Campus awaits GSC dining debut

Xavier is in the process of obtaining the final permits needed before opening the Blue Blob’s Diner and All For Subs in the basement of Gallagher Student Center.

By Brittany Wells
Staff Writer

You walk into Gallagher Student Center (GSC) stunned by the lack of jackhammers and shouting over the construction. Is the highly anticipated basement of the GSC finally open for business? The answer is, almost.

“The process of the Gallagher renovation has been innovative, yet challenging,” Xavier’s Director of Marketing Jennifer Paiotti shared. “Overall, it will be a wonderful new addition that extends the longevity of the Gallagher Student Center for generations to come.”

The length of the construction process and the subsequent delays have been causing buzz since the project began. Sophomore Barry Price remarked that “it’s really disheartening to see how long this reconstruction process has been. If we’re honest, I think that a lot of people have been pretty upset by the lack of food options all last semester, and with the lack of quality in the ‘new’ Victory Dining Commons like in-house roasted, Thanksgiving-style turkey and scratch-made bread. Junior Aaron King sampled the Chicken Sub and the Breakfast Nachos. “It’s good food at a good price. It’s not great, but it’s certainly not disappointing.”

As for the wait time, Paiotti said the goal is five to eight minutes. However, she acknowledged that between only having three deep fryers, 30 new associates and the two- to three-minute period each order of fries or chicken will take to flash fry, the initial wait time might be a little longer.

“At the beginning with 30 new associates, brand-new equipment and new elevated menu items, we expect delays in learning curves,” Paiotti said. “However, our goal is to serve delicious food and give excellent customer service.”

She added that “all of these new things have been completely based on the feedback from students, faculty and staff” and that she is interested in receiving more feedback in the coming months. Every dining option will now have textchat, an anonymous immediate feedback number to report and get results on everything from a great sandwich in Gallagher to an empty ketchup container in the Hoff Dining Commons.

Other unveiling programs include a mobile ordering website, a Secret Shopper Program for critiquing all ConneX locations, Dine with Leadership where students can share their experience with ConneX and Dining Services leadership over a meal, a sustainability series called Let’s Talk Coffee and a partnership with the Center for Diversity and Inclusion and the Center for Internation al Education to do a cultural dining series in the caf.
School welcomes nine new clubs

Photo-op: How do students plan to take advantage of the snow?

"I'm taking advantage of the snow by building a snowman outside."
Sarah Ray
First-year Biology major

"The snow is great for photos. All the natural lighting makes everything really pretty. And of course pelting my friends with snowballs is always fun."
Liz Apollonio
First-year Digital Innovation, Film and Television and theater double major

"I always think the snow is nice to look at, and it enhances the beauty of the campus."
Reilly Jones
Junior Communications and theater double major

"The snow gives me an excuse to drink more hot chocolate."
Emily Jorgenson
Junior Criminal justice major

"I tend to stay on campus longer so I don’t have go back and forth in the snow, and I also wear my duck boots more."
Trevor Fontan
Senior Sport management and advertising double major

Campus welcomes nine new clubs

TriBeta, pictured above, is one of two new honor societies on campus. The club aims to aces honor academic achievements in biology and provide a space for passionate biology students to socialize and share ideas.

TriBeta is an honors society for biology students who demonstrate excellent scholarship in the field of biology as well as a passion for advancing or sharing biological research studies.

TriBeta pictured above. is one of two new honor societies on campus. The club aims to aces honor academic achievements in biology and provide a space for passionate biology students to socialize and share ideas.

By Alex Budzynski
Staff Writer

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More formally known as Beta Beta Beta Biological Honors Society — Xi Delta Epsilon Chapter, the club’s goal is to provide another place biology students can socialize with each other as well as share their broad passions and interests.

This semester, TriBeta will be sending out invitations to students that are eligible for associate and regular membership. After applications are evaluated, the club will host an annual banquet and acceptance ceremony for members.

Additionally, TriBeta plans on outdoor excursions once the weather improves and may facilitate &KTA type sessions with professors.

Club president John Sternen will also be working with cadavers this spring and will lead a dissection open lab in April that students may attend.

TriBeta has not set a meeting time for this semester.

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Photo courtesy of John Sternen

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By Alanna Belmont
Staff Writer

Campus is welcoming nine new clubs this semester for students with interests ranging from sneakers to socialism.

Students can check out these six featured clubs and more than 170 others next Wednesday, Jan. 23 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in Gallagher Student Center at Winter Club Day.

Girl Up XU
Girl Up XU’s mission is to ensure that girls are counted as individuals at a local and international level. The club promotes awareness for girls’ health and education globally and fights to ensure that girls have access to such resources.

The club will fundraise and engage people from the local and international community.

Girl Up XU will have its first meeting Jan. 22 from 6-7 p.m., location to be determined. Interested students can check Girl Up XU’s Instagram @girlupxu for updates.

Xavier Socialists Club
Xavier Socialists is for students interested in altering and fighting to ensure that girls and women’s overall goal is to educate young women on conservative ideas and encourage them to speak out on campus and in their communities.

Members can look forward to travel opportunities for national conferences, connections for internships, book clubs, leadership opportunities, conservative female speakers and the chance to meet other strong, independent Xavier students.

NeW has not set a meeting time for this semester.

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CPS goes toe-to-toe with FC Cincy
Confederate statues debate rages

Mayor John Cranley and former City Manager Harry Black have feuded repeatedly since Black’s appointment in 2014, and their final show down created division in City Hall. Cranley requested that Black resign in March because his aggressive management style, followed by a six week battle among the mayor, city manager and nine sitting City Councilmembers that continued until an agreement for Black’s departure was reached.

Black eventually resigned under threat of being fired in April and received a severance of $117,000, benefits worth $100,000 and an additional $570,000 in September. Cranley’s actions have respect in the eyes of the community and councilmembers.

Councilmembers Wendell Young, Chris Seelbach and P.G. Sittenfeld, vi-
It took me a while to realize that choosing Xavier was incredibly fantastic. It started the college search as any other senior in high school would—narrowing down my preferences. I knew I would not be a small liberal arts school would rock, but a Catholic school? As far as little high school Heather was concerned, that just meant most students had worse sex education than me and the professors could recite every Pope. I didn’t even know the word “Jesus” until I visited this campus. I agreed to go to an X Day to placate my parental units who wanted me to consider universities closer to home. There didn’t seem to be any- thing special compared to other schools at first. It was my current academic program that eventually wooed me. Lit- tle did I know that Xavier was better fit for me than I had imagined.

Contrary to my overly-pre- paring nature, I failed to look up “Jesuit” on Google. When I arrived for Manresa, the buzzwords of diversity and tolerance finally alerted me to the liberal inclination of the Society of Jesus. My especially conservative friends back home were alarmed.

They reminded me that pri- vate universities, according to some media platforms, brain- wash their students. To them, Father Graham’s remarks about the Charlottesville riot in his welcome speech to the class of 2021 and his letter to the Xavier community con- cerning the DACA decision were held up as indoctrina- tion. Perhaps, they suggested, I would be better educated at a university where fewer pro- fessors talked about alleged universities, and I’d lose my chance at gaining wage gaps during class.

Against my well-meaning friends’ better judgment, I stayed at Xavier. I have con- sidered leaving since. Any- body’s first few semesters of college can feel exciting when you’re trying new things, but before the start of my sopho- more year, I have become dis- enchanted.

After temporarily losing confidence in my program, I went as far as scheduling college visits. It turns out that there are plenty of oth- er small liberal arts universi- ties with loads of professional connections, exciting clubs, and political science/philoso- phy programs. Some colleges are around lively cities with quality public transportation and guarantee on-campus housing.

I still didn’t leave. The oth- er universities were impres- sive but... off. At first, I thought, why do they want me to return more than not wanting to leave my friends.

As a teenager, my earbuds were arguably my best friend. I took them with me to school, put them in between classes and was a force to be reckoned with should they be lost or broken. The music I listened to at the time — like Of Mice & Men, All Time Low and Never Shout Never — got me through months. I’d listen to the tough moments that came with be- ing a teenager. Though I don’t listen to most of these artists now, they played a sizable part in who I’ve become.

The first two years of col- lege, my music growth was stunted. I listened to a lot of the same music I did in high school, and I found myself not really being interested in any music, like when you don’t know what you want to eat be- cause nothing sounds good. I didn’t want to listen to new artists because I couldn’t sing along, but I didn’t want to lis- ten to what I knew because I’d grown sick of it all.

For Alpha Phi’s homecoming, I bought two tickets. I fell in love with the head- liner, The National. They’re a Grammy Award-winning band from Cincinnati. They’ve been my go-to band for the last two years. Their lyrics are thoughtful and poetic and their music is... exciting and original. Just, wow. I come to idolize this band, especially twins Aaron and Bryce Dess- ler. The former writes most of the music for the band, and the latter also works as a freelance composer. They’re both more than impressive to me. Now that I’m nine months post-Homecoming, I couldn’t imagine my life without this band. As a Cincinnati native, they’re my personal home- team.

Nowadays, my love for mu- sic has changed as any rela- tionship does. Instead of be- ing in the honeymoon phase like when I was a teenager, music and I realize that we’re in the marriage phase, I still take my headphones with me everywhere and use them be- tween classes, but my taste has changed.

The National still dom- inates most of my music listening, along with every band like Vance Joy, Billy Joel, The Police and Carole King are sprinkled in here and there. I also enjoy more than my fair share of Broadway musicals and annoy my friends with my renditions of Rent, Dear Evan Hansen or Bring It On.

Music has defined so much of who I am, it’s hard for me to imagine people who haven’t felt such a strong connection to it. I have been saddened, yet all at once of what I’ve expe- rienced with music. It’s some- thing that holds power no one will ever truly understand.

Hannah Schulz is a junior in Geoma- tion, Film and Televi- sion major from Cincin- nati. She is Head Copy Editor for the News- wire.

"Put the sounds of your house in a song"

Understanding one anoth- er is an integral part of the human experience. Empathy, compassion and understand- ing are central to living a good life with others. With that in mind, there’s one thing that confuses me about some people. I will never truly un- derstand why there are those who do not listen to music on a regular basis.

Music has always occupied an enormous place in my life, despite the fact that I don’t play any instruments. When I was growing up, my fa- ther always listened to country music, even while I listened to classic rock. I grew up with the sounds of Alan Jackson, Guns N Roses, Toby Keith, Kenny G, Rascal Flatts and Eric Claption. There was never a silent car ride when I was younger, as music always played our en- tire trip. Some of my earliest memories involve music. As a teenager, my earbuds were arguably my best friend. I took them with me to school, put them in between classes and was a force to be reckoned with should they be lost or broken. The music I listened to at the time — like Of Mice & Men, All Time Low and Never Shout Never — got me through months. I’d listen to the tough moments that came with be- ing a teenager. Though I don’t listen to most of these artists now, they played a sizable part in who I’ve become.

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"Put the sounds of your house in a song"
A burning cross on the southern border

On Feb. 24, 1956, following the Supreme Court’s landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision, Virginia Democratic Senator Harry Byrd declared his intention to spearhead a political strategy of “Massive Resistance.” A scheme designed to stop school integration in his home state, Byrd’s resistance to desegregation was not a unique position for White lawmakers throughout the United States. But the success of his particular program has affirmed his notoriety in the annals of civil rights history.

Throughout coordinated efforts of political obstruction in the Virginia Statehouse, Byrd and his compatriots succeeded in keeping Virginia’s 26 school districts of state funds and bringing about outright closings for integrated schools while publicly exhorting White Virginians to join him.

Their efforts, and the ensuing lawsuits, yielded a de facto shutdown of public schooling in Virginia for a period of nearly five years—not to mention a school activity by the Ku Klux Klan meant to terrorize the courageous Black Virginians who dared to demand the education that was their right.

Mobilizing an imagined ideal of American society founded on Whiteness, Byrd, his allies in the Virginia statehouse and his ardent White supporters declared war on the Supreme Court’s decision, Virginian life that dared to look beyond narrow categories of belonging. Not simply a cynical political ploy confined to budget battles in the statehouse, Fair trade paid off into the political imagination of integration opponents through a resounding war cry of “Massive Resistance” ringing across the present day. Our latest government shutdown, the third of 2019, began on Dec. 22 and is now the longest in United States history. This most recent budget battle fundamentally breaks down the political ploy confined to the content of an immigration bill.

Byrd’s approach tapped into the political imagination of an imagined America. The political manifestation of an imagined America.

A burning cross on the southern border — a 10-foot wall would simply result in a spike of 11-foot walls, and one can extrapolate that those wishing to enter the United States could simply tunnel under a constructed barrier. Such a line of argument dangerously oversimplifies the underpinnings of the wall idea not just because data from the Office of Immigration Statistics indicates that illegal border crossings into the United States are down by 90 percent since 2000. Meanwhile, the vast majority of those living without documentation in the United States initially entered the country with a legal visa.

President Trump and those counsels who support a border wall aren’t stupid. They understand the physical limitations of a wall or barrier or fence — humans have been finding ways around fortifications since they first emerged 6,500 years ago.

“Build the wall” is not about data-driven policies, immigration reform or an actual solution to the physics of undocumented migration. In our hearts and minds the wall is a symbol, a compelling image which conveys a simple message: If you are not White, you are not welcome here. And not only are you unwelcome, but you are an enemy, the expanse of your foreign territory crudely demarcated by a barricade — an implementation of war.

Our national discourse about immigration skewed along such lines cannot be about ladders or tunnels, the reality-laden trappings of policy implementation. Like the burning crosses that scarred the front laws and churches of Virginia during the period of Massive Resistance, and continue to this day, a southern border wall is about a declaration of war upon those who do not fit an imagined narrative of “American-ness,” Whiteness.

To ground an understanding of the wall (or fence or any other form it might take) in the the world of reality sells short its true metaphysical significance, not of disputes surrounding border security or questions of human rights to migration, but as today’s Massive Resistance — a political manifestation of an imagined America.

I remember being 7 and staring down at my dinner plate that featured a mound of unpeeled potatoes, a piece of chicken with one bite taken out of it and the sparse remains of mashed potatoes and gravy. In the many times this happened I’d proclaim to my parents, “I’m done,” and they would reply, “Are you really? Aren’t you going to finish your meal? Did you know there are other people in the world starving?”

Does the infamous “people around the world are starving” line ring a bell? As a 7-year-old, I was fascinated by this ambiguous statement. Who are these starving children? Where do they live? Why are they starving? These questions would sit in my head and stay there, never leaving the realms of my mind. The thoughts and questions about these underdeveloped countries never left my mind because the ambiguity created a buffer. It seemed as if there was a whole world between them and me. I did not know these people, I did not know specifically where they were from and I did not know why they were starving.

There seemed to be an infinite distance between their life and mine, and my parents, like so many others, were just using this statement as a lesson to make sure their children eat their food.

Now, 12 years later, I have an answer to 7-year-old me’s questions. These thoughts no longer need to rust in my mind because there is a concrete, feasible action that can be undertaken to address the issue. The solution: fair trade.

Fair trade is a type of trade between companies in developed countries and producers in underdeveloped countries in which workers are ensured fair compensation for their labor. According to the fair trade guidelines, workers are guaranteed a minimum price for what they produce, safe working conditions, no child labor, the freedom to unionize and democratic say in the functioning of the farming cooperative. To me, these seem like pretty reasonable and fundamental rights. However, outside of the fair trade world, workers’ rights are up for grabs, and many companies are in violation of these basic guidelines.

I have discovered there is no world between these underdeveloped countries and me. In fact, I would even argue that, as the consumer, we control whether or not there is a world between us and them. In America and other developed countries, we have the ability to buy so much more than we need for cheap. As a result, we collectively over-consume as a society.

Have you ever stopped to think why the things we are able to purchase have gotten so cheap? A likely reason for this is the people who are making these products that we purchase are being taken advantage of and do not receive fair wages.

The thing about this issue is that it is not ambiguous. We, as consumers in a demand-driven society, have all the power. We can concrete-ly show that we are against child labor and unfair wages through the products we choose to purchase. By purchasing fair trade items, we are showing the market and the companies who are treating workers unfairly that we do care, we are informed and we’re no longer going to stand about data-driven policies, immigration reform or an actual solution to the physics of undocumented migration. In our hearts and minds the wall is a symbol, a compelling image which conveys a simple message: If you are not White, you are not welcome here. And not only are you unwelcome, but you are an enemy, the expanse of your foreign territory crudely demarcated by a barricade — an implementation of war.

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Zak Swetye is a freshman walk-on player on the basketball team. His path to becoming a student-athlete began with a tryout in the fall.

"The process was kind of nerve wracking because we never knew how many spots were open on the team, and we had to wait two weeks after tryouts to find out if we had made it," Swetye recalled.

Swetye's main role on the team is to make other players better. If his teammates are being pushed and the competition is fierce during practice, it helps in the process of game preparation.

Although walk-ons have a slightly different role on the team than those who see the floor often, they are all working towards the same goal: to win.

"Walk-ons do not receive a scholarship prior to joining the team, but there is potential to earn one later on in their Xavier basketball journey.

An example of this is Laughton Schrand, a current player who was a walk-on for two seasons and earned a basketball scholarship as a junior this season.

The biggest change for Swetye after making the team was a shift in time management.

"I have much less free time," he said. "I didn't lose any of the friends I've made, but I now can't spend as much time with them as I did before making the team."

Maintaining grades poses a challenge as well. As a walk-on, Swetye is required to keep a 3.0 grade point average in order to travel with the team.

He said it's difficult to stay on top of classes, let alone ahead of them because of traveling.

Despite the challenges with time management and keeping up with grades, Swetye shared how his experience on the team has been a positive one overall.

"Everything in my life has always circled around basketball, and I'm so happy that it still can. Being on the team, I am forced to be my best each day, and I love that," Swetye said.

Male practice players aid women’s basketball team

Being a practice player has its own set of rewards. As a practice player, Perez gets preferred scheduling, meaning that he and all the other practice players get to register for classes at the same time all other athletes do.

"This ensures they are able to come to the scheduled practices each week. In addition to preferred scheduling, the nine practice players have formed a tight-knit community.

"The thing I enjoy most about being a practice player is being a part of something bigger than myself," Perez said. "I have made some of my best friends from being a part of the program, and the women's players always make us feel needed and appreciated."

Practice players are asked to be at as many practices as they can, which typically looks like practicing from 1 to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

At the beginning of practice, Stephens gives each of the nine practice players a specific number on it. The number corresponds with the number of an opponent from an upcoming team the women are going to face.

The practice players are given the scouting report for that opponent, indicating the opposing player’s strengths and weaknesses. During practice, the practice players are expected to mimic how that opponent would play in a game setting.

"They are huge for the team from a scouting perspective," Danny Chatterton, a manager, said. "Our coaches do a really good job communicating the style of play of upcoming opponents, and the practice players do an excellent job adjusting their games accordingly."

Perez’s favorite drill in practice is when the practice players have the opportunity to run offense, and it’s probably his favorite because it rarely happens.

The practice players focus on defense for about three-fourths of the practice. If a practice player isn’t needed for one of the drills, they end up standing around.

However, Perez shared that it’s all worth it because he loves watching the women’s basketball games and seeing how the defensive drills they completed in practice directly impact the game.

"It really makes me and the others feel like practice players; we did our job to help the women get out there and win," he said.
Bop to the Top with a 2019 playlist

Check out Brittany Wells’s recommended songs to kick off the new year

By Brittany Wells
Staff Writer

“Hard Times” by Paramore

“Hard Times,” in stark contrast to Paramore’s generally emo style, is a true bop. Perfect for an early morning shower concert, “Hard Times” is an 8/10 bop. On this track, as well as their entire album After Laughter, Paramore swaps out their normally distorted guitar tracks for some funky 70s disco for a throwback moment I am SO here for!

“Promises” by Sam Smith feat. Calvin Harris

Set in a gay night club, the song and the music video alike inspire you to dance around your room. This song made me feel like a drag queen in nine-inch heels who just paid her rent in $1 bills. You will feel fantastic, fabulous and free! 9/10 bop!

“Cash Machine” by DRAM

“Cash Machine” is from the wholesome rapper DRAM who talks about deep and dramatic topics such as his love for money and how it’s changed his life. This bop is perfect for any party and is extremely danceable. 8/10 bop, 10/10 for drowning out the sound of broke b*tches.

“J’ouvert” by BROCKHAMPTON

“J’ouvert” is an adrenaline-pumping banger that will lift you up out of your seat and into the mosh pit. Watch out for those elbows. 9/10 and into the mosh pit. Watch lift you up out of your seat line-pumping banger that will free! 9/10 bop!

“I Fall in Love Too Easily” by Chet Baker

This is a crying-in-your-room bop. So, not really a bop at all. But, still, a bop, ya know what I mean? This one is to remind you that you aren’t in love with that guy from Tinsler who definitely came in an Uber because he doesn’t have a car. Remember your worth, hoo. 2/10 bop, 9/10 message-

“Boys” by Lizzo

Lizzo is known for her fabulously distinct voice and pop style. In this track she talks about her favorite types of boys… pretty much every boy to ever exist literally ever. Turn this on and turn it up. This is the perfect workout bop to blast in O’Connor to work off some of that holiday indulgence! 8/10 bop.

“Schoolin’ Life” by Beyoncé

Beyoncé is a must. As much as I absolutely adore EVERYTHING IS LOVE by The Carters in 2018, nothing compares to her oldies, and Lord knows I better school life in 2019 because right now I don’t feel like schoolin’ much of anything! 8/10 bop.

“Benny and The Jets” by Elton John

An oldie but a goodie. Just as reliable as we pray our syllabi will be this semester, this fan favorite never fails to make me smile when it’s the last thing I feel like doing. A thorough bop, I give this one 10/10, a bop savior if you will.

On Top of The World” by Imagine Dragons

If you didn’t already get tired of this song in middle school, crank it up and remember who you are! 2019 is YOUR year! Go get that 4.0! Grab that internship by the horns! Let everybody know that nothing can stop you from shining! 6/10 bop for a hopefully 10/10 year.

“People Don’t Get What They Deserve” by Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings

This is actually a throwback, although not as far as you’d think upon your first listen. Sharon Jones and her Dap Kings are a soul revival band bringing back one of the best things to come out of the struggle of the 90s soul. “People Don’t Get What They Deserve” is a fast-paced soul track. A good song to wake up to and get started with your day. 6/10 bop.

“Promises” by Sam Smith feat. Calvin Harris

If you love Spiderman, this movie is for you. If you don’t necessarily like superhero movies, this movie makes it easy to get into them. How? Because it’s just a good movie. Anyone can like it, and everyone should go see it.

The most animated spider in the Spider-Verse

By Jack Dunn
Campus News Editor

Sony’s Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse was not only a visually incredible movie, but its plot and cast lived up to the hype.

The concept behind the "Spider-Verse" is not very simple. While a multi-verse theory is not a new concept in science fiction, it sometimes gets convoluted and loses the audience. However, “Spider-Verse” makes it simple for the audience while paying tribute to each character’s comic book roots. This may not seem possible when one of the characters in the movie is named Spider-Ham, but it is pulled off.

This movie tells the story of Miles Morales, a Black-Hispanic teenager at a new elite private school. Miles resents his father, police officer Jefferson Davis, for sending him to this school and seeks advice from his uncle Aaron. While he is hanging out with his uncle, Miles is bitten by a radioactive spider and stumbles into a particle accelerator experiment, which kicks off the rest of the story. To avoid spoilers, I’ll say that it is not only a very funny movie but also a tale of loss and sacrifice.

There is a reason why this movie won the Golden Globe for "Best Animated Feature Film" over Disney power-houses Wreck it Ralph 2 and The Incredibles 2. Nothing like this has really been done before. The entire movie looks like it was printed on a comic book. It’s not that noticeable on the wide shots, but when it goes in for a close up on a character’s face, it looks like there are printed dots on it. They also play with the frame rate to make it look like fights are choppier and quicker. The music made for this movie does a good job playing up your emotions.

If you love Spiderman, this movie is for you. If you don’t necessarily like superhero movies, this movie makes it easy to get into them. How? Because it’s just a good movie. Anyone can like it, and everyone should go see it.

Total score:
**Staff New Year’s Resolutions**

**John Stowell, Adviser**  
I resolve to become more culturally aware so that I actually understand what’s in the A&E section. I’ve started already—I now know that Cardi B is not a heart medication.

**Heather Gast,  
Campus News Editor**  
My aim for this week and 2019 in general is to finally stop myself from sipping beverages or soups I already know are too hot. I think my life would be better if I tried to figure out what dogs are telling me, so that’s a close second.

**Ellen Siefke,  
Editor-in-Chief**  
My New Year’s Resolution is to complete a yoga routine every day. My mom and I are actually doing this resolution together, and it was pretty cool to do yoga with her during the break. While I’m here at school, I’ll obviously be doing it whenever I can, but I’m also planning to keep up the routine with her mother as part of her New Year’s Resolution.

**Jack Dunn, World News Editor**  
My number one resolution is to break my crippling Mountain Dew addiction, and then maybe eat healthier. I guess.

**Ryan Kambich,  
Op-Ed Editor**  
My resolution is to be more honest in the coming year. I aim to speak, to write, and, of course, to edit with clarity and integrity. I will also be lobbying AP to introduce the Oxford comma as proper print style.

**Kevin Thomas,  
Managing Editor**  
Ah, yes. The classic New Year’s Resolution. I’ve tried many times to create one and continually failed. However, I have succeeded thus far: I began carrying a gallon of water with me everywhere I go. (Disclaimer: Kevin has since lost his water jug.)

**Sofia Ordonez, Arts and Entertainment Editor**  
My aim for this week and 2019 in general is to finally stop myself from sipping beverages or soups I already know are too hot. I think my number one New Year’s Resolution is to take better care of myself not only physically but also mentally. This is my most important resolution because I have realized the importance of being kind to myself and allowing myself to make mistakes, which can be difficult for all of us at times. Therefore, I am resolving to challenge myself to exercise more and eat healthier, which I know is typical, in addition to putting the good and the bad into perspective as I encounter both success and failure in the new year.

**Alex Ackerman, Copy Editor**  
This year, my number one New Year’s Resolution is to get over my Dew addiction, and fail more than I did last year, essentially.

**Hannah Schule, Head Copy Editor**  
I’m not one for New Year’s Resolutions because I never think about them before the start of the new year. This year I’ve sort of made one. A friend and I have been slowly working on a movie, and my goal is to finish all of the pre-production by the end of the year so we can begin filming. It’s a big project, but I’m excited.

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**Features**

**Aries**: Establish good money habits. There’s only two college moods: being broke or being rich, and being richer than someone who uses designer lunchboxes.

**Taurus**: Returning to campus means reconnecting with friends on campus. You all get to complain about the over-priced food options again!

**Gemini**: This is the time to work out any loose ends before things get chaotic. Convince your ALL Card to not sky-dive out of your wallet into the shadow plane this semester for once.

**Cancer**: Careful not to forget how cold the snow is. It’s pretty but not as pretty as your frostbite will be when you de-icide to run out there in pajamas.

**Leo**: Being the guy from that one Vine who tells people to “get on top of the fridge” when you think they’ve done something wrong will lead them to calling the house a nightmare. Let’s be real, who does all this?

**Virgo**: Sleep well, make it to class early, sit toward the front of the classroom, take good notes and you’ve set yourself up to do awesome this semester. But let’s be real, who does all this?

**Libra**: Be wary of getting overwhelmed on your first week back. You may get stressed and then ignore this stressor by binge-watching Netflix that isn’t even that good.

**Scorpio**: Your personal health is more important than your grades. Besides, you don’t even need a degree to be a clothing hanger, according to that one Vine.

**Sagittarius**: There’s a meme circulating, and unfortunately this week you embody it. It be like that sometimes.

**Capricorn**: When one door closes, another opens. Keep that in mind when you’re settling back into the academic routine. Or, you know, trying to close a door and stubbing your toe on the edge.

**Aquarius**: The desperation to connect with others might already be getting to you — be careful not to look too much like the freestyle dance teacher from her respective Vine.

**Pisces**: It’s sad — when you were a kid, you could tell everyone to believe in themselves and they’d be inspired. Now, all you get is the suspicion that you’re a little too obsessed with Disney.

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**Comic courtesy of Adam Ellis**

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**Look for the answer key in next week’s (January 15th) edition!**