

## 2 Inauguration Protests

Thousands across the country banded together to protest Donald Trump's inauguration



## 4 Women's Basketball

Bearcat women's basketball shows great improvements



ANDY KATZ | PACIFIC PRESS | SIPA USA | TNS  
President-elect Donald Trump with Betsy DeVos, whom Trump has chosen as his secretary of education, on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016 in Bedminster, N.J.

# Trump's cabinet confirmations prove contentious

TIM GOLDENBERG | STAFF REPORTER

With the swearing in of President Donald Trump having now passed, the confirmation hearings for Trump's assorted cabinet nominees are the next big obstacles. With initial votes on Defense Secretary Gen. James Mattis and Homeland Security Secretary Gen. John Kelly having passed with ease, the upcoming gauntlet of votes could have further controversies among it. Education Secretary nominee Betsy DeVos, initially slated for a Jan. 17 vote, had her confirmation vote pushed back to Jan. 31, amid significant controversy from Democrats regarding her nomination.

DeVos, a billionaire Republican from Michigan, has drawn criticism for her support of charter schools and school vouchers, various financial ties in the private sector and lack of experience in the public-school sector. DeVos faced heavy criticism from Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) for a lack of experience in banking, given the Education Secretary's management of federal education loans.

Isabelle Luu Li Haas, a second-year ballet student, wasn't sold on the nominee. "DeVos was purposely dodging questions and is ill-prepared for what her position holds. What she said in the hearing didn't hold any ground, and she isn't qualified for Secretary of Education," Haas said.

Stephen Mnuchin, a hedge fund manager and former partner at Goldman Sachs, was nominated for the Secretary of Treasury. Heading a department that oversees taxation, along with supervision of banks and management of government finances, there has been staunch opposition to his nomination from parts of the Senate.

With Mnuchin's failure to disclose nearly \$100 million

in assets, as well as his omission of his role in a tax haven located investment fund, Democrats worked to deem him as unfit to serve in the position.

Ryan Clady, a second-year English student, echoed Democrat's concerns, expressing a lack of trust in Mnuchin. "I don't know how you can simply not disclose those assets, not to mention the offshore financial holdings. I think he is unfit to serve as one [of] the government's most important positions," said Clady.

Rex Tillerson, President Trump's nominee for Secretary of State, is one of the shakier nominations heading into the week of voting. The former ExxonMobil CEO's close ties with Russian President Vladimir Putin, as well as opposition to measures such as sanctions against Russia, has led to fire from both sides of the aisle.

Opposition comes from Republican Senators John McCain and Marco Rubio, though McCain has since confirmed he will still vote for him.

Joseph Brueggemeyer, a third-year international affairs student, expressed doubt in regards to the nomination. "While I can understand the sentiment of a business perspective on foreign affairs, his lack of applicable experience coupled with suggestive ties with Russia leave me skeptical. I hope I am wrong and President Trump's pick is the best person for the job, but I'm not keeping my hopes up," Brueggemeyer said.

As of Jan. 22, the Trump administration is still expected to have more nominations incoming, with almost all the United States Ambassador positions to various countries and agencies still needing filling. Cabinet position votes and hearings will continue throughout the next week.

# Women's March on Washington

EMILY STOLTZ | CHIEF REPORTER

Thousands of residents participated in Saturday's Cincinnati Sister March in solidarity with the Women's March on Washington – both efforts aimed at protesting the inauguration of President Donald Trump.

The demonstration began at noon on Saturday in Washington Park. Representatives from groups like Planned Parenthood, Black Lives Matter, The Islamic Center of Cincinnati and more kicked off the rally by speaking on issues that affect their organizations. Around 1:30 p.m., the marchers took to the streets, chanting "Love trumps hate" and "This is what democracy looks like."

The demonstration was aimed to serve as a warning to the incoming administration that much of the rhetoric and proposed policies put forth during the campaign would not be tolerated, according to third-year exploratory student Ray Alsip.

Alsip said that he attended in order to take a stand against Trump. "I went because I care about women's rights and I'm genuinely scared for those rights with Donald Trump in office," he said.

During the Trump campaign, many minority groups felt their rights would be under siege if the real estate mogul were elected. Now faced with that reality, these same groups rallied in support of one another. According to Alsip, it was reassuring to see "so many people actively trying to change this country."

Although the protest was primarily centered around women's rights, many attendees used it as a platform for other contentious issues prompted by Trump's divisive campaign tactics. Those marching carried signs in support of LGBTQ rights, climate change action, immigration rights, affordable health care and racial and religious equality.

After the election, many groups felt marginalized, according to Brooke Schottenstein, a fourth-year psychology student.

"It seemed like people didn't really care about women and minority groups if they could elect someone like Trump," she said. Many people assumed that Trump would lose the election based on his offensive rhetoric alone, according to Schottenstein, adding that it was "really shocking" to her when he won.

Although the election results left many uncertain of the future of America, the Cincinnati Sister March offered hope to those in despair, according to Alsip. "It was an awesome experience seeing that many people come together to say they're fed up with the things Trump is doing and saying. It's amazing to see so many people care," he said.

Similar protests occurred in many cities across the country, such as Chicago, Los Angeles and New York.

The demonstrations even extended beyond America, with protesters showing support in places like Berlin, Paris, Mexico City and even Antarctica.

"It made me feel really hopeful to see so many people standing up for what's right. Now I feel a little better about what's to come," said Schottenstein.

But some students feel that the march was not inclusive enough.

The march centered around white feminism and was exclusive toward people of color and transgender individuals, according to fourth-year liberal arts student Anahita Sharma.

"Good intentions mean nothing if the impact they have on trans individuals is negative," said Sharma. "Good intentions need to be more than just intentions, they need to be thoroughly researched and criticized by a diverse crowd before anything is implemented."



DAVID GIFREDA | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Protesters walk down Central Parkway in the Women's March on Washington on Saturday January 21, 2017.



GRETCHEN MARIE SEMANCIK | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
On January 21, thousands of people gathered in Washington Park to march in solidarity with the Women's March on Washington in D.C.



GRETCHEN MARIE SEMANCIK | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Thousands gather in Washing Park to march in solidarity with Women's March on Washington for the equal rights of all people on Saturday, January 21.



DAVID GIFREDA | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
A protester stands atop a car holding his child and a sign outside of Music Hall during the Cincinnati Sister March of the Women's March on Washington Saturday January 21, 2017.

# Comparing men's basketball season with that of 2013-14

DAVID WYSONG | SPORTS EDITOR

The UC men's basketball team is 17-2 for the first time since the 2013-14 season, and their success is eerily similar to that year.

UC defeated Tulane Saturday, winning their 10th-straight game. On Jan. 18, 2014, Cincinnati also won their 10th-straight game, stretching their record to 17-2 as well.

The 2013-14 Bearcats went on to finish 27-7, earning a five-seed in the NCAA tournament, but they were upset in the first round by Harvard University.

It is yet to be seen where this year's team will finish, but these squads are different – despite their similar routes to winning.

During the 2013-14 year, Cincinnati's offense went primarily through two men. Guard Sean Kilpatrick averaged 20.6 points per game on the year, and forward Justin Jackson averaged 11.1.

After that, their next highest scorer was forward Titus Rubles who posted 7.3 points per outing.

This year's team has

more of a balanced scoring threat.

Guard Jacob Evans is this season's leading scorer, averaging 14.2 points per game. There are three additional guys who also regularly take on the scoring load, however.

Forward Kyle Washington is scoring 13.4 points per game, guard Troy Caupain is at 10.8 and forward Gary Clark averages 9.8.

Guard Kevin Johnson even contributes at times, averaging 8.8 points per game.

Being able to lean on multiple guys offensively is something that has led to this season's winning streak.

"You got to have answers if you're going to stay on a winning streak. You're not going to win the same way, I keep saying that, every game's different," said Cincinnati head coach Mick Cronin.

Cronin's words especially rang true on Saturday. Forward Quadri Moore, who averages 3.7 points per game on the season, was one of the team's top-scorers, scoring 14 points.

"I could not be happier for

a human being than I am for Quadri Moore today," said Cronin. "He's on a team where he's a good player, but there's pretty good players on his team so it's hard for him to get minutes. And he continues to work, and it shows how far he has come with his character"

Another similarity between the 2013-14 team and this year is the high-level defense, a staple of the Mick Cronin era.

Cincinnati finished in the top-10 in opponent's points per game during 2013-14 with 58.4 – this year they are ranked No. 10, holding opponents to 61.4.

Protecting the rim is a major role in both defense's success. This year, Cincinnati is No. 9 in the nation with 6.2 blocks per game. The Bearcats finished tied at No. 23 in the country during 2013-14 with 5.42 blocks per game.

In order to extend their winning streak, the Bearcats will harp on their defense being able to get stops, especially when games are close late.

"Everybody was in the mindset of 'Let's get a

stop,'" said Caupain after Cincinnati's two-point win over Southern Methodist University Jan. 12. "We had the lead, we knew the game wasn't over. It's all about getting stops and defensive

rebounds."

With similarities across the board, the difference in offensive play will continue to be the identity of this year's Bearcats, compared to 2013-14.

"As long as we keep moving and make it hard for us to be guarded, we have enough offensive weapons and offensive talent to make shots," said Evans.



JEAN PLEITEZ | CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Troy Caupain (10) guards Ben Emelogu II (21) at Fifth Third Arena Thursday, January 12, 2017.

# Students organize protest of Trump inauguration

JUSTIN REUTTER | NEWS EDITOR

Inauguration Day was hotly protested across the country, as newly sworn-in President Donald Trump took the oath of office and became the 45th president of the United States. At UC, students organized a walkout Friday as part of a nationwide effort by Socialist Students.

UC is one of many universities participating, according to UC Socialist Students President Cole Weirich.

The “Resist Trump” walkout, which convened for a rally in front of the Tangeman University Center, was intended to “send a clear message to Trump, the billionaire class and the Republican Party that we reject their agenda of bigotry, hate and division; that we reject their corporate policies to

gut our social services and education,” according to the event Facebook page.

Specific goals raised include the end of deportations for undocumented immigrants, an end to police brutality and mass incarceration, to unite against Islamophobia, defend and extend reproductive rights and to fight discrimination and violence against the LGBTQ community.

The goal of the protest was not to block Trump from taking office, but to inaugurate a resistance to fight for themselves, said Weirich. “That way, we don’t have to rely on either corporate party,” said Weirich.

While protesting will not change Trump’s election, it will provide a “sense of comfort and community,” said Sandy Spira, a fourth-year environmental studies

and anthropology student.

The country has experienced a wave of protests from “occupy” to Standing Rock, according to Vice President of UC Socialist Students Griffin Ritze. The group “will not be stopped by Trump’s right wing agenda,” said Ritze.

The protest was also counter-protested by several Trump supporters, including 58-year-old UC alum and open-carry activist Jeffrey Smith, who open carried a PS-90 semi-automatic carbine and two Glock handguns.

Several protesters in the crowd expressed discomfort around Smith, including fourth-year archeology, classics and classical civilizations student Rachelanne Boulos.

“People have different reactions,” said Smith.

“Some people have smiled and said, ‘Good for you,’ some have walked by and scowled.”

First-year information technology student Ethan Clifton counter-protested by holding a “Build the wall” sign.

“I’m partly doing this for s--- and giggles, and partly because I think it’s pointless to protest after [Trump] has already been elected,” said Clifton. He expressed optimism about a Trump presidency. “He will listen to our voice if we don’t shun his,” he said.

The protest featured several speakers, including Anahita Sharma, a fourth-year liberal arts student and social justice advocate.

Sharma expressed fear, citing that Trump is against “Blacks, Muslims, Latinos, gays, transgender people,” among a list of other minority groups. “I am also

afraid for my brother, who is disabled and browner than me. I am afraid for my parents, who speak with accents and have not learned to be wary of strangers. The only thing that keeps me going is that I am not alone in this fight,” said Sharma.

Grace Cunningham, co-founder of Students for Survivors, expressed

concern that Betsy DeVos, Trump’s nomination for Secretary of Education, may not hold up Title IX reporting standards after DeVos stated that keeping the Obama administration’s Title IX guidance would be “premature.”

The protest ended with a march down Mainstreet.



JEAN PLEITEZ | CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Students marched throughout UC’s campus during protest against Donald Trump’s inauguration, Friday January 20, 2017.



AARON DORSTEN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Student Government Senator-at-Large, Nicole Price, sits down with News Record staff to discuss the protest response team. January 20, 2017.

## UC to form ‘protest response team’ in light of student activism

JUSTIN REUTTER | NEWS EDITOR

UC is forming a “protest response team,” according to At-Large Sen. Nicole Price.

Last week, Sen. Price met with the Provost’s Office to discuss the possibility of a protest response team in light of increased student activism on campus, said Price in a report to Student Government.

The team does not intend to approach or control protestors, but is a group of individuals discussing how to best support students, according to Price.

This could take the form of an excused absence or other accommodations for protesting, as it is currently up to the discretion of individual professors and faculty who may not know how to respond, according to Price.

Another issue that has been discussed is the deployment of police during protests.

“In a situation like a protest, police are needed for security, but we never know how many people there will be there. So, police will be there, but will only step in if someone is getting too rough,” said Price.

Nonetheless, police presence can come across as extremely intimidating to protestors, said Price. Because of this, the response team is working to find solutions to both protect students and allow them to express their voice.

“We want people who organize these events to feel safe and like they can trust us,” said Price.

“Because I am a white woman, I don’t know if I am the best person to say how it would make it less intimidating for people of color in this climate of police brutality,” said SG Director of Women’s Affairs

Madison Landkrohn. However, Landkrohn proposes meeting with protestors beforehand and not having cops wearing riot gear to a peaceful protest. Landkrohn said she would further explain the matter with people of color.

Price clarified that the team was not an SG initiative, but three senators from SG had been asked to join to represent students on the team.

The team is made up of representatives from many facets of campus government. These representatives include Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Peter Landgren, Vice President for Equity and Inclusion Bleuette Marshall, VP of Student Affairs Debra Merchant, UC Police Department Chief Anthony Carter, Vice President for Safety and Reform Robin Engel, Director of PR M.B. Reilly, Director of Public Safety James Whalen, UCPD Public Information Officer Michele Ralston and Chair of Faculty Senate Sally Moomaw.

Three members of SG are also involved in the project. These include Price, Landkrohn and At-Large Sen. Dana Drage. The body will operate on a weekly basis and gather feedback between meetings.

Several student activist leaders were contacted, according to Price, including Grace Cunningham of Students for Survivors and Cole Weirich of UC Socialists.

However, Weirich expressed doubt that the administration is genuine in supporting student activism.

“I think that they would prefer that we don’t do anything to embarrass them in the media,” said Weirich.

## Tamaya Dennard’s bid for city council

MOUNIR LYNCH | STAFF REPORTER

This article is part of a series of profiles centered on the individuals running for Cincinnati City Council.

University of Cincinnati alumna Tamaya Dennard formally kicked off her campaign for Cincinnati City Council on Thursday.

Dennard, 37, was born in Cincinnati, grew up in College Hill, attended Cincinnati Public Schools and moved on to be an honors student at UC’s Lindner College of Business as the first in her family to graduate from college.

Right after graduating from UC, Dennard started working for Duke Energy in real estate and land services. It was good work, but there was something missing. She felt obligated to serve and fight for the communities she grew up in through public office.

Dennard will focus her campaign on the issues of economic justice and equity, the environment, government accessibility, innovation, public safety and transportation. Her vision for Cincinnati is to create a connection between the government and the people.

Her campaign has a philosophy of equity and nuanced thinking. “We don’t have an affordable housing plan, we don’t have equitable transportation. In Hamilton County, we have a 70 percent recidivism rate, and a large part of that is due to a lack of opportunities in this city,” said Dennard.

Having grown up underserved, Dennard hopes to bring the voice of the underserved to the local government. “There is a thought that if you’re impoverished or underprivileged you should be happy with just any old thing. We are thinking about poverty at the root cause,” she said.

The widely discussed issue of the streetcar is an issue of equity for Dennard. “The streetcar has been confusing from the start. I worked at City Hall

at the time the legislation was passed. It was a big step closer to where Cincinnati needs to be. The streetcar is only going to be effective when it moves up the hill,” she said.

Dennard attributes a lot of her leadership skills to her time at UC. “I am grateful that I graduated from UC. Studying business has prepared me a lot for my journey into politics. I try to stay connected to UC as much as possible. I have great relationships with a lot of students, and I try to surround myself with young people. The city can do a much better job connecting with students,” she said.

Fourth-year international affairs student Anthony Johnson works on Tamaya’s policy staff. “After a day of knowing her, I felt like a relative,” he said. “Other candidates emphasize listening tours. She is so involved and understanding, people come to her. She has already been a city leader. It is now just a matter of electing her.”

Tamaya Dennard is a young face in politics, and she encourages young people to run for office. “To those young people thinking of running, just do it,” she said.

The UC alumna hopes to use her life’s experiences to bring change to the city government and provide a voice for all Cincinnatians.

For more information on Tamaya and her campaign, visit her website at tamayadennard.com.



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# CCM holds 'Moveable Feast', annual fundraiser

NOELLE ZIELINSKI | CONTRIBUTOR

The University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music held its Moveable Feast, an annual fundraising benefit, Friday at CCM Village.

The sold-out event showcased a variety of programs offered through the college of music, as well as behind-the-scenes tours. This benefit also featured several graduate students exhibiting their various contributions to the program.

Raphael Regan, a third-year grad student and one of the primary costume designers at CCM, recalled "Pippin," a production from 2014, being his favorite due to the color scheme and subject of the musical.

The night began with various excerpts from a multitude of musicals performed by the college's orchestra, which was conducted by the lively Mark Gibson. The orchestra accompanied musical theatre alumna Christy Altomare in debuting two songs from Broadway's upcoming musical "Anastasia."

Altomare will play the lead role of Anya in the production, premiering April 24 at the Broadhurst Theatre. Altomare's stellar performance earned her

a standing ovation in the Corbett Auditorium. The musical was also composed by CCM graduate Stephen Flaherty.

Guests were then encouraged to explore the college and create their own personal musical experiences by selecting several samples of CCM's programs to attend.

The event offered a wide range of selections, such as acting, piano, musical theatre, dance, opera, electronic media and more. CCM Preparatory, a program for high school students, also featured some of its rising pupils in a collection of small performances. The dance selections featured two different genres of dance: Ballet and modern.

The ballet portion showed excerpts from "Scenes de Ballet" while the modern dance section showcased scenes from "Warm Hands and Hot Feet."

The dancers' positive energy and liveliness illuminated the auditorium, captivating the eyes of the entire crowd. The ballet program was recently ranked in the top three of the nation, which was clearly shown through the dancers' superb display of skill and craft.

The CCM Chamber Choir also performed a sample

of Acappella from Sergi Rachmanioff's "All-Night-Vigil (Vespers)." This specific selection featured majors Matthew Swanson and Minhye Jang as conductors.

Throughout the night, there were also backstage tours as well as hands-on explanations of stage crew techniques and lighting demonstrations. Nick Saiki, a third-year grad

student specializing in lighting, explained how the upcoming production "Mack and Mabel" has "a lot of complex scenes that make it challenging to design lighting for."



Many came together to experience the talent the Moveable Feast has to offer at CCM, Friday January 20, 2017.

JEAN PLEITEZ | CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER



RUSSELL HAUSFELD | CONTRIBUTOR  
People sit for a pint at Narrow Path Brewing Company in Loveland, January 20, 2017.

## Brewcats: Narrow Path Brewing Co.

RUSSELL HAUSFELD | SENIOR REPORTER

Loveland's newest brewery, Narrow Path Brewing Co., is inviting from any angle you look at it.

Glistening metallic fermenters of varying sizes, ripe and ready to be tapped, occupy the front entrance, catching the eyes and rousing curiosity in the many walkers and bikers in downtown Loveland. Approaching the brewery from the bike path, one may enter through the backyard – a small haven which is filled with parents and kids, bikers and dog walkers all congregated at picnic tables and around the central fire pit.

Narrow Path's current tap includes two porters: their classic Porter and a Maple Bacon Porter. The classic Porter is thick and smoky with a warm, brown head that is really satisfying to look at atop the deep, bubbling amber color of the alcohol. It goes down smooth with a filling and milky aftertaste.

The maple bacon variation has a similar smoky taste, but with a light residual flavor as though you had just washed down a hearty breakfast with the porter. And yes, real bacon was used in the brewing process, according to Head Brewmaster Greg Snow.

When I visited, Snow was excitedly keeping a tally of how many Maple Bacon Porters were sold in comparison to regular ones, explaining that the Maple Bacon Porter had been one of the biggest hits on the menu.

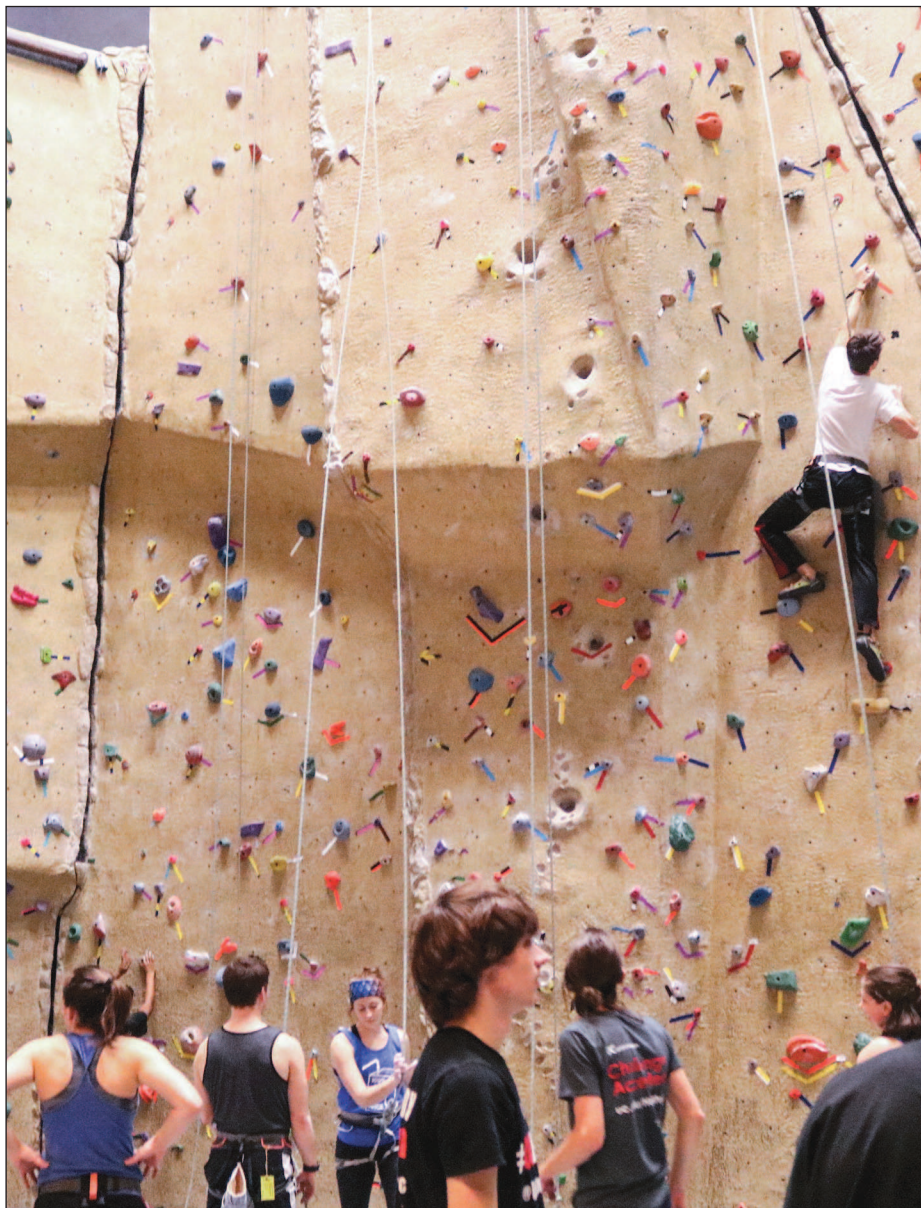
"Everyone seems to have their own take on what exactly it tastes like," said Snow.

On the lighter side, Narrow Path offers a yellow, citrusy-to-the-point-of-puckering Farmhouse Blonde Ale and a Cherry Tart. The Cherry Tart has cherry notes that lightly brush the back of your tongue as you swallow, which is incredibly refreshing and not at all overpowering.

Finally, Narrow Path has a satisfying and drinkable Cream Ale – a nice mix of bubbly carbonation and creaminess.

Narrow Path is sure to become a hit among the many folks that frequent downtown Loveland along the bike trail, offering a cozy atmosphere, a wacky chemistry lab of a brewing set-up for all to see and a warm fire to snuggle up by to enjoy your Maple Bacon Porter.

**GO: Narrow Path Brewing Co., 106 Karl Brown Way, Wednesday 4:30 p.m.-10 p.m., Thursday 4:30 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday 4:30 p.m.-11 p.m., Saturday 3 p.m.-11 p.m. (Hours subject to change)**



Students gear up to tackle the climbing wall in the Rec Center on January 21, 2017.

JOEY MORAND | CONTRIBUTOR

# UC's most useful and most under used resources, spots

JOEY MORAND | CONTRIBUTOR

The University of Cincinnati offers countless resources for students to utilize around campus. A world-class weight room and complete access to Nippert Stadium are just a few of the resource at the students' disposal. But what about some of the overlooked spots around campus?

One of the most overlooked resources the university has to offer is its peer tutoring programs. For both math and English, UC offers the chance to get a little extra help with your school work from one of your fellow students.

For help with writing, one should try the Academic Writing Center located on the fourth floor of Langsam Library in room 401N. The Writing Center offers students the chance to work one-on-one with a tutor on his or her writing.

Whether you need help starting a paper or just want an extra pair of eyes to read over your work, the Academic Writing Center is a great resource to have at your fingertips. You can schedule an appointment online, over the phone or in person.

If you need a little extra help in math, check out the Math and Science Support (MASS) Center. The MASS center offers tutoring in a wide variety of mathematics and science courses that require strong mathematical competency.

MASS is located at 2133 French Hall and offers group peer tutoring from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Friday.

Though the Math and Writing Centers are great tools for students to use, many don't

even know they exist.

Collin Truitt, a first-year engineering student, was unaware of these centers.

"To be completely honest, I've never heard of either of them," said Truitt.

Though Truitt has never utilized the MASS or Writing Centers before, he said he plans on taking advantage of them in the future.

The Rec Center offers a wealth of activities to students.

One of the most overlooked places in the Rec is one of the biggest things in there – the pool. The pool is open for all students to use, though few people take advantage of it. Next time you break a sweat at the gym, finish it off with a few laps in the pool, or just relax and float around the lazy river.

Jake Tiernan, a second-year urban planning student, said he has been trying to make it to the pool since his freshman year but has yet to take his first dip.

"I always try to get my roommates to go swim with me at the Rec, but we never actually make it to the pool," said Tiernan.

Another perk of going to the Rec is the rock-climbing wall.

The wall is often utilized by rock climbing enthusiasts, but rarely by the average student.

The 2,000-square-foot rock-climbing wall offers a great workout and a fun way to test yourself physically and mentally.

If it is your first time climbing, don't worry. The Rec gives out free rentals on safety harnesses and shoes, and a certified worker will be on hand to belay you as you climb.

# Manchester by the Sea tough, heartbreaking

ALLY KAMPEL | CONTRIBUTOR

A restless Lee Chandler, played by actor Casey Affleck, struggles with his past when he is brought back to his hometown after his older brother, Joe, dies unexpectedly.

To everyone's surprise, Joe, played by Kyle Chandler, named Lee the guardian of his only son, Patrick, played by Lucas Hedges. Lee unenthusiastically returns to Manchester where he is forced to deal with his past demons, his ex-wife and her new life with another man – all while learning how to raise a sixteen-year-old boy.

The opening scene starts out in the past, with Casey, Joe and Lee out at sea on Joe's boat. Unlike most of this movie, the opening scene is light hearted and introduces the characters in a point in time where life was still simple. The boat and sea are focal points throughout the entire movie.

As the film progresses, it follows Lee in Manchester where he is consistently reminded of his losses and mistakes presented by flash backs throughout this emotional rollercoaster. As emotionally straining as the film is, it has an underlying sense of comedy with the struggles of new parenting of a teen.

As the film goes on, we see that Patrick and Lee both learn more about themselves, and the audience sees the effects of loss in people's lives. Throughout the film, Lee and Patrick struggle to adjust to their new lifestyle without Joe.

Director Kenneth Lonergan creates a story that not only pulls the audience in with its

gripping tale of loss and learning, but brings to the big screen the hardships and complications of forgiveness. The audience watches Lee cope with the depression caused by his inability to forgive himself for his past mistakes and for the pain he created for the ones that he loved.

The audience watches as Affleck's character struggles with the suffocating sense of guilt from his past mistakes. Affleck brings to life a charming and seriously flawed man. The story of his character is heartbreaking and unfathomable for any parent, allowing the audience to sympathize with Affleck's character and desperately root for his comeback.

This riveting film left me haunted. I managed to fall in love with Affleck's character, despite his history of self-destruction, because of his gut-wrenching story. In the face of unbearable heartache, Lee rises from the ashes to support his orphaned nephew and help him face the harsh reality of death and loneliness.

His story reminded me that there is not always a happy ending in real life. It left me thinking about self-forgiveness and how important it is to forgive yourself, along with others, in order to be able to live a happy life. The film showed that although you may always be haunted by mistakes, and although you may be heartbroken, you have to forgive and continue to live. It reminded me that life goes on whether you are ready for it to move on or not. This heart-wrenching film is an absolute must-see.



PROVIDED

## Dance team continues to build impressive legacy

DAVID WYSONG | SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Cincinnati dance team won their seventh hip-hop national championship, and they did so in dramatic fashion.

Going in to the hip-hop final, the Bearcats were ranked fourth out of eight teams, meaning they had to have a nearly perfect final routine to win the national title.

They did just that. "I knew as even when we were warming up that they had a fire in themselves," said head dance coach Maureen Housum. "As they walked on to the stage, they had a look of energy and spark in their eyes from the moment the music turned on. And when that first move hit, I just knew it was going to be something special."

Ranking fourth before

the last performance, a feeling of shock stretched across the team when they heard their names called as national champions, as no team has ever jumped from fourth to first in the finals.

"I think we were really shocked, but at the end of the day that's what we came there to do," said senior Morgan Quatman. "We wanted to win this entire season. That was our goal. We believed that we could do it. One of our mottos that we built up this year was belief, and that I think we just woke up that day and believed that we could do it."

The Bearcats have won all seven of their hip-hop national championships since 2004 and have won three out of the last four. Losing it last season was used as motivation.

"I think we knew we didn't go in as strong last

year maybe as we were in previous years," said senior Lauren Hawkins. "As soon as the season started, we knew what our goal was and what we wanted to do and that we could do it on our own, so we were ready to go back."

In addition to their national titles, Cincinnati has won a total of 10 World Championships and has been selected as Team USA's representative in the competition six times since 2009.

What has led to their abundance of success is the close-knit relationships between the girls.

"We joke about how no other programs [are] as close as we are, but it's definitely actually a thing that we're for sure closer than any other team," Hawkins said. "A lot of teams, if they would have been put in fourth after

semis, would have probably just went back like, 'Well so-and-so messed this up.' But we were in fourth and we came together, established a goal and woke up ready."

Housum also thinks the close relationships play a big role in the program's success.

"It's been about the sisterhood of the team and the legacy that this program has built off of," said Housum.

This season is Housum's first as the head dance coach, making the national title extra special for her.

"It's definitely been a transition year. It's been a growing year, but these nine seniors have definitely helped me along the way," said Housum.

The program has a lot to live up to, but the work ethic of the team is what Housum thinks can help

them sustain their success.

"They come in, they work hard, they give each other critiques and positive feedback. They push each other to be better," said Housum.

Other than performing

at basketball games, the Bearcats will have a little break before deciding to apply for the International Cheer Union World Championships.

The world championships take place April 26-28.



PROVIDED BY UC DANCE TEAM'S FACEBOOK



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Luke Fickell, seen in this file photo from March 31, 2011, is the new head football coach of the Ohio State Buckeyes after the removal of Jim Tressel.

## Three areas Fickell should focus on

ETHAN RUDD | STAFF REPORTER  
OPINION

University of Cincinnati head football coach Luke Fickell collected the reins of the program from Tommy Tuberville, who departed in December.

There are three things I hope Fickell will address, moving on from the Tuberville-era.

### Recruit Locally

When it comes to recruiting, the best college football programs jealously hoard talent within their home states.

That's because recruiting locally helps to build an identity and a sense of place, plus more resources can be used effectively when making pitches to athletes close to home.

Sure, it's important to build pipelines to other states, but when your campus sits in Ohio — one of the most productive high school football states — then it's more important to keep top-ranking athletes home and recruit elsewhere when it's necessary.

In the 2016 recruiting class, Cincinnati failed to secure any of the top-50 prospects in the state, according to ESPN's recruiting rankings.

So far in 2017, they have secured one.

Once Fickell was hired on, a top-recruit from Cincinnati received an offer from UC, and he reportedly admitted that he thought it a joke because the school never recruited him hard.

UC can't afford not to recruit the best athletes in their own city, let alone the state of Ohio.

### Win a Bowl Game

Believe it or not, bowl games still matter to some people.

While it seems we are inundated with meaningless bowl games wherein athletes may choose to sit out to protect their NFL stock, bowl games still carry some benefit.

For one, bowl games give colleges exposure, and exposure allows more recruits to see potential landing spots.

Secondly, teams with

winning records usually square off in bowl games, which means colleges can show they can compete against other competent programs to those same recruits.

Recently, the Bearcats haven't demonstrated the ability to win a bowl game; the last time they won one was in the 2012 Belk Bowl.

Tuberville led UC to three-straight bowl games from 2013-2015, but failed to win any of those contests.

In fact, those games weren't even that close.

The Bearcats lost by an average of 24.3 points to the likes of the University of North Carolina, Virginia Tech University and San Diego State University.

Getting to and winning bowl games will help the overall quality of the program.

### Answer the Questions that Matter

To say the least, 2016 was a disappointing season for the Bearcats.

What made the year truly frustrating was that it seemed like they had more talent and potential than what their final 4-8 record showed.

Unfortunately, UC never found answers to the questions that plagued them last season.

The running game never took off, even though the Bearcats had two capable running backs in Tion Green and Mike Boone.

Tuberville entered a bye week after losing to the University of Connecticut, admitting adjustments would have to be made, but the running backs remained bottled up thereafter.

UC started three quarterbacks sporadically last year due to injury and choice.

Although Gunner Kiel, Hayden Moore and Ross Trail said they enjoyed healthy friendships, it must have been hard to split snaps with the starters and to create a rapport with skill position players after repeatedly being inserted and cut out of the lineup.

Hopefully, Fickell will avoid problems like this by finding long-term solutions.

## Women's basketball: rags to riches

JASON SZELEST | STAFF REPORTER

Following a 74-64 victory over the East Carolina University Pirates Saturday at Fifth Third Arena, the University of Cincinnati women's basketball team improved to 14-5 with a 5-1 record in the American Athletic Conference.

The Bearcats have not won more than five conference games since 2012, and the five wins they have already acquired tie for the most since 2014.

The last time the team won 14 total games was also 2012 when they finished with a record of 16-16.

With 10 regular season games remaining, followed by tournament games, there will be plenty of opportunities to build on these record-setting win totals.

There is still plenty left to accomplish in those games.

Unless the Bearcats were to lose at least nine of their final 10 regular season games, they will finish with a winning record for the first time since 2007 when they went 16-14.

To look at what is making the difference for this Bearcat squad, junior-college transfer Shanice Johnson is at the forefront of it.

The 5-foot-11 junior forward has exploded onto the scene, averaging 15.5 points and 9.6 rebounds per game for the Bearcats.

She leads the team in points, rebounds, steals

and blocks.

However, coach Jamelle Elliott believes that it is deeper than simply one player making the difference.

"I think we are a great all-around team," said Elliott. "In the previous years when we have not had as much success as we would like, we were one or two guys that had to do everything for us."

This was exemplified in the ECU game, when last year's leading scorer and

the No. 2 scorer on the team this year, junior guard Ana Owens, was limited to zero points in the first half, yet the Bearcats still held a five-point lead.

"Ana, Bianca [Quisenberry], Shanice, they may struggle at times," said Elliott. "That does not mean that it is an automatic [loss] for us in the game. We have freshmen that can come in and help us, we have juniors and we have sophomores. We are just a

better all-around team. Our roster is better one through 13 and it is showing because everybody is not going to have a good night."

Further than just the physical abilities of the players on the court, Elliott also said that the players have adopted a winning mentality.

"I would really sum it up to the fact that this team has bought in to what it takes to win," said Elliott. "They come to practice every day, come into games believing that we can win no matter what the score is and have the confidence to make plays on both ends of the floor."

For the players, this new brand of winning basketball at Cincinnati has put an extra bit of pep in their step.

"It is just a good feeling," said Owens. "These past two years I have been playing here, it was not what I was looking for. When you come from high school, you are winning and stuff, then when you come to college, it is not what you are looking for. Just to see that we are winning, confident, got a lot of talent, we got Shanice, it gives us more confidence."

Cincinnati will be in search of their sixth-straight victory Tuesday night against the University of Central Florida Golden Knights.

The game tips off at 7 p.m. in Orlando, Florida.



DAVID GIREDA | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ana Owens (3) goes for a lay-up in the game against East Carolina on Saturday January 21, 2017. Owens broke 1000 career points during the game.

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