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NewsWire Wins 10 ONMA Awards

NewsWire celebrates winning its second ONMA title, thank you for reading

BY CHLOE SALVESON
Print Managing Editor

NewsWire was awarded the Frank E. Deaner Excellence in Collegiate Journalism Award for the second year in a row on March 31.

The Ohio News Media Association (ONMA) have awarded collegiate newspapers for journalistic prowess annually for the past 14 years based on student enrollment. NewsWire has won the small group division, denoted by enrollment of less than 10,000 students, for the second time.

Longtime NewsWire Advisor John Stowell expressed: "I am so proud of these student journalists who received, for the second straight year, the recognition they have earned. To win the first time was an honor but to be named as the best by a team of professional journalists demonstrates we are producing a consistently superior product for our readers."

Each collegiate division is subdivided into 10 categories. NewsWire, in addition to the excellence title, has received nine awards in seven categories. These awards recognize outstanding collegiate journalism during the 2021-2022 academic year.

Editor-in-Chief Mo Juenger, who was Print Managing Editor at the time, stated, "The opportunity for our staff to participate in this every year is always so gratifying, but especially so when they are honored for their hard work and dedication to journalism."

Stowell commented: "What's especially gratifying is that our student journal-

ists write for the love of it. We don't have a journalism school here at Xavier, but the product our reporters and editors turn out each week is the best, regardless of the degree they'll earn."

"The writers, editors, managers and every member of NewsWire staff have made us all proud. I'm honored to have been able to work with these students every week, and I know the skills they developed here will benefit them wherever their paths might lead. I hope these awards reaffirm that their efforts are meaningful, and that they are representing students in a significant way," Juenger added.

This is the sixth year NewsWire has submitted to the ONMA award contest. This is the first year NewsWire's multimedia division, composed of radio shows, student podcasts and comedic YouTube videos, has placed.

"It was so cool to see that Kayla, Spencer and Lilly were recognized for their work on GB3. The girlbosses had a unique idea that was a lot of fun to listen to — and even more fun to help produce. They really showed what NewsWire's Multimedia Department is capable of," Former Multimedia Managing Editor Hunter Ellis said.

"When I became Multimedia Managing Editor, it was my goal to set up the infrastructure to show that our students could tell stories about what makes Xavier great, not through just words on in a paper, but other mediums like photos and podcasts as well. Desmond, Caroline and the Girlboss Cubed crew showed the ONMA judges exactly that," Ellis continued.

News Coverage First Place

Awarded to: NewsWire staff, with special thanks to former Editor-in-Chief Alex Budzyski

Judges commented: "Great papers from cover to cover. Nice news stories from all parts of university life. Good writing."

In-Depth Reporting Second Place

Awarded to: Former Sports Editor Joe Clark.

Winning story: "Students protest recent vandalism: Walkout for increased administrative and XUPD action attains large turnout"

Judges commented: "Good coverage."

Arts & Entertainment Third Place

Awarded to: Print Managing Editor Chloe Salvesson

Winning review: "'Voulez-Vous-hoo' for Mamma Mia"

Judges commented: "Great stories with smooth flow and good photos. Love the intros that were cliché but fresh especially on Mamma Mia."

Opinion Writing Second Place

Awarded to: Staff Writer Ivy Lewis

Winning opinions: Assorted political columns

Judges commented: "Draws attention to some tough topics with data and figures to back up her arguments."

Opinion Writing Third Place

Awarded to: Former Back Page Editor Aidan Callahan

Winning opinions: Columns on popular culture

Judges commented: "'It's theater season' was a really fun read. Nice collection of pop culture columns."

Photojournalism First Place

Awarded to: Photography Editor Desmond Fischer

Judges commented: "Excellent, well-framed shot. Readers can feel the joy the player is showing."

Photojournalism Second Place

Awarded to: Staff Writer Caroline Steiger

Judges commented: "A close-up can sometimes be hard to capture, hard to frame, a challenge to focus. This accomplishes both."

Best Multi-Media Package First Place

Awarded to: Back Page Editor Kayla Ross, Multimedia Managing Editor Spencer de Tenley and Photo Editor Lilly Cotton for "Girlboss Cubed"

Winning episode: "Firsts"

Best Website Second Place

Awarded to: Online Editor Alyssa Sepulveda, with special thanks to Back Page Editor Kayla Ross

Judges commented: "Website is visually appealing. Archive feature is very well done and the photo gallery is stunning."

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XU MarComm Makes Switch in Colors

Xavier's Office of Marketing and Communication announces new design switch

BY KATIE SANCHEZ
Arts & Entertainment
Editor

Starting this fall, Musketeers may notice new designs and hints of color in Xavier's branding and marketing materials. These updates align with Xavier's recently-announced strategic plan and include incorporating the symbol "+X" and new accent colors into existing branding.

The new strategic plan, announced last month, is titled "Xavier 200: The Greater. The Better. The More." and outlines a set of goals for the university to complete by Xavier's 200th anniversary in 2031. The plan emphasizes four Jesuit values: cura studiorum, cura personalis, cura propia and cura apostolica.

"Our question is: What more can we offer here at Xavier to continue to take Xavier to the next level?" Xavier Associate Vice President for Marketing and Communications Doug Ruschman said. Ruschman, in collaboration with the Office of the President, has overseen the branding and marketing changes that are part of the "Xavier 200" plan.

In line with the strategic plan, the "+X" symbol, meaning "more Xavier" will be incorporated into Xavier's mar-

keting materials.

Ruschman said the idea for this symbol came from the focus groups that were consulted during the creation of the strategic plan.

"What we took away from (focus group sessions) is that students were getting more out of their Xavier experience than they thought they possibly would... so for us the challenge and the opportunity is to tell the fuller story of each one of our students," Ruschman said.

The "+X" symbol will not replace the current "X" that is Xavier's current university and athletic logo. That X will remain Xavier's primary logo, while the "+X" will be seen primarily in marketing campaigns.

Along with the new symbol, the addition of a lighter royal blue and a bright gold to Xavier's color palette will begin to be seen around campus in the coming months.

The royal blue is already used in some Xavier merchandising and branding — the color has been dubbed "Running Man Blue" due to its common use in conjunction with the classic logo of the Musketeer running with a basketball. Running Man Blue has roots in Xavier branding campaigns of decades past and was also seen on retro

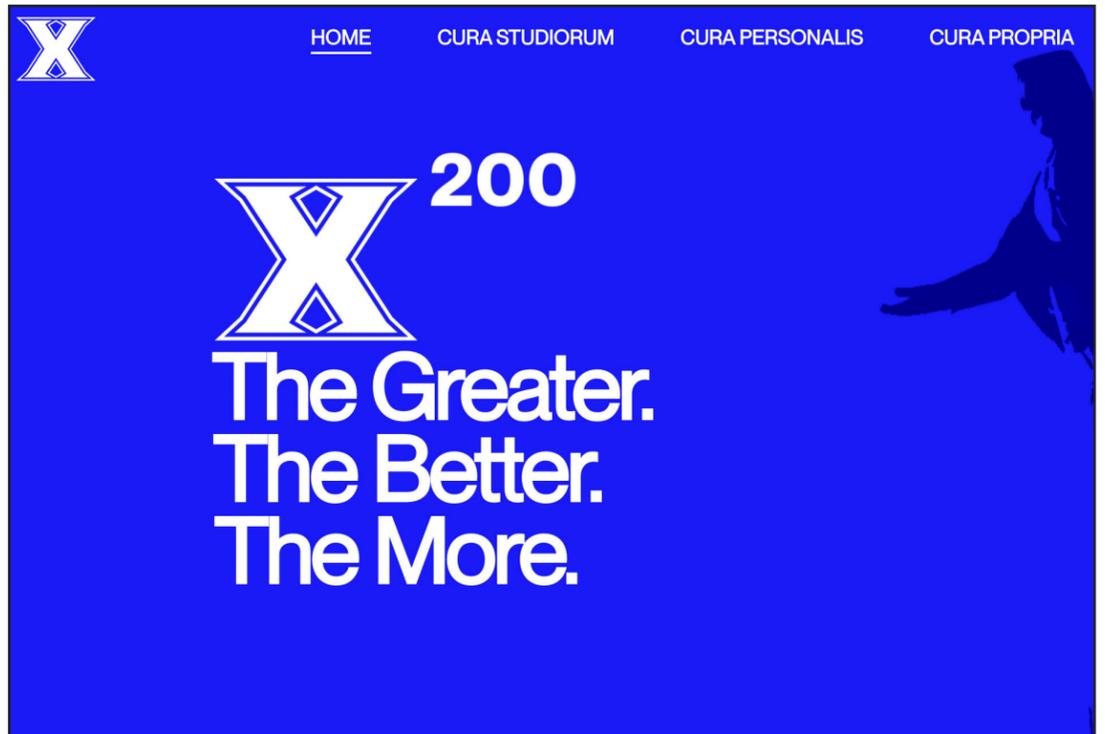


Photo courtesy of xavier.edu
A look at the xavier.edu/200 website that was published alongside the release of the strategic plan dons the new, lighter shade of blue dubbed "Running Man Blue."

Xavier men's basketball jerseys worn this season against the Connecticut Huskies on Jan. 25.

Running Man Blue will not replace the existing Xavier navy as the primary branding color, but will instead receive new emphasis as an accent color complementing that navy. A bright gold, another retro Xavier color, will also be seen accenting these other colors. Ruschman commented on the confusion that arose

among students and community members wondering if these colors would replace or merely complement existing colors.

The confusion arose from promotional materials and the website for the Xavier 200 plan, which prominently feature Running Man Blue and gold.

"We probably went a little extra and over the top on those things just to make sure that they stuck out a little bit

more and people knew it was something new and fresh and different," Ruschman said, confirming that Xavier's navy and silver will not be disappearing. "At our core, Xavier's brand is going to remain the same."

The Office of Marketing and Communications anticipates these visual aspects of the strategic plan, including new merchandise that utilizes the updated color palette, to be seen by the fall semester.

Xavier LGBTQ+ Students Embark on Camp Queer

BY JACKSON HARE
Education & Enrichment
Coordinator

From Feb. 23-26, a group of 12 LGBTQ+ students attended Xavier LGBTQ+ Alliance's annual event, Camp Queer.

Camp Queer is a weekend getaway exclusively for students who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community to connect with similar students and learn more about themselves and their subsequent communities.

"Being a queer student at a Jesuit-Catholic campus can be very challenging at times," Megan Shuey, Xavier LGBTQ+ Alliance secretary and sophomore sports management major said. "It's im-

portant to have Camp Queer because it's a chance for us to not only be an exclusive group of LGBTQ+ students, but also getting off campus — being in a different space and really getting to fully indulge and exist as our authentic selves, learn about each other and have fun," she added.

During this four-day experience, students engaged in various activities focusing around a central theme of "embracing our true colors." To interact with the theme, each LGBTQ+ Alliance board member individually planned an activity for the group, including presentations about self care, a plate breaking activity, several multicolored crafts, learning about the symbolism behind various identity

flags, talking with ProudXU members and learning about queer coding and queer baiting in TV shows and movies.

First-year art major Ian McIlvain, who attended Camp Queer, emphasized that these activities were incredibly important to his experience.

"There were a lot of great events and sessions put on by the Alliance board members that were very informative and healing. They offered strategies for self care and recognizing your self worth which is very important, especially when you're in a minority group that's constantly oppressed," McIlvain said.

Aside from providing a space for LGBTQ+ students to learn and engage with themes related to their identities, the LGBTQ+ Alliance aimed to make Camp Queer an opportunity for LGBTQ+ students to make connections with the other attendees in a welcoming, accepting space that welcomes authenticity.

"One of the big things about Camp Queer is not only creating a community and making people feel safe, but also helping people find friends, connect with other people and establish relationships that will last beyond the



Photo courtesy of Xavier LGBTQ+ Alliance via Instagram
Students who identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community on campus were invited to attend Camp Queer in Feb.

experience," Shuey said.

For McIlvain, this goal was met with flying colors.

"Going into it, I didn't know everyone very well, so just having that extended period allowed us to connect and have the time to get to know each other. Now, we have a group chat we still use. We're still connected, so it really sets up that friendship. We know that if we need something that we have this group — we have these people," McIlvain said.

Months later, this small group of students is still con-

nected, often tossing around inside jokes that were created over the shared laughs and shared experiences they had at Camp Queer.

"We wanted people to have a chance to relax and be immersed in this environment where they are safe to be their authentic selves, to learn about identities different from theirs — maybe more about their identities — to have fun and to reinforce that their identity is valid. And, they are accepted and loved and have a space here on campus and in the world," Shuey said.



Photo courtesy of Xavier LGBTQ+ Alliance

Finland Joins NATO in European Power Shake-Up

BY JUSTIN MALONE
Staff Writer

Finland officially became the 31st member state of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) on April 4, signaling a major shift in the European security landscape triggered by the war in Ukraine.

The Nordic nation's accession into NATO, the world's largest peacetime security alliance, was formally declared during a ceremony at the organization's headquarters in Brussels on the 74th anniversary of the signing of the Washington Treaty, which established the defense alliance.

At the event, Finnish President Sauli Niinistö presented the nation's instrument of accession to U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken, completing the accession process and following NATO protocol. These documents were handed over to Blinken because the U.S. Department of State acts as the sole depository of NATO.

Finland's national flag —

which features a blue Nordic cross on a white field — was raised among those of the 30 other nations in the alliance as the Finnish national anthem and the NATO hymn played. The ceremony was intended to symbolically display the significance of changing global dynamics as the West buttresses important alliances amongst Russian aggression.

"Finland has today become a member of the defense alliance NATO. The era of military non-alignment in our history has come to an end. A new era begins," Niinistö stated.

"Each country maximizes its own security. So does Finland. At the same time, NATO membership strengthens our international position and room for maneuver. As a partner, we have long actively participated in NATO activities. In the future, Finland will make a contribution to NATO's collective deterrence and defense," he said.

Niinistö added that Finland would be "a reliable ally that strengthens regional stability."

"Joining NATO is good for Finland, it is good for Nordic security and it is good for NATO as a whole," NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said.

"Finland brings substantial and highly capable forces, expertise in national resilience and years of experience working side by side with NATO allies. I am deeply proud to welcome Finland as a full-fledged member of our alliance, and I look forward to also welcoming Sweden as soon as possible," Stoltenberg noted.

The move also marks a political and strategic setback for Russia, as President Vladimir Putin has long complained about NATO's growing expansion toward Russia and has wanted to undermine the alliance. With Finland's membership, NATO doubled its shared borders with Russia.

Russia's Foreign Ministry said in a statement that the government "will be forced to take military-technical and

other retaliatory measures to counter the threats to our national security arising from Finland's accession to NATO."

It also stated that Finland's move marks "a fundamental change in the situation in Northern Europe, which had previously been one of the most stable regions in the world."

Russian Press Secretary Dmitry Peskov expressed that Finland's accession into the alliance echoes NATO's anti-Russian progressions.

"This forces us to take countermeasures in tactical and strategic terms," Peskov said.

Finland, which adopted neutrality after its defeat by the Soviet Union in World War II, was prompted to abandon its neutral status after fear of Russian aggression spread due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The country applied for NATO membership last May alongside Sweden.

Finland had long conducted military exercises with NATO in a partner status before the

nation formally applied for membership. Now, Finland's membership adds one of Western Europe's most powerful militaries and artillery forces to NATO.

Finland's entry into the alliance was unblocked when Turkey, the last of the hold-out countries in NATO, ratified their accession application in a parliamentary vote on March 30. Finland wanted to join the alliance "hand in hand" with Sweden, but this process was upended because Turkey and Hungary objected to Sweden's application. Niinistö gave Finland's ratification of Sweden's application to Blinken as it joined the alliance.

Stoltenberg said Putin had not been able to "slam NATO's door shut."

"Today, we show the world that he failed, that aggression and intimidation do not work. Instead of less NATO, he has achieved the opposite — more NATO — and our door remains firmly open," Stoltenberg added.

Louisville Shooting Leaves Five Dead

BY ETHAN NICHOLS
World News Editor

At least five people are dead and eight injured following a mass shooting at Old National Bank in Louisville, Kentucky. The shooting marks the 146th mass shooting of 2023.

Police received calls around 8:30 a.m. on Monday and arrived on the scene three minutes after being dispatched.

"We believe this is a lone gunman involved in this that did have a connection to the bank," Deputy Chief of the Louisville Police Department Paul Humphrey said.

Louisville police also reported that two police officers were injured and transported to a nearby hospital.

Among the victims is Xavier alumnus Joshua Barrick, a senior vice president at Old National Bank. Barrick re-

ceived his Bachelor of Science in business administration from Xavier in 2005.

The other victims are Tommy Elliott, Jim Tutt, Juliana Farmer and Deana Eckert.

Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear traveled to the scene of the shooting hours following the incident.

"This is awful. I have a very close friend that didn't make it today. And I have another close friend who didn't, either, and one who is at the hospital that I hope is going to make it through. So when we talk about praying, I hope people will," Beshear said at a press conference on Monday at the scene of the shooting.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) expressed his condolences to the victims and their families.

"Elaine and I are devastated by the news coming out of Louisville this morning. Thank you to LMPD and our first re-

sponders for your bravery at the scene. We send our prayers to the victims, their families and the city of Louisville as we await more information," McConnell said.

Rep. Keturah Herron, a Democrat who represents part of Louisville, expressed anger and called for stricter gun control.

"As we hold our community tighter, there must also be outrage and anger. We live in a war zone, and we shouldn't have to," Herron tweeted.

Dr. Jason Smith, the chief medical officer at University of Louisville Health, discussed the care the nine victims received at the hospital following the shooting.

"To be honest with you, we barely had to adjust our operating room schedule to be able to do this. That's how frequently we are having to deal with gun violence in our community," Smith said.

Science Simplified

By Reagan Oliver
Staff Writer

When you've taken too many shots, consider this one to sober you up.

Currently, the only known way to lessen intoxication is to wait it out; however, a new study shows that injecting mice with a naturally-occurring hormone helped sober them up more quickly.

Mihwa Choi and her team of researchers recently completed a study on the effects of a hormone shot on drunk mice. Mice in this study were given enough alcohol to sufficiently raise their blood alcohol content level. Once the mice were drunk, researchers injected them with FGF21, a hormone that is naturally made by the liver.

The mice injected with this hormone sobered up twice as fast as those that did not receive the hormone shot. FGF21 has this effect because it activates the noradrenergic nervous system.

Scientists hope this shot will help treat alcohol poisoning in humans once it advances to human trials and that it will help wake people up from alcohol in the same way. Narcan is a similar tool that is currently used to help people wake up from opioid overdoses.

This isn't the first time that a drug has helped mice sober up quickly, but it is the first to show promising potential in its application to humans. This hormone also shows more solutions for a person who has too much to drink.

Researchers are also looking into how FGF21 could address liver disease and alcohol addiction. While we wait for human trials to begin, Lorenzo Leggio, a physician-scientist with the National Institutes of Health, said that this study adds "an important piece to the puzzle" of understanding the full potential of FGF21.



Photo courtesy of commons.wikimedia.org

CFJ Move Lacks Faith

The phrase “a small change makes a big difference” usually has a positive connotation — but not in this case.

Within the last month, the Xavier student body was informed by the Dorothy Day Center of Faith and Justice (CFJ) that it would be moving divisions. While the CFJ was originally housed under Student Affairs, it is now moving to the Center for Mission and Identity.

This might not seem like a big deal on the surface; after all, the CFJ plays an important role in furthering the mission and values of the Jesuit tradition. It almost makes sense for them to move divisions, right?

Here’s the thing: The CFJ’s approach to enhancing the Jesuit mission is rooted in what I argue is the greatest asset on campus. The students.

By requiring the CFJ to be housed under Mission and Identity, its intended — or official — purpose is not necessarily to serve students but to outwardly demonstrate the university’s mission and identity.

This mission and identity is shifting from enhancing the Jesuit mission to promoting a Catholic-first identity. In other words, the administration is attempting to juxtapose Je-

suits and Catholics as if they are separate.

Except they are not really separate. The Jesuit order is indeed Catholic. Sure, the Jesuits may not act or hold the exact same beliefs as typical “Catholics,” but I like to think of it similar to any given family.

Each person in your family has their differences. You might have a lot of similarities, but the differences you have from your family members — however big or small — are what make your behavior and decisions your own. That doesn’t make you any less part of the family, just like being Jesuit doesn’t make us any less Catholic.

By moving the CFJ to Mission and Identity — in which its mission and identity is significantly changing — the administration is trying to change the essence of the CFJ.

To continue with my analogy, parents should never change the essence of their own child. They can help to foster growth in their child, but the desire to change their core involves self-interest, control and power.

Currently the CFJ’s website states the following: “We are an office that has grown out of what used to be three separate centers — Campus

Ministry, Peace & Justice and Interfaith Community Engagement. By building community together, we create dynamic spaces for you to grow into who you are called to be.”

The CFJ has always been special compared to other Jesuit universities because it isn’t a campus ministry, but rather provides a space for students to engage with others, regardless of faith or religious background. The CFJ creates a welcoming environment where students are encouraged to discover, learn and grow — all of which follow the Jesuits’ mission. It prioritizes students by offering experiences and resources to help us better understand our world and the role we play.

Most of all, the CFJ is a group of people who simply want students to discover who they are and to celebrate that ever-evolving process.

Making the CFJ function more like a typical campus ministry creates a loss of diverse backgrounds — whether it be race, gender, culture and, most of all, faith (and perhaps lack thereof). This powerful decision from the administration targets a specific demographic that, frankly, has generally always had a space on campus. This change

makes it more difficult for all students to feel they have a role in the Jesuit Catholic mission; it will unintentionally deter non-Catholic students from participating in CFJ activities.

Now, I acknowledge my extremely limited knowledge and understanding of all that the administration does. As a student, I only have a grasp of what administration supposedly entails. And I recognize the administration has dealt with very difficult situations and decisions.

I also know that the administration is not stupid. The people behind these decisions, including this division change, know exactly what they’re doing. Just because you can does not mean you should.

What I ask is that students stay aware. Use your Jesuit education to question, challenge and speak up when things just don’t seem right. Acknowledge your mistakes and what you don’t know, but never ignore your intuition.

In recognizing that this decision won’t be changed, know this: The CFJ will always be a place for students. It may not be their “official” purpose, but it is at their core. And after four years of fond memories and experiences with the CFJ, I know that core will never be

sacrificed.

The name might eventually be (forcibly) changed to “Campus Ministry,” but the CFJ is named after Dorothy Day, who took a stand against unfair systems to benefit humanity. She saw injustices and worked to improve them because she saw more value in people than money.

In a world where money seems to be the root of all evil, I recognize the game higher education institutions have to play — profits over people is sadly the name of the game. But you’re never going to win if your players, your people, don’t follow your lead.

People over profits. That’s something all of us can reflect on in our lives. And luckily for us, reflection is a value Xavier celebrates.

So long as we’re Jesuit.



Noelle Ullery is a staff writer for *News-wire*. She is a senior economics and English major from St. Louis.

The System Demands Change

Our planet is dying. Millions of Americans go without access to good healthcare each year. The U.S. incarcerates more people per capita than almost any other developed nation. A housing crisis. Black and Brown Americans are murdered by police. American imperialism continues to infect the global South.

There is a common thread that connects this all together, though: American capitalism.

We live in a profit-driven world. One in which the needs of corporations and the top 1% — the ruling class — are prioritized over all else. Workers in this country deal with abuse, poor working conditions, a sub-par minimum wage and extreme wage theft.

The ruling class in this country will continue unfet-

tered unless we, the working class majority, stand up and say that enough is enough.

We are the majority. Seventy percent of Americans support Medicare for All, 63% of Americans support free college and 80% of Americans support the Green New Deal.

Last year saw a surge in unionization campaigns. As major corporations cracked down on unionization attempts, going so far as firing union leaders, more than 200 Starbucks stores voted to unionize. Amazon workers voted to unionize in New York and the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) reported a 58% increase in union petitions from the year prior.

Capitalism is the root of all evil. It sits at the intersection of every major issue facing

our society.

Gun violence? Capitalism is to blame. The National Rifle Association (NRA) and the gun industry continue to buy off politicians to prevent common-sense gun reform solutions from getting passed. Why? Profit.

Climate change? Again, capitalism. Just 100 corporations are responsible for 71% of all global greenhouse gas emissions.

Take any issue. At the root of it will be one thing — profit.

While socialist and anti-capitalist movements have existed in the U.S. for centuries, it was the 2016 presidential campaign of Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) that helped to drive interest in socialism.

Sanders was a wake-up call

for many of us. I first became politically engaged because of Sanders. He made it all make sense. He made politics accessible.

His campaign slogan, “Not Me, Us” truly did sum up exactly what it is going to take to fight capitalism and build the future we deserve — a mass movement.

And luckily, all hope is not lost. Following his inspirational campaigns in 2016 and 2020, the largest socialist organization in the country, the Democratic Socialists of America, had a massive membership spike, currently hovering at around 92,000 members nationwide with chapters in all 50 states.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is well known for his civil rights activism, but

what is less known is that he was a staunch anti-capitalist and a socialist.

“The evils of capitalism are as real as the evils of militarism and evils of racism,” King said.

Capitalism is harsh, inhumane, undemocratic and deeply exploitative.

Until we as a society prioritize people over profits, systemic injustices will continue.



Ethan Nichols is the World News Editor for *News-wire*. He is a sophomore Philosophy, Politics and the Public and English double major from Cincinnati.

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The Xavier *News-wire* is committed to reporting the news, as well as explaining its significance to readers. In addition, through publishing opposing viewpoints and opinions, the *News-wire* hopes to foster a dialogue on campus and among students, faculty and staff.

Advertising

All inquiries should be directed to the Business Manager, Melissa Navarra, by email at newswire@xavier.edu or at www.xaviernewswire.com

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Silence Sends A Message

The original version of this opinion contains hyperlinks citing sources where this version's text is blue. Please visit us at xaviernewswire.com to view these links.

Silence is a powerful communication strategy.

In interpersonal conversations, it can communicate sympathetic support or encourage guilt and shame.

In classrooms, awkward silences can produce profound insights or can signal misunderstanding.

In civic engagement, silence lets others control the narrative while tacitly supporting what they are saying. Silence is acquiescence.

Opinion columnists and contributors in the Cincinnati Enquirer have repeatedly and directly attacked Xavier undergraduates' civic engagement while praising the president and senior leadership's resolve.

President Colleen Hanycz and the Senior Leadership Council have remained silent. They have not refuted the columnists' claims, letting the broader Cincinnati community believe that Xavier students are extremists, suborning authoritarianism and irrational, failed citizens.

However, we know better. As faculty, we talk with, listen to and mentor students every day during their four years at Xavier and after they graduate.

We attend student events on campus, eat with them in the cafeteria, attend their sporting events and hear dis-

cussions between students who agree and disagree with one another.

Overwhelmingly, Xavier students' viewpoints are well-formed, evidence-driven and considered.

They do not accept an idea without questioning, researching or challenging it.

They debate each other and faculty. Given the chance, they would also debate the new "Justice in Residence" Joe Deters.

Xavier students are not rash, reflexive ideologues. They are deliberative, discerning thinkers.

Our experience with Xavier students stands in stark contrast to the little evidence that columnists have gathered.

Rather than actually engaging with and challenging the students' evidenced arguments regarding Deters' documented history of racist dog whistles, controversial policy positions and victim blaming, these columnists rely on generic, lazy "culture war" talking points.

And for what do they attack students?

Circulating a petition. Civically engaging. Asking Xavier community leaders to explain themselves. Standing in solidarity with people of color, sexual assault victims and marginalized communities. Working toward justice by objecting to the death penalty. Doing what students came to Xavier to learn about and what they have been repeatedly encouraged to do. Doing what Xavier aspires to be.

Was the students' ask to

rescind the appointment too big? Was senior leadership upset that students questioned their unilateral decision to appoint Deters? Maybe, but Xavier students, staff and faculty will never know without a public explanation.

By remaining publicly silent and only discussing the Deters appointment in private meetings, Hanycz and leadership have let students, who they directly serve, and Xavier's brand be repeatedly dragged around the Tri-State all the way to the Ohio Attorney General's office.

Xavier leadership has accepted the columnists' applause and ignored the Xavier community.

It is, in fact, Xavier's leadership who have not engaged, not listened to alternative viewpoints and have relied on groupthink.

While telling students to listen and consider alternative viewpoints, Xavier's leadership themselves have not listened or considered.

From a strategic communication point of view, silence not only supports a stated viewpoint, but it also lets others control the narrative.

Letting external third parties control the narrative is particularly problematic.

The Enquirer's narrative about Xavier's villainous, outspoken students and heroic, domineering leadership is not a good brand narrative.

Of course, people reading and thinking about the columns may arrive at alternative interpretations to the only publicly presented opin-

ion. One alternative to the villain-hero narrative is that Xavier leadership ignores students' legitimate concerns, stifles their expression and patronizes them, which is not a good brand narrative.

Another is that Xavier does not keep its brand promises, that it does not follow the code of community it promotes or that, as Jason Williams' April 5 Enquirer column and April 8 lead story noted, it is kicking out its "touchy-feely Jesuit priests."

Impressively, Williams manages to ignore the fact that Xavier is a Jesuit Catholic institution, dismiss the core Jesuit value and pillar of the new strategic plan, cura personalis and simultaneously tie Xavier to the Catholic Church's past sexual abuse scandals.

Again, none of this is a good brand narrative.

Leadership's silence endorses the columnists' narratives and allows them to take control, warp and damage Xavier's brand image.

Silence also leaves Xavier community members to write their own narratives about Deters' appointment.

Without leadership's public explanation, members of the Xavier community are left with no choice but to create their own explanations, which are also not good brand narratives.

Students, staff and faculty have questions about the appointment process, whom we serve and why leadership has ignored community members'

legitimate critiques.

Since the Xavier community cannot rely on Hanycz and leadership to participate in community discussions, students, staff and faculty must carry on those discussions.

Faculty, staff and students must provide the brand narrative that builds community, belonging and productive civic culture.

We must continue encouraging and supporting each other's civic engagement on and off campus.

While recognizing and preserving each other's human dignity, we must help each other understand multiple viewpoints and discern our own.

We must listen to, believe and uplift each other, especially our community members of color and other members who feel marginalized by Deters' appointment and other decisions.

We must keep living the mission by embracing justice, solidarity, kinship and love.

If Xavier's leadership will not defend its students or community, we fear they will soon not have students or a community left to defend.

At the time of publication, this opinion has been endorsed by 71 people, including 33 faculty, 20 current undergraduate students, 2 staff members and 16 alumni. A full list of signatures can be found at xaviernewswire.com.

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Climate Change and Intersectionality: Expanding the Conversations

Tuesday, April 18th @ 4:30PM – Conaton Board Room (2nd Floor, Schmidt Hall)

Kevin J. O'Brien, Ph.D.
Professor of Religion and Environmental Ethics
Pacific Lutheran University

X XAVIER UNIVERSITY ETHICS/RELIGION AND SOCIETY PROGRAM

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Jon Rahm Wins Marathon Masters In Style

Golf's number one player dominated on Sunday, clearing the field by four strokes to win

By **BEN DICKISON**
Staff Writer

It was a dark and stormy Saturday afternoon at Augusta National Golf Club when play was suspended due to unfit wind and rain conditions: LIV Tour superstar Brooks Koepka toted a four-shot lead back to the Butler Cabin clubhouse with a dicey Sunday looming. Fast forward approximately 20 hours and Barrika, Spain native Jon Rahm was being crowned in green linen by the champion he succeeded, Scottie Scheffler.

Rahm has been known for his nuclear disposition due to putting misfortunes throughout his career; this weekend he harnessed the urge to pulverize the green with his club. At the end of his initial round, Rahm found himself atop the leaderboard, joined by exciting prospect and elite ball-striker Viktor Hovland, who also accumulated a 65-shot round.

Lurking in a tie for sixth position on Thursday was this year's eventual low-amateur Sam Bennett, a fifth-year student at Texas A&M; he reigns as the 2022 Southeastern Conference (SEC) Golfer of the Year and 2022 US Amateur Champion.

Bennett's historic finish —



Photo courtesy of yourgolftravel.com

In a rain-filled Masters tournament, world number one golfer Jon Rahm took center stage: defeating the field by four strokes en route to a second major win.

the first top 20 tournament win by an amateur since 2005 — places him in the company of fellow Masters low amateurs of the past: Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson.

Mickelson delivered a scintillating performance in this year's tournament, finishing in a tie for second and shooting eight strokes below par on the weekend.

Fashionably late to the leader party on day one was Koepka, who found a birdie on the ultimate hole to dis-

rupt Rahm and Hovland atop the throne. Koepka is one of 18 players who has left the PGA Tour for LIV in the year since Scheffler hoisted the 2022 Masters Trophy.

However, the blooming magnolias of Augusta National seem to have unifying power, as LIV and PGA athletes endured and adapted torrential weather all the same to ensure a tournament ridden with interruptions would still finish on Easter Sunday as scheduled.

Koepka, along with all oth-

er patrons and contestants, was able to disperse before being flattened by one of three fallen Augusta pines and found himself ascending to a two-shot lead at the end of the cut round, which trickled over into Saturday morning.

Notably, 63-year-old Fred Couples, 1992 Masters winner, became the oldest player to ever tread above the cut line at the Masters.

Saturday saw Rahm and Koepka paired with Bennett as part of a system of triune

grouping to finish as many holes as possible before the wrath of the ominous clouds was felt.

The aforementioned lead group found themselves on the sixth hole when play was suspended. Koepka relished in a four-shot lead (-13) after Rahm bogeyed the fourth and fifth holes to revert to nine-under.

"The Saturday Stoppage" was a beacon that signified the change of Rahm's play from dormancy to his unstoppable surge and Koepka's erosion, possibly due to Rahm's familiarity with the 54-hole structure of LIV tournaments.

Koepka added surplus tallies to his card on holes two, four, six and nine; Rahm birdied three and eight to soar into a two-shot lead as the pair made their turn for the clubhouse.

Koepka found himself birdie-barren for the remainder of his round, finishing five strokes closer to par than he was for Saturday's siesta. Rahm birdied holes 13 and 14 in rapid succession and by the time Amen Corner was turned, there was no doubt that the bearded baron would join the most elite club in professional golf: the Masters Champions.

Finally, Rahm remarked, "If you're going to make a double or four-putt anything, it might as well be the first hole. 71 holes to make it up."

Musketeer Baseball's Win Streak Reaches Ten Games

Xavier has impressed as of late, extending their win streak to ten games against Butler

By **JUSTIN MALONE**
Staff Writer

Xavier baseball wrapped up their thrilling Big East opening series against Butler last weekend, sweeping the Bulldogs 8-3, 4-2 and 13-6 and extending their win streak to 10 games.

The weekend's action began with the Musketeers taking an early lead after getting the first two batters of the second inning on base, with senior outfielder and first baseman Tyler DeMartino moving to third on a fielder's choice. A sacrifice flyby senior outfielder Alex Helmin drove in DeMartino for the first run of the game.

In the sixth inning, the Musketeers added to their lead after freshman infielder Connor Misch hit an RBI single that brought in pitcher Connor Hendrickson, making the score 4-0. Xavier tacked on another run when senior infielder Jared Cushing scored on a fielder's choice.

Butler then invigorated their own offensive rally as the Bulldogs crushed a pair of home runs in the eighth inning, reducing the Musketeer lead to two. However, Xavier quickly responded in the bottom of the frame after junior catcher Matthew De-

Prey hit an RBI double and graduate outfielder Andrew Walker pummeled a two-run home run, setting the final score at 8-3.

Senior starting pitcher Ethan Bosacker struck out nine batters and walked two in his career-long seven and 2/3 inning appearance. Sophomore pitcher Justin Loer entered in the eighth, getting the Musketeers out of a jam with a strikeout. Senior pitcher Jonathan Kelly finished out the game with a strikeout in the ninth.

Xavier got on the board early in the second game after DePrey blasted a home run to center field in the first, and senior infielder Matt McCormick smacked a solo homer to right in the second, delivering an early 2-0 Musketeer lead. Butler responded with a solo shot in the fourth to cut the lead in half, but Cushing crushed a two-run homer to right in the bottom of the inning to put the Musketeers in front 4-1.

The Bulldogs scored another run from a solo blast in the fifth inning, making the final score 4-2. Graduate pitcher Brant Alazus limited Butler's offense to only those two hits in a career-long eighth inning appearance, a season-low for the Musketeer



Photo courtesy of goxavier.com

Over the weekend, Xavier baseball faced off against Butler University, defeating them in all three games to complete a series sweep. The Musketeers have now won 10 in a row in the midst of conference play.

pitching staff. He also struck out nine without allowing a walk in his efforts, picking up the victory along the way. Graduate pitcher Clay Schwaner picked up a strikeout in the ninth, earning his fifth save of the season.

To close out the weekend, the Bulldogs initially took control of the game on a first-inning home run and scored two more runs in the third. In the bottom of the inning, a Housinger RBI double and a Butler defensive error allowed the Musketeers to make the score 3-2.

The Bulldogs' one-run lead persisted until the fifth inning, when Xavier's offensive attack opened the floodgates in the bottom of the frame. A Helmin two-RBI home run — his first of the season — and a Cushing run put the Muskies in front 4-3. Xavier added four more runs to their lead after Walker hit an RBI single and DeMartino pummeled a three-run homer to make the score 8-3 at the end of the frame.

The Bulldogs tacked on their own run in the sixth, but the Musketeers responded

in the seventh scoring three runs on three hits and two walks.

Butler then added another two runs to their total in the eighth, but a DePrey solo homer and an RBI single by sophomore outfielder Teddy Deters put the Musketeers up 13-6 for good.

On the mound, Kelly picked up the win, working three innings in relief, while junior Nick Boyle picked up a strikeout in the seventh.

Xavier looks to stay hot this Friday as they take on Connecticut.

Opinion: K-Pop Star Shines Brightly

BY LANEY KONZ
Staff Writer

With the emergence and proliferation of “stan” culture in Gen Z, the charts have become emblematic of an artist’s success.

The weekly Billboard charts are a strong indication of whether a song has achieved pop status, primarily valued for its popularity in the U.S.

Consequently, the Hot 100 holds a lot of weight among stans, as it reflects how much the song has been purchased, played on the radio and streamed overall. Thus, earning a high placement in the Hot 100 is a grand achievement.

For artists who aren’t from Western countries, making it big in America is difficult, let alone charting in the Top 10 of the Hot 100. Artists like Bad Bunny, Rosalía, BTS and Blackpink are a few of many boundary-breaking artists who are blurring the lines between language and music. It becomes apparent when seeing the impact these artists have had in America and their ability to chart on the

Billboard Hot 100 that music transcends language.

Before BTS and Blackpink, Korean music began permeating the U.S. charts through PSY’s hit songs, “Gangnam Style” and “Gentleman.” Yet, surprisingly, these legendary tracks never reached No. 1 on the BB Hot 100. “Gangnam Style” peaked at No. 2 on Sept. 27, 2012. When looking at this song’s influence, the fact that PSY never charted higher than No. 2 underscores just how difficult it is to chart in the U.S.

On April 3, “Like Crazy” by Jimin rang in at No. 1 on the Hot 100 chart, becoming the first South Korean soloist to achieve this feat. The single does not only change history due to its charting, but it also is important to note that it had little to no radio play, despite it having an English version. Thus, the large roles that stan culture and streaming play become even more palpable.

Moreover, the sales for Jimin’s single were the highest in a single week since Taylor Swift’s 328,000 units for “Anti-Hero” back in November 2022. Jimin is the first artist to sell more than 100,000



Photo courtesy of commons.wikimedia.org

units since Swift’s song.

The song itself is a beautifully painful reflection of the struggles of finding one’s identity, especially in regards to facing societal expectations for gender identity and sexual orientation. The imagery in the music video unveils Jimin’s own journey in navigating the lines between his feminine and masculine sides. He faces himself in the mirror, critically analyzing the

person he sees and the person he wants to be.

On top of this, Jimin sports bold white eyeliner and a dangly earring on the left side of his face, showing that he sees himself as a symbol of rebellion. The song, its music video and choreography are clearly queer-coded. By taking this brave step in being vulnerable about uncovering his identity and being on a path toward self-discovery, Jimin is not

only breaking boundaries in his music, but also setting a precedent among Korean artists and citizens by normalizing and celebrating queer culture.

Jimin’s airy, light vocals and the song’s vibey, smooth beat are sure to give you a good ride and make you stream like crazy. If you’re looking to dive down the rabbit hole of K-pop, Jimin’s “Like Crazy” is the perfect first step.

Lana Del Rey Proves Herself as Miss Americana

BY GUS NATIONS IV
Staff Writer

Americana. What does that word even mean anymore?

One of the more obtuse criticisms I’ve heard about the U.S. is that it lacks an overarching cultural identity.

And sure, there’s a case to be made for that belief. The U.S. is, after all, a melting pot. For some, the mixture of countless backgrounds and stories gives the country a haphazard sort of feeling. As a first or second-generation American, there’s something grounding in looking back a couple of hundred (or thousand) years and considering generations of beautiful art and tradition in a far-off home country. Michelangelo carved “David” in Florence, Italy more than 200 years before the Founding Fathers began writing the Constitution. Mozart composed his first symphony in Austria 13 years before Thomas Jefferson drafted the Declaration of Independence.

But rather than fall into the easy habit of celebrating the achievements of long-passed foreigners, American culture has a way of weaving stories into a rich narrative canon. Instead of parsing through and separating the experiences of its population, the U.S. combines them.

The result is an eclectic mix of identity — there’s a



Photo courtesy of flickr.com

little bit of everyone in everything. After all, in what other country could a woman named Elizabeth Grant change her name to Lana Del Rey and create deeply introspective music about her experiences as a wildly famous female musician?

Del Rey’s new album, *Did you know that there’s a tunnel under Ocean Boulevard*, is a case study in her dark, honest and beautiful aesthetic. This darkness is (and has always been) part of her allure. Del Rey has created a career that does not shy away from both the savory and unsavory aspects of her life in America.

Ocean Boulevard is a moving and contemplative peek into the mind of an artist who

knows exactly who she is and where she’s come from.

Each of the songs on the record build upon the artist’s mythos. “A&W” is a not-so-thinly-veiled euphemism for the American fast food restaurant chain. Incidentally, the song’s title has a double meaning: “American Whore.” She sings, “I haven’t done a cartwheel since I was nine / I haven’t seen my mother in a long, long time / I mean, look at me, look at the length of my hair, my face, the shape of my body / Do you really think I give a damn / What I do after years of just hearing them talking?” Such lyrics give her songs a maddeningly enigmatic feel — but also an honest one.



BY KYRA HUDSON
Staff Writer

- *Shrek 5* is in the works with the original cast set to return (April 4).
- Promo photos of the cast of the highly-anticipated *Barbie* movie were released, sparking trends across social media (April 4).
- Lizzo and Jack Black cameoed in the 22nd episode of *The Mandalorian* (April 6).
- Millie Bobby Brown and Jake Bongiovi announced their engagement (April 11).

Right after “A&W,” Del Rey includes an interlude by pastor Judah Smith. During the four-minute-long track, Smith colorfully pleads with his audience (now Del Rey’s) to forgo lust and to “look at the splendor of the skies.” Smith is controversial, not for his occupation, but for forcing his staff to donate money to his church. It’s lyrics like these that explore the occasionally misplaced faith in traditions accepted with certainty.

The entire album relishes in this commentary on uncertainty. The music, produced

by longtime collaborator Jack Antonoff, is sweeping and airy. The drums boom to emphasize a point, and the guitars back off to let Del Rey’s voice tell the story. The inflections seem to draw from classic American writers — Jack Kerouac, William Burroughs and Flannery O’Connor: individuals with an eloquent confidence in their worldviews.

So maybe Americana is just a fun way to characterize good storytelling and an honest narrative, but I’d hedge my bets on saying that Americana is what Del Rey tells us it is.



BY JACKSON HARE, EDUCATION & ENRICHMENT COORDINATOR

What’s that sound? Could it be? An army of VSCO girls are sk-sk-sk-skirting their way back to reclaim the throne of popularity they once held over society in 2019. I almost mistook them for the carton of colored eggs my family and I decorated over Easter weekend, with their oversized sweaters and t-shirts appearing like the only article of clothing they were wearing. Yet, as they approached, I could make out the Crocs on their feet with 10 jibbitz on each, of course. Then, the array of multicolored scrunchies on their wrists came into view and the Hydro Flasks in their hands were like weapons in preparation for warfare. How many Vineyard Vine stickers does one person need on their water bottle? The “save the turtles” stickers are really cute, but some were quite graphic detailing the consequences of not using reusable metal straws. However, you know you’re really in danger when the VSCO girls let out their screeching war cry, “And I oop,” followed by their most iconic sound, “sk-sk-sk-sk-sk,” which can only be equated to the cackles of coyotes as they circle their prey.

Worry not. I have a proposed solution to combat this unforeseen second wave of this trend that should stay in 2019 — a solution that I believe will kill two birds with one stone. Don’t bring back VSCO girls; if this trend must return, let it be VSCO boys. These wouldn’t be just any boys. They would be your Harry Styles-esque boys: floppy hair, cuffed corduroy overalls with a single strap hanging low off the shoulder, a silver chain necklace, pastel colored nails and some simple white Vans. Of course, you gotta ditch the Hydro Flask as well. Ripple water bottles are the VSCO boy accessory. These boys ought to be the kind that confuse and frustrate queer folk like myself. They are straight as can be but have adopted the word “slay” as their own, using it solely in contexts it does not fit. Of course, VSCO boys have to have some sort of social issue to care about. VSCO girls have turtles, so it would only be fitting that VSCO boys be impassioned by narrowing the gender pay gap and improving women’s positions in the workforce. This new superpower will quell any and all attempts VSCO girls execute to end their hiatus following their 2019 reign.

At least VSCO girls aren't coming back, but the rise of the soft VSCO boy may be worse than the VSCO girl of 2019. Prepare yourself for the coming days of boys telling you they know how to play guitar and that they'll get their nails done with you.

- ★ **Aries:** You are the puka shell necklace. A little blunt, but dependable to round out an outfit.
- ★ **Taurus:** You are the Hydro Flask. A neon pink one, of course. You’re a little rough around the edges, and you could definitely knock someone’s tooth out.
- ★ **Gemini:** You are the tie-dye tote bag. You’re cutesy. A little off-trend, but loveable.
- ★ **Cancer:** You are the one and only "save the turtles" sticker. Every true VSCO girl needs one.
- ★ **Leo:** You are the white Jeep Wrangler. This is not technically a VSCO girl accessory, but it just feels right.
- ★ **Virgo:** You are the penny board. You think you’re edgy.

- ★ **Libra:** You are the excessive stack of Pura Vida bracelets. You’re colorful, that’s for sure.
- ★ **Scorpio:** You are none other than the pair of disgusting white or checkered Vans. A staple, truly.
- ★ **Sagittarius:** You are the six-hour-old melted and fermented Starbucks Refresher in hand.
- ★ **Capricorn:** You are the 3XL t-shirt covering the VSCO girl’s daisy dukes.
- ★ **Aquarius:** You are the renegade dance.
- ★ **Pisces:** You are the bow-tie scrunchie, girl. You are essential to this whole ensemble, and none of us would be here without you.