

The Tower

Founded in 1922

94TH YEAR, ISSUE No. 15

Friday, February 17, 2017

CUATOWER.COM

Program Board Hosts Mr. CUA 2017

By CHRIS MOTOLA
Tower Staff



COURTESY OF PROGRAM BOARD'S FACEBOOK
THE CONTESTANTS FOR MR. CUA GATHER BEFORE THE COMPETITION

Last Friday, hundreds of Catholic University of America students poured into the Great Room of the Edward J. Pryzbyla Center, to get a front row seat for Mr. CUA 2017. Students were especially excited for the event, since the theme for this year's competition was based off of the hit ABC television show, 'The Bachelor'. In keeping with the theme, the Great Room was decorated with red curtains and bright lights, as well as a limousine facade and stage. As the lights dimmed, students greeted the show's two hosts, seniors Spencer Tripp and Brie Zschech, with a loud round of applause.

The show featured eight contestants: Owen Salyers, Chris Mulcahey, Christian McCarren, Finbar Furey, Alex Davis, Andrew Anderson, PJ Connolly, and Jackson Etting, all vying for the coveted title of Mr. CUA. The show began with the contestants introducing themselves and displaying a unique talent. These talents ranged from musical numbers and stand up comedy to pancake cooking. Over the course of the evening, the contestants also had to compete in a pie eating

contest and a race to see who could blow the largest bubble using a single piece of bubblegum. All of these feats were carefully observed by the watchful eyes at the judge's table. The panel of judges this year consisted of Mr. Chris Hodes, Associate Director of Pryzbyla Management, Ms. Emmjolee Mendoza Waters, Associate Director of Campus Ministry and Community Service, and Catholic University Alumni Victor David who currently works at Catholic University and has previously held the title of Mr. CUA during his time as an undergraduate student.

After each round of lip synching, talent displays, and other activities, the student audience was able to vote for the contestant they thought should win the round using an app called VoxVote.

After much deliberation from the judges and votes from the audience, senior politics major Chris Mulcahey was crowned the victor, earning the title of Mr. CUA 2017.

Meg Reilly and Meghan

Adams of Catholic University's Program Board coordinated Mr. CUA. In a statement for The Tower, Program Board told us that they were proud of Reilly and Adams' efforts, which began in October.

"They put in so much of their own interests into the show, while planning the event through the perspective of a CUA student

attending the event," said Rania Abousleiman, a senior nursing major and Program Board Member. Abousleiman went on to say, "Mr. CUA is my favorite program board event because it's unique compared to some of our other events. And of course, the students really enjoy themselves!"



By: L. A. Bonté

For more comics visit FilbertCartoons.com

Catholic University Chapter of She's the First Founded

By RACHEL GALLAGHER
Tower Staff

As the 2017 spring semester continues, the Catholic University of America's chapter of She's the First begins its inaugural semester. She's the First is a non-profit organization, which according to their website, works to provide scholarships for "girls in low-income countries, fostering first-generation graduates and cultivating the next generation of global leaders."

"Over the summer I was looking for internships and trying to find organizations that would support women's education," said Cara Duffy, a sophomore politics major and a co-founder of the Catholic University of America's chapter of She's the First. Duffy serves as co-president along with fellow sophomore politics major, Elisa D'Egidio.

"I found this organization and I realized it had campus chapters and we didn't have one at our school. When I got back to campus [this fall] two of my friends joined up and we went through

the process of starting it here," Duffy said.

"I wanted to participate in She's the First because it involved two issues I am most passionate about, economic development and women's rights," said Abby Fitzgerald, a sophomore economics major, co-founder and vice president of the university's chapter. "I love that we will be able to directly provide an individual girl the scholarship she needs to graduate high school. It's a cause you know is actually changing someone's life."

For the club's first semester, the goal is to raise money to provide scholarships for four girls in low income countries.

The recipients of the scholarships will also be able to be in contact with the group.

"A lot of girls our age can't go to elementary school, let alone college," said Duffy. "We

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International Week Events at Catholic University

By SARAH DONOFRIO
Tower Staff

The Hispanic Film Festival, sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, showed its first films on Wednesday, February 15th as part of the university's International Week. The theme of the Hispanic Film Festival is "Transient Identities," and discusses the migration, circulation, and displacement of people.

The event began with a brief presentation by guest speaker Armando Trull. Trull is the Reporter for Race and Ethnicity at WAMU, American University's radio station. In his presentation, Trull discussed his work that covers the Hispanic/Latino and immigrant communities in Washington, D.C.

The guest speaker shared

a story related to the identity of Guatemalan indigenous people and discussed the process of identifying deceased bodies.

"The [films] are fictionalized, perhaps romanticized versions of the truth. But in this community, you don't need to go to the movies to learn about Guatemalans," said Trull. "If you take the chance and have a conversation with a person from Guatemala, they will tell you things that you will find more fascinating than anything you will see in a movie. All those communities are here and they will tell you what it's like to live in those countries."

Trull shared an article he wrote in February 2015: "How Forensic Analysis May Bring

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Men's Lacrosse Wins Season Opener
Men's Basketball Holds Off Scranton

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NEWS

THE TOWER SELECTS

Album of the week...

Tapestries by Carole King

What to watch on Netflix...

The 100, Peaky Blinders, Shameless, West Wing, The Magicians, Finding Dory, basically anything

What to watch on HBOGo...

Veep, The Young Pope, Game of Thrones

What to get in the Pryz...

Bananas

Book of the week...

But What if We're Wrong by Chuck Klosertman

Restaurant to try this weekend....

Jaleo

Word of the week...

Sporadic. Try using it in a sentence.

The Tower

The Student Newspaper of The Catholic University of America
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The Tower is an independent newspaper serving the Catholic University of America community. The editorial board has sole authority for the content of this publication. All inquiries and comments should be directed to the editorial board.

Opinions expressed in signed columns are those of the authors and do not reflect the views of The Tower. Editorial represent the views of the editorial board. For information on advertising rates, please contact The Tower business office. Deadlines for submitting advertisements, letters to the editor and forum columns are Tuesdays at 5 p.m. for Friday's publication. Submissions must include the author's name and telephone number to be eligible for submission. The Tower does not guarantee publication

THE POLITICS CORNER

Duane Paul Murphy and Stephen Calandrino Tower Staff

Nominee for U.S. Secretary of Labor Withdraws

Andrew Puzder, CEO of CKE Restaurants, withdrew his nomination for Secretary of Labor on Wednesday due to a lack of needed support from certain Republican senators, including Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska. Also, Puzder faced a variety of criticisms ranging from his business record running the Hardee's and Carl's Jr.'s fast-food chains to previous allegations of domestic spousal abuse made by his ex-wife. Puzder's policy proposals have drawn criticisms from labor unions and pro-labor groups were concerned about Puzder's policies that would have potentially undermined minimum wage increases, overtime pay, and enforcement of wage and working hour violations.



Courtesy of Wikipedia

In a statement to the Press, Puzder said: "I am honored to have been considered by President Donald Trump to lead the Department of Labor and put America's workers and businesses back on a path to sustainable prosperity. I want to thank President Trump for his nomination. I also thank my family and my many supporters - employees, businesses, friends and people who have voiced their praise and hopeful optimism for the policies and new thinking I would have brought to America as Secretary of Labor."

First Congressional Race in Trump Era Takes Shape in America's Heartland

On February 10th, Republicans and Democrats in Kansas's fourth congressional district, which encompasses the city of Wichita, held their conventions for local party leaders to select their respective nominees for the upcoming special election. The seat was vacated when Congressman Mike Pompeo was appointed Director of the Central Intelligence Agency by President Trump. The seat is expected to remain in Republican control as President Trump won the district with 60% of the vote. A Democrat has not been elected to congress since the Clinton administration Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman lost reelection in the Newt Gingrich-Republican wave of 1994. However, the race will hold the distinction of being the first congressional election since President Donald J. Trump took office on January 20th.

On the Republican side, Kansas State Treasurer Ron Estes was named the nominee on the second ballot in a crowded field that included Trump's presidential campaign advisor Alan Cobb and former Congressman Todd Tiahrt. Estes has served as State Treasurer since 2010, and in 2014 received the largest majority of the vote (67.5%) of any statewide candidate in Kansas, including the incumbent governor and senator. He also served as a member of the electoral college in 2016, casting one of the state's six electoral votes in favor of President Trump. He also shares many policy priorities with the administration, such as border security and regulatory reform.



Courtesy of Business Insider

On the Democrats' side, civil rights attorney James Thompson narrowly upset former State Senator and ex-State Treasurer Dennis McKinney, who was defeated by Estes for the position in 2010, for the nomination. While he has voiced optimism about his chances, he enters the race with a significant disadvantage in terms of party affiliation, fundraising, and name recognition. The general election will be held on April 11th.



2 / 9 / 17 - 2 / 16 / 17

CRIME BLOTTER

When: 2/10/17

Where: Flather Hall

What: Several ceiling tiles were pulled down, two large garbage bins were pushed over, and the shower curtain in the men's restroom had been torn down. It is unknown when this damage occurred.

When: 2/9/17

Where: Crough Center

What: On the listed date, time, and location, C-1 placed his unsecured silver Swinn bicycle on the east side of Crough. Upon his return at 1235 hours, his bicycle was missing.

Come Write For The Tower!

Meetings are at 8 pm on Thursdays in Pryz 103

NEWS

Speaker Visits Catholic University to Talk About Healthy Relationships

By **MAKENZIE WINTER**
Tower Staff

Students at Catholic University of America said goodbye to Cupid and hello to a little love advice from The Dating Doctor, on February 13, 2017. David Coleman, relationship consultant and honored National Entertainer of the Year by The National Association for Campus Activities, shared his wisdom on friendships, friendzones, exes, healthy relationships, attraction, and relationship red flags with Catholic University of America students.

Emily Scanlon, director of the Office of Campus Activities, said that Coleman was invited to campus through collaboration with the Peer Educators Empowering Respectful Students group, to help promote Healthy Relationships Awareness Month throughout campus.

Coleman started off by creating a relaxed and interactive environment, promising students that if they asked or answered questions, not only would they receive advice, but chocolate as well. In sharing the key to starting a relationship with their significant other, Coleman told students that one will not find the right person until one becomes the right person. He asserted that students should have confidence within themselves, rather than comparing themselves to others and becoming overcome with doubt. In keeping with the theme of self-love, Coleman asked the audience members to turn to the people sitting next to them and say, "I would so

date me," and "I'm a catch!" Within dating and relationships, Coleman argued consent is everything. In order to cultivate healthy relationships, there should be mutual consent of both persons involved. Coleman believes that trust, mutual respect, intimacy (i.e. faith, religion, eye contact), passion, and commitment should also be included.

"I think the [students] can use all of the means available to them to cultivate a healthy relationship," said Coleman. "They can use the apps, meeting each other on campus, getting involved in the community, and online dating. Whatever helps them meet the right person is fine, but they need to avoid "Front Load Overload Burnout," which is when a relationship becomes too much, too soon, and too fast. Keep a nice pace. Never mistake infatuation for love."

For the benefit of those in the audience who were single, Coleman introduced a technique in order for them to figure out if someone is interested in them. This technique is called the ABC's of Initial Interest. The ABC's of Initial Interest are composed of attraction, believability (a sense of truth in his or her words), chemistry (not physical), desire (a desire to get to know him or her better), and energy (he or she either drains one's energy or raises it).

For those in the "friendzone," Coleman offered some reasons why 'friendzoning' might be occurring. He argued the

first reason that a problem may arise is when one is spending too much time with the person to whom one is attracted. Or in other words, there is no mystery or sense of longing in the other person. Also, since nice guys and girls tend to treat everyone the same, the other person may not know that they mean more to you than other friends or acquaintances. Coleman also stressed that humans are creatures of habit, too set in their ways to leave what is comfortable.

"Because so many students are romantically attached to one another, it is crucial that we all take time to reconsider what a good relationship looks like," said Michael Mellifera, a philosophy pre-law major who is also a Resident Assistant. "David Coleman, the Dating Doctor, reminded us all to rededicate ourselves to encouraging healthy self-esteem, fidelity, consent, masculinity, and intimacy on our campus. No doubt, David's message will help improve my personal and professional life. Particularly in my role as a PEER and a Resident Assistant in Gibbons Hall, I will continue being a non-judgmental ear and an invested friend for students who are struggling or thriving in their romantic relationships."

Coleman said that he hopes The Dating Doctor will inspire students to use his dating methods to help others cultivate healthy relationships in the future.

Student Involvement at International Week

INTERNATIONAL WEEK,
from page 1

Closure to Guatemalan Families," which discussed the process of identifying the bodies of relatives of Guatemalan families in the Washington, D.C. area.

"You don't need me to talk about these realities. You can find them in this community if you just open your eyes and look beyond your comfort zone," said Trull.

The first film shown was entitled *Who Was Dayani Cristal?* The documentary featured the dramatized journey of a migrant from Mexico to Arizona, and the process through which authorities identified his deceased body.

"The film was really interesting. I was unaware of the travel from Mexico into the U.S.," said freshman accounting major Robert Rossetto. "I knew about the struggle and dangers of the journey, but it was interesting to see a first-hand account. I did not know about the whole process of identifying the deceased bodies."

Although some students arrived with previous knowledge, the film offered a new perspective.

"I did not know a lot about border crossing or the stories of the people coming into the United States," said freshman politics major Jake Bodenger. "It gave me a lot of perspective on why people from Mexico come to the United States, and how difficult and dangerous it is."

The second film,

Ixcanel, followed the lives of Mayans working on a coffee plantation near a volcano and dealt with issues concerning the disappearance of people.

The Hispanic Film Festival is part of the International Week, a collaborative effort by International Student and Scholar Services, the Center for Cultural Engagement, the Office of Admissions and the Center for Global Education. Other events included the Global Fest and Embassy Row, and an Intercultural Speaker Series.

"One thing to note is that the Global Fest featuring Embassy Row is the signature event of the week," said Gudrun Kendon, Director of International Student and Scholar Services. "Although it is spearheaded by ISSS and sponsored by the Center for Global Education, it is the Office of Admissions who is responsible for the Embassy Row piece, that is they are the ones who invite the Embassy representatives to CUA. The event this year had about 23 embassy representatives and 19 tables representing CUA student associations, offices, and international students."

International Week concluded with an International Coffeehouse and Tea Room where different modern language and culture clubs sponsored tables for students to learn how different countries incorporate tea and coffee into their cultures.

She's the First Chapter Goals

CHAPTER FOUNDED,
from page 1

can connect with [the girls] via skype, pen pal. We know their names and they are basically going to high school because of our donations and money we raise."

Creating a network is a theme for She's the First. According to the She's the First official website, one of the organization's main goals is to "influence a larger movement with our expansive network of high school and college campus chapters across the U.S. and worldwide."

Beyond providing scholarships, the club hopes to help women on campus through the larger She's the First network. The group has a LinkedIn page for the Catholic University of America chapter of She's the First.

"A big goal is we want to not only give back to these girls, but for the women who join our club we want it to be a professional network for them," Duffy said.

The club's faculty

advisor is Julia Lau, who has been a professor in the Politics Department at the Catholic University of America since 2013.

"I taught Abigail Fitzgerald and Elisa D'Egidio last spring and they approached me because I spoke about empowering women and girls, and gender inequality," Lau said. "I've had experience mentoring women and youth both in Singapore and at Georgetown University, where I took my graduate degrees."

"My hope is that our chapter can realize its aspirations of sending many girls to school and also raise awareness on campus about the state of education in the developing world," Lau said.

Upcoming events for She's the First will include a screening of *Half the Sky* February 27th at 6:30pm in the Pryzbyla Center Great Room B, a LinkedIn Headshot fundraiser on March 20th, and "With My Bookbag" speaker panel on March 29th. Further updates on She's the First can be found on the Nest.

Cartoon by Angeline McCrory

Emma Watson gave advice to random people from an iPad



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
AA MEETS ON THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M.
CALDWELL HALL 325

QUILL

TOWER EDITORIAL

This one goes out to our seniors.

Since we wouldn't be millennials if we didn't complain, let's start with a complaint. Where was our hundred-days party? Most other universities helped their seniors celebrate this milestone, trust me I know, I scrolled past all the Instagrams. drinking a bottle of wine off the school's (my) dime at an open bar would have been a great way to cap off such a disappointing winter. But alas, here we are, getting closer and closer to graduation and only a handful of open bar events left for us to attend. For most undergraduates, February means spring break planning, midterm cramming, and pretending we're not swiping into the upstairs Pryz as much as we are.

But for seniors, February takes on a different tone. February is when we start to hear back from graduate schools and jobs. While some people post every acceptance letter on Facebook, other peoples' social media presence goes eerily quiet. Everyone gets a little awkward around each other, because we want to ask if our friends have any plans after graduation but we don't want to add to the stress (and we also dread being asked that

question in return).

Our last semester is speeding by, and maybe part of it is that we've been having spring weather since early January, but graduation isn't approaching subtly.

There's something quite remarkable happening in these last few desperate months: while freaking out about the upcoming life changes we simultaneously have become very comfortable in our lives. People are reaching out to friends they haven't spoken to since sophomore year, taking more walks around their favorite spots on campus, and reaching out to past professors as they realize that they soon will lose this opportunity. Seniors bond over saying "C-store" instead of "the Pod," and reminisce about McFadden's and the times when Penn Social wasn't overrun by freshmen worried their IDs won't be accepted. We talk about those desperate nights freshmen and sophomore year when the craving struck and we would Uber to Rhode Island just for Chipotle.

There's no point in telling us savor these last few months, because as great as these tiny moments are, no one wants to have another year studying material for exams you don't

care about and won't help you. There's also no point in saying screw responsibilities and focus only on our futures because that's just unrealistic.

But there might be a middle ground. There might be some place we can try to occupy for the remainder of the semester where we don't skip class just because we can and we don't fail a quiz because we know the professor will drop the lowest one, there may be a time we text our friends from our LCs, (or at the very least buy their Starbucks if they're behind us in line), or we take our professors out for a beer because maybe Nietzsche's superhuman will make more sense after three drinks from the Pint, maybe there's a little piece, everyday, that we can break off from CUA. Maybe there's a potential for something special in every moment, something that will help these next three months stretch out, so that when we walk across the stage we know that we're done, we know that we earned it, and we're content with that.

And no, this wasn't brought on by the fact that none of the senior editors have any idea what they're doing after college.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Jack Loh
Class of 2018

Mr. Updegrove: A Story of Humanity

He was smoking a cigarette in between Shahan and McGivney Hall on my way to Political Science class. I don't know what called me to do this, but something inside made me want to strike conversation with him. He was the same elderly man that presented his veteran's identification to me at the front desk in the Mullen Library. I already knew that his name was Daniel Updegrove. When I asked Dan where he stays in D.C., he pointed in the direction of the Basilica.

I had never stepped into a homeless man's life before until now. After my library shifts throughout the Fall Semester, Dan and I would walk over to the Basilica for an hour or two just to talk. Most of the time we would sit on top of his concrete bed below the stairwell of Mary's Garden. We shared countless laughs, recalled our backstories together, and learned from each other. Not a shred of me felt uncomfortable when I was with him.

When a veteran's organization gave Dan eligibility to move into a new apartment by December, he patiently waited not knowing what tomorrow would bring. Knowing that he was suffering with lung cancer, I wanted to be there with him every step of the way. I continuously reassured hope in him and began to think more posi-

tively. Nothing else mattered besides the time that we had with each other. I gradually knew him as a big hearted, brilliant, and unbelievably strong person facing a lot of hardship all at once. If it was his time to pass at Catholic University, I believed the Basilica would guide his soul to heaven.

When Dan officially moved into his apartment just two days before Christmas Day, he thanked me for everything from the Fall semester. It was surreal knowing that our nights together outside of the Basilica were over, but I was even happier knowing that he was finally in a comfortable living situation. Ultimately, I first-handedly watched this man overcome the worst adversity in his life. It was crazy to think that I crossed paths with him during his final months of homelessness. Being a support system and giving my time to Dan allowed me to learn lessons that I'll carry for the rest of my life. Friendship is invaluable, especially when that bond can change the lives of both involved. Let the times between an aspiring college student and homeless Vietnam War veteran be forever cherished outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



GUEST COMMENTARY

Duane Paul Murphy
Class of 2019

To The Left: Direct Democracy

Last year appeared to be a negative public image for direct democratic processes and institutions. Across the pond, by a 51% majority vote in a non-binding, non-statutory referendum, the United Kingdom of Great Britain decided to withdraw from the European Union after more than 40 years of membership and integration with the continent. Towards the end of the northern equator, Colombians voted against a landmark peace agreement with the FARC militant rebels, which was signed and formulated by President Juan Manuel Santos and FARC leader Timoleon Jimenez after almost four years of diplomatic negotiations between the two parties. The referendum in the South American nation of Columbia was rejected by 50% of the vote and had low turnout. Between the Rocky Mountains, voters in Colorado passed a statewide initiative that would essentially make putting constitutional amendments on the ballot more difficult by requiring a further increase in signature gatherings for petitioners.

Based on these contemporary events, some might say direct democracy tends to be dangerous or cautious due to concept of mob rule as part of the democratic flaws. However, we must understand that the agents of neoliberalism, such as the corporatization of media, unfair free trade deals, austerity, deregulation, anti-labor laws, militarism and deterioration of the traditional welfare system, are the main reasons why voters, informed or otherwise,

are sick and tired of the establishment's policies that led to massive inequality. Also, in order for direct democracy to become a modest tradition once more in our political society, not only our politicians, left or right, must represent the people's true concerns, but they also have to respect and compromise the will of the people. In fact, states such as New York and Texas do not even have direct democracy.

If we offered direct democracy at the state and local level as well as have a government that is representative of the people, direct democracy will have a positive light to shine in our society and culture. As a matter of fact, states, territories and localities with direct democracy have happier voters, according to research from a professor at the University of Notre Dame. If more voters had the ability to dictate certain policies such as taxation, recreational as well as medicinal cannabis legalization or decriminalization, non-renewable energy divestments, minimum wage increases and euthanasia for the terminally ill, then maybe elections would become more exciting and American as apple pie. As Bill Clinton once said, "Democracy does not have to be a bloodsport." Even though he is neoliberal, common ground can be solidified since democracy should be for the people's interests rather than the special interests of the few, the powerful, the rich and the corrupt.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Stephen Caladrino
Class of 2020

Russian Hackers and Media Hacks

You think Russia is the biggest problem the United States faces today? The 1980s are now calling and asking for their foreign policy back.

Is that a bit harsh? Don't look at me, that's just what former (thank God) President Barack Obama said to failed presidential candidate (thank God again) Mitt Romney in 2012 when Romney said that Russia was our number one threat.

Fast forward to today, and it appears that "It was the Russians!" has become 2017's "my dog ate my homework." While neither statement ever comes with the slightest bit of genuine evidence, those who claim it to be true will go to the grave just as adamant. The unfortunate difference, however, is that "It was the Russians!" has also become the unofficial slogan of the Democratic Party, and justification for a massive witch hunt. Democrats did manage to get a scalp in the form of the National Security Advisor, decorated Lieutenant General Michael Flynn, who also happened to be one of the few registered Democrats within President Trump's administration. Unfortunately for Lieutenant General Flynn, his crime wasn't something forgivable like sending thousands of classified info through a private server or pushing a half-cocked war to destabilize a nation or region. No, what Lieutenant Flynn did was the highest of high crimes: calling some Russian guy (shocked gasps).

Recall, however, that when Flynn sent the call in December; the Obama administration, the Democratic Party, and Tweedle-Dee and Tweedle-Warmonger (Senators John McCain and Lindsey Graham) were saber rattling over the remote possibility that Russia may or may not have been respon-

sible for the leak of Hillary Clinton's emails. Note that this was back when Democrats considered leaks to be on par with murder, before they started loving them on January 20th, 2017, give or take a day.

More likely than not, Flynn was playing damage control for the credibility we lost from senior government officials spouting conspiracy theories.

However, the media (your humble correspondent excluded, of course) didn't care about the truth. They just cared about discrediting the Trump administration by tying them to the evil Russian boogeyman. However, there lies the hypocrisy of the entire situation. Yes, our relationship with Russia isn't exactly warm and fuzzy, despite Hillary Clinton pressing the magical reset button, which looked like it was stolen from the abandoned set of a low budget 50s' gameshow. But Russia is also not considered a rogue state, and didn't even crack the list in Obama's Terrorist Travel Prevention Act of 2015, which the Left universally agreed with until Trump used the exact same list. The situation becomes more laughable when you look at other nations that we call 'allies'.

In Saudi Arabia, women need a man's permission to leave the house. In China, forced abortions are performed regularly. In Turkey, you can go to jail for making fun of the president. Even in Western nations like the Netherlands and France, you can go to jail for making a joke that is deemed 'too offensive'. Do they share our values too? But then again, Putin arrested Pussy Riot, so he must be Lucifer incarnate. Right?

A & E

Not All that Glisters is Gold, Cee Lo

By: Piero J Filpi
Tower Staff

If you didn't happen to catch the circus show on CBS last Sunday, you're lucky. You decided to skip out on the atrocity that is the Grammy Awards. Adele won every category she was nominated for, that's five to be exact, everyone was sad because Beyonce didn't win nine awards, and Cee Lo Green took a page out of The Wizard of Oz and Star Wars and became the tin C-3PO. An award show devoted to honoring artists for producing some of the best music of the year is a fantastic idea, in theory, but this is not the case.

Music evokes emotion within the listener, and really good music evokes these emotions because the artist behind his craft decided to intentionally make the listener feel this way. So, when Album of the Year or Song of the Year consists of only pop music, there is clearly something wrong with this award show. Pop is short for popular, The Beatles — believe it or not, before being arguably one of the best bands ever assembled — started out as a "pop" band. They sang songs that made you swing and want to hold your doll's hand, or songs about it being a hard day's night and being sleepy, or songs to twist and shout to. When The Beatles heard Bob Dylan, they decided to truly etch their names

into history and flourish as a band. We all know The Beatles' early stuff, but when we pull out our iPhones we don't think about *With the Beatles* or *Help!*, instead, we think about *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* or their incredible *White Album*. So why are we awarding or even considering a song that's called "I Took a Pill in Ibiza"? Not because the song name implies abusing drugs — after all, The Beatles do have a song called "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds." You have to figure that one out on your own if you still don't get it.

But seriously, why does Adele win an award for a song ("Hello") that came out in October of 2015? In a moment in time where songs become old news in a matter of weeks because they can be heard at any given time, should we really be awarding an artist in 2017 for a song about a telephone call that feels older and drier than the chicken in the back of your fridge you forgot to clean out from before winter break? Of course not, but we do anyway. We do not necessarily want to see artists like Mike Posner even at the Grammys; but think about it, you hear a song consistently for months straight, then you hear that the artist who has been seared into your brain is nominated; suddenly, you

have reason to watch T.V. because you're relevant. My point is, the Grammys is a ratings generating machine, so of course they're going to nominate all of the people who plaster their garbage all over a society slapped in the face by consumerism so much that its vision is foggy.

A guy dressed in gold paint and gold plates. Awards were given to people that were sad about telephone calls (Hotline Bling, Hello, Love Yourself). And, the best part, Adele took a page out of Tina Fey's *Mean Girls* and decided to break her homecoming queen tiara and share her award with Beyonce. The Grammys was packed with back pats and a red carpet damp with fake tears by fake people. Music was not honored, because if it were, the Grammys would have given Chance the Rapper "Best New Artist" back in 2012. Drake and DJ Khaled would not have been considered for "Best Rapper" because they're not rappers. And if you decide not to believe me on the whole Drake being another MC Hammer, listen to A Tribe Called Quest's album, *We got it from Here... Thank You 4 Your Service*. The album is current, calls on social issues, and delivers fresh beats with a passion for the craft that is rap.



COURTESY OF CNN

Yayomi Kusama's Poetic Peace Through Pumpkins and Mirrors

By: Daniela Sol
Tower Staff

A new exhibit is opening this February 23rd at the Hirshhorn museum by the artist Yayomi Kusama named Infinity Mirrors. This opening will be the artist's most significant tour in North America for over two decades.

The exhibit is being held in honor of the Japanese artist's sixty-five years as an artist. The Hirshhorn promises this exhibit "to be one of 2017's essential art experiences."

The exhibit will be composed of six of the artist's signature mirror rooms plus some of her paintings from her new series My Eternal Soul. This will be the first time that pieces from her latest work will be presented in the United States.

The Hirshhorn is promoting this dynamic exhibit to be nothing but promising and to live up to the expectations that have been set.

"The Hirshhorn exhibition will showcase Kusama's full range of talent for the first time in Washington, D.C.," the Hirshhorn's website stated.

The Hirshhorn also wrote

that the exhibit will be a "sensory journey through the mind," creating the proper thrill for such an innovative artistic upcoming in the city.

It is a great honor for Washington to be the opening city for such a tour in the art world and it is be a must see for anyone interested in the arts!

Additionally, one of Kusama's sculptures is at the Hirshhorn plaza, also known as the Sculpture Garden, currently being displayed and will continue to be there throughout the entire exhibit.

The sculpture is called Pumpkin and it was created by artists, composed of yellows and blacks.

For Kusama, pumpkins represent a source of energy and light which can be seen in her sculpture with her fresh and clean style. As for her upcoming exhibit, the six rooms of mirrors are set to bring the same energy and light that her pumpkins represent to her.

At the same time, both her mirror compositions and the pumpkins she creates show a

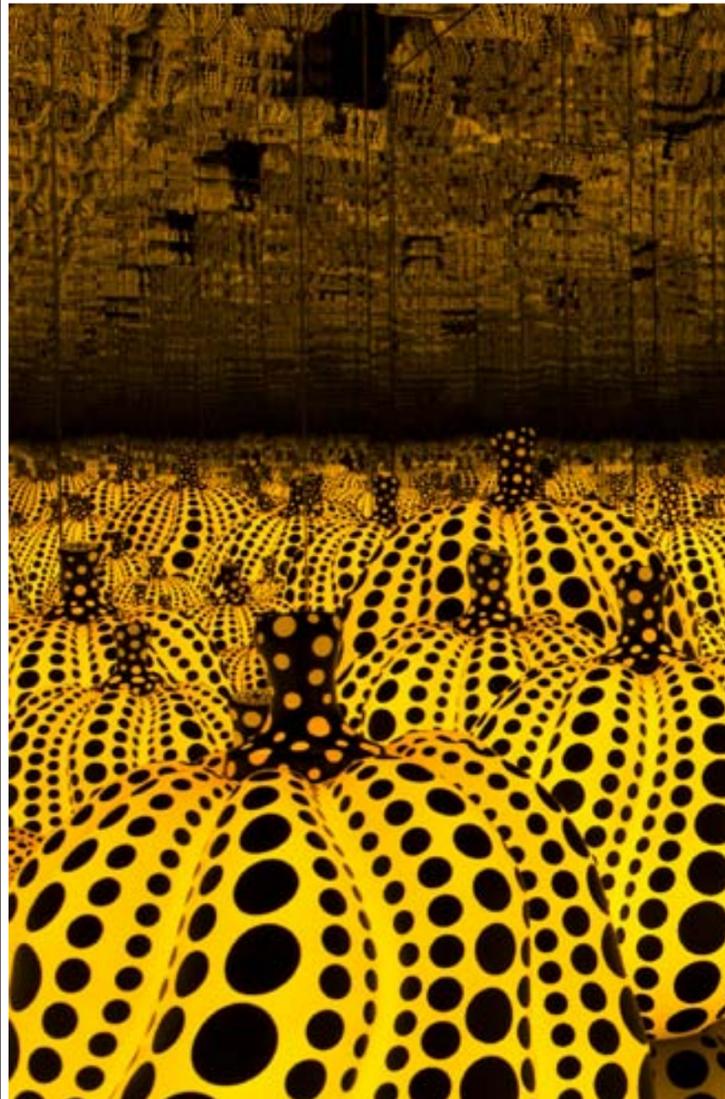
contrast to the light she wishes to emanate by their unusual curves and juxtaposing colors.

This intention is clearly seen in her pumpkin showcased here in DC. The Hirshhorn explains that the experience when interacting with Kusama's art comes from "viewing the pumpkin as both humble and amusing."

"Pumpkins bring about poetic peace in my mind. Pumpkins talk to me." Kusama said.

Despite the cold weather, why not spend a Sunday afternoon admiring the work of one of modern art's most iconic artists? The exhibit will be open from February 23rd to May 14th 2017.

So, there's still plenty of time to go to the Sculpture Garden, enjoy some fresh air, and walk by a monumental pumpkin. Additionally, you can have a museum day that includes an exhibit by Yayomi Kusama.



COURTESY OF HIRSHHORN

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SPORTS

Men's Lacrosse Wins Season Opener 10-9

By **Jared Prenda**
Tower Staff

The Catholic University of America's Men's Lacrosse team finally returned to action on Saturday, February 11th with a stellar 10-9 victory over the Sewanee University Tigers. The defending Landmark Conference champions look to repeat their efforts this season. The win puts the Cards off to a fantastic start, and paves the path to another stellar season.

The team has retained many of the key players who last year led the team all the way to the NCAA Division III tournament. The team is lead and captained by USILA All-American Tim Keith, who posted a career high 49 goals, 19 assists, and an impressive 68 in his junior year. The senior biomedical engineering major looks to post equally impressive stats this year, and began with a 5-point 4 goal effort on Saturday. Also, returning for

the Cards is senior midfielder Victor Licata, who is coming off a junior season which earned him both IMLCA All-Region and First Team All-Landmark honors. He was one of two Cardinals to score multiple goals against Sewanee with 2 of his own.

The Cardinals look to better improve their regular season showing from last year, only going .500 in conference play and 11-7 overall.

The team started off the matchup strong against Sewanee, with Keith scoring the opening goal of the matchup off a turnover caused by sophomore Kyle McLaughlin. The Tigers responded almost instantaneously with an equalizer a minute and a half later. Catholic regained the lead less than two minutes later off a goal from senior Ethan Rodriguez. The first 15-minute quarter turned out to be a shootout, with 10 total goals ending in a 5-5 tie.

The 2nd quarter was quiet

compared to the fireworks of the first, with no goals or assists for either side. The first half was one of cooperation for the Cards, with four separate players registering a goal.

Similarly to the first goal, the CUA team registered the first goal of the 2nd stanza on a hard shot from Licata to put Catholic on top, 6-5. That goal proved to be the catalyst the team needed and they went on to outscore the Tigers 3-1 in the period. The Birds entered the final quarter of play with an 8-6 lead, and continued to expand.

Catholic managed to score the opening point of the period once again on a shot from midfielder Jack Murphy, who already registered an assist on the afternoon. The teams continued to exchange volleys of goals until the final seconds of the game. The Sewanee side scored 2 straight goals, and were primed to score their 5th equalizer when a costly

delay of game penalty with 18 seconds allowed Catholic to run out the clock.

This win leaves the team inspired as they look to repeat the magic of last year with another title, but this is not the only goal the Cards have set for themselves. Junior midfielder Matt Michalski believes the team is capable of much more, but is weary of the strong conference.

"I think we are using that as motivation knowing that all of the teams in our conference are going to try and beat us. Our ultimate goal definitely has to be to advance further into the NCAA tournament. We have been knocked out in the first round for the past two years.

But this early into the season we are looking at it one game at a time and are not looking past any teams."

CUA looked strong in their season opener, boasting a 10-9 win over Sewanee on the February afternoon. The team will continue their quest for a repeat this upcoming Saturday, February 18th at Randolph-Macon against the Yellow Jackets. The Cards vanquished the Jackets in last season's match up 17-11, and hope to advance to 2-0 on the year.



Senior Tim Kieth prepares for a shot

CUACARDINALS.COM

Men's Basketball Holds off Scranton

By **Jared Prenda**
Tower Staff

Absolute pandemonium is the singular way to describe the Franny Murry Court in the Dufour Center as the Men's Basketball team narrowly survived the Scranton Royals in 63-62 game. The "Rivalry Red Out" game lived up to its hype, as it went down to the final seconds of the Saturday, February 11th game. The Scranton game was one of the most important that the team would play, for it guaranteed the Cardinals one of the four coveted spots in the Landmark Conference, and a shot to take momentum with them into a tough post season.

The first half was an accurate precursor for the rest of the matchup, with neither side gaining a clear upper hand in the fight.

The largest margin between the two sides was when the Cardinals held a 6-point advantage over their foes with 14 minutes to play. Both teams managed to keep within striking distance of the other.

The final minutes of the opening 20-minute half highlighted the pace of play the Cardinal faithful could witness. At one minute 23 seconds the Royals hit

a clutch 3-pointer to gain a 2-point lead. The Cardinals responded immediately within a bombastic put back slam dunk from freshman center Riley Hayes to tie the game at 34-34 with 10 seconds to play. Unfortunately for the Birds, Scranton player Kyle Deverna went coast-to-coast for the Royals and hit a clutch layup to get the two point, 36-34 lead at the break.

The usual suspects came to play for the Cards in their final home game of the season. Senior guard Louis Khouri lead the game in points with 17, and added an impressive 7 rebounds, 5 assists, and 3 treys. Junior Jay Howard also posted a strong stat line with a double-double that featured 15 points, second highest mark of the match, as well as a contest leading 13 rebounds. Coming off the bench, Hayes grabbed a career high 10 rebounds and added 6 points to his resume.

The second half of play provided just as much entertainment and nail biting action as the first. The Scranton squad managed to hold off the Cardinal onslaught by matching point for point. The Royals managed to hold on to their slim lead until there was only 11 minutes and 32 seconds left in regulation, when CUA sophomore guard Andre Mitchell pulled up from 3 to gain a 47-45

lead. The two sides would continue to struggle through the heated duel until the final minutes of the game.

The matchup witnessed 6 separate ties and 7 lead changes, but Catholic would play a defensive game to close out. Mitchell hit a final layup to put the Cards up 61-52, the largest lead either side would see with 5 minutes to play. The Royals then went on an 8-0 run, with both sides missing crucial buckets to gain an advantage until an almost lethal foul from Howard came with 2 seconds to play.

Freshman Mathew Mancuso went to the line to shoot 2 for the Scranton side, down one point at 61-60. The raucous Catholic fan base were all standing, shouting, and taunting the player as he tried to take the lead. The pressure proved to be a Sisyphean effort for the guard, as both shots missed their mark for a CUA victory.

The Saturday, February 11th win marked head coach Steve Howes 250th career win for the Cardinals, and puts him one shy of the program record. The team hopes to secure that win, and catapult themselves from the bottom seed to third with a win over Moravian on Saturday, February 18th.

Track & Field

CUA Cardinals

Upcoming Events

Men's & Women's Swimming & Diving

Landmark Conference Championships		
Fri., Feb. 17-Sun. Feb. 19	1:00 PM	

Women's Basketball

at Moravian	Sat., Feb. 18	2:00 PM
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Men's Basketball

at Moravian	Sat., Feb. 18	4:00 PM
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Track & Field

at Susquehanna Open	Sat., Feb. 18	10:00 AM
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Men's Lacrosse

at Randolph-Macon	Sat., Feb. 18	1:00 PM
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Men's Tennis

at Washington	Sun., Feb. 18	11:00 AM
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Baseball

at Saint Mary's	Tues., Feb. 21	2:30 PM
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CUACARDINALS.COM

Interested in Writing for Sports?

email:

prenda@cua.edu



Senior Louis Khouri Hits a jumpshot.

CUACARDINALS.COM

THE REAR END

Top Tweets: Blasts From the Past

“#CUA food court is like a high school cafe. You have the group of jocks, frat boys, gamers, student associations and rando’s #Meangirls”

- Amanda Gallugi @AmandaGallugi

“Apparently the Pryz is where all the couples go to break up. #CUA”

- Alexa Fee @DCBAlexa

“I’m a second semester senior with an attitude problem [towards stupidity] - bring it on #CUA!”

- Erin Flynn @erin_flynn17

“Why does it feel like Gibbons is the place for the miscellaneous students? #CUA #Bids #Nerds #Transfers”

- Matthew Brown @m_brown26

“Fact, #cua people are better than GW peeps in everything. Too snobby and try to hard on being NYU. #teamcua #dc”

- Matt Urquijo @M_Urquijo

“GW and GT kids are always the first ones to pass out #CUApride #minorleague”

- Jimmy Hendry @Jimmy_EatsWorld

““May all your problems last as long as Kim Kardashian’s wedding.” Did a seminarian in Starbucks really just say that? #CUA”

- Erica Prenda @EPrenda

To be featured on The Rear End, use #CUA or #onlyatCUA!
We know you think you’re funny, so share it with the rest of us!

WE KNOW YOU
MISS US WHEN
WE’RE NOT HERE...



@CUATOWER

Catherine Chan
Mechanical Engineering
Class of 2018
Orlando, Florida

Globe Trotters

I’m super nervous. This is the class where I need a good professor that I can easily understand. I hope someone I have met already is going to be in this class. I hope I’m not the only exchange student in here. Maybe one of the students I met in my earlier classes will be here. I mean, at least I know I’m not the only Mechanical Engineering exchange student studying at Hong Kong PolyU.

These are the thoughts that ran through my head as I was waiting for the first day of my Heat and Mass Transfer class to start. It ended up not being entirely terrible; I met another exchange student before class started, Viktoria from Russia. I also recognized a couple other students in the class. During the break of the 3 hour lecture, I got the chance to talk to Clarence from Singapore, and I also met David, who just happens to go to College Park in Maryland! After class, Clarence, David and I had lunch in one of the student canteens (where they serve the chicken with all the bones and insides).

After being in Hong Kong for a little over a week, I had a small identity crisis. My heritage is Filipino, but my last name is Chinese and I sort of look Chinese too. Whenever in public by myself, everyone would assume that I am Chinese, and they would automatically speak to me in Cantonese (the language in Hong Kong). When I was at lunch with Clarence and David, I asked them how they felt with Clarence being from Singapore, and David is Chinese-American. They were always automatically spoken to in Cantonese as well, and we found it interesting how the locals would make assumptions about us. It made me realize how significant the assumptions we make about others can impact them in both positive and negative ways.

Following lunch, I met up with Morgan before our Modern Chinese class and we had the chance to FaceTime Jenna and Gina from back home at CUA! It was great to see familiar faces even with the 13 hour time difference. Later that night, Morgan and I were craving something that felt like home, so we grabbed pizza from the nicest Pizza Hut I have ever been to! It was quite a day, and I cannot wait to see what the rest of the semester brings!



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THAN YOUR ROOMMATE?

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