BY HANNAH MILLER

Guest Writer

Students who find themselves roaming the second floor of Alter Hall late enough on a Friday night might just stumble upon a cinematic surprise.

Now a month into the school year, students have started to fall into the pattern of day-to-day life. A particular group of first-year students living in Husman who bonded during Manresa have made it a habit to meet in Alter on Friday nights to watch movies together.

The weekly ritual started out with watching movies required for a class and has since evolved.

Iain Kirby, a first-year exercise science major, said that one Friday night a group of students wanted to watch IT, so they gathered in Alter 204 until 2 a.m. Kirby and fellow first-years Seth Birch and Ben Thomson are considered the founders of this group, which is largely required for a class and has since evolved.

This past Friday, for instance, the group decided to watch two creepy classics: Halloween and Friday the 13th.

“We’re the three main people that help facilitate,” Kirby said, “but then the movies are suggested in the group chat where people will say ‘This week, we wanna watch comedies, we wanna watch horror.’”

Kirby added that the film fanatics have made Alter their movie headquarters, despite having space readily available in the basement of Husman.

“The basement gets really hot really easily, and I know that for a lot of people that’s a problem,” Kirby said.

Luckily, Alter has proven to be both comfortable and convenient.

“We decided that Alter has bigger screens and has two of them, so you don’t have to focus your direction on one. Half the people can look at one, the other half can look at another, and it gets us out of our area, gets us out of Husman, so we’re not just constantly in the same area all the time,” Kirby said.

Despite the group having grown since their initial informal meeting, their viewing circumstances have not changed.

“204 Alter is the constant place we go to,” Kirby said. “In 10% of the time, we’d be in there. The only time we wouldn’t be is if another group already went there, but we usually do it.”

The group has not run into this problem much, particularly since they tend to begin the movies after 10:00 p.m., Kirby explained.

“Most people don’t want to be at a classroom (at that time) and most people who do watch movies, they do it earlier, I guess,” Kirby said.

Senior economics, sustainability and society major Margaret Bond thinks the group is a great opportunity for first-years.

“(The idea) is awesome,” Bond said. “That is so great. I wish I had that when I was a freshman. Just people connecting together that’s really awesome.”

First-year exploratory major Katherine Harr proposed that the students try to become a formal organization on campus.

“It’d be really cool to make it a club,” Harr said. “That way you could get school funding to rent movies, buy snacks, or take trips to see new releases in theaters.”

Thomson and Birch both agreed with Harr’s idea of forming a club.

“Yeah, that’d be so fun,” Thomson said. “(Kirby) has been buying all the movies. Come by, see what it’s like and hopefully don’t get scared away by our dark sense of humor.”

Students interested in attending one of the movie nights can go to Alter 204 on any given Friday night — residence in Husman Hall is not required.

The movies usually begin between 10 and 10:30 p.m. Anyone with questions or future movie suggestions can contact Birch at birchs@xavier.edu, Kirby at kirbyi@xavier.edu or Thomson at thomsonb@xavier.edu.

March 2023

Tess Brewer’s dictionary

Check out guest writer Tess Brewer’s dictionary of words to use while in the caf.
Fortin publishes his ninth book
In his new work, retired professor shares his insights about American ideals

Dr. Roger Fortin, a retired Xavier professor of history, published his ninth book, How the Ideals of America’s Founders Lead Us to Purposeful Living.

The premise of Fortin’s book is to investigate how Americans apply the ideals of the Founding Fathers, particularly the notion of the American Dream: one for all and all for one,” citizens define their goal, their dream, in a manner that is realistic and in keeping with your unique talents and personality,” he writes. “Indeed, a basic right of the American Dream is America’s promise and to bring them to the attention of his students as a way to hopefully create a better future,” Fairfield said. “I think that aligns with what he tried to do as a teacher, too.”

Fortin decided to donate all proceeds from the book to Xavier. Furthermore, members of Fortin’s family have donated copies of his book that are available for all Xavier alumni in the Alumni Office.

Fortin’s new book is currently available for purchase on Amazon, various online platforms and other local retailers.
Launching the College of Nursing

By Sayo Jolayemi
Guest Writer

The Board of Trustees voted in May to implement a new fourth college, the College of Nursing, to join the three preexisting independent colleges: the College of Arts and Sciences the College of Professional Sciences and the Williams College of Business.

According to the Xavier website, this decision is intended to support anticipated growth in nursing students. Currently, Xavier offers an accelerated Bachelor’s in Science degree, as well as an undergraduate degree in nursing. Programs like these entice students such as first-year nursing major Madison Martinez. “The direct admit program here (at Xavier) puts you in the program freshman year, and that was a big thing for me,” she said.

Presently, there are 1,100 nursing students enrolled in Xavier’s program, a number that has been on the rise the past few years.

The College of Nursing was created to help accommodate this growing population on campus, as many benefits could come from this new classification.

Dr. Debbie VanKuiken, the director of the new college, said she is excited to help lead the charge for prospective nursing students at Xavier. She added that the creation of a College of Nursing allows for a newfound autonomy and more interaction with Provost and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Melissa Baumann.

Because a university’s provost plays an important role in academic and research affairs, achieving more streamlined access to this source could strengthen the ability right now to make programs outside of campus.

VanKuiken also explained that in day-to-day activities, students may only notice subtle changes. It was clear that a major perk of being recognized as an independent school was “the addition of permanent faculty of committees, thus giving nursing

Student worker feature: student ambassadors

By Mo Jungren
Staff Writer

The job of student ambassador is often synonymous with that of a tour guide, but they additionally file paperwork, work and send out information to prospective and admitted students. As tour guides, they show off the university to prospective students and their families.

First-year Philosophy, Politics, and the Public (PPP) major Sophia Gentile has been a student ambassador with the Office of Admissions for two weeks now, and she is excited about the opportunities this job brings.

“I love this job because it allows me to meet more people… Everyone is super nice and willing to help. They’re very genuine,” Gentile said regarding the incoming students she gives tours to and the upperclassmen with whom she works.

This position is one of many that Xavier offers as work-study positions. Gentile discovered this opportunity through the Student Employment Job Fair held at the beginning of the semester.

Training for the student ambassador position is some-what more rigorous than that of other on-campus jobs. New student workers shadow tours given by experienced tour guides, then give their own mock tour to a group of their peers before beginning tours for families. They must also pass a written exam on statistics regarding Xavier.

“I had to do three shadow tours and a mock tour, which is when you give your version of the tour to other student ambassadors and tour guides. That’s just to make sure you have all your information right, all the basics on how to give a tour: face towards the family, walk backwards, speak loud, all that,” Gentile said.

Students who work in the Office of Admissions rely not only on their knowledge of campus, but also on personal ability and self-expression.

Student ambassadors are required to incorporate personal experiences and advice into their tours, something Gentile has found more difficult than others might. “I’ve only been on campus for about a month, so I haven’t had as many campus experiences as some upperclassmen,” she said.

Gentile also said that having an on-campus job as a first-year student can be challenging early in the semester. “It was definitely a big transition to all these college classes,” she said, and “then with this job you also have to learn so many statistics and facts about places on the campus that I’ve only been on for a week.”

A more experienced student ambassador, sophomore computer science major Marianna Salazar, reflects on her time as a tour guide.

“I love Xavier, and I like representing Xavier in the best way I possibly can,” she said. “Xavier has a big heart and a lot to offer, and being a tour guide allows me to express that and show that community to prospective students.”

A perspective shared by both Gentile and Salazar is that this job’s ability to help students branch out of their comfort zone. “I am naturally introverted and I don’t like being outgoing,” Salazar remarks, “but being a tour guide has helped me be more social, outgoing, and has taught me how to speak in public and engage with people from different backgrounds.”

The Office of Admissions is located in Schott Hall, and is open Monday through Friday. Student ambassadors can be seen walking around campus with groups or individuals throughout the week.

September 16
Student Government Association Meeting Recap

- “Your School, Your Questions” will be happening on Sept. 24 from 5 – 7 p.m. in Galagher Student Center (GSC). This event is made specifically to address any questions students may have for administrators, including Father Graham. BDA, the SGA executive board, will also be present.

- The Xavier Police Department is offering “Active Shooter Awareness Training” for anyone who wishes to be more informed and prepared in case of an emergency. The next training is this Saturday in the GSC Clock Tower Lounge from 10 – 11 a.m.

- Senators El-Ansary and Townsend are enthusiastic about the potential of creating an event for students that will provide information on nutrition and how to eat healthier while in college. More information to come.

Photo courtesy of Marina Salazar
Student Ambassadors are employees of the Admissions Office, and their primary responsibility is giving campus tours to prospective students.
CIA spy extracted after fears for safety

Secret government agent was in Russian President Vladimir Putin’s inner circle

By Charlie Gustader
Staff Writer

A top spy for the CIA was extracted after fears for his safety, according to recent reports from CNN. For more than a decade, the CIA had been successfully grooms a midlevel Russian government official, to be its primary Kremlin source. Eventually, the spy was able to reach the highest levels of the Russian government, being close enough to photograph key documents on Russian President Vladimir Putin’s desk.

CNN reported on Sept. 9 that in early 2017, the CIA was forced to extract one of its top spies from Russia. The informant was one of the most valuable assets to the CIA since he was able to relay information directly from Putin. It was reported by CNN that this spy was the person responsible for notifying the U.S. government of Russian attempts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election.

CNN obtained its information from anonymous sources in the U.S. government. The New York Times also reported that after the CIA first offered to remove the informant over fears of their safety, the spy refused. The decision to extract the spy was made shortly after President Donald Trump dismissed highly classified intelligence with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and then-Russian Ambassador to the U.S. Sergey Kislyak in May 2017.

This disclosure to the Russian officials, while not about the spy specifically, sparked new discussions about extracting the spy.

Fears were escalated when Trump confiscated the interpreter’s notes from his meeting with Putin at the G20 summit in Hamburg, Germany.

The second time the CIA offered an extraction, the spy agreed.

The informant allegedly revealed that in the closing days of the 2016 presidential election, intelligence with Russian Foreign Intelligence, said he had no doubt that revelations about the extraction were going to make recruiting assets in Russia even more difficult than it already is.

The CIA extracted a top spy in Russia because of fears for its safety in 2017. The spy was allegedly close enough to Russian President Vladimir Putin that he could take photos of important documents on his desk, according why they would pull our top informant when to the public, it makes it look like we’re doing Putin a favor... but it just makes it more suspicious than it already is,” first-year Philosophy, Politics and the Public major Kathleen O’Connor said.

“It makes sense to pull him... The dead can’t do anything for us. We now have stuff we can pull from in future interactions in Russia,” first-year biomedical science major Elaina Sperry said.

Russia used Interpol to request that the U.S. reveal information regarding a former Kremlin official who disappeared while on vacation in Montenegro in 2017.

Russia believes this official is the spy in question.

Russian state sponsored news agencies have begun publishing reports that the man believed to be the informant was a low-level member of the government who had been fired years ago.

James R. Clapper, Jr., the former Director of National Intelligence, said he had no knowledge of the decision to conduct an extraction.

He also told The New York Times that “there was little doubt that revelations about the extraction were going to make recruiting assets in Russia even more difficult than it already is.”

The Week in Review: No Police Notes Edition

Snapping, “THE™,” 112th birthday, Field of Flames, pigeon pooping politician and Florida couple

• An Idaho man set a new Guinness World Record by snapping 98 pencils in one minute. The man holds more than 100 other records and set this one after speaking at a conference about STEM education (Sept. 11).

• A baby born on 9/11 at 9:11 p.m. weighing 9 pounds, 11 ounces, brought her family a “piece of joy” on an otherwise somber day. The baby was delivered at a hospital in Tennessee and came home a few days later (Sept. 11).

• The Italian region of Molise is offering to pay up to $770 a month for three years to encourage people to move there and start a business. Antonio Tedeschi, who proposed the plan, said he wants the region to “undergo a renaissance” (Sept. 12).

• A New York woman celebrated her 112th birthday. Erminsna Theodore moved to the United States from Haiti in 1943 and settled in Queens. Family members said she only recently stopped walking (Sept. 13).

• An 18-carat gold toilet was stolen from Blenheim Palace, Wisbech, England's birthplace. Crafted by an Italian artist, the toilet was fully functioning, and its removal caused plumbing damage (Sept. 14).

• A baby girl was born on a high-speed train (Sept. 12).

• A Florida couple stopped for bicycling with their dog and had sex in a deputy’s patrol car before one of them fled naked. The two now face charges of resisting arrest with violence, committing a lascivious act and exposing sexual organs (Sept. 17).

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- An 18-carat gold toilet was stolen from Blenheim Palace, Wisbech, England’s birthplace. Crafted by an Italian artist, the toilet was fully functioning, and its removal caused plumbing damage (Sept. 14).

- A game between the Tennessee Titans and Indianapolis Colts got off to a flaming start when a pyrotechnics machine fell, causing a section of the turf to catch fire. The machine also shot flames toward spectators, but no one was injured (Sept. 15).

- A pigeon relieved itself on a high-speed train (Sept. 12).

- A Florida couple stopped for bicycling with their dog and had sex in a deputy’s patrol car before one of them fled naked. The two now face charges of resisting arrest with violence, committing a lascivious act and exposing sexual organs (Sept. 17).
Democrats hold third primary debate
Xavier students skeptical as deadline to qualify for Oct. 15 debate approaches

By MO JUENGER
Staff Writer

Xavier students gathered to watch the third Democratic presidential primary debate at a watch party in the Clock Tower Lounge on Sept. 12. This was the first debate to be held in one night, with fewer candidates onstage than the two previous events.

The debate featured nine candidates vying to be the Democratic Party’s presidential candidate: former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro; entrepreneur Andrew Yang; former Congressman Beto O’Rourke; South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg; Senators Amy Klobuchar, Kamala Harris, Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren and former Vice President Joe Biden.

Biden began the debate as the number one candidate in the polls. Throughout the debate he frequently mentioned former President Barack Obama. “I think we should have a debate on health care. I know that the senator says ‘Biden/Biden, I’m for Barack,’ Biden said at one point.

Some students thought the references were overdone. “I think (Biden) definitely over-referenced his past candidacy. As a first-year biomedical sciences major Dominic Stanely said.

On stage, Yang made an announcement that he will give 10 families $1,000 a month for a year as part of his ‘Freedom Dividend’ policy proposal, regardless of the primary election outcomes. It is unclear if this promise may break campaign finance laws.

In one of the more memorable lines of the debate, O’Rourke claimed, “Hell yes, we’ll take your AR-15, your AK-47.”

Some students criticized the feasibility of this plan and O’Rourke’s rhetorical approach. “Saying he’s going to take your guns, that’s not going to happen,” junior finance major Alex Nemechek, said. “He’s just helping the Republicans out.”

Harris and Klobuchar both expressed criticism of President Donald Trump in their opening statements. “Trump ... reminds me of that guy over there,” junior business major Dominick Barbarisch said.

When you pull back the curtain, he’s a really small dude.”

Warren and Buttigieg told about their pasts and defining moments of resilience throughout their lives. Warren spoke of her days as a teacher for children with disabilities, and Buttigieg recalled coming out as gay for the first time.

The candidates also spent time supporting the party through the primary. We have to know what we are about and this election is not about any of us up here, it is not about this president. “(It is about the) people who trust us with their lives,” said Buttigieg.

The next debate will be held on Oct. 15 with the possibility of another debate night on Oct. 16, depending on the number of qualifying candidates. In addition to those present at the Sept. 12 debate, Tom Steyer has already qualified to participate.

Tulsi Gabbard and Marianne Williamson have met the individual donor requirement to qualify for the debate.

Gabbard needs only one poll and Williamson needs three polls that have them at 2% in order to qualify.

This debate will be held at Otterbein University in Ohio and will be co-hosted by CNN and the New York Times.

By ELLEN SIEFKE
Staff Writer

A case that embroiled Warren County for two years ended on Friday when Brooke “Skylar” Richardson was sentenced to seven days in jail and three years of probation after being convicted of abuse of a corpse.

She was found not guilty on charges, only convicting Richardson of abuse of a corpse.

Skylar Richardson will serve three years’ probation for abuse of a corpse.

Skylar Richardson convicted of abusing a corpse

Skylar Richardson will serve three years’ probation for abuse of a corpse.
Take the long way around campus

On an average day, I exceed upward of 11,000 steps from merely walking to and from buildings throughout campus. There are days, few and far between, where I have no more than 3,000 steps, and those are the days (mostly on the weekends) when I know I have been extra lazy. There are also those times when my Fitbit will inform me I have managed to walk more than 16,000 steps, a revelation I find equally impressive and repulsive.

One recent day, I found myself walking from the café to Gallagher. Unconsciously, I was walking along one of the paths leading to the front of Bellarmine. From there, I proceeded to walk down the hill toward Brockman, making a 90-degree left turn to enter Gallagher.

There was nothing odd or unusual about my path of choice, but it occurred to me I could have made the same journey a whole lot quicker if I had simply walked straight across the yard. However, that would have required me to leave the comfort of the beige and gray stones that line our campus.

I began thinking to myself, why don’t I ever walk across the grass? It is not like the grass is dangerous or totally off limits or a gross mud pit. After all, students venture into the grass to relax or study all the time. I almost anywhere else in the world, I would fearlessly cross a patch of grass if it were the most convenient way to get from point A to point B. Instead, on campus I find myself taking hundreds of extra steps, that are completely unnecessary.

Why do we as a community not cut across the grass when walking from building to building?

To the best of my knowledge, there is no written rule that prohibits students from walking on the grass. It is not like anyone forces students to stick to the paths — after all, we are not soldiers in boot camp. In many situations, cutting across the grass would save precious amounts of time, something we all could use a little more of at the end of the day. Many could get to class faster than by sticking to the designated paths and the accessibility they provide.

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I do not believe this is the conscious choice of students by any means. It is something that just naturally becomes a part of who we are. We move around ever so smoothly without even realizing it.

I know that if some people felt as though they had an option, they would tear through the earthy terrain without thought. Sticking to the designated paths feels like one of those skills that are unknowingly learned early in life, like how and where to use your ALL Card. It is something you inadvertently continue to do until you graduate.

This is not to say that Xavier is lacking in pathways, because it seems impossible to get from one building to another without some stone walkway to guide the way. As a matter of fact, I would even praise the university for its accessibility they provide.

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In July of 2004, a study was released by Global Environmental Change analyzing a collection of 636 articles from various newspapers, including the New York Times and the Washington Post, published between the years 1988 and 2002. The study demonstrated that newspapers gave equal amounts of coverage to climate change deniers as climate scientists. According to the article, this ratio is a result of the American media’s objective of providing balanced coverage of issues. This objective leads to “biased coverage of both anthropogenic contributions to global warming and resultant action,” according to the study.

Now, hopefully, we can agree that giving equal coverage to a fringe theory and presenting it as equally legitimate as the view of the scientific community is bad. The mass media plays a key role in shaping issues and the public’s understanding of them.

It is therefore damaging to present climate change denial as legitimate because it devalues scientific consensus in public opinion. Unfortunately, this study points to a larger problem in American media: an obsession with “balanced” reporting.

I’m sure that most people would disagree with the idea that a focus on balanced reporting is bad. In an era marked by political strife and polarization, it would seem obvious that the only way to save our democracy from extremism is balance. However, I would argue that the damage done to American democracy is in large part the result of the media’s cult of balance and that the media was never balanced in the first place.

When Donald Trump became the Republican nominee in 2016, he had 3,500 law suits. As an average person, I bet you anything that one of the major reasons is monetary incentive. All five of the most popular news outlets in the United States are privately owned and ultimately aim to make money for their shareholders. When asked about the Trump campaign in 2016, CBS CEO Leslie Moonves stated, “It may not be good for America, but its damn good for CBS.” If a news outlet does not present so-called balanced journalism, it faces a drop in ratings along with a loss of profits. In fact, many journalists have stated the reason the American media is bad at reporting climate change is that ratings drop whenever climate change is reported on. The corporate nature of American media has been a detriment to its integrity as an institution dedicated to factual reporting and information.

While the aforementioned quote from Leslie Moonves is rather depressing to read, it also presents a solution to the corporate nature of American media. A news outlet that does not have to worry about ratings, one of the best examples of this is the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), which is tax funded and affected less by ratings. However, an American BBC is not enough. As a society, we must drop the obsession with balance that has been plant ed in us and seek fact-based solutions to issues at hand. We cannot allow ideas of false balance to halt progress. And above all, we must hold the media accountable for their actions.

All right, I joked about this in the Features section two weeks ago, but now I’m actually serious, I think. For those unfamiliar with what I’m talking about, throughout the past few months, reports of an unknown vaping-related lung illness have been spreading. The victims have been young, able-bodied and otherwise healthy. Doctors are becoming increasingly worried, and politicians are reviewing possible bans.

The death toll just hit six. Let that sink in. Six people are dead. Six healthy, young, fit people are dead. Lawmakers and doctors are urging people to stop vaping. Major newspapers are listing symptoms in an effort to stop the madness. Hospitals are scrambling to stop the use of vaping devices. We don’t know why this is happening. We don’t know where this is coming from.

So, I’ve begun to ask myself, is this really how I die? Not from a military grade yet somehow legal weapon being fired in a crowded space? Not from a drunk driver or a blown tire? Not from a collapsing bridge or by being drafted to fight an enemy I don’t know in a country I don’t want to be in for a nation I’m not even sure love? Not in a hate crime for being different or from falling down the stairs? Not from a fire? Not from a gas leak? Not from an allergic reaction? Not from an opioid epidemic caused by a necessary surgery? Not from old age with my memory and loved ones at my bedside, drifting peacefully off into oblivion?

Am I really going to die from this, a lung? Am I really going to die because when I was 16 years old, anxious and depressed and on crutches from an injury in a sport I m i g h t n e v e r r e t u r n to. I felt my t u m u s m y b o d y not matter any more because I wasn’t a runner anymore. I was broken, not looking for an addiction. Because the shell of myself that existed in 2017 hobbled into the dark corner store that didn’t ID and asked the man for a starter pack? Because I felt the nothing and the world was all dark and I needed something, some chemical to help me out a little bit? Because everyone was doing it in the bathrooms and on the trains and at parties and in no one’s care? Because it looked cool? Because my favorite fruit is mango and the orange capped pod happened to hold juice in that sweet, sweet flavor?

Is this really how I die? Not suddenly or expectedly or happily or sadly? But hooked up to a ventilator in a hospital bed because the shell of myself that existed in 2017 hobbled into the dark corner store that didn’t ID and asked the man for a starter pack? Because the shell of myself that existed in 2017 hobbled into the dark corner store that didn’t ID and asked the man for a starter pack? Because the shell of myself that existed in 2017 hobbled into the dark corner store that didn’t ID and asked the man for a starter pack? Because the shell of myself that existed in 2017 hobbled into the dark corner store that didn’t ID and asked the man for a starter pack? Because the shell of myself that existed in 2017 hobbled into the dark corner store that didn’t ID and asked the man for a starter pack?

Maybe unlike being murdered for a momentary head rush? From USB style sticks? From big tobacco’s death rattle? Or maybe not. Maybe this will be the thing they fix. Maybe unlike being murdered in a church basement, sky-rocketing rates of suicide and lead in our drinking water, this will be the thing that sparks change. Maybe because “She’s got a son,” this will be what forces regulation, legislation and all the other-ations that exist. Because we all know that no law to help stop gun violence will pass until one of these senseless tragedies hits the political sphere, until it is a senator or president’s child who dies as one casual ty amongst a bloody heap of bodies, torn apart from weapons we designed to kill opposing soldiers.

But those politicians do have kids, and those kids might too become victims of the latest evolution of ciga rettes. So maybe, just maybe, this isn’t how I die after all.
Women’s soccer captures victory against NKU

Bahr scores first goal of season, Jakovich named Defensive Player of Week

By Joe Clark
Staff Writer

Xavier women’s soccer posted a 1-0-1 record last week, beating Northern Kentucky 4-0 at the SUX Soccer Complex on Thursday night before taking on Cincinnati at Nippert Stadium in the Queen City Derby. The two teams battled for 110 minutes, but neither side could find the back of the net as they settled with a 0-0 draw in double overtime.

Xavier was active offensively in the first half against Northern Kentucky, outshooting the Norse 10-0, but the Musketeers were unable to find the back of the net. They finally broke through in the 84th minute when red-shirt senior forward Samanththa Dewey scored off of a feed from sophomore forward Grace Brauer.

Xavier didn’t score again until the 80th minute, when senior midfielder Grace Bahr curled a shot just inside the post to find the back of the net. The Musketeers were unable to find the back of the net as the Norse 10-0, but Northern Kentucky, out-shooting the Musketeers 14-0 season.

It’s the second week in a row in which Xavier’s defense has been named Defender of the Week, as Bahr received the honor last week. Dewey was also named to the Big East weekly honor roll for the third time this season.

The Musketeers are back in action on the road against Miami (Ohio) on Friday.

Xavier announces 2019-20 HoF class

By Luke Feliciano
Sports Editor

Xavier athletics will add five members to its Hall of Fame in January.

Former Xavier athletes Justin Doellman (’07), Michael Hawkins (’95), Nick Hagglund (’14), Scott Gordon (’89) and Katie Pleiman (’13) will be honored to bring the total number of enshrined Musketeers to 143 members.

Doellman was a four-year starter on the men’s basketball team as a forward and was part of Xavier’s first-ever NCAA Elite Eight team in 2004 when he was a freshman.

Throughout his Xavier career, he helped Xavier make two NCAA Tournament appearances.

At the time of his playing career, Xavier competed in the Atlantic 10 (A-10) Conference and won A-10 Championships in 2004 and 2006.

Doellman started 123 out of 132 possible games as a Musketeer and recorded team bests in rebounding and blocks blocked in his final three seasons. He ranks third in program history with 132 members.

Derrick Otim each scored a goal.

Volleyball

The Musketeers fall in both of their contests over the weekend at the Lipscomb Tournament. Xavier lost to Lipscomb 3-1 and to No. 22 Louisville 3-0. Redshirt freshman outside hitter Lauren Hanlon had one of the best outings of her college career against Lipscomb, collecting 19 kills on a hitting percentage of .500.

Cross Country

The women’s team placed ninth out of 20 teams while the men’s team placed 13th out of 15 teams at the Commodore Classic. Junior Anna Kostarellis posted a new personal-best time of 22:40.40 in the 6K race. She ran the final leg and placed fifth individually in the 6K race. On the men’s side, junior Brady Harless was the top finisher with a time of 25:56.50 in the 8K race.
Esports character analysis: Banjo & Kazooie duo

By David Ludwig

Guest Writer

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate has recently added another character to its already impressive roster of video game icons: Banjo & Kazooie. Nintendo released the duo in the popular fighting game during its “Fighters Pass” expansion after teasing the release earlier in the popular fighting game.

Debuting in the 1998 platforming game of the same name, animal duo Banjo & Kazooie bears similarities to the current Duck Hunt as both feature two characters that function as a single fighter.

On the ground, the duo boasts decent mobility with a quick dash speed and a roll that can cover a large amount of distance. The dash attack is average when compared to other options but is still a viable option.

While their jab is slow, the new fighters tilt attacks come out quickly and up tilt can put some pressure on opponents coming from above, although the attack has a somewhat small space where it hits. The duo’s forward smash attacks are relatively slow, while up smash and down smash present large down smash also dealing around 20% to the opponent.

Throws are serviceable, if a little weak, except for down throw, which buries opponents and pairs well with forward smash, and back throw, which is a great option to take a stock at high percentages.

Even though one of them is a bird, Banjo & Kazooie are less than spectacular in the air. Their midair jumps don’t cover a lot of distance. The character does come with two of them to make up for that.

Their aerial attacks lack range and most also lack power except for forward aerial, which is another viable option to secure a stock at middle to high percentages depending on how close to the edge of the stage both combatants are.

Special moves are nothing most veteran players haven’t seen before, though they are still reliable in a variety of situations.

Banjo & Kazooie’s neutral special move fires out a bouncing projectile and can be repeatedly pressed or held to rapidly fire multiple projectiles that travel in a straight line. While it does little damage, the move still has the potential to interrupt an opponent’s attacks and boasts a decent range.

The up特殊 move is less impressive, with the pair creating a small platform that they jump off to gain height and the platform dealing a small amount of damage if it hits a fighter. The down special move sees a bouncing explosive launched behind the pair that can be used to guard against opponents that dodge behind the duo.

The greatest move in this fighter’s arsenal is the side special, a charging attack that takes prioritization in front of every other move in the game and bashes through notoriously powerful moves such as Gannondorf’s neutral special and even Final Smashes.

However, the pair only receives five uses of this move for each stock. It is possible to dodge or shield against this move. They have a slight lead open after the moves completion, and with precise timing, they can be grabbed, canceling the rest of the move.

They play well on the ground if players keep their limitations in mind and take advantage of the mobility options presented to them.

The character’s aerial combat is below average, but the pair can still occupy heavy characters like Bowser.

Banjo & Kazooie’s special move provides unique edge and are useful in most situations, though players should always be mindful that their size is quite noticeable.

With patience, players can master the abilities granted to this dynamic duo by morphing the character into a force to be reckoned with.

Overall, Banjo & Kazooie make a special addition to the cast of fighters.

California passes bill to pay student-athletes

Opinion: Athletes ought to be compensated for the use of their likenesses

By Will Pembroke

Guest Writer

College athletes took another step toward the monetization of their abilities on the field last week.

The California State Senate passed a new version of the “Fair Pay To Play Act” that, if signed, would allow student-athletes to profit off their names and likenesses. The bill directly pushes back against the NCAA’s mandate that student-athletes be amateurs.

Under the provisions of the bill, student-athletes could be paid to do things like sign autographs, participate in advertisements and sell their name rights to video game makers. Proponents of the bill argue that allowing NCAA athletes to profit off their names and likenesses is a logical step. However, not everyone agrees.

The NCAA is a firm believer in the amateur status of its athletes — defined as playing a sport non-professionally and therefore not getting paid for it.

That single term has allowed the NCAA to monopolize college sports, taking the profits for itself.

Student-athletes do not see any of that profit reflected in their bank accounts. That single term has allowed the NCAA to monopolize college sports, taking the profits for itself.

The NCAA has already threatened to remove bowl and tournament eligibility for schools that choose to pay players. Not being able to par- ticipate in these tournaments would lead to a sizeable financial loss for athletic programs.

This would also be a turn-on for students and their families attending these schools who want to showcase their talents on the field.

While this bill is a small step to correct a longstanding issue, it is more than has been done in recent memory.

California’s recently passed Fair Pay To Play Act threatens to cause upheaval in college sports because it would challenge the amateur status of student-athletes. The NCAA does not allow athletes to be paid.

By focusing on Division I football and basketball once again, people on college campuses know why these athletes are where they are. They are on campus for their talent and ability, reflected in the amount of time spent at mandatory team activities.

Student-athletes have significantly less time and energy in their days to focus on rigorous, time-consuming academic schedules. As a result, athletes are pushed to take more relaxed classes with non-specific majors, that is, if they even stay the full amount of time required to complete a degree.

All in all, the collegiate athletic systems are set up for the NCAA to profit from athletes’ talent and performance.

Coaches, NCAA executives and schools end up rewarded the most for housing talented players who choose to attend their institution.

Circling back to the California bill, seeking to get passed, there are potential implications for both sides of the argument.

While California schools can indeed allow their athletes to profit off their name and likenesses, it may not be advantages for their doing so.

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While their jab is slow, the attack has a somewhat coming from above, although out quickly and up tilt can put one down. The character’s aerial attacks lack any of that profit reflected in their bank accounts. That single term has allowed the NCAA to monopolize college sports, taking the profits for itself.

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Opinion: Kanye’s Ye represents mental struggles

By Charlie Gstalder

Whether snatching trophies during the VMAs or proudly donning a MAGA hat, Kanye West has never been afraid to state his opinions. It is this very principle that prompts others to express their disgust toward him, calling him a narcissistic egomaniac. Yet it is exactly this principle that makes his art so interesting and so well understood, except for Ye, West’s 2018 release.

Following a tumultuous few years of backlash for his support of Trump, a brief hospitalization, an admission of his struggles with bipolar disorder and a single with the lyrics “poopy-di-scoop,” West released Ye. Fitting with his previous works, Ye’s theme of mental illness is obvious. And yet unlike his other works, Ye is not understood, Ye is hated. I am not a Kanye West super fan, and I do not normally write album reviews, but I do have a mental illness. So allow me to try to explain Ye, Kanye West’s only perfect project.

Ye is an enigma. By my definition of good albums, this is not a good album. It is hastily created, poorly executed, choppy and uncertain of itself. And yet, I could not imagine it any other way. Despite its flaws, or perhaps directly because of them, Ye is a powerful statement regarding mental health. The ugly and jarring backtracks are the only way one can describe the sound of a sick mind. They are auditory anxiety. The lyrics reference the struggle between wanting to be healthy and not wanting to lose the “benefits” of the illness, what West refers to as his superpower. The juxtaposition of insanity with sanity perfectly describes the emotional rollercoaster of a sick mind.

At the risk of sounding like a preteen fan of a mediocre artist, you have to experience Ye to try to understand Ye. You have to have been through the inferno and emerged triumphant. Ye is to the mentally ill what Kendrick Lamar’s Good Kid, M.A.A.D. City was to the youth in Compton. It describes the indescribable, it gives a voice to the voiceless. Listening to Ye is like listening to the mentally ill mind. Listeners take Mr. West by the hand and travel with him through the mountainous highs and cavernous lows of his mind. You can’t help but shed tears listening to him lament on the pain his illness has caused and the strength and inspiration it has given him.

It’s not a perfect album. It’s far from it. But in its imperfections lies its perfection. Art is an expression of who you are and that puts you in a different place, a different world.

In this way Ye is a perfect album. I hope that one day the world will look back and understand how lucky we were to have given a tortured artist’s brain. Kanye West portrays the inner workings of the creative mind in a way Picasso, Van Gogh and Foster Wallace never could.
Tool album dethrones Swift album

BY ANDREW ZERMAN
Guest Writer

It is not a common occasion for a rock band to top the Billboard 200 in an era that is saturated with plastic pop. It is also uncommon for a band with members in their 40s and 50s to reach the top of a chart that is dominated by millennials.

However, a progressive rock band by the name of Tool changed this demographic, dethroning Taylor Swift’s Lover for the top spot. According to Forbes, they are the first rock band since The Dave Matthews Band to hit the top spot of the Billboard 200, which occurred in June of 2018.

Tool is an American band that was formed in 1990 in Los Angeles. They had two prior number one albums before the release of their newest album, Fear Inoculum. This album came 13 years after their previous one and Tool changed this demographic, dethroning Taylor Swift’s Lover for the top spot.

Their newest album, Fear Inoculum, tests the patience of its listeners. The original album is divided into seven songs that range from 10 to 16 minutes each. The parts of the album that hook the audience, are shoved toward the end of many of the songs.

The first song on the album is “Fear Inoculum,” which entered the Billboard 100 shortly after its release. The song opens with a constant drumming and then guitar riffs accompany it before the lyrics start. This effect is what Classic Rock Magazine refers to as “being part of an intense shared ritual.” This assertion of a “shared” ritual is also evidenced by the interconnectedness expressed within the opening lyrics of the song, “We are one breath, one word, one spark.”

All of the songs on the album are alike in the sense that they are not meant to be sung. The lyrics are few and far between, with the earliest that spark.”

Though it took a lot of warming up to, in my opinion “Bad Guy” provides a welcome change from the recently released pop hits. The song is a dark and sadistic tale that seems to serve almost as a type of warning about the type of person the artist is. A welcome beat switch towards the end of the song also keeps the listener engaged until the very end. However, a simplistic beat and vocals just don’t provide enough “umph” to the song and because of that, “Bad Guy” can seem a little bland at times.

Total score:

Check out this review of the chart-topping hits as summer winds down!
Aries: The stars are seeing some awkward caf interactions in your future. You might want to hide out in the pasta line booths for the next week.

Taurus: I know you’re jealous of the card swipers who can do their jobs while playing on their phones, but we can’t all be as lucky as them.

Gemini: Confidence is key—it’s not about HAVING infinite swipes, it’s about acting like you do.

Cancer: This week you’ll spy a first-year struggling to use the fountain drink dispenser. No matter how fun it is watching them tap the screen to no avail, be the better man and show them that you have to hold it.

Leo: Any day you see the glazed cookies in the dessert section, take some risks. The stars are shining on you that day.

Virgo: You could be coming into some money this week! Mercury wants to get you involved in some heist involving green boxes and silverware.

Taurus: I know you’re jealous of the card swipers who can do their jobs while playing on their phones, but we can’t all be as lucky as them.

Pisces: Don’t be afraid to talk while waiting in the sandwich line! Your future best friend might be standing right behind you—or behind the counter.

Cuperal [cuh-per-ell]: Your original idea to fill a caf to-go coffee cup with cereal that everyone has already thought of before.

Calbiance [Cah-f-fee-an-ss-uh]: The mixture of enticing dessert smells, a ‘60s to now playlist and scraping chair sounds that is unique to the XU cafeteria.

Booth-ya [boo-th-yah]: Exclamation. Uttered when you and your homies secure a curved booth in the caf. “It’s the perfect seating arrangement until one of us has to pee! Booth-ya!!”