

THE PAUW WOW

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Pope's Historic Visit

By Callan Sheridan
News Editor

Almost two years ago, Father Rocco Danzi sat in a meeting with his cell phone on the table. Before the meeting began, Fr. Rocco had heard that white smoke had emerged from the Vatican in Rome, announcing the selection of a new pope. The name of the new pope remained a mystery. Suddenly, his cell phone nearly jumped off the table as it began to continuously vibrate. Assuming there must be some emergency, Fr. Rocco picked up his phone and scanned over the multitude of messages. "It's a Jesuit!" they read. "He's a Jesuit!"

The Jesuit in question was newly elected pope, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio. Now known to the world as Pope Francis, he has taken the Catholic religion,

as well as world issues, by storm. Pope Francis' visit to the United States marks a special and historic occasion for the nation as a whole, and particularly for the Jesuit community of Saint Peter's University.

"It's an amazing moment," says Fr. Rocco, "because he represents so many of those values that we [Jesuits] put forth."

Pope Francis has taken many of these Jesuit values and applied them to problems the world and the United States faces including climate change, social justice, and poverty.

In fact, Pope Francis is blazing a trail in this aspect of social, economic, and political problems. He is the first pope to address a joint session of Congress and also addressed the United Nation

(Continue on pg. 2)



A list for the firsts of Pope Francis from theologydegrees.org.

We Need Donald Trump?

By Sam Storms
Contributing Writer

Donald Trump brought in a record number of viewers for the primary debates with a monstrous 24 million people watching.

Everybody knows that Donald Trump isn't afraid to speak his mind, but because he is pinned as the "villain", more people have watched primary debates than any other time in history, according to Nielsen Media Research.

Every great forum for entertainment needs a bad guy. Without the bad guy, tickets do not sell. Of course, Donald Trump had something to tweet about this:



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · Aug 9

It amazes me that other networks seem to treat me so much better than @FoxNews. I brought them the biggest ratings in history, & I get zip!

"Donald Trump brings entertainment and he makes me want to watch the debates," said Claudia Loh, a senior at Saint Peter's. "He's not afraid to say what he thinks and we need a 'villain' to pay attention to the issues."

According to Fox News, about 6.1 million viewers tuned in for the "undercard" debate, which focuses on the candidates who didn't make the primetime debate.

The primetime debate obtained four times more viewers than the debate that was aired an hour before.

In a world dominated by media, one villain Trumps them all: the Donald.

By Christopher Flores
Contributing Writer

With Ronald Reagan's Air Force One positioned proudly behind the 11 Republican candidates on stage at the last CNN debate, each tried tackling the hard issues. From Iran to Syria, from marijuana to immigration, the candidates discussed a plethora of current events. One issue, however, was left unspoken about – college affordability.

Earlier this year, President Obama unveiled a new plan, which would make two-year community colleges tuition free. More recently, both Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders have been talking up their individual plans to make college more affordable. Republican candidates, however, have been virtually silent on this issue.

According to Forbes, the total

student loan debt in the U.S. is \$1.2 trillion. Paying back these loans after graduation is worrisome to many millennials.

"I feel nervous about it because a job isn't always guaranteed, especially in the education field," said Tyler Schell, a Saint Peter's University student.

Schell, a registered Independent, is a fifth year college student and doesn't expect to graduate until 2017. Following graduation, he expects to be \$30,000 to \$40,000 in debt.

Democrats may be more vocal about their college tuition plans, but that doesn't mean Republicans don't have ideas. Chris Christie, John Kasich, and Marco Rubio all have their stance on the issue written out explicitly on their campaign websites. While others, like Rand Paul, also have

a plan, it is not on their websites nor do they flaunt it while out on the campaign trail.

"I do think as a party, Republicans need to address this more," David Simon, a freshman at the University and a Rand Paul supporter recently said. "I think as more Libertarian ideas start to find their way into the Republican Party, you'll see them start to talk about it a little more," he continued.

But just because liberals seem to be discussing this issue more than conservatives, it doesn't mean Democrats care more about college students than Republicans. The candidates, of both sides, are simply addressing the desires of their voter base.

According to Pew Research, 55% of millennials identify

(Continue on pg. 2)

GOP Fails to Address Key Issue at Debate

Historic Visit

(Continued from pg. 1)

during his visit to New York.

Many Saint Peter's students are intrigued as to how the Pope will tackle these difficult issues.

"I'm excited to see and hear what he's going to be talking about during the trip, what issues he's going to address," says Junior Nicholas Chciuk. "I know he's big on climate change and poverty, so I want to see what he's going to say about that - whether it's controversial - and how much of a hardliner he's going to be."

Senior and Student Government Association President Michelle Perez is also excited by the pope's visit and itinerary. "He's the first Jesuit pope to actually come

to the United States and address an issue like climate change."

Perez believes Pope Francis' visit may hold a larger meaning in the political realm.

"It's almost as if... it's a return favor for the moment the president went to visit him in the Vatican. It's a symbol of what can happen when leaders from different realms come together to have a conversation, a constructive conversation."

Just as the papal visit holds political significance, it is also a special moment for the Saint Peter's community, as a Jesuit university, to hold its head up high.

"This idea that he [Pope Francis] puts forth is what we're all

about at Saint Peter's, and every Jesuit University across the globe," claims Fr. Rocco. "It's a faith that does justice, its women and men for others, it's having those tough conversations at times but those conversations are always around love and mercy and service."

If only Pope Francis could make a pit stop in Jersey City.

"He's not coming here, so that's a little disappointing," jokes Chciuk, "but I'm sure he'll help bolster the image of the Jesuits here in America, and especially here in Saint Peter's. I think it will raise their prestige a little bit."

To mark this occasion and Pope Francis' special connection to Saint Peter's, the university

had planned a series of events for students to participate in.

"There's going to be many opportunities for students to participate [in his visit]," said Perez.

Those activities included a screening of the Papal address to Congress in the Duncan Skyroom on Thursday, September 24th, a memorial walk and prayer service to Liberty State Park in honor of the Pope's visit to the 9/11 memorial on Friday, September 25th, and a reflection and discussion on the pope's call to love, along with a live streaming of the final Papal mass in Philadelphia on Sunday, September 27th.

"Pope Francis' visit, and all that he represents, gives us a

little boost," said Fr. Rocco. "[It's kind of a] jump-start, and also an affirmation that this is what it's about for us. These are the most important things, all that he puts forth."

"There's goodness; there's such goodness in this country," assures Fr. Rocco. "There's hope."

**"Everything he symbolizes, we strive for here at Saint Peter's: service, community, and care for the person."
- Fr. Rocco Danzi.**

GOP

(Continued from pg. 1)

themselves as Democrats while only 35% sympathize with the Republican party.

Democrats, of course, want to secure their stronghold on millennial voters. But Simon believes the GOP should use this issue as a way to appeal to young voters.

"You can see it with just Rand Paul, he brings up issues that we care about," he said. "So you see among millennials, he's doing very well. I think if he talked more about college education... he'd have even more support," Simon continued.

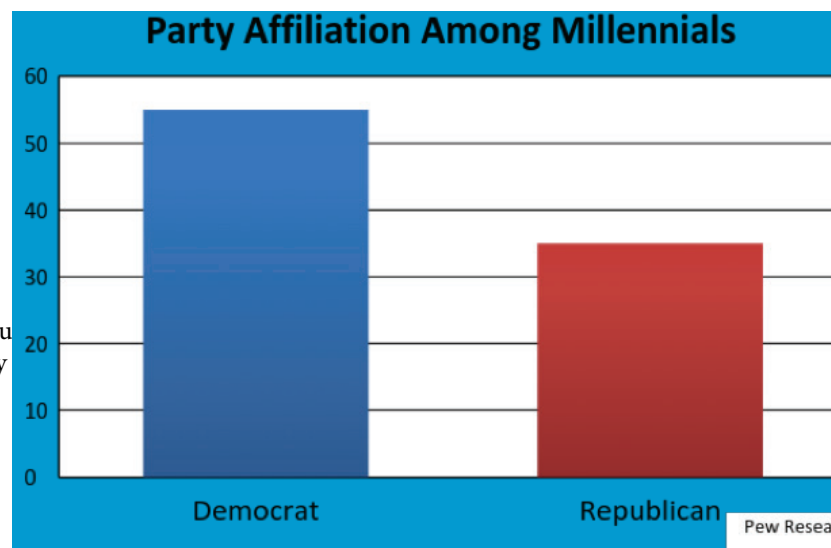
On the other hand, millennials don't typically show up at the

polls on Election Day.

"Of all the voter groups, this is one of the voter groups that doesn't turn out in the numbers you would expect them to," Professor Alain Sanders said in an interview last semester. "You really want to excite as many people as possible for your candidacy...but you have to accept the fact that some groups come out more than others," he also said.

Regardless, college affordability is an issue that matters to millennials and could affect the way they vote this election season.

"This is one of the top issues



Bar Graph comparing the democratic party and the republicans

I'm looking to see what the candidates have and what kind of plans they come up with," Schell said.

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Cool Beans: Millennial's Coffee Consumption

By Daniela Franco

Arts Editor

Sitting in her college dorm with a Red Sox sweatshirt and a cup of Dunkin' Donuts coffee next to her, Alyssa Ruiz remembers her first time drinking coffee. "I was ten and it was a weekend and I asked my dad if I could try it, so I tried a little bit from his mug," she explains.

Not until the age of 17 did she become a casual coffee drinker. Now, she enjoys large iced mocha coffee light and sweet or on other occasions black iced coffee. Spending on average "18 dollars a week on coffee," she says.

A coffee trend among Millennials has been brewing up and major companies have noticed. The high consumption of coffee can be seen when walking through college campuses. Car-

rying coffee cups and tumblers in one hand and balancing books in the other can be described as a typical morning for many students.

Are Millennials really drinking more coffee than past generations? In the new world of cyber connectivity, is there more to keep up with in which coffee may aid millennials, just as early American surgeons used cocaine to help keep up with excruciating hours of work?

Third year medical student, Marie Perrera, admits that everyone she knows "drink[s] a lot of coffee and that's because they are doing long hours and trying to stay awake and focused."

Coffee is everywhere from franchise shops to high end cafés. With constant advertisements, it may be hard for consumers to

avoid the temptation of coffee drinks. Companies like Starbucks spent 95 million dollars in 2013 just on advertisements. In 2013, Starbucks generated a total of \$14.9 billion in annual revenue, according to statista.com.

On average, Americans spent 21 dollars a week in 2013, according to statistics. An entire generation of millennials is growing up in a coffee culture, and they're paying for it.

Specialty coffee shops catering to the sweet tooth of millennial coffee drinkers quickly learned that the new best drink is what sells. Constant competition between chains has created a seemingly infinite number of peppermint, mocha, caramel, and spiced flavors for consumers to choose from.

Millennials between the ages of 18 and 24 are more likely to choose specialty coffee drinks

than adults between the ages of 35 to 44, who are more prone to choosing regular brewed coffee, according to the Datassential study, commissioned by S&D coffee and Tea, Inc.

Dr. Vincent Serafino, a practicing physician of almost 31 years, confesses himself as being an avid coffee drinker. He claims that he uses it to stay awake and to keep him going throughout

(Continue on pg. 4)



A spoon, coffee grinds shaped in a heart, a fresh cup of brewed coffee

New Center Opens Up for the Undocumented

By Krystal Nurse
Contributing Writer

Down Glenwood Avenue, next to the Honors House, is a place where undocumented students and their advocates can safely call home.

The Center for Undocumented Students ("TCUS") officially opened last November and sits on the second floor of the King/Kairos Social Justice House. Professor Jennifer Ayala, Director of TCUS, said in an e-mail interview that the center's mission is to make undocumented students feel welcomed, support their academic work, and to show the political and economical realities of immigration.

Members of TCUS work with the community, Jesuit universities, and government offices to ease access and retention in higher education. According to the American Immigration Council, there are approximately 6,500 undocumented students in college.

"The way I understand the history behind the center is that there's been students here at Saint Peter's who were undocumented, my sister being one of them," said junior Li Adorno, who works in TCUS as a student intern. "The professors here were very supportive and they were intrigued on seeing what else they can do besides helping one person. How many more can they help? That curiosity led them to building a space especially for undocumented students."

Other members agreed.
"You have this concept of

a safe space where students can come together

and build the fire to get active as well," said Michelle Pérez, senior and member.

Since opening, the center co-sponsored the New Jersey Immigrant Youth Conference on September 19, has worked with



Taken by Krystal Nurse. The Center for Undocumented Students at the King

the We Are One Center, next to St. Aedan's church, to help students apply for citizenship, as well as helped with applications and renewals for special work permits and travel documents.

TCUS recognizes that the cost of higher education is steep and being an undocumented student makes paying for college tough.

"There are sources such as scholarships that apply to students who are undocumented are eligible for," Pérez said. "There's a financial burden they can get off their shoulders because being undocumented means a limitation on your financial aid, which is why the state-aided effort pushed by those students is a great achievement on their behalf with certain restrictions that were left out."

According to Professor Ayala, the center is working to create a limited amount of book vouchers for undocumented students next semester. A donor provided funds to be a part of a DREAMer fund for undocumented or DACA students with a 3.0 GPA and at least 60 credits.

Hispanic students aren't the only ones opening up to the center about being undocumented.

"The issue of immigration is of-

ten seen as an exclusively *Latin@ issue, because anti-immigrant sentiment tends to be closely coupled with racialized anti-*Latin@ sentiment," says Professor Ayala.

"But it is important to note that documentation status is an issue that crosses many borders. On this campus for example, we have undocumented students on this campus from Europe, Asia and Africa."

Members of the Center are keen on emphasizing the term undocumented instead of illegal or unauthorized. All agreed that when someone is labeled as illegal, it dehumanizes a person. How a person entered a country may be illegal, but the person themselves are not illegal. Undocumented says that a person does not have proper documents on them to live in the country.

For their future, the Center has hopes of creating awareness and a stronger presence on campus.

"Ultimately, we would like for it to grow and become something all students on campus know exists," says Michelle Pérez. "That they can share with other students they think are underground — hidden or afraid from the term of undocumented and unafraid. We dismiss this fear and allow for openness, awareness, and then activeness."

* Latin@ refers to the gender-neutral term of calling a mixed group of people from a Latin American country. Incorporates the masculine and feminine endings, but pronunciation is left up to the reader.

Why You Should Watch More Cat Videos

By Jenna Carbin
Co-Editor and Chief

Turns out sneaking that one minute montage video of cats falling off things while doing work may actually help improve your mood and personal health more than you realize.

A recent study published in the scholarly journal of Computers in Human Behavior found that "happiness gained from viewing Internet cats can moderate the relationship between procrastination motives, guilt, and enjoyment."

Jessica Gall Myrick conducted

a study in which she surveyed over 7,000 internet users, covering multiple variables such as emotion, procrastination, and personality. It provides adequate and time-relevant information about the adorably funny videos that trend the internet and the results they have on the people who watch them. Most people would describe cat videos as a way to procrastinate, or as the study calls it: "cyberslacking." The mood description of the report explains how when people link up to the internet, they are expecting to

(Continue on pg. 4)

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Millennial's Coffee

(Continued from pg. 2)

the day, averaging between 3 and 4 cups of coffee per day. Belonging to the X Generation, Dr. Serafino prefers brewing his own coffee at home or in his office. Although when "on the go" he prefers Starbucks or a fine bean, favoring the Colombian bean, "a strong, bold, bean."

With diabetes running high in the millennial generation, could the sweet coffee drinks beloved so much be hurting more than just the pockets of the twenty-something-year-olds?

"A person that begins at a younger age is more inclined to continue coffee consumption versus someone who starts at an older age. I think I'm proof of that because I remember drinking coffee before my teenage

years," discloses Doctor Serafino.

"It's the speed, it gets you moving, it gets your heart beating. Your heart beats a lot faster and your resting pulse can be much higher. Your mind can be firing off and going off too quickly. You can get the shakes and jitters; having a more rapid heart beat isn't always the best for your heart," explains Dr. Serafino on the effects of coffee on the body.

"It's a total lifestyle if you are drinking caffeine, smoking cigarettes, overweight, and you're not exercising; it can cause increased blood pressure, increased heart rate, and these things take their toll over a long period of time. Eventually, it can lead to hypertension, cardiac problems," said Dr. Serafino.

A student from Saint Peter's

University, Chelsea Forbes, explains her daily routine as waking up, grabbing a coffee, going to class, heading to work, and once again, picking up another medium, two sugar and cream coffee at a nearby Dunkin Donuts.

"I've had fluctuations; right now, I'm at a steady pace. I know that everything taking in excess is bad for you, because there was a point where I was drinking up to seven cups of coffee a day, and it was taking a toll on my body," explained Chelsea.

There soon will be more than just an abundance of fancy drink choices for millennial coffee drinkers. Starbucks has been innovating a new plan to continue seeking more consumers by planning on opening a tasting room. Starbucks Reserve Roastery and

Art

Best Places To Eat In Jersey City

By Danielle Pimentel
Online Editor

It is easy to forget between classes, homework, extracurriculars, and all the other things that take up the time of a college student, that the Saint Peter's campus is located in an extraordinary city. Jersey City is a great place to go exploring, because there is so much to discover. There are many great restaurants and multiple varieties of food to eat, some just a PATH ride away.

The V.I.P Diner
(175 Sip Ave)

A well known staple for any Saint Peter's student who dorms and is tired of the food in the cafe. Since it is open 24 hours and so close to campus, it will become an essential, especially during finals. Like any diner, they have an assortment of different foods, but have some great burger and fry combos.

Two Boots
(133 Newark Ave)

The moment you step into this place, you feel like you have been transported to the '90s. Two Boots is one of the few places where you can get every twenty-something-year-olds favorite food combo: pizza and beer. This place is also vegan and vegetarian friendly. Many of the pies are named after pop culture icons, movie characters, or urban leg-

ends. It's fun, very colorful, and serves amazing pizza.

New Park Tavern
(575 West Side Ave)

Park Tavern has the best burgers in all of Jersey City and at amazing prices. Do not let the name fool you; it is also a family restaurant. However, if you are over 21, you are more than welcome to have a drink. This place is full of surprises. You never know what you're going to get when you walk in, whether it's a live band or art gallery. It has a very mellow atmosphere and is a great place to just hang out for hours with your friends.

Brownstone Diner
(426 Jersey Ave)

When you hear of Brownstone, you hear of their world famous pancakes. These pancakes seriously blow IHOP out of the water. They are so good that you can't even get a seat for hours on the weekends. If you aren't into breakfast food, Brownstone also offers burgers, sandwiches, pasta, you name it. Though the pancakes are what they are known for, their milkshakes

should be awarding-winning, as well. This is the best place to bring your parents if you're from out of state, and they are visiting.

Zeppelin Hall
(88 Liberty View Dr.)

Zeppelin Hall is a great place to just chill and has a very comfortable vibe. It has both indoor and outdoor seating. Since it is a beer garden, anyone under 21 years old must leave after 9:30pm, but for all the legal drinkers, they have a vast collection of beer at great prices. The outside section is made up of communal benches, creating an environment where you can possibly make new friends.

Next time you are hungry and searching for a new place to eat, take the PATH, and go explore. Many of these places are just a few steps away from the nearest station.



Cat Videos

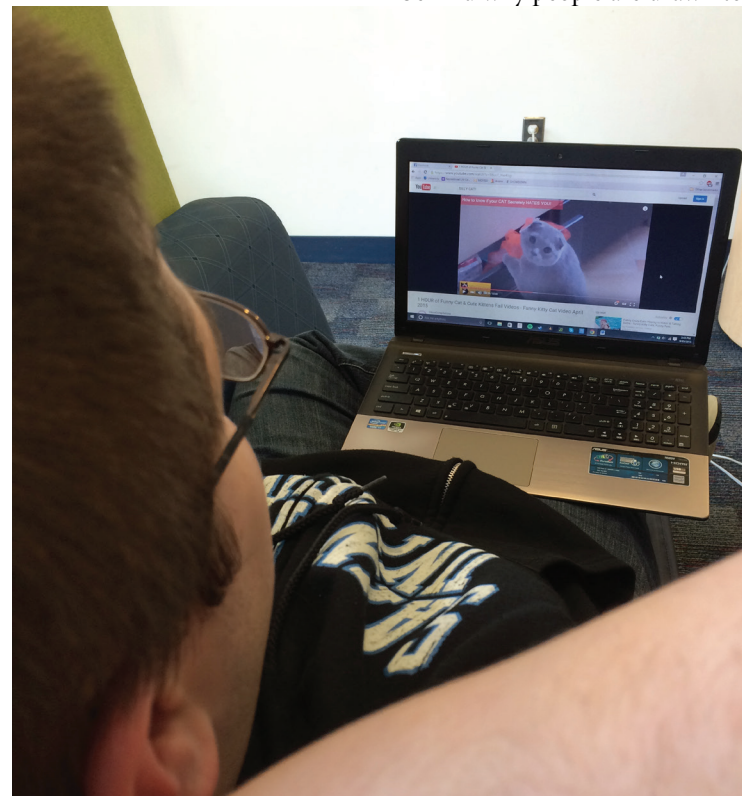
(Continued from pg. 3)

look at cat videos to have a positive experience.

This rings true with Kimberly Bautista, a junior, who said, "I feel warm inside [when I watch cat

erate more positive emotions."

Personality traits such as shyness and introvertedness were characteristics used in the study to help understand the reason behind why people are drawn to



Saint Peter's Student enjoying cat videos via Youtube. Photo by Jenna Carbin

videos]. I think of my cat Zoey and how much she means to me and how little she used to be."

The positive feelings of "nostalgia" she feels relates to the mood research the study provides. The research states, "Internet users may seek images and videos of adorable or humorous cats in order to dissipate negative emotional states or to keep up their positive spirits."

Aaren Rigor, a junior, agreed with the study. "When I watch [cat videos], I get a strange perception of bliss or joy at watching them run around and do what they do," he said.

The factor of emotional well-being is the third variable Myrick brought into her study explaining that a person with a positive attitude may seek out happy and funny cat videos rather than a negatively-minded person.

The study says, "If certain Internet users are doing well and are generally happy, then they may be drawn to cute or funny content that could guarantee they will remain in their generally positive state. However, it is also possible that individuals who are not doing well or receiving adequate emotional support from those around them may turn to online cat media as a way to gen-

cat videos. The information in the study states that "cats [are] often categorized as solitary, even anti-social pets as compared to dogs," much like the introverted personality type.

After all these variables were factored in, "this study found that cat-related content is a popular form of online media with the potential to improve users' moods or to delay more important tasks."

Nelsa Richardson, a junior, agrees. "I just think these creatures are so adorable. Why worry about being sad when there is something so cute and precious in the world?," she said.

So the next time you find yourself watching those fuzzy little imps falling off of things, know you are improving your personal health.

To read the full article:

Emotion regulation, procrastination, and watching cat videos online: Who watches Internet cats, why, and to what effect
Jessica Gall Myrick
Computers in Human Behavior
November 2015,
Vol.52:168-176, doi:10.1016/j.chb.2015.06.001

Link: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0747563215004343>

Lifestyle

#FOODPORN

By Briana Benitez

Staff Writer

Ivette Gomez receives her entrée at a fancy restaurant in the city. She marvels at the sizzling plate of food in front of her. Just as she's about to take a bite of her delicious 5-star rated burger, she takes a picture of the burger and uploads it to Instagram--#foodporn.



According to data on Instagram.com, as of Sept. 22, Instagram reached 400 million users, with a total of 40 billion photos shared; of this 40 billion, 66 million of these photos have been hashtagged foodporn.

"I'm not going to post my aver-

age meal, so if I feel like it's worth the view, I'll take a picture and post it," said junior Ivette Gomez.

While some post pictures that are visually appealing, others post to spread awareness about local spots.



"If I find a spot that's really good I like to share it with people so that they know about it. I like to try foods from different ethnicities. My favorite spot in the city is a thai barbecue place called Sticky Fingers, located at 85 Orchard St. NY, NY," said senior Chris Cowell.

Cowell recalls a friend telling him if he hashtagged foodporn on his picture, it would get a

higher number of likes.

"Every picture I post of food gets a good amount of likes. I think it's simply because everyone likes food and it's much more comfortable to like someone picture for that reason," Cowell added.

Individuals also post pictures of certain foods based on their culture.

"I mostly post chicken, meats, and Mediterranean foods because I am Lebanese,"

said senior Tony Tarrabay. "I post pictures to show off my cooking abilities and sometimes it's funny to see what people say."

Tarrabay added that he re-



ceives more likes on his pictures of food than he does any other



content he posts.

Sara Battaglia, a current junior at Saint Peter's University, said that she also receives a lot of attention on her food posts. Battaglia said that she tends to post healthier foods.

"I'm not really doing it for the likes, I just like to look add it to my feed and being able to go back and look at it," Battaglia said. "I don't know what it is about food but seeing pictures just makes you hungry, it makes you want it."

According to eurekaalert.com, looking at images of high-calorie

foods stimulates the brain's appetite control center and results in



an increased desire for food.

Some foodstagram worth the follow are:

1. @eats
2. @hungrytwins
3. @new_fork_city
4. @realfoodz
5. @infatuation
6. @hungrybetches
7. @food52
8. @eatsofnyc
9. @tastingtable
10. @spoonforkbacon

FRESHMAN 15: FACT OR FICTION?

By Gabriella Robles

Online Editor

Much of a student's first year of college is spent trying to discover the formula that successfully balances academics, work, and a social life. But there is another challenge college freshmen face throughout the transition into university life; the dreaded monster commonly known as the Freshman 15.

The Freshman 15 is a theory that college freshmen typically gain 15 pounds during their first year on campus.

Seventeen Magazine first introduced the phrase in its 1989 cover, with an editorial entitled, "FIGHTING THE FRESHMAN 15." Nowadays, a Google search of the term will supply over 43 million links, many including tips on how to avoid the extra pounds.

But is the freshman 15 just a myth?

Recent studies show that while the average student does gain some weight during the first year, it is nowhere near Seventeen's theory of fifteen.

According to WebMD Health, only 1 in 10 freshmen actually put on 15 pounds or more.

"College can bring many unhealthy habits, like binge drinking, that play a huge part into gaining weight," said Virginia Cruz-Ayala, a sophomore who dorms at the University of Delaware.

Ohio State University performed a study which collected data from 7,418 students over the course of their four years of college. The results found that women and men, on average, gain around three pounds during freshman year.

"Most people I've met in college gained weight their first year, whether it has to do with drinking, dining hall food or stress. But I've also noticed that most people have lost the weight over the summer after freshman year has ended," said Samantha Ayala, a sophomore at New York University.

The problem is not specifically freshman year, but instead the cumulative years during college. A 2011 study published in Social Science Quarterly found that over the course of four years at college, on average the women gained approximately 9 pounds and the men 13 pounds.

Although, this is still about the same amount of weight as

those who do not attend college. Dr. Lawrence Friedman of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine explained in a recent article, "Teens are not fully grown at age 17 or 18. We would expect growth and weight gain during these years that have nothing to do with college."

"To be honest, it depends on the person. If you are a naturally active person, who is mindful about what they eat, you will have no issue. But if you are vulnerable to the temptation of ice cream and pizza every day, you will be more prone to gain weight," Cruz-Ayala said.

Statistics prove that the freshman 15 is not inevitable. There are simple ways to avoid the extra pounds-- like hitting the gym every once in a while, skipping out on that ice cream in the dining hall, and avoiding drinking your calories.

The freshman 15 is only a fact if you make it one.

Planned Parenthood's Fight for Funds

By Krystal Nurse

Staff Writer

Government funds for Planned Parenthood are in jeopardy with a bill passed in the House of Representatives to suspend funds for a year.[a][b]

The bill, "Defund Planned Parenthood Act", was a response to a series of videos released by the Center for Medical Progress where Planned Parenthood doctors are talking[c] about selling the fetuses, among other things. The Senate plans to vote on the bill in the near future. If passed, President Obama says he will veto the bill, according to Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.).

Fusion GPS, hired by the organization to investigate in the legitimacy of the tapes, discovered the tapes were altered.[d]

The threat of losing a substantial part of revenue is a concern for some students.[e]

"If you take funding away from a lot of these clinics, you'll see women probably - their lives not being ruined, but they have to take care of the child now," says Raquel Mazariegos, junior at

Saint Peter's University. "Because they have to keep the baby. Along the path, the baby will now be in an environment where the parents can't take good care of the child cause they have minimum wage jobs."

Former President Ronald Reagan introduced Title X in 1970, which gives federal grants to organizations for family planning. Its priority is to help low-income or uninsured people receive affordable family care. According to the Office of Population Affairs Title X's Statutes and Regulations, money from Title X "shall [not] be used in programs where abortion is a method of family planning."

Per its Planned Parenthood 2013 - 2014 Annual Report, the organization receives nearly 40% (roughly \$528.4 million) of its revenue from the government through Title X.

A student at Saint Peter's said that the impact they think it will have on America if Planned Parenthood loses 40% of its funding is "a lot of people will find ...

(Continue on pg. 7)



Do you suffer from grass allergies?



**Inflamax
Research is
recruiting
participants
with grass
allergies for a
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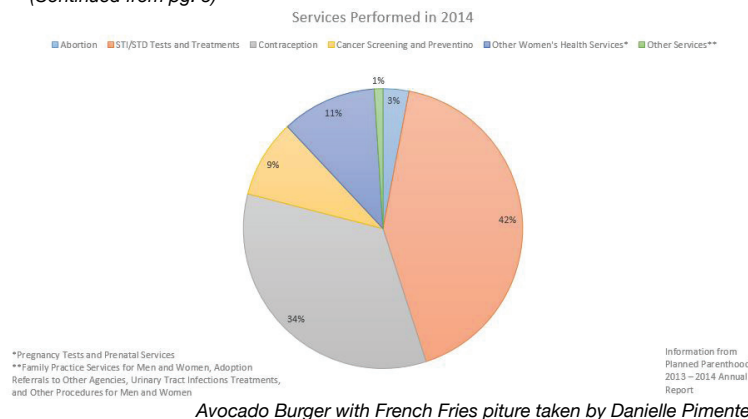
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Planned Parenthood

(Continued from pg. 5)



Avocado Burger with French Fries picture taken by Danielle Pimentel

other means to abort.” The concern is an issue in junior Kristelle Grant’s country, Grenada.

Title X, however, allows for funds to be used to perform abortions that are medically necessary or from rape or incest.

About 3% of patients who used Planned Parenthood sought abortions. The organization serviced 10.9 million people from June 2013 to 2014. Services includes cancer screenings, adoption services, counselling, to name a few. STD and STI tests and treatments make up the majority of visits at 42%.

A loss of Title X funds can become a possible threat to young adults’ as bills for visits are given directly to the patient and not sent to the insurance company or parents.

“I feel if Planned Parenthood’s funding gets taken away, then young people as a whole will have a much harder time making certain decisions. ...If planned parenthood is restricted then that freedom to choose to stay protected will be taken away,” says Chris Brabson, senior at Saint Peter’s.

“I think by taking away that funding, it puts more responsibility on the young people to make that decision on their own on what they do,” says Charlotte Caporrino, junior at Saint Peter’s.

But others, like Brabson, disagree, “Planned Parenthood is basically a place where people can either have a choice to have a kid or not. I think it’s important for everybody who goes, no matter male or female.”

But everyone interviewed agreed, Planned Parenthood offers help to women and men who cannot get help elsewhere at low rates with and without insurance.

“They provide health to those who probably don’t have insurance, especially teens who are primarily sexually active or just a cheaper way of getting birth control,” said Kristelle Grant.

Health Services did not respond to a request for a comment. Planned Parenthood has not responded back for a comment.

***Please note that after this article was written, Senate blocked the Bill to Defund Planned Parenthood with 52 days to 47 yeas.**

Needles and Ink are the New Paintbrush

By Bridget Whitfield
Staff Writer

“How many tattoos do you have?”

He bites his lip, looks around, and giggles. His short sleeve shirt shows the front and back of his arms, which are covered in ink. A basketball, surrounded with a crown and roses are on the inside of his forearm, and are engulfed with designs from shoulder to wrist. His chest is filled with clouds and a quote. And his name, Rodney Hawkins, reads down the back of each calf.

He scratches his head.

“I wanna say 25 or 26,” Hawkins said, a student athlete at Saint Peter’s University. “The tattoos I get are meaningful and describe me,” he said. “They mean something to me.”

To many young people, tattoos are art and a popular accessory. One in three adults aged 18 to 25 have at least one tattoo, according to Statistic Brain Research Institute.

“I’m an artist, so I look at it (tattoos) as how I express myself,” said Kayla Williams, a senior at Saint Peter’s University. “I don’t know; I just like the feeling of having a new piece.”

Tattoos are not just random choices; many of them have stories behind them that made them decide to go under the needle.

Alana Rodriguez, a sophomore at Saint Peter’s University, describes the significance behind one of her 30 tattoos.

“It’s on my forearm, it’s a Ganesha, a Hindu God that represents obstacles and good fortune,” she said. “Other than it being a beautiful picture to see, I feel I can relate to that because whatever obstacle comes my way, I can find the good and the reason

behind it.”

Forty-three percent of people with tattoos think that personal meaning is the most important factor in deciding to get tattooed, according to tattooconnection.net.



Picture taken by Neechelle Ingram revised by Bridget Whitfield of Kayla Williams

Williams’ life sleeve that spans from her shoulder to the end of her wrist represents lost family members that were very close to her.

“My sleeve is my favorite; it represents my cousin and my uncle passing away a week apart from each other.” She pauses. “It sucked, so I got something, kinda like a tribute, which is why everything on it symbolizes them in some way.”

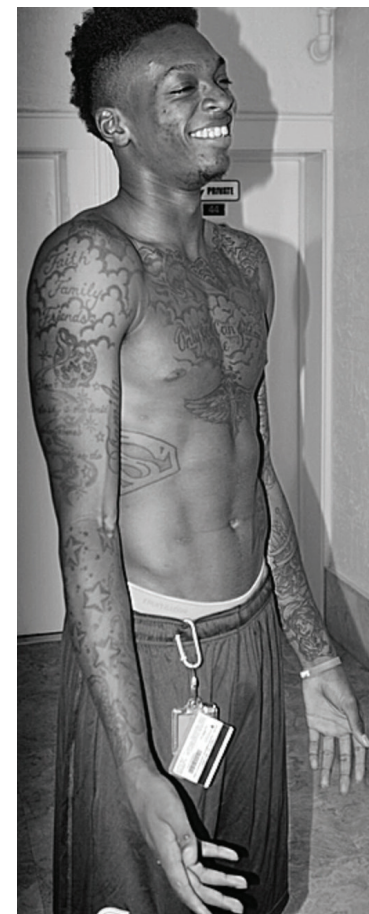
Young people have chosen tattoos as their form of expression: of feelings, of thoughts, and of characteristics of themselves.

“There’s a lot of ways to express

yourself,” Rodriguez says. “But tattoos are one of those physical, inerasable things you can do that is 100% creative, because it’s on you.”

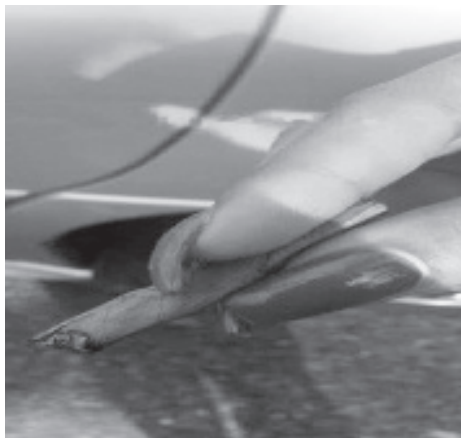
According to tattooconnection.net, 1.65 billion dollars are being spent on tattoos in the United States and 45 million Americans with at least one tattoo. This art form shows no signs of slowing down.

“I feel like the body isn’t all that important because it’s perishable,” Rodriguez says. “You only have it the time we’re alive; it deteriorates and turns into dust. It doesn’t matter if my whole body is tattooed, because eventually, this body won’t exist.”



Picture taken by Neechelle Ingram revised by Bridget Whitfield of Rodney Hawkins

PUFF PUFF Roommate Smoke



Picture taken by Chris Williams of a rolled form of marijuana

By Christopher Williams
Sports Editor

* Names were hidden to protect the identity of those interviewed.

You can see marijuana in your room and hear the murmurs of students completing the “puff, puff, pass,” phrase, while passing the blunt. Meanwhile, you can’t find the Febreze spray that you left on your dresser yesterday because you’re trying to get rid of the smell.

While recreational marijuana is banned in New Jersey and more than half of the states in the U.S., you still can see students rolling a blunt up at night with

their friends, or you can smell the strong aroma tracing down the hallway. Imagine having a roommate who is a heavy smoker and being totally against smoking or even vice versa.

“I’m not even aware I smell. I know I smoke every night and come back to the dorm room immediately, but I didn’t know the smell stuck to my clothes to the point where it stinks up the whole room,” said junior Tom Yeller. *

Sometimes, smokers aren’t

even aware of the smell sticking to their clothes. If you’re with other smokers, you don’t really understand how strong the smell of marijuana is because it is a fragrance you enjoy. To non-smokers, that fragrance most likely becomes a stench.

“I’m not against smoking because people can do what they want,” said sophomore Ashley Edmondson*. “My problem is when I’m eating food or just relaxing in the room and all of a sudden, my roommate’s clothes

PUFF PUFF Roommate Smoke

smell. I don't understand why they don't just jump straight in the shower instead of trying to lay down on the bed and filling the room with the smell of weed. You may like it but I don't."

Although RAs live on each floor and campus safety is trying to protect the school from anything crime-related, marijuana can easily be snuck inside the campus of Saint Peter's University.

All it takes to sneak weed past security is a little "dime bag," to hold your weed in & a blunt from the local store and BAM. You can fit both items in one hand so it's pretty obvious that it can clearly fit in your pocket or even your book bag.

"These security guards are either oblivious or don't care," said senior Danny Carmichael*. "Not to snitch on anybody or even myself, but I walk around knowing I just smoked so I must smell like

it yet nobody has confronted me. Lucky me, I guess!"

It's no secret that the smell of marijuana is strong, yet it may not be strong enough because not everybody has been caught. These types of things happen daily at Saint Peter's University and roommates are often left in a difficult position because they don't want to have that awkward conversation with their roommate even though they hate the smell.

If one roommate said to the other: "You're not rolling a blunt in my room anymore," or "don't come in the room until you've taken a shower," the other roommate can quickly take that as a derogatory remark and now both roommates are on the fence about each other.

According to a couple of RAs, they believe that if you confronted your roommate and the problem still occurs, report it.

Netflix 'N' Chill

By Joseph Hill

Staff Writer

"All that makes me think about is sex now," said Alfred, mopping the hardwood floor.

Alfred is a former Saint Peter's student who decided to share his views on the evolution of the phrase "Netflix N' Chill."

"Netflix was always Netflix until I got to college," said Mustafa, a current student here at Saint Peter's.

They both implied that this era has changed the meaning of a simple application used to view movies.

The perception of just watching a movie on Netflix and hanging out changed when males used Netflix as a gateway to become intimate with females.

"Guys started realizing that they only wanted to have a girl around during 'cuffing season' and

Netflix plays a part," said Mustafa.

Cuffing season is the duration of the fall/winter months where most couples want to stay in due to the cold weather, versus the spring/summer months where everybody wants to be single so

they can go out.

Netflix n' Chill started as a meme, and ever since the meme came out, people have been quick to joke around about it. Before you know it, it's an everyday phrase.

The truth is, the perception of anything can change by any situation or any environment.

Mustafa says that his perception of Netflix n' chill changed when he got to college. Alfred's perception changed simply by having the conversation with me.

Netflix n' Chill, however, gets everybody through the year, so why stop it?

Just make sure you guys fill out your Cuffing season applications and link the right debit card to your Netflix, or else it'll be a lonely season.

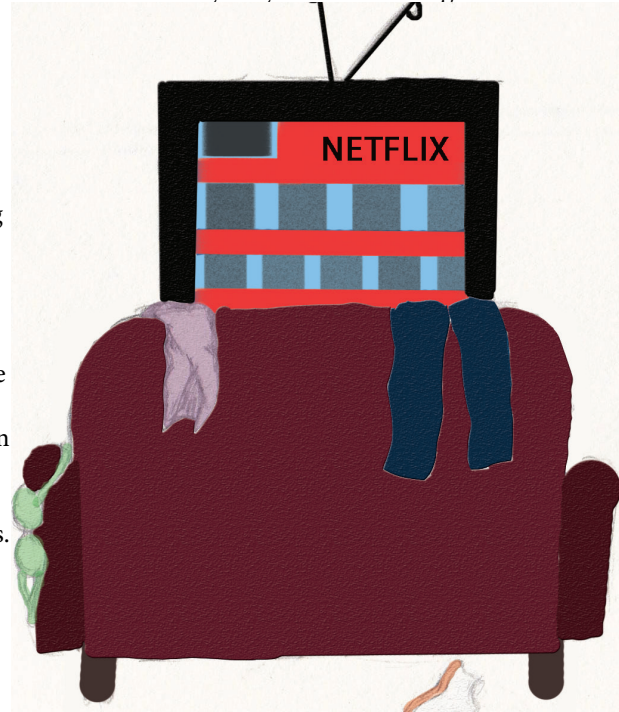


Illustration done by Nelsa Richardson

LGBT On Campus: A Whole New PRIDE

By Olivia Monahan

Lifestyle Editor

Relationships, support, sharing, and love are things that every person wants in their lives. For the PRIDE Club at Saint Peter's, they are a club standard.

According to CampusExplorer.com, between 1996 and 2006, only 60 LGBT groups existed on college campuses. Now, more than 100 are registered, including the Saint Peter's PRIDE group, which is starting this semester with a whole new outlook.

"This year, we really want to build our base up," said Shenell "Coco" Garner, the PRIDE Club's current president. "About 2 or 3 years ago, we lost a lot of our people. So my goal is to recreate PRIDE and make a new face for our club."

PRIDE was founded in 2006 by Clinton M. Kennedy, a class of 2008 alumni. The driving force behind establishing the club was to provide a safe space for the LGBT members of the Saint Peter's community.

According to a study done by the Human Rights Campaign, 42% of LGBT youths say that the

community in which they live is not accepting of LGBT people.

"I certainly support the presence of such a club," President Eugene Cornacchia said. "There are some outside groups of more conservative Catholic organizations that do not support Catholic universities allowing groups that support positions contrary to the Catholic Church's teachings. But I do support the PRIDE club on our campus."

The PRIDE club meets every Thursday at 5:30pm in Campus Ministry and is moderated by Dr.

Surrey, professor and chair of the Sociology department.

"I think this year it's going to be huge," Surrey said. "One of the things that really began their emerge last year was the variety of the members. That led to a

conversation about how they can educate the people on our campus."

The PRIDE club works to create a comfortable campus for the LGBT members of the Saint Peter's Community. In 2013, the

PRIDE Club this semester is to establish a safe space for the club to meet and for people, whether they are in PRIDE or not, to come if they are in crisis.

"Meeting in Campus Ministry makes a lot of people uncomfortable," says Diego Rueda, Vice President of the PRIDE Club. "The space is very open and people not part of the club tend to walk in and out. So, if someone hasn't come out, coming to those meetings would be uncomfortable."

According to Surrey and Rueda, several requests have been made to establish a private, safe space for the club. The last attempt was made by Garner last semester. Will Rush, Assistant Director of Student Activities, responded in an email with the following comment.

"At the moment, there is no



Saint Peter's LGBT Club

club began a sticker campaign promoting safe zones for LGBT members. You can find the pink stickers on a variety of doors throughout the campus, including the President's office.

One of the main goals of the



I'm part of PRIDE because I love to feel the support from everyone because we accept each other just for the way we are.

space we could just 'give' to PRIDE and it would be something we would need to think about. We would need to consider where it would be, what office/staff would oversee the space, and how it would best serve students. Ultimately, we want to make sure that the space is in fact a sort of resource room/center, not just a room."

According to a study conducted by National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 31% of college

(Continue on pg. 9)

New PRIDE

(Continued from pg. 8)



I'm part of PRIDE because I'm part of the community and the support here is fantastic!

students feel that their college's administration thoroughly addresses LGBT issues on campus.

"Personally, I feel oppressed about how I dress or how I act so I think that administration could be doing more," Rueda said. "We are making some progress, but we need to have a more open conversation about some of the issues that we have. We absolutely need a safe space. We also need a larger amount of faculty to turn to and we need more trans resources."

Another project the PRIDE club is working on is establishing a non-gendered bathroom for the trans population on our campus. According to the College Equality Index, 38 colleges currently offer gender-neutral housing options for LGBT students.

"I would need to see how other schools have done it," President Cornacchia said. "It's going to be a tricky thing to accomplish but it's not impossible."

The members of the PRIDE club remain hopeful that this year will bring a lot of positive changes.



I'm part of PRIDE because it's more than a club. It's a family. They are my family.

Opinion

LIGHTS. CAMERA. CANCER.

By Marisa Carlucci
Chief Copy Editor

The Saint Peter's University Peacocks took down the UMass Minutemen in a Monday afternoon matchup at Jaroschak Field. The Peacocks took control of the game in the early stages and finished off the Minutemen with a score of 3-0.

"We were absolutely electric in the first half, especially in the first 15 to 20 minutes of the game, and it is very positive to see that things that we worked on in the preseason are starting to show during the games," said head coach, Julian Richens.

The Peacocks scored very early into the game; with only 1:15 on

the clock, the ball had already found its way behind the UMass goalkeeper, thanks to junior defender, Louis Mobbs.

"My role on the team is to get up front and do the best I can to win the ball in the air. I peeled off the back defender, and my teammate found me, and I put the ball up in the corner and found the net," said Mobbs.

The team was very solid defensively and was creating havoc offensively, as UMass had to deal with the Preseason All-MAAC Second Team Forward, Luke Fairlamb, a senior.

"Luke is a very good player with experience, and he is really starting to come into his own

and play the game, and obviously, today, he had a devastating effect in the first half of the game," said Coach Richens.

Even though Fairlamb did not score any goals in this game, he did assist with two of the three goals that were scored in the game.

"My role on the team is to work hard for everyone, run a lot, trying to score a goal, or assist my teammates," said Fairlamb.

The Peacocks have a great influx of international players on the team. Nine players on the roster have an international background. Obviously, soccer is a global sport, but are there contrasting playing styles over-

seas compared to the American college game?

"It's like comparing apples and oranges. College soccer is a different breed when it comes to style, pace, energy, and physicality, so it is very hard to compare the soccer being played here to anything else across the world," said coach Richens.

Coming from Northampton in England, Fairlamb had a different opinion from his coach.

"In England, they are a lot more physical and a lot stronger than here. They tend to play and pass the ball a lot more in the college game," said Fairlamb.

SOAK UP THE SUN: MUSIC FOR THE SOUL

By Chelsea Forbes
Staff Writer

Festival season is currently in full effect and will unfortunately be coming to an end as the cooler months approach. What better way to welcome and officially set into the new the school year by pretending like your classes, professors, and real life problems don't exist, and buying some tickets to see your favorite artists and performers LIVE with your friends. Yes, the forty dollars that you just spent to go see some twerkers and gyrators could be spent on books or school supplies, but think of all the FUN THAT COULD BE HAD.

Music festivals of the past seemed to be reserved for smaller crowds with targeted audiences. Today's festivals all have wide-ranging artists that come together for a day or even a full weekend at a time. Big names like Drake, Pearl Jam, Future, and Kanye West frequent these events.

When most people think of festivals, they imagine scantily-clad young men and women with flowers in their hair and glitter on their eyes. STUDENTS OF SAINT PETER'S: COACHELLA IS NOT THE ONLY FESTIVAL THAT EX-

ISTS!

This summer, festivals chose to open their doors to not only the teenage community, but to all ages. Even Beyoncé's daughter made an appearance at Budweiser's Made in America festival in Philadelphia this year. Some festivals that you may have heard of include Lollapalooza, Firefly, and Electric Zoo.

This year, I had the pleasure of attending Fool's Gold Day Off, which is a small annual fest that takes place in Brooklyn. What began five years ago as an 'experiment' in a SoHo parking lot by world-renowned DJ, music executive, (and best friend of Kanye West), A-Trak, has developed into a popular five-city show. This is where you can see your favorite artists walk around with zero security and perform their hearts out for the people. Some guests this year were Post Malone, Meek Mill, Flatbush Zombies, and D.R.A.M., just to name a few. The Tumblr generation went crazy when A-Trak brought out ASAP Ferg, a member of the ASAP MOB collective. Brooklyn's finest, Fabolous also appeared as a special guest.

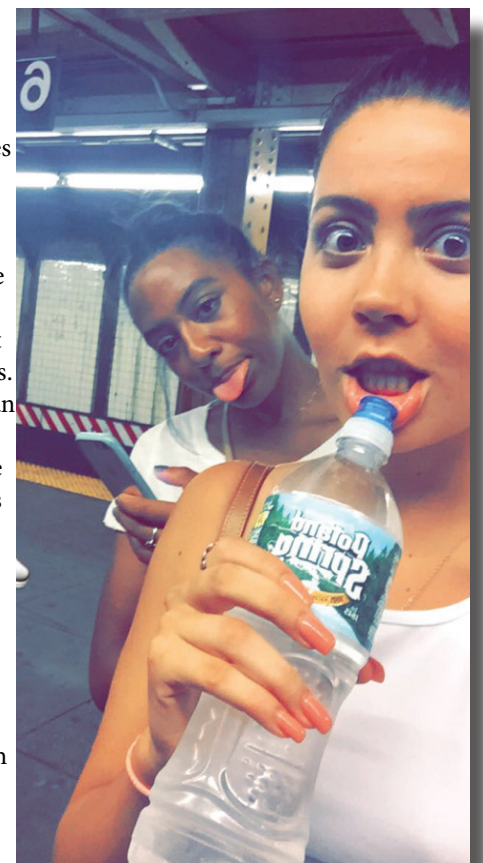
Some students feel as though

traveling and spending money on festivals is a waste. What they don't know is that there are always last-minute loopholes so that you don't have to spend as much.

Junior Olivia Monahan suggests buying tickets the day of the fest in order to not only secure a spot, but to also get a deal on tickets. "I've never spent more than one hundred dollars on a festival and I've seen some of the most famous names in music

right now. I went to Summer Jam in 2014 and saw Nicki Minaj and Nas for only seventy-five. It didn't include transportation or extracurriculars, but it was absolutely worth it."

Governor's Ball, Afro-punk Fest, and Global Citizen are festivals that are in New York, which is nearby. Whether you are a hip-hop head, a country crooner, or just someone who appreciates all music, there is surely a festival for you.



Insert Caption.

INSERT DRAKE LYRICS HERE

Old School Mentality vs. New School Minds

By Robert Perry
Staff Writer

According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, U.S. students fall behind 31 countries in math proficiency and 16 countries in reading proficiency. A third of eighth graders who took a national science exam in 2011, were proficient according to NAEP[Jenna Carl]. Students are failing systems that are formed to help their progression. What could be the cause of this? It is easy to blame home environments and student involvement, yet what about the very educators who first introduce students into aspects and perspectives of the American society?

In the 4th grade, I had my first inclusion into a realm of social order and social constructs. My 4th grade teacher laughed while describing my attacker as “one too” when I told her, tears in my eyes, that a fellow classmate had called me the “N” word. The other boy was equally as black,

so she invited in a fellow teacher and even the class to join in on the societal joke. What is upsetting to me is that this was a woman expected to help shape me into an American Citizen. Instead, she gave me a lesson in the harsh reality that is Western society. Even to this day, that story haunts me. It changed how “American” I feel on any given day. While we focus on the best ways to teach our youth and develop a more sustainable potential for our country policy-wise, can an Educator’s personal opinion dictate someone’s societal outlook?

U.S. Census projections indicated that the Hispanic population would rise from 53.3 million in 2012 to 128.8 million by 2060. The black population is expected to increase from 41.2 million to 61.8 million over the same period. The Asian population is projected to more than double, from 15.9 million in 2012 to 34.4 million in 2060. So, we have a grow-

ing group previously considered a “minority,” expected to carry the ideals of the high efficiency and intellect that is synonymous with American innovation. Yet, a growing demographic does not ensure a growing class level. Nor does it speak to decreasing disenfranchisement alone. According to the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, the greatest increase in population growth in the U.S. workforce is occurring among those racial and ethnic groups with the lowest level of education. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 2012, there were approximately 3.3 million teachers in the American public school system, with 82 percent being white.

Not only do we need to get more teachers of color, we need to make sure to decolonize adult minds into seeing other people’s contributions and the unique cultural perspectives of America. America is a mixing pot; it

is time to start recognizing the flavor each individual ingredient brings to the bowl. Maybe then we would start seeing better results.

Dr. Lisa Delpit, Executive Director of the Center for Urban Educational Excellence at Florida International University, wrote in her book “Other People’s Children” that “A primary source of stereotyping is often the teacher education program itself. It is in these programs that teachers learn that poor students and students of color should be expected to achieve less than their ‘mainstream’ counterparts.” Think back, when you were young, and the world was a blank canvas, what taught you your perspective of society? More importantly WHO taught you the roles and norms that go into what makes an American Citizen? What counts as The American Dream? Dr. Delpit also wrote “To provide schooling for everyone’s children that reflects liberal, middle-class

values and aspirations is to ensure the maintenance of the status quo, to ensure that power, the culture of power, remains in the hands of those who already have it.”

Maybe the best thing for us to do would be to reexamine what makes a teacher; better yet, what creates the teacher-student dynamic? We cannot paint each teacher the same, as well as painting each student the same merely based on geographical perspectives. Instead, maybe we should begin to embrace a classroom that values education over power dynamics. Learning is a two way street. Teachers being open minded teaching open mindedness. If we want a better tomorrow, we need to plant the right seeds, today. That starts with a widened understanding of where every student comes from and how that changes their learning experience.

Enviroment

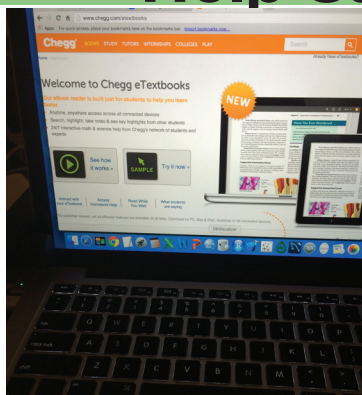
8 Ways College Students Can Help Save The Environment

By Diamond Reid
Co-Editor and Chief

Did you know that the average person in New Jersey generates 1451 pounds of solid waste each year and recycles 547 pounds of that waste, leaving 904 pounds going to the landfill or incinerator? How can college students reduce these statistics while also juggling classes, work, and/or athletics? Saving the environment may be on the bottom of your to do list, but here are eight tips for saving the planet, one small step at a time in quick and easy ways:

1. Use E-Textbooks

A double win for you and the environment! Instead of buying the hard copy of a textbook and potentially paying a lot of money, check if the textbooks is available online. This will be easier on your pockets and the environment!



Chegg is one of the many sites that you can use for your E-Textbooks. Taken by Diamond Reid

2. Reuseable water bottles

Instead of continuously buying water bottles, try reusing a water bottle or buying a reusable water bottle. Here’s another tip that will also save your pockets and the earth. Landfills in the United States are overflowing with 2 million tons of water bottles. According to The Water Project, it’s estimated that up to 80 percent of water bottles in the United States never get recycled. So ditch your

those plastic bottles and invest in something better!

3. Throw your trash in the garbage can, not the ground.

The campus is covered with not only new garbage cans so let’s make sure we get a great use out of them! Whether it’s that wrapper for a piece of gum or a piece of paper This includes not tossing everything into the garbage cans but the recycling cans as well.

4. Recycle

Recycling is one of the easiest ways to go green! Not only should we use the new garbage cans but the new recycling cans too! Along with the new cans outside, inside the buildings on campus the cans allow you to put your waste into different sections making your recycling even easier. Simply separate paper, bottles and cans from your other trash.



Sort your trash and recycles using these cans on campus. Taken by Diamond Reid

5. Lights out

As the old saying goes “turn off the light when you leave a room.” This may be one of the easiest tips on the list. To help save energy, simply turn off the light when you’re going out.

6. Think About Your Water Usage

While taking a nice long shower sounds perfect, it can in fact hurt the environment. Try reducing your shower time and monitoring your water consumption. Plus, if you reduce your shower time, you can have more

time to sleep or get to class!

7. Walk or Bike More

Walking and taking a bike is not only a healthy transportation option, but also helps minimize carbon footprints. Less car or bus rides means less toxic gas going into the air. Jersey City recently added Citibikes all around town which allows you to rent a bike from 35 different stations; with stations by Lincoln Park and also one, one block away from campus. Take a look at their deals and prices at www.citibikejc.com.

8. Follow Environmentalists

With social media at our fingertips, a cool way to stay current on environmental issues is to follow environmental leaders and groups on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram. This is a great way to stay informed on all things going on, on the earth.

Sports

SPU Earns Win from LIU, 3-1



Picture showing Men's Soccer player Luke defending against LIU

By Melissa Osorio

Contributing Writer

Louis Mobbs, senior, scored two goals helping the Peacocks soar above LIU, 3-1, on Sunday, September 20th.

"I've got a lot of confidence in our team this year," said Mobbs.

The Peacocks scored three goals against LIU's one goal. They had strong defense throughout the game, maintaining the ball in offense for a majority of the game.

Mobbs scored the first goal for the Peacocks in the 16th minute of the game, and

Ezequiel Cei assisted.

"I just played the ball with the outside of my foot, and luckily he got to it," said Cei, with 5 goals for the season.

The Peacocks showed fantastic energy, especially from Luke Fairlamb, leading him to get 2 assists in the game.

"I like to run a lot. It helps the team, so I do what helps the team, really," said Fairlamb.

The second goal was scored in the second half by a corner kick from Fairlamb, leading up to an amazing goal from Reece Lambert. It is his first

goal of the season.

The Peacocks did not stop there, with Mobbs scoring just 14 minutes after the previous goal, leading them 3-0.

LIU scored one goal in the 73rd minute by Rasmus Hansen, making the score 3-1, but Saint Peter's continued to tighten up their defense for the remainder of the game.

The Peacocks are now 3-3-1, ending their last non-conference match as a win.

Saint Peter's will be playing next on September 30th at home against Rider.

MAAC

Peacocks Still Building Momentum

By Blaire Conner

Contributing Writer

JERSEY CITY, N.J.-- Siena dominated Saint Peter's 3-0 on Saturday in the matchup of majority freshmen (Saint Peter's) vs upperclassmen (Siena). Siena ended with the winning scores 25-15, 25-21, and 21-15.

"It's really not common on a team this high level to throw a lot of freshmen out there into a game; and we have half of our starters as freshmen," SPU head coach Monica Dempsey said. While the Saints played a prepared and strategic game; the Peacocks went full force with

heart and emotion to the steady claps and chants of family and fans. Senior Lauren Behrens was the engine that kept the team moving, not only getting eight kills and six digs, yet also keeping an optimistic attitude and constantly encouraging her fellow teammates.

"A lot of it has to do with resilience and staying positive. There's been a lot of ups and downs in this program, and I think what's most important is always resetting for the new game; and looking at the brighter side of things," said Behrens.

While these freshmen are still

growing as university players, they did not disappoint. 6'1 middle blocker and freshman Marlina Budna had seven digs and five kills; while her counterpart Kenyale McGinnis played an impressive game showing aggression and incredible defense.

In the first set the Peacocks got the momentum going with the Saints directly on their heels in a 9-8 lead, yet with the adrenaline pumping the Saints soared past grabbing a 17-11 lead and eventually the 25-15 gain.

The second set began with the Peacocks coming back with a fresh attitude. The team changed

the Yanitelli center's atmosphere from slightly somber to complete excitement with a 9-4 advantage, before Saints triple threats Christina Monroe, Brianna Flag and Shantraie Rodriguez came back with a vengeance giving them a 7 point streak and their 25-15 winning set.

The game came to a sad end for the peacocks when the Saints kept a steady lead giving them a 25-15 edge and their 3-0 victory.

The Saints front woman Briana Flag is the secret weapon that carried their team to victory. Flag finished the game with an impressive 17 kills and 10 digs

giving her the only double-double on the court. The peacocks may not have won, but they showed optimism and confidence for the future.

Dempsey said, "Our goal is to take it game by game and continue to grow individually and as a team. I don't expect to have a conference championship this year but I do expect that the girls finish the season and say they learned something, developed as volleyball players, and as women."

The Peacock's head back home against Marist college on Sunday September 27th at 1 p.m.

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JCARBIN@MAIL.SAINTPETERS.EDU

DREID@MAIL.SAINTPETERS.EDU