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Xavier University Newswire

Xavier University - Cincinnati

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Xavier students could be found in abundance at polling stations across the city amid the hustle and bustle of yesterday’s midterm elections. Read about how students’ Election Day fared and what they thought of the experience.

By RYAN KAMBICH
Opinions & Editorials Editor

5:15 a.m.
Queensgate

Long before the sun rises, Matt Miller unlocks the front door of the campaign office that has served as his part-time home for the last six months. He lifts four stacks of literature and a roll of bright blue stickers from his cluttered desk, then takes one last look at the crammed quarters in the morning darkness. “Well, here we go,” he tells me, locking the door behind him and heading out toward the parking lot.

6:40 a.m.
Green Township:
Oak Hills High School

As the first hints of morning light creep over the hill, Election Day’s early birds leave their cars and amble inside the double doors of the high school’s front entrance. Ellen Rakowski watches as students trickle out of the Gallagher polling location, she and her fellow campus politicos working the bipartisan voter information table hear reports that poll workers are telling voters that their ballots will be counted as provisional because their IDs do not match their residence halls on campus. Ohio does not have the sort of “exact match” laws that would invalidate these ballots to provisional status.

9:03 a.m.
Gallagher Student Center

VOTER SUPPRESSION ALERT! Sam Peters texts me. As students trickle out of the Gallagher polling location, she and her fellow campus politicos working the bipartisan voter information table hear reports that poll workers are telling voters that their ballots will be counted as provisional because their IDs do not match their residence halls on campus.

11:17 a.m.
Hyde Park:
Cincinnati Observatory

Standing in the circular drive laid out at the foot of the observatory, Karen Cash hasn’t spoken to many voters. “Two people have talked to me, most just walk around the circle to avoid me,” she says. Even those who do talk to her are elusive. “A gentleman doesn’t vote and tell,” an elderly man advises her with a chuckle and a nod.

12:15 p.m.
Blue Ash

At campaign headquarters in the basement of a mixed-use office park. Caroline Stelila, Aedan Sullivan and Steven LaRussa are making calls at a feverish rate, encouraging voters to get out and vote before the day is done. Most calls go over well, but some don’t. “One guy told me to ‘Eff off,’” Caroline explains. “I hung up because you can’t argue with those sort of people.”

5:15 p.m.
Montgomery:
Montgomery Municipal Center

The post-work rush is starting. Cars stack up on Montgomery Road. The air is jovial. Miles Tiemeyer can’t help but notice the number of families making their way inside, parents with children sharing the American tradition. “It didn’t even seem like an election tonight.”

7:30 p.m.
Norwood:
Hamilton County Board of Elections

The sweltering heat of television lights engulfs the news desk. TV cameras come to life as Aedan Sullivan picks up the microphone and takes one last look at his notes. “It was pretty interesting to talk about the campaign and to play that out to a live audience.”

9:36 p.m.
Downtown

Inhalation. The victory announcement flashes over the flatscreen TVs. The room is charged with an euphoric energy yet retains a sense of responsible calm. After six grueling months, Tyler Harmon can breathe a sigh of relief.

11 p.m.
Norwood:
Hamilton County Board of Elections

“And that will conclude this year’s broadcast of Behind the Yard Signs.” The television screen blinks off, and the stilling heat of the lights recede. Aedan Sullivan lets out a deep sigh of relief as another Election Day slips off into the night.

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Google employees staged a walkout to protest the handling of sexual harassment.

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Men’s and women’s soccer wrapped up their seasons in Big East Tournament play.

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Read a review of Bohemian Rhapsody, the highly anticipated biopic about Queen.
The Interclub Political Platform aimed to educate students about gender-based violence through peer education and workshops, to prevent sexual assault and misinformation about what sexual assault happens to and how and why and what the reality is, then we really fall back on stereotypes,” Lawson said. “There were some jabs here and there that weren’t as kind as they should have been and there that weren’t as civil as they should have been,” Branham said. “I think for the most part it was civil,” Duque said. “I tried to stay as cordial as I could, and I feel like, at times, I might have broken through that.”

Coriale, the main organizer of the event, expressed satisfaction there were no direct attacks on ideology and representatives were engaged and present. “The fact that we had representatives from each club up here talking… was absolutely phenomenal because one of the biggest problems facing this country is that nobody listens to each other,” Coriale said. “Coming together in a situation like this where we all are there to listen to each other so that everybody else can listen to each other… because of that, the event was successful.”

Nov. 5 Student Government Association Meeting Recap
There will be open forums for the final three police chief candidates throughout this week and next. The first forum will be held today, Nov. 5; the second Thursday, Nov. 8; and the third Tuesday, Nov. 13. Each forum will be held in the third-floor conference room in Baucau Hall from 1:45-2:45 p.m. All students are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Other News Updates
Residence Life sent an email to all residents of Brockman Hall regarding fire alarms last Friday. The email stated that Residence Life is requesting that Xavier Police conduct more interior patrols of the building and that should the alarms continue, the Cincinnati Fire Department will start charging the university a fine for each response to Brockman. The email concludes with Cincinnati Fire Department last week to discuss the situation, according to Senior Director Lori Lambert, who added there were no main takeaways and that a follow-up conversation would not be necessary.
Google walkouts occur worldwide

Employees demand transparency in handling of sexual harassment claims

By Alex Budzynski
Staff Writer

More than 20,000 Google employees worldwide walked out last Thursday to protest the company’s reported mishandling of sexual harassment claims. An Instagram post outlined five policy changes they hope to see.

More than 20,000 Google employees around the world walked out last Thursday to protest the company’s mishandling of sexual harassment claims, as reported by the New York Times on Nov. 6.

The article claimed that Google had paid millions of dollars in exit packages to high-ranking male executives accused of sexual misconduct and then silenced the accusers.

Although several Google managers were named in the report, they focused largely around Android co-founder Andy Rubin, who was let go with a $90 million payout following credible sexual misconduct violations. Rubin has since denied these accusations.

“Demanding for change isn’t just something big companies like Google need to show,” said Larry Page locally, junior computer science major Alvarado-Rayos said.

Men and women participated in the protest in approximately 50 major cities including Chicago, New York, Seattle and Silicon Valley, Calif., where Google’s headquarters are located, as well as Dublin, Singapore, Berlin, Zurich and London.

Pichai also voiced support for the walkouts, saying, “We let Google know that we are aware of the activities planned for Thursday and that employees will have the support they need if they wish to participate.”

Pichai also said that this walkout demonstrates a need for change as “Employees have raised constructive ideas for how we can improve our policies and our processes going forward.”

Pichai met with the organizers of the protest on Tuesday, but no conclusive agreement has been announced. He did release a statement saying that he is “fully committed to making progress on an issue that has persisted for far too long in our society and, yes, here at Google, too.”

Week in review: Cliffhanger, statue? and sexy man

- A Scottish man had to be rescued from a cliff after fleeing a colony of aggressive seals. Author-Elba said of his reaction to being stuck on the cliffs, “I was like, ‘Yeah, you out. I was like, ‘Yeah, you out. I was like, ‘Yeah, you out. I was like, ‘Yeah, you out. I was like, ‘Yeah, you out.”

- A statue of Liverpool soccer star Mohamed Salah has garnered quite the reaction for its resemblance to anything but its subject. The statue depicts Salah with his arm spread in out celebration after scoring a goal. Viewers have taken to social media to compare it to 1970s singer Leo Sayer, cartoon characters Beavis and Butt-Head and Mark Merchants from the Home Alone films (Nov. 5).

- Idris Elba was named People’s “Sexiest Man Alive” for 2018. The London-raised actor is known for playing drug kingpin Russell “Stringer” Bell in HBO’s series The Wire and Heimdal in the Thor franchise. “Lookin’ in the mirror, I checked myself out. I was like, ‘Yeah, you are kind of sexy today,” Elba commented in reaction to hearing the news (Nov. 6).

NOTE OF THE WEEK
One of these is unlocked, right?

Nov. 2, 9:57 a.m. — Xavier Police received reports of two vehicles rummaged through overnight in the Village parking lot. One of the victims reported several personal items of little value taken from the vehicle. A follow up investigation identified a suspect on surveillance cameras entering the parking lot on a bicycle at 6:45 a.m. The suspect checked car door handles for approximately 10 minutes, before leaving the area on the bicycle. The individual was last seen going down Victory Parkway toward Eden Park. A vehicle was broken into, causing damage. A pair of sunglasses was stolen.

Nov. 2, 5:08 p.m. — Xavier Police assisted Physical Plant with a water damage report in Fenwick Place. A leaking toilet had flooded water out of the bathroom and into the common room.

Oct. 27, 2:28 a.m. — Two underage non-students found drinking in a vehicle in the R2 lot were issued criminal trespass warnings and were sent on their way. Car keys were confiscated until the next morning as well.

Oct. 27, 3:35 p.m. — An employee at the All-For-One shop at University Sta-
Coming to terms with my hidden disabilities

Xavier is changing, that is no secret. The addition of the Health United Building, dubbed the “HUB,” and the remodel of food options in Gallagher are the most visible changes happening behind the scenes that also affect the lives of students.

One recent example is the upperclassmen housing process that took place this past week. Among my friends and me, this is the most prominent effect of our changing campus that we’ve been in direct contact with. Each year, for several years now, the first-year class has gotten bigger and bigger, demanding more and more housing spaces. Therefore, the practice of “squatting” that upperclassmen utilized to obtain housing their junior and senior years is no longer feasible, as spots need to be reserved for rising sophomores. To achieve this, Residence Life employed the ever-dependable lottery system, which resulted in several students not receiving housing.

I struggled with this issue and often feel that I have been given the short end of the stick. I have begun to think that the university “has me,” they do not need to treat me as decorously as they do students they are still recruiting.

It is easy to think that Xavier cares so much about growth and development that the focus has become too narrow. Xavier’s administration is so set on recruiting new students and starting new projects that they have seemingly forgotten about their current students.

The dining hall is another significant place that changes can be seen. This is also related to the remodelling of Gallagher. The caf is one of just a few food options on campus this semester yet is almost uninhabitable during lunch rush.

If a class has just let out, you will struggle to find a fidget time not only finding someone to sit but getting food well. The dining hall was not built to accommodate this deluge of people.

It is evident in walkways and sitting areas clogged by lines, food options running out before the majority of students get to them and the introduction of “community tables” (pushing many small tables together and encouraging students to sit next to and converse with students they do not know). These things all make stopping in for a snack or meal with friends a difficult and tiresome experience.

Do not get me wrong, I love Xavier and the campus is beautiful, our size is just right and each member of our facility is knowledgeable and passionate. Additionally, change is not inherently bad, although I have been known to adapt to it.

Change is necessary. To retain a modern campus, things have to change. However, Xavier is taking a rather dominating approach. Things are happening without students being aware or even ready for them. What I call for is inclusion and communication.

Change is necessary, but it is also scary. It can even be scarier if you do not know what is going to happen, how you will fit in with the new things of if it is happening before you are ready. Right now, the students of Xavier are experiencing just that. We are blind to what is happening and having change placed on us before we are ready. This has resulted not only in cynicism about the changes but in anxiety about them as well.

With increased communication about current large projects such as the HUB, the remodel of Gallagher and smaller projects, I believe that students can begin to look forward to and better support changes. If we are made aware of what will change before it kicks in, changes will be made and how they will affect us, there will be less room for misunderstanding, cynicism and anxiety to creep in.

Change is a necessary and healthy component to Xavier. They are the reason for our success, but for it to be productive, students must be brought with it. Maybe what is required is a bit of slowing down, but the first step has to be better communication.
Remembering Deaf people in a hearing world

Have you ever met a Deaf person? If so, how well were you able to communicate with that person? Did you struggle to understand them and communicate what you were saying? Do you interact with this person on a regular basis?

Deaf people struggle to communicate with hearing people every day. Many don’t realize that hearing people have a privilege. We can eavesdrop on conversations, hear fire alarms and easily communicate with a vast majority of the people around us. Deaf people are blamed for not being able to communicate with hearing people. They’re labeled as stupid or disabled. That’s not the case.

Many don’t realize that Deaf people have their own culture, one that is alive and vibrant. Deaf people have their own customs, their own art and their own beliefs that differ from those of their parents. Many don’t realize that Deaf people have a privilege. We can eavesdrop on conversations, hear fire alarms and easily communicate with a vast majority of the people around us. Deaf people are blamed for not being able to communicate with hearing people. They’re labeled as stupid or disabled. That’s not the case.

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Today, Day One after election day

By now, the midterm elections are over. The confetti has fallen and the campaigns have been made and tears of joy or anguish have been shed while the nation breathes a collective sigh of relief as campaign ads cease to flood our airwaves.

Now, the real work begins. It’s on days like today that words from the perpetually discontented historian Howard Zinn come to mind, with particular reverberation that “Gossip is the opium of the American public.”

After a bruising midterm season replete with gossip—from false flag conspiracy theories to ridiculous claims about Democrats hacking an election in Georgia to Ted Cruz’s peculiar strategy of shameing Beto O’Bourke for playing in a punk rock band during his younger years (as if anyone cares).—Zinn’s words come to mind, with particular reverberation that “Gossip is the opium of the American public.”

Many Deaf people feel a deep connection to their culture, just like any person, and the idea of their culture disappearing is scary.

Many Deaf people are not close with family members because of this and have alternatively found a home within the Deaf community. This is the reason why preservation of the Deaf community is so important. People are often scared of their culture dying out through the advancement of technology. Genetic engineers are working to prevent deafness, which would make it impossible for Deaf people to connect to their culture and become obso lete. Many Deaf people feel a deep connection to their culture, just like any other person, and the idea of their culture disappearing is scary.

If you have a Deaf child, please teach them sign language. It may be hard at times, but it’s essential in order to give your child the best shot at life. They need both the hearing and Deaf culture to reach their full potential.

I’ve heard so many stories from Deaf individuals of what has happened to them when workers at different places find out they’re Deaf. My uncle hasn’t had a hearing test. My professor was brought a wheelchair at the airport, as if it were his legs that didn’t work instead of his ears. Another girl explained to a waitress that she was deaf, and the waitress brought her a menu in Braille. Hearing people need to do better at understanding the Deaf community and how to best interact with these people. Above all else, they are people who want to be understood just like every other person. They need resources in order to live to their fullest potentials, yet many don’t receive what they need. Technologies such as cochlear implants and hearing aids can cost thousands, and they aren’t always covered by insurance. Residential schools specifically for Deaf children are privatized and can have high tuition prices.

My uncle is hard of hearing; he has 30 percent of hearing in his left ear and none in his right ear. He gets through life by reading lips, but for the most part, he doesn’t hear very well. He and his mother have told stories of fighting the public school system to get him an interpreter. The school told them multiple times that my uncle “wasn’t deaf enough” for an interpreter, and he suffered for it.

Deaf people deserve to be understood and given the same opportunities as hearing people. They are our brothers and sisters, our fellow humans. Don’t be afraid of Deaf people. Instead, do your best to understand them and remember them. They deserve to be as successful as they can be, just like you do.
Men’s soccer displays resilience in season finale

By Paul Frischner  
Staff Writer

Overcoming injuries is always a difficult task, but for the men’s soccer team this season, it proved too much in the end.

While several key players, like junior forward Derrick Otim and graduate student defender Matt Nance returned to the lineup late in the year, the bumps the Musketeers had encountered along the way in getting to that point put them too far behind the rest.

Xavier closed out the season strong and snapped a five-match losing streak by winning its final two matches in the regular season.

However, the No. 5 seeded Musketeers saw their 2018 campaign come to a heartbreaking conclusion during the ninth round of penalty kicks at the end of the Big East Tournament against No. 4 seeded Marquette last Saturday night.

Xavier had an 11-10 lead to the Golden Eagles late in the match and the season on the line, forward Samson Sergi tallied his fourth goal of the week in the 84th minute. The teams battled through two scoreless, golden goal overtime periods before the match went to a shootout.

Senior goalkeeper Colin Hanley, who was called on late in the season after starting goalkeeper Zach Nelson injured himself in pregame warmups, stood in net.

“Getting an equalizer late, we believed in each other that we were going to get the job done. Colin is great at PK’s and we knew he was going to save a few,” Sergi said.

Marquette did indeed fail to convert two of its attempts. However, in the ninth round, Xavier missed its second straight shot, and Marquette took advantage of the opportunity, scoring the game winner and moving on to the next round.

For the Musketeers, it was a sudden, brutal ending to a very turbulent few months.

“We had a lot of ‘belief’ in one another from everything we’ve been through all season,” Sergi said. “Our team endured a lot of adversity, and we were very confident going into the tournament with some wins under our belt.”

This was the sixth straight time Xavier has qualified for the six-team tournament, as it has made an appearance every year since joining the conference.

After losing five straight matches, Xavier, who was ranked as high as No. 18 nationally by one outlet near the end of September, won its final two games and netted five goals in its regular season finale against Butler prior to Saturday’s match.

Marquette was able to rally for two goals after Otim put the Musketeers on the board first.

The equalizer seemingly energized the Xavier squad, but the team couldn’t ride the wave of momentum enough to cap it off with a game-winning goal. With the loss, Xavier’s season saw its conclusion.

Sergi, who was named the Big East Offensive Player of the Week for the last week of the regular season, summed it all up: “I love every player on the team. All of the adversity we suffered this season made us so tight as a team, really emphasizing our family culture. I just wish we had more to show for it down the stretch.”

Xavier Scores

Men’s Soccer

The Musketeers’ season concluded last weekend, but redshirt junior forward Samson Sergi was named the Big East Offensive Player of the Week. He collected three goals— a hat trick — in the team’s 5-3 win against Butler.

Women’s Soccer

Xavier closed out its season last Friday with a sweep of Butler as senior setter Andie Kennard was named to the Big East Championship All-Tournament Team.

Swimming

Xavier swimming picked up 10 total wins during the team’s dual meet against Denison last Saturday. Junior Emily Comers captured first place in the 50 free, 100 free and 200 free, in addition to a win as part of the 200 medley relay.

Volleyball

The Musketeers defeated Butler in a three-game sweep last Friday. Senior outside hitter Laura Grossman tallied a team-high 13 kills and also recorded 18 digs.

Lie successful for second straight season

By Donnie Menke  
Staff Writer

From the beginning of the season, women’s soccer head coach Nate Lie said he could tell there was something different with this year’s team.

“You could tell from the first practice this team was more talented and more motivated,” Lie said.

The team started the season with a tough non-conference slate, facing Louisville, Tennessee and West Virginia during an 11-day period all on the road.

The team was still finding its footing at that point, with 19 new faces on a 25-person roster. Add another four players who missed most of last season with injuries, and there were a lot of things that needed to be figured out.

By the time Big East play came around, the team had started to do just that.

The Musketeers lost two of their first three conference matches, but only lost one more until the end of the regular season.

“One pleasant surprise was that we were able to control most Big East games,” Lie said. “We were only outshot in one of our last 10 conference games, and we won that one by three goals.”

The team also managed to draw with both Georgetown and Butler, who finished first and second in conference.

“I thought we actually outplayed them both,” Lie said.

The late-season hot streak allowed the team to accomplish its goal of earning a home game in the conference tournament. The opponent was DePaul, and the teams showed very little separation throughout the match, going to penalty kicks after being tied 1-1 at the end of the second overtime period.

Sophomore midfielder Claire Fisher scored the winning penalty to clinch a berth in the Big East semifinals.

“Winning on PKs is a moment I think many of our players will remember for a long time. There was a lot of pure joy in that celebration afterward, and those moments are hard to come by in both sport and life,” Lie said.

“The goal for this year’s team was not only to get a home conference tournament game, but to win it as well.”

Lie also remarked that the team had found consistency in the defensive back, saying, “The same three started each of the last 15 games in a row. By conference play we stopped announcing them and just said ‘our three center backs.’”

Another big part of the team’s success was redshirt freshman midfielder Samantha Dewey.

She was named the Big East Midfielder of the Year and first team all-conference. According to Lie, it was the little things that allowed her to take the next step.

“We asked her for a few things. One was to work on her fitness, because we felt that had limited her ability to be dangerous for long periods of time,” Lie said. “We also changed her from a forward position to an attacking center mid position to allow her more freedom. She carries a burden because she’s our most dangerous player and everyone knows it, so she’s constantly getting fouled. That’s not easy.”

With only three seniors departing, the goal for this offseason is to keep improving.

“We have the longest off-season of any team, so staying focused can be hard. It’s like a rabbit chasing a carrot, but the carrot is really far away and can be really hard to see at times,” Lie said. “It’s tough to want to consistently train when it’s cold and dark. Powering through those times will be key to improving next year.”

Though the team missed a bid to the NCAA tournament this year, it would not be a surprise to see Xavier in the postseason conversation in the next couple years.
Rhapsody won’t rock for everyone

Despite earning the No. 1 spot at the box office, this Queen biopic is just OK

BY MICHAEL RAUER
Staff Writer

Bohemian Rhapsody, a biopic of the British rock band Queen, was finally released eight years after it was initially proposed. The biopic took the No. 1 spot at the box office in its debut weekend, according to CNN, grossing an estimated $50 million in North America and $141.7 million globally.

The movie primarily focuses on Freddie Mercury — frontman and lead vocalist of his choices. When Mercury and his father’s disapproval of his music was great, but there could have been better supporting character development. There were some clear plot holes, and the film raised questions of accuracy. Let’s just say this film won’t rock everyone.

Total score: **3**

Photography by courtesy of regentent.com


Pleasure proves ‘Fleet’-ing in Anthem of the Peaceful Army

Greta Van Fleet’s newest release shows that sounding like Led Zeppelin doesn’t mean your music is any good

BY JOSEPH COTTON
Staff Writer

Remember when songs were based on the talents of the people who played the instruments instead of people who plug in soulless sounds into a computer? Many people reminisce back to a mystical past when everyone listened to the same high-quality music and songs like “Hotel California” or the Beatles’ “Hey Jude” and “Sweet Child O’ Mine” were playing on the radio. Even people who weren’t alive during this time have a similar “rose-tinted” view on the music of the past.

Enter Greta Van Fleet, otherwise known as that band you swore was Led Zeppelin before someone told you it wasn’t. The group of Michigan rockers is more than a simple “repackaging” of that sound, giving it a hint of nos-talgia with their debut album, *Anthem of the Peaceful Army*. In terms of technical proficiency, this album isn’t bad. Each of the members of the band is talented in their given instrument, and the performances on the record are mixed relatively well. Josh Kiszka’s vocals have more of an impact as they float on top of the instruments in a smoother way than on their last EP. Similarly, his brother Jake Kiszka’s guitar work is just as thundery as it was on the band’s previous songs.

That said, the songwriting is beyond basic. It seems as though every song is trying to be the next stadium rock anthem. You know, the kind that gets the entire crowd singing along with them. Each song screams, “Hey, look at me, I’m important!”

“Where The Curtain Falls,” the third track on the album and perhaps the greatest hit in the eyes of the fanbase, features a classic blues-rock riff that borderson parody. Although the Led Zeppelin-inspired outro isn’t as egregious as the band’s previous hit, “Highway Tune,” the bland, copy/paste guitar solo and the call and response between the guitar and vocals in the chorus aren’t exactly original.

“Anthem,” the 10th track on the album and one of the worst, is beyond boring. The basic chord progression and uninterest- ing instrumentation make it a slog to get through. When the kumbaya-sounding crew vocals kick in toward the end of the track, I almost lose my mind. I’d rather go on a camping trip with a group of school Mormons than turn the entire Book of Psalms into a Christian campfire chant than listen to this song. After forcing myself through the full album (with- out giving in to my urge to listen to Led Zeppelin), it became clear that no song in the track listing offered anything that the classic rock songs of old didn’t already do better.

There is nothing as ear-grab- bing as the last 30 seconds of “Immigrant Song” and nothing as poetically grandiose as “Don’t Stop Me Now.” In the eyes of fans, this bla-tant disregard for innovation is not a problem. The four-piece rock group seems perfectly OK with burning off whatever commercial energy this blues-rock sound has left instead of trying to actively push the genre forward.

Total score: **3.5**

Photography by courtesy of Wikipedia

Retina display highlights new Macbook Air

BY CJ RIEFF
Guest Writer

Apple CEO Tim Cook walked onto the Howard Gilman Opera House stage at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York City on Oct. 30 to introduce the latest Macbook Air that features a Retina display, along with three other new products.

“Apple’s focus has always been on providing people the tools to unleash their creativi- ty,” Cook said as he welcomed 370 invited guests to this year’s Special Event. “That’s why we’re here today to talk about our most creative prod- ucts and of course, that all starts with Mac.”

When the original Mac was released in 1984, the world was taken by surprise at how easy it was to navigate the system’s graphical interface. Apple released the thinnest, lightest and most powerful Mac 24 years later in 2008, the Macbook Air. “MacBook Air has become the most beloved notebook ever,” Cook said. “It’s time for a new Macbook Air, one that takes the Macbook Air experience even further in the areas that are most important to our customers... What we all want in a Macbook Air is a Retina display.”

The Retina display is only one of the numerous features introduced in the latest Macbook Air. Other notable features include a faster processor, enhanced security, an updated keyboard, two Thunderbolt 3 ports and a Touch ID.

The new model is also configured with eight gigabytes of memory, a 1.6GHz Intel i5 processor with TurboBoost up to 3.6GHz and 128 GB of storage. It starts at $1,199.

In addition to the Macbook Air, Apple released a refreshed version of the Mac Mini, iPad Pro and a refined Apple Pencil. All four products are available for purchase on Apple’s website and at select third-party resellers. It is currently unknown if or when the products would be made available at Xavier’s bookstore.

Total score: **5**

Photo courtesy of cnet.com

The arts and entertainment section of Xavier’s weekly X-hive newspaper.

Photo courtesy of Macbook Air
By JOSHUA HOUSE
Guest Writer

As we say goodbye to the Halloween month, this season reminds me of a story that my grandfather told me. The story goes as follows:

“I remember an ancient tale of a storied king who gathered the wise men of his kingdom and bestowed upon them the task of compiling all of the wisdom of the ages for him. Once months of diligent searching had passed, the wise men returned to him with their insights, bound together into 12 large volumes.

The king praised the wise men for their consistent work, but he insisted that the 12 large volumes were too extensive. Thus, the wise men returned back to their work, this time in hopes of condensing their findings. Countless weeks afterward, the wise men went again to the king, this time with only one volume. And once more they were commended by their king but were told to condense the information in an even more concise manner.

Compacting the wisdom of all the ages into less than one volume presented an incredibly challenging problem for the wise men. Not very excited, the intellectuals of the time returned to their immediate responsibilities and died. As time progressed, the new wise men who learned from their predecessors presented their findings, which represented the results of years of research, to their king. The wise men then placed their findings in the palm of the king a petite sliver of parchment. The king, excited about their achievement and adherence to his instructions, exclaimed, “Yes! My wise men have condensed all the wisdom of the ages into one sentence.” He then gathered the rest of his court around, stood in front of his throne and read the piece of parchment, which said, “There ain’t no free lunch!”

Understanding that there is no free lunch, opportunity or moment that does not come at a cost, is a critical lesson that we should learn to appreciate more. One instance that has always resonated with me heavily is one of the main messages communicated through one of the best Halloween movies ever… Hocus Pocus! When one of the protagonists, Thackery Binx, loses his sister to the witches of Salem’s powers, he states something to another protagonist, Max, regarding Max’s little sister, Dani, that has stuck with me to this day. Thackery Binx says, “Take good care of Dani, Max, you’ll never lose her.” However, not only should we not take opportunities and circumstances for granted, but we should neither assume that there is a great latitude in the relationships we have with each other throughout the moments we experience with each other.

As we enter the new month, let us remember the lessons taught by Hocus Pocus and seize every opportunity that comes our way with open hands and a grateful heart. After all, as the saying goes, ‘There ain’t no free lunch.’”

What Hocus Pocus taught me about cherishing moments