Since the renovations were announced, there has been heated debate on the matter. The two restaurants were first expected to open at the beginning of the 2018-19 school year but construction was pushed back. Students and administrators alike were frustrated by the delay. SGA Vice President Brianna Boyce is exasperated that first-year students do not know what they are missing out on. “It’s kinda hard to convey that to them that this is not how Xavier usually is... It’s hard to convey to them that they’re being gypped on things,” she said.

Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jude Kiah met with the Student Government Association (SGA) on Nov. 21 to discuss retail dining on campus and the new restaurants, among other projects Connex is working on. Senators were particularly disgruntled by the projected pricing of the new restaurants of $8-$12 per meal. Kiah maintains that the purpose of the on-campus retail dining options are to supplement the residential dining. Retail dining alleviates over-crowding in the caf and offers alternatives when students are tired of the caf’s menu. As such, the retail dining should be higher quality food than that of the caf, resulting in higher prices.

Senators voiced their concern, asking Kiah about the pricing of the pop-up sub shop placed in the Fenwick atrium at the end of September. Kiah asserts that the meat and cheese at the sub shop are higher quality than the food in the caf, though Senator Julian Razo shared that he could not tell the difference.

This is not the first bout of concerns SGA senators have had over the GSC ground floor restaurants. Word got around last October that, after a year-long student feedback initiative, Connex planned to renovate the GSC ground floor via a $2 million dollar investment with Chartwells, the foodservice Connex has contracted to manage Hoff Dining Commons (the caf), Victory Perk, Conaton Fresh Xpress and catering in Cintas. The renovations would extend from the layout of the floor to the back of house kitchen facilities formerly utilized by three restaurants: Ryan’s Pub, Subway and Blue Gibbon.

Chartwells required a sizable expected revenue from operating retail dining to agree to the investment. The revenue expected from operating the three basement restaurants was not enough, so the two former branches of student favorite Coffee Emporium on the first floor of GSC and Smith Hall were included in the deal.

Connex hosted a Q&A session on Nov. 8 last year to answer the community’s questions. Student employees were concerned they would lose their jobs. However, all employees of the former restaurants were offered jobs by Connex following the closures.

Others worried that Chartwells would dominate Xavier’s retail dining market as a near-monopoly. This sentiment remains today among SGA senators. Students collected 1,500 signatures to allow the GSC restaurants to maintain their leases to no avail, and voiced frustration over a lack of clear communication between Connex and the student body at the Q&A.

Connex Auxiliary Services offered the restaurants the option to pull out of their contracts before the end of the 2017-18 school year, an offer both Ryan’s Pub and Blue Gibbon took due to a lack of revenue. Both closed before winter break. See GSC, page 2

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Joseph Cotton regales his experience working for Elissa Slotkin, and the hope he received.

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Jack Dunn remembers Stan Lee by counting down his top 5 favorite cameos.

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Get taken to the stars with “Starlit Dinner,” a speculative tale about a celestial meal.
Alliance organizes encouragement for trans folx

By BRITTANY WELLS
Staff Writer

The transgender community is an underrepresented sector of Xavier students. In the Ignatian spirit of Cara Personalis and standing for and with the marginalized, Xaverian (Alliance) hosted Trans+ Week of Awareness activities culminating in tabling for Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) on Nov. 20. The week included collaborations with the Student Government Association (SGA), Divinity and Inclusion (CDI).

The Trans+ Week of Awareness provided an opportunity for students and staff to support trans students on campus, as well as education on why that support is needed. The International Transgender Tolerance is observed annually to memorialize transphobia-motivated murders. Alliance’s Trans+ Week of Awareness is a way to spread education and awareness of the violence that affects the trans community.

As part of TDOR tabling students, faculty and even Father B wrote notes of encouragement for transgender students. Alliance’s tabling was complete with trans positive stickers, art work and information to address an ally for the trans community.

Oliver-Rose Baker, president of Alliance shared that “We (chose) to have people...write letters of support so that trans folx on campus could further know how to act as an ally for the trans community.”

Alliance hoped to bring light to the intersection of racism and transphobia that trans people of color face. Asistant Director of CDI and Alliance staff advisor Maria Merrill explained “Specifically, trans women of color make up the majority of those killed in hate crimes against the trans community.” Merrill argues that knowing about their unique struggles as well as allies to be supportive advocates of trans folx.

Baker shares standing with the trans community as an obligation of Xavier’s Jesuit mission of solidarity. “There can be concern about their physical safety due to bias and the amount of violence against the trans community.” Baker explained how the violence against the trans community affects her time at Xavier. “As a trans person, personal safety is always at the forefront of my mind, especially in this (political) climate.”

The tabling could also lead to conversations about trans people of color’s role in LGBTQ+ history, that is often excluded from the narrative. Baker emphasized, “Trans women of color are...reason as to why we can now openly be queer and have celebratory events such as pride.”

Sophomore Tyler Gilkey, who visited the table, echoed the importance of education on the erasure of trans people of color from LGBTQ+ history. “What is desperately needed within the queer community is an understanding of the history of how we got to where we are today.”

Baker explained that the erasure has continued on the exclusion of trans folx within the LGBTQ+ community today. “Trans people are often left out of revolutionary legislation, education, media and general awareness. Trans folx also have the highest rates of suicide, sexual violence, and hate crime of any group.” Baker said.

Alliance Treasurer sophomore Kate Roach shared that “For a short two-hour period Alliance and the CDI tried to make a safe and supportive space for trans students. We hope to continue to keep the environment of support and safety on campus.”

Alliance has worked to expand the visibility of the club, through recent collaborations with Common Ground in the Center for Faith and Justice. “We are working on creating an inviting and safe space.” Baker explained that while the club certainly fostered an isolated community of LGBTQ+ individuals and allies in the past, the club wanted to improve their presence on campus. Moving forward, “It’s our goal to become as inclusive as possible, reaching out to all identities, and it is this that has pushed us to become more visible on campus. We strive to educate, motivate and celebrate,” Baker said.

GSC: restaurants to open

Subway later followed suit, though the sandwich shop and each branch of Coffee Emporium remained open until the end of the school year.

The largest dissent was over Coffee Emporium. The Cincinnati-founded coffee chain restaurants to open will be managed by one entity.

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Combined Nov. 19 and Nov. 26 Student Government Association Meeting Recap

- SGA senators remain concerned about the number of food options available for students. They expressed further interest in discussing the accessibility of options both on and off campus to accommodate the variety of student needs.

- SGA Vice President Cole Stautberg announced that the Bias Advisory and Response Team deemed the erasing of students’ Life’s chalk drawings on Oct. 17 was not a bias incident. The incident was an example of diversity of thought.

- Funding was secured for six bench swings to be placed on campus in the spring. Two benches will be placed in the Upper Yard, by Husman stage and by the Hufman green space.

- Students are invited to three on-campus interviews for the Title IX Prevention Director. Three candidates will be individually interviewed on Monday Dec. 3, Tuesday Dec. 4 and Friday Dec. 7, respectively. A more detailed schedule with times and locations for interviews will be posted on the Nezairri website, www.xaveriwire.com.

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New restrictions on flavored pods

FDA unveils new age based rules on flavored nicotine e-liquid and cartridges

BY JOSEPH COTTON
Staff Writer

Popular electronic-nicotine company JUUL announced a halt of sales for electronic cigarette (e-cigs) pods at retail locations in response to the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) announcement of new restrictions on the sales of flavored liquid, cartridges and pods. The new restrictions will affect sales at brick-and-mortar locations, and age-verification systems will need to be improved.

The move by the FDA came from its own survey, which found that the use of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) by high school students was reduced by 78 percent from 2017-2018. Although these efforts are targeting the reduction of underage usage of nicotine products, many legal users are concerned about what the regulations will mean for them.

The FDA is specifically trying to target the “fruity, sweet or creamy” flavors instead of, the less “kid-friendly” flavors such as mint, menthol and tobacco. “We cannot allow a whole new generation to become addicted to nicotine,” FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb said in a speech at the agency’s headquarters. “In the coming weeks, we’ll take additional action under our Youth Tobacco Prevention Plan (YTPP) to immediately address the youth access to, and the appeal of, these products.”

“It’s stupid,” first-year Ben Edgar said. “It’s not going to do anything about kids JUUL-ing because people just start with whatever’s in the starter pack.”

A 2015 FDA survey found that 81 percent of current youth e-cig users claimed that the flavors were their main reason for use. The FDA claims that the packaging of these dessert-flavored ENDS is deliberately marketed towards children with the bright colors and exciting flavors.

The FDA and Gottlieb cite flavors named after candy and soda-pop products, as well as cartoon characters, that are popular with underage children as further evidence for this claim.

The main change that will affect all e-cig users over the age of 18 is that e-nicotine, flavored cigars and menthol cigarette products will no longer be sold in stores without age-restricted entry. This new rule means that places like gas stations and supermarkets will need to be improved.

Only designated shops that require patrons to be over the age of 18 and stores that have age-restricted areas will be allowed to sell the e-nicotine products. Consumers should also expect to see more careful age-verification while shopping online.

JUUL is not only complying with these regulations but also taking the initiative further. They are removing their flavored products, which include cucumber, mango, creme and fruit from all retail locations. They are also requiring customers to be at least 21 years old to purchase their products.

“I don’t really care because mint is my main one,” first-year A.J. Boggess said. “I’m just resorting to using that only.”

Many people believe that the stricter rules implemented by JUUL will push people to use other e-nicotine products like Sourin, which is a direct competitor.

According to an official statement on their website, the company will work with retailers to try to improve accountability and reduce bulk purchasing, which will help keep their products out of the hands of minors.

The company is also looking to standardize age-verification practices amongst all retail locations that sell their products.

The company will also ramp up their “secret shopper program,” which is designed to verify that their standards are being followed by retailers.

The plan is to increase from 650 visits per month to 2,000. The statements say that they will “permanently cut off all sales to retail stores with multiple violations.”

Week in review:

Silence! the Disco, rookie driver and Madonna the koi

NOV. 21, 12:40 A.M. — A non-student acting suspiciously in a vehicle parked in the C-1 parking lot was arrested for possession of marijuana and obstructing official business.

NOV. 26, 4:35 A.M. — A commuter parked the Smith lot with multiple parking citations going back to the beginning of the semester was referred to the code of conduct process.
A message of political hope

Elissa Slotkin will represent the 8th congressional district of Michigan in the 116th United States Congress. She is a moderate Democrat from the state of Michigan, and she is the first Democrat elected to represent Michigan’s 8th District. Slotkin defeated Republican Ross Perot III in the race for the 8th congressional district, winning by a narrow margin of 51-49%.

During GOTV week I spent around 18 hours over the span of four days trudging around on wet pavement, trying to knock on every door to get every last supporter to the polls. No one said democracy is easy. This winning message of bipartisanship and her rhetoric during the entire campaign is a contrast to how the current state of politics is portrayed by news outlets and how most people imagine it.

CNN, Fox News, MSNBC and an assortment of online publications are more than happy to point you to the loudest, most bombastic voices from both sides of the political divide to make you feel like all those involved in politics are professionally dedicated to tearing each other down. Slotkin ran on the promise that she would work to bring down the cost of healthcare by amending the Affordable Care Act, a common sense policy that many people can afford and believe in. Slotkin ran on the promise that she would work to bring down the cost of healthcare by amending the ACA, a common sense policy compromise. I’m certain that many right-leaning voters, who would support a repeal of the ACA, chose to support Slotkin because they knew that they had the same goal and an alternative method.

Voter turnout was also at an all-time high this election cycle. Many analysts are saying that the total could rival presidential year numbers. High levels of voter turnout, as well as a shift in who we are sending to Washington, have led me to believe that it is the start of a shift in American politics.

I am praying for a future where politicians rise above all the noise and dark money to fight for the issues their constituents care about. I believe that Elissa Slotkin won because the 2016 election was a wake-up call to our country to be active participants in our democracy. Her victory is a sign that a new generation of “Midwestern Democrats” who were practitioners and willing to reach across the aisle to get things done.

Opinions & Editorials

Interim Editor-in-Chief
Kevin Thomas

Head Copy Editor
Hannah Schulz

Staff Writers
Colin Cooper, Joseph Cotton, Donnie Menke, Katie Nichols and Brittany Wells

Copy Editors
Alex Ackerman, Kaitlyn Clyne, Julia Fabrizi, Colleen FitzGerald, Kylie Lomelin, Devin Lugibill, Hannah Paige Michels, Sofia Ordonez and Grace Steinhardt

Advertising
John Stowell

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

Advertising
All inquiries should be directed to the Business & Advertising Manager, Alfredo Morales, at 513-745-3561.

For Your Information
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*The Newswire has made the decision to stay from the AP Style Guide when printing the words White and Black in reference to groups of people. We have decided to capitalize both.
**A Thanksgiving surprise**

It is incredibly difficult to listen to the voice of a loved one years after they’ve passed. However, it can be one of the most fulfilling things a person can discover over the holiday. I know this because I did exactly that over Thanksgiving break. Just before everyone went home for the holiday break, my brother Patrick made me an interesting discovery. My grandfather, Dr. Paul Joseph Dunn (whom I affectionately called ‘Papa’ when I was young), had recorded a reading of his memoir for a local radio station that detailed his experiences as a medic in the Navy and the Marine Corps leading up to and during the battle of Iwo Jima and the subsequent occupation of Japan. I found it incredibly difficult to get started listening to each of the four episode podcasts. I decided that I needed to be in the proper space to experience them, so I put it off for a week. It only felt right to describe the emotions that I felt in writing this, as these tapes offered a unique experience. It is impossible to break down his story into one small piece in a way that will do it true justice, but I will attempt to provide the highlights.

Papa began his story describing his time at the Covington Latin School in Newport, Ky., in the heart of the Great Depression. After graduating in 1935, while working several jobs, Papa began taking classes here at Xavier. It was during that time that his family moved across the street from St. Elizabeth’s Hospital, and his sister Mary forced him to take a tour with her. “It suddenly hit me like a lighting bolt,” Papa said. “This is really what I want to do. I want to study medicine and become a practicing physician.”

Papa was at the dedication ceremony of the new Covington Latin School on December 7, 1941. He decided he was going to study first aid and become an instructor to join the navy as a medic, recalling his feeling of “none of this foxhole infantry stuff for me.”

After studying for several months, he was sent to a Naval Base in Mayport, Florida. Despite spending the least amount of time there, he was the first to receive his orders to be transferred to the Marine Corps. He decided to make the best of it, and went to a sort of modified Marine basic training camp with medical field training.

After receiving Physical Training (which he described as commando training), Papa was soon shipped off to Iwo Jima as a part of the Fifth Marine Division. This is where he would normally shy away from talking to us...

...Papa was soon shipped off to Iwo Jima as a part of the Fifth Marine Division. This is where he would normally shy away from talking to us, his family, about the battle itself. It is easy to see why, as he describes the initial landing of the battle as “shooting fish in a barrel with a shotgun.” He talks about how “indestructible” it was to be assigned to triage at the field hospital based on the injuries he saw. But he noted how the Marines never complained. He fondly recalled the 28th Marine Catholic, Chaplin Fr. Paul Bradley, who was with the front line Marines, administering last rites to those dying on the battlefield. Papa described him as “a saint,” whom he had written to and corresponded with a year before he passed in 2008.

I could continue with other countless stories from the battle of Iwo Jima, his time during the occupation of Japan or what it was like to be the father of 10 children. But the best way for you to hear it is in his own words. If you search “Paul Dunn, The Road to Iwo Jima” on Google it should be the first result.

Not many people get to hear the voice of those they love after they are gone. But it is something truly moving to hear in this time of Thanksgiving. I guess if there was a point for all this, it would be to make sure you spend time with those you love over the holidays. Maybe even find time to record some of their stories. You don’t know how nice it might be to hear those stories over and over again, after they’re gone.

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**Your voice, your vote: the SGA Senate elections**

Be honest, did you know there was an election two weeks ago? Not nationally, not statewide, but right here at Xavier. Two weeks ago, we elected 20 qualified, bright students to serve as your representatives on the Student Government Association (SGA).

A month after the big executive election with vibrant shirts, lively debates and promising platforms, there’s another election for the twenty other members of SGA, the senators. This year we saw multiple qualified Executive candidates who brought in a record breaking 2076 votes. But for Senate elections, we didn’t even break 500 votes.

During the executive election it seems as if everyone cares about Xavier and Student Government, from food options and the large incoming classes to housing for first-years and the lack of resources for mental health. For ten days in October you can find students asking all the questions. Can we get more parking? When will food prices go down? What are you going to do about bias incidents?

The executive elections captivate students, yet for some reason, the senate elections don’t.

From a senator, here’s why you should vote in the executive and senate elections.

The role of a senator is to represent students, yet we fail to elect an association that is devoid of colorful shirts, passionate debates and vote at xavier.edu/elections. It is impossible to break away from talking to us, his family, about the battle itself. It is easy to see why, as he describes the initial landing of the battle as “shooting fish in a barrel with a shotgun.”

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*This piece was written by Ellen Rakowski, Chair of the Student Organizations Committee for Student Government Association (SGA). It was co-signed by SGA Senators Robin Arnold, Haley Dickerson, Jacob Jansen, Kendall King, Brennan Kizer-Ball, Maryn McCarty, Sam Peters, Julian Razo, Katy Schuller and Ryan Spolar.*
Maui trip culminates with victory against Illinois

Analysis: There are a lot of positives to glean from the early-season tourney

By COLIN COOPER

Staff Writer

For the first ever time in program history, the Xavier men's basketball team had the opportunity to compete in the Maui Jim Maui Invitational in Hawaii.

The three-day tournament, which was held over Thanksgiving break, gave Xavier a chance to test itself against some of the top programs in the country.

Notable teams in the tournament included top-ranked Duke, No. 3 Gonzaga, No. 9 Auburn, and Arizona.

While Xavier only came away with a single win against Illinois on the final day of play, they showed that they can compete with anyone in the country.

Taking Auburn to overtime and San Diego State down to the wire aren't just fluke performances — it shows that this team can be a contender and Big East Conference that is wide open this year. Here is what we learned about the men from the Aloha State.

The veterans are for real

After losing multiple players that had 2+ years of experience, it was known from the start that new leaders would have to emerge on this team. In Maui, we saw these new leaders emerge in junior Forest to only 12. The score was 67-27.

The veterans are for real

The Musketeers kept the momentum going into the third quarter, seizing control and outscoring Wake Forest 25-15 to carry a 40-41 advantage into the fourth quarter. Xavier closed the game strong. It built a 9-point lead in the final quarter to seal a 12-point, 62-50 road win.

Gray once again led the team in scoring and rebounding, getting 17 points and six rebounds, in addition to three steals.

Wasylson had another strong performance against Wake Forest, posting a career-high in scoring with 16 points. In addition to her scoring, she also had five assists.

Junior guard Jace Evans turned in a quality performance against Fairfield in the annual Lauren Hill Classic at Cintas Center on Nov. 17. She scored in double digits with 11 points while distributing five assists.

The Musketeers got off to a slow start, scoring only nine points in the first quarter. Wake Forest managed to win the first quarter as a result, 14-9. Xavier picked things up in the second quarter, scoring 17 points while holding Wake Forest to only 12. The score was 67-27.

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Fantastic Beasts 2 does pretty OK
The latest installment to take place in the Wizarding World isn’t too dazzling

By Katie Nichols
Staff Writer

The epic Wizarding World has made a return with its newest installment, Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald. The film builds on the world established in Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, and serves as a prequel to the Harry Potter series. The Crimes of Grindelwald follows Newt Scamander as he races against dark wizard Gellert Grindelwald to find the orphans of Beedle the Bard.

The most outstanding aspect of the film is the portrayal of Newt Scamander, played by Eddie Redmayne. Scamander is characterized by awkwardness, eccentricity and his strong disinterest in humans. Redmayne has cracked the code on how to perfectly embody Scamander. His subtle personality quirks help the audience get to know Scamander as more than just a character in a movie. It is impossible to ignore the way Scamander speaks as though he is hiding behind his hair or how he consistently purses his lips. Redmayne also incorporates a small stutter when Scamander gets nervous, especially when interacting with his love interest, Tina Goldstein (Katherine Waterston). Redmayne’s portrayal is the most profound and remarkable part of the character. It feels like he belongs in the world, and transports the audience with him.

The visuals also improve upon the groundwork laid in the first film. It is astounding to see how far visual effects have progressed even from Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, which was released in 2016. The depictions of the beasts are incredible. Every beast is so detailed that they fit right in beside the human actors. There is no feeling of the beasts being out of place, which further captures the audience and gives the film a strong sense of it actually experiencing this extraordinary world of magic.

While the visuals are stunning, the action sequences are a bit lacking. Most of the film feels like it is building up to some great confrontation between the characters, but the desire is never actually fulfilled. The characters do face-off, but the action is dissatisfying. It seems like there is less magic used in battles on screen, opting instead for threatening dialogue. A stronger use of magic is expected from a movie based around wizards.

Another disappointing element of the film is the treatment of Albus Dumbledore. Trailers leading up to the release of the film teased a strong presence from the legendary wizard. It was a letdown when, in actuality, Dumbledore occupies a background role. He pulls the strings behind the scenes but does not get as much screen time as trailers promised.

Total score:

Mumford & Sons lose their collective sense of fun
Fans can’t help but sigh once more at the band’s new album, Delta, is a fantastic failure at rebranding

By Ryan Kamrich
Opinions & Editorials Editor

At what point does talking become singing? For much of Delta, the fourth studio release by former folk band Mumford & Sons, lead singer Marcus Mumford holds just shy of that juncture, torturously choosing to talk-sing rather than select a single mode of delivery and stick to it. The result is an album that feels painfully and sometimes hilariously, disjointed — many points seem to be two records in one, a spoken word performance laid over background tracks that are rhythmically ill-suited for the endeavor. In the end, the band’s effort leaves us with an hour-long performance that grinds the listener’s patience with very little payoff.

Delta is not completely devoid of hope, however. Buried deep on the record, “Forever” and the titular “Delta,” shirk the general disjointure and swell with classic Mumford & Sons fervor. Here the band sounds united, channeling the spirit of their former successes such as “The Wolf” and “I Will Wait” for a footstomping good time.

Despite some bright spots, the lows surely outweigh the highs. The lowest of the low comes with the mess that is “Darkness Visible,” a track that combines a detuned spoken-word sampling from Milton’s epic Paradise Lost with keyboard-driven electronic swells. It’s a sonically awkward mashup better suited for 2012, when such experimentation was en vogue. Today it rings as a stale plea for attention, an ill-conceived, ill-executed and surely ill-received grasp for relevance by a group that has lost its way.

I can’t blame Mumford & Sons for trying. With each of their previous records, they have sought to reinvent themselves, from the soulful banjo folk of Sigh No More to the guitar-laden heartbeat of 2015’s excellent Wilder Mind. But change for the sake of change is no guarantee of innovation. In the quest for some sense of progression the band has relinquished the uniqueness that first propelled them to fame, trading in their distinct style for bland radio rock, indistinguishable from groups such as paramedical TV advertisement soundtrack creators, Imagine Dragons. The Mumford & Sons on Delta are a pale shadow of their former selves. Longtime fans and new listeners alike ought to look to one of their previous records for something less forgettable.

Total score:

Stan Lee’s top 5 movie cameos

By Jack Dunn
Campus News Editor

In the second Avengers film, Lee portrays a World War Two veteran who received an invite to an Avengers’ party. As Thor brags about the strength of Asgardian liquor, saying it wasn’t meant for “mortal men,” Lee responds, “Neither was Omaha Beach. Blondie, stop trying to scare us.” He is then seen being escorted home, muttering his catchphrase drunkenly, “Excelsior.”

1. Captain America: Civil War (2016)
Not only does Stan Lee deliver something crucially important to the plot of Infinity War, he also delivers my personal favorite line from the movie, “Are you Tony? Stark?”

2. The Amazing Spiderman (2012)
This movie contains one of the best action sequences involving Stan Lee in this cameo, he portrays a clueless librarian listening to classical music on his headphones as Spiderman fights the lizard in the background.

This cameo is the explanation for every other Stan Lee cameo in the history of the Marvel Universe. This cameo suggests he’s a part of the alien race the Watchers, whose goal is to observe everything that occurs in the universe. Here, Lee is explaining his cameo in Captain America: Civil War.

He also gets a post-credits scene where the other aliens leave him behind saying, “How will I get out of here? Aw gee, I’ve got so many more stories to tell!”

While not the greatest movie he’s appeared in, this cameo serves to give Spider-Man the chance to save Peter Parker but also to his millions of fans.

“Hey, you know,” he says to Peter Parker, “I guess one person can make a difference. Enough said.”

Total score:
“Oh my god! Did you see that?!” With just one telescope, the inventor mused, they were already capable of witnessing once-in-a-lifetime events, weren’t they? “What, what?” The astrophysicist all but shoved the inventor out of the way to peer through the eyepiece himself. “I just saw like…a flash of plumes! One of the stars consumed and exploded some far-off particle!”...at the yellow dwarf? Sabrina! You do not throw your food at your father! The way Verónica-Diana veris popped, she may as well have become a supernova and then exploded into a black hole right then and there. Uh? You don’t — I tried? Okay? I got tired of being controlled by this family? Sabrina’s diameter had never been so unstable, as a star that sized it in size. Sabrina…! Her daughter was one inch away from receiving a beating. Verónica decided. “That’s why I haven’t told you guys that…” “Still…everything we witnessed just now...” “Ugh! You don’t — I’m tired! I’m tired, okay? I got tired of being controlled by this family?” Sabrina’s cringe was immediate. Verónica was stunned into speechlessness. So, after a glance, it was the father who spoke first. “...Sabrina. This is a joke, right? You know we don’t affiliate with blue giants —” “I know! I know. You wouldn’t understand, okay? He’s the best thing that’s happened to me. His name is William, and he’s so nice, and charming, and handsome...” Verónica was seething. “I’m going to turn you into a pathetic white dwarf!” “Now heavy, the anxiety seemed to be eating up the mother’s husband, “just take deep breath —” “Don’t you dare touch him!” Sabrina snapped. “Don’t touch him! Don’t touch him? Blue giants are horrible people! They’re hot and big! Stars should be one or the other — that’s so dangerous! What’s going to happen to you when he hits his next stage, hey?! Those kinds of stars become black holes, and ruin everything in sight!” “Silence. Then, a sniffle. Sabrina was crying...” “H — honey...” her father started forward. “I just...need time to be alone...” The young star pivoted and tore off. “Sabrina Sabrina, get back here!” It was Verónica who barred her name.

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“Look! The cepheid’s moving so quickly, but the other stars — they’re practically undis- turbed, saved for a miracle, I have to report this — I have to tell my colleagues to look out for this behavior!”

But were families formed between stars, and the drama that occasionally ensues between them, really so miraculous?

Aries: As you slowly rise from your Thanksgiving food coma, you probably realize you did absolutely none of the things you wanted to do over the break. Time to hustle, fam.

Taurus: You might be the kid from that one Vine going, “Oh my God, I love Chipotle,” but your wallet is wheezing because it’s starving and dying. Stop being a bad parent.

Gemini: Remember when you said you were going to spend any money on Black Friday shopping, and then you spent your money and end-of-semester—your money?

Cancer: You may have hibernated over the break, only to have been interrupted from it in order to be dragged back to school. That did not make you happy. Watch your temper this week.

Leo: Did you buy three days’ worth of ramen or pig out on discounted Thanksgiving food so you can get a nice holiday gift for your betta fish? Both will wreck your body, but what can you do?

Virgo: Look both ways before you walk into the crumbling, noisy, chaotic street that is your life right now.

Libra: Just when you think you’ve got four final projects to worry about, whoops, you actually have five — and they’re all due really soon.

Scorpio: Focus is a thing that eludes you this week. You might see yourself escaping socialization in order to get things done in quiet places...only to get lost in YouTube.

Sagittarius: Double-check everything. Double-check that your socks are off before you turn on the shower. Double-check that you printed off your homework. Double-check, or suffer.

Capricorn: Be wary of roommate-suitate tensions this week. Expect someone to quote that one Vine: “I ain’t got no sleep cause o’ y’ all, y’ all not even doin’ events cause it’s mo’.”

Aquarius: Just like the almost all the other signs here, you’ll probably feel a little stressed out at some point this week, but don’t worry! The floor always welcomes your tears.

Pisces: Picture the light at the end of the tunnel is great and all, but don’t forget about your immediate surroundings — otherwise you’ll bump dinnermething and get a bloody nose.