XUPD aims to ensure safety

Amid community concerns, BDA and Xavier Police work to get solutions

BY HEATHER GAST
Managing Editor

The Xavier University Police Department (XUPD) entered the new school year invigorated from a summer of training and intercollegiate conferences with the leadership of Chief Robert Warfel, who began his position this past spring.

But as Mauresa wrapped up its second day on August 17, while students settled into dorms and upperclassmen settled into apartments, a man at the Metro stop at the intersection Reading Road and Danu Avenue intersection lost his life to a stray bullet.

Those on campus, however, were none the wiser as the Metro driver immediately sped off to University of Cincinnati Medical Center and students received no notification. For years the Xavier community has been notified of potential hazards to campus through the XU Alert Me system, which can send a text, phone call or email for instances from inclement weather to robberies.

The incident was news to sophomore Kayla Walton.

“It’s scary for me because I live off campus. But right now I’m getting ready to, like, walk home,” Walton said. Before she headed off toward Montgomery Road in the dark, she added “I would like to know as soon as something happens... because I’m walking off campus a lot.”

First-years Emma Wurzer and Crystal Johnson were also unaware of the shooting and specified that information would have been useful for new faces on campus.

“Especially being a first-year, you don’t know the area around you as well,” Wurzer said. “I’m from out of state, so I really don’t know the area around me.”

After considering the location of the incident, Johnson added, “Say you were planning on going in that direction, (with an alert) you know to be aware so you can find a different route or stay on campus.”

However, Warfel said that the reason students did not receive an alert is because it was outside their jurisdiction.

“Our jurisdiction is essentially one square mile. We have that perimeter (for XU Alert Me) as well,” Warfel said.

Warfel explained that for an incident to be considered worthy of an XU Alert Me, XUPD reviews reports from the Cincinnati or Norwood police departments and determines whether the persons would come “toward campus or very close to campus to have students and faculty, staff, avoid the area or steer clear until the police activity is complete.”

“We’re not providing an update of current events, we’re providing information that’s going to be helpful... to the population that’s here that’s going to be directly impacted,” Warfel said.

Another factor in determining whether an event warrants an alert, Warfel reasoned, is how the alert may be received. For instance, XUPD received calls concerning an automated alert for a weather incident from community members who were unsure if they should be taking cover.

“These instances, unfortunately, in a metropolitan area, are going to continue to happen,” Warfel said. “The question is, does that have a direct impact or does it impact Xavier’s campus or Xavier’s population... That’s what weighs in more than anything else.”

Walton, however, disagrees.

“I get not wanting to (start) a panic, but the truth is the truth,” she said. “If someone’s that close to campus — it’s like a better safe than sorry thing in my opinion. That is hard, though.”

XUPD is fervently prioritizing the safety of campus through a few projects in collaboration with Student Government Association (SGA) executives, BDA (Blair McKee, Desmond Varner and Alfredo Mercedes).

Warfel looked to improve active shooter procedure awareness through a video and trainings after hearing concerns from students and by working alongside BDA.

BDA will be working in the next few weeks to renew a joint commitment concerning community policing between XUPD and SGA that has been untouched since 2009. Students are welcome to bring suggestions to BDA or the public comment portion of upcoming SGA meetings.

Additionally, BDA started looking into resources last spring that would improve personal safety on campus, namely handheld devices called POM. Since then, BDA and Warfel have settled on an opt-in app for the Xavier community called XU Guardian that is currently being customized by the IT department to fit Xavier’s campus. The app is used at University of Cincinnati and has an array of features including one-touch connectivity to XUPD’s dispatch desk and geo-locating. Warfel noted that the app had been compared to “having a blue light (assistance phone) in your hand.”

Warfel is aiming for the app to be available by late October.

Whatever the issue may be, Warfel wants the community to know that XUPD is ready to approach them. “I want individuals to know they can contact Xavier officers, our dispatch, if they see a problem... We can’t respond or effectively curtail a potential issue or problem unless we have the information.”

In this issue...

Campus News, Page 2
Swing into the new school year with these new wooden fixtures placed around campus.

Op-Ed, Page 4
Craig Karges is more than an illusionist. He’s a man with the real magic of community.

Sports, Page 6
Samantha Dewey kicked the women’s soccer season off with a hot start.

A&E, Page 7
Hannah Schulz reflects on the bands she loved as a child in this new weekly series.
Swinging into the new semester
The story behind the new bench swings that appeared on Xavier's campus

By JOSEPH COTTON
Staff Writer

During your first day back at Xavier, you may have noticed the new bench swings that have been placed in several outdoor spaces around campus. The plans for the swings have been in the works since the fall semester of 2018, but were finally carried out at the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

The swings started as the project of former Student Government Association (SGA) senator and current junior Katy Schuller during her one-year term. The project was also possible because of her work with ‘19 graduate Jacob Jansen, the former chair of the Residential Affairs Committee.

“I believe that (the bench swings) help to make the campus more open and inclusive,” Schuller said. “I envisioned it as another spot to enjoy our beautiful campus. I hope that people use them to sit and talk with their friends or as a spot outside the dorm room for a peaceful moment.”

After bringing the project to Jansen, Schuller worked with the Vice President for Facilities at the Physical Plant Bob Sheeran for a stretch of three months to organize the details.

The project was approved by the Michael Graham, president, in November 2018, and the swings were ordered on March 7 of this year. They were then put around campus at the start of this semester.

There are currently six bench swings placed throughout campus. With each swing costing a little less than $250, the grand total of the project is estimated at $1,500. The initiative was funded by the Student Government Senate project fund.

“It’s a nice way to find a shady spot and catch a breeze, and it’s more fun than just sitting in a lawn chair,” sophomore nursing major Hannah Thomas agrees. “I like to sit down with music and a friend and see all the people I know walk around campus,” Thomas said.

Schuller’s only complaint is that one of the swings is a bit off-center and doesn’t swing properly. She believes it would be a good idea to consider placing more permanent swings around campus.

Schuller said she thinks it would be a good idea for a future SGA senator to get more funding for a more permanent solution.

“Students seem to be really enjoying them, so I would like to see them upgraded more, like bolted metal,” she said.

As of the beginning of the semester, the location of the swings are as follows: two outside of Ruhmnan Hall, two on the Fenwick upper yard and two on the main Xavier Yard.

Xavier adopts a test-optional admissions policy
Prospective students are no longer required to submit their SAT/ACT scores

By ALEX BUDZYNSKI
Campus News Editor

Xavier officially became a test-optional university on Aug. 1, meaning prospective students can decide whether or not to submit their SAT or ACT scores as part of their applications. With this decision, Xavier joins 11 other Jesuit schools and becomes one of more than 1,000 schools nationally recognized as test-optional.

Even though Xavier will now be recognized as a test-optional school, their approach to reviewing applications holistically will not change.

"Some students may feel that their test scores provide an accurate picture of their abilities and choose to include them, while other students may feel more confident in other pieces of the application and choose to exclude test scores," Dean of Admissions Lauren Parcell said.

Parcell also mentioned the importance of considering all applicants equally and said choosing whether or not to submit an ACT or SAT will not determine a student’s acceptance or deferral.

"Each piece of the application is fully considered, including high school grades, difficulty level of coursework, essay, recommendations from teachers and counselors, leadership, activity outside the classroom, etc.,” she said. “The test score has always been just one piece."

Parcell added that the policy "removes a barrier and allows good students to let their abilities shine in other ways.”

Students like sophomore music education major Emily VonHandorf think the change could inspire confidence in prospective students. "It would definitely make me feel better if I was an incoming student, especially if I was not a good test-taker," she said.

"If I did not have a good test score, it is reassuring to know that would not be affected in my application," VonHandorf said.

While some schools still stress the importance of standardized tests, there is a growing movement to place less emphasis on standardized tests. According to the College Board website, being test-optional allows for increased access to higher education and more diverse campuses.

Duncan Webb, a junior mathematics major, brought up the point that taking a standardized test is not free. "This policy is beneficial to students who cannot afford to pay for the ACT or SAT more than once," Webb said.

Although this information was not widely publicized until Tuesday, the policy has been in effect since Aug. 1, when applications opened for the fall of 2020.

Parcell admitted that even though the test-optional conversation has been growing nationally for many years, it has only come to Xavier very recently.

With this decision, Xavier also becomes one of the first schools in the Cincinnati area to be test-optional.

However, Parcell pointed out that there are exceptions to the test-optional policy. Prospective nursing majors and those who will still need to submit their test scores.

Any potential applicants should consult with the Office of Admission’s website for more information.
Juel Labs face class action lawsuit
20-year-old woman files in federal court after earlier lawsuit was dropped

BY JOEY COTTON

Juel Labs, creator of the popular Juel device, is facing another lawsuit over their flavored cartridges called “pods.” The lawsuit adds to the mounting legal problems that Juel Labs has been facing recently.

A 20-year-old Illinois woman filed a lawsuit against Juel Labs and parent company Philip Morris USA in federal court last Wednesday after an earlier one that was filed in the same court was dropped by a 19-year-old Illinois man. The lawsuit is seeking class-action status.

The lawsuit alleges that the companies violated the federal Preventing Tobacco Use by Minors and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act as well as the Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act by allegedly using deceptive marketing aimed at teens.

The main complaint is that Juel Labs intentionally marketed to underage consumers through social media advertisements and influencers while downplaying or hiding the health effects associated with their products.

The suit's key element is that Juel Labs allegedly began selling their e-cigarette use at the age of 16 and reported experiencing similar side effects, including asthma and other severe breathing problems, mood swings and fits of rage.

“When I went to high school, I remember a lot of people (smoking) it in the bathrooms,” said sophomore Mike Marchese. “I think it’s more of a cultural thing rather than an effort by Juel to target minors.”

When asked about the plaintiff who started at the age of 16, Marchese said, “People should generally be aware of the risk in (e-cigarettes).”

“It was really popular in my high school,” first-year psychology major Eric Maahs said. “It’s not that everyone had one but almost everyone at least tried one from their friends which let them get one of their own.”

Maahs went on to state that he believes Juel Labs plays a big part in underage vaping culture, noting that people use the words “Juuling” and “vaping” interchangeably.

Similar complaints have been filed in various courts in Alabama, California, Florida, New Jersey and New York.

The second most recent filing was in late July by a Florida law firm includes a motion for a preliminary injunction that would ban the sale of Juel e-cigarettes across the United States.

All the lawsuits allege that Juel intentionally marketed their devices to teens.

On July 25, San Francisco city officials moved to ban the sale of Juuls and other electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) within its city limits in an effort to enforce more Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations onto the industry.

Additionally, on Aug. 21, Juul let its membership to the Vapor Technology Association (VTA) expire citing a lawsuit filed by the VTA against the FDA as well as policy differences.

After leaving the VTA, Juul Labs said in a statement, “We support clean Tobacco 21 legislation and an outright ban on certain flavors.”

Tobacco 21 is a national campaign to raise the minimum legal age of purchase for tobacco to 21 across the US.

Juul was one of the only ENDS manufacturers to comply with FDA regulations to discontinue “kid-friendly flavors” such as fruit and candy variants implemented in late 2018.

They would go on to implement their own, stricter, regulations. Juul Labs is in the process of becoming a FDA approved product before the FDA’s May 2020 deadline.

Police notes and week in review
The World News page will be trying something new for this issue: week in review and police notes combined.

NOTE OF THE WEEK
A great way to start the new school year

Aug. 21, 1:32 a.m. — Xavier Police investigated a report of a student urinating on the outdoor volleyball courts. The student was referred to the code of conduct for public indecency and possession of a small amount of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Aug. 22, 2:50 a.m. — Xavier Police assisted Cincinnati Police in investigating an unknown trouble and possible domestic dispute at the four-way stop near Cirtito on Muserleen Drive. Per Cincinnati Police, the incident started off campus and ended up at the four way stop. Both non-students were arrested for various violations and their vehicles were towed from campus.

Aug. 22 — Commuters spent an average of 54 hours in traffic delays in 2017, according to a report from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute. The study also projected that number to rise to 65 hours by 2025.
The real magic of Craig Karges

Earlier this month, the Business Roundtable, a lobbying organization representing the CEOs of some of the nation’s largest corporations, issued an update to its “Statement of the Purpose of a Corporation.” The document, revised periodically, serves as a manifesto outlining how the CEOs of some of our nation’s largest companies conceive of producing shareholder value. The updated statement now lists the delivery of value to customers, investment in employees, ethical dealing with suppliers and support for local communities ahead of the long-held primary objective of producing shareholder value.

Signed by 181 CEOs of some of the nation’s largest corporations — including Jeff Bezos of Amazon and Tim Cook of Apple — the new outlook would be an encouraging sign if it were anything more than a cynical PR ploy. It is difficult to see this update as anything more than a PR ploy. It is difficult to see this update as anything more than a PR ploy.

For me, “Magis” has always meant the leap of faith required to achieve something bigger than myself.

Rethinking corporate governance: Too few suits

THE STAFF

Editor-in-Chief
Kevin Thomas
Managing Editor
Heather Gast
Head Copy Editor
Hannah Schulz
Arts & Entertainment Editor
Sofía Ordoñez
Campus News Editors
Alex Budzynski
Features Editor
Aidan Callahan
Opinions & Editorial Editors
Sydney Sanders
Sports Editor
Luke Feliciano
Online Editor
Bridget Walsh
Copy Editors
Alex Ackerman, Ryan Kambich, Delaney Mallory, Ellen Sieracki, Kieran Nash and Matthew Nguyen

Staff Writers
Joe Clark, Joseph Cotton

Photography Editor
Jeff Richardson
Distribution Manager
Jack Dunn
Business & Advertising Manager
Jessica Blocker
Adviser
John Stowell

Mission Statement
The Xavier News is committed to reporting the news as well as explain its significance to readers — adding value through publishing opposing view-points and opinions, the Newsie hope to foster a community among students, faculty and staff.

Advertising
All inquiries should be di- rected to the Business & Advertising Manager, Jessica Blocker, at 513-745-3561.

For Your Information
The Newsie is published weekly throughout the school year, except during vacations and in additional issues such as special exams of Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207. One copy is free per person per week.

*The Newsie has made the decision to stay from the AP Style Guide when printing the words White and Black in relation to groups of people. We have decided to capitalize both.

Opinions & Editorials

xaviernewswire.com

August 28, 2019

During the first few days of Manresa my freshman year, I was an absolute nerving wreck. I couldn’t eat much of anything the first day because I was just that nervous. I think I even forgot my last name during the first small group meeting. Not the best way to start a Xavi er experience... except dealing with anxiety while trying my hardest to at least appear to be socially felt like being in an episode of Total Drama Island that I wanted to get out of as quickly as possible.

Fortunately for me, my Manres an group leaders were more understanding and al lowed me to take a few moments to get away from the mass of people around me whenever I needed it. During the second day, the first-years went to Cintas to tour the residence hall and watch illusionist Craig Karges perform his routine. As soon as I got to the arena, I immediately felt the need to leave the event, but I planned on sticking it out to do my part in the group cheer and then quickly make my escape back to my room to get a breather. My plan worked out all right, other than the fact that my group cheered toward the end of the performance anathema to the common feeling that Craig Karges was the shock and awe of the Xavier community. When it came time to reunite with my group the next day, I was shocked at the noticeable shift in the group dynamics. Everybody was more sociable and excited to jump into each of the activities. While I could feel that everybody had a newfound faith in Xavier University, I was just left wondering what I missed. Despite the new atmosphere of my group, I couldn’t help but feel that I didn’t know for sure if I was invited into the Xavier community.

The real magic of Craig Karg es was something orig inating in the 1960s style of “greed is good” corporate governance that saw the rise of predatory investors, union busting and the unchecked pursuit of increased stock prices sweep through Wall Street. Following such a mentality, corporations and their CEOs have sought to serve the needs of shareholders first and only for the last three decades, the consequences of which have been various and malign: the stagnation of wealth inequality the likes of which we have not seen since the Gilded Age.

But last week’s announce ment signaled a change in that attitude, at least in tone. The updated statement now lists the delivery of value to customers, investment in employment, ethical dealing with suppliers and support for local communities ahead of the long-held primary objective of producing shareholder value.

For me, “Magis” has always meant the leap of faith required to achieve something bigger than myself.

One of our school’s Jesuit values is “Magis,” or the faith in more. For me, “Magis” has always meant the leap of faith required to achieve something bigger than myself. I believe that there is a better messenger for that than Craig Karg es. As I sat in Cintas as a sopho more, even if it was only for just a moment, I got to see a full stadium of first-year students forget about their insecurities and efforts to be cool and believe in something more than themselves.

So, to Mr. Karges, thank you for making us believe in the promise of Xavier and something bigger than our selves. All for one and one for all.

The updated statement now lists the delivery of value to customers, investment in employees, ethical dealing with suppliers and support for local communities ahead of the long-held primary objective of producing shareholder value.
I’m old(er than I used to be)

During move in this semester, everything felt totally normal except for one thing: This is my third year. Now, more than halfway through my time at Xavier, I am sure that I am closer to graduation than to age 1, closer to the working world than childhood. There are adults long graduated from college who are most likely rolling their eyes at me, but hear me out.

My entire life, I have been the youngest. Because my birthday is in July (meaning I didn’t turn 18 until the summer after high school graduation), wherever I was, all of my peers were older than me. Yes, I’m still one of the youngest, but now my friends and I have crossed the border of what used to be an effort to be the oldest and is now an effort to be the youngest.

Many things have changed. Unlike a teenager, my body now requires at least seven hours of sleep to be at minimum functionality. The number of roller coasters I can ride in a day has decreased significantly from double digits to barely a handful. I even find it satisfying to wash dishes and put them neatly back in their place. These aren’t necessarily bad things, but somehow I feel insulated by the passing of time.

Most people say that as you age, time seems to fly faster than ever before. There is speculation as to the reasons for this, but there is one in particular that strikes me: Time feels like it’s moving faster as you age because each increment of time becomes a smaller percentage of your life. When you are 1 year old, a day is 1/365th of it, or 27 percent, of your life. When you are 20 years old, a day is 1/7,300th, or 0.013 percent, of your life. Therefore, at 1 year old, a day seems longer because they have already lived 7,200 of them. Of course, the concept continues throughout life, and the older you are, the quicker time seems to go. A 20-year-old will always feel time is moving faster than a 1-year-old does, and a 50-year-old will always feel that time is moving faster than a 20-year-old does.

Here at Xavier, I have no idea where those first two years went. It feels as though they happened just days ago and also that they happened a lifetime ago. So how exactly did I get to be a junior? How has this much time passed while I did homework and hung out with friends? Why does time not have to ask for our permission before it leaves so quickly?

Don’t get me wrong. I love the person that I have become, but I am still baffeled that it happened behind my back.

That is how it works, though. One day you’re moving in freshman year. The next, you’re taking your last final of senior year. Time may not ask us for permission to come and go, but we can take control of it by living in the moment. I may not be able to ride as many roller coasters as I did in high school, but when I did go to theme parks, I rode them all day long. I may no longer be functional on two hours of sleep, but when I was a kid, I had all the sleepless sleepovers that I could. So, I am old, and only getting older. I just realized that last week marked the start of my junior year of college. Now that I have been reminded that time won’t wait for me, I am going to be present in every moment. I don’t have time to waste on not enjoying college because the truth is, time won’t wait for me to catch up. The time you spend in college is supposed to be the best time of your life, and I am going to make that true.
Musketeers capture two wins to open season
Samantha Dewey’s career day powers women’s soccer over Murray State

BY JAKE GEIGER
Guest Writer

Xavier women’s soccer started their season off with a bang, picking up two wins this weekend with victories over Murray State and Bowling Green.

The pair of victories were highlighted by a four-goal game from redshirt senior Samantha Dewey — who was picked as the preseason Big East Offensive Player of the Year — against Murray State.

The Musketeers opened their season on the road against Murray State last Friday with a 4-3 double overtime win over the Racers.

The Musketeers tallied the first goal of the game in the 19th minute from Abby Jones.

Dewey quickly answered with a goal of her own just minutes later to knot the score at one. Back-to-back goals from Miyah Watford and Rebecca Kubin put Xavier down 3-1 minutes later to knot the score at one.

The Musketeers opened their season off of 43,395 athletes from the 2017-18 season. Football was one of the primary reasons for his departure.

When lightning strikes twice
Five spectators were injured at the East Lake Golf Club by lightning strike debris in Atlanta during the third round of The Open Championship last weekend. All five people were treated and released from the hospital on Saturday night.

A glimpse into the non-conference schedule

BY JOE CLARK
Staff Writer

Prior to the start of their regular season, the Xavier women’s volleyball team hosted Northern Kentucky at Cintas Center for an exhibition match.

Despite winning the first set 25-22, Xavier dropped the ensuing three sets and lost the match 3-1.

The Musketeers dropped the second set 25-17. In the third set, the Musketeers held a 23-19 lead, but a 5-0 run by the Norse put them ahead 24-23 after a Xavier attack attempt was blocked.

Xavier quickly rebounded with a 25-24 advantage, but Northern Kentucky took the last three points of the set to win it 27-25.

The third set, the fourth and eventual final set was close throughout, but with Northern Kentucky holding a 24-23 lead, an assisted block by Northern Kentucky’s Bailey Western and Lauren Crawford ended Xavier’s comeback bid and gave the Norse a 25-23 win for the set and the 3-1 match win.

The Norse defense was one of the best in the match, as they tallied 77 digs. NKU also hit .181 as a team for the match, while they limited Xavier to a .127 clip.

While the match was only an exhibition, it broke a six-match losing streak for Northern Kentucky against Xavier.

For the Musketeers, the match was a tune-up before they get non-conference play.

Musketeers have an upcoming non-conference schedule that includes a three-game stay at the Utah State Tournament this weekend.

Xavier returned home for its second game of the weekend at the XU Soccer Complex against the Bowling Green Falcons, and the Musketeers came out on top 2-1.

The goal ultimately proved to be the decision-maker in the 2-1 victory.

The gritty and efficient weekend for the Musketeers was a great way to start the year on a good note.

The Musketeers’ schedule continues on as it faces the Dayton Flyers on Thursday at the XU Soccer Complex before the Musketeers travel to play the Missouri Tigers on Sunday.

Volleyball readies for season

A glimpse into the non-conference schedule

BY JAKE GEIGER
Guest Writer

Xavier women’s soccer started their season off with a bang, picking up two wins this weekend with victories over Murray State and Bowling Green.

The pair of victories were highlighted by a four-goal game from redshirt senior Samantha Dewey — who was picked as the preseason Big East Offensive Player of the Year — against Murray State.

The Musketeers opened their season on the road against Murray State last Friday with a 4-3 double overtime win over the Racers.

The Musketeers tallied the first goal of the game in the 19th minute from Abby Jones.

Dewey quickly answered with a goal of her own just minutes later to knot the score at one. Back-to-back goals from Miyah Watford and Rebecca Kubin put Xavier down 3-1 minutes later to knot the score at one.

The Musketeers opened their season off of 43,395 athletes from the 2017-18 season. Football was one of the primary reasons for his departure.

When lightning strikes twice
Five spectators were injured at the East Lake Golf Club by lightning strike debris in Atlanta during the third round of The Open Championship last weekend. All five people were treated and released from the hospital on Saturday night.

A glimpse into the non-conference schedule

BY JOE CLARK
Staff Writer

Prior to the start of their regular season, the Xaverian women’s volleyball team hosted Northern Kentucky at Cintas Center for an exhibition match.

Despite winning the first set 25-22, Xavier dropped the ensuing three sets and lost the match 3-1.

The Musketeers dropped the second set 25-17. In the third set, the Musketeers held a 23-19 lead, but a 5-0 run by the Norse put them ahead 24-23 after a Xavier attack attempt was blocked.

Xavier quickly rebounded with a 25-24 advantage, but Northern Kentucky took the last three points of the set to win it 27-25.

The third set, the fourth and eventual final set was close throughout, but with Northern Kentucky holding a 24-23 lead, an assisted block by Northern Kentucky’s Bailey Western and Lauren Crawford ended Xavier’s comeback bid and gave the Norse a 25-23 win for the set and the 3-1 match win.

The Norse defense was one of the best in the match, as they tallied 77 digs. NKU also hit .181 as a team for the match, while they limited Xavier to a .127 clip.

While the match was only an exhibition, it broke a six-match losing streak for Northern Kentucky against Xavier.

For the Musketeers, the match was a tune-up before they get non-conference play.

Musketeers have an upcoming non-conference schedule that includes a three-game stay at the Utah State Tournament this weekend.

Xavier returned home for its second game of the weekend at the XU Soccer Com-plex against the Bowling Green Falcons, and the Musketeers came out on top 2-1.

The goal ultimately proved to be the decision-maker in the 2-1 victory.

The gritty and efficient weekend for the Musketeers was a great way to start the year on a good note.

The Musketeers’ schedule continues on as it faces the Dayton Flyers on Thursday at the XU Soccer Complex before the Musketeers travel to play the Missouri Tigers on Sunday.

Volleyball readies for season

A glimpse into the non-conference schedule

BY JOE CLARK
Staff Writer

Prior to the start of their regular season, the Xavier women’s volleyball team hosted Northern Kentucky at Cintas Center for an exhibition match.

Despite winning the first set 25-22, Xavier dropped the ensuing three sets and lost the match 3-1.

The Musketeers dropped the second set 25-17. In the third set, the Musketeers held a 23-19 lead, but a 5-0 run by the Norse put them ahead 24-23 after a Xavier attack attempt was blocked.

Xavier quickly rebounded with a 25-24 advantage, but Northern Kentucky took the last three points of the set to win it 27-25.

Like the third set, the fourth and eventual final set was close throughout, but with Northern Kentucky holding a 24-23 lead, an assisted block by Northern Kentucky’s Bailey Western and Lauren Crawford ended Xavier’s comeback bid and gave the Norse a 25-23 win for the set and the 3-1 match win.

The Norse defense was one of the best in the match, as they tallied 77 digs. NKU also hit .181 as a team for the match, while they limited Xavier to a .127 clip.

While the match was only an exhibition, it broke a six-match losing streak for Northern Kentucky against Xavier.

For the Musketeers, the match was a tune-up before they get non-conference play.

Musketeers have an upcoming non-conference schedule that includes a three-game stay at the Utah State Tournament this weekend.

Xavier returned home for its second game of the weekend at the XU Soccer Com-plex against the Bowling Green Falcons, and the Musketeers came out on top 2-1.

The goal ultimately proved to be the decision-maker in the 2-1 victory.

The gritty and efficient weekend for the Musketeers was a great way to start the year on a good note.

The Musketeers’ schedule continues on as it faces the Dayton Flyers on Thursday at the XU Soccer Complex before the Musketeers travel to play the Missouri Tigers on Sunday.

Volleyball readies for season

A glimpse into the non-conference schedule

BY JOE CLARK
Staff Writer

Prior to the start of their regular season, the Xavier women’s volleyball team hosted Northern Kentucky at Cintas Center for an exhibition match.

Despite winning the first set 25-22, Xavier dropped the ensuing three sets and lost the match 3-1.

The Musketeers dropped the second set 25-17. In the third set, the Musketeers held a 23-19 lead, but a 5-0 run by the Norse put them ahead 24-23 after a Xavier attack attempt was blocked.

Xavier quickly rebounded with a 25-24 advantage, but Northern Kentucky took the last three points of the set to win it 27-25.

Like the third set, the fourth and eventual final set was close throughout, but with Northern Kentucky holding a 24-23 lead, an assisted block by Northern Kentucky’s Bailey Western and Lauren Crawford ended Xavier’s comeback bid and gave the Norse a 25-23 win for the set and the 3-1 match win.

The Norse defense was one of the best in the match, as they tallied 77 digs. NKU also hit .181 as a team for the match, while they limited Xavier to a .127 clip.

While the match was only an exhibition, it broke a six-match losing streak for Northern Kentucky against Xavier.

For the Musketeers, the match was a tune-up before they get non-conference play.

Musketeers have an upcoming non-conference schedule that includes a three-game stay at the Utah State Tournament this weekend.

Xavier returned home for its second game of the weekend at the XU Soccer Com-plex against the Bowling Green Falcons, and the Musketeers came out on top 2-1.

The goal ultimately proved to be the decision-maker in the 2-1 victory.

The gritty and efficient weekend for the Musketeers was a great way to start the year on a good note.

The Musketeers’ schedule continues on as it faces the Dayton Flyers on Thursday at the XU Soccer Complex before the Musketeers travel to play the Missouri Tigers on Sunday.
In last week’s Newswire, I wrote about ‘The All-American Rejects’ 2008 album, “When the World Comes Down.” This week I’ll be turning things in a slightly different direction. When I came up with the concept for this series, this was the second album I had in mind.

In 2010, “The Script” released their sophomore album “Science & Faith.” This album came less than a year after their song "Breakeven," off of their debut album, peaked at number 12 on the US Billboard Hot 100 chart.

The memories I have associated with this album are far less vivid than those of The All-American Rejects. These memories are more like snapshots of a movie. I remember purchasing this album based on name recognition, having remembered the band from their previous song. I had a sixth generation iPod Nano, the one with a screen that was only one-and-a-half inches wide. I used to play this album on that small iPod on the way to school with my earbuds in, sitting in the backseat as my mom or dad drove through my slightly-commercialized hometown.

One song on the album, “Nothing,” brings back the most memories. I remember playing it on the same iPod as I sat on my front porch and looked out on my neighborhood, waiting for some friends to arrive.

I was a little older when this album released, as I was just two months shy of my 13th birthday. Even still, this album reaches depths that I couldn’t quite understand at that age. This album touches on some heavier concepts like unemployment, alcoholism, and the belief that love is a fleeting concept controlled by science. Now I’m old enough for these concepts are something I’ve had more experience with, whether firsthand or by education, and I can see that the band tried their best to share their own experiences through this album.

In recent years I’ve come to take more notice of the use of orchestral arrangements in music. This album features an array of strings that give their rock sound an extra umph. Just because instruments like the violin or cello are used widely in classical music pieces doesn’t mean they can’t be an excellent tool to be used in more modern music. I’m glad that this is starting to be seen more. They really do add something special to an already great piece, and this album is a perfect example. They aren’t overwhelmingly noticeable and blend in with the guitar and drums, which is exactly what I love. The strings feel right at home, and I love that feeling.

I still love this album. I went a few years without listening to it but within the last year or two, I’ve dug up songs like “Nothing” and “For the First Time” to give them an audience. But that’s just my inconvenience. I have a lot — and I mean a lot — of embarrassing past music choices, but I’ve found that the ones I held closest to me in the past are the ones that still hold up against the currents of time. This happens to be one of them.

Purple Mountains reverberates with profundity

By Kevin Thomas
Editor-in-Chief

Since David Berman died in early August, I know I wanted to write about him, to review his final album released the month before, Purple Mountains. I sat down and wrote the beginning of this article five times and each time, it just felt wrong.

I could say that the album is one of those haunting ones that sends a current of melancholy and some kind of treasured comfort coursing through my everything. I could say that the lyricism of some songs like “All My Happiness is Gone” are like blunt knives cutting to the bone only to have the pain swept away by Western swing. I could say a lot of things, and I’ll try to in this review, but the album does something more than words can really describe and as much as I hate to fall to the trope of inexpressibility, I feel as though I have to this time.

However, no one wants to read an album review that just tells you to listen to the album, so I suppose I’ll have to try to say something more to convince you that you need to hear it all in one sitting.

Purple Mountains, released under the same name, is Berman’s first release in the 10 years since he ended the 20-year tenure of the Silver Jews. Berman, who was called “the poet laureate of indie rock” by the Washington Post, became a recluse for those 10 years until he appeared out of nowhere with this album and a tour scheduled. Then he was gone again.

As painful as his death was and as painful as lyrics like “Go and contemplate the evidence and I guarantee you’ll find / The dead know what they’re doing when they leave this world behind” are, the album doesn’t have the crushing winds of sadness that I expected when I first heard it. Instead, it’s sweet and kind and soft.

But the sadness is ever-present, especially in the song “Darkness and Cold,” which talks about the feelings of being left behind by a love. Berman sings, “The light of my life is gone out tonight / In a pink champagne Corvette” and contrasts this image with the lines, “I sleep three feet above the street / In a hand-aid pink Chevette,” creating a gorgeous feeling of pain.

There are also some songs like “Margaritas at the Mall” with horns that scream triumph in the face of the “cosmological disappointment,” to use Berman’s words from an interview, of a world where we are “trodling the sod of the visible with no new word from God.”

Other songs, like “I Loved Being My Mother’s Son,” are just filled with the simple sweetness of memory. The lines “She helped me walk, she watched me run / She got where I was coming from” are about as honest and common as can be found, but Berman fills them with a nostalgic power with his perfect delivery.

The album is odd, existential, straightforward, sad, comforting, western, indie, rocking, plain, complicated and just about any other adjective I can think of. I love this album for what it says, and even more for what it signifies. But most importantly, the album is just good.

Total score: ✭✭✭✭
Dear Reader,

I thank you for doing the hard work of being yourself. Things don't just happen. Everything finds its purpose and small actions bring big results.

To those who are truly themselves Equality is not an Accident.

To the woman who has had to fight all her life... Equality is not an Accident.

To those who fight for others.

- Freedom is not an Accident.
- To those who greet all with open arms Solidarity is not an Accident.

To the widow whose child weeps Freedom is not an Accident.

To those who speak up.

- Bravery is not an Accident.
- To those who help... Bravery is not an Accident.

The one thing my fellow Xavier brothers and sisters know for sure is that...

Family is no damn accident.

Joseph Cotton

---

Aries: Your love life is gonna be a speed bump this week. Hard. Like, way too hard; you’re not supposed to be driving over them that fast. It can really hurt your love life's suspension.

Taurus: You don’t truly live somewhere until you’ve fully explored the landscape. Before you call yourself a Xavier resident, make sure you survey the landscape of the Cantus parking lot.

Gemini: Why can’t it be Christmas every day?! Tomorrow, give birth to the Messiah in a stable.

Cancer: Pluto beard you talking behind his back this week, saying he’s not a planet and all. Just for that, he’s sending you some bad juju this week.

Leo: As you finish up furnishing and decorating your dorm, consider where you’d place your room in one of those house flipping shows. Is it really to be flipped, or would the Property Brothers walk in and be like, “Now this is a fixer-upper.”

Virgo: Mercury has found your soulmate! They live in the remote village of Makalabedi, Botswana. Go get ‘em, tiger!

Libra: Things aren’t looking too hot for your hometown sports team this week. Maybe call your dad and tell him not to make some of those bets.

Scorpio: Are you living your best life? Let me rephrase — are you living the original version of your life or the Smash Mouth cover from the Shrek soundtrack?

Sagittarius: The moons of Venus were supposed to have your prediction for this week, but they were so caught up talking about the new episode of Love Island they forgot.

Capricorn: Odd circumstances will lead to an unfortunate situation in Fenswick involving a strange new type of dessert. It’ll be a curiously-caused cauliflower-popcorn-cookie capricorn conundrum.

Aquarius: Watch out! Your character arc is finished — note: the prime time for the writers of Earth to kill you off.

Pisces: This week a great idea is going to strike you like a bolt of lightning! Make sure you have a pen and paper handy — and a defibrillator.

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

Cafeteria coffee in hand, Mark made his way toward his first college class. The mostly empty cafeteria and nearly deserted yard confirmed the fact that most Xavier students avoided 8 o'clock classes. Gallagher’s clock tower read 7:50 — plenty of time to get to Alter’s basement. What class was this again? Oh right, math. Yuck. As if he wasn’t already nervous enough about starting college, he had to start off with his least favorite subject.

He took another sip of coffee and: “On your left!” he nearly choked on it as he scurried out of a Lime scooter’s path. “Good grief, she’s in a hurry; he thought. ‘Where would she be headed? Elet, maybe? That must be it. Well, no coffee on me so no harm done.’

Alter’s giant door swung open slowly and released the sound of students. He sighed and took another sip of coffee, relieved to have confirmation that he wouldn’t be the only pupil in class. Room 007 already had about a dozen students in it who were working quietly. “Oh no, I’m late! How could that be?” he wondered.

“Hi, I’m sorry I’m late,” he said.

“No, you’re not late! I simply like to give warm-up work,” explained a smiling person who appeared to be his instructor.

“Hi, I’m sorry I’m late, I-”

“Just sign in here and get started with the problem on the board.”

He took the seat closest to the door and pulled out a piece of paper. There was a series of basic algebraic expressions, followed by the alphabet with numbers written beneath each letter. Better start with the algebra, Mark decided. Those problems weren’t hard and went by quickly. But what should he do with the alphabet? Looking between the work he had already done and the board, he realized that all of his previous solutions were listed under a single letter. With a growing suspicion Mark listed the solutions he had already, and copied the corresponding letters onto his paper. When finished, it read:


Maybe college wasn’t as scary as the movies made it seem…

---

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Last Week’s Answer Key!**

1. Taurus need to be careful when they eat BREAKFAST tomorrow
2. The only original Avenger not mentioned in the article besides Thor was HULK
3. The only original Avenger not mentioned in the article besides Thor was HULK
4. The copy editors would be citizens of WAKANDA
5. The Tony Stark of the editors is ACROSS
6. SCORPIO will end up in a classic sitcom situation
7. The Tony Stark of the editors is ACROSS
8. Last year’s editors were a dream team while this year we’re a rag-tag GANG

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer

---

**Features**

By Olivia Campbell

Guest Writer

---

**Features**

By Joseph Cotton

Staff Writer