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XU plans for an atypical semester

Fall semester to have adjusted class size, dining and academic calendar

BY HUNTER ELLIS AND HEATHER GAST
Multimedia
Managing Editor and Editor-In-Chief

After announcing a modified fall academic calendar on Thursday, May 28, the COVID-19 Task Force has begun to narrow down changes to campus life and continues to meet daily.

Jeff Coleman, Vice President of Risk Management and Chair of the COVID-19 Task Force, explained that the changes to the academic calendar were recommended by TriHealth, and fellow Jesuit and local universities.

In addition to the semester being shifted up one week, all long weekends — including Labor Day weekend and the originally scheduled fall break — have been replaced in favor of midweek breaks to discourage travel.

Furthermore, students will leave campus for Thanksgiving break and finish out the semester with remote finals the week of Nov. 30 to avoid a flare up in COVID-19 cases during flu season.

All faculty members are required to have a plan ready to transition their courses to remote learning for the remainder of the semester in the case of an earlier flare-up.

“I am confident we will be able to pivot (to online learning) whenever or however we need to,” Coleman said.

Though students will be able to return, campus will look much different than what the Xavier community is accustomed to.

First, upon arriving on campus, students may be tested for the virus, though the university is still working out the details of a Test, Treat, and Trace Plan.

In the case of students who contract COVID-19, the university is implementing a Quarantine and Infirmary Plan.

This plan will designate a building on campus to be used as the space where students who test positive for the virus will be able to stay with healthcare and meals provided. This space will also be used to isolate ill students from the rest of the Xavier community for at least two weeks.

The administration has not determined whether students will be required or encouraged to wear face masks while on campus.

The biggest change for the coming semester, according to Jeff Coleman, will be in the classrooms.

“We are redesigning every classroom on campus so that there will be six feet of social distancing between all students,” Coleman said. “That change has cut our classroom capacity by about half.”

A few options are on the table to account for these changes. These options include the potential for half of the class to attend in-person sessions on alternating days of the week, or more sections of each class may need to be added.

In addition, Xavier will explore using larger and non-traditional classroom spaces, as well as a mixture of in-person and online formats.

Another big change will come to dining.

“Maintaining social distancing requirements in the cafeteria will be a serious challenge,” Coleman said.

Chartwells has three tiers of social distancing accommodations that will be enacted in Hoff Dining Commons (the Caf), according to the severity of COVID-19 during the fall semester. Each of these tiers eliminate self-serve stations, such as the salad bar and pizza station, opting instead for pre-packaged options.

Potential changes to dining include online-ordered to-go options, replacing custom stations such as the deli and pasta line with daily specials and requiring students to reserve time to eat in the Caf to maintain new capacity restrictions and minimize the flow of students into the cafeteria during rush hours.

The strictest tier would eliminate dining in the Caf and instead all food would be served in disposable take out containers.

The cost of dining plans is not expected to change.

Meanwhile, housing will not look much different than usual, but the university has eliminated all triples and quads for the upcoming semester.

Students can expect further details about potential class schedule changes and other information by the end of the month of June.

“I’m actually pretty disappointed” Brooke Antilla, a sophomore marketing major, said of the proposed changes by the planning committee.

“I knew nothing could go back to normal but I feel like the changes will make college feel less like home,” she said. “I’m from New York, which has taken much slower steps to reopen (than Ohio) and I had some hope Xavier would feel a little more normal.”

While I will miss fall breaks, and I was a bit indignant about remote finals, I am happy that this schedule will allow us to return in the fall,” sophomore political science major Blake Girdler said.

“Xavier is my home and I’m willing to make some sacrifices to be able to go back.”

“We are hopeful that when students return in the fall, we can preserve the Xavier experience the best we can… under the circumstances we are facing,” Coleman said.

Measures to enact social distancing for the fall semester include adjustments to the academic calendar, class sizes, dining on campus and housing. Official decisions on these matters will be shared by the end of June.

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Xavier alumni honor the late Don Prues and share stories of the inspiring professor and mentor.

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Xavier revokes admission of freshman track and field and cross country athlete for racist Tweets.

A&E, Pages 12 & 13
We’ve got recs this week ranging from Timothee Chalamet to a German experimental music group.
The late Don Prues leaves his mark
Hagedorn recounts finding her life’s calling through a transformative class

By Becky Hagedorn
Alumni

You had the profound privilege of taking not only one, but two of Professor Prues’ classes. Now the first was a general English composition class during my first year, and the second a Literature and Moral Imagination class as an Occupational Therapy requirement. Although this course is technically a requirement, English 205 became anything but that for me. I’d like to share an excerpt from my final Lit and Moral paper that expresses some of the gratitude I have for Professor Prues.

“After getting into English 205 in the spring semester last year, I had a good feeling about this class because of not only the professor teaching the course, but also the topic that fascinates me so much. This course has been nothing but insightful, and I would re-take this course in a heartbeat, or offer it to someone who may need to learn all the great lessons that I, myself, have learned this fall semester.”

I would like to offer this paper, although it is not the most eloquently written, as a testament to Professor Prues and all the truly amazing lessons he shared with me over those two semesters. His Lit and Moral class was the spark to my growing passion for mental health. With that said, I also would like to share with you an email I also received from him last year I put on at Xavier to ending the stigma around mental illness. Prues wrote, “I know this is a busy time of year, which makes what you did even more impressive. I just read McCarty shares a few of the moments that changed her college experience

By Maryn McCarty
Alumni

On one of the first days of English Composition, Professor Prues stood up on the podium in Alter and started dancing. I don’t remember what prompted this, but I knew then he wasn’t like my other professors. A few weeks later, he stood in front of our class and cried after telling us his dog had recently passed away. He told us the dog was like a child to him. I don’t think many professors cry in front of their students. I came into college like most first-years, not knowing what I wanted to major in. I never thought it would be a required into English course that helped me decide what I wanted to do with the rest of my life. I am forever indebted to Professor Prues for his assignment of writing about pressing issues our society was currently facing. We made a giant list on the board in class and he encouraged us to pick something we didn’t know much about. It was that assignment that piqued my interest in sexual violence and ultimately made me decide to dedicate a career to it.

I remember the positive comments he left on my paper and the conversations we had about it. Every time I saw him on campus after that semester, he would say hello and ask how I was doing. He genuine-ly seemed to care; he would stop whatever he was doing and stand for a few minutes to talk to me. He asked if I was still doing sexual violence prevention work and would always say he remembered the paper I wrote my first year.

About a year ago I emailed Professor Prues to invite him to EmpowerXU’s events during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This was his response: “Hi Maryn. Gosh, seems like I haven’t seen you in so long! Thank you for sending this to me; I’ll try to make one or more events. I’m so proud that you are the president of Empow-erXU and speaking out against sexual assault. As we’ve discussed, it’s way too prevalent and far too damaging. I applaud what you do! Thanks again for including me in this email. Sending you peace, Prof Prues.” That was probably the last time we were in contact. Professor Prues always made me feel at home. Whenever I ran into him on campus, it would make my day and would always leave me feeling better than I had before.

He had kind eyes and always had a big smile on his face. No one represented Xavier, as I knew him, like you–who actually saw me in the midst of depression. I won’t write much more. Just know I’m so proud of you and overjoyed that people like you exist on this planet. I adore you immensely. Thanks for being you and doing what you do! Peace and smiles to ya.”

Alumni

BY MARYN MCCARTY

A year ago I emailed Professor Prues for his assignment of writing about pressing issues our society was currently facing. We made a giant list on the board in class and he encouraged us to pick something we didn’t know much about. It was that assignment that piqued my interest in sexual violence and ultimately made me decide to dedicate a career to it.

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Alumni

I remember this email and sharing it with my parents, expressing my joy for such a unique, but more importantly, genuinely sweet man.

I also remember seeing him on campus during my junior or senior year, and although Professor Prues always had a meeting to rush off to, he took a few moments to catch up with me and ask me how I was doing. Overall, I hope this letter gives you some comfort as you cope with the loss of such a wonderful man. He means so much to me, but more importantly, he changed my life and led me to discover what I think is my calling in life.

My prayers and thoughts are with his family, and I am forever grateful to Professor Prues.
Here’s an update on some of the construction projects in progress on Xavier’s campus. These projects will be ready to welcome students back in August.

**Campus News**

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**Photo-op: back to a new normal?**

*Students share their mixed feelings on in-person classes returning in the fall*

**By Emilie Krackik**

**Staff Writer**

“I am not a fan of having online finals. I’ve had enough of online school already and I don’t want to go back to it.”
- Mark Yakim, junior exercise science major.

“I am excited for the new calendar because it allows us to come back to campus and promotes safe travels.”
- Luke Obermeier, junior criminal justice and computer science double major.

“I think the whole experience next year is going to be a lot different. It’s like we’re going to all be first-years again and not know what to expect.”
- Caroline Niland, junior accounting and finance double major.

“I am excited to get to be back on campus and see everybody, especially with it being my senior year. However, I also have some reservations about keeping the Xavier community safe.”
- Aileen Romano, senior exercise science major.

“I’m feeling good about the academic calendar but am curious about how things will be different in the Caf and other places around campus.”
- Jay Lozano, sophomore sports management major.

**Repairs and upgrades continues on XU’s campus**

**Walt Bonnell Garden**

Sitting on the academic mall, inbetween Hinkle and Albers hall, the Walter Bonnell memorial garden is a popular study spot during the warm weather months.

Regulars to the space will be pleased to know that back area is being treated to new set of concrete slabs for more seating areas.

**Brockman Residence Hall**

The future residents of Xavier’s original residence hall, Brockman, can expect better heating and cooling as the Building’s HVAC equipment is being updated for the fall semester.

Despite this upgrade, there is still no word of a fire alarm system update.

**Heidt Family Champions Center**

Construction on the Heidt Family Champions Center, formerly known as O’Connor Sports Center, is still going along as planned.

The building will eventually be the home of Xavier Olympic sports, including soccer, swimming, baseball, track and field, as well as cross country.

**Village Apartments Courtyard**

Workers are currently redoing the courtyard at the heart of the Village with a brand new lawn and fresh pavement.

The upgrades leave people wondering what will replace the gazebo, which was prominently placed in the center.
A day in the life of a Cincy protestor
After protesting in Cincinnati, an anonymous Xavier student tells their story.

By Mo Juenger
World News Editor

At 3 p.m., a Xavier student meets up with their group at a park. They've been helping to plan this protest for several days, mostly through Facebook. They've been watching the news and they know that the day ahead could be dangerous.

They are about to join a march to protest police violence against the Black community. They say that they will be marching for Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and countless other Black deaths at the hands of the police.

When they get to the park, the protest group goes over rules. These rules tell them how to stay safe in the event that they are arrested, tear-gassed or involved in any alteration with the police.

They wear a mask in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, but also to hide their identities when necessary. If a drone flies over head, they cover their face and any tattoos so that they cannot be identified.

For this purpose, the group also asks protestors not to take photos or videos which include any identifying features of other protestors.

They write a name and phone number in permanent marker on their arm. It is the number of a lawyer who will work for them pro bono in the event that they or their friends are arrested.

They plan for the worst. If the situation were to turn violent, many White people within the group have decided to stand at the front of the protest in order to protect people of color behind them. The Xavier student has decided to stand at the front.

They stay alongside other protestors, making sure not to separate from the group. When you separate from your group, they said, "that's when shit gets crazy."

They begin their march alongside over a thousand other protestors. The group marches to several city government buildings. There is no looting or violence within these ranks, as far as they can see.

Several people within the group throw water bottles at police officers or spray paint surfaces, but the student doesn't approve of this. The group at large also disapproves.

"You, as a White person causing destruction, are making the community look bad," they said of the mindset of the protest group in regards to the few aggressive protestors. There are no partisan signs, even though the protest was organized by a socialist group. They describe the issue of Black deaths by police as unrelated to political party, saying that being pro-Black shouldn't be associated with Democrats and being anti-Black shouldn't be associated with Republicans.

They leave the protest at 7 p.m. Curfew is in place, and hundreds of people have been arrested for staying out.

They have not witnessed any violence by police or protestors. Police arrest 307 people that night for curfew violations.

They haven't seen any of this, but their arm still bears a phone number written in Sharpie. They know what the worst-case scenarios are, and they are prepared.

They'll go back out the next day, saying that they do so to demand justice and that they'll continue to protest until there is efficacious change in the policing of Black communities.

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Summer in review — virtual graduation edition
Bad Blathers, chicken kisses, chukojib, Hot Pockets, reverse cowgirl, bear wrestling, banana scorpion

• Adult film performer Ron Jeremy asked fans on Twitter to help him save a tree connected to his family which a New York company planned to cut down (May 18).

• Animal activism group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals released a video of an in-game protest of Blathers’ museum in Animal Crossing. The advocacy group stated that snaring bugs, fish and other wildlife was unethical and stated online that Blathers was “CANCELLLED” (May 20).

• After outbreaks of salmonella in 32 states were linked to pet ducks and chickens, the CDC issued a guideline telling owners, “Don’t kiss or snuggle backyard poultry” (May 22).

• The official state-sponsored North Korean newspaper has announced that the country’s founder, Kim Il Sung, did not have the ability to microwave his Hot Pocket. When a reporter asked him if his resulting arrest was worth it, the microwave stated, “Was it worth it? Yeah, it was worth it.” He added later, “A Hot Pocket? Hell, yeah” (May 28).

• A California man broke into a Wells Fargo, not to steal any money, but to microwave his Hot Pocket. When a reporter asked him if his resulting arrest was worth it, the microwave stated, “Was it worth it?” He added later, “A Hot Pocket? Hell yeah” (May 28).

• A Swiss sex work advocacy group has created new guidelines for safer sex during the pandemic, including utilizing the “reverse cowgirl” position in order to distance clients and providers’ faces during intercourse. These suggestions have not been approved by the Swiss government or proven to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (May 28).

• As part of her new art gallery, musician Grimes is auctioning off a piece of her soul. The soul-piece, bound to the buyer through a legal contract, was originally valued at 10 million dollars (May 29).

• A Florida high school held its graduation ceremonies on jet skis, with the principal giving students their diplomas via plastic claw grabber in order to ensure social distancing was practiced (May 31).

• A British couple brought home a bunch of bananas from the grocery store only to discover a scorpion native to Florida hiding among the fruits. One partner wrote online of the experience with the scorpion, “I even named it Simon the Scorpion and was planning on keeping it until it got out and shot across the floor. I decided I didn’t want it as a pet after that” (May 31).
Twitter fact-checks Trump on voting

**By Alex Budzynski
Managing Editor**

After adding a new feature earlier this month to label disinformation and misinformation, Twitter added warning labels to two of President Donald Trump's tweets for the first time on May 26.

In the labeled tweets, the president referred to mail-in voting processes as "saddling the country with a defrocked president, fraudulently". He stated falsely that mail-in voting would cause the 2020 election to be a "rigged election.

Twitter then added a blue box at the bottom of his tweet, asking viewers to "get the facts" about mail-in-voting.

This comes after the social media platform faced backlash for allowing the president to tweet false information about the cause of death of Lori Klausutis.

Klausutis was a staffer for then-Florida Congressman Joe Scarborough when she died of an undiagnosed heart condition. Trump posted a false theory that Scarborough had died in关联 death.

A letter was leaked on May 26 from Timothy Klausutis, Lawrence H. Lucier III, and other asking Twitter CEO, Jack Dorsey, to remove Trump's tweet.

Calling them horrifying and callous lies, journalists including Katie Couric and CNN anchor Jake Tapper also came to the aid of the Klausutis family.

In response to their letter, Twitter apologized, saying it was "deeply sorry about the pain these statements were causing, but that it would not remove Trump's tweets because they did not violate its policies."

"This is the first time that Twitter has done something that has in some small way helped to rein in the president," Tiffany Li, a visiting professor at the Boston University School of Law, said. Now, the fact-checking label placed on Trump's tweets about mail-in ballots have sparked controversy.

The social media company received backlash from the president, who claimed that Twitter was biased against him, interfering in the 2020 Presidential Election and stifling free speech.

Similarly, the manager of the Trump 2020 campaign Brad Parscale said, "We always knew that Silicon Valley would pull out all the stops to obstruct and interfere with President Trump getting his message through to voters."

According to Twitter's Yoel Roth, head of site integrity, and Nick Pickles, director of Global Public Policy Strategy and Development, Twitter initially created the feature with three categories of labels: misleading information, disputed claims and unverified claims.

Rolled out on May 11, these policies were publicized as beneficial for the general public. They have been used to hide tweets from several world leaders including the Brazilian and Venezuelan presidents, who provided misinformation about COVID-19.

Trump has used Twitter as a means of communication throughout his presidency, but had not been labeled as fact-checked by the platform before Tuesday.

Since the start of his presidency, Trump's use of Twitter has skyrocketed, accelerating from an average of nine tweets per day in 2019 to 29 tweets per day. According to the New York Times, Trump tweeted 108 times on May 10, the most he has during the span of his presidency.

None of the president's tweets had been fact-checked until last week, an action which some contend is Twitter's effort to keep the president in check.

"Moving forward, we may use these labels and warning features to move quickly on additional explanations or clarifications in situations where the risks of harm associated with a tweet are less severe but where people may still be confused or misled by the content," Roth and Pickles said. "This will make it easier to find facts and make informed decisions about what we believe and act on.

Tuesday marked the first time that these face-checking labels were used on the president's tweets.

New Title IX to impact campus policy

**By Joseph Cotton
Campus News Editor**

The Department of Education (DOE) is aiming to change the way campus sexual assault is handled with a set of new Title IX regulations.

Set to go into effect on August 14, the new rules will require universities to hold live hearings where the accused party has the ability to cross-examine and challenge evidence. Additionally, the new regulations define a more specific standard of what is considered sexual harassment.

The new rules define harassment as "unwelcome conduct" that is "so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to education."

The regulation will replace the Obama-era guidelines on the enforcement of Title IX, dubbed the "Dear Colleague" letter, which was a set of guidelines issued in response to student activism and an increase in reported cases. Unlike the Obama-era guidelines, the DOE's new Title IX regulation will be legally binding.

Secretary of Education Bet- sy DeVos described the new rules as action to address the lack of due-process in the Title IX process.

"This new regulation requires schools to act in meaningful ways to support survivors of sexual misconduct without sacrificing important safeguards to ensure a fair and transparent process," De- Vos said.

"We can and must continue to fight sexual misconduct in our nation's schools, and this rule makes certain that fight continues."

The new regulations have garnered criticism from advocacy groups that represent survivors of sexual misconduct. One of the main points of contention is the topic of cross-examination.

"I think that these new rules will make it harder for victims to come forward," senior English and communications major Max Huell said.

"They are also setting up victims to be targeted by those who don't believe them rather than properly punishing those who commit sexual assault."

Under the Obama-era guidelines, schools were discouraged from permitting cross-examination of the accusing party as advocacy groups claimed that it would dissuade students from coming forward as it could be traumatizing to relive the events.

The cross-examination and live hearing process could make survivors subject to 'being interrogated' by anyone the opposing party chooses to represent them, including a friend, parent or 'vicious attorney,' policy and advocacy organizer for Know Your Title IX Sarah Nesbit said.

Those opposed to the regulations also have a problem with the narrower definition of sexual harassment. Know Your Title IX manager Sam Carson stated that the department's action will strip back protection for survivors.

"The final rule makes it harder for survivors to report sexual violence, reduces schools' liability for ignoring or covering up sexual harassment and creates a biased reporting process that favors respondents and "man lies over survivors' access to education," Carson said of the new rules.

Know Your Title IX, as well as many colleges and universities, are preparing to file legal challenges to the new DOE rules. This could delay the implementation of the new rules.

Some institutions are claiming the increased staffing required to implement these rules is not feasible during a pandemic, which is causing budget problems for many colleges and universities.

Various advocacy groups and universities are filing legal challenges to the updated Title IX guidelines that require live hearings for alleged sexual misconduct. Universities worry that they will not be able to fund the rules' implementations.

"We can and must continue as an un welcomed conduct," he said. "This is the first time that Twitter has done something that has in some small way helped to rein in the president," Tiffany Li, a visiting professor at the Boston University School of Law, said. Now, the fact-checking label placed on Trump's tweets about mail-in ballots have sparked controversy.

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I never thought that I would see an insurrection on the scale of the George Floyd riots so soon. If anything, I expected riots like them in, at the very least, a decade and that the surveillance state in combination with law enforcement would quash them in a day.

However, now that they are here, I wholeheartedly support their cause and hope they continue for as long as possible. For far too long, the state has continuously denied Black people any reform that would address the acts of violence the state has inflicted on them.

Those who criticize these riots, claiming that violent protest is not the answer to state violence, are unaware of all of the peaceful organizing that has gone on throughout the past decade – likely due to the fact that these peaceful attempts at changing state reform have failed.

I also have come to the realization that these are not going to be the last riots of the 21st century. These riots have proven to me that it is still possible to confront the state regardless of how technocratic and authoritarian it may be.

All of the successes of the riots are proofs of concept for future activists. However, the main reason I believe there will be more riots on this scale is the fact that these riots have one aim: pursuing justice for Black victims of police brutality.

The fact that such a massive uprising has been ignited by this one important issue makes me believe that more riots are inevitable. I can easily see riots for anything from workers’ rights to healthcare reform happening in the near future as a result of the George Floyd riots.

I think the most important aspect of these riots is what they present to us as a nation and as individuals. The riots are about a crisis of humanity. They present us with two choices: preservation of an authoritarian technocratic state which rules with violence, or the destruction of this state in the pursuit of a more just society. To the state, it presents a dilemma of whether to bend its knees to the riots or to kill them.

The riots that are happening now and the ones that will happen in the future will determine the future of the United States. I sincerely hope that reading anyone these sides with the riots.

The riots are not a mindless violent uprising. They are an organized effort by a group of people who have been repeatedly denied justice through peaceful means. Those who criticize them telling them to be peaceful or to just vote in the next election fail to see that voting and peacefully demonstrating have not delivered justice for their communities.

The riots have also highlighted the egregious acts of violence the state is willing to take against its own citizens. Police are driving cars into crowds of unarmed protestors, shooting media correspondents with tear gas canisters and permanently blinding people with rubber bullets. As western capitalism’s flaws become increasingly pronounced, the state fails to address their harmful effects on its marginalized populations, these riots will grow increasingly common. Once it is no longer sustainable, we will be faced with two options: we authorize the state to legitimate capitalism in the form of statism, or the destruction of the current state in favor of a better world.

This is your decision. Choose wisely.
All for some and some for all

Dear Xavier Community,

We are failing to live up to our Jesuit Values. I write this with no more tears to cry. My heart is heavy with disappointment, rage and sadness in response to the recent killings of innocent Black people at the hands of racists agents masquerading as neighbors and law enforcement.

The wrongful deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Dreasion Reed and Tony McDade are a stark reminder to us Black people of the fatal dangers we face every day, just trying to live.

George Floyd, who was nonresistant, died handcuffed with Officer Derek Chauvin’s knee crushing his neck as he pleaded for his life. George Floyd used his last breaths to send love to his family. Meanwhile, other officers assisted in holding Floyd down and served as a barrier to prevent citizens from intervening with the slaughter.

Breonna Taylor was resting in her home when plain-clothed officers ambushed her and her boyfriend, blasting off over 20 rounds and hitting Taylor eight times. These officers were searching for drugs and money in the home of two people with no criminal history.

Ahmaud Arbery was jogging in his neighborhood when Roddy Bryan, Travis McMichael and Gregory McMichael followed him and shot him in cold blood, after aggressively confronting him for a crime he did not even fit the description for.

Dreasion Reed was shot multiple times in the back on Facebook Live after fleeing the police, with one officer looking down at his body and sarcastically saying, “Looks like it’s gonna be a close casket service.”

Tony McDade was a suspect in an investigation, but was shot in cold blood multiple times by a White officer without hearing “stop” or “freeze” during his pursuit.

These deaths are awful and tragic but no surprise to me. The motif in all these tragedies is institutionalized racism through the form of law enforcement.

The same fate might have happened to Haley Dickerson ‘19 outside Smith Hall when she was pulled over by Cincinnati Police while riding her bike. On the night of March 27, 2019, Haley was simply riding her bike from her night class in the Innovation Center to get a ride from her friend to her off-campus house. As she saw the glaring red and blue lights, she simply moved to the sidewalk beside Smith to get out their way.

Haley did not think they were pulling her over; she had committed no crime and was on her campus. The officers then commanded her to get off her bike. Haley froze in initial shock.

As I looked across from the CLI, I left my study spot with some friends to check out the situation. We went out to see Haley being berated, badgered and goaded by two daunting CPD officers. Haley was only further confused and even more frightened.

As we stood in solidarity, we assured Haley we were in her corner. The officers took her bike and tried to force her in the back of their car “for her safety.” How is she safer in the custody of the threat, rather than her own campus? Haley was in tears as they put her in their car for further questioning. She had already given them her driver’s license and Xavier ID. As they were forcing her into the car she began recording the interaction, but as soon as the female officer saw Haley’s phone out she snatched it saying, “If you can’t tell the truth you can’t say anything!” XUPD arrived, talked to the officers and released Haley after issuing her a $250 ticket for “running a red light” on her bike.

So as we see the PRO-TESTS (because I refuse to call these exercises of civil liberties riots) unfold, let us see with our spirits and listen with our hearts. Black people and our true allies are crying for justice and institutional change.

We are sick and tired of being unfairly targeted, attacked and lynched at the hands of bigots and racists under the guise of law enforcement and the neighborhood watch. We are banging on the doors of ruling institutions demanding to be seen, heard and acknowledged. We are not coming locked and loaded with rifles, submachine guns and Glocks demanding to get haircuts or tattoos and for gyms to open. We are not destroying property because our team won the Super Bowl or the “Big Game.” We are simply asking these same power structures to STOP RILLING US!

As Xavier stands still and silent, we as a societal light-house go dim with apathy for marginalized people. We are showing that we ARE NOT Men and Women for and with others. My last question to you Xavier is, “Are you who you say you are?”

With a Broken Heart, Desmond C. Varner Jr. Former SGA VP

PS: “We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.”

-Elie Wiesel (Nobel Laureate)

Desmond is a senior health service administration major. He is a guest writer for the Newswire from Norfolk, Virginia.

Top Row from left to right: George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery.

Bottom row from left to right: Dreasion Reed, Tony McDade.

All pictures courtesy of Twitter and Facebook

SAY THEIR NAMES
SAY THEIR NAMES
SAY THEIR NAMES
SAY THEIR NAMES
SAY THEIR NAMES
SAY THEIR NAMES
Say their names.

2001

Timothy Thomas was killed in T'Cincinnati, Ohio on April 7, 2001. He was 19 years old.

2010

Danroy Henry Jr. was killed in Thornwood, New York on October 17, 2010. He was 20 years old, attended Pace University, and was nicknamed "DJ." 

2015

Artago Damon Howard was killed in Strong, AR on January 8, 2015. He was 36 years old.

Jeremy Lott was killed in Tallahassee, FL on February 4, 2015. He was 28 years old. Jeremy had recently graduated from school.

Lavall Hall was killed in Miami Gardens, FL on February 15, 2015. He was 25 years old. Lavall left behind a wife and 8-year-old daughter.

Thomas Allen was killed in St. Louis, MO on February 2, 2015. He was 34 years old, and a father. Thomas was known for his love of cooking and spending time with his family.

Charly Leundeu Keunang was killed in Los Angeles, CA on March 1, 2015. He was 43 years old. Charly was called by his nickname "Charly.

Naeschylus Vinzant was killed in Aurora, CO on March 5, 2015. He was 27 years old. His former wife remembers, "He was a great provider who loved his family and kids."

Tony Robinson was killed in Madison, WI on March 6, 2015. He was 19 years old and had recently graduated from school. He had planned to attend business school.

Anthony Hill was killed in Tallahassee, FL on March 30, 2015. He was 36 years old and a veteran.

Bobby Gross was killed in Washington, DC on March 12, 2015. He was 35 years old and a father of three.

Brandon Jones was killed in Cleveland, OH on May 15, 2015. He was 18 years old and his family said he was loveable, soft hearted and could make you laugh.

Eric Harris was killed in Tulsa, OK on April 4, 2015. He was 14 years old. Friends say Eric cared more for others and other material things and would happily give his last $5 to someone in need.

Wayne Jones was killed in North Charleston, SC on April 4, 2015. He was 50 years old and his brother recalled that the last time he saw him he was doing the things he enjoyed most: telling jokes and dancing.

Frank Shephard was killed in Dallas, TX on April 15, 2015. He was 41 years old and a barber.

William Chapman was killed in Portsmouth, Virg. on April 22, 2015. He was 18 years old and father recalled in their last conversation Chapman was going to move west to help him get his cost of a skateboard.

Felix was killed in New York City on April 25, 2015. He was 24 years old. David was a "strawberry milkshake enthusiast," and was known to give his friends surprise makeovers.

Glenn was killed in Venice, California on May 5, 2015. He was 29 years old and had recently graduated from college.

Kris Jackson was killed in Lake Tahoe, CA in March, 2015. He was 22 years old.

Spencer McCaín was killed in Halls, Hills, MD on June 25, 2015. He was 41 years old and a father of two.

Tyler Stewart was killed in Eminem, TN on July 17, 2015. He was 19 years old and had recently graduated from high school. He left behind two young children and his girlfriend, Jessica.

Thomas. Salvador Ellswood was killed in Placentia, CA on December 13, 2015. He was 36 years old.

Bettie Jones was killed in Chicago, IL on December 29, 2015. She was 55 years old and a mother of five.

Antonie Scott was killed in San Antonio, TX on February 4, 2016. He was 36 years old.

David Joseph was killed in Boston, MA on February 8, 2016. He was 17 years old. David was the son of Haitian immigrants who moved to the U.S. in the 1990s. His mother stated that he liked American everything. American music, sports, food.

Dyzhawn L. Perkins was killed in Virginia Beach, VA on February 13, 2016. He was 19 years old and was3 a track star at his high school football team.

Calin Roquemore was killed in Panola County, TX on February 13, 2016. He was 24 years old, and was nicknamed "Big Friendly" while at school.

Christine J. Davis was killed in Troy, Wisc. on February 24, 2016. She was 21 years old and was engaged to be married.

Peter Gaines was killed in Houston, TX on March 13, 2016. He was 27 years old, and his family described him as a wonderful person. Kevin Hicks was killed in Indianapolis, Ind, on April 5, 2016. He was 44 years old and was married to his wife for over 20 years.

Jessica Nelson-Wilson Jr. was killed in Hallandale Beach, Fl. on May 22, 2016. He was 27 years old and a father.

Vernell Bing was killed in Jacksonville, Fl. on May 22, 2016. He was 22 years old and died before meeting his son, who was born two days after he was killed.

Antwun Shumpert was killed in Tupelo, Mississippi on June 18, 2016. He was 37 years old and a father of 5.

Colin C. Gougars was killed in Atlanta, GA on June 22, 2016. He was 22 years old and his name was picked. His parents who continue as activists today.

Dalvin Hollins was killed in Tempe, Arizona on July 27, 2016. He was 15 years old and described as a "quiet and soft spoken man" by his friends. Had the nickname "Bo
Peep.

Jonnie Riggins was killed in Tampa, Fla., on August 30, 2016. He was 22 years old and was nicknamed ‘Daddy- long-legs’ by his friends.

Terence Crutcher was killed in Tulsa, Oklahoma on September 16, 2016. He was 40 years old and a saxophone mu-

sic at a local community college.

Clifford Olongo was killed in El Cajon, Calif. on September 27, 2016. He was 38 years old, a refugee from Uganda, and a father.

Christopher Sowell was killed in Philadelphia, Pa. on September 28, 2016. He was 32 years old.

Andrew Depeiza was killed in East Point, Ga. on November 11, 2016. He was 57 years old and a father to a two-year-old and a four-year-old.

2017

J.R. Williams was killed in Phoenix, AZ on January 9, 2017. He was 27 years old. Darrion Barnhill was killed in Reagan, Tenn. on January 17, 2017. He was 23 years old.

Nana Adomako was killed in Fremont, Calif. on February 5, 2017. He was 45 years old.

Cad Robertson was killed in Chicago, Ill. on February 8, 2017. He was 37 years old and a father of two children.

Raymond Burton was killed in Detroit, Mich. on February 13, 2017. He was 19 years old.

Alteira Woods was killed in Cleveland, Ohio on February 19, 2017. She was 21 years old and expecting a child.

Rico Davin D. Holden was killed in Converse, La. on March 21, 2017. He was 24 years old.

Brandon Davis was killed in Petal, Miss. on June 2, 2017. He was 34 years old and the father of five chil-

dren.

David Jones was killed in Philadelphia, Pa. on June 6, 2017. He was 30 years old.

Don Johnson was killed in Indianapolis, Ind. on June 29, 2017. He was 45 years old and was a father and vol-

unteer in the community.

Dejuan Guillory was killed in Hammond, La. on July 17, 2017. He was 27 years old and liked to ride ATVs.

Charles David Robinson was killed in Wiggins, Ga. on August 25, 2017. He was 47 years old.

Anthony Antonio Ford was killed in Inwood, Fla. on August 30, 2017. He was 27 years old. Anthony had two chil-
dren.

Dewboy Lister was killed in Corpus Christi, Texas, on October 19, 2017. He was 55 years old. Dewboy had a fa-

ther and grandfather, and he mentored many young men in his neighborhood.

Calvin Toney was killed in Baton Rouge, LA, on November 13, 2017. He was 24 years old.

Lawrence Hawkins was killed in Prichard, Ala. on November 18, 2017. He was 56 years old. Lawrence was a

landyman with many friends and family, and he was known for helping his neighbors.

Leota O’Neil was killed in San Francisco, Calif. on December 1, 2017. He was 36 years old. Keii was his mother’s only child.

Juan Pedro Pierre was killed in Lauderdale Lakes, Fla. on December 1, 2017. He was 42 years old. He had

five children, and he once ran for political office in Haiti.

2018

Arthur McAfee Jr. was killed in Longview, Texas on January 21, 2018. He was 61 years old, and he was a vet-
eran.

Ronnell Foster was killed in Vallejo, Calif. on February 25, 2018. He was 33 years old and a father.

Yotto Dantoni Bass was killed in Woodbridge, Va. on February 28, 2018. He was 37 years old and a father of five.

Shermichael Ezez was killed in East Baton Rouge, La., on March 9, 2018. He was 31 years old.

Cameron Hall was killed in Los Angeles, Ariz. on March 12, 2018. He was 27 years old.

Stephan Clark was killed in Sacramento, Calif. on March 18, 2018. He was 23 years old. He graduated Sa-

cramento High School in 2015, where he played football.

Danny Thomas was killed in Greenspoint, Texas on March 22, 2018. He was a father of two.

Juan Markee Jones was killed in Davenport, Iowa on April 18, 2018. He was 25 years old and part of a family of five.

Marcus-David L. Peters was killed in Richmond, Va. on May 14, 2018. He was 24 years old.

Antwan Rose was killed in Pittsburgh, Pa. on June 6, 2018. He was 17 years old and an Honor Roll student, tak-

ing AP courses to prepare for college.

Tony Green was killed in Roeland Park, Ga. on June 21, 2018. He was 33 years old and a father of three.

Jamal Washington was killed in Vineland, N.J. on July 16, 2018. He was 37 years old and a father of two.

Aurora Fields was killed in Savannah, Ga., on July 28, 2018. She was 62 years old and a great-grandmother.

James Leatherwood was killed in Hollywood, Fla. on September 5, 2018. He was 28 years old.

Charles Roundtree was killed in San Antonio, Tex-
as on October 18th, 2018. He was 18 years old and liked to play video games with his cousin.

Danny Washington was killed in Franklin Town-

ship, Pa. on December 18th, 2018. He was 27 years old and a father.

Gregory Griffin was killed in Newark, NJ on January 28, 2019. He was 46 years old and went by the name ‘G’.

2019

Marcus McVae was killed in Boerne, Texas on April 11, 2019. He was 34 years old.

Isaiah Lewis was killed in Edmond, Okla. on April 29, 2019. He was 17 years old and had graduated high school one month earlier.

Ryan Twyman was killed in Los Angeles, Calif. on June 6, 2019. He was 24 years old.

Akwunshem Shumpert was killed in Tupelo, Miss. on June 18, 2019. He was 37 years old and a father of five.

Jeff Richard was killed in Port Allen, La. on July 25, 2019. He was 38 years old and a father of four.

Atatiana Jefferson was killed in Fort Worth, Tex-
as on Oct. 12, 2019. She was 26-years-old and was a graduate student at Xavier Univer-
sity of Louisiana.

Michael Dean was killed in Temple, Texas on De-

cember 2, 2019. He was 28 years old and a father of three.

2020

William Howard Green was killed in Temple Hills, Md., on January 27, 2020. He was 43 years old.

Donnie Sanders was killed in Kansas City, Mo. on March 2, 2020. He was 47 years old.

Breonna Taylor was killed in Louisville, Ky. on March 12th, 2020. She was 26 years old and worked as an emer-

gency medical technician during the COVID-19 pand-

emi.

Dreasjon Reed was killed in Indianapolis, Ind. on May 6, 2020. He was 21 years old and had served in the Air

Force.

Tony McDade was killed on July 27, 2020 in Tallahas-
see, Fla.

David Mctee was killed in Louisville, Ky. on June 1, 2020. He owned a beloved BBQ joint that was a popular outdoor eatery for the community and provided food to both police and protesters at protests.

Timothy Thomas was killed on April 7, 2021 in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was 19 years old.

Dannoy Henry Jr. was killed in Thornwood, New

York on October 17, 2010. He was 20 years old, attend-

ed Pace University, and was nicknamed ‘D.J.’

Trayvon Martin was killed in Sanford, Fla. on Feb. 26, 2012. He was a junior in high school.

Eric Garner was killed in New York City on July 17, 2014. He had been with his wife for twenty years.

Tamir Rice was killed in Cleveland, Ohio on Nov. 22, 2014. He was a 12-year-old in sixth grade who loved art and playing sports.
Taking a look at the strangest college mascots

We apologize in advance for having to introduce you to Scottie and Speedy

BY HEATHER GAST
Editor-in-Chief

When there isn’t a global pandemic going on, college students and sports fanatics across the country rooting for their favorite teams are assisted by an often-fuzzy mascot. Some universities have stranger mascots than others. University of California Santa Cruz

Sammy the Banana Slug
The smiling Sammy the Banana Slug is as good a place to start as any, and I have to say that I’m upset that banana slugs have not shown up more in my life. UCSC brought on the slimy yellow mollusk as its mascot in 1981 and was affirmed by a student referendum in 1986. It’s really cool if the mascot uniform was banana-scented, but Newswires’ budget can’t afford to fly me out so I can check.

Evergreen State College
Speedy the Geoduck
On the west coast, Evergreen State College has kept up the obscure mollusk mascot trend with Speedy the Geoduck (pronounced gooy-duck). Geoducks are a type of burrowing clam that weird me out a lot. Evergreen’s website shares that the reasoning for choosing this odd mascot was to highlight “the difference between traditional schools and Evergreen’s innovative ideas.” To me, that translates as “they wanted to seem cool” and honestly, I don’t think they came close to accomplishing that.

Saint Louis University: The Billiken
The white cartoon creature representing Saint Louis University is strange enough to warrant its own section in the university’s FAQ section, which explains that “The Billiken is a mythical good-luck figure who represents ‘things as they ought to be’,” and

Teams to watch for when the NBA resumes playing

BY JOSEPH COTTON
Campus News Editor

The National Basketball Association (NBA) announced its intention to resume the 19-20 season at Walt Disney World in late May, re-suing the season July 31. Here is what you need to know to get caught up.

The Milwaukee Bucks, the Los Angeles Lakers and the Los Angeles Clippers were the most dominant teams before COVID-19 and they will be the teams dominating the conversation when the league finally picks back up.

The Bucks sit at 53-12 and have a simple, yet effective, formula for winning games. They give the ball to Giannis Antetokounmpo, let teams collapse the defense on him in an attempt to stop him and hit the wide-open threes with all the real estate he creates.

The team has more than enough capable shooters in the Lopez brothers, Khris Middleton, Eric Bledsoe and veteran Kyle Korver. With all that being said, last year’s play-off proved that the “wall” defense strategy, where the team loads up on Antetokounmpo near the top of the key in transition can effectively slow him down enough to give the defense enough time to set up. The key player to the Bucks’ success is going to be former all-star Khris Middleton. If Middleton can play at the level he did last season, he will take off a lot of the offensive load from Antetokounmpo, allowing the team more than one way to attack the basket.

The Lakers have LeBron James, Anthony Davis and a 49-14 record. James proved over and over that he only gets better in the playoffs. Combine this cast of supporting characters who know how to plan alongside the best player in the league, and you have a tough team to beat.

What really gives this team the advantage is its discipline and consistency. The team has a wealth of depth that flows naturally on both sides of the floor. With role players such as Danny Green, Alex Caruso and JaVale McGee, the team doesn’t have any true weaknesses. I expect them to hit the ground running when the season starts back up.

Having said that, this post-season will be the first meaningful playoffs that Davis will be playing in. We don’t know if he will be able to maintain his superstar play when the lights are the brightest.

The Clippers coasted through the regular season but still ended with a 44-20 record. The duo of Kawhi Leonard and Patrick Beverley back up its scary defensive identity. They are not a team you want to be matched up with, and there is reason to believe they will be even better in the playoffs.

Despite not getting a lot of attention, the Denver Nuggets are a sleeper team with three big secret weapons you should not ignore. Nikola Jokic is a point guard in a seven-foot frame. The man can hit any pass on the court and makes the team’s offense move like butter.

Jamal Murray, despite being incongruous, is becoming one of the most dangerous point guards in the league with the ability to make a shot from anywhere on the court.

And last, but certainly not least, Michael Porter Jr. is a clash in every sense of the word who thrives off passes from Jokic and Murray.
Incoming freshman removed from track team

The student’s tweets, which included racial slurs came to light on Tuesday

BY JOE CLARK
Sports Editor

An incoming freshman who was slated to be a member of Xavier’s cross country and track and field team will no longer be joining the program after he posted a series of tweets with racist remarks. Former Xavier basketball player James Farr was the one who brought the offensive material to light, calling for action from the university and athletic department. Farr posted four tweets, one of which brought to light racist memes the student posted in 2018, and three of the student’s own tweets, one that read in reply to another to another tweet “it’s because there’s no violence at KKK rallies, unlike the protests where thugs are setting stuff on fire.”

After Farr posted the tweets at 4:14 p.m. on Tuesday, many responses called for him to be removed from the team. At 7:06 p.m., Xavier Track and Field issued a statement through Twitter that confirmed the student-athlete would not be a member of the team. “Over the last 24 hours, we became aware of a prospective student-athlete’s offensive social media posts. They do not reflect Xavier’s values or meet the expectations we have for our student-athletes as representatives of Xavier Univ. The student will not be joining our program.”

After the tweets were posted, the student took his Twitter account down, although his private Instagram account remains active.

The tweets were in response to posts about the police-involved killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and the ensuing protests that have taken place nationwide. Derek Chauvin, the officer who knelt on Floyd’s neck for nine minutes, has been charged with third-degree murder and manslaughter. The tweets also come on the same day Father Michael Graham released a letter to the Xavier community regarding the recent events. Many Xavier athletic accounts have also released statements of their own regarding the events that have unfolded across the country.

On Wednesday afternoon, Xavier issued a statement announcing they revoked the acceptance of the student. The incident comes on the heels of Marquette University revoking a scholarship to a female lacrosse player after she compared the George Floyd’s death to Colin Kaepernick’s protest “I’m happy that the student will no longer be coming to Xavier,” junior Zach Klevit said. “I came to Xavier because I was impressed by how much the school cared for its students and vice versa. We have no place for that kind of thinking on our campus, and I’m proud of Xavier for taking quick action.”

Klevit’s sentiment was echoed by many on social media, as multiple comments under Xavier’s post applauded the school for taking quick action and revoking the acceptance of the student-athlete.

Xavier University has become aware of offensive, racially-charged social media posts by current and future members of our student body. Xavier remains committed to maintaining a community that supports all of our members as we cultivate lives of reflection, compassion, and informed action.

After review, Xavier has decided to revoke our offer of admission to the incoming student. The reports about the conduct of current students will be assessed by Xavier’s Bias Advisory & Response Team for further response by the University.

Gus Duggerton: the hottest name in college sports

The fictional Tennessee head coach has taken the sports world by storm.

BY JOE CLARK
Sports Editor

College football has always had a long sign of extremely successful head coaches, spanning from Bear Bryant to Barry Switzer to Nick Saban and Dabo Swinney. Recently, the torch has been passed, and Gus Duggerton has become the hottest and biggest name in the sport.

Duggerton’s Tennessee Volunteers look every part of a national title contender. Heisman candidate quarterback Caleb Pressley leads the Vols alongside speedy running back Jojo Smalls and a formidable group of receivers. Gus Duggerton also helps out in the backfield.

If you haven’t heard of Duggerton yet, there may be a good reason why: he’s a video game character.

Duggerton, often referred to as Coach Duggs or Air Duggs, is a coach in the timeless NCAA Football 14 game by Barstool Sports Dan Katz (better known as Big Cat) who has taken over the sports and video game world.

Big Cat created Coach Duggs following the cancellation of the NCAA basketball tournament and the fictional coach has stayed in the public eye through stops as the offensive coordinator at Toledo, Florida State and University of Southern California as well as the head coach at Texas Tech and Tennessee. On Twitter, there’s a person who impersonates Duggs due to their striking similarities, and Twitter accounts for the team Duggs is coaching will live tweet about the games that Big Cat is playing as if they were actually happening.

On more than one occasion a confused or angry fan will wonder what happened to their prior head coach or coordinator when the team announces their “hiring” of Duggerton through social media.

When Big Cat streams through the “Pardon My Take” Twitch account, he’s almost always the #1 streamer on the site, sometimes accumulating more than 75,000 views. For comparison, 75,000 views is more than popular streamer Ninja usually got while he was still streaming on Twitch. Big Cat was already a popular figure in the sports world and had a prior base who would consume his content anyway but the numbers that he’s putting up while he streams show just how hungry people are for any sort of sports content, with the sports world effectively shut down to covid-19.

With Sunday night’s overtime win at Alabama in Tuscaloosa and Monday’s win over Mississippi to remain undefeated, Duggs has the Vols in the top five nationally, their sights set on the national championship game. A national championship would seal Duggs’ legacy.
Medhane shows sound mastery

By Charlie Gstalter
Opinions & Editorials Editor

Medhane (pronounced: meh-donny) released his latest project, "Cold Water," on May 26. Medhane is an independent rapper and producer from Brooklyn and member of an Earl Sweatshirt affiliated underground hip-hop collective that includes MIKE and Navy Blue (aka professional skateboarder Sage Elsesser).

"Cold Water" is Medhane’s first full length project since 2019’s Own Pace and second 2020 release following the 15 minute “Full Circle.” Medhane, who produces his own tracks under the pseudonym Medhane, who produces his own tracks spanning 36 minutes, shows production with past collaborators Navy Blue and Chuck Strangers among others.

"Cold Water" is Medhane at his absolute best. With 15 tracks spanning 36 minutes, it is rhythmically abstract with a variety of flows, samples and ideas. The beats are congruent with past Medhane releases featuring sparse jazz, blues and soul samples chopped and looped over fairly simple drum patterns. Medhane doesn’t rap to the beats. Rather, he floats around, between and through the warm horns, flutes and pianos cascading through your ears. This is music to sway to; I often caught my head nodding back and forth, or loose between shoulders like a metronome matching the rhythm of waves crashing against Brooklyn piers.

"Cold Water," like much of Medhane's catalogue, is about being young, black and gifted, independent and powerful, navigating a city and a system that seems determined and unable to stop you. This is your early 20s on tape: understanding that even while all you've ever wanted is days away, time seems to stumble over itself, looping like jazz samples forming a whirlpool of cold waters.

The following quotes are excerpts from these motifs, looping like jazz samples forming a whirlpool of cold waters.

The Social Network (2010)
Directed by David Fincher and written by Aaron Sorkin, "The Social Network" is one of the most masterful films of the 2010s. Mark Zuckerberg, a Harvard University undergrad, is a computer genius whose intelligence and arrogance leads him into severe legal trouble regarding his newfound and wildly popular creation — Facebook.

The story is told mostly as a flashback from the two multi-million dollar lawsuits Zuckerberg faces — one with the Winklevoss twins, who claim Zuckerberg stole their idea, and another with Eduardo Saverin, the original CFO of Facebook who was allegedly cheated out of his role.

"The Social Network" features A-list actors, including Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield, Justin Timberlake, Dakota Johnson, Rashida Jones and Armie Hammer, all of who make the movie that much more thrilling to experience. The characters, Zuckerberg specifically, are witty and engaging, all while maintaining both the sobriety and significance of the legal issues and obvious wrongdoing at hand.

"The Social Network," both as a true story and a brilliant written film, is a must-see picture.

Fan-favorite films fill quarantine free time

By Molly Hollow Staff Writer

As school has come to an end and quarantine has yet to be lifted, what better way to spend your free time than watching a few of these fan-favorite films?

The Grand Budapest Hotel (2014)
Written and directed by Wes Anderson, “The Grand Budapest Hotel” follows concierge named Gustave and a lobby-boy named Zero. This story is told from the perspective of an elder-zero, who now owns the Grand Budapest hotel. Curious how a man can go from a poor lobby-boy to the owner of a once world-renowned hotel, a journalist listens to Zero's story as he recalls his life working under the ex-concierge, Gustave. Though funny, light-hearted and a little bit caveman, this film is emotional, thoughtful and, simply put, beautiful. Wes Anderson’s cinematography, per usual, is unmatched by any other. Not only is the cinematography breathtaking, but the storytelling is incredible, and the plot is extraordinary.

One of my favorites of all time, “The Grand Budapest” is a wonderful introduction to the world of Wes Anderson
Surf’s up for summer streaming

By Alex Budzynski
Managing Editor

The past two months of worldwide lockdowns have left millions of people trapped in their houses with little to do other than binge-watch TV series. Perhaps you have ventured into an unfamiliar genre, caught up on your pre-quearantine show or re-watched an old classic.

As the summer heats up, the drama on the screen does so too, as streaming services roll out heaps of new shows. Here are some of the TV series I am anxiously waiting to meet, both on and off the screen.

Queer Eye: Netflix, June 5

The Fab 5 are back in the city of brotherly love, determined to spread love in an unstoppable storm of chaos and positivity. In this revival’s fifth season, there appears to be no shortage of unadulterated fun, as the Queer Eye boys are on a mission to impact the lives of those they meet, both on and off the screen.

If Jonathan’s bubbling personality and Karamo’s charm are not enough, this season the Fab 5 visit a priest — you better believe it is going to be an emotional roller coaster.

The Politician: Netflix, June 19

This show centers around the young, ambitious Payton Hobart (Ben Platt) whose personal mission is to become president of the United States. In its inaugural season, the show followed Payton on his bombastic and zigzagging path to student body president.

This year’s second season is slated to follow him and his friends in a tumultuous race for New York’s state senate. This Ryan Murphy satire was enthralling the first time around, and I am pumped to see where these characters go next.

Love, Victor: Hulu, June 19

To say that I am excited for this show would be a gross understatement. Based on the same universe as “Love, Simon,” this story is about Victor, a high school student in his journey of self-discovery.

Seemingly, this coming-of-age story is a soft dose of hard-hitting questions, as Victor grapples with his sexual orientation, forms new friendships and finds his way in the world. It may not be “family friendly” enough for Disney, but it will 100% be across my screen on June 19.

Taste the Nation: Padma Lakshmi
Hulu, June 19

When this show came across my radar, I was immediately excited by what Lakshmi will bring to the table, literally and figuratively. No stranger to the culinary world, Lakshmi will presumably explore different cuisines — including Thai, Native American, Creole, and others — that have influenced America’s people and culture. Salivating yet? Just watch the trailer and you will have a taste for this show as much as I do.

This also is the third show that will be released on June 19, meaning my calendar has essentially been blocked off for binge-watching the entire weekend.

The Umbrella Academy: Netflix, July 31

If I am being honest, this is not a show I would typically watch on my own. It is dark and edgy with a dash of humor, following the quirky lives of seven brothers and sisters with superpowers and serious family issues.

However, after doing nothing but binging this show for two straight days, I was immediately hooked on this mind-blowing escapade. After a year and a half wait, the second season is finally around the corner, and I am crossing my fingers that the whirlwind cliffhanger ending comes to some resolution.

Falcon and the Winter Soldier: Disney+, August

Even with the final installation of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), we all know that the Avengers are nowhere close to ending their heart-throbbing action and jaw-dropping plotlines that fans love. This show will follow Sam Wilson and Bucky Barnes as they brave perilous missions and test the limits of their superhuman abilities.

As any dedicated fan knows, the Falcon has been bestowed the shield of Captain America, possibly enhancing his connection to the Winter Soldier. I am excited by this show’s potential to dig deeper into the lives of these secondary characters and bring their voices into the spotlight.

Unique German sounds capivate audiences

By Will Rippey
Staff Writer

It has been 40 years since Einstürzende Neubauten debuted in West Berlin on the cutting edge of experimental music. Spearheaded by vocalist Blixa Bargeld and armed with DIY instruments built out of power tools and scrap metal, the group became pioneers of industrial music.

Their name, which translates to “collapsing new buildings,” is a very apt definition of their sound. In contrast to the new wave artists of the period, Neubauten took the rapidly advancing music technology of the time and used it to create sparse, chaotic soundscapes populated only by Bargeld’s manic vocals and abrasive percussion.

While the group’s sound has become less abrasive since their debut, it is still wildly experimental, and the group’s position at the forefront of experimental music is one which they have never really lost.

Their latest release, “ALLES IN ALLEM,” while much tamer than Neubauten’s earlier projects, is still an incredibly intricate and unorthodox project.

The opening track “Ten Grand Goldie” establishes the dark, imposing percussive sound of the record as well as the poetic vocal delivery. Bargeld’s vocals throughout the record carry a vaguely poetic, almost prophecetic tone as he predicts the onset of something terrifying. Spliced between the imposing timpani drum beat on “Ten Grand Goldie” are distorted female vocals and high-pitched metallic noises reminiscent of their chaotic industrial years.

This imposing opening track is then followed by “Am Landwehrkanal,” which was inspired by classic Neubauten power tool instruments. “Möbiliertes Wahrzeichen” features a scrap metal beat as well. I could also hear acccents of 80s Neubauten in every song, although not nearly as pronounced as they were in the songs I just mentioned.

I found Bargeld’s vocal performance to be the centerpiece of this record. Most of the Einstürzende Neubauten I had been listening to up to this point was their earlier work in which Bargeld delivers his vocals as maniacally and abrasively as possible.

In contrast to those albums, Bargeld’s performance on “ALLES IN ALLEM” is genuinely beautiful. His pivot from poetic prophet of misfortune on “Ten Grand Goldie” to romantic folk singer on “Am Landwehrkanal” was one that I was not at all prepared for.

In fact, I was not prepared for the vocals on this record in general.

I never expected the same Blixa Bargeld who screamed over power tools in the 80s to paint such a vivid and otherworldly picture of Berlin streets and capture feelings of sheer terror.

My favorite vocal performance on this record by far is “Seven Screws,” in which Bargeld reads a poem first in German and then in English as the instrumental swells progressively from the beginning of the track and climaxes with the final English line.

“ALLES IN ALLEM” is an incredible album. It is a marriage of harsh noise and delicate sound combined directly with unmistakable Neubauten darkness.

The record’s perfect fusion of such contradictory musical elements has created one of the most complex and engaging listening experiences I have had this year. It is the perfectly ordered rubble of the new buildings the group constructed in the 80s.

German band Einstürzende Neubauten has created a name for itself as leaders in experimental music. Their new album “ALLES IN ALLEM” expertly demonstrates the group’s unique sound and gives fans a rare listening experience.

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How to Recreate Your Favorite Summer Pastimes in Quarantine

By Heather Gast
Editor-in-Chief

While the world has started to open up after two months of quarantine, some of us remain rightfully agoraphobic. Even if these classic summer activities of suburbia weren’t already canceled, I would probably have stayed home to avoid a “second wave” of the virus — or just to avoid the people I went to high school with. Here are some ways to recreate your favorite summer pastimes in the hellscap that is 2020.

NOTE: Skin cancer is very real and exposing yourself is the fastest way to start looking old, so all of these experiences will be amplified by spraying some sunscreen over your head and taking a nice deep breath.

Swimming pools - To be fair, many states are opening swimming pools and beaches. But you don’t have to be a former lifeguard to know that pools are disgusting. If you want to have your day ruined look up how that “chlorine” smell occurs.

But I digress. To cultivate those memories of lazing by the poolside, I recommend sitting on a stove burner while it is on a low setting to replicate the sun beating down on your scantily clad body. Meanwhile, have a Top 40 radio station and “10 Hours of Whistle Sounds,” which can be found on YouTube, playing in the background.

County fair - This one will require the most props if you really want to get your head in county fair mode. Head to your closest manure pile or sewage drain with your most props if you really want to get your head in county fair mode. Head to your closest manure pile or sewage drain with your head in county fair mode. Head to your closest manure pile or sewage drain with your head in county fair mode. Head to your closest manure pile or sewage drain with your head in county fair mode. Head to your closest manure pile or sewage drain with your head in county fair mode.

Music festivals - Stand up and start walking, bring a pool towel or picnic blanket to sit on if you’re one of those ninnies, and get ready to stand for a few hours. Spend those few hundred dollars that you would have otherwise rationalized as a great way to see two bands you know and five that you don’t hire a few folks to bicker amongst themselves while you wait through ads on Spotify.

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Fictionary

Your summer summary of silly sayings™

By Tess Brewer
Staff Writer

Solstint (SOUL-stint): A job which one works exclusively during the summer months.

Humid (hue-MY-old): Almost perfect weather, if not for the lingering of Satan’s moisture.

Branze (BRAN-zz): Particular color of skin tanned to the edge of second degree burns.

Moscheeto (moh-s-CHEE-toe): A spicy, crunchy snack that feels faintly like your tongue is being repeatedly stung.

Hot and Humid Summer Games to Try

Lemonade World
newgrounds.com/portal/view/494784

This game is a bona fide classic. You play as Simon, a young lad who digs up diamonds at the beach and finds himself under siege by vikings, gangsters, annoying neighbors; you know, the usual. The game is cute and hilarious, as your enemies lob literal cannonballs at you while you and your family fight back by shooting… tennis balls. Don’t worry, they’re surprisingly effective and it is superb satisfying to knock enemies off their boats. It’s not too long (or too difficult) so you’ll be able to finish it under an hour, but you’ll love every minute of it.

Raft Wars
addictinggames.com/shooting/raft-wars

Nothing says summer more than a lemonade stand. Or if you’re me in 2009, nothing says summer more than sitting inside playing a lemonade themed browser game. This one’s an oldie but a goodie. It has that old-browser game style where you’re pretty much left to figure it out on your own, but once you do it’s super satisfying building a lemonade empire and seeing the… fruits of your labor.