Public transit has its problems

Go Metro has faced a decline in the number of riders over the last two years.

By Devin Luginbill
Staff Writer

It is no secret that Cincinnati’s public transportation leaves much to be desired. Over the last two years, Go Metro has seen a five percent decline in riders each year. Xavier students that rely on public transportation have been heavily impacted.

While only five percent of the Cincinnati population uses public transportation, Go Metro struggles to fulfill the needs of the commuters who depend on having a public transportation system.

“Come on the Metro last spring semester, which wasn’t a fun experience,” junior Sean Wayne said. “The first few times I used the bus, I was either late for class or was confused about the routes. It did get easier to adjust after about a week or so.”

Wayne's confusion is well founded. Go Metro's bus signs take minimalism to a dissatisfying level with only a route number and Go Metro's website information. The signs lack information on destination or direction.

Go Metro does have an app that it claims allows for easy payment options and bus route information, but not all riders have access to this app. The recently launched “Better Bus Map” aims to simplify the routes of the bus system and promote more ridership, though results remain to be seen.

“I had to use the Metro last spring semester, which wasn’t a fun experience,” junior Zach Vanet said. “I take the bus? Just take me forever to get to school,” junior Zach Yuet said. “Plus, I have a car, so why would I take the bus? Just seems inconvenient.”

The City of Cincinnati has made multiple efforts over the years to improve the city’s public transportation, and Xavier alumni have been close to the action. Recent Xavier graduate Giovanni Rocco helped lead the charge in eliminating parking minimums in Over-the-Mound this past September.

Parking minimums require developers to provide parking space along with any properties that they develop. This model encourages private vehicle ownership, thus discouraging use of public transportation. By encouraging use of public transportation, the city will have more incentive to invest in the public transportation system.

Most commuting Xavier students are reluctant to depend on the Metro.

It’s a time and reliability issue. Just driving around the city, you see how many stops the buses make. It would take me forever to get to school,” junior Zach Yuet said. “Plus, I have a car, so why would I take the bus? Just seems inconvenient.”

The City of Cincinnati has made multiple efforts over the years to improve the city’s public transportation, and Xavier alumni have been close to the action.

The streetcar initiative — which is one of the most controversial topics in city politics — was assisted by Xavier alum and professor Sean Comer. The streetcar was opened in 2016.

During morning and evening rush hours, the far right lane on Main street is intended to be used solely by Go Metro buses. The bus lane will hopefully decrease transit time.

Despite its current shortcomings, Fairfield still believes in the value of Go Metro for those who do not have a car and who need a dependable transit to get around the city.

“I don’t believe Xavier students use (Go Metro) much. I think that’s a shame because the bus provides access to the many cultural resources the city provides. Xavier needs to do a better job of encouraging students to make greater use of the city in which we reside,” Fairfield said.

Complicated routes and overly minimalistic signs have created confusion for some students who would otherwise be using Go Metro as a way to commute to campus. However, steps are being taken to improve.
Toolbox improv troupe brings holiday laughs

BY AIDAN CALLAHAN
Staff Writer

The improv comedy troupe Toolbox performed its first show of the year last Saturday in the Arrupe Overlook.

The troupe had some trouble getting a show together earlier in the semester according to co-director Ellie Eckerle, but was excited to begin their season with a holiday-themed show dubbed “A Full-Contact Christmas.”

To get into the spirit of Christmas, members wore holiday sweaters. To get into the spirit of “full contact,” they wore helmets and knee-pads.

Improv comedy is a form of performance where the performers don’t come with anything prepared. Rather, they rely on audience-driven games to guide the show.

In the first game, “Four Square,” four duos created scenes based on simple audience suggestions, such as the 1920s and snowballs. This is an example of short-form improv, where only a few members

are sharing an extremely special experience with your siblings or close friends at your home away from home. It is evident from the way she spreads love to

young people is apparent in the joy she gets from being around them with a smile on her face. The campus is because she loves the young people with whom she

goes on to say that she is willing to have people over to their home for a warm family meal in order to make them

feel more welcomed to the Xavier community that she loves.

One of the main reasons she decided to return to the campus is because she loves the young people with whom she gets to spend her day.

Compared to working in a daycare, Carson jokes that the patrons of the caf “are not in diapers anymore, they are in pull-ups.” Working with older
tudents means that “I get to know them, and they get to know me,” Carson said.

Today, she works part-time from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays and continues to love the opportunity to help her neighborhood. “I get along with the kids. I get along with the other employees. We are like a big family,” Carson said.

Being married for 55 years and having five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren herself, Carson’s love for family cannot be understated — both in her home and at the workplace.

Carson gave a few words of support for students as the stressful season of finals approaches.

“Nothing matters what you are going through, whether good or bad, if God takes you to it, he will take you through it,” she said.

No one exemplifies this better than the cheery-faced Miss Cherry.

Community Member Feature: Grandma Cookie

BY ALEX BUDZNSKI
Staff Writer

Here at Xavier, sharing a meal together with your siblings or close friends at your home away from home is a means for nourishment, rejuvenation or escaping those pesky assignments you have to complete.

Even in this simple act, you are sharing an extremely special experience with your siblings or close friends at your home away from home. It is evident from their beaming faces that few understand this better than the caf employees who work from sun up to sun down.

One of the gems of this community is Miss Cherry Carson. Cherry’s unique story at Xavier began 25 years ago, when she originally spent her days happily working at the caf. However, when the dining services companies changed, she decided to leave Xavier.

During this interim period, Carson worked at several other places in the food service, such as a children’s hospital and a Baldwin Piano factory. She found time to help at a local daycare, remained active in her long-time community church and even decided to retire for some time.

This all changed five years ago when Carson received a call from a friend informing her there was an opening at the caf. She decided to come in for an interview and was offered the job. Carson proceeded to come out of retirement for a chance to return to the caf and has not looked back since.

Today, she works part-time from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays and continues to love what she does.

Some may know Carson better as Grandma Cookie, a name she earned during her previous time at Xavier working in the bakery.

The alias is quite appropriate for this kind-spirited woman, whose only critique was “Get more sports more female players.

Interested students can look forward to auditions to join Toolbox next year. You may have never performed in front of an audience, but neither had first-year Jo Dearman. After the show she said her time with Toolbox has been “10/10. I’ve been loving it. It’s a great experience, I’d recommend it to anybody.”

If you missed the show, be sure to watch for a full performance schedule of that Toolbox will share next semester.

Students to come out to see the show. Carson said before encouraging other students to come out to see Toolbox perform.

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Ohio abortion bill heads to Senate

House Bill 258 will ban abortions if heartbeat is detected; faces potential veto

BY GILLEN FAENZA
Staff Writer

House Bill 258, better known as the "Ohio Heartbeat Bill," passed the Ohio House 60-35 and now heads to the Ohio Senate. The bill would ban abortions the instant that a fetal heartbeat is detected by an ultrasound, which is typically around 6 weeks of pregnancy, that is based upon the conclusion that the instant you hear a heartbeat, a fetus is a person.

Junior Politics, Philosophy, and Public (PPP) major and Vice President of Xavier Democrats Trey Espinosa explained what the bill means to him.

"It is so important that people know what this Heartbeat Bill does," Espinosa said. "It bans abortions in Ohio after the sixth week of pregnancy. Most women don’t know they are pregnant by week six. This bill denies Ohio women their constitutional right, as decided by Roe v. Wade, to decide what is best for their bodies and their lives.

"This bill is considered one of the more restrictive abortion bills in the country and could be overturned challenge Roe v. Wade. Supporters of the bill in Ohio hope it will force top courts to take another look at that original Supreme Court decision, now that there is a conservative majority with Brett Kavanaugh and John Roberts voting against abortion.

Gov. John Kasich vetoed a similar bill back in December of 2016, but the bill resurfaced this year when State Reps. Christina Hagan (R-Marlboro Township) and Ross Hood (R-Ashtville) proposed it. The Ohio House of Representatives passed the bill 60-35. Espinosa is expected to veto the bill. GOP lawmakers believe there is the potential to override the veto. Due to the possible expensive legal challenges, it could stall the legislation for years.

"The Ohio Heartbeat Bill is not just any piece of legislation it has the potential to save lives. Life is the right of all persons not just the planned, privileged and able to be treated with dignity and respect but most of all, love," says PPP major and Vice President of Xavier Republicans Lily Hutkowski. "This bill will protect the most vulnerable in our society from a procedure that stops one heart and breaks another.”

Any doctor that performs an abortion after the heartbeat is detected could face a fifth-degree penalty, which may ultimately result in up to a year in prison. There is no clause for instances that include rape or incest unless the pregnancy is jeopardizing the woman’s life.

Espinosa believes that this legislation “Says to women, ‘we don’t believe you are capable of making decisions so we’ll make them for you.”

North Dakota passed a similar Heartbeat Bill back in 2013, but was later overturned by a federal judge. According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, the defense of this law cost the state of North Dakota $491,061 in legal fees. North Dakota and Ohio are two of nine states that have made attempts to have this bill pass.

According to the Pew Research Center, 58 percent of Americans say abortion should be legal whereas 76 percent of Democrats believe it should be legal.

President of the Ohio Senate Larry Obhof has stated that there is a conservative majority in the Senate. He says PPP major and Vice President of Xavier Democrats Trey Espinosa believes that the state senate will have the required 60 votes to override a potential Kasich veto. However, some state senators are unsure if they would be willing to vote yes on overriding a veto.

\[Image: Photo courtesy of OhioHouse.gov\]

Rep. Christina Hagan on the floor of the Ohio House of Representative explaining her vote on House Bill 258. The bill aims to be one of the most restrictive in the country, banning abortions after a heartbeat is detected.

\[Image: Photo courtesy of OhioHouse.gov\]

Week in review: Abcde, Ace, forklift and clone president

- In response to Starbucks recently announced decision to block porn websites from its free to use Wi-Fi, Vice President of YouPorn Charlie Hughes sent a memo to employees that they would no longer be able to bring in Starbucks products to work starting January 1 (Nov. 30).
- Southwest Airlines apologized to the mother of a girl named Abcde (pronounced Ah-city) after an employee allegedly started laughing at the girl’s name. Southwest stated the employee had violated their “Golden Rule” of “treating every individual with respect” (Nov. 30).
- A Columbus man was arrested on Saturday for driving under the influence while sticking his head out the window. The man explained to officers that he only crashed because his windshield wipers weren’t working and he was forced to drive “like Ace Ventura” (Dec. 1).
- 42-year-old Gregory Lee Lengang entered a plea deal in North Dakota after pleading guilty for stealing a forklift and planning to attempt to flip President Donald Trump’s limousine while he was on a visit to the state (Dec. 2).
- Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari denied rumors that he had died and had been replaced with a clone. “It is the real me, I assure you” he said while meeting the Nigerian community in Poland (Dec. 3).

Travel in groups. If you don’t feel safe, call the escort service at 513-745-2000

Xavier Police tips to avoid the police notes:
- Don’t leave valuables unattended.
- Travel in groups.
- Discover all the spots of a town.
- Check out all the bars.
- Don’t leave valuables unattended.
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Eight days left this semester

On Friday, TMZ released a video showing the latest behavioral problem of NFL star Kareem Hunt, a running back for the Kansas City Chiefs, who had previously been disciplined after an incident that was not fully reported by the National Football League (NFL).

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If this isn’t a perfect example of how the NFL truly only cares about protecting the bottom line, particularly by controlling who knows what and when, I don’t know what is.

Investigating the incident, willfully choosing to ignore the Chiefs’ obvious conflict of interest. And when the league did decide to follow up on the incident, once they realized the tape they couldn’t look at the tape, they decided that no further inquiry was needed.

If this isn’t a perfect example of how the NFL truly only cares about protecting the bottom line, particularly by controlling who knows what and when, I don’t know what is.

The league would like its fans to think that it has come a long way since it botched the Bay Rice incident in 2014, where the former Baltimore Ravens running back knocked out his then fiancée in an elevator. The NFL’s initial response was a two-game suspension, not that in similar situations TMZ released a video of the incident.

Clearly, the league is hoping that the fans will react in the same way they have when these incidents happen.

While it was revealed that the NFL had not seen the video that TMZ released a video of the incident.

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For Your Information

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

Advertising

All inquiries should be directed to the Business & Advertising Manager, Alfredo Mercedes, at 513-743-3561.
What I do and don’t know about the holidays

The holiday season means different things for different people. To some, it means a magical feeling in the air. To others, it means stress. The season poses Cindy Lou Who against Grinches alike, forcing both the enthusiastic and the enervated to make difficult concessions. Whether you are the grumpy Ebenezer Scrooge before the visit of his past, present and future ghosts or the hopeful Ebenezer Scrooge afterward, I promise that these common things about the holidays will get you in a better mood and help you to shake off some of that holiday anxiety.

Something that I do know about the holidays: Christmas music before December is a sensitive subject.

Something that I do not know: Why have people been telling me about the holidays: Christmas anxiety.

Better mood and help you to these common things about afterward, I promise that enervated to make difficult both the enthusiastic and the season poses Cindy Lou Whos magical feeling in the air. To different things for different even those clothes will go out our own clothing but for close dingy apartments for close we might not want to go to church on Christmas Eve and Christmas stores are playing Christmas music and beginning to stock with ornaments and shiny lights.

Personally, once Hallowe’en has passed, my mind has moved on to Christmas. The black spiders go into the bin and the stockings come out. I do know, however, that my sentiment is not accepted worldwide. Whether you accept my sentiment or not, it does not matter because it is finally the 12th month of the year. We can all shed the weight of this small difference and just let the unholy Christmas music begin.

Something that I do know about the holidays: The flood is one of the best parts.

Something that I do not know: How to make the best fudge. Food during the holiday season is one thing that we can all look forward to. Celebrations on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day call out to grandmas, moms, dads, aunts, distant cousins and anyone else that can cook to make sugar cookies, chip dip or a great honey baked ham.

I have never taken part in the great cook-off that only results in happiness and full stomachs. However, this year I do vow to join. I will try to turn the ‘don’t know’ into a ‘do know’. Not only will I learn to make fudge, I want to learn how to make peppermint sugar cookies, red velvet cupcakes, cake pops and more. Let excited and let the smell of baking fill every house.

Something that I do know about the holidays: Whether it is with family or friends, it is always better to spend the holidays with someone you care about.

Something that I do not know: How to split a limited amount of time amongst many different people.

Take a second to think of the holiday traditions that your family takes part in. For example, my mom and I dedicate every minute of Black Friday to covering our house in Christmas decorations. Now take a second to think of the same traditions without the people you typically do them with. The picture is not jolly. The people that you do the traditions with are the most important part. The fact that I am so loved and able to have so much that I can come out of my shell to be with whom is the least of my problems.

If anything gets you excited for the holidays, that should be it. No matter if you have been listening to Christmas music since August or dreading the return of “All I Want for Christmas is You,” prepping your favorite recipes or gearing up to eat your grandma’s fudge, it is finally time. It is time to be with your favorite people.

Out of all the amazing things about the holidays, I for one, cannot wait to spend time with my family. Happy holidays, Xavier. I hope that it is a good one.

Kevin Thomas: Manifesto for the Infinite Now

We live in an age of impermanence.

There is no such thing as a lifetime warranty anymore. Our technology, our machines are designed to become obsolete twenty minutes after they’re hurled into creation by some Silicon Valley jackass. Most young people are renting, and will probably wind up renting out different dingy apartments for close to their entire adult lifespan, owing nothing except maybe the clothes on their back, but even those clothes will go out of style and disappear into Goodwill donation piles until 20 years later, when everything comes back in style.

The material world went digital. We traded in blow — honor and glory — for 15 minutes of fame, and even that has shrunk to fifteen seconds. We don’t have the chance to explain ourselves in long written letters — somewhere along the line we decided it was easier to dilute ourselves to 290 characters, though that’s twice the amount as two years ago.

The world we live in is one behaunted by problems from the past with a future that seems apocalyptic. The only thing that we truly have, the only thing that we are able to hold onto is the Infinite Now, the everlasting present. It is in an age of impermanence.

It is of absolute importance that our art follow into the ephemeral. It’s time to toss out the dusty tomes of yesterday, the ones our patriarchal fathers pushed upon us at an early age, the ones we were told were transcendent, representative of the common struggle of mankind. We need to set fire to the Library of Congress, get rid of Wuthering Heights, The Iliad, The Odyssey and The Great Gatsby. Those words were woven together for a different time period. They have no more place in our day, the only day that we can be certain of because it is happening right before our eyes.

Rooms Crooks gives us all the Iterating Grace we might need. It is high-time we abandon the printing press for the copier machine to distribute our poetry hand-to-hand, building relationships and community with each word we speak in an attempt to stand against this inaccessible, bourgeois, isolationist world that tells us only need to communicate via Facebook Messenger so they can sell our information, the only permanent aspect about us, to get the greatest profit. It is high-time we fill art galleries with bubbles and let them slowly pop, turning a full room into empiness over the course of a few hours. We shouldn’t paint any more. Not unless we know it’ll be gone over the next day.

There needs to be no more novels. The fishermen’s nets should swell with bourgeois vignettes, capturing the magical now only for it to be released back into the air, ethereal nothingness.

We live in an age of impermanence.

Our structures will not stand for longer than we will. Our mirrors, as every art reflects reality, ought to fill with light or fade to darkness with each day’s sunrise and sunset. It is necessary that our art is polémic. It cannot address the future, or tell the past. It must recognize the now — the only thing that exists, the simple, incomprehensible, personal, divine moment of this very second — and represent it and the people of the present. Each piece must call the proletariat to action to attack the past, owned and decided by the bourgeoisie, in order to decide upon a future which has yet to come into being.

It is time for the people to print zines and publish their dreams on blogs that will go unseen. It is time to make art, tell tales and plant seeds in public forums instead of in isolated areas. It is time for storytelling to come to life outside of bedtime.

It is time for a new John Henry. It is time for a new Johnny Appleseed. It is time for a new Paul Bunyan, a new Babe the Blue Ox.
Jones doubles down with pair of double-doubles

BY LUKE FELICIANO
Sports Editor

Xavier notched two more wins last week as it defeated Miami (OH) and Oakland at home to improve to 5-3 on the young season.

The Miami game was marked by a well-balanced offensive effort — each player in the starting lineup scored at least eight points.

“I think it’s big. It’s hard to scout,” head coach Travis Steele said about the team’s scoring distribution. “The go-to guy for us is always going to be the open guy… We have to continue to develop our depth and that’s going to be really important moving forward.”

Sophomore forward Naji Marshall paced the Xavier offense, collecting 10 first-half points to go along with four rebounds. Marshall finished with a team-high 17 points in addition to six rebounds and two assists.

Miami hit a couple of threes to assume an early lead, but Xavier responded promptly by guarding the perimeter shots more tightly.

Defending the three-point shot is a weakness for the Xavier defense this season, but the Musketeers neutralized the RedHawks on the perimeter. Miami shot just 2 of 12 from beyond the arc.

Junior forward Tyrique Jones recorded a pair of double-doubles with an equal 13 points and 13 boards.

Jones entered the game in sole possession of the best offensive rebound percentage in the entire country, and he showed his might in the paint, ripping down three offensive boards throughout the game.

Graduate transfer guard Kyle Castlin followed up three productive showings on Xavier’s recent road stretch in Maui with a quality performance against Miami. He dropped nine points while pulling down four boards.

Steele compared Castlin to former Xavier guard Malcolm Bernard and said he was known for his swarming defensive presence and consistency on offense.

“Kyle is the ultimate glue guy,” Steele said. “I thought he did a really nice job defending tonight… We need that from him.”

Xavier took advantage of favorable matchups and scored 46 points in the paint. It also forced 14 turnovers and scored 28 points off those takeaways.

The Musketeers, donning alternate grey home uniforms, controlled a double-digit lead in the first half and never ceded their advantage while securing a decisive 82-55 victory at Cintas Center — the largest margin of victory thus far for Xavier this season.

Xavier has not squared off against Oakland for more than a decade — a game it won — and the Musketeers provided much of the same result as it captured its third straight win.

Xavier was down early, but headed into the locker room with a 41-36 edge.

Despite some early foul troubles, Jones paced the Musketeers with an efficient eight points (going 3-3 from the floor) while grabbing six rebounds in the first half, four of which were offensive boards.

The Golden Grizzlies opted to utilize a zone defense, which was exploited by the Musketeers offense — primarily in the frontcourt.

Xavier scored 38 points in the key throughout the game.

“We want to paint ball!” Steele said. “I don’t want to just settle for jump shots… We do have to be committed and we were, I thought, for the most part getting that ball to the paint.”

Oakland forward Xavier Hill-Mcrais harked against the Musketeers, making a variety of difficult shots, and scoring 22 points in the first half.

However, Xavier countered, made adjustments and held the Golden Grizzlies top scorer to eight points in the second half.

Xavier controlled an advantage for the majority of the game, but the Golden Grizzlies hung around largely in part because of their 14 percent shooting from beyond the arc.

With just under two minutes to go in the game, Oakland crept within four points of the lead, but Xavier was able to stave off the Golden Grizzlies comeback attempt thanks to a layup by Marshall and a three-pointer by Welage.

Freshman Keonte Kennedy logged a lot of quality minutes. He only scored three points, but was effective in nice on the defensive side of the ball.

“His learning to continue the defensive system and the schemes and that kind of stuff,” Steele said about the freshman. “I do think he is progressing very well for us.”

The Musketeers encountered some humps in the road during the second half as it became slower and several stoppages. However, they still outlasted the Golden Grizzlies, 75-63 to take home the victory.

One aspect of this game that shouldn’t go unnoticed was the performance of Junior forward Tyrique Jones.

Hanks, Welage and sophomore guard Paul Scruggs all scored in double figures.

The competition: the Cincinnati Bearcats

BY LUKE FELICIANO
Sports Editor

The 2018 Crosstown Shootout is set for Saturday and in light of the rivalry game between Xavier and the University of Cincinnati, the Newswire contacted the UC student newspaper, the Newsletter, to gather information about the Musketeers’ intra-city rival.

Matt Hufnixon, the Newsletter’s sports editor, offered the Newsletter his take on the weekend tilt.

In your estimation, what does the Crosstown Shootout mean to UC and the Cincinnati community?

The Crosstown Shootout is the one chance each year to prove who has the strongest team in the city. It’s one of those games where the records/rankings don’t matter due to the bragging rights at stake. For UC, it’s all about honoring the tradition and having pride for the name on the front of the jersey.

For the city not having a professional team, this is the highest level of animosity available to the fan bases. Anyone who knows this area understands it’s more than a regular-season game. You’re either on one side or the other. I think it’s great how much hype the game gets every year. In an area typically dominated by football, everyone loves seeing a little bad blood basketball.

What do you think is a key to Cincinnati’s success in this game? What does the team do well in order to win?

The emphasis all season has been on turning defense into quick offense. I’d say UC’s key to success would be forcing turnovers and keeping starters out of foul trouble, especially in the first half.

Who do you think is going to be the toughest Xavier player Cincinnati will have to guard?

Although he wasn’t much of a factor in the game last year, Naji Marshall poses a threat to UC’s frontcourt.

Our guards are quick defensively, but the big men could be thrown off by Marshall’s versatility.

Defense is normally a staple with Mick Cronin teams. How does UC matchup against this Xavier offense that has been surging of late?

Both teams are currently shooting 48 percent and averaging 12 turnovers a game. While Xavier’s offensive sets seem to be well executed, UC has worn down opponents with its quickness.

What we lack in size, we make up for with speed — on both sides of the ball. UC senior guards Justin Jenifer (5-10) and Cane Broome (6-0) will be tough for the much bigger Paul Scruggs and Quentin Goodin in check offensively.

What’s your game prediction?

Last year’s matchup was filled with upclassmen on both sides, so both I’ll be interested to see as-yet-to-play-and-see if the Musketeers can top the Bearcats and make a statement offensively. Both teams will make it a low scoring defensive battle. I’ll be tight in the final minutes, but UC will find a way to scratch out a win. Cincinnati 65, Xavier 62.
Bundy biopic to premiere in 2019
Zac Efron’s newest movie was mainly filmed in the Greater Cincinnati area

BY JOE CLARK
Staff Writer

Zac Efron’s new movie, Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile, which was filmed mostly in Covington, Ky., and Southwest Ohio, will premiere at the Sundance Film Festival, the largest independent film festival in the United States. Sundance will premiere 112 feature length films from 33 countries and 45 first-time filmmakers, per IndieWire.

In the movie, Efron plays notorious serial killer Ted Bundy, who confessed to 30 homicides in seven states between 1974-1978 before being executed in 1989.

The role is a pretty significant switch for Efron, who is best known for his role as Troy Bolton in the High School Musical franchise and more recently has had roles in The Greatest Showman, Baywatch and Neighbors.

Directed by Joe Berlinger, Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile chronicles the crimes of Ted Bundy from the perspective of his longtime girlfriend, Elizabeth Kloepfer, who refused to believe the truth about him for years. Lily Collins is slated to play the role of Kloepfer in the film. Other members of the cast include Hayley Joel Osment, John Malkovich and Jim Parsons.

The movie was filmed at locations such as the Pepper Pod restaurant in Newport, Ky., and the Clermont County Jail. Some locations in Fort Thomas were also used for filming.

“They’re really interested in the Ted Bundy case, and I can’t wait to see it play out on the big screen.”

Hunt also added that the recently-released screenshots only increased his excitement.

“From what I saw, they really nailed the look. It’s almost creepy how similar Zac Efron looks like Bundy,” Hunt said.

Last March, Efron assured fans that the movie wouldn’t glorify the crimes of Bundy.

“It wasn’t a person to be glorified. (The movie) simply tells a story and sort of how the world was able to be charmed by this guy who was notoriously evil and the vexing position that so many people were put in, the world was put in. It was fun to go and experiment in that realm of reality,” Efron told Entertainment Tonight last March.

Efron also told Entertainment Tonight that he didn’t take the role home with him.

“I didn’t go full method and I didn’t have to like do any weird stuff to anybody to get into character,” he said. “It’s a different type of film.”

Recent movies filmed in the Cincinnati area include The Old Man & The Gun and The Kiling of a Sacred Deer, both of which received critical acclaim. Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile is slated for a release in theaters in 2019.

The Rook and 16-Bit prove to be bundles of fun

Staff writer Michael Rauber reviews two bars in Over-the-Rhine that provide some great experiences to wine, dine and enjoy different board and arcade games, entirely for free

BY MICHAEL RAUBER
Staff Writer

If you want to revisit your childhood and play the board games and arcade games that you enjoyed as a kid, then you should probably head down to The Rook and 16-Bit in Over-the-Rhine.

The Rook

The Rook, a board game parlor on Vine Street in Over-the-Rhine, has walls of games that range from Scrabble to Jenga, Connect Four to Cards Against Humanity and Wits and Wagers to The Game of Life. There are 800+ games on the walls, including family friendly games, trivia style games, multiplayer ones for larger groups as well as two player games and many more.

The bar’s main floor has the bar, the wall of games and tables for smaller groups, while the upstairs portion has larger tables meant for bigger groups.

The Rook also hosts events, including a monthly trivia night on the third Wednesday of each month, as well as other special game nights. See the website for details.

They do not accept reservations but allow people to bring their own games if they have more than 12 people.

The only rule is that the games are free to play, just eat and drink while you play, which helps to keep the games up to date and helps the bar add to their library.

While playing different games through the night, you can enjoy drinks, delicious appetizers and entrees. Perhaps one of the best parts of The Rook is that you only need to be over the age of 18 for admission.

Overall, I really enjoyed The Rook, and the games they offered made for a fun night with friends and delicious food.

Total score:

16-Bit

16-Bit+Arcade on Walnut Street has over 50 arcade style games, including classics such as Pacman, Street Fighter, NFL Blitz, Dig Dug, Asteroids and many others that date back to the 80s and 90s. Like The Rook, 16-Bit continues to add to their collection.

The Ohio-based establishment has locations spread across the state in Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland and Dublin.

Like The Rook, 16-Bit also has theme nights, private events, tap takeovers and pop up tournaments as well as drink deals.

At 16-Bit, patrons can enjoy drinks from a selection of craft beers and cocktails. The website also details pub crawls that are recurring each month.

The best part about the games at 16-Bit is that they are free (except for pinball, which costs 25 cents). However, you do need to be 21 for admission and should probably purchase drinks if you intend to play games at the bar.

Overall, my experience at 16-Bit was a good one, and I would recommend it to anyone who thinks that they can hit a hot streak on Pacman.

Total score:
Christmas Tree emoji review
By Trever McKenzie
Online Editor
For the final emoji review of the semester, Trever McKenzie rates what’s popular around this season: Christmas tree emojis.

Apple – 8/10
Normally Apple turns lewks, stunts pretty, but this time she made a grave error with that exposed-ankle-style trunk. A nice floor mat would tie the piece together.

Google – 4/10
Someone found the gradient feature on a color picking website and went to town.

Microsoft – 3/10
For once, Microsoft’s emoji doesn’t look completely horrendous. You know what that is? Growth.

Samsung – 1/10
What kind of gluten-free gingerbread house, decaf pumpkin spice latte, antique Santa fine china, arguing for White Santa, waiting for carolers to finish, SUV filled with presents, tipsy off of egg nog White person decorated this tree? Might WhatsApp be just undercompensating? It’s the only explanation for why their emojis continue to disappoint.

WhatsApp – 2/10
Maybe WhatsApp is just undercompensating? It’s the only explanation for why their emojis continue to disappoint.

Twitter – 5/10
I’m not saying green on green isn’t a look, but it’s not a look.

Facebook – 7/10
I want to give Facebook props for opting for the realistic fake-tree color that tons of Christmas trees have.

EmojiOne – 8/10
With those deep shadows and multi-color ornaments, this tree delivers more drama to the living room than your mom and your aunt arguing about the latter’s fourth divorce.

Emojidex – 6/10
While I appreciate the touch of snow on the trees, the ornaments draw me out of the realism. Nature doesn’t decorate, henny.

Messenger – 5/10
It’s very basic and simple but with good structure, like an apartment building before it gets painted.

LG – 1/10
[Place hands on LG’s shoulder] It’s time to stop.

HTC – 0/10
I would say, “Jesus Christ” in response to this tree, but I think he would smite me for associating his name with something so atrocious.

Mozilla – 3/10
I wish I got paid thousands of dollars to stick random pieces of Post-Its together, so it can go on a Google Drive and call it an emoji.

SoftBank – 10/10
Now this is what a Christmas tree is supposed to look like. A strong mix of decorations, a bold style and realistic, vibrant colors that tons of Christmas trees have.

No Stress Christmas
By Rose Hofstetter
Staff Writer
How to stay focused, stress-free and festive during finals!
1. Fuel your brain.
Enjoy relaxing foods and drinks such as candy canes or hot chocolate. Remember that you are going to need more than just these two suggestions to power through the last couple of days. Food is important, and you can’t survive on chips and soda. Hot drinks like hot chocolate help calm and slow down your mind. Peppermint, found in most candy canes, can promote concentration — something that you need for success during finals. Make smart choices that satisfy both your mind and your spirit this Christmas season!
2. Make a plan.
Now that the semester is nearing a close and classes become more optional, you can take advantage of the extra time by planning out how you are going to complete those last couple assignments. Take this time to help regain your motivation by thoroughly dividing each assignment into steps. For example, if you need to write an essay, make the steps extremely simple for you to accomplish. Not only will checking these off a list make you feel super studious, but you will find that you do have time throughout the day to plan out what you’re doing over break and buy any last minute Christmas gifts. If you plan out your assignments and activities now, you can seamlessly switch into full Christmas-mode once December 14 rolls around.
3. Go outside.
There seems to be this big misconception that if you aren’t studying each night, failure is inevitable. While this is true to an extent, mini-breaks in moderation are critical to getting anything done. If you need to take a break, go outside. Why outside? First, walking around campus is a great way to get pumped for Christmas and helps your brain reevaluate what you need to get done so you feel accomplished. You can look at the different décor while thinking about nothing except the stress this week is temporary. Winter break is right around the corner — go outside and get excited! You got this!