the rest of campus wasted no time in trying the devices out. The scooters can be rented just like the Lime bikes and are subject to the same rules and regulations concerning usage and parking.

We asked a few students to share their thoughts on the new scooters.

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TITLE IX: Programs to focus on education efforts

CONTINUED from page 1

Interested students will apply and undergo interviews before being selected. Both the Title IX Office as well as Head, Adkins and Bowling will be involved in this process.

Adkins added that the program will provide lesson plans and resources for professors to speak about gender-based violence and the issues surrounding it. The new director will oversee the program.

Adkins said their goal is to engage students who might not otherwise have these kinds of topics.

“What a lot of the student organizations and student groups on campus are doing around gender-based violence and prevention are great, but they really tend to only attract students that care about these issues already.” Adkins said.

“Goal is to reach students who may not care about this issue or may not have a passion for it and to reach them and get to them at least start having conversations about it... even if that’s just in the 50 minutes that they’re in class, but hopefully that will extend outside the classroom, among friend groups.”

The students would also like to see the program expand beyond theology into other departments like philosophy, English and even math and business health resources available around campus. Pizza will be provided.

Head, Lawson and Professor Dan Spalding have been working on the Title IX office for the past two years. Among the changes, there is a new full time officer, one new part-time officer, and five new reserve officers.

Officer Michael Farner and Officer Salvatore Damiani are XUPD’s new full-time and part-time officers.

Deputy Chief Joseph Han, Lieutenant Todd Campbell, Officer Joseph Egleseder, Officer Sean Earl and Officer Natosha Yankey are XUPD’s new reserve officers.

The Neureuther had the opportunity to ask reserve officer Yankey a few questions for students to get to know her.

“Where are you from? I’m from Hillsboro, Ohio.

Where did you attend college? I attended University of Cincinnati.

What do you hope to bring to the campus? I hope to bring a fresh perspective to the campus, a way that we simply haven’t been able to get before.”

Adkins added that the changes will also address moral relativism, which he said is prevalent among students.

“I think it really is easy for students on this campus and in general, students at any college campus, to say, ‘Look, that’s fine, I do me, you do you, I’m not going to get involved in that, it doesn’t affect me,’ Adkins said. “I think it’s really important for students to recognize that this issue really does affect everyone on this campus.”

“What we’re doing is mapping out concrete, specific steps we’re going to take,” Graham said. “...Then a couple years down the road, we’ll be somewhere we aren’t now and then can ask questions about what’s next.”

“...But I think we’re in a really fruitful period right now. Looking back gives us an opportunity to look forward in a way we’ve simply hadn’t had before.”
Kavanaugh hearings cause chaos

Proceedings interrupted by protestors; Democrats raise issues with process

BY DEVIN LUGINBILL
Guest Writer
United State Circuit Judge Brett Kavanaugh completed a three-day hearing conducted by the Senate Judiciary committee on Sunday. Kavanaugh is President Donald Trump’s nominee to replace Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy who is retiring.

Kavanaugh is known to hold an originalist interpretation of the Constitution, which is a strict form of its original interpretation. Kavanaugh has argued that the president should not be subject to investigation or questioning while in office and has also questioned the precedent of his personal political views could be seen as disqualifying.

Democratic senators called into question the validity of the nomination process, claiming that a legitimate hearing could not take place until 42,000 documents, only made available to them at the eleventh hour, could be analyzed. In addition, thousands of documents have yet to be made available to the public.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) responded to the claims by saying that “the committee was in complete compliance according to the Presidential Records Act of 1978.”

After the proceedings, the issue of presidential power could be in jeopardy.

Week in review

**Bloody youth, trains and “Cincinatti”**

- Blood might be the secret to remaining young in both mind and body. A series of studies backed by the San Francisco-based company Ambrosia found that adults 35 and older injected with blood from 16-25-year-old donors showed improvements in biomarkers for age-related diseases. Ambrosia currently sells teenage blood plasma to older patients at a rate of $8,000 for 2.5 liters (Sept. 8).

- Derek Loccident, a football player for the University of Central Oklahoma, lost his foot on Sunday after a train ran over it. Loccident had attempted to crawl under a stopped train when it began moving and severed his foot (Sept. 9).

- A road sign along I-71 in Columbus currently directs drivers south toward “Cincinatti.” It’s unclear how long the typo has existed, if there are any plans to fix it or if there is a new town in the works (Sept. 10).

- King’s Walk Golf Course, located in Grand Forks, ND, plans to introduce a new drone food delivery service on Friday. Customers will place their orders through an app, and the drones will lower each item to them on a rope (Sept. 11).

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**POLICE NOTES**

Sept. 4, 10:30 p.m. — A hall director and RA’s reported an inappropriate message left outside a room on a whiteboard in Kuhlman Hall.

Sept. 5, 8:00 a.m. — An employee in the Conaton Learning Commons reported someone may have been in their office overnight. Nothing was taken.

Sept. 5, 11:30 p.m. — A student reported someone damaged their car while parked in the R1 lot overnight. Cameras couldn’t find anything. An investigation is pending.

Sept. 6, 9:20 p.m. — Xavier Police investigated a report of a disorderly party and possible hazing of students in the 1900 Cleary Avenue. Officers were unable to locate any evidence of hazing. Students of the residence were advised to relocate and provide the code of conduct for follow up.

Sept. 8, 6:41 p.m. — Three students entering the woods behind the Volleyball courts who smoked marijuana were sent on their way and were referred to the code of conduct process.

Sept. 9, 12:00 a.m. — A student reported the theft of a $100 bill from their wallet.

Sept. 10, 8:06 p.m. — Xavier Police received a report from students living in a suite on the second floor of Fenwick Place that someone may have been in their common room overnight and a computer charger may possibly be missing. Residence Life was notified.

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**NOTE OF THE WEEK**

**Child of the woods**

September 8, 6:41 p.m. — Xavier Police investigated a report of a juvenile (approximately 12 years old) wandering around the insides of Husman Hall Kuhlman Hall, and Fenwick Place. The juvenile was last seen discarding their bicycle and running into the woods at Ledgewood Avenue and Victory Parkway.

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The concern for Democratic senators, outspoken critics of the nomination, is the belief that Kavanaugh’s appointment is a political insurance policy for Trump. This is due to a law written in 2009 by Kavanaugh that Congress could potentially write a law to exempt the president of investigation and prosecution while in office. Congress has yet to introduce such a law.

The Republican senators supportive of Kavanaugh’s appointment said Kavanaugh’s record showed he was a qualified judge and a family man, to prove him as a qualified judge and family man.

When asked by Ranking Member Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) if he thought the ruling of Roe vs. Wade was correct, Kavanaugh only said, “I would respect it as precedent.” Legal experts predict that with a fifth conservative leaning justice on the Supreme Court, abortion rights could be in jeopardy.

Republicans insist that these claims are inflated and that Kavanaugh is clearly a well-qualified, albeit a conservative-leaning justice.

Grassley expects that the Senate will vote on Kavanaugh’s confirmation in mid-September.
Fifth Third shooting leaves 3 dead
Shooter killed and two also wounded in the attack 13 minutes from campus

BY SIERRA ROSS
Guest Writer

There was an active shooter reported at the Fifth Third Bank branch in Fountain Square plaza about 13 minutes away from Xavier's campus on Sept. 6.

At around 9:10 a.m., the gunman, Omar Santa-Perez, entered the loading dock of the bank and opened fire.

In fewer than five minutes, three people were killed and two others were wounded. Both of the wounded people have been released from the hospital.

The motive for the shooting is currently under investigation. Perez had no known connection to Fifth Third or to any of the victims, all of whom have been identified.

It is unclear whether or not Santa-Perez was voluntarily committed to a mental health institution after a Florida court order in 2010.

On two occasions, Santa-Perez's mother and sister had argued in court that was "was violent and mentally ill." According to Florida law, if he was involuntarily admitted to a mental health institution, his name would have been reported to the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

However, because of reliance on local officials to report names, large volumes of names and human error, not every name is added correctly.

The FBI has not confirmed whether or not Perez was added to the NICS.

Santa-Perez was also killed in a shootout with police officers. Santa-Perez was believed to be carrying a .45mm semi-automatic pistol with several hundred rounds of ammunition.

The handgun was purchased legally on Aug. 2 at a Shoot Point Blank indoor shooting range in the Cincinnati area.

When first year Xavier student William Rath first heard about the shooting, he was extremely "disappointed and upset. I have never really felt that Cincinnati was a safe city, even before I got here," he said prior to coming to Xavier, he had always heard that Cincinnati is a very dangerous city.

However, Rath thought that although areas seem dangerous outside of Xavier, he feels "very safe on campus."

"Anything can happen," Rath said about why Xavier tries to prepare us in case something does happen. Nothing can truly prepare you for a shooting. I hope Xavier will never face a situation like this.

Xavier Police Lieutenant Kenneth Grossman recommends that in the event of an active shooter, students follow the implemented run, hide, fight plan. The best way to "avoid being the victim of an active shooter, is not to be where the shooter is (and to not) go where the shooter goes," he said.

"If you cannot run, secure yourself in a safe place, and if absolutely necessary, fight back."

Grossman does not believe that the events should cause any concerns with students.

However, he said that "students should be aware of their surroundings at all times," and that if you notice something abnormal report it to police.

Grossman said that "if you see something, say something. It only takes seconds for a situation to evolve into something dire."

Potential Syrian Civil War ceasefire falls through
Iran, Turkey and Russia fail to reach agreement; Assad sets sights on north

BY AARON TICKNOR
Guest Writer

On Sept. 6, the leaders of Iran, Turkey and Russia met to discuss a potential ceasefire in the Syrian Civil War.

"Turkmen President Recep Tayyip Erdogan called for Syria to not begin an offensive into Idlib, warning of civilian casualties and stating that his country was not prepared for more refugees. Russia President Vladimir Putin was firm in his assertion that the remnants of ISIS in the province need to be defeated.

Ultimately, negotiations fell through. However Putin has remained open to the idea of making peace with certain rebel groups, and the three leaders will meet again in Russia. Putin and Russia have held a long-standing alliance with Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad. The United States and Turkey, both NATO allies, have supported some rebel groups, particularly those based in northern Syria."

The Free Syrian Army's presence of Kurdish forces controlling the northeast regional of Rojava have been supported by both the U.S. and Russia, but have a hostile relationship with Turkey. The Syrian Civil War has continued to make steady progress during recent months as it draws closer to a conclusion.

With the war causing both civilian deaths and a refugee crisis, people around the world are wishing for the war to finally come to an end. First-year student Kevin Fedders said, "Human lives are human lives. The war's costing far too many deaths and there is guilt on many sides."

Assad has taken control back in much of Syria, including eastern Syria where the Islamic State formerly held control. Assad has turned his focus toward the northern province of Idlib, the last stronghold of anti-Assad rebels.

On Sept. 3, President Donald Trump tweeted, "President Bashar al-Assad of Syria must not recklessly attack Idlib Province...Hundreds of thousands of people could be killed. Don't let that happen!"

The United Nations has warned of the potential of the "worst humanitarian catastrophe" with an assault of Idlib. The U.N. agency coordinating relief efforts estimated that 30,000 people have been displaced from the region and a potential 300,000 more could move. Approximately 3 million civilians live in the farmlands of Idlib.

"There needs to be ways of dealing with this problem that don't turn the next few months in Idlib into the worst humanitarian catastrophe with the biggest loss of life in the 21st century," Mark Lowcock, chief of the U.N.'s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, said.

The Syrian Civil War began nearly seven and a half years ago and has taken more than 100,000 civilian lives, as well as forced more than 500,000 people to become refugees. Assad has not yet begun a ground offensive into Idlib but continues to conduct air-strikes onto rebel provinces with Russian support. Experts fear the potential loss of life in the theoretical offensive, predicting that this last stage of the civil war may be the deadliest.
Dismantling rape culture: It’s on all of us

This summer, we were given the opportunity to do a research project on the culture of sexual assault on Xavier’s campus. Working with our adviser, Dr. Marcus Mescher, we were able to use an entire summer to take a critical look at the institution that we call home.

To begin the process, we identified our personal experiences during our time at Xavier that drove us to work on making a tangible and positive change across Xavier’s campus. However, the more we began to specialize, the more we began to see how related our seemingly different topics were. Rape culture exists because men are expected to conform to hyper-masculine norms that train them to think they are entitled to sex, should be silent about emotions and are expected to protect other men, even if it means violating the dignity of others. Pornography not only degrades sexuality, but it also normalizes violence. Alcohol and drugs abuse aside, rape culture is often used to minimize responsibility after the fact.

Underlying all these factors is widespread moral relativism (illustrated by the popular phrase, “I do me, you do you”). This makes it seem like this isn’t a problem that should concern men. This then leads students to assess that sexual violence should not be a concern for them.

The result is that far too many people are concerned that rape culture does not exist, or that it has nothing to do with them. Since it is so difficult to address alone, it’s unlikely that we’ll get better at protecting our students if we don’t largely change the culture.

This summer, we were given the opportunity to share Xavier’s commitment to comprehensively and compassionately address sexual assault. It can look like a tangible and positive change across Xavier’s campus. But change really only comes when students become invested in their own future. This is our ask to you, Xavier: Seek out and learn more. Learn in, think critically about how rape culture impacts you and seize the many opportunities that we have to confront rape culture in our own lives. As students at a Jesuit university—if we are truly men and women for and with others, if we are committed to acting with justice, generosity and integrity — this is our responsibility to each other and the world.

Michael J. Graham, S.J.
President, Xavier University
**Life on the other side of sickness**

Being hospitalized nearly all summer made me appreciate my life in college more. And yes, reader, I wrote that line correctly.

Having an autoimmune disease as unpredictable as systemic lupus means I never know when my next trip—or worse, full admittance—to the hospital will be.

For any reader who isn’t familiar, lupus is when a person’s immune system mistakes healthy tissues and organs for diseased ones and subsequently attacks the healthy tissues and organs of the sufferer.

The past two years have been a series of twists and turns with my health. Lupus attacked my brain (causing multiple seizures that nearly took my life in 2016), my organs, you name it. If I had a dollar for every time I had to be unexpectedly rushed to Good Sam because I wasn’t sure if I was having a cramp or another potentially deadly liver flare-up, I’d be able to pay off my student loans.

Cut to May 2018. Classes were finally done. A suitcase ready for three months of fun with a best friend in New York had been sitting by my door for weeks. My plans were set in stone, or so I thought.

Less than a week after classes were over, I was in the most excruciating pain in my existence (this included almost dying two years before). After being rushed to the ER, the doctors discovered my blood platelets were extremely low (I had fewer than 10,000 while a healthy person has more than 135,000), and my liver was infected for reasons the doctors still don’t understand.

This marked the beginning of my summer in the hospital and the end of any happy summer plans.

May was spent entirely in a hospital bed. June revolved around daily infusions to treat my liver and platelets (if you don’t know what a PICC-LINE is, it’s not fun. Trust me, I had one in each arm in fewer than two months). I’d wake up around 6 a.m. every morning so I could get on with my day, especially because afterward I would be so exhausted I’d just want to sleep for hours. In July, my infection came back full-on, and I was back in the hospital the entire month.

The doctor still had no idea what the cause was. Each day in the hospital made me feel more helpless. Trying to imagine what this time would be like was a lie. I was at my angriest, especially (and regretfully) toward the ones who cared about me the most.

Complete loss of control is difficult to cope with. I justified taking it out on the world for months. By August, I was finally free and ready to reestablish my priorities in life.

Before anything else, I want happiness for myself.

Exceptionalism: The perils of forgetting history

Some years ago, I was playing the latest expansion to Fallout: New Vegas, one of my favorite video games ever. This expansion was called “Lonesome Road.” Your character, a former courier, pursues a man named Ulysses who is at least partially responsible for the death of your brother.

When I made that quote is supposed to hit one line with vivid clarity:

I can’t possibly know anything about our history any longer, and as a result we can’t possibly know who his or her ruler is, whereas a few hundred years ago that idea would be considered asinine at a minimum.

“American Exceptionalism” is a phrase once treated with sincerity but rarely said today without cynicism. This phrase came about because America represented the most well set empires or involve different peoples. We, with our modern sensibilities, are the exception when faced with human beliefs about slavery.

The same is true for our system of government. Republicans and democracies are the exception to the rule, not the standard. Most of the government systems humanity has devised have been empires, kingdoms or some similar variant. Even older republics such as Rome are not truly similar to the governments we have today.

We believe in our president society that every citizen should have the freedom to vote and decide who his or her ruler is, whereas a few hundred years ago that idea would be considered asinine at a minimum.

I believe that the consequence of not attempting to truly understand our own history once again will be dire.

After all, we’re an exception to the rule. As I’m sure you’re aware, exceptions to rules tend to be extremely rare, and if not monitored and maintained properly, tend to become corrupted and fall apart.

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Opinions & Editorials

September 12, 2018

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Toni Carlotta is a senior communications major and a staff writer for the Newswire. He is a native of Cincinnati.

Colin Lang is a senior history and philosophy, politics and the public double major. He is a staff writer for the Newswire from Cleveland.
Finn strives for success on and off court

By DONNIE MENKE
Staff Writer

The men’s soccer team defeated the University of Cincinnati (UC), 3-1, last Friday. With the win, the team has gone unbeaten in its first four matches — the best start since the Musketeers began the 2012 season with a 14-match unbeaten streak, which serves as the program record.

The victory also extended Xavier’s unbeaten streak against UC to nine consecutive matches, going 6-0-3 in that span. However, the Bearcats still lead the all-time series 25-14-8.

The Musketeers struck first when graduate student Tomek Pauer scored his first goal in a Xavier uniform in the sixth minute of the match on a sequence that began with a corner kick.

Matt Nance, a graduate student in his fifth year at Xavier, and Simon Hestnes, a senior midfielder, were both credited with assists on the goal.

The rest of the first half went by without any more scoring from either side, and Xavier took a 1-0 advantage into the break.

The Bearcats were able to equalize the match in the 55th minute on a goal by Aedin West.

That was the first goal Xavier allowed this season, snapping a 36-game streak of not allowing an opposing team to score.

The match remained tied for the next 24 minutes until midfielder Johnathan Aguirre’s free-kick goal in the 83rd minute gave Xavier the lead for the next 24 minutes until redshirt junior forward Samson Sergi notched his first goal of the season in the 79th minute on an assist from Hestnes — his second of the match.

Xavier scored again in the 87th minute after Hestnes intercepted a pass and was able to finish a solo goal to give Xavier a 3-1 lead. Xavier held on in the last few minutes to secure the two-goal victory.

Hestnes’ goal was his fourth of the season, and he now leads the team in goals scored.

With Hestnes and Nance both recording at least one assist, the men’s team now has seven players who have registered at least one so far this season.

The balance in goal scoring has been equally impressive, with Sergi and Pauer bringing the total to six different players who have scored at least one goal.

This has been the story for Xavier’s efficient offense this season. Lady Fleming took over as head coach in 2010. That story has helped him achieve a 46-38-20 record so far.

Redshirt sophomore goalkeeper Zachary Nelson continued his impressive season despite allowing his first goal of the year. He made four saves and kept his goals-against average down to 0.27, which would be elite by any measure if he can maintain that mark.

Xavier begins its conference slate at Georgetown on Saturday against the Hoyas.

Men’s soccer downs rival UC in Crosstown Derby

The men’s soccer team continued its success against the University of Cincinnati as Xavier defeated the Bearcats 3-1 last Friday.

Junior goalkeeper Zachary Nelson (No. 1) continues to stymie opposing offenses.

The trip wasn’t all about volleyball.

The team also gave back to the community on the trip, which provided a rewarding experience.

“Most of them knew little to no English. It was crazy to see how we could still connect through athletics. The kids were eager to learn and improve and were in awe of the people who came to teach them.”

Finn’s trip was capped by being named to the All-tournament team.

“It’s definitely a cool feeling to be recognized for the work you are putting in,” Finn said about getting the honor.

“It makes me want to work harder for my teammates, as they always put me in the best possible situations on the court, and I want to continue to do the same for them,” Finn said.

She mentioned teammates who also have been recognized as All-tournament selections for the other composites the team has played in include Grossman, junior Audrey Adama and senior McKenna Estes.

“It truly shows the depth of our team, as it’s not the same person receiving the honors each weekend,” Finn said.

Finn’s quest for person- al success continues Friday, when the Musketeers play in the Queen City Invitational.
Opinion: Kaepernick as face of Nike ad is good

Dissent has been brewing over the former QB spearheading the campaign

By Tre Doan
Guest Writer

“Believe in something. Even if it means sacrificing everything.”

This is the tagline for Nike’s 30th Anniversary “Just Do It” campaign, featuring Colin Kaepernick as its face. The choice was a controversial move on Nike’s part as Kaepernick, a former San Francisco 49ers quarterback who is currently unsigned, has been under fire since 2016 for protesting during the playing of the national anthem. He knelted during each singing of the anthem before games in an effort to challenge various social issues in America, including police brutality and racial inequality.

“I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color,” Kaepernick told the Wall Street Journal last week.

His actions inspired both teammates and opposing players around the same.

While Kaepernick hasn’t played football professionally since the 2016 season, he remains a figurehead for social activism in our country.

He has donated $1 million to “organizations working in oppressed communities,” which led him to collect GQ’s “Citizen of the Year” award in 2017.

While Nike’s stock dropped by three percent after Kaepernick was named the face of the campaign, sales shot up a staggering 31 percent after the flagship ad video titled “Dream Crazy” debuted. This gave more insight into what Nike’s goal was when choosing the face of the line: to inspire those to stand for what they believe in and not shy away from adversity.

I personally really like this move from Nike. It shows that they’re not afraid to take risks as a company in order to inspire potential consumers. Nike’s tagline is powerful, highlighting the idea that morals outweigh materialism. The video is uplifting, stating that our goals are possible if you’re crazy enough to have faith in them. Although this was one of the company’s most risky moves to date, it seems to be paying off in a big way.

Sure, you could consider Nike “crazy” for choosing one of the biggest risk-takers in sports history to represent their main line, but I say who’s better suited than a man who put his career in jeopardy to stand up for what he believes in?

In other words, Nike’s actions show that they are not necessarily backing Kaepernick for his social or political beliefs but more so the fact that he’s staying true to himself.

The point of the ad is to motivate others to do the same, not spark some dramat
ic socio-political controversy.

At the end of the day, these are values that make America what it is.

Even if we don’t agree with each other, we’re entitled to our own opinions and are allowed to speak our mind, and we shouldn’t let anyone tell us otherwise.

In Nike’s case, they value motivation and the concept of how they would word it, to put it simply, so will you?

Premier League heats up early in 2018

Pereyra and Watford surprisingly find top of the leaderboard

By Colin Cooper
Staff Writer

As the steamy hot days of late August transition into the cooler rainy days of mid-September in the United Kingdom, we can officially say that the Premier League is in full swing.

The first month of action on the pitch has been quite exciting — filled with major storylines throughout the table. Here is a more in-depth look at these storylines from late August transition into the season.

Premier League heavyweights in August

For the most part, the top of the table is business as usual. Liverpool, with star player Mohamed Salah, stand tied with 12 points after posting four wins in the first four matches of the season. Chelsea is also tied for first, winning its first four games as well.

The final team tied for first is Watford — which may come as a surprise to some. Throughout its first four matches, Watford has yet to concede a loss or draw. While its first three wins came against three of the bottom four of the table, Watford came away with a huge win against Tottenham in its last match. Watford was projected by many to finish at the bottom of the table and possibly be relegated, so it will be interesting to see if it can continue this hot streak.

The two other notable teams at the top of the table are Manchester City and the aforementioned Tottenham. Both squads were projected to be at or near the top when the season began, so this doesn’t come as a shock.

Middle of the table

The middle of the table is dominated by two Premier League heavyweights in Arsenal and Manchester United. The managers of these clubs have been a big topic of discussion in the early season so far. Arsenal, with new manager Unai Emery, has had an up and down start to the 2018-19 campaign. It began the season with back-to-back losses against Chelsea and Man City but have since won consecutive matches against West Ham and Cardiff.

For Man U., the season has been more bad news than good. Expected to make a run for the top of the table, it is instead in 10th place. Manager Jose Mourinho has been on the hot seat since the end of last season, and with two early losses to Brighton and Spurs, his future does not look promising in Manchester.

Bottom of the table

The three teams situated in the relegation zone currently have two points through a combined 10 games.

Newcastle United and Barnsley have both managed to get a draw this season, while West Ham sits alone at the bottom with zero points. Keep an eye on the bottom of the table, as these teams will become very entertaining toward the middle and end of the season in attempts to avoid relegation.

Premier League in the Champions League

Groups for the 2018-19 Champions League were drawn a couple weeks ago, and the four teams representing the Premier League will be up against some stiff competition.

Notable matches include Manchester United vs. Juventus, Liverpool vs. PSG and Tottenham vs. Barcelona. This Champions League group stage has potential to be one of the most exciting in recent memory, as many of Europe’s most powerful and historic clubs will face off. Group stage action begins next week.

Sports Banter

Florence and the (Hurricane) Machine

Several college football teams, including the home games of UNC and NC State, have been canceled this weekend because of the bad weather expected to come from Hurricane Florence.

Not so Gruden grinders

In the highly anticipated debut of Raiders’ head coach John Gruden, Oakland fell handily by a score of 33-13 to the Rams. Gruden was given a massive 10-year contract to coach the Raiders this offseason.

I’d like to apologize to absolutely nobody

UFC fighter Conor McGregor is being sued by MMA fighter Michael Chiesa. The lawsuit is in response to the bus fight incident earlier this year.

You have to be Joking me

According to a report by The Athletic, the Yankees, Red Sox and Astros were “unilaterally” by the Indians’ acquisition of third baseman Josh Donaldson.
Three anonymous Xavier students with three very different takes on life want to help you solve your problems. Hopefully one of them can help you with your most pressing issues!

Q: I am really excited about the Boat Dance, but I heard it’s a date event. How should I ask someone?

Aramis:
I wouldn’t worry about what everyone else is doing. I plan on attending with a group of my friends and having a really good time! It’s much less stressful that way as well.

Porthos:
Shoot your shot! A lot of people at school attend the dance, so it really isn’t that weird to ask them. If they do think you’re weird, you have the ultimate getaway vehicle: The Belle of Cincinnati.

Aramis:
Ask someone in your class that you get along with really well. See if the Boat Dance is a chance to make new relationships in a very unique setting! This is a chance to take a friendship or a romantic interest to the next level.

Q: I hate all my co-workers, but I love my job. What should I do?

Athos:
Focus on the aspects of your job that you really love. There is a reason that you chose it in the first place (making a difference, following your passions, money). Thinking about the things that you love will help get you through the day.

Porthos:
When dealing with particularly annoying co-workers, I try to imagine myself on a tropical island or somewhere equally as pleasant. When I am there, the crashing waves tend to drown out their voices and I have a lovely tan.

Aramis:
Just put in your headphones and silently do whatever you need to do. Those annoying co-workers are just a temporary inconvenience.

Women in Music: Ariana Grande

BY TREVER MCKENZIE
Online Editor
Ariana Grande wouldn’t appear to many as a polarizing figure. She seems to be like many other female pop artists: bright, happy and joyful. Her music is a unique style of 90s pop a la Whitney and Mariah mixed with modern femininity. Yet, in her short lifetime of 25 years, she has experienced more hardships than we could ever imagine. Despite that, she has managed to emerge as a mature, experienced trauma survivor who continues to live her life to the fullest despite the many horrible situations she’s experienced.

Grande has faced several instances of sexism and sexual harassment in her lifetime. In late 2016, she was approached by a male fan who made sexual comments about her to her now ex-boyfriend Mac Miller. Ariana tweeted, “I am not a piece of meat that a man gets to utilize for his pleasure. I am an adult human being...I felt like speaking out about this one experience tonight because I know very well that most women know the sensation for being spoken about in an uncomfortable way publicly.”

After tweeting this, she then shot back at users who claimed the man’s comment was a result of the way in which she presented herself in her music videos, specifically mentioning her clothing choices and behavior “expressing sexuality in art is not an invitation for disrespect!! just like wearing a short skirt is not asking for assault,” she tweeted.

Recently, she was groped by the bishop officiating the late Aretha Franklin’s funeral. Despite video evidence confirming both the act in question and Grande’s clear disapproval, focus turned instead to her clothing choice. Many criticized her for wearing a skirt to the funeral and chose to ignore the fact that the bishop touched Grande's breast without her consent.

Grande has faced other tough situations. On May 22, 2017, her concert was hit by a terrorist attack that killed 22 people and injured 59 more. Following that, she ended her relationship with the late Mac Miller, calling their relationship “toxic.” After their breakup and an incident in which Miller crashed his car into a light pole, a fan tweeted to blame Grande for leaving him and causing the mental break.

Grande responded, “How absurd that you minimize female self-respect and self-worth by saying someone should stay in a toxic relationship because he wrote an album about them... I am not a babysitter or a mother and no woman should feel that they need to be.”

Following Miller’s recent passing, Grande received intense blaming from fans who said that Miller’s death was her fault.

Despite the many tribulations she’s been through, Grande has remained a strong feminist voice in an industry wracked with sexism and sexual harassment/assault issues. Her newest album, sweetener, once again uplifts women through both sexual and social empowerment (“God is a woman” and “successful” respectively) and even addresses issues of mental health (“get well soon”). Throughout her career, Grande has advocated on behalf of women, the LGBTQ+ community and the Black community. Even in the face of contempt, hatred and violence, Grande stands up for underprivileged communities and advocates for respect and kindness toward all people.
The return of the Rom-Com

After a full year of superhero movies, the classic love story returns to the silver screen.

By Sydney Sanders
Head Photo Editor

The drought of romantic comedies that we endured the entire year of 2017 left us to face the reality of our lackluster love lives of college. No new or ‘original’ rom-coms made reality impossible. Oh, that was dramatic, but still, there was not even one classic romantic comedy worth noting throughout the whole year. Not even Reese Witherspoon’s attempt in a so-called romantic comedy was enough in 2017, and she’s an essential source of some of the best rom-coms. We went a whole year without thinking that it was possible to fall in love with your worst enemy or a guy that you have a bet with, and 2017 suffered from it.

Romantic comedies have been a staple of the entertainment industry for decades. The classic storylines of love triangles or friends that just happen to be in love have kept us optimistic for years. My first great love in life was Heath Ledger in 10 Things I Hate About You and I would definitely be lying if I said I wasn’t disappointed when my high school boyfriend didn’t interrupt my practice with a song asking me to homecoming.

The totally unrealistic and slightly frustrating turn of events in rom-coms is what keeps us going. Luckily for us, the nineties and early two thousands are making a strong comeback, so we at least have the best classics to watch. Although I would argue there is hardly a limit to how many times you can watch Pretty Woman, it’s sometimes nice to throw in a new movie. So, in 2017, when we were universally deprived of “original” rom-coms, we were all left wondering why.

Modern times have called for modern adaptations. 2017’s only slightly successful attempt at a romantic comedy was The Big Sick. The story followed a Pakistani man and a White woman’s love despite cultural and health difficulties that the two faced. The film was not released in major theaters, but the film was wildly popular among critics; one article in The New York Times calls romantic comedies a “moribund subgenre” in film, but The Big Sick was an exception to that opinion.

Nonetheless, just when we were starting to give up on rom-coms, 2018 arrived. The classic genre has seemed to take over popular films of the summer and continues to control conversation. Netflix originals The Kissing Booth, To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before and Sierra Burgess Is a Loser have been hot topics on social media all summer. The easy access that Netflix allows is appealing to a younger audience and bringing back the classic, cheesy rom-com that we all know and love.

One of the more modern rom-coms that we’ve seen in 2018 is Crazy Rich Asians. The Chinese-American film brings together the most classic elements of fairy-tale life that makes us love rom-coms so much. There’s over-the-top luxury, unquestioned true love and a funny cast of supportive friends. But it is groundbreaking in the film industry as one of the only popular movies in America to date with an almost all-Asian cast. This modern film brings together our nostalgic love of rom-coms with the new diversity that young America loves.

I’ll admit, I’m a sucker for a good rom-com. I know how unrealistic and repetitive they are, and I’m fully aware that if I said even a third of the things that Emma Stone did in Crazy, Stupid, Love is a Jane Austen and fashion bootcamp. A fun, flirty movie with a feminist twist, this movie is great because Cher, the main character, finds self-realization first and love second. Clueless also functions as a Jane Austen and fashion bootcamp.

Romantic comedies have been hot topics on the silver screen. One of the more modern rom-coms to date was Crazy, Stupid, Love. The 2009 movie is usually considered the first modern romantic comedy. No one can say these are a true rom-com fan if they haven’t experienced this emotional whirlwind.

Now Playing:

With or Without You x U2

A history of love

With the return of the rom-com, be sure to study up on the classics

Roman Holiday (1953)

Often heralded as the original romantic comedy, this movie gave birth to the icon we know as Audrey Hepburn.

When Harry Met Sally (1989)

This movie is usually considered the first modern romantic comedy. No one can say they are a true rom-com fan if they haven’t experienced this emotional whirlwind.


One of the greatest college-style movies, this Christmas film is great all year round. It inspired movies like Valentine’s Day and New Year’s Eve.

Hitch (2005)

Hitch is a great twist on the classic rom-com because it’s from a male perspective. Will Smith challenges traditional gender roles as he is the one to fall head-over-heels for the lead lady, Eva Mendez.

The Proposal (2009)

This movie is more of a comedy with a romantic subplot. It set the trend for most of the comedy movies we see now, like Bridesmaids.
Plastic Bag Free by 2025

By Haley Hales
Guest Writer

Kroger recently announced that it will eliminate plastic bags from its 2,800 stores by 2025. The Cincinnati-based company will start by cutting out the plastic bags in their Seattle-based grocery chain and will move forward from there. By taking this action, they will eliminate 123 million pounds of plastic sent to landfills each year. Kroger has made other efforts to help the planet as well. They have been working to create a plastic milk jug that uses 10 percent less plastic than their old containers. Both of these ideas help meet Kroger’s larger goal of reducing 98 percent of their landfill waste by 2025.

After spending three weeks in Europe, it blows my mind that the United States still uses plastic bags. When grocery shopping in places like France (where plastic bags are banned), you have two options: either bring your own bag or buy a reusable bag at the store. This makes sense to me, even if it was a bit of an adjustment to try and remember to bring a reusable bag everywhere you went. However, if you forgot, you knew you would have to carry everything with your hands or spend an extra five euros to buy a bag. This was standard in Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam and Cologne. Even the clothing and souvenir stores gave out paper bags instead of plastic. In Europe, it is rare to see anyone with plastic bags. If they can do it, why can’t we? Since coming back to the U.S., I don’t go anywhere without a reusable bag in my purse. It’s second nature and so much less wasteful. We have known that plastic bags were bad for the environment since the 1980s, yet hardly any chain grocers have stopped using them. Props to Kroger for making a step in the right direction, but climate change is happening now. It’s time to leap.