2019-08-14

Xavier University Newswire

Xavier University - Cincinnati

Follow this and additional works at: https://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/student_newspaper

Part of the Higher Education Commons, and the History Commons
Commuters are ready to mentor

CAB’s peer mentorship program kicks off its second year with high hopes

BY KEVIN THOMAS
Editor-in-Chief

While most students envision college as a new world, free from their parents, some return home to them every night for dinner. For these commuting students, Xavier’s Commuter Activities Board (CAB) offers a peer mentorship program that will help incoming first-years learn how to deal with these challenges that may be overlooked during orientation.

The peer mentorship program, which was first implemented last year, was created when senior Jordan Lobsiger, who now works as a Program Coordinator with graduate assistant for Commuter Services Ryan Spolar, reflected on her experience with Manresa.

“A lot of Manresa at the time was geared towards resident students,” Lobsiger said. “All of it was about how to get along with your roommate, how to manage your money and time now that you don’t live at home... My roommate is my mom. The greatest challenge I faced was figuring out how to navigate a relationship with my mom as I grow independently at college.”

The idea behind the peer mentorship program was to make Manresa, Xavier’s orientation program for incoming first-years, more inclusive to students who may not have the standard college experience.

“The biggest thing is not feeling like you belong through little things, like referring to it as move-in day or (Manresa) being very specific to resident students and just not feeling like you can use these clubs,” senior Chandler Bell, who is a peer mentor, said. “We want (commuting students) to know that everything on campus is for them. We want them to be involved and to enjoy it just like everyone else.”

One of the main goals of the peer mentorship program is figuring out ways to get commuter students involved on campus as students who are not active in the campus community are more likely to leave, according to Lobsiger, who considers getting involved one of the primary reasons that she stayed at Xavier.

“If I hadn’t come home (after Manresa) and told my mom that I hated it, and she (hadn’t) told me to get involved, I might not still be at Xavier,” Lobsiger said.

Bell agreed with the sentiment.

“I would say we’re trying to get them more involved,” Bell said. “If you ask a commuter (what issues they face), they’re going to say parking because it’s the most immediate thing... While that’s a surface-level issue, the general feeling is not feeling like they belong.”

Bell went on to say that this feeling of belonging comes from students believing that club involvement is something meant for students living on campus.

“Essentially, with (the peer mentorship program), we want commuters to get involved with clubs (and) service because the more students are involved, the longer they want to stay.”

The program is intended as a way not only for commuting students to get involved with extracurriculars, but also as a way for them to feel welcome in the community.

“(Peer mentors) serve to give that specialty basically,” Lobsiger said. “They offer their experiences to students as also traditional commuter students and they’re able to reflect on those experiences and help guide our new commuter students so that we can increase their sense of belonging.”

While this program will be introduced during an optional dinner at the beginning of Manresa, both Bell and Lobsiger believe that all commuting students should come to the dinner, which will take place on Thursday evening.

“It’s just to make commuters feel more included in Manresa and to feel like it’s not something just like for resident students,” Bell said.

“It’s something for, I guess, everyone.”

Last year, the first year of the program, there were only eight mentors to help guide more than one hundred first-year students. This year, however, there are ten mentors who have gone through extensive training to help incoming students learn how to cope with beginning college.

Students who are interested are invited to the dinner, but for any student not able to attend, they are invited to the Commuter Lounge on the third floor of Gallagher Student Center.

In this issue...

Campus News, Page 2
Check out some words of welcome from this year’s crop of Manresa leaders.

Op-Ed, Page 4
Sydney Sanders reflects on the “necessity” of summer internships in this compelling piece.

Sports, Page 6
According to Joseph Cotton, a power shift as a result of some trades may occur in the NBA.

Features, Page 8
Check out these do’s and don’ts of Xavier’s campus life, per Aidan Callahan.

Senior Chandler Bell poses in the Commuter Lounge. Bell is a peer mentor for the Commuter Activities Board’s peer mentorship program that premiered last year, but will be taking flight during this year’s Manresa.

Newswire photo by Kevin Thomas
Photo-op: Why are you excited for Manresa?

An inside look at Manresa 2019 provided by the Manresa Orientation Team

BY ALEX BUDZYNSKI
Campus News Editor

While the rest of campus has been preparing to return to Xavier for their fall semester, a group of students have been working hard to prepare for Manresa, Xavier’s first-year student orientation program.

This group of students is known as the Manresa Orientation Team and is comprised of Core, Group Leaders and Staff Members. Together they ensure that Manresa is efficient and successful for all incoming students.

Take a minute to meet a few of these Orientation Team members from all different classes and read how they are getting pumped for this year’s Manresa.

Manresa 2019 begins on Wednesday, Aug. 15, and lasts until Sunday, Aug. 18.

“I am excited to guide the class of 2023 for their next four years in college and show them the reasons why I love Xavier.”
Grace McGohan
Sophomore entrepreneurial studies major

“I am excited to dive (head first) into the Xavier community and make sure the first-years have a good time.”
Joseph Cotton
Sophomore Philosophy, Politics and the Public major

“I am excited to meet all the first-years. I am the same age as the grade behind me so I am excited to connect with people my own age.”
Maddie Berry
Sophomore chemical science major

“I am really excited to meet the first-years. I am looking forward to showing them how awesome the Xavier community is and what is means to be All for One and One for All!”
Maiya Espinosa
Junior middle childhood education major

“I am excited because I get to welcome the first-years and continue the traditions of Manresa.”
Bridget Fanning
Junior nursing major

“I am excited to welcome the first-year students in being one of the first people that they see, as well as to see how they adapt to their new environment.”
Myka Radecki
Junior biology major

“I am excited to meet the leadership opportunity Manresa offers and to welcome new students the same way I was welcomed.”
Danielle Josiah
Senior nursing major

“I am most excited for the experience. This is my last year and being around the first-years is going to be very exhilarating.”
Becca Co
Senior nursing major

“I am excited to guide the class of 2023 for their next four years in college and show them the reasons why I love Xavier.”
Grace McGohan
Sophomore entrepreneurial studies major

“I am excited to dive (head first) into the Xavier community and make sure the first-years have a good time.”
Joseph Cotton
Sophomore Philosophy, Politics and the Public major

“I am excited to meet all the first-years. I am the same age as the grade behind me so I am excited to connect with people my own age.”
Maddie Berry
Sophomore chemical science major

“I am really excited to meet the first-years. I am looking forward to showing them how awesome the Xavier community is and what is means to be All for One and One for All!”
Maiya Espinosa
Junior middle childhood education major

Interested in getting involved with the Xavier Newswire?

This student-run newspaper is looking for new people to add to our community of student writers and editors.

We love meeting new people, and we encourage both first-years and upperclassmen to join. No prior experience is required!

Working at the Newswire is a great way to develop your relationships on campus. Best of all, we are a fun and passionate group of people!

If you are interested, please contact newswire@xavier.edu for more info and be on the lookout for our table at club day.

Check out these new clubs Xavier has to offer!

Beta Beta Beta — An honors society for students dedicated to improving the understanding of biological study.
Climbing Club — A group which connects students with a love for rock climbing as a sport and activity.
Hypebeast Collective — An organization for fans of fashion and sneakers. It’s all about the sneaks!
Italian Club — Students explore and appreciate the food, music, films, language and traditions of Italian culture.
Kappa Delta Pi — An international honors society for accomplished and inspired education students.
Network of Enlightened Women (NEW) — A group aimed at connecting conservative women on campus.
Xaver Socialists — A gathering for students to discuss socialist literature and analyze current politics through a socialist lens.
XUFM — Campus’ online radio station featuring student voices on politics, sports and goings on around campus.
NEW! Fiopitcs Internet + Google Wifi.

Faster than a streaking freshman.
More reliable than late-night ramen.
Get 500 Mbps Fiopitcs Internet for $44.99/mo.* + Google Wifi.

Power your connected life.
Every connection matters. Make sure you never miss one with the power of Google Wifi.
Just imagine, a consistently strong signal for surfing, tweeting, streaming, listening and anything else you might be craving. Actually, don’t imagine. Just call Cincinnati Bell.

Call 513.566.4494

*Limited-time offer. Qualifying product availability is dependent on service address and limited in some areas. Advertised Internet price of $44.99/mo. for up to 500 Mbps Internet requires eBB. Reverts to regular price after 12 months. Modem lease of $10/mo. required for Internet service. Early service cancellation will result in equipment charge if not returned to Cincinnati Bell. Additional features, taxes, government fees and surcharges are additional to the package price. Other restrictions may apply. See store for details.
Another mass shooting, but this one hits home

By this time in my life, I have wanted to have at least two internships under my belt and a job following my college career. Minimum. My expectations for myself were high, but realistic, or so I believed. Nevertheless, I am sitting here writing this article at the beginning of my senior year and juggling getting ready for my shift later as a waitress. To say that I was wrong in my expectations is probably an understatement. The thing is, I’m quite happy with where I am right now, and I’m perfectly fine with being wrong.

The pressure to get as much experience during your time in college is ridiculous, simply put. The reality of it is, we have to make money somehow and most of these so-called ‘elite’ internships or ‘amazing’ opportunities are unpaid, or even cost you money. It’s a little unreasonable to expect twenty-something year old students to just be OK with having absolutely no income except from a student loan. Internships undoubtedly have their benefits, but they are exclusive because not everyone can get them and to those who didn’t get that position you were dying to get, it’s OK.

I’ve applied to countless internships and have even been occasionally interacted with. The ones that were a great fit, however, still have the daunting ‘unpaid position’ line print at the end of the description. Besides the money aspect of internships though, there is a wildly intense pressure to have one just for the sake of having one. When people ask me what I’ve been up to this summer and I answer with my honest explanation, it’s usually followed with something to the tune of, “Well that’s a OK” or “You still have time to figure it out.” I know I have time, I’m twenty-one years old. Not having the internship of my dreams is OK. I highly doubt that because I spent this past summer building my bank account up I won’t get a great job post-college.

Now I’m not trying to say that everyone who did have an internship was wrong or just succumbed to the pressure of today’s world. There’s always an exception to the rule. Internships are a great way to build your resume if you can afford to do so. You have the chance to gain real world and real work experience while you’re still a student and it’s a great way to figure out if you’re heade down the right path for you.

Through my major, Philosophy, I have had the chance to participate in a campaign internship for a class that I was taking my sophomore year. Albeit, I absolutely loathed campaign work, but that’s something I had the chance to discover early on in my college career because somehow and most of these internships are not just sit back and hope your leaders to do something. We as a nation cannot be afraid to talk about a subject such as gun violence and what steps we can take to prevent another horrific tragedy. I firmly believe that when we all get together and share ideas, we can come to viable solutions. Gun violence is an epidemic that affects all of us. Please don’t let your town be the next town you see plastered on the news. Join in the activism and encourage your leaders to do something.

Joseph Spirk is a senior economics major with a concentration in mathematics. He is a guest writer from Dayton, Ohio.

On August 4th at 1:05 a.m., a masked gunman armed with an AR-15-style assault rifle and two firearms, which is now under investigation as an act of domestic terrorism and as a possible hate crime.

A bar called Toxic Brew, being the 50th mass shooting in the United States this year, was routinely hear from politicians and figures in the media how everyone is eventually touched in some way by a mass shooting. After the Dayton shooting, I have come to realize what that truly means. I would have never imagined that someone who I went to high school with, and even had a class with, would carry out the largest mass shooting the Dayton region has ever seen. Not to mention that he would end up murdering his own sister, who also had a class with and would occasionally interact with.

In the days following the shooting, I was still in shock and disbelief with what had happened in the Oregon District. It was only a few weeks prior that my friends and I had been down in the Oregon District at the Toxic Brew Company and I visited the brewery and bar and went shopping at local favorites such as Heart Mercantile and Seba’s. What had been in one of the bars in the Oregon District that night? What if I had been one of the many people walking the streets when the shooting occurred? I can’t help but feel like I am one of the lucky ones, and I don’t feel close to home. How could a kid that I went to high school with end up acquiring such lethal weapons? I had always heard of other mass shootings in the news and would always think, ‘That’ll never happen here in Dayton.”

I had always heard of other mass shootings in the news and would always think, “That’ll never happen here in Dayton.”

The truth is, I am still figuring out what path is right for me, but I don’t have to have an internship to do that.

The truth is, I am still figuring out what path is right for me, but I don’t have to have an internship to do that.
When I was a sophomore in high school, my mom told me that I should go on a college visit over spring break so that I “wouldn’t fall in love with the first place I visited.” So we decided to visit Xavier and sure enough, I thought she was right, I fell in love with campus. At first, I thought that my mom was correct, I fell love with college, not Xavier. So, as I continued on in my high school career, I visited more colleges including Miami, Ohio State, and yes, even UC. Nowhere I went even compared to Xavier. I never felt any sense of community. I had to visit Xavier again, this time in the pouring rain.

But the community, while slightly damp, was the same. People held doors for one another, and everyone was constantly saying hi to one another as they walked around. It felt like a place where I could belong. I thought my tour guide must have been popular and I know that so many incoming first year students and upperclassmen felt that same way.

There is something special about this place. Xavier is a place that all of us have chosen to call a home. Just like a home, there are good days and there are bad days. You will have highs like Xavier Fest, your first Alternative Breaks trip and forming new relationships. There will also be lows with hard classes, tested friendships and being woken up by the Brockman fire alarm (yes, even if you don’t live in Brockman).

The thing that makes Xavier a special place is that no matter if you are having your worst day of the semester, or your best, there will always be someone there to hold the door for you or to give you a smile.

One of our biggest values here at Xavier is Campus Personalis, or care for the whole person. This Jesuit value has a lot of meaning for the university as an institution. For them, it means investing in academics, physical well-being, mental health, career services and many, many other things.

For us as a campus community, it means being there for one another. It is respecting your friends’ choices when they have to take time for self-care. It is supporting a friend on a club sports team. It is eating lunch with a friend that you knew may be struggling.

All of these things and more are what make the Xavier community so special. There is a unique sense of us.

We are a community of unique individuals. That is the first line of the student commitment. No matter what we do as a community, we never lose our uniqueness. As the student commitment says, we will learn together, serve together, and we will succeed in changing the world together. While these may seem like very lofty goals, in my short time here I have seen students and alumni, young and old, do amazing things. What all of these people have in common is that they did it together. When we learn, serve and seek change together we become more than ourselves, we come together to become more. Our Xavier and Jesuit traditions challenge us to do so much but we do not have to go about this alone. Trust me, it can seem overwhelming at times if you try to take it on alone. It can feel lonely and it can be tempting to give up. But it is when we need our community the most.

The student commitment ends with the line “All for one and one for all.” I’m sure during your time at Xavier, you will hear this explained a dozen different ways by a dozen different people. Let me be one of these people briefly. When we come together as a member of our community and a member of a community we can have an impact on all of us.

As students reconvene at Xavier and considering the first time, I feel obliged to impart some cautionary wisdom for us all. When it comes to college, we often enter these years with intense hard classes, academic rigors and responsibilities. In fact, leisure strengths and aids one’s ability to accomplish our daily tasks and routines. It is a source of renewal and joy.

Leisure is an attitude which we must maintain and reform ourselves when we drift from it. For the ultimate goal of leisure, the route of contemplation and realization of God’s joy, which is much different from happiness or any other kind of euphoric feeling, joy is set apart because it is an emotion or feeling, it is an attitude and does not depend on circumstance. It is an attitude of heart and of spirit, it, perhaps the closest understanding to the presence of God, lending to an abundant and fruitful life.

My advice for students of all years, especially those incoming first-years, is to fix an attitude of leisure in your mind and to keep tempo with it, practice it and find yourself in the contemplative nature of higher truths and permanent things. An attitude of leisure will lend to an attitude of joy, which is the greatest fulfillment.

An attitude of leisure will lead to an attitude of joy, which is the greatest fulfillment.

...there will always be someone there to hold the door for you or to give you a smile.

Our Xavier and Jesuit traditions challenge us to do so much but we do not have to go about this alone. Trust me, it can seem overwhelming at times if you try to take it on alone. It can feel lonely and it can be tempting to give up. But it is when we need our community the most.

New tricks from an old dog: Lessons in leisure

As students reconvene at Xavier and considering the first time, I feel obliged to impart some cautionary wisdom for us all. When it comes to college, we often enter these years with intense hard classes, academic rigors and responsibilities. In fact, leisure strengths and aids one’s ability to accomplish our daily tasks and routines. It is a source of renewal and joy.

Leisure is an attitude which we must maintain and reform ourselves when we drift from it. For the ultimate goal of leisure, the route of contemplation and realization of God’s joy, which is much different from happiness or any other kind of euphoric feeling, joy is set apart because it is an emotion or feeling, it is an attitude and does not depend on circumstance. It is an attitude of heart and of spirit, it, perhaps the closest understanding to the presence of God, lending to an abundant and fruitful life.

My advice for students of all years, especially those incoming first-years, is to fix an attitude of leisure in your mind and to keep tempo with it, practice it and find yourself in the contemplative nature of higher truths and permanent things. An attitude of leisure will lend to an attitude of joy, which is the greatest fulfillment.

An attitude of leisure will lead to an attitude of joy, which is the greatest fulfillment.

...there will always be someone there to hold the door for you or to give you a smile.

Our Xavier and Jesuit traditions challenge us to do so much but we do not have to go about this alone. Trust me, it can seem overwhelming at times if you try to take it on alone. It can feel lonely and it can be tempting to give up. But it is when we need our community the most.

New tricks from an old dog: Lessons in leisure

As students reconvene at Xavier and considering the first time, I feel obliged to impart some cautionary wisdom for us all. When it comes to college, we often enter these years with intense hard classes, academic rigors and responsibilities. In fact, leisure strengths and aids one’s ability to accomplish our daily tasks and routines. It is a source of renewal and joy.

Leisure is an attitude which we must maintain and reform ourselves when we drift from it. For the ultimate goal of leisure, the route of contemplation and realization of God’s joy, which is much different from happiness or any other kind of euphoric feeling, joy is set apart because it is an emotion or feeling, it is an attitude and does not depend on circumstance. It is an attitude of heart and of spirit, it, perhaps the closest understanding to the presence of God, lending to an abundant and fruitful life.

My advice for students of all years, especially those incoming first-years, is to fix an attitude of leisure in your mind and to keep tempo with it, practice it and find yourself in the contemplative nature of higher truths and permanent things. An attitude of leisure will lend to an attitude of joy, which is the greatest fulfillment.

An attitude of leisure will lead to an attitude of joy, which is the greatest fulfillment.
Analysis: A power shift may tip the NBA scales
Clippers, Bucks and 76ers on the rise, former Xavier players ink new deals

BY JOSEPH COTTON
Staff Writer

Los Angeles will dominate the NBA discussion next season. With the off-season acquisitions of Kawhi Leonard and Paul George, the Clippers can legitimately contend for the heart of their city instead of playing the little brother team role to the Lakers.

The Clippers are looking to build on the success of the previous season where coach Doc Rivers led a scrappy and underrated roster to six games against the loaded Golden State Warriors.

While still maintaining the core that gave them success, the new-look Clippers have added two of the best players in the league and are looking to take the Western Conference to new heights.

The Utah Jazz had a quiet but eventful summer. Despite losing Ricky Rubio, the Jazz has turned their roster for a playoff run next April.

With the addition of great defenders such as Mike Conley and Bojan Bogdanovic, Utah is hoping that they can build on their defensive scheme captained by multi-time All-Star Rudy Gobert.

The Jazz have also added depth to their bench in the off-season with additions such as Ed Davis and Jeff Green from Brooklyn and Washington respectively.

The Eastern Conference is going to be very top-loaded with the Milwaukee Bucks and the Philadelphia 76ers having emerged as the clear favorites to represent the east in the NBA Finals.

While the Bucks have lost a few key players, most notably Malcolm Brogdon, the 76ers have made a lot of moves this summer to position themselves to compete with the Bucks for the Eastern Conference title.

With the Al Horford and Josh Richardson signings, Philadelphia hopes to support the young stars they have in Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid. Although defense shouldn’t be a problem with the team, offense, especially in the clutch, is a big question mark as they don’t have an elite shot creator to close out games.

It is unclear who will fill the role that Jimmy Butler, who signed with the Miami Heat, once occupied.

Free agency has been a mixed bag for former Xavier players. For the 2019-20 NBA season, Edmond Sumner will be the only Xavier product to have a permanent spot on an NBA roster.

The Indiana Pacers converted his one-year, $81 million two-way contract to a three-year $66.5 million NBA contract after an impressive 22.1 per game season with the Indiana G-League affiliate Fort Wayne Mad Ants. Despite sustaining a minor, undisclosed left foot injury, the versatile young Xavier product is looking to be pushed in heavier minutes on an injury-depleted Pacers roster.

Forward Thaddeus Young’s departure from Indiana, Tyreke Evans’s suspension and young star Victor Oladipo being sidelined until Christmas with a knee injury, Sumner is in a favorable spot to receive more playing time as he is listed as the second shooting guard on the depth chart.

IP Macura recently signed what is known as an Exhibit 10 deal with the Cleveland Cavaliers.

An Exhibit 10 deal comes with a $50,000 bonus as well as a guaranteed spot on a G-League roster. Macura, however, is looking to make one of the final roster spots on the Cavaliers.

Trevor Ariza averaged 11.2 points per game and 22 minutes played in the Summer League this year, but was recently waived by the New Orleans Pelicans and has yet to sign another basketball contract.

Reds win the trade deadline, ready to contend
Cincinnati may not make the playoffs this year, but they can in the future

BY JOE CLARK
Staff Writer

Heading into the 2019 Major League Baseball season, no team experienced more roster turnover than the Cincinnati Reds.

In a series of trades, the Reds acquired Tanner Roark, Yasiel Puig, Alex Wood, Matt Kemp, Kyle Farmer and Sonny Gray, all while keeping most of their prospect depth intact.

While the changes weren’t intended to make the Reds instantly competitive, it signaled to the fanbase, the players and staff in the organization and the rest of the league that the Reds were done rebuilding.

Instead, they were interested in retooling and building up their major league talent instead of their farm system.

Despite the improved roster and a much-improved bullpen, the Reds still struggled in the ultra-competitive NL Central, and on July 30, were sitting at 49-56 after 67 games out of the division and 6.5 out of the second NL Wild Card spot.

However, the Reds continued their philosophy of buying instead of selling by making arguably the biggest move of the MLB Trade Deadline, acquiring Indians ace Trevor Bauer in a three-team deal also involving the Padres. To acquire Bauer, the Reds sent Puig and prospect Scott Moss to the Indians while sending heralded prospect Taylor Trammell to San Diego.

The next day, to make room for Bauer in the rotation, the Reds moved on from Roark, sending him to the A’s for a prospect. With the addition of Bauer, the Reds have played better baseball in the second half of the season, with their record currently at 56-61 and only seven games back of the division lead and 5.5 games out of the wild card.

Besides the fact that Roark, Kemp, who was released earlier in the season, and Puig are no longer with the team, the Reds’ off-season strategy has definitely panned out as Sonny Gray has returned to his previous form. He’s currently 7-6 with a 3.10 ERA and 144 strikeouts in 127.2 innings pitched.

Puig helped the Reds acquire Bauer, who’s under team control through next season and should anchor a stacked Reds rotation along with Gray and Luis Castillo, who’s emerged as one of the best pitchers in baseball this season.

If the Reds expect to make the playoffs this season, they’ll need to win a significant headway against the Cubs, Brewers and Cardinals, three teams ahead of them in the NL Central who are all currently in line to make the playoffs.

It’s no question that the Central is the most difficult division in baseball this season, but the Reds have managed to stay competitive.

Despite an offense that’s stagnated a times, the Reds’ pitching staff has been so good this season that the Reds have a +4+4 run differential, which puts their Pythagorean record at 62-53.

A Pythagorean record is a team’s expected record strictly based off run differential. Essentially, the Reds have been much better than their record has shown this year.

According to Baseball Ref- erence, the Reds only have an 8.3% chance to make the playoffs this season.

However, if they continue to buy and build up their major league roster, especially their lineup, they’ll definitely be a team to look out for in the coming seasons.
High hopes for this year’s theater

By Kevin Thomas
Editor-in-Chief

One of the most wonderful performances I’ve ever seen was a production of Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream, which took place in a shady grove inside a public park in St. Louis when I was 17. There were no real seats, just divisions of where people could and could not sit. Throughout the performance, the actors wandered in the crowd, and I remember Puck coming up behind me and spooning me for a minute at one point while observing the action.

This intimate experience brought me an appreciation for theater that has only grown as I have, and with the shows that Xavier Theatre will be putting on this year, I can only imagine it will expand infinitely. While I haven’t seen any of the shows they’ll be performing this year, I have seen Xavier Theatre shows before and I have a feeling they will do an impressive job with each one.

The first show of the 2019-20 season is The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, based on the 2003 novel by Mark Haddon. This is one of the plays that I am most excited for, simply because I love the quirkiness and kindness that appears in the book and I cannot wait to see it come to life on the stage. The show will be running from Sept. 19-22 and cast in May.

Chicago is next on the docket, running from Oct. 18-26, and the first musical of the season. This is one of those classic famous plays that I feel as though everyone has heard of or seen but I’m not the biggest fan of musicals so it’s slipped past me. However, I’m sure they’ll do an excellent job.

Xavier Theatre will be flipping back to a play for its next performance: The Wives. This is a play about a high school girls soccer team and their experiences. It’s a rather new play; it premiered in 2016 and was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize so I’m excited to see what they do with it. It runs from Nov. 15-23.

Last but not least for the fall semester will be Voices for Change on Dec. 7 and again on May 2. While this isn’t quite a play in the typical sense, it has been a showcase of student works meant to contribute to the discussion of ongoing social and political events and is definitely an event of its own to attend.

Heathers: The Musical will be kicking off the spring semester from Jan. 21-Feb. 8. This musical is based on a 1988 movie and turned into theater in 2010 and it seems to be, according to my brief research, a typical musical exploring the darker sides of high school. Typically, Xavier Theatre has done well with this kind of show, so I have high hopes.

Shooter! is the second show in the spring and will be making its world premiere on Feb. 27-March 1. Xavier has had several world premieres on campus and they’ve all been very excellent so I am excited for this dark comedy that examines the future of a possible potential school shooter.

Following this world premier is The Vagina Monologues, a show that has had turbulence on college campuses but has been done here the last several years. This episodic piece will be performed April 3 and 4 and is definitely an worthwhile experience for the poignant discussions it evokes.

The final show of the year, with the exception of Voices for Change, will be Green Day’s American Idiot from April 17-25. This musical is based on the 2004 album by the classic punk band and is the show I am most excited for simply because Green Day was the first concert I ever went to, one year after this album came out.

As always, tickets can be bought in the Box Office in the basement of Gallagher Student Center or online at www.xaver.edu/theatretickets.

Portal 2 offers gamers a fun and enjoyable play

By Jack Dunn
World News Editor

There were a lot of video games that came out more than 10 years ago that are widely considered instant classics. But like most of us, I was either not capable of buying them, couldn’t afford them or just didn’t have something to play them on.

This year, I’d like to change that. There are so many wonderful games out there that I’d like to try, even if only for a little bit. I want to see if they truly live up to the hype. And arguably — even more importantly — if they can stand the test of time.

Portal 2 is one of those ‘must play’ games, and I can definitely see why. Even in the first hour, you can tell that this game is funnier than most. I feel like a lot of modern-day games I play either have a great story and characters or great gameplay. Not both. This is one of those games that does both really well. If you want to turn on the subtitles to make sure you don’t mishear anything, then you know it’s good.

That is not to diminish the gameplay. Normally, I hate puzzle games. Sometimes they introduce a mechanic but then don’t use it enough. Other times, the game does too much hand-holding or I just have no idea of what’s going on with the puzzle.

But the way Portal 2 poses itself makes it feel like it’s a good balance of difficulty and fun. The way they introduce a new mechanic, give a couple of new puzzles with it and then wash, rinse, repeat creates a fun gameplay loop that keeps people coming back even years after its release.

Also, the main mechanic in the game, the portal gun, is just so fun to use. There are so many ways to use it, both intentional and unintentional, that make it one of the most memorable video game items of all time. It truly has you “thinking with portals.”

All in all, I am looking forward to finishing Portal 2. I really think that it will become one of my favorite games of all time. Once I finish the main campaign, I’ll definitely try and find someone to do the co-op campaign with. It just makes me wish that there was a third one, so I could continue playing this remarkable game.

Total score:

1 Star
The Do's and Don’ts of Campus Life

BY AIDAN CALLAHAN
Features Editor

Another year at Xavier University has begun and that means plenty of returning students, new and old. If you’re a newbie, whether because you’re a first-year or because you just transferred, then welcome! We always love new faces at Xavier. Well, so long as you punch play by the rules.

That’s the thing about Xavier: if you don’t know what you’re doing your first few weeks here, you’ll get eaten alive. It’s like Shark Tank up on this campus, but instead of having your dreams crushed by some old millionaire you can have a lively conversation with an old priest.

But the students can be deadly if you act up — and this goes for returning kids, too. Don’t think you’re safe just because you’ve “been coming to this school for 4 years”. That’s laughable. What you need to do is listen and take to heart the following advice from someone who’s been here one year.

Without further ado, here are the do’s and don’ts of the Xavier campus:

Do: Ask the guys in the sandwich line to surprise you. Whatever you get will be super good.
Don’t: Hold up the line ordering your insanely complicated double-layered gluten-free sandwich with guac and melted cheese and like every meat they have to offer cooked a different way. People are tryna eat, man.

Do: Stop and have a chat with Father B.
Don’t: Tell him if he’s moving out of Husman. It’s a sensitive topic.

Don’t: Skateboard down that ramp behind Alter Hall like a rascal — no matter how sick it looks.
Do: Skateboard at one of the many nearby parks, just as Saint Francis Xavier would have done himself.

Don’t: Drain all your blood in a sacrificial ritual to lord Xenu.
Do: Donate some of your blood to the Red Cross when their van comes through.

Don’t: Take silverware and plates from the caf.
Do: Give silverware and plates to the caf. People keep stealing the forks!

Don’t: Seriously, I cannot stress this enough, DO NOT print before the person ahead of you has picked up their papers. If they’re printing a 116-page essay on the implications of the internal hierarchy of the 1986 presidential cabinet, your three page syllabus is just gonna be tagged on at the end. Do you really want to make them sort through their papers for your silly syllabus?

Do: Massage the shoulders of the person ahead of you in line. They need all the help they can get.

Do: Consider studying abroad!
Don’t: Consider studying a broad!

Don’t: Study on the top floor of Schott. That spot is mune.
Do: Study literally anywhere else. The library’s got plenty of room.

Do: Briefly marvel at Elliot dancing on the Husman stage.
Don’t: Stare too long. A star that bright can burn your eyes.

Don’t: Go to the nursing students with your medical problem. They’ve got enough on their plates already.
Do: Go to the brand new Health United Building opening this January? No wait — August? No, no, wait, December? Wait, no, it’s uh... ah, screw it.

Do: Attend mass at Bellarmine chapel every Sunday.
Don’t: Ever. It’s not your weekend. You need to get out and enjoy some sun!

Don’t: Keep stealing the forks!
Do: Help the people who are working hard to feed you. You come here for free!

Another year at Xavier University has begun and that means plenty of returning students, new and old. If you’re a newbie, whether because you’re a first-year or because you just transferred, then welcome! We always love new faces at Xavier. Well, so long as you punch play by the rules.

What you need to do is listen and take to heart the following advice from someone who’s been here one year.

Without further ado, here are the do’s and don’ts of the Xavier campus:

Do: Ask the guys in the sandwich line to surprise you. Whatever you get will be super good.
Don’t: Hold up the line ordering your insanely complicated double-layered gluten-free sandwich with guac and melted cheese and like every meat they have to offer cooked a different way. People are tryna eat, man.

Do: Stop and have a chat with Father B.
Don’t: Tell him if he’s moving out of Husman. It’s a sensitive topic.

Don’t: Skateboard down that ramp behind Alter Hall like a rascal — no matter how sick it looks.
Do: Skateboard at one of the many nearby parks, just as Saint Francis Xavier would have done himself.

Don’t: Drain all your blood in a sacrificial ritual to lord Xenu.
Do: Donate some of your blood to the Red Cross when their van comes through.

Don’t: Take silverware and plates from the caf.
Do: Give silverware and plates to the caf. People keep stealing the forks!

Don’t: Seriously, I cannot stress this enough, DO NOT print before the person ahead of you has picked up their papers. If they’re printing a 116-page essay on the implications of the internal hierarchy of the 1986 presidential cabinet, your three page syllabus is just gonna be tagged on at the end. Do you really want to make them sort through their papers for your silly syllabus?

Do: Massage the shoulders of the person ahead of you in line. They need all the help they can get.

Do: Consider studying abroad!
Don’t: Consider studying a broad!

Don’t: Study on the top floor of Schott. That spot is mune.
Do: Study literally anywhere else. The library’s got plenty of room.

Do: Briefly marvel at Elliot dancing on the Husman stage.
Don’t: Stare too long. A star that bright can burn your eyes.

Don’t: Go to the nursing students with your medical problem. They’ve got enough on their plates already.
Do: Go to the brand new Health United Building opening this January? No wait — August? No, no, wait, December? Wait, no, it’s uh... ah, screw it.

Do: Attend mass at Bellarmine chapel every Sunday.
Don’t: Ever. It’s not your weekend. You need to get out and enjoy some sun!

Don’t: Keep stealing the forks!
Do: Help the people who are working hard to feed you. You come here for free!

Look for the answer key in the next edition (August 21st)!