Church scandal hits close to home
List of Jesuit priests accused of sexual abuse of minors includes four previously assigned to Xavier but none currently associated with the university

BY HEATHER GAST AND RYAN KAMRICH
Campus News Editor and Opinions & Editorials Editor

A report issued last month by the Midwest Province of Jesuits revealed that no members of the society currently associated with Xavier face allegations of sexual abuse of minors.

The Province’s Dec. 17 report listed all Jesuit priests with established allegations of sexual abuse of minors since 1955 to a nation of believers and non-believers alike wrestling with the consequences of the 60-year scandal.

Although no one currently associated with the university was named, four individuals who had at one point been assigned to Xavier appeared in the report.


Of those named in the report, only O’Brien was the subject of allegations for incidents that occurred while serving in a position at Xavier. Those allegations did not arise until 1990, seven years after his death.

According to a statement released the same day by Fr. Michael Graham, president, two other individuals formerly associated with Xavier—Br. Jerome Pryor, S.J. (at Xavier 1974-2002) and Fr. Louis Bonacci, S.J. (1994-1999)—were also named in allegations of past sexual improprieties.

Pryor was removed from Xavier in 2002 after reports of inappropriate behavior. However, allegations involving Pryor did not involve abuse of minors, and he therefore did not appear in the Province’s report.

In his statement, Graham assured members of the community that since the university adopted the Dallas Charter in 2002, there have been no reports of sexual assault by Jesuits at Xavier.

“The Dallas Charter, more formally known as the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, was created by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to provide universal procedures in response to public outcry concerning Geoghan. It requires dioceses to report allegations to local authorities.

Reports and survivor advocacy groups like SNAP have worked to expose the reaches of the Catholic Church’s scandal since.

Bishop-accountability.org, a non-profit watchdog, hosts a bevy of news articles, released church documents and reports detailing the sexual abuse of both minors and adults in the Catholic Church in the United States. The website provides evidence of sexual abuse in the Church dating back to the 1940s and includes allegations in nearly every state.

In many cases reported on the website, authorities within the Church knew of clergy’s abusive behavior and allowed them to continue in their positions involving work with children in schools, hospitals or youth groups. Pennsylvania’s grand jury report also pointed to this trend.

According to a 2004 report from the USCCB formally known as the Jay Report, 10,667 allegations of sexual misconduct were leveled against 4,392 clergy, including nuns, seminarians and deacons, between 1950-2002. The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University has recorded an additional 4,878 allegations after 2002.

According to the Jay Report, 100 of the 4,392 accused were given prison sentences by 2002. The reasons for this statistic are many. For one, the alleged abuse was often reported after the alleged offender’s death or after the crime’s statute of limitations had expired. Additionally, because many of the accused were children at the time the alleged abuse took place and did not bring forth accusations until years, even decades, later, it was difficult to provide evidence of the abuse.

Groups continue to release lists of allegedly predatory clergy, including dioceses in Wisconsin and California. However, survivors and advocates have expressed dissatisfaction with the Church’s attempts to redeem itself.

While bishops convened for a retreat concerning clerical sex abuse on Dec. 19 on University of Chicago’s campus, SNAP and another survivor advocacy group held public demonstrations imploring dioceses nationwide to comply with or instigate investigations through law enforcement rather than performing their own audits.

That same day, the Illinois attorney general reported that six Illinois dioceses had failed to name at least 500 clergy in their list of alleged sexually abusive clergy. Each diocese named in the report claimed to adhere to the Dallas Charter.
Title IX Program Director selected

Former Advocacy and Prevention Coordinator to lead education, prevention

BY ELLEN SIEFKE
Editor-in-Chief

While students were excitedly packing their bags and preparing for Christmas break, the Title IX Office was abuzz with news of its own: the selection of Talia Tuesta for the position of Title IX Program Director.

Previously the Advocacy and Prevention Coordinator, Tuesta’s new duties will entail spearheading Xavier’s education and prevention programs as well as assisting the Title IX office in education training and investigative work.

Tuesta officially assumed her new position on Tuesday, until her replacement is hired, she will juggle continually having to fulfill some of the duties of the Advocacy and Prevention Coordinator with her new role as program director. She said she was attracted to the position because of the potential for growth.

“I’m excited for this new opportunity because it’s a same thread of the work I’ve been doing, but it’s looking at it through a different lens,” Tuesta said. “I’m looking forward to that opportunity for growth and being in a space where I can learn how to do things in a different way but still tap into best practices, which is to have a survivor-centered lens and making sure I’m understanding that.”

According to Xavier’s Title IX Director Kate Lawson, there were four main factors that led to naming Tuesta as the new program director: her understanding of Xavier’s mission and ability to articulate how her work fulfills that mission; her “expertise around inclusion and cultural competence around prevention/education,” particularly in areas pertaining to Title IX; her understanding of Xavier’s five-year Diversity and Inclusion Plan; and her previous work with students through peer education groups.

“Talia has demonstrated an ability to help students discern for themselves, ‘What is my role here, while I’m on this campus and beyond?’ and really effectively help students, faculty and staff, but particularly students, figure out what role they play and what are the unique skills and interests that they bring,” Lawson said.

Tuesta’s background includes a variety of work in areas pertaining to sexual and gender-based violence. In February, she will mark seven years in the field of advocacy and confidentiality.

Her work began in Bowling Green, Ohio, where she worked in a high sex-trafficking area. She then worked in a shelter that dealt with cases of domestic or intimate partner violence before going to grad school. It was there that she found her current path in a university setting.

“I realized that the community work, while it’s very fulfilling, it’s very different than a higher ed setting, and I wanted to give that higher ed setting a try since I had not experienced it in my previous roles,” Tuesta said.

Xavier is her third school, and she previously worked at the University of Cincinnati (UC) and University of Kentucky in peer education roles.

She will lead the top training tools for the peer educators at UC, and she created a peer education group at Kentucky. She then arrived on Xavier’s campus in 2017, where she has continued her work with students.

Tuesta said her own experience as an undergraduate student, really valued the adults in my life who helped me to think,” Tuesta said. “I really like doing that for students: not giving them the opinions that they should have, but letting them explore all different kinds of topics, and part of the peer education program is just giving students the space to explore the things that they are wondering or curious about but either don’t want to say it because they might come across in a weird way or they just don’t have the opportunity to explore those topics.

In her new role, Tuesta’s primary function will be to coordinate the university’s gender-based violence prevention and education efforts. Her work begins right away: This week, she’s attending a four-day training event hosted by the Association of Title IX Administrators that Lawson herself attended five years ago.

Next, she’ll focus on developing a plan for the future of education and prevention on campus. For example, part of that plan will be naming the primary prevention strategy to be implemented across campus. Also to be discussed is the role student groups like the BRAVE Peer Educators will play.

“Ideally, we’re figuring out some sort of prevention plan and have some sort of vision that has three-, five- and 10-year goals, basically testing those thousands of ideas with key partners, whether that’s faculty or students, kind of having the same conversation with lots and lots of people so that it really tracks where we go from here,” Tuesta said. “Hopefully, if we look at where we are in five or 10 years, we are in a place where Title IX response is even better and prevention exists.”

Lawson said that having a central connecting person like Tuesta to act as the face of Title IX prevention and education on campus will prove invaluable in terms of better connecting student leaders and groups.

“This is so small, but it makes all of the difference,” Lawson said. “If a student approaches her, Talia can say, ‘You know what I’m so glad you came, because two other students came yesterday and said x, y, z.’ The student activism around these issues has exploded over the past five years... It’s a good time to bring all that passion, all that strength, a lot of expertise from student leaders, so that we can harness all that work that they’ve done.”

Tuesta also discussed the benefits of being in a position where she can focus on education and prevention.

“(Prevention is) something that I have been really passionate about for a long time, we’ve never had the space or the opportunity to focus most of the time on,” Tuesta said. “I’m excited to kind of structure or re-structure the way things are happening with regards to prevention, and I’m excited to be a part of that story and see where we go from here.”

Overall, Tuesta expressed eagerness to begin work in her new role.

“I’m looking forward to just getting started,” Tuesta said. “I think there’s a lot of talk about what we’re going to do, and I’m getting excited about how those changes will actually look and just kind of going for it.”

In terms of the Advocacy and Prevention Coordinator position, Lawson hopes to have a replacement by mid-March and encourages students who are interested in being involved with the process to contact her or Tuesta and attend the forthcoming open forums with the final candidates. They also emphasized that advocacy will still be available throughout the transition process and to contact either of them with any questions or concerns.
By Brittany Wells
Staff Writer

Dr. Taj Smith will leave his current position as Director of the Center of Diversity and Inclusion this Friday to take a similar job closer to family.

Smith, who joined Xavier as director in 2017, said he and his family have lived in a variety of places since he moved to Xavier. "I feel a little betrayed because that’s what my Xavier experience, but I very much will miss the community," he said. "It was unassociated with SGA."

Cole Stautberg (left), Johnny Srsich (center) and Bri Boyce (right) were elected as SGA Executives in 2017. They served until December 2018.

"They served until December 2018. Their mission isn’t rooted in social justice and solidarity and all these other great Jesuit values, " he said. "That could be a different type of student to work with as well as faculty."

Smith also said that he believes the Xavier community is noticeably invested in social issues.

Cole Stautberg (left), Johnny Srsich (center) and Bri Boyce (right) were elected as SGA Executives in 2017. They served until December 2018.

"I remember when we had the wall of expression last semester and Stephanie was concerned about a student’s comment on the wall, Wambaugh said. "Taj was walking there for the concerns for the student and he immediately went into action."

"The way he cares for students is inspiring and has really stuck with me and made me strive to be a better person," he said.

Senior Benmun Damul also spoke highly of Smith, though she has not warmed up to the idea of his departure.

"Taj has been fantastic. I'm not sure if I stayed at Xavier another 10 years, the work would never be done," Smith said. "The work is never done. Even if I stayed at Xavier another 10 years, the work would never be done."

Smith’s final message to students? "Make sure you hold the university accountable. Keep doing what you need to do… Hold each other accountable in respectful ways as long as other people are showing you respect and make Xavier an even better place."

An interim director will be appointed for the rest of the semester. BART protocol will continue to operate during the transition.

SDI Director headed to Rochester

By Rose Hoffstetter
Staff Writer

While JBC did not achieve the point on their campaign directly as an Executive, variations of campaign promises were fulfilled by efforts of individual Executives and executive support for senators’ initiatives.

Executive campaign platforms are known to be ambitious and set unachievable expectations, and JBC’s was no different. Of the 19 points, three were achieved during JBC’s term, one of which — providing more gender neutral restrooms on campus — was unassociated with SGA. The goals that were accomplished by JBC directly or indirectly through support were establishing a Xavier food pantry and continuing the It’s On X campaign, as well as assisting other sexual abuse prevention efforts on campus.

The first point on JBC’s platform was to reduce food waste by Chartwell’s catering by composting excess food or donating the excess food to a food pantry in the surrounding Norwood area or creating a food pantry on campus, though in a slightly indirect manner. Stautberg was heavily involved in It’s On X’s efforts, though not in the efforts to continue his role was also involved in the planning for National Eating Disorder Awareness Week.

The Executive team did bring attention to furthering their partnerships with identity and diversity organizations throughout the year, offering senators the opportunity to create events that they believed were important to the Xavier community.

With regard to campus safety, JBC wanted to improve XU’s R.A.G.E. and encourage frequent informative notifications. Students were especially concerned after there was no notification during the Sept. 5 shooting at Fountain Square, which was deemed too far away from campus for notification.

Despite efforts toward communicating student needs, there appears to be a level of notification students wanted and what Xavier Police thought students wanted. Concerns about safety were brought up during the report of administration of notification of SGA meetings and afterward discussed as a Senate. JBC did have several meetings with members of the administration in attempts to implement a more effective system, but not much change was brought despite this being a component of their platform.

JBC’s most visible accomplishments during their term were the two “Your School, Your Questions” forums and organizing Xavier’s participation in the We Will Not Be Next National School Walkout following the Parkland shooting. The walkout attracted more than 450 attendees including students, staff and administrators.

The Executives were avid supporters of senatorial projects and helped senators achieve their goals. Such projects included then-Senator Blair McKee’s P.E.D.R.O Restroom, Senator Macey Windley’s Bill Demott speaker, Senator Beth Root’s voting shuttle or the Residence Life Committee’s new porch swings expected to arrive on campus this spring.

JBC’s greatest strength as a board was motivating senators to use their respective committees to enact change.
May’s proposal faces historic loss
Brexit plan falls by a vote of 432-202; only clear future on EU exit is deadline

BY JABARI TURNER
Staff Writer

British Prime Minister Theresa May’s proposal for the United Kingdom to leave the European Union (EU) was overwhelmingly opposed by a historic margin in the British Parliament on Jan. 15.

The result of the vote comes on the heels of eight days of parliamentary debates in which members of the Prime Minister’s conservative party voiced opposition to her Brexit deal.

May’s proposal was rejected by a vote 432-202. The record 230-vote difference was the worst parliamentary defeat in modern British government era. Of the 430 votes against the proposal, 115 came from her own Conservative party. The vote decreases the likelihood for an agreement to be reached before the March 29 deadline, the date the U.K. must have a plan to leave the EU.

Opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn stated that “one of the former Brexit secretaries promised a detailed, ‘precise’ and ‘substantive’ document... The government spectacularly failed in providing a detailed, ‘precise’ and ‘substantive’ document.”

In his call to vote against the proposal, he critiqued the proposal’s lack of clarity, checks and control and failure to mention frictionless trade. May said the proposal provided certainty for business and protections for the rights of EU citizens in the U.K. and U.K. citizens in the EU. Additionally, May insisted the proposal provided the “deepest security partnership in EU history” and an “unprecedented economic relationship with the EU.”

On June 23, 2016, 51.9 percent of voters supported withdrawal from the European Union. In her Prime Minister address prior to the Jan. 15 vote, May called on the parliament to honor the 2016 results, by voting for the proposal.

May faced a no-confidence vote 24 hours after she offered the proposal. The Prime Minister is now meeting with leaders of different parties with the goal of finding a way to finalize a Brexit plan.

“The Brexit process is the British attempt to deal with the collapse of their empire and the growing reality that they are no longer a leading state in Europe,” Xavier political science professor Dr. Timothy White said, “Advocates of Brexit simplistically believed that they could recreate an idealized isolated state when in fact isolation will only further the economic demise of Britain. In a practical sense, Brexit has opened up the reality that the United Kingdom itself is fractured as is British public opinion.”

White pointed this in part to politicians who provide concise answers to rather complex challenges, by debating themselves and their followers, recreating an idealized isolated state that real leaders would provide.

“The only clear aspect of Brexit’s future is the impending deadline. Without a deal, there could be devastating economic ramifications.”

“Brexit is interesting to watch from afar without having a horse in a race,” said first-year history major John Higgins said. He cites the importance of Brexit as the United States are both allies with the U.K. and the nations of the EU. He believes it may be more likely to work with them separately.

Eight amendments have been introduced to fix May’s plan. One amendment proposes giving Parliament the power to debate a range of options, including a second referendum or an even softer exit.

The week in review: no police notes edition

Medical money, Snoop investments, lunch money, finally an Eagle, big sharks and four percent bling

- Ohio dispensaries sold $75,000 worth of medical marijuana on their first legal day of operation. According to the Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program, the total volume of product sold was 8.7 pounds. Eventually, close to 60 dispensaries including seven in the greater Cincinnati area, will open Jan. 17.

- The body of a newborn baby girl was found in the women’s restroom at an Amazon warehouse in Arizona. Phoenix police said they had contacted the mother but have not revealed her identity. Amazon released a statement describing the discovery as “terribly sad and tragic” and added that workers are cooperating with police in the investigation Jan. 17.

- Rapper Snoop Dogg continued to demonstrate that he’s got his mind on his money and his money on his mind by investing in the Swedish company Klarna Bank. The start-up founded in 2015 provides finance options for consumers and currently exists in 14 countries. Snoop Dogg previously appeared in a video for the bank, where he is referred to as “Smooth Dogg” Jan. 17.

- A 12-year-old student in Georgia faces a 10-day suspension after using a counterfeit $20 bill to pay for his lunch. The student said he got the bill from his father, who, in turn said he got it from a fast food joint and did not realize it was fake. A lunchroom worker discovered the hocus-pocus bill’s true nature and reported it to school administrators, who handed down the suspension Jan. 18.

- After 35 years, a former New Hampshire police officer earned his Eagle Scout rank. Bob Hildreth replaced street signs as part of his 1982 project, but a car accident forced him to miss his board of review. “It means I finally got there,” Hildreth said Jan. 18.

- The dog world lost an icon when the pomeranian Boo, dubbed the “World’s Cutest Dog,” passed away. His owners made the announcement on Boo’s Facebook page, which had earned more than 16 million followers. The post speculated that the loss of his beloved companion Buddy last year may have contributed to the heart issues that ultimately led to his death Jan. 19.

- Deep Blue, thought to be the world’s largest shark, was captured on film by divers off the coast of Hawaii. It is estimated that the great white shark measures around six meters long — about half the length of a bus — compared to the average size of 0.6 meters and weighs two and a half tons. The aptly named Ocean Ramsey, a member of the team, added that Deep Blue might have been pregnant and posted a video of the encounter on her Instagram page Jan. 19.

- Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown recently made a quick stop at a Pittsburgh jewelry store to spend $500,000 on some new bling, including five carat diamond earrings. Given that he’s due to make $12.9 million in 2019, that price amounts to about four percent of his salary, the layman’s equivalent of a Target run Jan. 20.

- WhatsApp is reducing the number of times a message can be forwarded from 20 to five in an attempt to limit the spread of false information. The update debuted in India, where a government had asked the company to intervene after several lynching incidents last summer by “not providing messages forwarded via the app Jan. 21.”

Photo Courtesy of Shutterstock
Officers acquitted in McDonald case
Charges included conspiracy, official misconduct and obstruction of justice

BY ALANA HARVEY
Staff Writer

Former Chicago Detective David March, ex-patrolman Joseph Walsh and Officer Thomas Gaffney of the Chicago Police Department were acquitted for conspiracy, official misconduct and obstruction of justice in the Laquan McDonald case, a verdict that left supporters of McDonald stunned.

Video footage showed Chicago Police Officer Jason Van Dyke fatally shooting 17-year-old McDonald 16 times, with 10 of those shots entering his body from the side and behind. Initially, witnessing officers stated that McDonald lunged at Van Dyke with a knife in hand, leaving the officer to defend himself with lethal force.

The official police report stated that the footage provided by dashcams of surrounding patrol vehicles confirmed the accounts made by witnesses.

The prosecution argued that those being charged lied to protect their colleague, failed to preserve the evidence and dismissed outside sources coming forth with additional information in order to develop a narrative that justified the murder of McDonald.

A Freedom of Information request that was made by journalist Brandon Smith as well as by other local and national media outlets to confirm the events, but all requests were denied by police on the grounds of an ongoing investigation.

It wasn’t until Smith filed a lawsuit that the footage of the incident was released, resulting in March, Walsh and Gaffney being charged a year and a half later for their involvement.

Associate Judge Domini
cia Stephenson disagreed and acquitted the accused because of lack of evidence against them. Stephenson justified her decision in saying, “Two people with two different vantage points can witness the same event and still describe it differently.”

Van Dyke was convicted of second-degree murder and 16 counts of aggravated battery back in October. He was sentenced to six years and nine months in prison on Jan. 18.

Due to this case’s significant impact on the Chicago community, the results of these trials lead to growing tensions between officials and citizens.

“It was all over the papers for weeks,” sophomore and Chicago native CJ Karwowski said of the influence of the crime.

When questioned on what the future holds for the relationships between the Chicago Police Department and its citizens, Karwowski said he does not foresee an easy recovery from this case.

“I feel like there’s a level of trust that needs to be present between citizens and police,” he stated.

“I would imagine it’s harder for citizens to trust the police after this.”

Government remains closed for 33rd straight day

BY SIERRA ROSS
Staff Writer

The United States Federal government has been shut down for 33 days, making it the longest government shutdown in U.S. history.

On Dec. 22, the government entered the shutdown after an impasse regarding President Donald Trump’s $8.7 billion request for funding of a border wall. Earlier in the month, the Senate unanimously passed an appropriation bill without the funding for the wall. Trump refused to pass any bill without funding and maintains that he will veto any bill that denies it. The House attempted to pass a stop-gap bill in order to secure the funding, but it lacked enough support.

President Trump offered an extension to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals immigration policy (DACA) on Jan. 19, as well as temporary protections for undocumented immigrants, in order to bring about compromise and end the crisis. The would give undocumented immigrants who entered the country as children a three-year reprieve from deportation. Democrats have opposed the proposition, refusing to discuss negotiations on wall funding until the government is reopened.

The Senate will vote tomorrow on both Trump’s plan and a bipartisan compromise that will extend funding for federal agencies through Feb. 8.

Nine executive departments have been partially or fully shut down.

First-year political science major Sophie Boulter said, “It is painful to see so many workers out there that aren’t getting paid” because of politicians’ inability to come to an agreement.

The Antideficiency Act, which prohibits non-essential operations without proper legislation in place, has caused employee furloughs.

Agencies have left federal employees to miss their first paycheck with the potential to miss more.

Several charities are offering housing and financial assistance to the unpaid workers, but it hasn’t been enough to cover all of the affected individuals.

Xavier students have felt the impact of the government shutdown as well.

First-year business unde
clared major Ryan Persons encountered delays at the airport last week as a result of the shutdown. Persons’ security experience ran at least an hour at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York. His past experiences normally took about 20-30 minutes. He explained that this was because “the airport was low on staff.”

Currently, a lot of airport employees are working without pay. More than 10 percent of TSA employees called out of work on Sunday alone.

Other government agencies are experiencing similar issues. The U.S. Coast Guard missed a pay check, the first time the armed services missed a pay check during a shutdown.

It is expected that this will not end until the government is out of the shutdown and funding is restored.

The federal government cannot operate at its full capacity until an agreement in Congress is reached.
SGA Execs: State of the Campus

This year, make a resolution to be wrong

Tis the season of the seemingly pointless New Year’s Resolution. I told myself I’d start to go to the gym, again, and on week three I have still not been within a 500 foot radius of a piece of exercise equipment. Physical betterment is one thing we try to accomplish, but people rarely talk about a resolution to better their minds. A challenge I would like to propose to address this is to open yourself up to the possibility you might be wrong.

None of us likes being wrong. We go online and surround ourselves with an echo chamber, we read only similar viewpoints on our social media and we become completely invested in an idea we feel is right. We know people who refuse to be friends with anyone who has a different opinion than them on certain topics. You cannot claim to be an open minded individual and not be open to other ideas at the same time. I will be the first to admit I seek out those like me so we can discuss opinions together without someone being offended by what we say. None of this is beneficial to anyone, especially ourselves.

We came to college to learn and to be challenged. I believe you are failing yourself if you don’t try to learn from your classmates as well as from your professors.

There is a cultural phenomenon in this country wherein if someone challenges our worldview, it is our process to shut them and their opinions out. We claim to be open-minded people and yet we won’t even interact with those who have different opinions than our own. There are some students who have different opinions than them on certain topics. You cannot claim to be an open minded individual and not be open to other ideas at the same time. I will be the first to admit I seek out those like me so we can discuss our opinions together without someone being offended by what we say. None of this is beneficial to anyone, especially ourselves.

Missing Statement

The Xavier Newsroom is committed to reporting the news as well as explaining its significance to readers. In addition, through publishing opposing viewpoints and opinions, the Newsroom hopes to foster dialogue on campus among students, faculty and staff.

Advertising

All inquiries should be directed to the Business & Advertising Manager, Jessica Blocker, through newsroom@xavier.edu.

For Your Information

Xavier’s At Home magazine, a 16-page family oriented publication covering the Local area, was distributed at the local Walgreens, Kroger, and local co-ops.

*The Newsroom has made the decision to stray from the AP Style Guide for printing the words White and Black in reference to groups of people. We have decided to capitalize both.
Men need to be masculine

Over winter break, I was blessed to go on the Xavier Holy Land study abroad program to Israel. During my high school career, I became both educated and passionate about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. As a high school student applying to Xavier, I was elated at the idea that I may get to go to the Holy Land. Even more enticing, I had always been very connected to my faith, and I was excited to have the opportunity in my academic career to explore the history of the tradition I held so dear.

If you know me, you know that I am incredibly outspoken. I am not one to bite my tongue in any scenario, let alone when I feel passionately about something. On my trip to Israel, I wanted to put my own bias aside and hear all of the varied opinions being presented to me. I did not want to make what I felt was an inherently political trip so polarizing that it crippled my experience.

So, I challenged myself. For me, being silent when I had more than a few words to say was an exercise. Like, hard-er than running up the Eiffel stairs. But it felt necessary. I have a lot of entitlement when it comes to my opinion. I value others’ thoughts, but I often feel very deeply about an issue, and then I forget that not everything is black and white. My opinion is influenced by my lived experience, and I get caught up in debates that make me forget that others’ opinions are intricately tied to their lives, too.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is horrendously complicated. To explain it, even briefly, in an op-ed would be not only idiotic but would also disrespect the lived experience of all of those involved. So, I won’t. What I will do is outline a few lessons I learned from my internal struggles on the trip.

First, why the ‘Us vs. Them’ mentality? I personally had imagined I would learn to keep my professionalism in group discussion, masking my own opinion to the best of my ability. One day, though, I found myself overwhelmed with the conversation at hand and the language being used. In so many political narratives, there is an “Us” and a “Them,” and someone benefits from “the other.” The differentiation of the human race and the demonization of whoever is different leaves an unerasable mark on discourse and discourse duration. So much so that the language used to discuss issues as sensitive as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is privileged to one side. For me, the “Us vs. Them” mentality brings up one resounding question. If “He benefits from the difference?” I have accepted that wherever we see the making of someone as “other,” some- thing is being profited. Why? And how?

Second, you have to accept that no matter how much you know and how passionate you are, you have much to learn. You always need to consider what you may not know. Each and every person you meet has something to teach you, and you have something to learn.

For me, my confidence can often come off as arrogance, even when I am eager to learn. As I sat surrounded by opinionists different than my own, I was reminded that in the grand scheme of things, I knew absolutely nothing. It was not my lived experience, and I did not get to decide that feelings and emotions were negligible in the political climate. They aren’t. In the end, I care more about the individuals than I do about being right or proving my point.

This brings me to the third thing I realized. If I truly want to embody care person-al and care for the whole person, that includes when I feel strong politically. That includes me swallowing my pride to listen to someone and hear them out, and it includes me challenging my own bias.

Learning to live experience in the Holy Land

It is accepting that I do not know what I have not lived and that I have many things to learn. I guess you could say I learned a lot on my study abroad to Israel, but perhaps it is a bit different than what I had imagined I would learn when I first heard about the program. Sure, I learned where Jesus walked, but I also learned a bit more about how I should live in my faith and walk in Jesus’ footsteps.

Men need to be masculine? Do men need to be masculine? If the recent Gillette advertisement extolling men to “Shave their Toxic Masculinity” was good for anything besides a laugh at the people falling for another “woke” corporate marketing ploy, then it was bringing up these questions to the forefront of my mind. I have written an article before about the first question above, and I think now is a good time to revisit the topic in light of this controversy through the framework of masculinity and manhood.

So what does it mean to be masculine? The answers to that question will probably vary in the detail, but there is a rough shape to what we classify as masculine. Generally, these are easily identifiable traits such as strength, courage, stoicism, aggression, independence, assertiveness and so on. Traditionally, societies have expected men to exhibit as many of these traits as possible in order to be considered a true man. Today, some of these traits are usually lopped in with the trendy concept of “toxic masculinity.”

I will freely admit I loathe that term. I despise it because masculinity is not toxic. The behaviors associated with toxic masculinity, typically presented as various forms of exclusion, aggression or violence, are the result of a lack of masculinity rather than the presence of a corrupted form. They are, paraphrasing Saint Thomas Aquinas, a result of effeminacy. Now, effeminacy is about as controversial a concept as masculinity and femininity, but it is distinct from these two sets of traits and behaviors.

In the context of this article, effeminacy does not mean feminine behaviors. Effeminacy, according to Aquinas’ Summa Theologica, is when a man forsoaks the good of the future for the pleasures of the moment. Aquinas calls these men “soft” because they quickly yield to the difficulty and suffering of life. Instead of pursuing what is meaningful through the difficulty of life, effeminate men pursue what is expedient and pleasurable.

Going back to Gillette’s ad, there was one scene in particular that struck me as showcasing effeminacy as I have described. In what is obviously a high-level business meeting, the man standing at one end of the table discards what his female colleague has said and begins the process of reiterating her idea in his own words so he can take credit. How is this man effeminate? One could argue that he lacks the ability to see beyond his own ego and need for immediate affirmation from his colleagues. Instead of encouraging his counterpart or asking her to further explain her idea, he has to take over the situation to feel in control.

In truth, he may believe he is actually a “masculine” man for doing so, but he is sacrificing the future potential of his colleague and his company for his need in the moment.

There are a large number of other examples in the ad that I could go to that showcase immediate-gratification effeminacy, but instead I want to move to where the ad succeeds in showing true masculinity. Near the end of the ad, a clip from the long-form video shows a father holding his young daughter up to the mirror, having her repeat the phrase, “I am strong.” This is an entirely heart-warming and applause-worthy example of masculinity.

The father is laying the foundations for his daughter to become a confident, courageous young woman. If I were to sum up what ideal masculinity looks like, it would be using that father’s example: acting as a leader, guardian and teacher. Society needs more men to act in that exact manner.

Truly, I have much more I could say about masculinity and how desperately we need it in society, but I only have so many words in this article. I will conclude with this: Our men and boys are right now in a time of crisis. Many people claim it is the fault of masculinity; I believe that masculin-ity is not the problem. It is the solution.

Colin Lang is a senior history and Philosophy, Politics and the Public double major. He is a staff writer for the Newswire from Westlake, Ohio.

Brianna Ledsome is a senior Philosophy, Politics and the Public double major. She is a guest writer for the Newswire from Youngstown, Ohio.
Takeaways from Xavier’s matchup with Villanova

BY COLIN COOPER
Staff Writer

Last Friday night in Philadelphia, the men’s basketball team took the court against defending National Champions Villanova Wildcats.

This Big East tilt between Xavier and Villanova has been a marquee matchup since Xavier joined the re-alignment in 2013, and this game was no different. In a gritty battle, Xavier came up short in the end by a score of 85-75.

Here are some of the main takeaways from the matchup.

Villanova still holds the throne in the Big East

Despite Xavier winning the Big East regular season title, it still has not gotten their best basketball right yet this year. According to coach Jay Wright, the Wildcats’ squad is playing their best basketball right now, and it showed on Friday night.

Xavier’s “double big” scheme works

Prior to the Georgetown game a couple weeks ago, Xavier adopted the double big scheme to go against the Hoyas’ own double big. The Musketeers have used it ever since.

The combined dominance of Zach Hankins and Tyrique Jones down low has created huge disruptions, allowing for shooters like Paul Scruggs to get open. Hankins’ defense and shot-making combined with Jones’ strength and creativity make them wildly successful when on the court together. If the two can stay out of foul trouble, continue to look for this duo more and more down the stretch.

Xavier’s “double big” scheme was a smart move for the Musketeers to go up against Villanova’s frontcourt双big scheme. The Musketeers have used it ever since.

Against Villanova, it was a back-and-forth first quarter. Xavier led 10-6, but Creighton fought back with a 13-6 run to grab a 19-16 lead heading into the second quarter.

The second quarter, however, was not close. Xavier won the quarter 18-2, in- cluding a 7-0 run to open the quarter, and led 34-21 at halftime.

Creighton responded with its own 7-0 run to start the second half and only trailed by single-digits, 34-28, as a result. Creighton continued to chip away at the lead until it tied the game at 46-46 with 1:27 remaining in the third quarter. Xavier was not close. Xavier won the quarter 15-13. However, it was not enough to overcome the deficit, as Providence won the game 71-58.

Gray leads strong push, but Musketeers fall twice

BY DONNIE MENKE
Staff Writer

The women’s basketball team suffered a pair of tough conference losses, dropping games against Creighton and Providence on the road.

The Musketeers took Creighton to overtime before ultimately falling short but still keeping their momentum going into the second quarter, eventually stretching its lead to double digits. It led 46-31 going into halftime.

The Friars continued to build a lead after halftime, opening the third quarter on a 7-0 run to lead by 22 points, 53-31.

Xavier responded with a 9-0 run to cut the Providence lead down to 13 points, but Providence was able to extend its lead back to 15, 58-43, heading into the fourth quarter.

The Musketeers returned to action this week at home, first against Providence Wednes- day night before facing No. 12 ranked Marquette on Sat- urday.

Sophomore forward Ariana Gray scored a team-high 23 points against Creighton and 13 points against Providence last week. She also recorded a double-double in both games despite the Musketeers’ two losses.

Gray posted another strong stat line, grabbing a double-double by scoring 15 points and grabbing 14 re- bounds. Sophomore guard Tierra Floyd also scored 15 points and grabbing 14 re- bounds. Sophomore guard Naje Owens scored 15 points and grabbing 14 re- bounds. Sophomore guard Naje Owens also recorded a double-double in both games despite the Musketeers’ two losses.

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**Ranking the top five announcers in college hoops**

**By Michael Rauzer**

Staff Writer

There was no such thing as home field advantage last Sunday as the Los Angeles Rams won the NFC Championship in New Orleans against the Saints, while the experienced New England Patriots beat the Kansas City Chiefs in Kansas City to win the AFC Championship and clinch another Super Bowl berth. In New Orleans, the Saints jumped out to a quick 13-0 lead. However, a fake punt by the Rams punter Johnny Hekker and a touchdown from Rams running back Todd Gurley cut the Saints’ lead to 10-10 at the end of the first half.

In the second half, Saints quarterback Drew Brees led the offense to a go-ahead touchdown — a 12-yard touchdown drive resulting in a touchdown pass to tight end Jared Cook. The Rams responded with a drive that resulted in a touchdown pass to Tyler Higbee, bringing the score to 13-17. In the fourth quarter, the Saints led the Rams 20-17, and with about five minutes left in the game, Zuerlein hit another field goal to tie the game 23-20 at the end of the first half.

In the second half, the Chiefs opened up with a touchdown pass from Patrick Mahomes, cutting the Patriots’ lead in half before Patriots kicker Stephen Gostkowski hit a 43-yard field goal. Mahomes responded by throwing a 73-yard touchdown to Tyreek Hill in the fourth quarter, giving the Chiefs a 24-21 lead at the end of the third quarter.

In overtime, Brees threw an uncharacteristic interception on the Saints’ first possession, and the Rams won 26-23 thanks to a 27-yard field goal from Zuerlein.

By Clay Merk

Guest Writer

With a collision of intertwining sporting events all happening at once, fans nationwide will begin the yearly talk of who their favorite announcer is.

The sports broadcasting scene contains a wide variety of personalities, from the likes of the 6-11 Hall of Famer Bill Walton to the golden voice of Gus Johnson, whose "Crawford's gotta hug me" line in the 2010 Sweet Sixteen game against Kansas State remains engrained in the hearts of Xavier fans worldwide.

Here is a look at some of the best voices in sports:

1. Jay Bilas

Jay Bilas is the best college basketball color commentator in the game right now. The Duke product has an absurd amount of knowledge of the game. After a stint of playing professional basketball overseas, Bilas coached with Mike Krzyzewski, whom he once played for at Duke. He began his broadcasting career in 1995 with ESPN and has been with the network ever since. Bilas' pure knowledge of the game and his ability to relate it to the audience in a way that no other announcer can. Bilas is consistent with his takes on the game and leaves no doubt for each game he calls is shown weekly in the booth on the College GameDay program. With his unique knowledge and smarts for the game are some of the best there are right now, don't expect that to change anytime soon.

2. Dick Vitale

Some may know Dick Vitale through his broadcasting career, which started at the elementary school level in Garfield, N.J. and continued all the way to the NBA as a head coach for the Detroit Pistons. Vitale is distinguished by his enthusiastic voice, which brightens the worlds of college basketball fans across the globe. Vitale uses his past experiences and passion for the game to deliver an analysis of the game that fans admire. Vitale is rarely heard without a positive attitude and continues to inspire young hoops fans through each game he calls. Vitale's biggest on-air sayings such as "Diaper Dan" or "PTTWR" and sometimes "He's awesome, baby, with a capital A" to describe players who play at a high level. Vitale, 78, has been with ESPN since 1979. He may be in his last couple years on the job, and college basketball fans must enjoy and admire each call left in his storied career.

3. Clark Kellogg

CBS personality Clark Kellogg is one of the most accredited announcers there is. When it comes to experience in basketball, few live up to the resume that Kellogg has built for himself. He spent three years at Ohio State before becoming the eighth overall pick in the 1982 NBA Draft. Kellogg averaged nearly 20 points and 10 rebounds with the Indiana Pacers before knee injuries cut his career short. Kellogg began his career in broadcasting in 1990 and has run with it ever since. Kellogg’s experience in the game provides top-notch analysis that has been demonstrated in multiple national championships, selection shows and even the NBA 2K video game franchise.

4. Gus Johnson

Gus Johnson may have the most unique voice in all of college sports. Currently working for Fox Sports calling many Big East games, Johnson provides an energy with a touchdown from Michel and took a 24-24 lead before Williams scored his fifth touchdown pass, giving the Chiefs a 28-24 lead with two minutes remaining in regulation.

On the following drive, the Chiefs seemed to clinch a Super Bowl trip, but an interception was nullified by a penalty, and the Patriots scored, giving them a 31-28 lead. The Chiefs tied the game 31-31 and had a chance extending the game into overtime.

In overtime, Brady seemed to march the Patriots down the field as he had done so many times throughout his career, and a Rex Burkhead touchdown gave the Patriots victory and a trip to the Super Bowl to face the Los Angeles Rams.

Xavier senior and Kansas City native John Russell commented, "You know, it is hard to be mad at the game. It was a great game, the one everyone wanted to see. It was sad to see because Kansas City wanted it. We need to get back to the future to bright and Mahomes will bring a trophy to KC."

The Rams and Patriots on Feb. 3 in Atlanta, GA at Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Kirk cousins, Kirk cousins, got a trip to the Super Bowl who has left on the call because he has once-in-a-lifetime talent.

**Photos courtesy of Will McBride**

ESPN broadcaster and former Duke basketball player Jay Bilas continues to be one of the best analysts that the arena of sports announcing offers. He has been with ESPN since 1993 and has been the analyst for many of the biggest games around the country. Bilas' unique knowledge and smarts for the game are some of the best there are right now, don’t expect that to change anytime soon.
By Joseph Cotton

Montessori Conversations (MonCon) is a Xavier-run podcast that discusses topics at the forefront of the Montessori education field and is funded by a two-year grant from Xavier Women of Excellence (XWO).

Montessori is a multi-stage educational pedagogy in which teachers who are familiar with the child's social and cognitive development guide them as they engage with an environment.

According to the podcast’s website, “the goal is to share what is new in the field, dive into specific aspects of the world of Montessori and talk to experts in the field.” The podcast is hosted by Jill Sagerman and Senior Teaching Professor Julie Rugler-Ackley.

The podcast, which can be found at www.xavier.edu/moncon, is slated for two seasons during the next two years with episodes that are released every Thursday.

Each season is nine episodes long.

The podcast is set up to reflect what the audience wants to hear.

“Our audience is mostly Montessori teachers and parents, as well as those interested in educational outcomes,” Rugler-Ackley said. “We conducted a survey, and it seems like parents are expecting to hear about topics like Montessori and dementia.”

The MonCon website also has a feedback tab.

The first episode of MonCon is on the topic of dementia. Kathy Farsing, Montessori Dementia Program Coordinator, discusses how she is utilizing Montessori techniques and philosophy to help improve the quality of life for people in living communities and in a home care environment suffering from cognitive decline.

Farsing spoke specifically about how Montessori practices are incorporated into opportunities for people with dementia to plan out tasks that they are willing and able to do.

The podcast is produced in collaboration with Xavier’s Digital Media Lab (DML). The DML staff provides technical know-how in the form of editing, recording and graphic design expertise.

Xavier students are also involved in the creation of the podcast. Brittany Wells is a student producer, and Bryan Berwanger composed and recorded the podcast’s introduction.

The podcast also provides alumni and current students a view of what is going on around the Xavier Montessori department.

“One of the plans for the season is to include voices from the field where we talk to current students,” Rugler-Ackley said. “We want listeners to see the broad world of the Montessori field.

“The podcast is looking to improve the experience for Xavier students studying Montessori education now and in the future.”

Nintendo Switch-es things up on its console

Price, versatility and interactivity make it an ideal choice for a casual gamer

By Luke Feliciano

After the new year rolled around, I decided I would indulge myself with the gift of a new gaming console. I considered multiple options — including the PlayStation 4 and Xbox One. However, I ultimately decided on the Nintendo Switch console.

While the Switch isn’t as popular as competing consoles among our age demographic, the price is what really swayed me to purchase it. The Switch costs $299.99 while the others are about $400 more.

The main factor that drove my desire for the Switch arose because of my personal experience beforehand with the product. While I was home over winter break, I played my friend’s Switch constantly — almost every day of the break, in fact — and very much enjoyed it.

Personal experience aside, I was intrigued by the uniqueness that the Switch offers in that it is one of the only consoles that can be docked “permanently” while also having the full-bodied capability of being portable with the opportunity to play on-the-go.

The versatility of the Switch is perhaps most notable in the ergonomic design of controllers, with several options a user can utilize. For instance, players can opt to use a single Joy-Con and slide in the makeshift bumper that Nintendo includes with the system.

Players can also slide the two Joy-Cons into the controller grip to mimic the feel of a traditional controller. Additionally, for those who prefer to use a typical controller, Nintendo sells a Pro controller that resembles a generic controller.

Interactivity was also an enticing aspect of this game. While there are certainly many Switch games that are designed to be played solo, there are also a variety of games meant to be played with a party of people.

A fan favorite like Super Smash Bros. Ultimate is a great example of a game that should be played with a group of people. Nintendo even offers a GameCube controller adapter to use in the game for diehard Nintendo lovers who still have their controllers left over from the old system.

Another great game that any retro — or even new — gamer would enjoy is The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild.

This game allows the player to explore an open-world concept. There are a lot of awesome features that this game entails such as the chance to either simply follow the main quests or to take the scenic route and explore around the sizable map.

With a game setup marked by longevity, it is certainly a great “bang for your buck” game as it takes a fairly long time to progress through.

For a system with a relatively less powerful processor, the Switch’s graphic interface holds up. There are some glitches at times, but they don’t hinder or interfere with the gameplay of the console.

There are some downsides that come with the Switch compared to its predecessor as well as any other gaming system.

For instance, the constant motion of docking and undocking the portable screen into the dock has the potential to scuff up the screen. However, this can be prevented by simply purchasing and installing a screen protector.

The other negative — which is that most gamers would argue against it — is that the system doesn’t necessarily have a large offering of games. Many of the most popular games played aren’t available on the Switch, although the game system was only released in 2017.

Nintendo is working to adapt more third-party games to the available offerings. The company has also announced that more Switch-tailored games are on the horizon for the end of the year, so hopefully more options are headed gamers’ way in the not-so-distant future.

Overall, the new Nintendo Switch is a perfect console for the casual gamer and more specifically for gamers who play with a group.

The distinctive nature of the system in that it can be played portably without sacrificing many of its features is what truly sets the Switch apart from its competitors.

In just a few short weeks, I’ve enjoyed playing my Switch. I am enthralled by what Nintendo can produce in the foreseeable future, and I’m thoroughly pleased with the abundance of being able to receive a more customizable gaming experience.
Cincy offers a cinematic paradise

BY HANNAH SCHULZ
Head Copy Editor

Last week, a movie production team rolled into town to begin filming a new project starring Anne Hathaway and Mark Ruffalo.

The project, still untitled, tells the story of an environmental lawyer taking on a case against chemical pollution. This is just the latest of projects being filmed in Cincinnati, so it may have you wondering more about the film industry and its presence here.

One of the most well-known films, Carol (2015), saw the transformation of Eden Park and Over-the-Rhine were featured in the film. It received critical acclaim and was nominated for a number of Oscars and Golden Globe awards in 2015. The film was directed by Todd Haynes and starred Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, and Julianne Moore.

In addition to Carol, several other major films were filmed in Cincinnati in 2016 and 2017. The Hollywood film industry has been, for a number of years, featured in an article by Head Copy Editor Hannah Schulz. In the article, she discusses the impact the film industry has on the city, as well as the future of independent filmmaking in Cincinnati.

The project, still untitled, also marked a return to the city for director Todd Haynes. Haynes had previously filmed in Cincinnati for his 2015 film, Carol, which starred Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara. In the article, Haynes shares his excitement about filming in Cincinnati again.

Haynes tells the story of an environmental lawyer taking on a case against chemical pollution. This is just the latest of projects being filmed in Cincinnati, so it may have you wondering more about the film industry and its presence here.

Shows to include on your upcoming watch list

BY HANNAH PAIGE MICHELS
Staff Writer

Game of Thrones

Game of Thrones fans were in for a sweet perk when HBO premiered its surprise 2019 lineup trailer featuring clips from a variety of its shows. During these lineup trailers, there are always great moments to remember. One of the best is when Jon and Sansa hug the first meeting of Sansa Stark and Daenerys Targaryen, which Sansa says, “Winterfell is yours, Your Grace.” The official trailer for the six-episode season of the HBO’s #ForTheThrone campaign, showcasing flashbacks of some of the show’s most memorable scenes. A more mysterious and atmospheric trailer released Jan. 13 featured repeated footage of the season in the trailer, we follow Jon Snow, Arya Stark and Sansa Stark through the court, then to the gates of Winterfell. A few things stick out, such as the shot of the doors to King’s Landing, a modern office space, out of breath, to directly tell汇聚 into the catacombs, crawling closer to the three characters. Though this trailer shows nothing fans haven’t already seen, it does reveal the anticipated release date of the final season as April 14, 2019.

Bruce Willis has even filmed multiple movies in Cincinnati. Two of his latest, titled Region and Ten Minutes Gone, were filmed in 2017 and 2018, respectively. Senior Digital Innovation, Film, and Television major Trace Walker worked as a production assistant on the latter film when the production team was in town in September.

During the day, I would often wake up to the sound of the city, a sea of cars and street traffic from the background of shots, pass out water to cast and crew, grab things for people, and run any kind of errands,” Walker said. “Most movies are shot over the duration of multiple months, this was a much shorter shoot of only 14 days. This meant having to make the most out of each day and often times we wouldn’t head home until after 7 or 8 p.m.”

The Hollywood film industry, though, is almost completely separate from the local independent industry that exists here. Adjunct Professor Kyle Howland has been working in the Cincinnati film industry for more than a decade.

“We are also set in Cincinnati, and the independent film industry exists here. Adjunct Professor Kyle Howland has been working in the Cincinnati film industry for more than a decade.”

As for the future of the local film scene in Cincinnati, Howland thinks there is a lot of possibility. "I think the future of independent filmmakers in the city is a future of great opportunity. There are multiple festivals and competitions in Cincinnati that support and give an outlet for indie filmmakers. There is great support for indie filmmakers in this town... It is dependent on the indie filmmakers, as a collective unit, to keep these festivals, companies and outlets supported and in operation.”

Movies might look like a mix of glitter and glamour, but Howland has some more sobering thoughts about the film industry. “In the beginning, it is really enjoyable and rewarding industry to work in, and I wouldn’t change it for any other industry,” he said.

Both the local and mainstream film scenes find Cincinnati the perfect backdrop for the production of many films. The Queen City’s financial incentives and diversity also make it the prime locale for film production.

Stranger Things

“Starcourt Mall has it all.” This is when fans of the 80s-themed Sci-fi show got a taste of what Stranger Things season three has in store. The teaser trailer plays as a commercial for the new facility coming to Hawkins, Ind., and features the beloved Steve Harrington serving ice cream in the food court. The release date for season three is December 4, 2019.

But… why Cincinnati? Walker echoed this idea. "Big movies can often require hundreds, even thousands of people to get the job done. Not only are there cast and extras but lots of people behind the scenes taking care of equipment, transportation, catering and planning."

The project, still untitled, also marked a return to the city for director Todd Haynes. Haynes had previously filmed in Cincinnati for his 2015 film, Carol, which starred Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara. In the article, Haynes shares his excitement about filming in Cincinnati again.

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Puns to annoy everything and everyone

By Soondos Mull-Ossman
Features Editor

If you haven’t already reminded your friends of how much better off they are staying off campus and at home than being stuck here with people like you, then use this nifty assortment of puns organized into no particular order or ranking to ensure they no longer want anything to do with you ever again!

1. “I don’t see your point.” Say this while pointing to the tip of a sharpened pencil.
2. “Eggcellent.” For best results, use this pun with an egg in any form as a visual aid.
4. “Appeas me.” Deliver with peas from the salad bar section of the cafeteria.
5. “How you bean?” Deliver with any bean of your choosing from the cafeteria.
6. “What the hail.” Best used outdoors when it is hailing outside.
7. “I’m going to get in treble.” Best used in a class pertaining to music.
8. “I’m feeling a little depresso-ed.” Because it borrows from “expresso,” use this inside some coffee place.
9. “Let’s not beet around the bush.”
10. “Want a pizza me?”
11. “I went pasta barbecue.”
12. “An impasta!”
13. “There’s apple-ace I know nearby.”
14. “I’ve been melon over the possibilities.” A pun on mulling. Best delivered with any nearby melon.
15. “Alpaca book.” Sounds like “I’ll pack a book.” It might be easiest to simply pull up an image of an alpaca for this one.
16. “Bee honest.” Try to wear some bee-inspired accessory to make this delivery beautifully cringe-worthy.
17. “Bear with me.” Say this when your friends look emotionally distraught.
18. “You’ve cat to be kitten me right meow.”
19. “Your lecture was crabtivating.”
20. “Do you think she saurus?”
22. “Feel butter soon!”
23. “I’ve got a pear of shoes.”
24. “I don’t see any tissue with it.”
25. “I’m cherrying you on!”

Features

Aries: If you’re taking any creative or performing arts classes, you’re basically the majestic salt sprinkle meme guy with the shades. Cool, collected and producing something that doesn’t suck.

Taurus: Don’t bottle things up too much this week. Snow dampens sound, so you can scream as much as you want with only half the consequences!

Gemini: You’re only two or three weeks back into classes. It’s too early to give in to the force of procrastination. If you already have, the stars will remember to mourn for your grades.

Cancer: Try to take care of some housekeeping. Return books you don’t need, clean the snow, build a blanket fort and live in it for the remainder of your adult life — you know, school things.

Leo: This is a week you own. So long as you don’t get careless, you’ll have some pretty great luck, like getting a due date for a big homework assignment pushed back.

Virgo: It’s nice to daydream about things like having all records of your student loans erased during the government shutdown, but if you’re not careful you could get lost in it.

Libra: If you’re worried about doing things on time, know that everything you’ve done in your Victorian career hasn’t taken as long as the opening of Gallagher dining has.

Scorpio: Favor’s yanked for others may be recognized this week. Whether it’s a thank-you card, a yummy treat or your favorite meme printed in color, embrace it.

Sagittarius: Two weeks in, and you may already be ready to yest yourself from your routine. Eating an entire tub of ice cream is a temporary comfort, but it’s less drastic than dropping out.

Capricorn: Why so serious? Oh, right: loans, food, money, rent, grades, clubs, a crumbling social life…

Aquarius: If you’re looking for something fun to do that’s not necessarily flirting with the Xavier Code of Conduct, try catching Winter Club Day today and signing up for a club.

Pisces: You’ve been there for your buddies lately, but how about yourself? If you’re stressed, cancel some commitments. Sleeping in till 3 p.m. is the best feeling.