XUPD aims to ensure safety

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

By Heather Gast
Managing Editor

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

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

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

"This incident is new," Walton said. "I'm from out of state, so I really don't know the area around me."

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

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

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

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

"We're not providing an update of current events, we're providing information that's going to be helpful... to the population that's here that's going to be directly impacted," Warfel said. "The question is, does that have a direct impact or does it impact Xavier's campus or Xavier's population? That's what weighs in more than anything else."

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

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

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

BDA will be working in the next few weeks to renew a joint commitment concerning community policing between XUPD and SGA that has been untouched since 2000. Students are welcome to bring suggestions to BDA or the public comment portion of upcoming SGA meetings.

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

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

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

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Swinging into the new semester

The story behind the new bench swings that appeared on Xavier’s campus

BY JOSEPH COTTON
Staff Writer

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

The swings started as the project of former Student Government Association (SGA) senator and current junior Katy Schuller during her junior year at Xavier. Schuller worked with the Vice President for Facilities at the Physical Plant Bob Sheeran for a stretch of three months to organize the details.

The project was approved by Xavier’s President, in November 2018, and the swings were ordered on March 7 of this year. They were then assembled and put around campus at the start of the semester.

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

“It’s a nice way to find a shady spot and catch a breeze, and it’s more fun than just sitting in a lawn chair,” sophomore business major Clarissa Dixon said. “It reminds me of a lot of the porch swings we have at home.”

Sophomore nursing major Hannah Thomas agrees. “I like to sit down with music and a friend and see all the people I know walk around campus,” Thomas said.

While some schools still require students to submit SAT or ACT scores, there is a growing movement to place test-optional schools across the nation. A student might feel more confident in their ability to move to Xavier’s campus, the former chair of the Residential Affairs Committee, says, while other students may feel more confident in other pieces of the application and choose to exclude test scores.

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

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

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By Alex Bedzyński
Campus News Editor

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

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

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

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

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

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

While some schools still stress the importance of standardized tests, there is a growing movement to place less emphasis on standardized tests.

According to the College Board website, being test-optional allows for increased access to higher education and more diverse campuses.

Duncan Webb, a junior mathematics major, brought up the point that taking a standardized test is not free.

“This policy is beneficial to students who cannot afford to pay for the ACT or SAT more than once,” Webb said.

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

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

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

However, Parcell pointed out that there are exceptions to the test-optional policy. Prospective nursing majors and students who have already been accepted to nursing programs at other schools will still need to submit their test scores.

Any potential applicants should consult Xavier’s admissions office for more information.
Juul Labs face class action lawsuit
20-year-old woman files in federal court after earlier lawsuit was dropped

BY JOSEPH COTTON
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

The plaintiff begins their complaint by detailing a cultural phenomenon, noting that people use Juul e-cigarettes across the United States.

Juul is facing a federal lawsuit filed last Wednesday alleging that they and their parent company Philip Morris USA violated two federal tobacco laws and an Illinois state law by using deceptive marketing to minors, culture, noting that people use the words “Juuling” and “vaping” interchangeably.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

They would go on to implement their own, stricter, regulations.

Juul Labs is in the process of becoming a FDA approved product before the FDA’s May 2020 deadline.
The real magic of Craig Karges

Rethinking corporate governance: Too few suits

Earlier this month, the Business Roundtable, a lobbying organization representing the CEOs of the nation’s largest corporations, issued an update to its “Statement of the Purpose of a Corporation.” The document, revised periodically, serves as a manifesto outlining how the CEOs of some of our nation’s largest companies conceive of the place of the American corporation within society.

The updates to the statement is particularly notable in that it broke with the Roundtable’s longstanding position that the role corporations ought to play — insisting that corporations should seek to serve stakeholders generally, rather than shareholders particularly, with their practices.

Since 1997, the Roundtable’s Statement of Purpose has held that the primary objective of the corporation is to produce value for shareholders — with other desirable outcomes for associated stakeholders such as improved conditions for workers entirely set aside. In this way, the manifesto has long argued that American corporations, perhaps the country’s most powerful social force when measured in terms of determining the day-to-day lives of millions of Americans and billions more abroad, held no responsibilities save the single-minded pursuit of profit for a select few individuals.

This previously held position was so clearly anathema, originating in the 1980s style of “greed is good” corporate governance that saw the rise of management consultants and the pursuit of increased stock prices sweep through Wall Street. Following such a mentality, corporations and their CEOs have sought to serve the needs of shareholders first and only for the last three decades, the consequences of which have been various and malign: the stagnation of wages and benefits for workers, the acceleration of ecological disaster and a period of wealth inequality the likes of which we have not seen since the Gilded Age.

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

Signed by 181 CEOs of some of the nation’s largest corporations — including Jeff Bezos of Amazon and Tim Cook of Apple — the new outlook would be an encouraging sign if it were anything more than a trumpery PR ploy. It is difficult to see this update as little more than a calculated attempt to assuage the fears of workers and consumers worldwide in a period of unprecedented economic and social upheaval.

Take, for instance, the case of the Council of Institutional Investors (CII), an industry group who represents many of the same corporations whose CEOs signed on to last week’s statement. One week after the Roundtable’s update, the CII issued a response that forcefully rebuked this new corporate manifesto, stating in head-scratching terms that “accountability to everyone means accountability to no one.”

To bring about meaningful change and realistic commitment beyond short-term shareholder interests, we cannot trust the old guard that brought us here in the first place. The prevailing mode of corporate governance sees a few of the company’s largest shareholders direct the livelihood of millions of workers while simultaneously tipping the scales of global finance, offering those billions more abroad, held no responsibility to assuage the fears of workers and consumers worldwide in a period of unprecedented economic and social upheaval.

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I'm old(er than I used to be)

During move in this semester, everything felt totally normal except for one thing: This is my third year. Now, more than halfway through my time at Xavier, I am slowly realizing that I am closer to graduation than the first day of my first year, and closer to age 30 than age 1, closer to the working world than childhood. There are adults long graduated from college who are most likely rolling their eyes at me, but hear me out.

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

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

Most people say that as you age, time seems to fly faster than ever before. There is speculation as to the reasons for this, but there is one in particular that strikes me. Time feels like it’s moving faster as you age because each increment of time becomes a smaller percentage of your life. When you are 1 year old, a day is 1/365th of your life. When you are 20 years old, a day is 1/7,300th, or .001 percent, of your life. Therefore, at 1 year old, a day seems longer because it’s a larger percentage of your life. One day to a 1-year-old can be huge because they have only lived 365 of them. However, as a 20-year-old, a day can feel much shorter because they have already lived 7,300 of them. Of course, this concept continues throughout life, and the older you are, the quicker time seems to pass. A 20-year-old will always feel time is moving faster than a 1-year-old does, and a 60-year-old will always feel that time is moving faster than a 20-year-old does.

Here at Xavier, I have no idea where those first two years went. It feels as though they happened just days ago and also that they happened a lifetime ago. So how exactly did I get to be a junior? How has this much time passed while I did homework and hung out with friends? Why does time they may not ask us for permission to come and go, but we can take control of it by living in the moment.

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

I’m not the most girly-girl, but no one ever mistook me for a man. I don’t shave my legs, but I love wearing high heels. I don’t wear dresses, but my jeans are tight with fake pockets. Feminine, but in a casual way. I’m also a gay woman, and my femininity makes people doubt my sexuality. People constantly assume that because I’m not butch I must doubt my sexuality. People judge me. I’m also a gay woman, and I love wearing high heels. I don’t shave my legs, but I’m fed up with the way people don’t look at me and immediately assume who’s gay, it’s more difficult to live in a heterosexual stereotype — still two women, but one is clearly “the man.” But that’s not representative of the queer community and presents a close-minded view of lesbian relationships.

Often it’s the subtle ways in which people undervalue my relationships that may go unnoticed, but it never ceases to hurt. I’ve worked hard to be proud and not ashamed of my identity as a gay woman, and I’ve worked even harder to be confident in my identity in public. But a voice remains in the back of my head reminding me that it is one thing for people to know you’re gay, another for them to see it. When my relationship doesn’t get the same level of respect as a heterosexual relationship would get, it feels like me, and my girlfriend, aren’t fully valued as legitimate people.

It goes beyond people trying to figure out who’s the man in my relationship that is literally defined by not having a man in it. It’s when you first mention your relationship, people don’t believe you. It’s saying that you didn’t remind them of their own best friend, their own “girlfriend.”

Often, it’s my friends who are so desperate to put me in a heteronormative box to make sense of the world. It’s admitting that they have no problem with lesbians, but seeing two women who are both in dresses getting married makes them uncomfortable.

Believe people who confide in you about their relationships and crushes. Know that in your short time on this shared earth, you have not seen an exhaustive representation of queer relationships and acknowledge that you might not know anything at all, so embrace a willingness to listen and learn.

Emily Price is a junior psychology major with a strategic human resource management minor. She is a staff writer for the Newswire from Miami, Ohio.
Musketeers capture two wins to open season
Samantha Dewey's career day powers women's soccer over Murray State

**By Jake Geiger**

*Guest Writer*

Xavier women's soccer started their season off with a bang, picking up two wins this weekend with victories over Murray State and Bowling Green. The pair of victories were highlighted by a four-goal game from redshirt senior Samantha Dewey — who was picked as the preseason Big East Offensive Player of the Year — against Murray State. The Musketeers opened their season on the road against Murray State last Friday with a 4-3 double overtime win over the Racers. The Racers tallied the first goal of the game in the 19th minute from Abby Jones. Dewey quickly answered with a goal of her own just minutes later to knot the score at one apiece. Back-to-back goals from Miyah Watford and Rebecca Kubin put Xavier down 3-1 heading into halftime. Just minutes into the second half, Dewey netted her second goal of the game, bringing the Musketeers to within one. That goal marked the fifth multi-goal game of Dewey's, the reigning Big East Midfielder of the Year. Dewey's third goal tied the game at three and forced the match into overtime. She polished off her remarkable performance with the game-winning goal in the 109th minute to lift Xavier to its first win of the season. Dewey set a new career-high eight points with four goals scored, which is one goal more than her previous personal best of three goals scored in one game. The four-goal game was also the second-most total in a single game in Xavier women's soccer program history.

Xavier returned home for its second game of the weekend at the XU Soccer Complex against the Bowling Green Falcons, and the Musketeers came out on top 2-1. Xavier struck first in the 27th minute with a goal by junior midfielder Gabrielle LoPresti. The Falcons quickly answered back, however, as a goal a minute later from Kenneth White left the teams deadlocked at 1-1, which was also the score at the half. In the 59th minute, freshman forward Jackie Richards snapped the tie with her first goal as a Musketeer. She was later named the Big East Freshman of the Week. The goal ultimately proved to be the decision-maker in the 2-1 victory. The gritty and efficient weekend for the Musketeers was a great way to start the year on a good note.

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

Volleyball readies for season
A glimpse into the non-conference schedule

**By Joe Clark**

*Staff Writer*

Prior to the start of their regular season, the Xavier women's volleyball team hosted Northern Kentucky at Cintas Center for an exhibition match. Despite winning the first set 25-22, Xavier dropped the ensuing three sets and lost the match 3-1. The Musketeers dropped the second set 25-17. In the third set, the Musketeers held a 23-9 lead, but a 5-0 run by the Norse put them ahead 24-23 after a Xavier attack attempt was blocked. Xavier quickly rebounded and took a 25-24 advantage, but Northern Kentucky took the last three points of the set to win it 25-23. Like the third set, the fourth and eventual final set was close throughout, but with Northern Kentucky holding a 24-25 lead, an assisted block by Northern Kentucky's Bailey Western and Lauren Crawford ended Xavier's comeback bid and gave the Norse a 25-23 win for the set and the 3-1 match win. The Norse defense was one of the keys to the match, as they tallied 77 digs. NKU also hit .181 as a team against Xavier's .256.

The matches of the week included an exhibition slate that includes a three-game stay at the Utah State Tournament this weekend. The matches were only an exhibition, it broke a six-match losing streak for Northern Kentucky against Xavier. For the Musketeers, the match was a tune-up before they get non-conference play started on Friday at a tournament hosted by Utah State in Logan, Utah. There, Xavier will face off against Southern Utah, Utah State and Eastern Michigan. Xavier has some familiarity with Eastern Michigan, as the Eagles won the 2007 Aussie Xavier Invitational, which was held at Cintas Center. This weekend will be the seventh meeting between the two programs, while it will be the first matchup in Xavier volleyball history against both Southern Utah and Utah State. Following the Utah State Tournament, Xavier will return to Cintas to host a tournament of its own. Following that, Xavier will travel to Lipscomb University for a tournament there before hosting another tournament at Cintas on Sept. 19 and 20 to close out their non-conference slate.

In its annual participation survey, the National Federation of State High School Associations noted a decline in sports participation for the first time in three decades for the 2018-19 season. The Los Angeles Times reported that there was a drop-off of 43,955 athletes from the 2017-18 season. Football was the sport that experienced the heaviest decrease in participation, losing more than 30,000 players from the previous school year. The total number of football players is now the lowest since 1999-2000.
Series: The Script remain a classic

BY HANNAH SCHULZ
Head Copy Editor

In last week’s Newswire, I wrote about ‘The All-American Rejects’ 2008 album, When the World Comes Down. This week I’ll be turning things in a slightly different direction. When I came up with the concept for this series, this was the second album I had in mind.

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

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

One song on the album, “Nothing,” brings back the most memories. I remember playing it on the same iPod as I sat on my front porch and looked out on my neighbor-hood, waiting for some friends to arrive. I was a little older when this album released, as I was just two months shy of my 13th birthday. Even still, this album reaches depths that I couldn’t quite understand at that age. This album touches on some heavier concepts like unemployment, alcoholism and the belief that love is a fleeting concept controlled by science. Now I’m old enough that these concepts are something I’ve had more experience with, whether firsthand or by education, and I can see that the band tried their best to share their own experiences through this album.

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

I still love this album. I went a few years without listening to it but within the last year or two, I’ve dug up songs like “Nothing” and “For the First Time” to give them another listen to. Unfortunately, I learned that the “Walk Away” remix featuring B.O.B. isn’t on Spotify, unfortunately, which is one I’d surprisingly grown to love as I tend not to be a fan of rap. It’s easy enough to look up on YouTube, but that’s just an inconvenience.

I have a lot — and I mean a lot — of embarrassing past music choices, but I’ve found that the ones I held closest to me in the past are the ones that still hold up against the currents of time. This happens to be one of them.

Purple Mountains reverberates with profundity

BY KEVIN THOMAS
Editor-in-Chief

David Berman’s album Purple Mountains is a rendering of anguish, suffering and nostalgia, beautifully articulated through the art of music.

The Script’s 2010 album Science & Faith promises a trip down memory lane worth revisiting. The influence of classical music, the profound topics addressed in their music and the blend of vocals and instruments give a timeless quality to their music and makes relistening to them a delight.

The memories I have associated with this album are far less vivid than those of The All-American Rejects. These memories are more like snapshots of a movie. I remember purchasing this album based on name recognition, having remembered the band from their previous song. I had a sixth generation iPod Nano, the one with a screen that was only one-and-a-half inches wide. I used to play this album

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

As painful as his death was and as painful as lyrics like “Go and contemplate the evidence and I guarantee you’ll find / The dead know what they’re doing when they leave this world behind” are, the album doesn’t have the crushing winds of sadness that I expected when I first heard it. Instead, it’s sweet and kind and soft. But the sadness is ever-present, especially in the song “Darkness and Cold,” which talks about the feelings of being left behind by a love. Berman sings, “The light of my life is going out tonight / In a pink champagne Corvette” and contrasts this image with the lines, “I sleep three feet above the street / In a hand-aid pink Chevette,” creating a gorgeous feeling of pain.

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

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

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

Total score:
Dear Reader,

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

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

To those who fight for others. Freedom is not an Accident.

To those who.q fight for others. Freedom is not an Accident.

To the widow whose child weeps as she holds back… Freedom is not an Accident.

To those who speak up. Bravery is not an Accident.

To atlas who grabs and axis and all those who help… Bravery is not an Accident.

Opportunity is not an Accident. Equal odds are not an Accident.

The one thing my fellow Xavier brothers and sisters know for sure is that… Family is no damn accident.

Joseph Cotton

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Capricorn: Odd circumstances will lead to an unfortunate situation in Fences involving a strange new type of dessert. It’ll be a cursory-caused caf coffee-chocolate-chip-cookie capricorn conundrum.

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

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