BY MO JUENGER  
Guest Writer

The admissions office has announced that the class of 2023 is between 200 and 300 students smaller than its preceding class. This significant decrease in class size was ultimately affected by the university’s decision to accept fewer students.

Factors such as previous incoming class sizes and strained on-campus housing greatly influenced the decision to accept fewer students, according to Lindsey Steller, the assistant director of admissions.

Steller clarified that accepting fewer students was intentional, “just to make sure that we can still give students the best experience,” she said. “We recognized that last year housing was a little bit tighter, and things here (at the Admissions Office) were a little bit tighter.” “We just wanted to make sure that we’re staying true to our mission of supporting students, and before we continue to grow, we just need to make sure we have some things in place, make sure that all that’s going to be good for the students.”

Steller added that the number of applicants for the class of 2023 was even larger than that of the previous year. “We’re continuing to grow in that aspect,” she said, “it is just making sure we don’t grow too quickly.”

The decision to accept fewer students has affected multiple grade levels. For one, the housing situation has changed.

“The housing process was much easier this year since there weren’t so many people,” sophomore biology major Jake Owens said. This differs from last year’s inability to house many incoming students.

Many first-year students reported having little or no difficulty with the initial housing assignments, and noted satisfaction with their class sizes.

“I love how small my classes are,” first-year social work major Abigail Evans said. “That’s why I wanted to come to Xavier in the first place. I wouldn’t like if there were 300 more people distributed throughout the class, though.”

Many students agree the unique feeling of community a mid-size college like Xavier can achieve was an important factor influencing their decision to attend.

“I believe Xavier was built to be a mid-size university with a tight-knit community and as they bring up enrollment and take on the biggest part of Xavier that people are really drawn to is the community and tight-knit feel,” first-year English major Molly Hulligan said.

However, some students are still experiencing the negative effects of last year’s class size. Geno Griffith, a ‘15 graduate and current education graduate student, spoke about the problematic situations Xavier’s overall growth has caused.

“The programs have increased from an academic standpoint. Numbers look good as far as graduation rates,” Griffith said. “But with that, I notice some things have changed, like… learning center accommodations and services provided to grad students, policy and procedures for grad students to be on campus have changed, in terms of access to technology.”

A disproportional growth in undergraduates is linked to lack of services available to current graduate students, and Griffith believes that the decrease in size of this year’s admitted class will help to reconcile some of the problems previous growth has created.

The reduction of admitted first-year students has begun to resolve many issues experienced by the Class of 2022. Class size, housing and college community remain important factors to applying students, and many feel that a smaller Class of 2023 has helped to keep those factors at Xavier’s highest standard.

The official Xavier census numbers for the Class of 2023 will be released in October.
Pathways weekly program begins

BY JOSEPH COTTON
Staff Writer

Pathways is an initiative of the Office of Student Involvement (OSI) that will span across six weeks, starting Sept. 3 and ending Oct. 27, each representing one of the six different Pathways.

The weekly pathway themes include Leadership, Spirituality, Belonging, Social Concern, Wellbeing and Identity.

The different weeks are filled with events set up by Student Affairs and are meant to highlight the various ways to get involved on campus, as well as the learning priorities that relate to the OSI’s work with students. The Pathways theme for the year is “Make Your Mark.”

The initiative was established by the Pathways team, led by assistant OSI director Dustin Lewis. The Pathways team defined the different themes and planned the collection of opportunities and events for each week.

“Pathways week is an easy in and a good way to see the offerings of ways to get involved,” Lewis said when asked about the best way to engage with Pathways.

“It’s built a lot like a menu to help students get outside of their Xavier journey and help students build the path they might be more likely to explore,” King-Kaiser said. “It’s both to try something new,” added Owusu-Bonsu.

Inclusion is collaborating with Recreational Sports, and Justice (CFJ), Rev. Abby King-Kaiser. “The idea is two-fold,” Owusu-Bonsu stated that she connects with the Pathways team and finds a theme that they might be more likely to try something new.”

The Pathways team indicated that they wanted to give students the opportunity to explore other involvement opportunities through interdepartmental collaborations at Xavier.

“If a student sees that the Center for Diversity and Inclusion is collaborating with Recreational Sports, they might be more likely to try something new,” added King-Kaiser.

Lewis also emphasized the interconnectedness of the different pathways, noting, for example, that the CFJ isn’t the only place where students can incorporate spirituality into their Xavier experience.

“Although people may assume anything that deals with spirituality is handled by CFJ, spirituality can be found in all aspects of what we do at Student Affairs,” Lewis said.

“For me, involvement means engaging myself in a new environment that I don’t usually see myself in,” senior international studies and political science major Presley Owusu-Bonsu said. “I’ve tried to become comfortable being uncomfortable.”

She added that she has become better at having uncomfortable conversations about sensitive topics including race, sexuality and poverty thanks to getting involved with the CFJ.

Owusu-Bonsu stated that she connects with the pathway of Wellbeing the most. “Xavier really taught me self-care. I’ve been meditating, doing breathing exercises and participating in other activities that help my spiritual and emotional health,” Owusu-Bonsu said.

“I went to high school in Chicago, which is a really fast-paced city, so I didn’t see myself doing things like meditation when I first came to Xavier,” Owusu-Bonsu jumped into.”

This week is Leadership week, which runs from Sept. 1 to 7. Events include Leadership Game Night, Muskies Helping Muskies and Hall Council Elections. According to the Pathways website, the Leadership pathway is designed to help students build effective skills to help shape the community.

Next week is Spirituality week which runs from Sept. 8 to 14. Defined as “reflecting on your beliefs and purpose” in the Pathways brochure, events for this week include Find Your Sacred Space, GSC Open Meditation Space and Spirit Celebration.

“Events aren’t just for first-years,” Lewis said. “They’re also for sophomores who are finally comfortable on campus and want to now get involved, as well as anyone on campus.”

Look out for the posters around dorms and Gallagher Student Center in addition to the events around campus in the upcoming weeks.

Lastly, follow @lifeatXU on Instagram and Twitter for the most up to date information.

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Xavier Res Life @XavierResLife · 4d
Attention #XavierResLife RAS! 😊

Kraft Macaroni & Cheese · 4d
Hey college RAs – if your residents are losing sleep from late-night Easy Mac incidents, we’ve got your back.
Just print this and hang it near the microwave.


Thomas R. Payton @ThomasPa... · 6d
Good move!

Xavier University @Xavi... · 6d
Joining a national movement, Xavier will no longer require students to submit an SAT or ACT score in order to be considered for enrollment.

MORE: xavier.edu/now/2019/test...

Show this thread

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Check out the best Xavier-related Twitter content from the past week

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Tweets of the Week

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Attention #XavierResLife RAS! 😊

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CLASSY BARSTOOL XU @xBa... · 4d
Anyone in Fenwick missing a TV?
Gallagher's basement-level student den converted into an e-sports lounge

By Mo Juenger

Guest Writer

This year, Victory Perk changed their coffee supplier from Carabello Coffee to Peet’s Coffee. See how students feel about the new coffee supplier on campus.

Victory Perk is located on the first floor of Gallagher Student Center and is open on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Friday from 7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Saturday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Sunday from 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

“Personally, I like Peet’s better because their chai tea is a lot stronger than (Carabello),”
Kaleigh Crawford
First-year nursing major

“(Peet’s) is the best coffee. I love every second of drinking it.”
Alex Pinarski
First-year history major

“The only issue that I have with Peet’s coffee is that they make you fill up your own black coffee.”
Nick Palmisano
First-year psychology major

“I like Peet's coffee! They have much better options.”
Eliza Turner
Senior criminal justice major

“I like the ethics behind it and I think it’s a good tasting coffee.”
Hannah Frey
Senior social work and psychology major

Students praise the change of Peet’s coffee supplier to Victory Perk, which recently changed from Carabello Coffee to Peet’s Coffee.

BY DAVID LUDWIG

Guest Writer

During the summer, D’Artagnan’s Den, a space that had previously housed several televisions and a pool table in the basement of Gallagher Student Center (GSC), was converted into an e-sports lounge.

GSC director Chris Marshall explained that this concept came into the picture in the fall of 2017, when he put together a group of students and staff called the GSC Ideation Team. According to Marshall, this group, which is also responsible for the Clock Tower Lounge renovation, was to “focus on spaces in the building and ways to enhance it and renovate it.”

During the Ideation Team’s discussions, the rise of competitive video gaming, known as e-sports, came into conversation. The team identified that there was no space on campus at the time where students could become involved in the growing world of e-sports, and wanted to make this an option available to students.

Marshall noted that several spaces in GSC were considered for the location of the lounge before finally deciding to place it in D’Artagnan’s Den. “Ultimately, that space on the lower level wasn’t being utilized the way we had hoped,” he said, “of all the spaces, that would be the perfect spot for it.”

Students praise the decision to create an e-sports lounge and consider this transformation of the space a major upgrade. First-year student Jeremy Lefton expressed his interest in the popular Call of Duty franchise of first-person shooter games, and enjoyed the ability to play with other students in the e-sports lounge. “I just came down here and saw it one day,” he said, while also commenting that “it’s pretty awesome here.”

While students are enjoying the lounge now, Marshall noted several obstacles to the process. According to Marshall, the project’s funds were in question at the beginning of the process, but “ultimately, the Student Government Association helped pass the initial funding for it.” He also faced the issue of designing the system so that he, the rest of the GSC staff, and the students could use the space with ease.

As of now, all a student needs to do is go to the GSC Welcome Desk and check out a controller with their ALL Card, then walk down to D’Artagnan’s Den, turn on the TV indicated by the number on the controller, turn on the console and select a game. “Displays 1 through 4 house PlayStation it’s on them,” Marshall said. “We also have an old retro console that has around 2000 games from Atari up through Nintendo 64.”

Marshall also confirmed larger plans for the lounge, saying that there will be a competitive Rocket League team, intramural tournaments sponsored by the Recreational Sports department and that Xbox One systems will be installed by the end of the semester. He also plans to expand the catalogue of available games and is looking into ways to implement Nintendo Switches and PC gaming systems.

Lastly, Marshall encourages students to come to him with any suggestions or improvements that can be made. “We’re just getting started, so we’d love to hear back from students,” he said.

D’Artagnan’s Den is located in the basement of GSC and is currently open for use.
Johnson & Johnson to pay out $572 million in opioid-related death settlement

BY MO JUENGER

Guest Writer

Oklahoma’s Cleveland County Court ordered pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson to pay out $572 million last Monday in a settlement for an opioid-related death lawsuit.

This is the first successful legal action to prosecute a drug manufacturer for their company’s role in opioid-related death lawsuits.

The court found Johnson & Johnson culpable of bolstering a “public nuisance.” The defendants caused an opioid crisis that is evidenced by increased rates of addiction, overdose deaths and neonatal abstinence syndrome in Oklahoma,” presiding Judge Thad Balkman said in a statement.

On Friday, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost asked a federal appeals court to halt a similar opioid lawsuit over claims for October for claims made by Cuyahoga and Summit Counties in order to give the state of Ohio time to file its own case similar to Oklahoma’s.

He has asked the 6th Court of Appeals to dismiss the claims or order U.S. District Judge Dan Polster in Cleveland to halt or delay the first federal trial that is set to begin Oct. 21.

The companies facing prosecution in Ohio’s courts include Janssen Pharmaceuticals (a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson), Purdue Pharma, Endo Health Solutions, Cephalon and Allergan.

First-year Jacob Tarter noted the irony in the nature of the Johnson and Johnson brand: “Their specialty is baby products, so I think that it kind of defeats the whole purpose of being a family-orientated company when you’re contributing to the opioid epidemic.”

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, there were 388 overdose deaths involving opioids in Oklahoma in 2017. This averages to 10.2 deaths per 100,000 persons, compared to the national rate of 16.4 deaths per 100,000 persons.

Comparatively, Ohio had the second highest rate of drug overdose deaths involving opioids in 2017. There were 4,203 reported deaths in the state, or 26.1 deaths per 100,000 persons.

The $572 million that Oklahoma will receive from the settlement of the $17.5 billion that the state requested. The money is only enough to fund Oklahoma’s opioid recovery plan for one year.

Johnson & Johnson’s shares rose five percent in value immediately following the verdict. The amount Johnson & Johnson will pay to the state of Oklahoma is just five percent of the damages their product has caused across the state.

“It saddens me how many people we’re losing to something as preventable as opioid addiction. We need to put a stop to it,” first-year Maddie Schramm said.

“I think the opioid crisis is terrible, but they’re looking at the wrong people,” first-year Allie Greenwell said.

“I’m glad that we finally won,” Schramm said.

The week in review: Labor Day weekend

No thermal detonators, Norwold police warnings, Gold Star chili, “Cincinnati” and Harry Potter

• A man was jailed for 82 days for bringing honey into the U.S. from Jamaica. Officials claimed the honey tested positive for liquid methamphetamine, but later tests found no evidence of the substance. The case is pending, and the man is expected to file a lawsuit (Aug. 28).

• The TSA is banning Star Wars-themed Coke bottles because they look like grenades. The bottles are one of more than 1,000 different candies available at the new “Galaxy’s Edge” park at Disney (Aug. 28).

• The Norwood Police Department reminded citizens that there are, in fact, laws when drinking Claws. A Facebook post explained that the phrase, “Ain’t no laws when drinking Claws,” a reference to the popular hard seltzer White Claws, will not hold up in court (Aug. 28).

• Workers at a Pennsylvania engineering company laid down nearly 1,400 pieces of track to race a Hot Wheels car for 2,176 feet. They submitted evidence of the feat to Guinness in hopes of gaining official world record status (Aug. 29).

• The Norwood Police Department reminded citizens that there are, in fact, laws when drinking Claws. A Facebook post explained that the phrase, “Ain’t no laws when drinking Claws,” a reference to the popular hard seltzer White Claws, will not hold up in court (Aug. 28).

• Gold Star notched another victory in the Cincinnati Chili War after Food and Wine named it the best fast food in Ohio. The magazine said eating at Gold Star was “one of those weird, wonderful moments that sticks with you, in a really good way” (Aug. 29).

• T-shirts commemorating the Queen City stop on KISS End of the Road tour misspelled “Cincinnati,” tacking on an extra “l.” The shirts were being sold for $80 (Aug. 29).

• The governor of New Hampshire urged the state’s DMV to allow a woman to keep her “PBI/VEGO” license plate. The division had previously asked the woman to surrender her plate, despite the fact that she had used it for 15 years (Aug. 29).

• A man was fined for transporting a broken car by balancing it on top of another car. He later admitted skipping the car to the roof was a “stupid thing to do” (Aug. 30).

• Police in Clayton County, Georgia, were able to finally catch a serial rapist they had been hunting for years when they realized he had previously been a recruit. “Had he not attempted to join the ranks of the Clayton County Police Department, it’s questionable as to where we would have apprehended him,” said Police Chief Kevin Roberts (Aug. 31).

• A nightclub in France is celebrating its 50th anniversary with two new robot pole dancers. The robots wear high heels and have CCTV cameras for heads (Sept. 1).

• Pope Francis apologized to thousands of gatherings for being late for his traditional noon appointment with the public, as he had been stuck in a Vatican elevator for 25 minutes. The pontiff praised the man who rescued him, saying “Thank God the Fire Brigade came. Let’s hear it for the Fire Brigade!” (Sept. 1).

• A Catholic school in Nashville, Tennessee, has banned the popular Harry Potter book series. Pastor Dan Beelbl said in an email sent to parents that “The curses and spells used in the books are actual curses and spells, written by a human being, real conjuring evil spirits into the presence of the person reading the text” (Sept. 2).
Former Kentucky clerk Kim Davis can now be sued, according to 6th Circuit ruling

**BY ALEYA JUSTISON**

**Guest Writer**

The 6th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled unanimously this past Friday that former Kentucky County Clerk Kim Davis can be sued as an individual.

On Sept. 3, 2015, Davis was held in contempt of court for refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

Davis was later ordered by a U.S. District court to start issuing marriage licenses. Davis claimed that the overturning of the Defense of Marriage Act that defined marriage for federal purposes as the union of one man and one woman, was not at the root of her actions.

The couples who had been denied marriage licenses at that time may now choose to file a lawsuit against her as an individual.

Davis filed an appeal with the Supreme Court, but her application was denied.

The state of Kentucky was found responsible for the payment of $224,000 in damages to the affected couples.

Because sovereign immunity protects certain government employees, preventing them from being sued in their official role, Davis was able to avoid owing any of the fines.

Since Davis was actively serving as a county clerk, she was initially free from any personal repercussions.

“(Davis) did act on behalf of the state, but no individual should benefit from sovereign immunity. A state is not just one person. The decisions that a state makes come from its people and its governing bodies, who all act together,” Molly Schramm, senior advertising major and member of the LGBTQ Alliance Executive Board said.

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Two children killed, 9 others injured after stabbing and hijacking in Dayton

**BY JAKE GEIGER AND RYAN KAMRICH**

**Guest Writer and Staff Writer**

One month after a mass shooting which left 10 dead and 27 injured, the Dayton community is now mourning the death of two children and the injury of nine others after a three-vehicle crash in the city’s downtown area.

The individual suspected of causing the crash has been identified by the Dayton Police Department as Raymond Walters, Jr., a Dayton resident.

According to authorities, the incident began around 7:10 p.m. on Aug. 26 at Walters’ home, when he allegedly stabbed his father and stole his father’s 1999 Chevy Cruiser.

Shortly after, officers responded when a vehicle matching that description crashed into a tree, and they reportedly attempted to arrest Walters on the scene.

An officer used a taser in the attempted arrest, which reportedly failed to incapacitate Walters. Authorities said Walters proceeded to drive off in a police cruiser parked at the site.

“I found out about this incident when scrolling through Twitter,” sophomore Will Rechel said. “It was sad to read about and shocking to later find out (that) the suspect (allegedly) stole the policeman’s SUV.”

Walters was reportedly driving at dangerous speeds, allegedly reaching 101 miles per hour at one point.

Later that night, Walters allegedly struck an Acura SUV and a Honda Odyssey, resulting in the deaths of two children inside the vehicles.

After the crash, police identified Walters as the driver who collided with tree earlier in the evening.

Police later apprehended Walters, and he is expected to face charges. He has a previous criminal record of robbery, assault and burglary.

The Amazon continues to burn

**By Charlie Gatalder**

**Guest Writer**

This week, the G-7 convened and offered $22 million in firefighting aid to Brazil to help the country combat fires in the Amazon Rainforest.

Brazil’s President, Jair Bolsonaro, rejected the aid, citing what he believed to be personal attacks by France’s President, Emmanuel Macron. Macron had previously claimed that Bolsonaro lied about Brazil’s efforts to combat climate change.

Bolsonaro expressed anger that the G-7 — Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States — was attempting to intervene in Brazil and compared the G-7 aid to colonialism. Bolsonaro also ridiculed the age and appearance of Macron’s wife.

Bolsonaro then reversed his stance on the G-7 aid, explaining he would accept the $22 million in firefighting aid from Brazil and mobilize their military to fight the blaze.

The blaze primarily has been blamed on increased deforestation spurred by Bolsonaro’s repeals of environmental protections.

Bolsonaro believes that developing the Amazon would help spur Brazil’s economy and has promised to not allow “another centroid” to be put under environmental protections.

The Amazon rainforest is responsible for processing a large portion of the world’s carbon dioxide output.

The forest is also responsible for six percent of the world’s oxygen output.

Fears regarding the environmental impact of Bolsonaro’s presidency date back to late summer 2019 when the former army captain rose through the polls on a platform of minimal environmental regulation by pledging to leave the Paris Agreement, as well as nationalist appeals.

According to Datafolha Polling Institute, 33 percent of respondents said Bolsonaro was doing a “great or good” job.

The rating is tied for the lowest approval rating of a Brazilian president in the past three decades.

“I think it was just such a big wake up call for the rest of the world to be like ‘Holy cow! the world is actually going to die’,” first-year exploratory major Courtney Corrado said. “We’ve all joked that we’re going to die but now the Amazon rainforest actually is dying.”
As anyone who uses social media can tell you, the burning of the Amazon Rainforest and the climate crisis can be talked about by the major news outlets and should be a major concern. But as most people have seen, it has received little coverage until the last few days. Even now, it does not get much coverage. Some large news outlets, such as Fox News and the Washington Post, have done stories on the fires raging across the Amazon and South America but did not spend much time on it. Most of the “news” was more focused on fire, however, are blogs and social media accounts.

Now, why is that? If the burning in the Amazon is so bad and such a crisis that needs to be dealt with, why would it not be covered? Well, as with most things, there’s a logical explanation. The reason that there is very little actual coverage of the fire is that the fires burning in the Amazon aren’t really a disaster. In fact, the damage from the fires isn’t very high compared to some of the previous years. According to the Global Fire Emiss- sion Database for the years 2003, 2006 and 2009 saw far more fires. That brings up another point. The fires burning in Brazil and America are not a new phenomenon by any means. In 2008, a fire burned every year, for most of the year in fact, just like other places around the world.

Not only does fire burn practically the whole year, scientists studying the fires through the use of satellites found that the fires were primarily burning on agricultural land.يراند新西兰, the area burned had already cleared. According to The New York Times, this is a common agricultural practice. So, not only are the fires not as big as a crisis as social me- dia has made them out to be, a lot of the fires are controlled by people who work on farms, not as big as a crisis as social media has made them out to be, a lot of the fires are controlled by people who work on farms, especially things like shrubs, and open up room for new growth with self-destructive behaviors. That video clip of a woman making claims that the forest was set on fire to cause de- struction. However, wildfires proven to be fake was as it was made two months prior and around 2,000 miles away, as in the rainforest, accord- ing to AccuWeather.

To further drive home that the fires in South America were not as bad as people think, there is also the scientifically proven idea that fires, especially con- trolled ones, are actually good for the ecosystem of a forest, especially large forests. Con- trolled fires and pruning can get rid of dead and dying plants, especially things like shrubs, open up room for new growth with self-destructive behaviors. That video clip of a woman making claims that the forest was set on fire to cause de- struction. However, wildfires proven to be fake was as it was made two months prior and around 2,000 miles away, as in the rainforest, accord- ing to AccuWeather.

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Every year, more than one million high school students across the country pretend to turn off their cell phones and sit silently in a classroom for four hours. These four hours are supposedly crucial. They decide if you’re going to earn a state scholarship, if your mom is going to make you go to ACT prep classes for another six weeks or where you’re going to get into college.

They misrepresent and polarize us. You’re either the one who slept through it and got a one out of 36, or you’ve been reading “The Elements of Style” since you were in ute-six weeks or where you’re going to get into college.

We need another Cold War...Yes, really.

Mo Juenger is a first-year Philosophy, Politics and the Public and Spanish double major. She is a guest writer for the Newswire from Kings Mills, Ohio.

We are more than ACT scores

I’m a pacifist. But I also think we need to have another Cold War. The 1950s-80s are already coming back into style: Bellbottoms are hip again, fascist ideology is on the rise and Russia, America, and other nations, are accelerating their nuclear programs.

I don’t meaning to come across as a warmonger. In an opinion piece for the New York Times, Imran Khan, Pakistan’s prime minister, explained that if the world does not intervene, two nuclear armed nations would move closer towards confrontation. With each passing day, the threat of a nuclear catastrophe rises around the globe.

Our world has not been at a point such as this since the events of the mid to late 20th century when launch codes were lauded and children hid under desks. So why am I arguing to return to such a tumultuous and terrifying era? Because I love peace and I love science.

I am part of a generation that was born in the months of 9/11 and the ensuing global conflict. Eighteen years without a day of peace effectively gives you a hot-zone spine-tingle, and with the current trajectory of our geopolitical relations, I view conflict as inevitable.

Thus, I have moved from a stance of calling for peace to a stance of damage control. Statistically, the Cold War era had the lowest number of military casualties out of any era. The very definition of a Cold War refers to all parties stuck in a stalemate, too terrified to attack. Think about it, would that not be the best path forward? If war truly is inevitable, why not engage in the type of war that would result in the least damage and loss of life? Why not use the type of war that stands most similar to times of peace?

Some may argue that the Cold War was based on mental, not physical, as generations grew up anxiously fearing for their lives. To this I offer a reminder: My generation has the highest reported rates of stress and mental illness in the entire nation. According to the American Psychological Association, Generation Z-ers are the most likely to have reported negative effects of stress, treatment of mental illness and overall poor mental health. Simply put, we already live every day of our lives scared. How much could a little more worry hurt?

Second, and perhaps more importantly, I stand in favor of another Cold War because science. Last month was the 50th anniversary of the moon landing, arguably the single greatest scientific accomplishment in America’s history. The Space Race, and subsequent moon landing, was tied directly to our participation in the Cold War. Unable to show military superiority, we turned to proving scientific superiority. This led to an era in which scientific advancement not only had proper funding, but in which scientists were viewed as heroes and celebrities. The Cold War turned science fiction into science fact; just imagine how many advancements we would be able to make if the scientific community had proper funding. We could cure cancer, s-19 print human organs, re-animate dead brain cells or eradicate HIV if the goal was to do it before another country. I have no hope that our government would ever keep science so properly funded if there were not a military or competitive reason to do so. Thus, a new Cold War appears to be the only viable solution.

Of course I don’t actually want a Cold War, I don’t want any war. But if there is no path towards peace, cold wars are better than hot blooded ones.

We need another Cold War...Yes, really.

So why am I arguing to return to such a tumultuous and terrifying era? Because I love peace and I love science.

I went to high school in Ohio and we had a program that let every student take the ACT once for free. In theory, it sounds like a great way to combat the achievement gap. If every student, regardless of financial ability, can take the ACT, then that should equal the playing field. But college-readiness testing isn’t about your intelligence. It’s about your specific preparation — the weeks or months or years that you and your parents have spent preparing for it. The cost of ACT and SAT prep classes creates a wall between students of varying economic status. This ensures that standardized testing isn’t based on true ability but on an economic advantage, or disadvantage, that you cannot control.

College readiness testing does not measure your readiness for the vast majority of majors. Music majors, for instance, don’t benefit (within their field) from preparing for a standardized test, but their scores can inhibit them from using many scholarship resources. “Cut-off” scholarship practices judges students based on their scores, and do not consider students below a certain score eligible to receive financial aid. Any non-STEM and non-English major is not being tested on skills that are relevant to their specific studies. This represents the devaluation of most college majors, all of which are valid and necessary for a functional society.

The mindset behind standardized testing is one of toxic impermanence. It trains us to think about life as a never-ending series of goals. In high school, your goal is to get to college. In college, it’s to get a job. In the workforce, it’s to retire. Thinking like this leads students down paths without passion. These goals sit along a singular line which should, in theory, lead them to an eventual life of fulfillment. Deviation from these goals would prolong the path to fulfillment and therefore happiness with their achievements.

In reality, deviation is where the majority of us find out what truly fulfills us. We study history and learn that we love to cook Spanish foods or we skip class to go to a protest. These are not goals, they are random occurrences, and they can shape our being just as much as anything else. Happiness exists within the standard academic structure, but the narrow mindset that this structure falsely provides leads us to believe that it doesn’t exist on the outside.

The bottom line is that college readiness tests are prohibitive. They put us in boxes financially, spiritually and academically. College isn’t a singular experience; even those who study the same things will take incredibly different paths. It’s a fallacious exercise to enforce objective testing on a subjective educational system and life. Schools like Xavier are finally beginning to realize the damage these tests do, and it’s a step in the right direction to no longer require them for admission. We are finally starting to understand that we don’t have to limit ourselves just to succeed.

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Mo Juenger is a first-year Philosophy, Politics and the Public and Spanish double major. She is a guest writer for the Newswire from Kings Mills, Ohio.

@xaverinewswire September 4, 2019
Men’s soccer ranked No. 10 after upsetting Akron
Andy Fleming reaches 100-win milestone in victory over Eastern Illinois

By Joe Clark
Staff Writer

Xavier men’s soccer faced no easy task in their season opener last Friday night as the Musketeers faced off against the reigning National Championship runner-ups in No. 2/3 Akron.

The Musketeers fell 1-0 to Maryland in last season’s National Championship, and they were ranked No. 4/3 in the country when they visited No. 2/3 Akron.

However, their season didn’t open the way planned as Xavier pulled off a shocking upset with a 2-0 win in front of a packed crowd at the XU Soccer Complex.

Xavier picked up another win a few nights later, shutting out Eastern Illinois 3-0 in what was the 100th win of coach Andy Fleming’s career at Xavier.

The win was Xavier’s high-

est ranked win over an op-
ponent in the history of the XU Soccer Complex and im-
proved the Musketeers record against top-ten opponents to 1-0-0 since the 2010 season.

Heading into Monday night’s game against Eastern Illinois, Xavier was ranked No. 10 in the country by Top-100.

Xavier shut out Flyers, Richards scores second goal of year

By Joe Clark
Staff Writer

Xavier men’s soccer ranked No. 10 after upsetting Akron, redshirt junior midfielder Henderlong scored in the as freshman forward Karson quick start against Akron, career at Xavier.

Xavier extended its lead in the 77th as redshirt junior forward Samson Sergi’s head- er put Xavier ahead 2-0 in what would be the final goal of the game for either side.

That goal was the first of her career for Missouri, which was the first of her career for Missouri.

The Tigers extended their lead early in the second half after a goal from senior Pey-
ton Joseph, which was the first of her career for Missouri.

Xaveri quickly answered with a goal in the 77th minute when freshman forward Jack- ie Richards scored her second goal of the season.

That goal sliced the Mis-
souri lead in half at 2-1. In the 90th and final minute, junior forward Emily Burton scored off a rebound from a header by freshman midfield-
er Maddie Thiss.

The game was 2-0 until the second overtime pe- riod, when Missouri freshman Janna Singleton was brought down in the box, giving Mis-
souri a penalty kick.

Luebbert took the penalty for Missouri, and her shot went off the right post and into the back of the net to give Missouri the 3-2 win. With the win, Missouri improved to 4-0-0 on the year while Xavier dropped to 2-1-1.

It was the first matchup against Missouri in program history.

Xaveri will remain on the road this week, as they take on Kent State on Friday night at 7 p.m. before facing off with Akron on Sunday afternoon.

Xaveri’s next home match is Thursday, Sept. 12 at 7 p.m., when they’ll battle Northern Kentucky.

Volleyball

The Musketeers fell in their season opener against Southern Utah, who swept them in three games. However, Xavier rebounded nicely to bookend its trip to Utah with a big home victory, defeating Utah State 3-1 and Eastern Michigan 3-1.

Freshman right side hitter Lauren Harlon was named the Big East Fresh-
man of the Week and the All-Tournament team after collecting 40 overall kills while averaging double-digit kills in each match through-out the tournament.

Cross Country

Junior Anna Kostarellis headlined Xavier’s sea-son-opening Queen City Invitational hosted by Northern Kent-
ucky University Thursday.

She won the women’s individual title and posted a school-record breaking time of 17:07.80 in the 5k.

The women’s team won the overall team title by a large margin — the third meet championship in the last seven years.

Xaveri scored goals in each of its first two matches, including one from senior midfielder Carrie Lewis.

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Sports

Luck's early retirement prompts further questions

By Will Pembroke
Guest Writer

Let's set the stage. It's a relatively mild Saturday evening of NFL preseason action. Which week 3 of the tune-up games traditionally showcases an extended run for starters on both sides of the ball, this year has proven to be the exact opposite. NFL teams have decided they want to do all they can during the preseason to eliminate injury risk. No team wants a situation like the Houston Texans now have with star running back Lamar Miller out for the year with a knee injury. A particularly interesting case of this had been Indianapolis Colts star quarterback Andrew Luck.

A lower leg injury had hampere...
Swift’s newest album Lover shines

BY JOSEPH COTTON
Staff Writer
Two years removed from her last album, Reputation, and 13 years removed from her debut, the prolific Taylor Swift is back with her seventh commercially released album Lover. As an ode to love in all its messy forms, the album shines as a hotter smooth, euphorically care-free reflection on her love for life.

With this release, it feels like Swift has finally found the confidence in her sound and voice she has struggled with since switching from a young country artist to a leg- itimate pop superstar. Unlike her album 1989, Lover seems less like an album that chases the trendiest sounds. Although 1989 has a bit of Taylor Swift’s signature indie-pop influences on its sleeve drawing from artists like the 1975, Lorde and producer Jack Antonoff’s bands Bleachers.

In contrast, Lover has more of a “Taylor Swift” sound inspired while still maintaining the sleek aesthetic of mid-2010’s indie-pop. Lover is also a return to form for Taylor Swift, when compared to the melodramatic mess of the album Reputation. The unbearable moodiness of her last album is nowhere to be found on this one.

“The Man” stands out as a high point on the record. The song is a feminist anthem at its core but unlike many other top-40 songs on similar topics, it comes off as reflective and questioning instead of preachy. I appreciate how Swift reflects upon and deconstructs the double standards that women face. Despite its reflective tone, the song still has the abrasive energy of a hurriness in the woods looking for her kill. The song’s mantra, “I’m so sick of running as fast I can, wondering if I’d get there faster if I was a man” perfectly captures the feeling that many women and minorities have while going through life.

“False God” is a slower yet equally beautiful jam. The puny drums cut through the soft synth atmosphere and the sexy saxophone riffs all while Ms. Swift’s voice floats effortlessly on top. The wordplay is poignant as Swift equates love to a false religion. The line “make confessions, and we’re begging for forgiveness / got the wine for you” is an ex- ample of the ingenious lines sprinkled throughout the record.

Another one of my favorite songs was “ME” featuring Brendon Urie of Panic! at the Disco fame. The song is bright and fun as it features soaring harmonies and an energetic snare drum groove. It also has my favorite line on the entire album record as Urie says, “you can’t spell AWESOME without ME!” The lyric is absolutely hilarious and made me laugh out loud while I was listening to it for the first time.

Other highlights included “Cruel Summer,” “Paper Rings” and “London Boy.” The one thing that really shines is Lover back from being undisputedly her best work or one of the most essential albums of the decade is its long hour-and-six-minute run time. This album easily be cut down to about 14 minutes of the best songs. The songs “Archer,” “I Think He Knows,” Miss Americana and the Heartbreak Prince, “Afterglow,” and “Daylight” could all be cut and the album would be better for it. It’s not that these songs are inherently bad, but they are redundant and boring. I don’t think that Taylor Swift is versatile enough to warrant such a long run time.

In short, Lover is a shimmery fun, but long-wind- ed album with sharp lyricism and songwriting that repre- sents a new album in Taylor Swift’s best work. The album is perfect for long car rides or chilling in your dorm room with friends. So grab that guy you’ve been crushing over and a few gallons of gas and plan a spontaneous road trip to Columbus soundtracked to Tay- lor Swift’s newest album.

At long last, Tool fulfills promises of new album

BY ELLEN SIEFKE
Copy Editor
For 13 years, Tool fans waited. And waited. And waited. They got excited by suggestions of a new album, only to be let down. Memes piled up and tensions rose as side projects, legal issues and the band’s trademark perfectionism seemed to indicate a new album was just a dream.

Earlier this year, hope re- surfaced once again. Tool created an Instagram, announced its music would return to streaming services and, most importantly, gave a date: Aug. 30. Still, given the previous disappointments, fans like myself adopted an “I’ll believe it when I see it” attitude.

Then, Aug. 30 came, and Fear Inoculum appeared in my Spotify queue. At first, it seemed hard to believe. Was this album real, or was it an early-morning-commute-in- duced hallucination? The opening track’s long, winding intro and Middle Eastern-in- spired interludes certainly didn’t help.

And yet, that’s the gi- nius of Tool: This album is a true sonic experience, almost hypnotic in its effects. Frontman Maynard James Keenan (MJK) once said in an interview with Times Magazine, “The person who approached him during a show because it was his stage. I was reminded of that inter- view when listening to Fear Inoculum. This is Tool’s al- bum, Tool’s experience, and all we can do is let it happen.

That trademark hypnotic quality in Tool’s music is present immediately with the song “Lateralus.” Lines like “Con- tagion / Now I exhal your love / And Exhale, exhal / Recast my tale” are indeed exhaled, creating a cathartic effect for the listener. The 10-minute opener establishes a mellow atmosphere created by rapid-fire riffs and lengthy solos. You can’t help but os- cillate back and forth, carried by the music.

“Pneuma” follows, again offering a long, mellow intro. This track has a spiritual qual- ity to it, with MJK proclaim- ing that “We are born of one breath, one word / We are all one spark, sun becoming,” and Danny Carey’s staccato bass drum accents each syllable. This moment exemplifies the complexity that comes with a Tool album — and what makes it a true sonic experi- ence. The lyrics are deeply po- etic, defying simple explana- tion. Tool doesn’t let you get away with merely listening; you have to think about what you’re hearing.

Take the opening lines from “Invisible,” the fourth track: “Long in tooth and soul. Longing for another win / Lurch into the fray. Weap- on out and holy in / Warrior struggling to remain conse-quential.” The thoughts of an aging soldier, desperately trying to stay in battle-ready shape? A critique of a soci- ety focused on soundbites and edutainment? You tell me. The point is that Tool refuses to provide simple answers, of- fering neither easily explained lyrics nor readily replicated rhythms.

Nowhere is this refusal to simplify demonstrated more than on “Chocolate Chip Trips,” a conglomeration of drums, computer noises and ’80s dance music. I’m pretty sure it’s Carey’s interpreta- tion of an acid trip. As soon as the song ends, “tempes” places the lead guitar ring right back into Tool-land, confusing you all the more.

One noteworthy change from earlier albums is the role of instrumentation. Instrumental-heavy tracks, complete with an abundance of keyboard, do the heavy lifting, creating that raw feel normal- ly accentuated by MJR’s screams. On this album, however, be- cause the music relies so much on the instrumentation, the vocals don’t sound as dynamic. In fact, I cannot recall a single stream on any of the tracks.

Overall, this 86-minute al- bum is permed to tension. Tool best yet. Fear Inoculum delivers the progressive and sonic capabil- ities of Lateralus and 10,000 Days while adding to the aggression from Undertow and Æonema. It manages to be both backhandedly catalogue together, shake it up and pour out something fresh yet authentically Tool. Thirteen years is a long time to wait, but the wait was worth it.
Burning Man sets the world aflame

By Aleya Justison
Guest Writer

In its last weekend of exhibition, I ventured down to the Cincinnati Art Museum to witness firsthand some of the magic from the notorious Burning Man. When I first walked in, I felt like I had stepped into another realm. Big, illuminated mushroom sculptures opened and closed their caps above me like a living, breathing forest. However, they were far from being alive. Constructed out of panels of corrugated plastic, steel and neon lights, these art pieces were one of many featured in this past year’s Burning Man Festival, themed “No Spectators.” Like the year’s Burning Man Festival, these art pieces were one of many featured in this past year’s Burning Man Festival, themed “No Spectators.”

Simply put, the festival is an eccentric art show. Artists have been known to spend their whole year building massive sculptures, projects and presentations just to carry them to work to Burning Man. These artists, typically called “Burners,” insist that their pieces be interactive. In the Cincinnati exhibit, I witnessed a trailer made to look like a vintage theater, silent film with velvet stadium seating included. Another piece was an LED kaleidoscope of colors mounted to the ceiling, inviting participants to lay down and watch images bend overhead.

At the festival, the only expectation of participants is to live under the ten principles: radical inclusion, gifting, decommodification, radical self-expression, communal effort, civic responsibility, leaving no trace, participation and immediacy. From these guidelines, a dazzling array of people just as strange and diverse as the art they make — is born. From my perspective, they see art as an experience rather than an observation, seeing their creativity into the core of who they are. In addition to the construction of “the Man,” a team also builds what is called “the Temple” each year, giving a deeply spiritual aspect to the festival. Here, the ruckus of the festival is softened into contemplative silence. Burners are invited to write letters to their past selves, names of loved ones they have lost or worries that they are unable to let go of. On the last night of the festival, a more serene ceremony occurs: the burning of the Temple.

As crowd sizes increased, relocation was inevitable. Thus, in 1990, all were invited to witness it.

As I glanced over the overlapping responses, I had to hold back tears. “I want to be the man my wife married,” one person had written. “While others said they wanted to travel or live without fear.”

The mission of Burning Man that I had been trying to grasp all afternoon had finally set in: I understood how Travis’ life, his story, was something greater, like a burning inside me. Its fire was burning inside me, not just as strange and diverse as the art they make — is born. From my perspective, they see art as an experience rather than an observation, seeing their creativity into the core of who they are. In addition to the construction of “the Man,” a team also builds what is called “the Temple” each year, giving a deeply spiritual aspect to the festival. Here, the ruckus of the festival is softened into contemplative silence. Burners are invited to write letters to their past selves, names of loved ones they have lost or worries that they are unable to let go of. On the last night of the festival, a more serene ceremony occurs: the burning of the Temple.

Look Mom I Can Fly

By Gus Nations
Guest Writer

As an avid music listener, there are very few artists that keep me up half the night upon release days waiting for that artist’s new project. On Aug. 8, 2018, I stayed up all night as the long awaited Astroworld was finally slated to be released. I was not disappointed, and neither were the rest of Scott’s fans.

Fast forward one year and the hype for the album has still not died down. I don’t think there can be much debate when I say that 2018-2019 was the year of Travis Scott; countless sold out shows, a child, many many features on some of the hottest songs of the year and several Grammy nominations have all solidified the man as one of the most influential artists of this generation. And that was all before he released a documentary.

Generally, I’m not much of a documentary watcher. I just don’t see much entertainment value in watching a video full of facts that don’t appeal to me. So when he was announced to be releasing a documentary, I was prepared to break my rule of avoiding documentaries.

On August 28 I was again, disappointed. Look Mom I Can Fly provided exactly the bridge I needed for my curiosity about the performer to be quelled.

Opening with a montage of his “Wish You Were Here Tour” the intensity only grew as the story followed the making of Astroworld and the reception the album faced upon its release; a reception so intense that at one of his concerts, he was indicted for inciting a riot, despite “riot simply being the energy of the crowd during the performance.”

The lows were low and the highs were soaring high as Scott struggled to find perfection and chase “Hip Hop Album of the Year,” all while maintaining the unique composition that led to his rise in the first place.

The intimacy I spoke of was especially present. I didn’t watch a hip hop artist so much as a man giving his all to the world and hoping that it appreciated what he had to offer. I saw a man and his quest to fly. His story is the same as anyone else’s: one man’s quest to find his niche in the world. I think that is a very relatable message. It just so happened that while he was doing that, he managed to unify thousands of people under a common theme: It’s okay to be different.

In his words: It’s okay to rage. For me, the gap was bridged, and the man became less of a performer with an artificial persona and more of a real dude trying to find his way in the world while making people happy along the way.

It was really fascinating to see Scott struggle to find his place in the world. I’m looking forward to seeing what the future holds for the man who will undoubtedly continue to keep doing just that.
The Anti-Smoking Defamation League, America’s largest tobacco control organization, recently launched its latest anti-vape campaign titled “Stop Testing on Humans.” The campaign focuses on the lack of information available regarding the long-term health effects of vaping. The League is absolutely correct: we should not allow ourselves to become vape-industry lab rats. That important job must be left to government agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration. The government claims that problems linking vaping to health issues result from a lack of both test subjects and voluntary reporting. Considering that the majority of our generation is already addicted to nicotine and has no viable path towards quitting, we would be remiss to not capitalize on the population of test subjects.

Therefore, I propose legally requiring that every person living in the United States begin vaping and attending mandatory health screenings. We have too many unanswered questions about vaping: Maybe it causes cancer, maybe it leads to infertility or maybe it makes your toes fall off — but without testing, we simply won’t know.

The only way to find answers to these questions is to require every man, woman and child to begin sucking on the matte black sticks we all love so dear — without testing, we simply won’t know. But one of these days I’m sure you’ll change your mind.

If you don’t pick up, I’ll leave a message, that’s fine. Why does this phone say that my call was just declined? If you get into a boxing match, you’d be solved with an end-of-a-Tarantino-movie spontaneous bloodbath. You’ve been way too chatty recently. This week, be the person in the group that stands at the side and doesn’t contribute anything to the conversation. Just provide a laugh track for the main characters’ jokes.

Find the answer key in next week’s (9/11/19) issue!

**Features**

**Aries:** The stars are in your corner this week. If you get into a boxing match, they’ll be there between rounds to put a towel around your neck and spray water into your mouth.

**Taurus:** It’s about time you settle down and choose a look for the year. You know, that one classic outfit you would hypothetically wear everyday if life were a cartoon.

**Gemini:** It’s nice to get ahead in life, but there are some things you just have to wait for. For example, if you put your lettuce on your sandwich before you toast it, that’s a little gross. Consider what the lettuce is on your real-life sandwich.

**Cancer:** There is no problem that can’t be solved with an end-of-a-Tarantino-movie spontaneous bloodbath.

**Leo:** Head down to the crossroads at midnight so you can sell your soul to the devil. It’s not worth much, but you aren’t using it anyway.

**Virgo:** You possess a lot of confidence in your spiritual assumptions about the world, but if a prophecy didn’t come from a southern priest proselytizing you in a pop-up tent in a field, can it really be trusted?

**Libra:** You’ve been way too chatty recently. This week, be the person in the group that stands at the side and doesn’t contribute anything to the conversation. Just provide a laugh track for the main characters’ jokes.

**Scorpio:** Sometimes in life, you fail to see how many options you truly have! The last time Goku went Super Saiyan and blew that out of the water! Oh, and you thought that was it? Never give up that easy, because you can’t forget about Super Saiyan II with the blue hair.

**Sagittarius:** Remember that being memorable isn’t everything. Sure, you may not remember the film G-Force from 2009, but that doesn’t mean it isn’t the best movie about guinea pig spies you can watch.

**Capricorn:** Don’t forget that you can always do better! There was once a time when it was crazy that Goku’s power level could be over 9000, but then he went Super Saiyan and blew that out of the water! Oh, and you thought that was it? Never give up that easy, because you can’t forget about Super Saiyan II with the blue hair.

**Aquarius:** Jupiter can sense your loneliness. Sign up for some of those political text chains so you can at least get occasional texts, even if they’re about reforming net neutrality.

**Pisces:** It’s important to never give up on yourself! Sure, you may just be a college student now but that doesn’t mean you won’t find success down the line! Fact: the man who played Mr. Freeze in Batman and Robin was once just a lowly governor of California. Talk about a glow-up.