

Buenger, Cintas get facelifts

Students will find a cooler and more eco-friendly Buenger and a Cintas Center that should “wow” incoming recruits



Newswire photo by Kevin Thomas

Buenger Hall is home to honors students and athletes in their first and second years. Throughout the summer the building is undergoing renovations to make it more environmentally friendly as well as energy efficient.

BY ABRENA ROWE
Opinions & Editorials
Editor

Students returning in the fall may notice changes in Xavier's physical appearance. In addition to freshly paved roads and new decorations in the Gallagher Student Center, two larger projects are hitting campus this summer as Buenger Hall and Cintas Center are given facelifts.

According to Senior Construction Manager for Physical Plant Joe Frecker, Buenger, the first-year and sophomore honors dorm, is being renovated in a number of ways.

Although not an aesthetic change, the main improvement in the dorm will be the replacement of the heating and cooling system in the building.

Previously, the system filtered all the air in the building, both AC and heat, and dumped it outside. The new system will recycle the air in the building, significantly decreasing the amount of energy used to keep the building cool during the warm months and warm during the cold ones.

In addition to replacing the heating and cooling system with one that is more environmentally friendly, the ceilings and light fixtures will also see more sustainable improvements. The new lights being installed in the

dorm will use less energy while maintaining the same amount of visibility.

All of the furniture in the dorm's lounges is also being replaced with lighter, more moveable furniture so that students can more easily congregate in these spaces.

The renovations made to Buenger this summer will allow the university to see a decrease in its utility bill as well as its carbon footprint, since less energy will be

used to heat, cool and light the dorm.

The academic floor of Cintas was renovated last summer, and construction of the sport medicine facilities and renovations of the basketball arena began this summer. The Cintas Center arena currently has a maximum seating occupancy of 10,750 people. After construction the seating capacity of Cintas will be reduced to 10,370.

By early August the bot-

tom floor of the Cintas Center, where the athletic training facilities are located, is slated to be completely renovated.

According to the *Enquirer*, the training facilities will triple in size and will boast the addition of hydrotherapy pools.

The original facilities were built 17 years ago to accommodate the roughly 45 student-athletes Xavier had. Now that there are more than 300 student-athletes on Xavier's campus, renovations were seen as necessary if the university wished to continue to excel in sports as it has throughout the past few years.

Colleges and universities across the country often improve their athletic facilities in part as a means to recruit incoming athletes to the institutions, and Xavier is no different.

In addition to the new training facilities, the basketball court itself is getting a redesign, and the new court will be named in honor of Bob Kohlhepp, a Xavier alum and advocate for Xavier Athletics, according to the *Enquirer*. Kohlhepp is a former CEO for Cintas and a current member of Xavier's board of directors.

The Cintas Center changes taking place this summer are part of a larger renovation plan for the building totaling \$25 million, according to the *Enquirer*.



Photo courtesy of Greg Rust

Cintas Center is in the midst of a \$25 million, seven-year renovation plan. The renovations began in the summer of 2015, and improvements this summer include larger training facilities and a redesigned basketball court.

Sumner to play close to home with Pacers in Indy

BY LUKE FELICIANO
Sports Editor

Former Xavier point guard Edmond Sumner opted to waive his two remaining years of NCAA eligibility and declare for the 2017 NBA Draft.

Sumner, who was projected to be a first-round pick prior to this past season, sustained a season-ending ACL injury on Jan. 29 against St. John's, negatively impacting his draft stock.

Nonetheless, Sumner was drafted by the New Orleans Pelicans with the 52nd pick in the second round and was immediately traded to the Indiana Pacers.

The Pacers now have a high-character guy with talent and incredible potential. The 6'5" guard has NBA size and athleticism. As a dynamic rim attacker, Sumner drives to the basket aggressively, usually ending with a strong finish.

The road to recovery is long for this type of injury, but expect a resilient Sumner to bounce back and make some noise in his return to action.

The main question at this stage will be how the Pacers handle Sumner's injury and his contract situation. Sumner, who will allegedly be undergoing a shoulder surgery once he recovers from his knee injury, will likely not be back on the court until the middle of March. In addition, Sumner is not on a guaranteed contract, meaning his time with the Pacers could come to an end at the conclusion of the NBA season in April.

Sumner is on a two-way contract with the Pacers, which is a new type of contract that the NBA introduced this offseason.

Essentially, Sumner will spend most of his time with the Pacers' G-League affiliate, the Fort Wayne Mad Ants, while getting "called up" to the Pacers every so often.

Sumner has incredible potential, and the Pacers obviously see it if they used a draft pick on an already injured player. However, a hitch in Sumner's recovery could be detrimental for his immediate future in the NBA.

Alter Hall debuts printing station

BY SOONDOS
MULLA-OSSMAN
Copy Editor

Printers will be available for use by students and faculty on the first floor of Alter Hall this fall for the first time since the building's construction. Alter is one of the most commonly used facilities on campus. In addition to hosting general curriculum classes required by every Xavier student, it also contains the Computer Science Lab, the Honors Lounge and the Dean for Arts and Sciences' Office.

Prior to this change, printing services were only available in the Conaton Learning Center, Elet Hall, Hailstones Hall and Gallagher Student Center (GSC).

According to Samuel Buettner, a junior and former Academic Affairs Committee chair of the Student Government Association who spearheaded the project, students have been interested in printing in Alter for a very long time.

"(It) has been a goal of SGA for as far back as I can remember," he said.

Buettner added that the

new printer was a result of a collaboration between Academic Affairs Committee and the Residential Affairs Committee, as well as faculty and staff such as Nanette Moore.

Having greater ease of access to printing on campus needs little explanation to prove its worth, as Buettner points out.

"University is a stressful time in a student's life," he said. Buettner believes the community should do everything in its power to help alleviate it in a way that "makes it easier for students to truly get the most out of the education we are all so privileged to be receiving."

Buettner listed several printing issues that students commonly face, such as late-night runs to print in GSC or long waits for computers to open up during a printing rush hour before class.

Being able to assist with these issues as a student through the printer's installation, he believes, will help to show incoming students that, they can make a difference.

He also hopes that it will serve as motivation for more students to get involved on



NewsWire photo by Hannah Paige Michels

Junior Sam Buettner spearheaded the initiative to put a printing station in the lobby of Alter Hall for this fall.

campus.

The largest obstacle Buettner faced to complete the project was actually the absence of this involvement, the result of what he dubs the "student mindset."

"Students don't usually realize how much their wants and voices mean to Xavier," Buettner explained.

In addition to the committees and other faculty members, one person crucial to the printer's installation is Alter Building Manager Nanette Moore.

"(She was) extremely opening and welcoming when meeting with SGA and started working on things immediately," Buettner said. "Truly

I would implore any student that sees her to stop and take a second to tell her thank you."

As a takeaway for both the incoming and rising students, Buettner states, "I think these printers should go to show the student body one simple thing: regardless of how 'small' or 'large' an initiative or project is, never give up."

Partial solar eclipse will cover Cincinnati this fall



Photo courtesy of soggyastronomer.com

With the start of classes this fall, students will also be able to see a partial solar eclipse from right here on campus. This is the first solar eclipse since 1979 that will be visible from America's mainland. Here in Cincinnati, the partial solar eclipse will reach its peak at 2:29 p.m. on Aug. 21. The city will experience between 80-90 percent coverage of the sun.

BY ELLEN BAVERMAN
Guest Writer

The first day of classes at Xavier on Monday, Aug. 21 will also bring the natural phenomenon of a solar eclipse. The eclipse will be visible across a belt of the United States, varying between a total or partial eclipse based on location, and Cincinnati will experience a piece of the eclipse in just a few weeks.

Spanning around 70 miles wide, this solar phenomenon will be observable between 1:10 p.m. and 3:52 p.m., reaching its maximum coverage point at 2:29 p.m. During these hours, darkness will stretch across the country, displaying an unforgettable occurrence of the sun retreating behind the moon.

Local amateur astronomer

Robert Schroeder reported that "the path of totality goes from Oregon to South Carolina."

"Cincinnati will experience between 80 and 90 percent coverage of the sun," Schroeder said.

While Carbondale, Ill., will hold the longest duration of the eclipse, the sight will be truly extraordinary from Cincinnati vantage points. Schroeder encourages all students to pay attention to this exciting event.

Nursing student Grace Mazza said that Aug. 21 will

be "a day filled with firsts." Mazza plans on viewing the eclipse with friends, from the lawn after her first day of classes. Although it will be a busy day on campus, the solar eclipse will be difficult to miss. All will witness the unusual, afternoon darkness as the moon casts its shadow.

This type of eclipse only occurs, and is visible somewhere on the planet, about twice a year. The most recent total eclipse, visible from the mainland United States, occurred in 1979.

Because of the novelty of this event, experts warn observers of its possibly harmful effects. Observers should be aware that it is damaging for the naked eye to look directly at sun, except when the sun is completely hidden by the moon.

Eclipse viewing equipment such as, "eclipse glasses" can be purchased online. NASA

and the Cincinnati Observatory also suggest a DIY "pin-hole projector" as the easiest method of eclipse viewing. A simple tutorial can be found online calling for easy household items including aluminum foil, white cardstock, tape and a paperclip.

Stay safe, muskies, when viewing this rare occurrence come the first day of classes.



Photo courtesy of gannett-cdn.com

The moon passes in front of the sun during an eclipse, casting its shadow.

Deters says 'no' to second retrial

Hamilton County will not continue attempting to convict



Photo courtesy of ABC News
Ray Tensing enters the courtroom during his first trial in November 2016. Tensing was a University of Cincinnati police officer who shot and killed 43-year-old Sam Dubose in July 2015. Tensing has been tried twice, and both times resulted in a mistrial. The most recent mistrial occurred in June.

BY KEVIN THOMAS
 Campus News Editor

There will be no third trial for former University of Cincinnati police officer Ray Tensing, according to an announcement from Hamilton County Prosecuting Attorney Joe Deters on Tuesday, July 18. The initial trial ended in mistrial due to a hung jury in November 2016, and the retrial had the same result, ending

in June of this year. A hung jury occurs when there is a lack of a unanimous decision from the jury.

"Now after two trials and probably \$1 million, the best lawyers I could come up with were unsuccessful ... I have come to a conclusion that we can not win a conviction in this case on these facts," Deters said.

In July 2015, Tensing, who

is White, killed 43-year-old Sam Dubose, a Black man, at a traffic stop, claiming that he feared for his life after allegedly being dragged by Dubose's car. The killing added more fuel to the fire of increasing tension between police and the communities they serve.

Tensing was tried for murder and involuntary manslaughter and is now free because of the lack of a guilty

verdict.

The developments have provoked outrage from individuals like junior Niya King who hoped for a guilty verdict.

"I believe he should be held accountable," King said. "If we let this situation go, all of the other situations that have been let go let the community know that their opinions don't matter. (They) themselves don't matter. Their lives don't

matter."

One possible future, stemming from the lack of a conviction, is that Tensing will get his job back, meaning that he would return to the University of Cincinnati as a police officer. Indeed, Tensing filed a grievance with the university in 2015 in an attempt to do just that. However, he will not be eligible to return until all criminal proceedings are finished.

Despite the lack of a concrete result on the innocence or guilt of Tensing, the Department of Justice has expressed interest in the case.

Benjamin Glassman, the U.S. Attorney for Southwest Ohio, released a statement saying, "In light of today's announcement that the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office will not pursue a second retrial of Ray Tensing, my office will now undertake to acquire and review the evidence from the state court trials in order to assess whether there are possible federal civil rights offenses warranting investigation and potential prosecution."

King hopes for a federal court case.

"If we go to the federal courts system and they actually say, 'Yeah, this...is wrong,' then everybody around the United States will realize that you can't get away with that," King said.

Updated travel ban provokes additional debate

BY SAVIN MATTOZZI
 Staff Writer

The United States Supreme Court in June permitted a partial passage of the controversial ban on people traveling to the United States from six Muslim-majority countries. The travel ban exempts people who have a "bona fide relationship" with a person or an entity such as a company or university. Opponents of the ban claim that it is another way to divide the country even further.

Deena Dakheel, a senior communications major from Saudi Arabia, believes even though her country has had connections to terrorists who have attacked the United States, the only reason they are not on the travel ban is because of financial connections with the United States and the Trump administration.

"This goes to show that money talks," Dakheel said. "This is an attack on poor and marginalized Muslims, and an attack on any Muslim is an attack on all Muslims and even greater, an attack on humanity."

The nations on the travel ban list include Syria, Somalia, Libya, Sudan, Yemen and Iran, all of which, with the exception of Iran, are in the



Photo courtesy of the Associated Press
Protesters gathered in February to protest the initial implementation of the travel ban. In June, a small update to the ban was permitted by the United States Supreme Court. The update exempts those who have a "bona fide relationship" with either a person or an entity such as a company.

midst of war or a failing or deeply troubled government.

Somalia's United Nations-backed government is in constant battle with Al-Shabab militants who are allied with Al-Qaeda. Syria is in its sixth year of a civil war that has taken more than 470,000 lives and displaced 6.1 million internally and 4.8 million externally as of February 2017, according to Human Rights

Watch.

Libya's new government, born from the ashes of the Arab Spring and ousting of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi in 2011, is struggling to contain pockets of Islamic States groups, also known as ISIS, within the country. Sudan still has lasting tensions with South Sudan, which separated from the country in 2011.

Yemen is in its third year

of a civil war between Houthi rebels and the current government that is backed by Saudi Arabia.

The confrontations in these countries mostly have to do with border disagreements and who has control over oil reserves.

According to the Trump administration, the travel ban is necessary for the safety of the United States and to

prevent attacks. Critics have cited that the most notorious attacks in the United States have been either perpetrated by nationals of countries not on the list, like Saudi Arabia, or were born in the United States.

"There is no logic behind it (the ban)," Dakheel said. "It is just adding emphasis on fearing the 'other' and dividing America even more."

Atheist walks into Catholic school

Coming from a non-religious background, Xavier's religious affiliation did not appeal to me when I was applying for colleges. In fact, going to a Catholic institution was rather off-putting. I was raised without religion, but my few years attending church youth groups left me resenting religion as a whole.

I wound up at Xavier for — like a lot of other students — financial reasons, and I fully expected a religious beatdown to leave me feeling

outcast as an atheist student. Instead, my experience at a Jesuit institution has done anything but.

During Manresa, which is just one thing I love about Xavier, my leaders passed out a checklist and asked us to mark the statements with which we agreed. I marked up nearly my entire paper except for statements including "God." Our leaders then gave

the big reveal that every statement was a Jesuit belief.

As narrow-minded as it sounds, I was shocked. My previous religious experiences taught me to internalize guilt for the young adult novels I read. My female youth group leaders told us that feminism was against God's wishes because it gave women too much power. The variety of churches I attended in my adolescence focused on punishment and sin. But this list of Jesuit values and beliefs filled in the blanks where all of these other institutions had failed me.

Learning about the Jesuit values and beliefs has been an incredibly positive experience for me. I used to feel completely at odds with religion. All my life, God has been a foreign concept I couldn't grasp, and I never related to Sunday Mass or praying before a meal. But, because of Xavier, I no longer

feel like religion has nothing to offer me.

During the second semester of my first year at Xavier, I saw a sign outside of Gallagher that there was free food at Community Night in the Center for Faith and Justice. At first I thought that the "faith" aspect meant that Community Night wasn't for me, but the word "justice" convinced me to go, plus free food. I was pleasantly surprised when I got to sit in a circle eating a home-cooked meal with other students as we listened to a different speaker each week covering topics such as sustainability, community engagement and service.

Activism and justice have always been core values for me and my identity. When I learned that solidarity was a core value of Xavier and the Jesuits, I started to feel at home on campus. From having speakers like Laverne Cox — a trans woman of color — to hosting the founders of the Black Lives Matter movement, it quickly became apparent to me that I am at a university that fosters discussion, strives for justice and ed-



Photo by Hannah Paige Michels
When I participated in the Women's March on Washington in January, I had the opportunity to see Jesuit values and philosophies put into action.

ucates progressive leaders for the future. Moreover, when I participated in the Women's March on Washington in January, I couldn't help but think that this is what "men and women for and with others" looks like.

There are several Jesuit philosophies that resonate with me. From universal good to cura personalis, I have found an appreciation for the wonderful aspects that religion can bring to the world. I

feel truly blessed to be at a Jesuit institution. I may not specifically find God in my work, my passions or in the world around me, but I am happy to know that other people do.

I feel proud to see a campus that works to fight injustice and begs students to think morally and ethically. By no means is any religion or institution perfect, but the religious affiliation I have experienced at Xavier has been nothing short of fulfilling.

Good discourse hard to find

It doesn't take much to notice the deep rifts in our society. As a self-governing nation of competing interests that requires a cohesive public life, we don't get along so well. The unprecedented ideological and methodological polarization of our politics, especially in election years, has created a unique set of social problems that leach from the political sphere into our private lives.

A 2014 Pew Research study found that 63 percent of conservatives and 49 percent of liberals claim almost all of their close friends share their political views. In the intermediary years, those numbers have inflated alongside new findings that people of opposing political convictions resist dating and marrying, as well as expressing disapproval of their children's marrying suitors outside their ideolog-

ical camp.

Put simply, we can't get past our political differences in our private lives, and this is a function of an environment in which good faith discourse is hard to find.

Consider the bumper sticker approach to politics created by social media, whereby ideas must be easily digestible and critiques are largely ad hominem for maximized snark. Turn on any cable news show and see pundits rattling off partisan talking points in a circus of glorified whataboutism. This discourse is filled with "but what about the other guy" and turns a blind eye to the task of working for good governance and

advancing conceptions of the good life.

Devoid of affirmative defenses for policies, our discourse centers on the failings of the "other's" character, not only a logical fallacy but a miserable way to go about self-governance.

It is not enough to simply point fingers at the other team, not only for its crippling impact on our political discourse but also for its incredibly toxic effects in its dehumanization of the "other."

It is this mindset that leaks into private life and drives us apart, leaving us so caught up in character assassination that we cannot look past our po-

litical differences. What good is debating governance if we can't live together at the end of the day?

Rather, good self-governance asks us to look inward, to examine, prod and question our own views. From there, each of us needs to advance a defense of our beliefs. It is not good enough to play "gotcha" with the other side. Instead, good faith discourse asks us to push ourselves first and then advance our conception of good governance and the good life alongside that of others. Debates of this nature not only yield more productive discussions about the society we want to build but also force us to be reflective and humane in our methods.

So, new school year, new opportunities. Seize the moments where we disagree. Take the time to listen to the assertions of your adversary. When the dust settles, start kicking it up again. Question, prod and agitate. Steer into

the discomfort. If you put in the work to build yourself a bridge across the divide, you might just be surprised at who will be waiting there halfway.

It isn't easy, of course, but more than anything, understand the fundamental humanity of the person across the table. You'll catch a lot more flies with honey than vinegar, and you might just find that there's nothing sweeter than good faith democratic conversation.

"Good faith discourse asks us to push ourselves first and then advance our conception of good governance and the good life alongside that of others."



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

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*The Newswire has made the decision to stray from the AP Style Guide when printing the words White and Black in reference to groups of people. We have decided to capitalize both.

Magic of Hogwarts lives within us

This summer, I had the pleasure of going to London for a few days to explore the city and history, and while there, I decided to go somewhere my childhood self would have been so excited to see. In Kings Cross Station near platforms 9 and 10 is the Harry Potter store, which at the time was celebrating the 20th anniversary of the release of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.

I have found that many people still are dreaming about receiving Hogwarts acceptance letters, and it's not hard to see why.

The world that J.K. Rowling created is a place that we wish we all could go to. We all are longing to have wands, broomsticks to fly around on, and to travel through the secret passageways that only we know about.

We have all of these things in their own way right now. Yet, because our world seems not to be magical, we simply wish to go off to this fantasy world instead. I encourage everyone to take a step back for a moment, though, and I think that you will find that this world we live in now is just as magical as Hogwarts.

Once all of us come of age, we received our first wands in the form of the modern



Photo courtesy of Pottermore

If we take a moment to reflect, the same magic we see reflected in the tales of Harry Potter and friends can be found in the world around us. Smartphones, bikes, and other everyday items all are magical in their own way.

smartphone, which is able to conjure up light in complete darkness, remind us of things we have forgotten, record memories, introduce us to humorous Internet videos and even to get food of your choice on your doorstep in a half hour.

Although they do not leave the ground, take a moment the next time you ride a bike to think about how magical it is to be gliding over the earth with the wind in your face, just as though you are on Harry's Nimbus 2000.

If you think there are no secret passageways, look a bit

harder. The grounds of Xavier have many places that the average student doesn't know about, and if you think you've found everything at Xavier, adventure off campus and find time to get lost and explore.

The story of Harry Potter is alive all around us. In the world's past, we had an evil leader come to power and murder people just because of the way they were born. Whether that is anyone who was not a pure-blood wizard under Voldemort or anyone who was not of pure Aryan descent under Hitler is little difference. We have had peo-

ple stand up for the common good at their own personal risk, and we have seen great people give their lives to the fight for justice.

I secretly worry that if all of a sudden, we all were accepted to Hogwarts, we would be in awe for a week, and then suddenly many of us would forget how special it was and desire something more. It wouldn't matter that we could summon a computer from across the room with a spell or that pictures on the walls would move and speak to us. We may even become annoyed at the staircases for being be-

yond control.

We have lost our sense of wonder in the world. It always amazes me that people can spend so much time in their dorm rooms playing fantasy video games when we live in a world of interesting things.

For the first assignment of the new school year, I hope that everyone can take a step back and think about all the blessings and wonders we have been given to enjoy. Be grateful to your professors, your parents and the school administrators here who work so hard to open up our minds to the realities of the world.

Once we all do that, it becomes much harder to complain about our lives. We have the ability to live in a world of magic, all we have to do is open up our eyes to the wonder all around us.



Alex Hale is a senior Philosophy, Politics and the Public major and staff writer for the Newswire from Detroit, Michigan.

Staff editorial: New year brings a new Newswire

When you all checked your inboxes and saw a little tidbit about the *Newswire*, you probably had mixed reactions. Returning students, you might have been confused — after all, the *Newswire* never delivers to your inbox, right? Incoming first-years, you were probably just as confused — what is this *Newswire*, and why should I look at it?

Your confusion would be perfectly justified, considering that as far as we know, the *Newswire* has never done a summer edition. But we're doing one now, as part of our greater plan for this year and beyond. So allow us to introduce ourselves, and introduce you, to the 2017-18 *Newswire*.

In the past, you might have noticed a copy of this week-

ly newspaper lying around somewhere, be it on a table in Gallagher, on a rack in Alter, or on a stand in Fenwick. Regardless of where you found it, you might have picked it up, glanced through a few pages and set it back down. You might have ignored it, supposing it was merely another piece of literature doled out from another group on campus. You might not even have heard of or been remotely familiar with the *Newswire* before reading this article.

And that's OK. Because this year, perhaps for the first time in a while, we really want you to know who we are — a weekly newspaper run by students for students. If you check out the previous page, you'll see a mission statement:

“Ultimately, we believe that everyone has a story to tell, and as a newspaper, we have been blessed with the unique opportunity to tell those stories.”

“The Xavier Newswire is committed to reporting the news as well as explain its significance to readers. In addition, through publishing opposing viewpoints and opinions, the Newswire hope to foster a dialogue on campus, among students, faculty and staff.”

What does that mean? We're dedicated to bringing you the latest about campus

and community events. We want to be a resource for you all to discover Xavier University and its surrounding community. We want to provide a means by which you as readers can gain insight into an issue and discuss it with other readers.

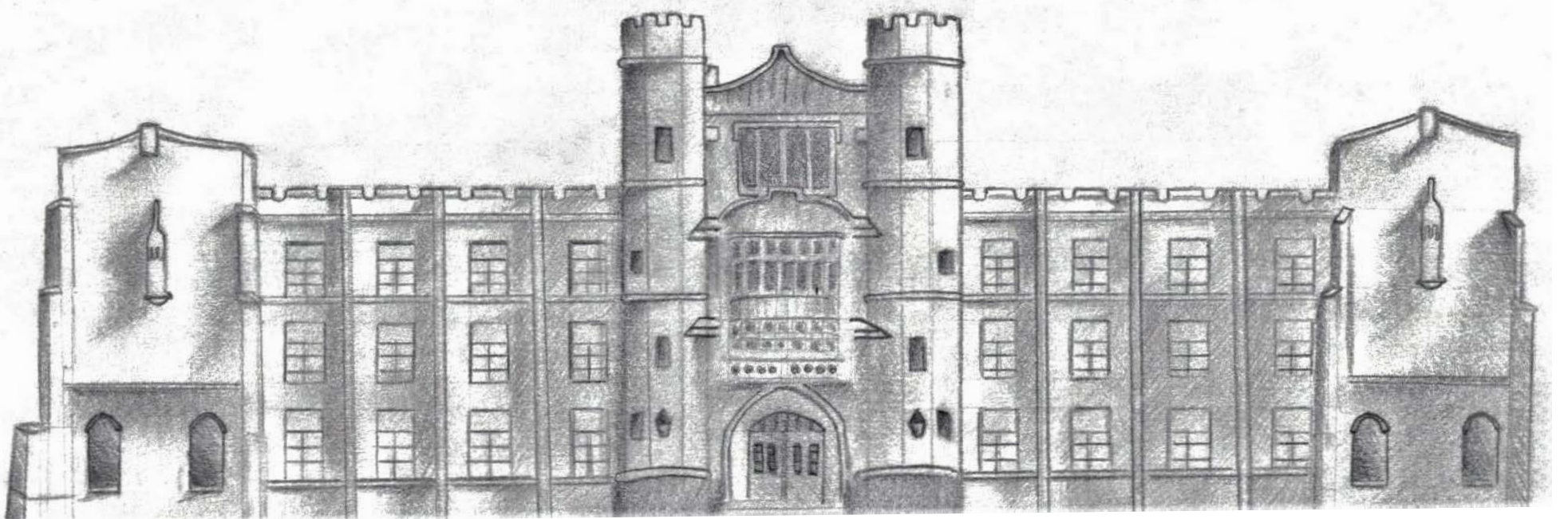
As journalists, we often act as gatekeepers — we not only bring you the news but also make decisions about what kind of news or information you might want to know or what we think you should know.

With that in mind, as a campus newspaper, we want to interact more with you as readers and open the gates for you to more opportunities, both within Xavier's halls and throughout the greater Xavi-

er community.

We want to give you the opportunity to discover a new hobby, a new club, a new class, because of an article we published. We want to give you the opportunity to discover a new job, a new internship, a new passion, because of a story we wrote.

Ultimately, we believe that everyone has a story to tell, and as a newspaper, we have been blessed with the unique opportunity to tell those stories. So with a new, sleek design, a modernized and improved website, and a greater focus on accessibility and interaction, we hope to remain true to our mission and bring those stories to you. Here's to a new year, a new student body and a new *Newswire*.



New contenders to eye CFB crown

Thanks to the NFL Draft, last year's champs may no longer be in the running

BY DONNIE MENKE
Staff Writer

The college football season is rapidly approaching, and it won't be long before the season is in full swing. Here's a preview of the top teams vying for the coveted College Football Playoff National Championship.

Alabama looks like the favorite heading into the season, even though it lost multiple defensive leaders to the draft. It does retain quarterback Jalen Hurts and the majority of a productive offense as it looks to capitalize on a strong season that ended with a loss in the title game.

The University of Southern California (USC), with quarterback Sam Darnold running the show, will look to make its first-ever college football playoff berth this season. The offensive line that lost three starters will cause some worry, but it should improve as the season goes on.

Another potential worry is how to fill the shoes of current Tennessee Titan Adoree Jackson. The combination cornerback, return man and h-back was a big part of the Trojans' game plan last year, and it will be interesting to see how they make up for his loss.

The Big Ten favorite Ohio State will try to avenge its 31-0 drubbing at the hands of Clemson last season by winning it all this year. The



Photo courtesy of sportsillustrated.com

After battling it out in one of the most epic Rose Bowls in recent memory, both Trace McSorley of Penn State (left) and Sam Darnold of USC (right) hope to lead their teams to more substantial success in 2017. Both have different styles of play, but the success still seems to follow.

team returns the large majority of its young core from last season and will look to run through the competition this year. Keep an eye on the Buckeyes' secondary during the season, as they are replacing three first-round selections from that position group.

The secondary may not matter as much this year, however. If the defensive line is as menacing as advertised, quarterbacks won't have much time to get rid of the

ball anyway.

After they failed to live up to expectations last season, Deondre Francois and Florida State will be looking to make it back to the playoff for the first time in three years. True freshman running back Cam Akers has some big shoes to fill with the departure of Dalvin Cook, but with 102 yards in the spring game, he looks to be up to the challenge.

The Seminoles will try to capitalize on Clemson's loss

of talent, with the Tigers losing many key cogs on both offense and defense. Quarterback Deshaun Watson and wide receiver Mike Williams are now in the National Football League as well as the heart and soul of the defense last year, Ben Boulware. Expect Clemson, who's coming off a championship, to have a down season.

Penn State is a team to watch as the season unfolds. It returns almost everyone from a team that won the Big

Ten last season, including quarterback Trace McSorley and tailback Saquon Barkley. It will heavily challenge Ohio State and the Michigan Wolverines in the battle for the Big Ten East division.

This season appears to be loaded with teams who could potentially win the championship next year, a nice change of pace from last season, when one major favorite dominated most of the season. It's anyone's year, and who knows how it will turn out.

Opinion: Drafting a championship fantasy team

Here's some advice on how to avoid being the laughingstock of your league



Photo courtesy of NJ.com

Le'Veon Bell (above) has been one of the top fantasy football players over the past few seasons, making him a safe pick early on in your draft.

BY JACK DUNN
Staff Writer

It's the time of the year when thousands of fantasy football fans across the country start preparing for the all-important drafts at the start of the season. Luckily for you, I'm here to give you my advice on who and how to draft.

The number-one most important thing to figure out before you start looking at players is where you are drafting. There are plenty of different ways for people to draft, but for purposes of this article, I will be using a standard eight-team snake draft.

There are benefits and drawbacks of drafting both early and late. If you have the first overall pick, you are lucky enough to choose whatever player you want first. However, your next selection won't happen until the end of the second round, which means you will have to draft strategically to get the right players at the right time.

The next thing that should be taken into account while drafting is what kind of league you are in. Most

leagues have their own tricky rules that change how you draft. Check with your league commissioner before you draft to make sure you are updated on this so that nothing catches you off guard.

If you are in a standard league, you should use two of your first three picks on a running back and then a wide receiver. The reasoning behind this is it is much easier for a running back to get you points through rushing than it is for a wideout through catches.

There are also fewer elite running backs than there are wide receivers. If you are in a points per reception league, then you should do the opposite and draft wide receivers first and then look for running backs that make a lot of catches. Because the wideouts earn extra points, it makes them much more valuable than running backs.

When I draft, I want to have the third overall pick, and I would draft Le'Veon Bell. Despite his having problems outside the lines, he has the best potential for big games and single handedly won me

a fantasy championship two years ago. You have to stick with what you know. My next pick would most likely be Jordan Howard. Despite playing for a bad team, Howard was able to rack up the second most yards last year, all as a rookie. He is more likely to play against poor defenses and will definitely start showing big numbers fast. My third overall pick would probably be Julian Edelman. Despite not being too fond of the Patriots myself, he has the best quarterback in the league in Tom Brady and will put up consistent numbers to keep my team going strong.

Drafting can make or break a fantasy team. It's up to the player to decide what it will be. Fantasy football can be a tremendously fun activity to do with your friends, but it only reaches its maximum level of fun if your team performs well. No one likes to be the owner of the last-place squad, so start your year off right with a strong draft. Utilize the experts, read a couple of articles and stick to what you know. Maybe you'll even win a couple of bucks this year.

How to stay entertained on campus

Check out these places to go and things to see when you can spare the time

BY RILEY HEAD
A&E Editor

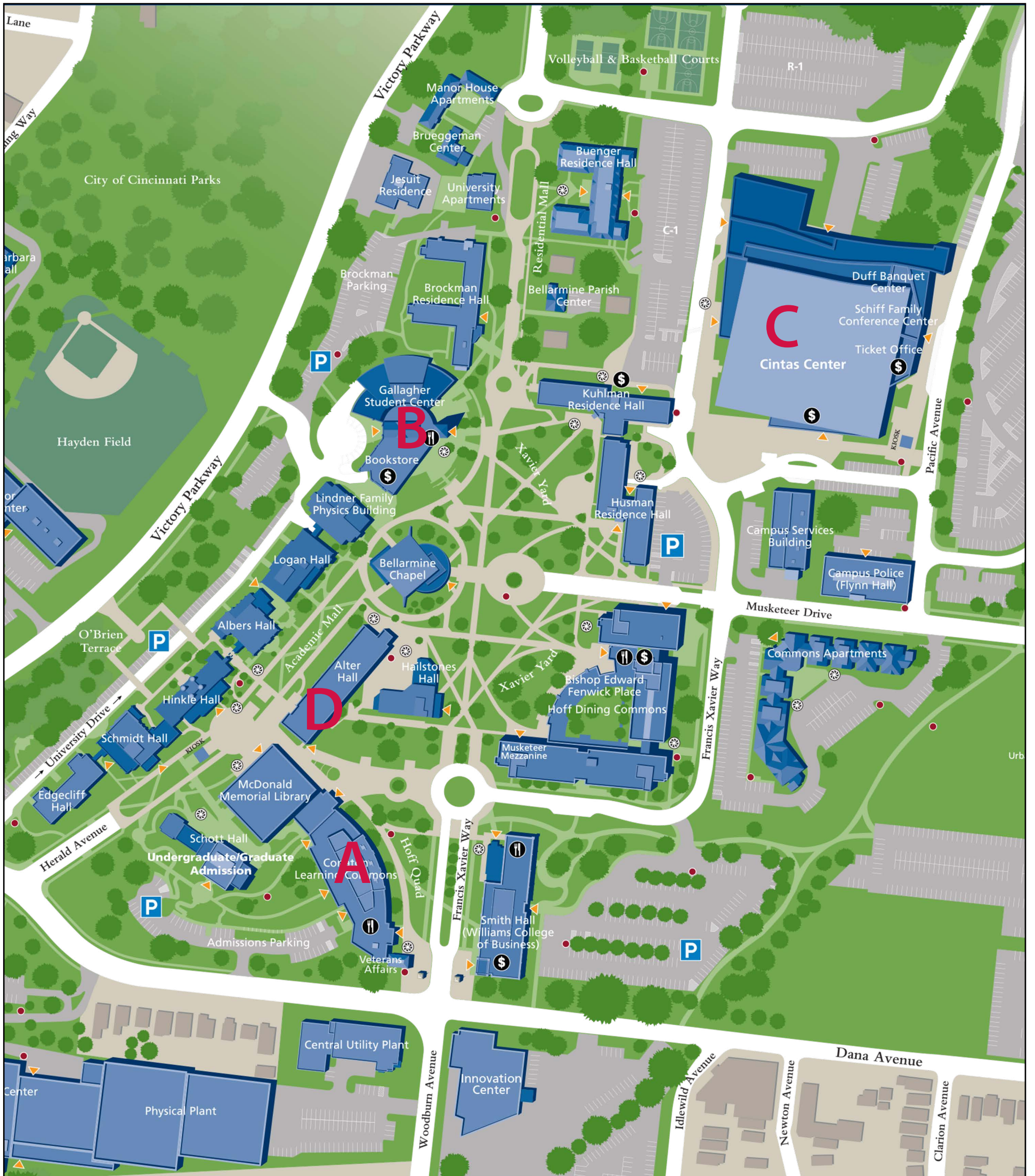


Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

A

Head to the auditorium in the CLC on the last Friday of every month to see Don't Tell Anna. Xavier's popular improv comedy troupe is guaranteed to make you laugh out loud, but seats fill up fast, so get there early!

Gallagher Theatre is home to the Xavier Theatre Department's world-class shows. Be sure to buy your tickets in advance — the plays are very popular. Xavier's Student Activities Council also hosts movies here from time to time, so keep out an eye for those as well!

B

C

Basketball games don't start until the winter, but they are definitely something to look forward to. The atmosphere in the newly renovated Cintas Center is electric, and there is nothing better to make you feel connected to your school.

Alter may be home to all your classes, but after hours it can also be a good place to unwind. Find an empty classroom and some friends to work on homework together, or hook up a laptop to the projector to enjoy a movie.

D

Trip to Tybee

BY SAHARISH IJAZ
Guest Writer

So far, my summer of 2017 has been quite exciting. I had the chance to travel and experience beaches fully for the first time.

My boyfriend Yohannes and I traveled to Savannah, Ga., and roomed in an Airbnb for only \$18 per night. Our host Gino had decorated the room so beautifully — “psychedelic,” as he liked to call it.

We decided to rent a car and travel to as many beaches as possible in three days. My first and favorite was Tybee Island. On our journey there, I was excited to finally feel the sand on my feet and actually go into the ocean water. As we approached the beach, we noticed we were walking faster.

There were just a few people at the beach since it was just a little before noon. As soon as we got there, we laid out our beach mat and other equipment and turned the camera on. Soon after, we plunged more than 30 feet into the water.

I didn't know how to swim, so there were many times the waves overtook me, but I managed to resurface every time. It was a phenomenal experience to be completely engulfed in the water. The only aftereffect that I did not like was a salty mouth and the water that came up through my nose after I came back up.

Once we had our fun, we

went back to the sand to dry off. The feeling of hot sand is the best, but it can burn so much at times. We lay drying off in the sun. I kept thinking that I guess this is what it feels like to get a sun tan on my skin, the sun just sizzling lightly on my skin but not hurting because of the ocean breeze.

Yohannes and I had packed a lunch: a couple of sandwiches and strawberries. But every bite I took had a crunch of sand. I hope I gained some nutrition from it.

As I mentioned earlier, Tybee Island was not our only beach. We also drove to South Carolina and Jacksonville, Fla. One day after another, our beach experiences heightened. But by far, the most relaxing, calming and enjoyable was our time at Tybee Island.

On our final day, we were back at Tybee for our last time at the beach. We collected souvenirs of genuine sand and sea shells with the hope to create our own DIY decorations. It was apparently not out of the norm for tourists to take some sand back home.

Since returning to Cincinnati, my days have been filled with classes and work. I still enjoy myself by going on thrifting excursions and hanging out with my boyfriend's family. All in all, it's been an amazing mix of events. I'm sad there is just a little bit left to relish.



BY SUSANA DUFFY
Guest Writer

Everyone was excited for summer to start at the end of last semester, myself included. This year, the start of summer meant the start of one of the greatest times of my life so far. I participated in Xavier's study abroad program in Greece along with 26 other Xavier students. The 29-day program was jam-packed with new experiences and people, and each day I spent in Greece was like my first.

I've been asked a number of times since my return, “what was your favorite part?” and I haven't really been able to answer. It's like asking someone to pick his or her favorite song. You can't really pick just one.

I really had to give it some thought, and I think I've narrowed it down enough to choose one. My favorite day was when my roommate and I got completely and utterly lost.

It was our last day in Santorini, and we had the whole day free to do whatever we wanted. So naturally it was the only rainy day of the whole trip. It rained off and on from the moment we woke up. Nothing too severe, just a soft showering.

We left the hotel and made our way to one of the many all-terrain vehicle rental

shops in the neighborhood. The guy running the local shop remembered seeing my roommate the night before, and he graciously gave us a good deal, 20 euros to rent an ATV for the entire day. He gave us a brief tutorial and sent us on our way.

Once we began driving we soon realized we hadn't a clue where we were going. We continued on our indeterminate path under an unspoken agreement that we didn't mind getting lost.

If we saw an interesting biker, we would follow them. If we saw anything of interest to us in the slightest we would stop and investigate. We gave away our inhibition and just began doing.

At every place we stopped we met the most fascinating people who were always so generous and kind. We asked them to point us in their favorite direction, and then we would follow it. Which, in retrospect, may not seem like the best idea whilst traveling, but hey, it worked out for the best.

The locals were always so welcoming, something I wouldn't expect from an island riddled with tourists at every turn. One of the most memorable people we meet on our excursion was a ceramicist named Andreas.

We were driving as fast as we possibly could on our bike

when we saw a sign with “Ceramic Studio” painted in crude white letters. Being the huge art nerds that we were, we hit the brakes so hard that it's a miracle we didn't just go flying off. We walked into Andreas's studio, and it immediately began raining — which we interpreted as a sign. We were meant to stop here.

Walking into his studio was like walking into a Vogue catalog. Everything was immaculate and so modern, so opposite to all the Greek art and architecture we had seen so far. We were the only two people in there, and he was happy to accommodate us.

We exchanged our art experience and knowledge with him, and he showed us his process. We stayed for what seemed like hours. Needless to say, we left with some of the most beautiful ceramic pieces I've ever seen.

We drove from one coast to the next seeing all the beautiful beaches of Santorini. Because it was a gloomy day we had them all to ourselves. We spent time collecting rocks from the white sand beach, the red sand beach and the black sand beach, all of which I would end up losing before the trip's end. But the rocks didn't matter to me as much as the experience did. The entire month I spent in Greece is one that I will never forget.



HOROSCOPES

for summer's end

	Aries: Aloe should help.		Libra: Maybe stop having so much dairy?
	Taurus: Try to look from the other perspective.		Scorpio: Are your shoes tied? Make sure they are.
	Gemini: Please, make sure you've got everything before leaving the house.		Sagittarius: Your gmail password needs changing.
	Cancer: Get less sleep.		Capricorn: Get more sleep.
	Leo: Your assertiveness can come off as very, very rude.		Aquarius: No one wants to tell you that you need a haircut. You really, really do.
	Virgo: It's not your problem. Let it go.		Pisces: Don't go wild at back-to-school sales. You already have highlighters.