

CUA Baseball Off to a Perfect 3-0 Start! Pg. 7

New Details About Proposed Dining Hall Envisioned to Open in 2020

By KATIE WARD
Tower Staff

The recently proposed dining hall will most likely be built on the part of the Centennial Village hill closest to the Law School lawn, and Magner House will need to be demolished to provide enough space for it, according to university officials. No other buildings are currently planned to be removed for the new dining hall, but the road from John McCormack Drive to the Pryzbyla Center loading dock will likely have to be adjusted.

This location was chosen so that the new dining

hall could provide more accessibility to and from the residential portion of campus without closing off the Law School lawn. The new structure will hopefully be two levels so as to let students walking through Centennial Village connect easily to lower levels of the rest of campus.

In an interview with The Tower, university officials provided these new details about the proposed student dining hall, which was announced by University Communications on January 23rd after an anonymous donor gave \$6 million to Catholic University.

Following the abrupt departure of university architect Margaret Carney, several questions about the building still remain. After serving as the Associate Vice President for Facilities Planning and Management since 2016, Carney was announced as Catholic's first ever architect in a press release on October 30th, 2017.

Carney served in the position for less than three months before leaving to become the university architect for Cornell University.

The artist's renditions sent in the University Communications email are only possibilities for the design of the building—

See DINING HALL, page 3



IT'S FEBRUARY?

Catholic University students wasted no time to enjoy two days of glorious February weather this week. Consecutive 75 degree days brought many out to the Pryzbyla Lawn and Patio.

Catholic Puerto Rican Student Goes Home to Make Documentary After Hurricane Maria

By LUIS RIVERA
Tower Contributor

Adriana Isabelle Oliver, a senior Drama major from Puerto Rico, filmed a documentary on the aftermath of the disastrous Hurricane Maria and its impact on the Caribbean island. The film, 65 Days After Maria, involves other Puerto Rican students at Catholic and shows the destruction she found when she returned home over Thanksgiving break in November.

"It was as if an atomic bomb exploded on the island," Oliver said.

February 20th marked five months since the disastrous Hurricane Maria

wreaked havoc on the United States Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Oliver, who first arrived to the mainland U.S. for her freshman year of college in 2014, decided to produce a documentary about the events of the storm and its aftermath. She is now in her last semester at CUA and has watched from afar as the island where she grew up endured the dangerous wrath of Mother Nature.

She recalled her experience during the hurricane's landfall as one of anxiety and stress.

SEE 65 DAYS, PAGE 3



COURTESY OF ADRIANA ISABELLE OLIVER

One of the many scenes of destruction that Puerto Rican student Adriana Oliver came home to see.

Why is Marist Hall Still Empty? Two Years of Stagnation

By LIZ FRIDEN
Tower Staff

In the beginning of his sophomore year, John Connolly, a class of 2019 politics major, received an email that his classes in Marist Hall would have to be evacuated. A few of his classes were moved to other locations on campus and his politics professors announced their new offices in the law school. Connolly is now finishing up his junior year, and Marist is still empty.

On September 29th, 2016 a University Communications email was sent to all members of the university community announcing that cracks had appeared in the west wing of Marist in the prior eight weeks. The Office of Facilities Planning and Management announced that "affected classes scheduled in Marist Hall will be relocated to other classrooms on campus, effective Monday, October 3rd".

The west wing of Marist Hall was subsequently evacuated. All its classes were relocated to other parts of campus, but the

east wing offices stayed.

This is the second time Marist has been evacuated. The earthquake in August of 2011 caused the building to be unsound for the rest of that year's fall semester. The damages were not noticed until after the first day of classes had met.

That year, the Politics Department offices and classes were moved to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine. Unlike with their offices in Marist Hall, professors had to share these offices, making it difficult to get work done. Classes were moved to the theaters of the Shrine, which were not meant to be classrooms. Some students had to cross Harewood Drive in the dark because their class got out so late.

John White is an American politics professor who has been teaching at Catholic for over 25 years. White said that when the 2011 earthquake happened, Catholic had earthquake insurance

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NEWS

The Tower

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CRIME BLOTTER

2/06

When: 2/06/18
Where: Pryzbyla Center
What: On the listed date, time and location, C-1 reported that S-1, his supervisor, assaulted him when she grabbed his jacket and pulled his shoulder.

Washington, D.C.

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THE POLITICS CORNER

“America’s Pastor” Billy Graham Dies at 99

By Alexander Santana
Tower Staff

Known as “America’s Pastor”, Reverend Billy Graham passed away on Wednesday, February 21st at the age of 99 in his Montreat, North Carolina home. According to his spokesman, Graham passed away peacefully in his sleep at 7:46 AM. “It was described by nurse and doctor as a very peaceful passing,” said Mark DeMoss, a spokesman for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA). “He was not in any pain, and he wouldn’t have suffered any.”

President Donald Trump announced that on the day Graham is buried, U.S. flags will be flown at half-staff until sunset at the White House and all other public buildings. Graham had been dealing with several illnesses in the last years of his life including prostate cancer and symptoms of Parkinson’s disease.

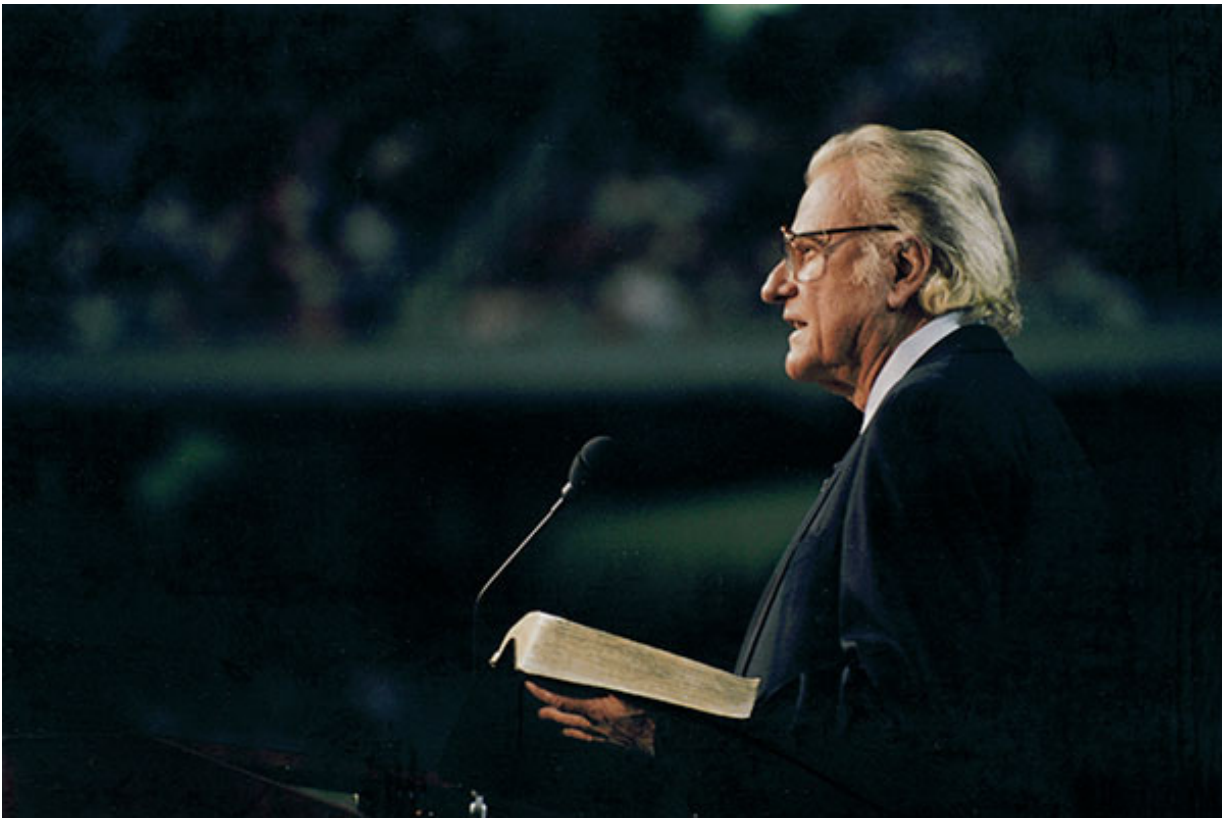
For over 60 years, Billy Graham preached the Gospel to over 215 million people across the world and became one of the most well-known and admired Christian evangelists in America. The son of a North Carolina farmer, Graham went on to write over 30 books throughout his life and once had his 1995 “global crusade” sermons in Puerto Rico “translated simultaneously into 48 languages and transmitted to 185 countries by satellite” according to the New York Times. The *New York Times* also stated that Graham “read from Scripture at President Richard M. Nixon’s funeral in California in 1994, offered prayers at a service in the National Cathedral for victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, and, despite his failing health, traveled to New Orleans in 2006 to preach to survivors of Hurricane Katrina.” Graham also visited North Korea and preached in Pyongyang at the invitation of its founder, Kim Il-sung, in 1992 and again in 1994 and delivered the invocation at President Bill Clinton’s 1993 inauguration.

A preacher to not only average Americans but to American presidents both during and after their presidencies, the *New York Times* stated “President George W. Bush said that it was after a walk with Mr. Graham at the Bush family’s compound in Kennebunkport, Me., that Mr. Bush, as a younger man, decided to become more serious about his faith and quit drinking.” Graham frequently visited President Ronald

Reagan during his time in the White House and President Jimmy Carter once stated Graham had “had an enormous influence on my own spiritual life.” President George H. W. Bush even invited Graham to “spend the night at the White House the day before American-led forces began bombing Iraq” in January 1991.

Graham’s funeral will be held on Friday, March 2nd at the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, North Carolina. The funeral will be private and by invitation only. It is said about 2,300 invitations will be sent out. President Donald Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, and former Presidents Jimmy Carter, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama will all be invited. Graham’s son, William Franklin Graham III, the current president and CEO of the BGEA, will speak at the funeral service, as well as Graham’s four other children. Graham will be buried next to his wife of more than 60 years, Ruth Graham, who died in 2007 at the age of 87. In addition to his five children, Graham is survived by 19 grandchildren and 41 great-grandchildren.

Before the funeral service and burial, Graham will lie in honor in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda from February 28th to March 1st. A service will be held at the Capitol Building by Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY). Graham will be the first private citizen to lie in honor since African American civil rights hero Rosa Parks passed away in 2005. Besides Parks, only two other private citizens have lain in honor, U.S. Capitol Police officers Jacob J. Chestnut, Jr. and John M. Gibson, who were both killed in the 1998 U.S. Capitol Building shooting. When asked what he would do first when he arrived in Heaven, Graham stated in his autobiography he would ask: “Why me, Lord? Why did You choose a farm boy from North Carolina to preach to so many people, to have such a wonderful team of associates, and to have a part in what You were doing in the latter half of the 20th century? I have thought about that question a great deal,” he added, “but I know also that only God knows the answer.” Graham’s tombstone will read “Preacher of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.”



Courtesy of the Billy Graham Library

NEWS

Want to be a part of a community that values writing skills and cares about what’s happening at CUA?

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University Begins Search for New University Architect After Carney’s Departure

DINING HALL, from page 1

there is a request for proposals currently out to different architecture firms, which will likely result in seven or eight different designs being submitted, according to the officials.

The roads from John McCormack Drive to the back entrance of Hannan Hall will likely run in front of the building to continue to allow road access to the buildings, without going over the Law School Lawn or putting weight on the parking garage below.

The net square footage, or space for the dining area, is expected to be about 16,000 sq.ft, more than double the size of the Pryzbyla Student Restaurant. The gross square footage will be about 22,000 — to put that in perspective, the Pryzbyla between all three levels is about 104,000 sq.ft. While the current Student Restaurant has 275 seats for student dining, the new dining hall aims to have about 450.

University officials said that a comprehensive study was conducted to observe the patterns and needs of on-campus students.

There are many different plans for what will

become of the current Student Restaurant after the new dining hall is built. University officials are considering their options as to what to make of the space; although no official plan has been put in place, the general intention is to make it more of a student-centered space. Regarding the effects on other Pryzbyla dining options, university officials assured that Murphy’s Grill, first-floor kitchen, and the food court will stay.

University officials did not have enough information to announce when groundbreaking would happen, but they affirmed that construction would soon start moving according to schedule and would stick to the previously announced 2020 opening. University officials also declined to comment on where the rest of the money to finance the building will come from. The Pryzbyla Center, by contrast, took \$27 million to be built.

Students at the university look forward to more details being released about the planned dining hall after a final design is chosen and construction begins on campus.



COURTESY OF KATIE WARD

It is currently unclear as to how the Pryzbyla Center will exactly be affected by the new dining hall, but it will likely become an even more student-focused space.

Documentary Invites Puerto Rican Students to Share Their Stories

65 DAYS, from page 1

“Hours before the hurricane had come, I was already stuck on my laptop watching the news, and for 48 hours I didn’t go to classes, I was just stuck there,” Oliver said.

Oliver was taking Media 312, a documentary filmmaking course in the Media Studies department, and knew what her documentary for the class was going to be about. Sixty-five days after the hurricane made landfall, Oliver returned to Puerto Rico. While back on the island, she documented the destruction around her neighborhood in San Juan. Then she got into a car and drove. Scenes from her documentary captured images of downed trees, wires, and damaged homes.

With over 155 mph winds, the category four hurricane knocked out power to the entire island.

“These people did not experience a hurricane,” Oliver says in her documentary *65 Days After Maria*, which she has since submitted to the DC Film Festival. “They experienced a tornado with water.”

Oliver’s grandmother, who lives in a two-story house, lost her entire first floor. “She lost everything — everything.” Her grandmother had to come to Virginia to live with family until she was able to move back to Puerto Rico recently, with her first floor still uninhabitable.

Oliver’s grandmother wasn’t alone. According to the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College in New York City, it was estimated in October 2017 that between 114,000 and 213,000 Puerto Ricans would flee the island and relocate to the U.S. mainland within a year. Currently, there are 4.9 million Puerto Ricans living on the mainland U.S., which is more than the 3.7 million that still live on the island.

Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory located in the Caribbean, came under U.S. possession after the American victory in the Spanish-American War in 1898. Puerto Ricans were later granted American citizenship on March 2, 1917 when the Jones Act was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson — about a month before the U.S. would enter into World War I.

Although Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens, they lack the right to vote in presidential elections. They are not required to pay federal income taxes, but they must still pay Social Security, Medicare, commodity, export and import taxes while receiving far less governmental aid for programs such as Food Stamps, Medicaid, and Social Security than American citizens in the 50 states. Furthermore, they have only one non-voting representative in the House of Representatives, and Puerto Ricans have been drafted by the United States military. This has left many Puerto Ricans feeling as if they were second-class citizens.

With no direct voting power in

Congress, Oliver is convinced that it will take years for a full recovery, and Puerto Rico’s debt will be a primary source of that delay. According to CNN Money, Puerto Rico’s debt stands at roughly \$73 billion. Five months later, the government-run Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) reported that 75 percent of its consumers have power, leaving over 400,000 customers still without power. PREPA too is in the hole, over \$9 billion in debt.

If Oliver were to meet President Trump or other lawmakers, she would have one request. “It’s a really big request...Perhaps, forgive the debt, or at least half of it because realistically we can’t pay that debt.”

She also makes clear that the U.S. has definitely helped the island, especially the U.S. troops. However, she did find President Trump’s tossing of paper towels at Puerto Ricans as “disrespectful....There’s so much more that we need, it’s not just paper towels.” In addition to its power grid, Puerto Rico needs to rebuild its water and sewer system, where over 70 percent of tap water is contaminated with coliform bacteria and chemicals from untreated waste when the power shuts off, as it did again last Sunday, February 11th.

CUA has done its part by waiving tuition to Puerto Rican students affected by the hurricane to allow them to study at the university for a semester. According to the Undergraduate Admissions Office, seven students have enrolled as non-degree students for the semester in order to continue their schooling uninterrupted by the hurricane.

Just recently, Congress added disaster relief into the two-year budget deal to keep the government running. According to the New York Times, \$2 billion was allocated to repair Puerto Rico’s power grid and \$9 billion will be allocated to projects across Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, which were also affected by the hurricane. Whether the allocation is enough to contribute to a successful recovery, when Puerto Rico sought over \$94.4 billion in total disaster aid in November, remains to be seen.

Yet, the people who weathered the storm are resilient. Oliver travelled home again during Christmas break, and noticed an encouraging revival. She recounts seeing many businesses in San Juan reopened, while also acknowledging that the outer regions still need help.

While the road to recovery is still being traversed, Oliver explains that she will return to the island after graduation in May.

“I still have my sister’s high school graduation to attend,” she said.

A link to the documentary 65 Days After Maria will be made available at [cuatower.com](#)



COURTESY OF ADRIANA ISABELLE OLIVER

Another scene of destruction that Puerto Rican student Adriana Oliver came home to see. Many CUA students hail from Puerto Rico but did not get the opportunity to go home and witness the aftermath.

News

Ambassador of Ireland to the United States Comes to Speak at Catholic

By **ABBY ANDERKO**
Tower Staff

On Wednesday, February 21st, the Irish Ambassador to the United States, Daniel Mulhall, spoke at Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America. Hosted in the Slowinski Courtroom, this conversation was moderated by Dean Daniel Attridge of the Columbus School of Law and was attended by approximately 100 students and members of the surrounding D.C. area in the audience.

Throughout his conversation, Mulhall touched on three distinct points about Irish politics today. The first was the “value of the European Union (EU) membership in Ireland” and how Ireland has been transformed through its membership. The second was the peace that was created in Northern Ireland thanks to the Good Friday Agreement and how the agreement needs to be preserved and used to guide negotiations. Finally, Mulhall spoke about his experience in America and the amazing strength and diversity of the Irish American community.

Ambassador Mulhall is Ireland’s 18th ambassador to the United States. Prior to his career in diplomacy, Mulhall graduated from the University College Cork, both undergraduate and graduate school where he specialized in modern Irish history. After school, Mulhall took a job at the Department of Foreign Affairs, introducing him to the field of diplomacy. His first diplomatic locations included New Delhi, Vienna, the EU in Brussels, and Edinburgh, where he was the first Irish Consul General. He has also held positions as the Irish Ambassador to Malaysia from 2001 to 2005, and Germany from 2009 to 2013. As a member of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Mulhall participated in the Irish delegation for the Good Friday Agreement which brought about peace to Northern Ireland.

Ireland has had a strong and difficult history in regard to relations with Great Britain, creating a lot of historical baggage between the two countries. Twenty-six counties in Ireland gained independence from Great Britain in 1922, dividing Ireland into two nations. Northern Ireland remained a part of Great Britain, and the Republic of Ireland was formed out of the freed counties. This freedom came after many bloody conflicts, one of the most notable being the Easter Rising, which occurred seven years prior to Ireland’s independence in 1916.

Mulhall spoke about Irish investment in the EU. When Britain joined the EU in 1978, it forced Ireland to join as well because even though it was a free state, Ireland was still dependent on Britain. While it entered as one of the poorest states in Europe, today Ireland is now in the top three wealthiest countries

in the EU. Joining the EU completely transformed Ireland as it was no longer dependent on Britain, but was able to branch out and create new relations with other countries in the Union. Due to Ireland’s investment in the EU, questions have been raised on how Brexit, or Britain’s choice to leave the EU, will affect not only the status of the trade among states in Europe, but also trade between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Between 1973 and 1998, Ireland went through a period of extreme violence leading to a ceasefire in 1998. Peace in Northern Ireland has existed for 20 years now due to the lasting effect of the Good Friday Agreement. This agreement was a ceasefire for all violence in Northern Ireland; it implemented a soft border and allowed for trade and tourism to continue freely. With the impending departure of Britain from the EU, this has created conflict as to whether or not the Good Friday Agreement will be upheld. If Britain does leave the EU, this could create problems as it would mean that a hard border would need to be established separating Northern Ireland from the rest of the country, voiding the Good Friday Agreement. Neither the British nor Irish governments want to overturn the progress that has been made through the Good Friday Agreement, but negotiations must take place to figure a solution to this problem.

One major aspect of the political conflict that is plaguing Northern Ireland today is the debate of whether the Irish language should still be taught and implemented into Irish culture. The nationalist party believes that the language is a “litmus” test of culture. Mulhall, as an Irish speaker himself, is an advocate of the language and of students of the language here in the United States. After his presentation he addressed a group of four 102-level Irish students, wishing them much success in learning their language.

Since being in the United States, Mulhall spoke on how impressed he is with the diversity of American cities and how they are each independent and unique. He also commented on how within these cities there is a great strength in the Irish American community. He stated that no matter how long ago one’s relatives came to America from Ireland, whether it be in the 1800s or more recently, all people of Irish descent have a strong connection to Ireland, both its history and culture.

This event was put on by the Irish American Law Students Association in partnership with the Irish Network D.C. and the Catholic University of America Program in Irish Studies.



COURTESY OF IRISH NETWORK DC

Ambassador Mulhall met with students studying Irish after the conversation ended.

No Official Plan for the Future of Marist Hall After 2016 Evacuation

MARIST HALL

from page 1

but it was still difficult to get the coverage.

“Repairs were delayed because the insurance company thought the damage was from the age of the building and not the earthquake,” White said.

After getting coverage, the damages only took a semester to fix. Unlike the situation now, it was a temporary change.

Margaret Carney is now the University Architect. Working under Facilities, and now under Advancement, she has worked closely with those who have tested the building and in April of 2017 ultimately decided that the use of Marist Hall was unsafe and it would have to be evacuated. It was used for that first month of school because people did not realize the cracks were as deep as the structure of the building.

For the remainder of the 2017 spring semester professors permanently relocated their offices from the west wing and the east wing. The Archeology Department moved to the first floor of Hannan. The Politics Department moved to the fourth floor of the Columbus School of Law. The Media Studies Department moved to the basement of the Crough Center.

White said that “the move to the Law School has been totally disruptive”. This is the second time he has had to move his office out of Marist Hall, but this is the first time he has had to do so permanently, completely emptying out his office for good.

David Clark is an anthropology professor who had to empty his office as well. He has spent 37 years of his career teaching in Marist Hall. With the existence of Marist Hall threatened, he has fought to preserve the building for its historic significance.

“Marist is different because of its extant, standing architecture,” Clark

said of the building, which was built in 1899. “It is a wonderful old building that has accommodated numerous departments, but more importantly, students over the past eons at CUA.”

Clark cares about the building where he says he has taught more than 3,000 students, calling it his “home away from home”.

However, White assured that Marist was “by no means a perfect building”. Historically, one of Marist’s biggest problems was its inability to accommodate the disabled.

White highlighted one of his colleagues, Dennis Coyle, who for many years was unable to have an office on the same floor as the other politics professors due to the inaccessibility of the third-floor offices. Coyle’s office was on the first floor, and just to get on the first floor of the building, one would have to go around to the back of it and use the ramp.

Carney explained the complex status of the building.

“Renovation for reuse would be very costly. The cost is being weighed carefully and compared with the cost and value of new construction,” Carney said. “The university is not anxious to take down any of the historic buildings on campus and continues to weigh the pros and cons very thoughtfully.”

If Marist were to be demolished someday, there are some components to it, such as ornamental stone, that could potentially be salvaged for reuse, but the university is not currently exploring that direction.

It is unclear what could have been done differently to repair them, but White said, “The easiest decision for an administrator to make is deferred maintenance.”



COURTESY OF CUA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Marist Hall has not hosted classes for more than a year now.

TOWER EDITORIAL

Too Close for Comfort

A 19-year-old high school student walked onto his school’s campus last Wednesday afternoon. He carried a black duffel bag loaded with an assault rifle, ammunition, and a vest, and he proceeded to shoot people in several classrooms. The tragic school shooting that left 17 dead in Parkland, Florida has ignited fierce national debate on the topics of gun control, school safety, and the best practices to protect students during these painfully common occurrences. The clamor for policy change has seldom felt more intense, conversations from both sides of the aisle have proposed a number of perceived solutions, and fellow students of the high school have used their voices in the dialogue in a greater degree than any preceding incident.

The rampage has undoubtedly caused some at Catholic to wonder—how would things go down if something like that happened here? Does the community feel protected? Is DPS adequately prepared for an event like it? Can students protect themselves? Students in years past have wrestled with these questions, with some even trying to amend university policy. But the option of students having their own weapons, in the form of concealed carry on campus, is not a viable one. Current university policy prohibits “any gun, rifle, pistol, or handgun designed to fire bullets, BBs, pellets, or shots...” The protection, then, comes

from the Department of Public Safety and its coordination with the DC Metropolitan Police Department during times of danger. In 2015, the policy was voted to be amended to allow registered guns on campus, an initiative co-sponsored by one SGA representative who grew up 15 minutes from the school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut. The motive was one of self-defense— to be individually prepared during events like the three campus lockdowns in the last 2 years when a potentially-armed suspects were on or just off-campus. The administration objected, citing a number of reasons, including the full confidence in the campus police force.

There is no reason to lack faith in the current protection system in place with DPS and the MPD’s aid, as they have kept students safe in all of the recent threats, but the potential for danger remains. Just last week, an 18-year old high school student in Montgomery County, Maryland was arrested for bringing a loaded gun into school, and police later found an AR-15 and other pistols in his home. This past Sunday at around 11 AM, a man was shot on Monroe Street right by the CUA-Brookland Metro stop. Needless to say, this stuff is very close to home. If there is a form of self-protection students can employ, it’s a need to be very self-aware whenever things don’t feel right.

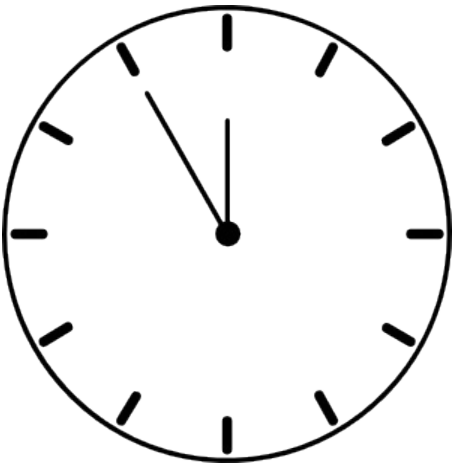
GUEST POETRY

Cameron Hosseinian

Class of 2018

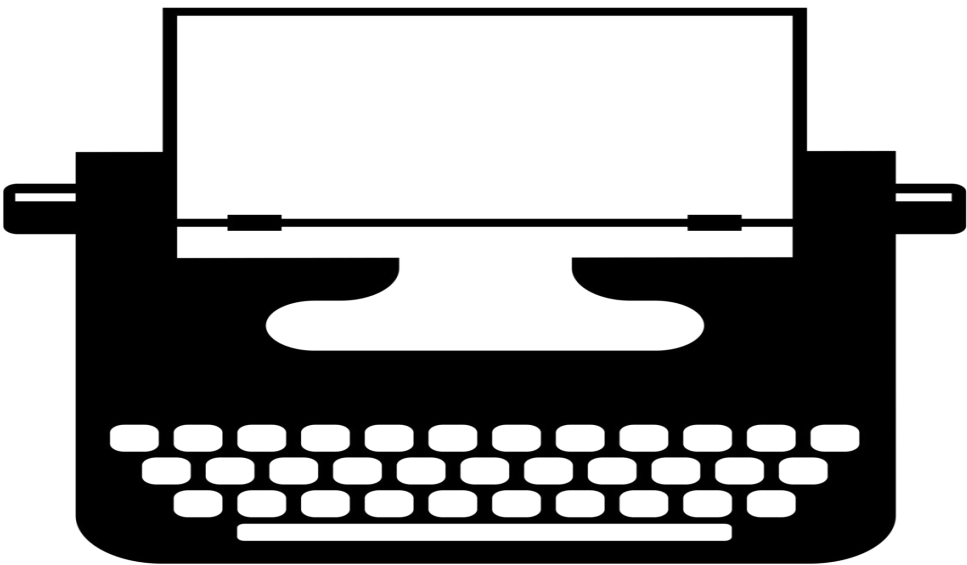
Clock on the Wall

Time is circular
Just look,
Look, look at that
damn clock
On the other side of the room.
You speak to me of
Money, of futures,
Pasts and presents.
Look to your feet,
Touch the ground,
Realize it is all but a hoax
And that even death
must come round.



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The Tower’s Op-Ed Section!



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GUEST COMMENTARY

Rev. David M. Friel

Graduate Student

Faith, Family,

Friends, and

Football

It resembled a Corpus Christi procession, I admit. As the Lombardi Trophy was processed toward the on-field altar, pious congregants fixed their gaze upon its radiance. Some stretched out their arms and hands, as though hoping power might flow out from the object of their worship. A privileged few revered the icon with a kiss. Jeffrey Lurie raised the medicine of football immortality high, as if in benediction. All that was missing was a humeral veil and the Blessed Sacrament.

Celebrations erupted remotely in the City of Brotherly Love. Figured prominently in the coverage of this revelry were the shattered windows, downed light poles, and vandalized vehicles along Broad Street. These excesses, however, were not at the fore for most of the thousands who stood in the streets throughout the city. Grassroots evidence tells me that the center of the Super Bowl festivities, for most Philadelphians, was family.

During a radio interview the next morning, a local woman spoke about her brother who died at age 28, three weeks after the Eagles’ last Super Bowl appearance in 2005. She described the mysterious healing effect of this victory on her 13-year-old grief.

An 18-year-old man who took his 99-year-old grandfather to watch the game live in Minneapolis spoke about their shared Eagles fandom as an opportunity to foster communion among generations.

The morning of the game, parishioners told me after Masses about their sons, daughters, nieces, and nephews who would be crowding their homes later in the day for a family feast and communal watch party.

Folks I know who filled the intersection at Frankford & Cottman that night said they went there not to riot, but to express a very real sense of community.

I am slow to discount such testimonies.

My dad grew up in the Germantown section of Philadelphia. He was a lifelong Eagles fan— the sort who watched games and quoted statistics without making a religion of it. He was not a great athlete, but he introduced me to the Eagles and

cultivated within me a love for all sports. He enjoyed (the rare occasions) when my siblings and I won games and championships, but he was much more proud of our willingness to try a new sport and play it to the best of our ability. Watching Super Bowl LII with my Dad would have been a thrill. Since his death three years ago, I have become increasingly grateful for the times we shared playing and watching sports. From playing catch in the backyard to the Phillies’ World Series triumph, from shanks and slices at the driving range to Sunday’s back nine at the Masters, so much of our relationship is bound up with the union we forged through sports.

I spent Super Bowl weekend in Philadelphia, partly in order to share the game with a group of brother priests. No fires were set, and no light poles were climbed. Albeit far from the deepest connecting link shared among us, our mutual love for Eagles football nevertheless contributes something real to our camaraderie as men committed first and foremost to Christ.

We endured apprehension and anxiety, exhilaration and jubilation during the course of the contest. We high-fived and hugged, broke bread, cheesesteaks and tomato pie actually, and sang the fight song. The positive effects of the gathering were similar to what I gained from watching sports with my dad in years gone by.

On account of classes here at CUA, I was not able to stay in Philly for the parade. Driving back to D.C. the Monday after the victory, what filled my mind was gratitude. My heart was flooded with thanksgiving for family and friends who have taught me to enjoy the gift of sport in right relationship to all the manifold goods of this world. Were it not for my father, my family, and my friends, the Eagles’ Super Bowl victory would have been the cause for only very limited celebration. But, on their account, it became so much more than simply an Eagles’ win.

Does football sometimes compete with faith and family life? Certainly. But can it also contribute?

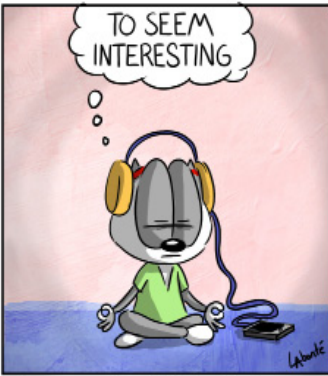
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SPORTS

CUA Baseball Kicks Off Season 3-0

By Katie Ward and Daniela Sol
Tower Staff

The CUA Cardinals baseball team is off to a strong start in its 2018 campaign as it defeated the Cabrini Cavaliers and the Seahawks of St. Mary’s College of Maryland in the opening three games of the season. On a surprisingly sunny and relatively hot week-compared to the usual February weather, the baseball team has stepped into the season with the right foot.

The Cardinals’ season opener was pushed back to Sunday, February 19 due to inclement weather the previous day and was played at the Washington Nationals’ Youth Baseball Academy in southeast DC. The game was the first of a double-header played against Cabrini, and it began an exhilarating couple of contests to begin the year. Catholic got an early run in the second inning when junior Ryan Tracy hit a double that brought right fielder Bailey Lewis home from third. The Cards fell behind at the top of the 4th inning when Cabrini scored two runs, and the score stayed 2-1 for the rest of the game until the bottom of the sixth when Lewis hit a home-run that which tied the game at

2-2. Senior first baseman Brennan Cotter hit a single in the seventh inning that brought classmate Danny O’Hagan home from second and ended the game in a 3-2 walk-off, scoring the first win for the Cardinals.

The success in the second half of the double-header was due in part to the pitching of junior Collin Brown, who closed out the game as he came in relief for classmate Jon Mierzwa in the 5th inning. Brown struck out six of the eleven batters he faced and allowed no walks on the day, setting him off to quite a start for his first game and earned his first win on the season. His dominance on the mound earned the reliever Landmark Conference Athlete of the Week honors. Catholic pitchers as a unit struck out 22 batters total in the two games.

In the second game of the day’s doubleheader, Catholic ended the fourth inning down by 3, 4-1. Freshman Michael Doody hit a double with the bases loaded to get two RBIs for the Cards in the fifth inning. Sophomore Sid Porter ran home from second after senior Jack Hennessy hit a sacrifice fly, and rookie pinch-runner Christian Jones scored after advancing to third on a wild pitch. Catholic held Cabrini at 0

runs during the next two innings; Porter doubled to right field on a double then advanced to third, and ran home after Hennessy hit a walk-off single, ending the game at 6-5 for the Cards’ second win of the day.

Hennessy went 4-6 on the weekend, including a 2 RBI 3-3 game in the second leg of the double header. His efforts earned the senior Landmark Conference Athlete of the Week, as well as being named to the D3baseball.com Team of the Week.

“It feels relieving to get off to a good start,” said Hennessey when asked about his performance. “Hitters typically struggle the first few weeks of the season since we are adjusting to seeing live pitching again.”

In their Wednesday game against St. Mary’s, with two outs and only one runner on a base, it looked like the Cards were going to have a scoreless first inning. Lewis hit a double to bring Hennessy home from second, then Sullivan drove to left field and brought two runners home to end the inning 3-0. Catholic got two more runs in the seventh inning, as Sullivan and Doody came across the plate. Catholic pitchers had another great game as they struck out 12 batters.

Senior David Gately struck out 7 of these 12 batters, giving him his first win of the year.

The hot start to the season has the Birds feeling optimistic and looking forward to what the season has in store for them.

“The team has had a positive outlook on the season since day one of the fall,” Hennessy said. “I think the 3-0 start is just the tip of the iceberg in the sense that we have yet to play up to our potential. I think that it is a promising sign that we were able to open up our season with two walk-off wins because it shows that despite the fact we haven’t played up to our potential yet,

we are a resilient team who will find ways to win and our guys are excited to see what we can do with the rest of our season. Our expectations for ourselves are very high.”




The Cardinals look to keep this momentum rolling as their season continues, and look to meet their lofty expectations as they open up a 3-game home series this weekend against Manhattanville. If not affected by potential weather, the games will take place at Robert J. Talbot Field in the Catholic University Athletic Complex this coming weekend, and will serve as the team’s official home opener.



COURTESY CUACARDINALS.COM
The CUA Baseball team has started the season 3-0 following two walk-offs.

The Olympics Are Here

We are rapidly approaching the final week of the Olympics, and the US has finally lived up to their usual winter dominance. On Wednesday the Women’s Hockey team snapped Canada’s 24-game Olympic winning streak in a shootout to bring home gold. Men’s Curling also upset the Canadians in Curling, while Kikkan Randall and Jessie Diggins won the first ever cross-country gold for the US in the women’s team freestyle event.

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
				
Norway	13	12	10	35
Canada	10	8	8	26
Germany	13	7	5	25
USA	8	7	6	21
Netherlands	7	6	4	17
France	5	4	6	15
Austria	5	2	6	13
Switzerland	3	6	3	12
OAR	0	4	8	12
S. Korea	4	4	3	11
Japan	3	5	3	11
Sweden	5	5	0	10
Italy	3	2	5	10
China	1	6	2	9
Czech R.	1	2	3	6
G. Britain	1	0	3	4
Finland	0	0	4	4

CUA Cardinals



Upcoming Events

Women’s Tennis

at Salisbury	Fri., Feb. 23	3:00 PM
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Track and Field

Landmark Conferences	Sat., Feb. 24	All Day
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Softball

at Gallaudet (DH)	Sat., Feb. 24	12:00 PM
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Baseball

Manhattanville (DH)	Sat., Feb. 24	12:00 PM
Manhattanville	Sun., Feb. 25	12:00 PM
at Washington College	Wed., Feb. 28	2:30 PM

Women’s Lacrosse

at Salisbury	Sat., Feb. 24	1:00 PM
at St. Mary's (Md.)	Wed., Feb. 28	4:00 PM

Men’s Lacrosse

Arcadia	Sat., Feb. 24	1:00 PM
Marymount (Va.)	Wed., Feb. 28	6:00 PM

Interested in Writing
for Sports?

email:
prenda@cua.edu

THE REAR END

GLOBE TROTTERS: TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OXFORD’S OPPORTUNITIES

By Marie Erickson, Annaliese Neaman, and Makenzie Winter

Marie Erickson ‘20 - Formal Dinners

Formal dinners are the best reward after spending the day at tutorial and the library. Each college holds formal dinners in its hall on specified nights throughout the term. I usually meet up with friends from my hall before we head over. I also try to invite students I meet from other colleges, and they’ll usually do the same. Each college’s formal has unique traditions and food. At my college—and most others—all

of the students arrive dressed in robes, just like in Harry Potter. Students sit at long tables that stretch the length of the hall, and the Oxford tutors sit at an elevated table at the front. A prayer is said just before servers begin to bring out the first of three courses. The food never disappoints, and I rarely leave without chatting with at least one new face across the table.

Annaliese Neaman ‘19 - College Events

My favorite part about my Oxford experience so far has been getting involved in the clubs and societies, and attending the events that my college has to offer. I have had the opportunity to engage in exciting discussions about feminism, listen to lectures on Shakespeare given by world-class scholars, and hear truly excellent music. By taking advantage of these

events, I’ve been exposed to diverse points of view and very interesting people. Getting to know the English students has been super helpful. I’m learning where the best pubs are, the best study spots, and other helpful advice. But mostly, I’m enjoying new friendships. There is always an event taking place at college so I have yet to be bored!

Makenzie Winter ‘19 - Catholic Life in Oxford

Though spending a semester away from Catholic University, I was able to find a strong Catholic community in Oxford. During the week, I not only prepare for my tutorials, but I am able to go to church at St. Aloysius Gonzaga and Blackfriars, where the authors of the works I am reading, such as Graham Greene and Evelyn Waugh, attended Mass as well. As a Catholic and an English major, I have realized the opportunity to pray and study where some of my favorite authors have lived and taught is an extraordinary blessing. By chance of reading the bulletin after Sunday Mass, I discovered a notice about a Catholic group of Oxford students known as the Oxford University Catholic Chaplaincy, which is similar to Catholic University’s Campus Ministry, offering opportunities to participate in the sacraments, service projects, societies, and pilgrimages. I have become a part of the Newman Society (named after Blessed

John Henry Cardinal Newman), which hosts Catholic speakers and social events. I hope to be able to participate in their upcoming service projects and pilgrimages. Through the Catholic community in Oxford, I felt welcomed and at home. I did not have any knowledge of what the Catholic community would be like at Oxford before I departed on my study abroad journey. If I had known I would find a piece of Catholic University in Oxford, I think the journey would have been less difficult for me. To all future Oxford study abroad students, know that you will always find a home amongst the Catholic community in Oxford, but you will have to seek out that community and make an effort to incorporate it into your life as a study abroad student. To all future study abroad students, go out and travel the world with the security of knowing that you will not be without faith or community.



COURTESY OF MARIE ERICKSON
CUA students Makenzie Winter, Marie Erickson, and Annaliese Neaman enjoy the historic scenery outside of Blenheim Palace in England.

CUA GLOBE TROTTERS

Are you studying abroad right now and have a story or moment to share? Maybe you want to hear about your friends studying in a foreign country?

Submit a piece to Globe Trotters!
Email jcassidy@cuatower.com



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

AA MEETS ON
THURSDAY AT 7:30 PM

CALDWELL HALL 331B

Top Tweets

- “When it’s 3:46 pm, but your brain feels like it’s 3:46 am. #Comps #CUA”
- Virginia Reynolds
@VA_de_TX

“Love that the Ash Wednesday dining specials at #cua are meat based. So much for cultivating Catholic stomachs”
- Joe Basalla
@NotJoeCheese17
- “Only priests can drink at 9am daily and not be questioned.” 😂 Gotta love theology at #CUA”
- Julianne Hycza
@jhycza

“Just saw a vaping monk #CUAproblems”
- Noah
@officialnoahbae

TOP TWEETS FROM CUA

- Your CUA-related tweet could be featured here on the backpage!
- Here are the rules:
- Make your twitter account public, then use any and all #CUA related hashtags.
- Have a tip? Feedback? Want to say hello?
Let us know - jcassidy@cuatower.com

WANT ANOTHER LINE ON YOUR RESUME?
EMAIL JIMMY CASSIDY, [JCASSIDY@CUATOWER.COM](mailto:jcassidy@cuatower.com) TO JOIN THE TOWER

MEETINGS ARE SUNDAYS AT 7 PM IN PRYZ 103